



Music Notes

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SYMPOSIUM '82: God Shining Out of Zion

Symposium '82, held last August 2nd through 6th, featured majesty, a musical, and memorable moments from the Motor City. Conference host Daniel Gardner reports that over 560 delegates attended from every part of the US and Canada, representing over 200 local churches. This means that attendance at the annual National Music Symposium has doubled every two years (120 in Symposium '78, 250 at Symposium '80, 560 at Symposium '82). Another noteworthy statistic is the increase of the percentage of senior pastors among Symposium delegates, nearly one out of every five delegates were pastors, pastor's wives, or nonmusic staff ministers.

The secret to the success of Symposium '82 lies with the host church, Zion Evangelistic Temple of Clawson, Michigan. Pastored by Leonard Gardner, Zion has grown from an assembly of a few hundred just 7 years ago, to a church that must conduct 3 Sunday services to accommodate over 2,000 worshippers. The public praise of Jesus is the Number One church priority and Zion is renown for their exuberant celebrations. Plans call for the construction of a church-plant the size of a large shopping mall on the 40 acres of property they own several miles north of their current facility.

The highlight of Symposium '82 came on the opening night when Zion's singers, players, instrumentalists and dancers performed their mega-musical *David*. The excellence of presentation coupled with the beautiful spirits of the participants and the majesty of the musical score seemed to uncork a prophetic flow that carried right through the week. The chorus, "Come Sing a New Psalm of David", the standout tune from the musical, rapidly became the "theme-song" of Symposium '82, just as Symposium '79 gave us "Here Comes Jesus", Symposium '80, "Commune With Me", and Symposium '81, "We Bring the Sacrifice of Praise."

The daytime sessions offered a staggering array of classes, skill clinics and workshops for singers, instrumentalists, dancers, songwriters, conductors, pastors, dramatists, and technical people. The evening services were attended by nearly a thousand each night, with the steady stream of musical and spoken prophecy and praise captured forever on video by Mark Vegh and his Hope Productions crew.

It seems that, at each Symposium, the Lord sends ministry to bless us that wasn't in the original schedule, and Symposium '82 was no exception. An unexpected surprise was the effective ministry of "The Master Potter", an anointed drama-team ministry from southern California headed by Jill Austin, who makes a real pot on a potter's wheel. Another unscheduled blessing was the music ministry of Jim Gilbert, who shared his new songs and himself with the symposium delegates. Jim wrote the chorus, "I Love You with the Love of the Lord" and takes music teams behind the Iron Curtain.

Symposium '82 closed with a moving message from host-pastor Leonard Gardner who used the image of Sampson tying firebrands

between pairs of fox tails as a picture of how Jesus was yoking together pastors and their local church musicians. No doubt that over 500 Symposium delegates could testify that "out of Zion, the perfection of beauty, hath God shined", as they returned to their local churches aflame with the zeal of God.

MEGAMUSICAL "DAVID" The Highlight of Symposium '82

Symposium '82 got off to an auspicious start on Monday evening, August 2nd with the presentation of Zion Evangelistic Temple's megamusical, *David*, a three-hour operatic biography of Israel's shepherd-psalmist-turned-king. In both quality and quantity, *David* was Wagnerian in scope, featuring at least 150 in the choir and orchestra and dozens of actors, as well as a gargantuan set and opulent costuming.

The entire production cost over \$16,000 to stage. Nearly \$5,000 was invested in a 2-story set designed to emulate a castle-wall and court-yard. This set was built right on top of Zion's ministry platform and provided for exciting 2-tiered dramatic action. The choir and orchestra were partially visible behind a translucent scrim at the rear of the set. Costuming was lavish, costing about \$3,000, and reflected diligent research into the dress of that period.

The gifted young man who scripted *David* and also played "Saul" is Truman Kelly, an actor with professional New York City theatre experience. Under Truman's direction, *David* came together as a dramatic reality in less than 3 months.

Dan Gardner's majestic music to *David* is reminiscent of the sound tracks to some of the great Bible-era theme movies like *The Ten Commandments* or *Ben Hur*. The score takes you through a wide range of emotions: fear, during David's encounters with Saul; jubilation, when David returns with Goliath's sword; majesty, when David and Israel bring up the Ark to Zion. The most memorable tune, of course, was "Come Sing a New Psalm of David".

David had played to packed houses in Zion's sanctuary for 4 consecutive evenings before it was presented to the Symposium delegates. On one of those evenings, a Detroit TV station sent out cameramen to video tape segments for airing on a local news show.

Although *David* was well executed, the ambiance of the presentation was such that the audience could freely interact with it. The script was tastefully peppered with humor and even boy-girl romances (David-Michal). The audience cheered the fall of Goliath and joined the actors to worship God when they brought up the Ark of the Covenant.

The most telling aspect of this eye-filling pageant, though, was its effect on the Symposium and its delegates. The whole musical was indeed a "sacrifice of praise" representing an awesome pouring out of man-hours, energy, money, and creativity by an entire church Body unto Jesus. And we all sensed that Jesus accepted that sacrifice and poured out His Presence upon them, and us. You might say that it's

proof-positive of the "alabaster box principle": the more lavishly we pour out unto Him, the more lavishly the essence fills the house.

BARRY GRIFFING: Going Into Zion-Song Full Time, January 1983

Rev. Barry Griffing is being released from his staff ministry position at Shiloh Christian Fellowship, Oakland, CA, on December 31, 1982, in order to expand ZionSong's services and products. He has been directing the ZionSong ministry since 1979 on a part-time basis as Shiloh's music minister. ZionSong will no longer be a department of Shiloh, but will remain in Oakland in affiliation with Shiloh Christian Fellowship.

Rev. Griffing plans to devote more to conducting the two ZionSong seminars across the country, the "Pageant of Praise" and the "Symphony of Worship". The "Pageant of Praise" is a citywide or regional weekend of worship, Bible teaching, and workshops designed to expose a region to the truths of Davidic worship. The "Symphony of Worship" is a seminar designed for local church music departments. It features a syllabus, audiovisual Bible teaching, new choir and orchestra music, practical clinics, and a prophetic song workshop. Rev. Griffing will continue to be available as a preacher and conference speaker.

Rev. Griffing plans to expand ZionSong's catalog of products in 1983, including orchestrations of ZionSong choruses, professionally typeset overhead transparencies, and many other aids to local church music departments. The ZionSong Newsletter will now be sent to an expanded mailing list.

We covet your prayer support as we embark on this faith venture with Jesus. If you're interested in having your church host a "Pageant of Praise" or "Symphony of Worship" you can contact Rev. Barry Griffing at (415) 533-9671.

SYMPOSIUM '83 RETURNS TO THE WEST COAST: But In A Brand New Time Slot

The National Music Symposium will return to the West Coast in 1983, but will be held the third week of August rather than the traditional first week of August. Host church Living Waters Temple, Pasadena, CA will sponsor the annual music and worship gathering Monday through Friday, August 15 through 19, 1983. Host pastors will be Willard and Ione Glaesser, who are well known for the annual Revival Fellowship Retreat which they coordinate on the West Coast the last week of January. Conference Host will be Rev. David Fischer, who is an associate minister at Living Waters as well as Dean of the Living Word Bible College. Rev. Fischer was the chief organizer of the giant "America for Jesus" rally held last year in Pasadena's famous Rose Bowl.

Pasadena is an integral part of the Los Angeles metropolitan area, a city of beautiful, dignified homes in the shadow of the San Gabriel mountains. It's location is not only beautiful, but strategic... less than an hour's drive from LA's four major airports, the beaches, and tourist attractions like Hollywood, Beverly Hills and Disneyland.

Those who have attended past Symposiums will receive "early bird" registration information from Living Waters sometime in December, 1982. Those who have never attended a Symposium and would like registration information, please contact:

Rev. David Fischer
Living Waters Temple
2200 E. Colorado Blvd.
Pasadena, CA 91107

More about Living Waters Temple and Symposium '83 in our next ZionSong newsletter!

YOU MUST BE BORN AGAIN... AGAIN By Dr. Graham Truscott

Part I

It is our privilege to bring you a transcription of a message brought by Dr. Truscott at a recent worship conference in Southern California. Dr. Truscott and his wife Pamela pastor Restoration Temple, La Jolla, CA, a growing church of 250. Dr. Truscott's book, "The Power of His Presence" is considered a primer on the restoration of Bible worship. He and his wife, originally from New Zealand, served as missionaries to India for almost 20 years. Dr. Truscott is a skilled clarinetist, composer, and arranger.

We will bring you Part II of "You Must Be Born Again... Again" in our next issue of the ZionSong Newsletter.

Would you turn with me tonight to Psalm 87. "His foundation is in the holy mountains. The Lord loveth the gates of Zion more than all the dwellings of Jacob. Glorious things are spoken of thee, O city of God. Selah. I will make mention of Rahab (which is just a poetical name for the country of Egypt), I will make mention of Rahab and Babylon to them that know me: behold Philistia, and Tyre, with Ethiopia; this man was born there (in Zion). And of Zion it shall be said, 'This and that man was born in her; and the highest himself shall establish her.' The Lord shall count when he writeth up the people that this man was born there. Selah. As well the singers as the players on instruments shall be there: all my springs are in thee."

Tonight I want to speak to you on the subject "You Must Be Born Again... Again". God says in His Word, in both Old and New Testaments, that He is restoring the tabernacle of David. The Bible says in Amos 9:11 and in Acts 15:16 that He will restore, that He will rebuild the tabernacle of David. This is a very important truth because it explains in both Old and New Testament terms what God is actually doing today. Praise and worship, and joyous singing and the playing of instruments in the house of the Lord are not some new-fangled phenomena just to let off steam. But it is the very fulfillment of the word of prophecy that God promised in His Word. For in the tabernacle of David there were 288 singers, 4000 players upon instruments, and 24 courses of priests who praised and worshipped the Lord with music and with the lifting up of their voice in song, with prophetic song and with the playing of instruments, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, in God's house. There was this glorious ministry unto the Lord.

The Purposes of Music

I have studied music, both as a professional musician and as a minister of the Word of God, and I have found there are only two main reasons for music in the Bible. First of all for *warfare*. When we minister in music in warfare, we see the *power* of God revealed. Secondly, for *worship*. When we worship the Lord with music we see the *presence* of God revealed. And brother when you've got the presence of God and the power of God, what more do you need? Hallelujah! And so it is that God is raising up musicians and God is raising up chief musicians. God is raising up singers and players upon instruments to minister unto Him that we may see the power and the presence of God manifest in the house of the Lord.

Biblical Restoration of Music

As we study God's word, we find right throughout Bible History whenever there was a restoration of God's word and God's ways under a good and a godly king, the order of worship established by David at the tabernacle of David was always restored. I'd like you to come with me for a very brief journey through Old Testament history.

First of all, the original tabernacle of David. You've had teaching on that. You can read it in my book if you're interested. 1 Chronicles, chapters 15 and 16 give us a really tremendous opening into the original tabernacle of David. And the important thing is that David designed instruments, and David ordained singers, and David ordained a certain musical order in the tabernacle of David. But, let's

move on.

The Temple of Solomon

Turn with me to 2 Chronicles and Chapter 5. Because there we see at the dedication of Solomon's Temple. This was one generation later; a glorious revival of that same blessed worship and praise unto God. The same time we'll go over to 2 Chronicles 7:6. I want you to follow along with me and see something here. "And the priests waited on their offices (this is one generation after David at the dedication of the Temple of Solomon) the Levites also with instruments of musick of the Lord, which David the king had made to praise the Lord, because his mercy endureth forever, and the priests sounded trumpets before them, and all Israel stood." Here we see that the instruments and the singers had a ministry. Hallelujah! And so when our brethren are playing on their trumpets and their trombones and their guitars and flutes and saxophones, pianos and organs, the Bible says they have a ministry. And it was ordained of David the king.

King Jehoshaphat

Moving on quickly to 2 Chronicles chapter 20, we see the example of Jehoshaphat. As they were surrounded by their enemies in a seemingly hopeless situation the word of the Lord came to them through the prophet - "the battle is not yours but God's." Instead of sending his best swordsmen, and his best spearmen and his best shieldsmen ahead, what did he do? It was through the ministry of singers which was ordained of David that victory was gloriously won out of what seemed like would be defeat.

King Hezekiah

Come with me to 2 Chronicles chapter 29, a wonderful restoration chapters, and here we come to King Hezekiah. Hezekiah lived 150 years after Jehoshaphat. In 2 Chronicles chapter 29, we read of a glorious restoration of the Word of God and of the ways of God to the people of God. And in 2 Chronicles 29, and verse 25, we read, "And the king set the Levites in the house of the Lord with cymbals, with psalteries, and with harps, according to the commandment of David, and of Gad the king's seer, and Nathan the prophet: for so was the commandment of the Lord by his prophets. And the Levites stood with the instruments of David, and the priests with the trumpets. And Hezekiah commanded to offer the burnt offering upon the altar. And when the burnt offering began, the song of the Lord began also with the trumpets, and with the instruments ordained by David king of Israel." Here we see four times in three verses that as the instruments played and ministered unto God, the song of the Lord was released, and this was 150 years after Jehoshaphat's victory. We see a pattern being established here - that every time God raised up a Godly king, a king who would follow the ways of God, a king who would turn to the word of the Lord - that the instruments and the pattern of David established as the tabernacle of David was restored.

King Josiah

Let's go over to 2 Chronicles chapter 35. Here is another one of the great restoration kings. These are all great studies in themselves. King Josiah lived approximately 100 years later after Hezekiah. In 2 Chronicles chapter 35 and verse 4, we read these words, "Prepare yourselves by the houses of your fathers, after your courses, according to the writing of David king of Israel, and according to the writing of Solomon his son." We'll skip over to verse 10, "So the service was prepared, and the priests stood in their place, and the Levites in their courses, according to the king's commandment." Now look at verse 15, "And the singers the sons of Asaph were in their place according to the commandment of David..." So, we see here again, 'according to the commandment of David'. According to the commandment of David. Instruments made by David. Worshipers raised up by David. Generations later. Hundreds and hundreds of years later. Every time there is a move of God this order is restored.

The Restoration of Judah

One of the classic examples of this truth is seen in the restoration of

Judah from Babylon. this took place 10 years after King Josiah. And if you really want to know what God is doing today, read the books of Ezra, Nehemiah and Esther - because in there we have some glorious restoration revival truths.

Ezra chapter 2, verse 65. When they were in Babylon they could not sing the song of the Lord. They said they hung their harps on the willow trees. They asked, "How can we sing the song of the Lord in a strange land?" There was no song. There was no rejoicing. There was no playing upon instruments. But as they began to return from their 70 years captivity in Babylon it is so interesting that in the list of all the people who returned, it says in this verse, there were 200 singing men and singing women. Hallelujah! Isn't that wonderful? There were 200 men and women who were singers who went back to the land of God. Chapter 3, verse 10 - there's just so much in here. "And when the builders laid the foundation of the temple of the Lord, (they are back now in the land of promise, rebuilding the temple which had been broken down by the heathen king), they set the priests in their apparel with trumpets, and the Levites the sons of Asaph with cymbals, to praise the Lord, after the ordinance of David king of Israel. And they sang together by course in praising and giving thanks unto the Lord; because he is good" and so on. And the fact is that as they praised and worshipped God it was in the month of the Feast of Tabernacles.

Thank God for the way He has given unto His people the Feast of Passover and made it a glorious spiritual reality. For the Bible says, "Christ our Passover is slain for us, therefore, let us keep the feast" (1 Corinthians 5:7). Thank God that He has taken the feast of Pentecost and made it a spiritual reality, for the Bible says, "When the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all gathered together with one accord in one place" and verse 4 says, "They were all filled with the Holy Spirit" (Acts 2). God has made that a reality for us. But I want you to know there is one feast left - the Feast of Tabernacles and that feast is upon us today. I'm so excited about it I could burst - hallelujah! For that feast is upon us today. It was in the Feast of Tabernacles in Ezra chapter 3 that singing and praising as was ordained by David of old was restored unto the people of God.

Turn to the book of Nehemiah - Nehemiah chapter 12. In Nehemiah chapter 12 and verse 24. It lists a number of Levites here and it says they were to praise and to give thanks according to the commandment of David the man of God. Verse 27 - "And at the dedication of the wall of Jerusalem they sought the Levites out of all their places, to bring them to Jerusalem, to keep the dedication with gladness, both with thanksgivings, and with singing, with cymbals, psalteries, and with harps." Verse 43, "Also that day they offered great sacrifices, and rejoiced: for God had made them rejoice with great joy; the wives also and the children rejoiced, so that the joy of Jerusalem was heard even afar off." Verse 45 - "And both the singers and the porters kept the word of their God, and the word of purification, according to the commandment of David."

When there was a move of God in the land, the Bible says that the pattern that was established by David, the instruments that were by David, the singers and the porters and the people who were ordained to give thanks in the house of the Lord were revived and refreshed and there was a sound of music and a sound of song and a sound of orchestras playing. That is why it says in Psalm 126, "When the Lord turned again the captivity of Zion, we were like them that dream. Then was our mouth filled with laughter, and our tongue with singing: then said they among the heathen, the Lord hath done great things for us." Blessed be the name of the Lord! That is the Old Testament; what about the New?

To be continued next issue.

RECENT GATHERINGS

Citrus Heights, CA - Key to Life Temple hosted a one-day music and worship seminar on Saturday, August 21, called, "Rebuilding Through Music". Rev. W.E. Wilfong was host pastor and the conference host was Phyllis Miller. Larry Turner, a chief musician to the Body of Christ from Bible Fellowship, Surrey, British Columbia, headed a faculty of six, which ministered to over 200 registrants.

Portland, OR - Over 8,000 Spirit-filled Christians gathered in Portland's Memorial Coliseum Sunday evening September 12 to worship the Lord and hear Pastor Jack Hayford minister from the Word. Rev. Michael Herron of Portland's Bible Temple directed the 200 voice mass choir, while the 75 piece interchurch orchestra was under the baton of Tim Smith, also of Bible Temple. Pastor Richard Probasco of Portland's New Song Church, led the worship service and ministered in song.

Gilbertsville, PA - Zion community hosted its annual Praise and Worship Conference entitled "Equipped In Worship, Prepared For War" last September 16 through 18, just outside the Philadelphia area. The faculty of 5 was headed by composer/recording producer Ted Sandquist of Freeville, NY. Over 250 registrants were projected by conference coordinator Ted Coffelt.

Kansas City, MO - Last September 24 through September 26, Broadway Baptist Church sponsored a music and worship gathering with Barry and Steve Griffing of Oakland, CA. Over sixty worshippers gathered, representing 3 inner city charismatic Kansas City churches.

Atwater, CA - Co-pastor Marilyn Wright of Valley Bible Center coordinated this one-day Expressive Worship seminar last September 25, in California's Central Valley. Churches between Sacramento and Southern California were represented to hear present-truth teaching on the use of expressive movement, dance, banners, etc. in worship. This gathering is the first in a series of monthly get-togethers.

Dana Point, CA - Larry Dempsey, Southern California's inimitable chief musician, sponsored a 4-day Music Leaders Retreat at the Best Western Motel located in this resort seaside town between LA and San Diego. Over 40 chief musicians gathered together October 11 through 14 for a time of fellowship, teaching, and fun. Faculty included Pastor George Rohrig of Living Faith Church, Santa Ana, CA; Pastor Graham Truscott of Restoration Temple, San Diego, CA; Rev. Barry Griffing of Shiloh Christian Fellowship, Oakland, CA; and Rev. David Fischer, Dean, Living Word Bible College, Pasadena, CA.

The **ZionSong Newsletter** is mailed quarterly from ZionSong Ministries, 3624 Suter Street, Oakland, CA 94619. Four issues will be mailed free and postpaid to anyone upon request. After your first four issues, you may continue to receive the Newsletter by requesting it in writing, or by ordering services or products from the ZionSong catalog.

ZionSong Ministries is dedicated to offering products and services to the Body of Christ which will help release, develop and perfect the ministry of corporate praise, worship, and the Song of the Lord in the local church. ZionSong Ministries is under the direction of Rev. Barry Griffing who is under the spiritual covering of Shiloh Christian Fellowship, Oakland, CA. Phone (415) 533-9671 for more information.