

Live's to Forget Songs

Martin Luther ^{is reported to have} ~~ever~~ said that if he could write the songs of a people, then he could not who might write their laws. Singing has ever characterized a great forward movement. It has been observed that some great songs were composed and sung by the people during the first world war. The war was a crusade.

Contemporary church music has been open to much criticism by ^{some} church leaders - particularly the older generation who remember the stately anthems and the heart beatened gospel songs, especially the gospel songs which ~~with~~ ^{to} the congregation joined in songs of worship, aspiration, comfort and commitment.

It seems as though it would be helpful to recall some principles of which can be guidepost in the matter of church music: Why sing? What to sing.

1. Song should be both written and sung in church worship & fellowship ^{with} for the purpose of ministry foremost in mind. Ministry means the edificative and ^{spiritual} rebuilding of the church. Never should the church platform be used for the display of training and talent. Ministry & performance cannot reach other ends. They deal with the matter of motivation - to be blessing someone

minister on to build of the prestige of
the performing artist.

2. The message is the conveyer on which
the message is ridden. Always it is the
message, the story, the lyric, the words
that minister. The two must mesh
in the song - but the words are the
important part of the song. The happy
marriage of music and message is
~~see~~ exemplified in such hymns as
Faint Lord Jesus, Beneath the cross of
Jesus, and Edward Christian Soldiers.

which assumes that the words should
say something significant, and should
say it in a pleasing manner. How
beautiful and uplifting is the poetry of
some of our much loved songs: The
Churches one foundation is Jesus Christ
the Lord; and How firm a foundation.
The theology of the hymn must be Biblical
~~and~~ the words must be well chosen and
pleasing.

Universal

3. A Gospel song should be singable and should unite the congregation in the expression of feelings & aspirations shared by all. "What a Friend we have in Jesus" touches a common heart in the breast of every Christian.

It has affected my peace - inner nature.

It has kept me from being a blessing to other many times - it brought tension to our home life and suffering to those I love most. It has made me self-centered.

But - as the days go that they should be - Day by day - Depression can be lived with one day at the time - I had half an hour one day at the time - soon now it will be better - only play by a by.

Random Thoughts: -

The perseverance of the saints is fostered by many new beginnings.

Depression - my constant companion -
"my thorn in the flesh". It should have
been conquered years ago.

It has affected my peace - inner nature.
It has kept me from being a blessing to
others many times - it brought tension to
our home life and suffering to those I love
most. It has made me self-centered.

But - as thy days so shall thy strength
be - Day by day - Depression can be lived
with one day at the time - Lord help me -
one day at the time, soon now it will
be better - only glory by & by.