CHURCH HYMNAL

Songs For The Church



(A MINISTRY OF KINGDOM AIMED FOREVER MEDIA 2021)

**REVOLUTION TWELVE CHURCH** 

# HYMN SING: 5

A Ministry of: KINGDOM AIMED FOREVER MEDIA

*By* John Foster, Jr.

# **Hymn Sing**

### WEEK 1

NAME:\_\_\_\_\_

DATE:\_\_\_\_\_

By John Foster, Jr.

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A teaching supplement for singing sacred songs. To be utilized in the Church of Christ, in the Christian Home and in the solitude of godly worship and prayer.

John Foster, Jr. 7238 Glen Albin Rd. La Plata, MD. 20646 www.revolution12church.org Kingdom Aimed Forever Media A little mouse for want of stairs ran up a rope to say its prayers.

Isaac Watts- (In response to why his eyes open to song/hymn/ rhyme during prayers)

## Prologue

From the beauty of creation, to our inward thoughts, to the words and ordered sounds of our speaking, may all be done unto the proper expression of the glory of God. Let all the redeemed be transformed into the likeness of He who is truly glorious and thus given in true worship unto God alone.

"The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork. 2 Day unto day uttereth speech, and night unto night sheweth knowledge. 3 There is no speech nor language, where their voice is not heard. 4 Their line is gone out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world. In them hath he set a tabernacle for the sun, 5 Which is as a bridegroom coming out of his chamber, and rejoiceth as a strong man to run a race. 6 His going forth is from the end of the heaven, and his circuit unto the ends of it: and there is nothing hid from the heat thereof. 7 The law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple. 8 The statutes of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart: the commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes. 9 The fear of the Lord is clean, enduring for ever: the judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether. 10 More to be desired are they than gold, yea, than much fine gold: sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb. 11 Moreover by them is thy servant warned: and in keeping of them there is great reward. 12 Who can understand his errors? cleanse thou me from secret faults. 13 Keep back thy servant also from presumptuous sins; let them not have dominion over me: then shall I be upright, and I shall be innocent from the great transgression. 14 Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O Lord, my strength, and my redeemer. - Psalm 19

n 1 Corinthians 14:33 we are told, "For God is not the author of confusion, but of peace, as in all churches of the saints."

The aim of scripture study is to see the specific revelation of God that He in His mercy has lovingly given. We observe in our text (1 Corinthians 14:33) that God is a God of order. God is a God of logical organization, not of confusion. Confusion is a word which signifies the violation of nature or divine order. It is to act or operate in a manner of disturbance or instability. God is a God not of disturbance/ confusion or instability, but of peace and stability.

The word "peace" is a word for tranquility, rest or harmony. This contrast between harmony and disturbance, order and instability or peace and confusion is a principle which operates throughout all of life and can help to display and even encourage or discourage the recognition of the Divine.

In light of this, the church throughout history has sought to honor God and His nature/character through music not formed popular trends of the world, but rather to utilize a mode of expression, which displays order and thus encourage a mindfulness of the divine for which the music is purposed. Our worship is to reflect God and thus the music of our worship must be orderly for God is a God of order. The music of Christ's church shines forth from the outward orderly expression which comes forth from the inward divine revelation whined upon the mind and soul of the saints of Christ.

It is important to note that there is quite a difference between legalism and order in religion or worship. Legalism sets in place a strict set of man created rituals and rules which is to be practiced most often with hope of earning some form of favor from God. Order in worship is different than legalism in that it is seeking the created order of God (*not man*). Worship is a response by way of reflection of God for the pleasure of God, not a system of merit unto favor earned from God nor recognition from man.

With this in mind the metric system serves not as law but as a practical means of ordered structure whereby one may formulate a prayer to God honoring His love for harmony in the very words which are spoken. We also note that we ourselves are blessed by the beauty expressed therein.

#### So then...WHAT IS METER?

A Meter is the number of syllables in a line of text formed together or identified with a consistent stress pattern. There are many meter patterns. We will observe three primary patterns here.

#### **1. COMMON METER:**

The hymn "Amazing Grace" for example is written in common meter (86.86), which means 8 syllables, followed by 6 syllables, then 8 syllables, then 6 syllables.

Count them: A/maz/ing/grace/how/sweet/the/sound = 8 that/saved/a/wretch/like/me = 6 I/once/was/lost/but/now/am/found = 8 was/blind/but/now/I/see = 6

This is one of the most common meter patterns and as such it was given the name "common meter" or C.M. If the pattern is used twice for a longer stanza, the pattern is called "common meter double" and is designated as C.M.D.

#### **2. SHORT METER:**

Another metrical pattern is "short meter" or S.M. This meter is used twice for the hymn "This Is My Father's World" and so the metrical designation is S.M.D. The syllable pattern for short meter is 66.86–

count the syllables:

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This/is/my/Fa/ther's/world = 6
and/to/my/list'/ning/ears = 6
all/na/ture/sings/and/'round/me/rings = 8
the/mu/sic/of/the/spheres = 6
This/is/my/Fa/ther's/world = 6
I/rest/me/in/the/thought = 6
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of/rocks/and/trees/of/skies/and/seas = 8 His/hand/the/won/ders/wrought = 6

#### **3. LONG METER:**

One further metrical pattern that has a name is "long meter" or L.M. The syllable pattern for long meter is 88.88. This is the meter for the familiar tune of the Doxology:

Praise/God/from/whom/all/bless/ings/flow = 8 Praise/Him/all/crea/tures/here/be/low = 8 Praise/Him/a/bove/ye/heav'n/ly/hosts = 8 Praise/Fa/ther/Son/and/Ho/ly/Ghost = 8

You will notice that the word "heaven" had to be shortened to one syllable in order to fit into the 8-syllable pattern. This also occurred in the previous hymn with the word "listening" which was shortened to two syllables as "list'ning." This is a common practice with several English words that you will find in metered psalms, such as e'en (even), e'er (ever), heav'n (heaven), bless'd (blessed), ev'ry (every), and pow'r (power). Long meter can also be doubled and designated as L.M.D.

Along with many others, these metrical patterns can then be matched up with multiple tunes and then each tune can be used for any text with that meter. This allows us to utilize a tune not only with the hymn we are used to singing it to but also with countless new songs!

Once you identify a metric pattern then you can identify a tune within that pattern that fits the message of the text. Some tunes are majestic and celebrative; others are somber and quiet; some are reflective and others are mournful. The mood of the text may be brought to life in different ways by different tunes, so this allows for variety and multiple ways in which the text may be sung.

Let us now study the Word of God and sing unto Him a new song birthed forth from His divine revelation given by His kind regard of His beloved saints. -Amen.

#### **EXERSISING UNDERSTANDING UNTO WORSHIP:**

#### **I.UNDERSTANDING:**

- 1. How has the church recognized order in music as a means by which to honor God?
- 2. Explain what the metric system and syllables have to do with each other.

#### II. READING:

3. Read: 1 Corinthians 14:33, Psalm 19

4. Review your notes from last week and spend time putting a portion of your notes into the Common Meter of the metric system (86.86) to be sung to the tune of "Amazing Grace".

#### HYMNOLOGY:

5. Sing, songs from the, <u>"Week 5 Hymn Sing"</u> and spend time praying over what you have read in scripture and sung in song.