

WORSHIP SERIES

MOVING IN NEW PSALMS AND HYMNS

We have been speaking about the need to flow with Eph. 5:18-19, And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit; speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your hearts to the Lord.

In our last message, we concentrated on the area of spiritual songs. We said that psalms, hymns and spiritual songs are the three different departments to move into the new songs that God has for us.

Hymns speak about the theological aspects of our life and our understanding and knowledge of the Word. Hymns also consist of a prophetic song. Hymns are songs that cause us to speak in line with the Word. Hymns speak about Word content.

Then we have psalms; psalms speak about the area of our personal soul and our personal life. When it speaks about David singing psalms you notice that all his psalms flow from what his feelings are. So I tend to classify psalms with tunes; psalm has the melody content. Music cuts across boundaries lines and is an international language. No matter what culture or which country you go to, there is a commonality of expression with the speed of the tune. For example, when there is an expression of sadness usually the speed of the tune is slow. If people want to express sadness, they never sing loudly and quickly. When they want to express sadness they go slowly. This seems to be true in every race, creed and culture across

the globe.

In our teaching series on “Experiences in the Spirit World,” we spoke about the fact that we carry a tune in us all the time. You notice when children are happy they don’t need to be taught to sing. They may not have gone to a Sunday school to learn songs but they seem to be singing or humming some tunes. When you walk down the street filled with happiness you feel like whistling a tune. Where did that tune come from? This is what we call a note of victory. It may not be an audible song. It is something deep in our soul. See a song is just a vibration. Music is just vibrations of sound waves in an orderly harmonic pattern. And in each one of us there is a vibration.

The psalmist tells us let everything that has breath praise the Lord and that the heavens and the earth are praising God. All the atoms and molecules are in a constant state of oscillation; a constant state of vibration that is harmonious. The earth goes round the sun. There is constant oscillation and vibration that is harmonious. Where chaos reigns, that’s where the harmony of vibration breaks down. Inside each one of us, there is always a certain vibration of our soul. You could sometimes pick it up in people’s life because in the end it will show up in your face. There is in each one of us a note of victory. Sometimes that note goes down sometimes it goes up. We need to learn to maintain that note of victory in our life. And that note needs to be expressed forth. We need to flow along. We need to tune in to that note sometimes.

When we are not believers in Jesus Christ, that note is not formed in the Spirit of God. And its easily influenced and affected by the things and circumstances of life. Every time God does something, there is a note that increases in your life. That is why some people when you meet with them they seem to have a note of victory in their lives all the time. They are always talking about success. They are always talking about positive things. They are always talking about victory. The vibration of victory is inside them. Some people have a note of sorrow in their lives. Whenever they talk, there is sorrow coming out all the time from their mouths. When they fellowship with other Christians, they concentrate on the negative or sorrowful aspects of life. What’s wrong with them? Maybe at a certain point in their

life they may have a sad experience that changed the tune of their soul. Maybe some hurts, maybe some sorrows have crept in. When they were children, they were happy and carried a happy tune in them. When they grew up, they had unhappy experiences and that note of sorrow becomes part and parcel of their lives. So psalms speak about your soul area. I call it the melody content; the tune content.

Then the third area is spiritual songs, which have the spiritual experience content. We have mentioned how if you don't progress in your spiritual walk with God and all you know is only the born again experience, you will remain stagnant in your spiritual songs. So when you sing a new song, you would sing, *"Thank you Lord for saving my soul. I am glad I am born again. I am a new creation."* All your songs would revolve around the born again experience. You can never sing more than what your spiritual experiences are. So the realm of spiritual songs is important because the higher you experience God in your spiritual experience the more you could express new songs to Him. This is why Isaiah who had seen the Lord in Isa. 6 and said "Holy, holy, is the Lord God of Host." He had seen the Lord and so that comes out from his spirit.

So the new songs that we bring forth to God would flow from these three areas. It flows from our depth of our spiritual experience, our depth in the Word, and the depth in our soul. These three areas are affecting us all the time. We focused on spiritual experiences in our last message. How important it is to have spiritual experiences since we sing songs from our spiritual experiences. When we sing songs that express our spiritual experiences, it will help us to re-live our spiritual experiences. And every time we sing those songs, we are experiencing our spiritual experiences all over again that we had originally with the Lord.

John Newton was a sinner and a wretch for many years. When he was born again, he composed the song "Amazing Grace". And the last stanza goes, "When we've been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun. We've no less days to sing God's praise, than when we'd first begun." He was able to sing the greatness of God's grace because he knew he was saved by grace. I am sure every time he sang that song he remembered how God was merciful to him, picked him out from the muddy clay and clothed him in the garments of righteousness and holiness. What happens when that song is sung today even though John Newton is dead? We all

re-live his experience.

That's why it's important to have songs that flow from our spiritual experiences. That helps others to re-live and enter into that experience. For example, if all you have is born again experience but not baptized in the Spirit yet. Somebody else is baptized in the Spirit and they sing songs like "Fire, fire, fire fall on me. Holy Spirit fire." And you are wondering why I never experienced that. I want to know how to get that. What happens is that by singing a song that somebody else experienced that you don't have, it stirs you up to have a desire to know what is the song all about. It stirs a desire to experience what somebody else had experienced and it helps you to position yourself to experience what the other person experienced.

Songs convey another person's experiences of the Lord. Why do people hear classical music? They are moved by classical music. Some are even moved to tears. Why, the music expresses their feeling. Why are some films more popular than others while others seem to fail? These films express people's experience and aspirations. They could identify with what they see and hear. And music and song are the important realm for they are a vehicle of experience. When we talk about the things of the Lord, then spiritual songs become a vehicle of spiritual experience.

Recently in the Reader's Digest, there was an article about the discovery that music actually heals. Finally, after so many years scientists have come to realize that music is good for the soul. All the time in the bible, it says a merry heart do good like a medicine. Thousands of years ago, it's already stated in the bible. But when we read the Word, we get it straight from the source. The bible gives us news before it happens. You have the beginning of the world. You have the end of the world. You have the predictions that have not even struck the headlines yet and they are already written inside the bible.

Notice as we compare Eph. 5:18-19 and Col. 3 and this time we want to pick up some areas here and touch on psalms and hymns. Col. 3:16 *Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs; singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.*

Do you notice a particular difference between Eph. 5:18-19 and Col. 3:16? The word *melody* is missing. Eph. 5:18-19 talks about *singing and making melody*. But Col. 3:16 says *singing with grace in your hearts*. Why is there a difference? Eph. 5:18-19 talks about being filled with the Spirit while Col. 3:16 talks about being filled with the Word of God. *Let the word of God dwell richly in you.*

But there is where the bible revelation is. That when you are filled with the Word of God you are filled with a certain measure of grace. Grace is more emphasized in your life. When you are filled with the Spirit, you are filled with melody. The actual vehicle of carrying those things out looks the same. On both sides are psalms, hymns and spiritual songs.

But there is a distinct difference between the two. The Holy Spirit needs to teach us the melody or the tune that we carry in us since being filled with the Spirit is linked to the melody. You could have knowledge of the Word but if you are not Spirit-filled, you won't be able to express it in a tune or melody that carries God's presence. Remember, we have spoken about the four dimensions of worship – the width of experience, the length of relationship, the depth of the Word and the height of heavenliness and God's presence. Being Spirit-filled helps you to tap into heaven's storehouse of melodies. We are talking about a new song. You could have a fantastic poetic presentation in Word form; expressed with fantastic lovely words but you could not get the tune because you have only developed the aspect of the Word in you. You have neglected to be Spirit-filled, and therefore you could not put a heavenly tune to your song.

Some songs have Word-content but unfortunately lack a melody that brings God's presence and anointing. Other songs have tunes that are definitely Spirit-inspired but are let down by too little Word-content. But when the composer is both filled with the Word and with the Holy Spirit, he or she will be able to bring forth songs that will bless the Body of Christ tremendously.

Today we are talking about the two aspects - the development in psalms and the development in hymns. We need development in hymns, which is the theological and knowledge aspect. We need development in psalms in order to have tunes that carry an unction and anointing. Sometimes when you look at a particular song, you find that the song has a nice wording but it has a poor tune. From that I know that the composer is stronger in the Word than in the prayer and being filled with the Spirit. Then sometimes when you hear a song, it has a very nice tune but the words are very shallow in content. Then you know that composer is filled with the Spirit and very much in the Spirit but reads very little of the Word.

Remember our definitions of psalms, hymns and spiritual songs are different from normal definition. Don't think of hymns as old hymns from the traditional churches. The word *hymn* now is talking about a Word content form. It can sound like chorus. So it's not our normal secular definition. It is the bible definition that we are talking about.

Sometimes a composer gets a nice revelation in the Word but doesn't have the tunes. The composer must then be willing to yield more and pray more in the Spirit to get that tune for that revelation of the Word. If you have a combination of both the Word and the Spirit, the song would turn out very lovely. If you only have one aspect, you will find that there is something missing about the song. You may have a nice tune but you wished there were more depth in the Word content of the song. There are a lot of nice tunes actually but they don't have a depth in their songs. We need a balance of both in order to move into the area of worshipping God with new songs.

Col 3: 16 talks about being filled with the Word and singing with grace in your heart. Notice that the grace here is linked to the Word. Grace that is linked to the Word is revelation grace. This is grace in which God allows us to see Him and understand Him in a new measure.

Look at II Pt. 1:2-4 *Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord, as His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and*

godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue, by which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises, that through these you may be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.

In verse 2 grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord. If we were to take it as it is then Col. 3:16 *Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.* That would be the essence of the meaning. In Col. 3, there is an emphasis on teaching. It says teaching and admonishing. So we assume that those songs that you get from Col. 3:16 would be songs that have a Word content that can convey a principle. For example, in David Ingles' song, "I am a New Creation," there is a certain teaching involved.

As we look at both aspects here, we want to see here first of all the Word aspect. How do we move deeper into the Word aspect? There is no short cut. We have to be filled with the Word. That's condition No. 1. The Word of God must dwell richly in you; richly speaks about abundantly in our lives. As the Word continues to fill your life, the songs that you speak will have a Word content that continues through generations to come.

In Matthew 26:30 *And when they had sung a hymn.* Now this was one of the favorites Hebrew songs that they always sing in the Passover. It was like a prophetic song that they always sing during the partaking of the Passover lamb. So, a hymn has Word content. When we say a prophetic song people classify it as a psalm but the Word will classify it as a hymn. In fact, if we use today's terminology everything can be classified as psalm. But here it's a hymn.

Then you see in Acts 16 when Paul was in prison he didn't sing psalms. He sang hymns for the Word of God can release power. If Paul was in prison singing psalms, it will be giving him and Silas some comfort. But when Paul was singing hymns, he was singing prophetic songs. He was prophesying about the things that will happen. And he was speaking the Word to pass. So here in Acts 16:25 *But at*

midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns. Now does he exclude psalms and spiritual songs? For spiritual songs express your experience with the Lord and they lift you up. Spiritual songs are to bring you higher. Psalms are to bring you deeper. But the Word of God is the one that fills all in all that can help you overcome. When you sing a song that is in line with the Word, it helps you to overcome. But when you just sing a song without any Word, what happens? All you feel is a bit happy that's all. But when there is the Word content, there is the ministry of the Word – grace is imparted. Remember what grace is. Grace helps you to conquer circumstances. Grace helps you to overcome situations that you cannot overcome. So, in prison they sang hymns onto God.

They were not in prison singing, “O Mighty Fortress is Our God.” If you examine that hymn, it's a defensive hymn. But then there are certain parts of the hymn that moved into the offensive. It talked about how the devil roars and concludes with the part that I like, “one little word shall fell him.” So he moves into the offensive at certain part. It began with A mighty fortress then it moves into the offensive. It doesn't just remain on the defensive. It's important for us to consider the Word of God.

So the results we see No. 1 in order to move in deeper into the hymns is be richly filled with the Word. Be saturated with the Word of God in your life. No. 2 we see what a song filled with the Word can do. Word song in Acts 16 brings deliverance. It can pull down prison doors. It can tear down strongholds. Tearing down strongholds is not just singing louder. You can scream on the top of your voice but if what you scream is not in line with the Word, it will not work. Some people see demon possessed people and try to cast the demons out in Jesus' name but actually, they are acting in fear. So nothing happens. It's not the loudness. It's the content of authority. Neither is it that the louder we scream or shout that the stronghold will come down. Although shouting brought down the Jericho wall, it was actually in obedience to God's instructions that they succeeded. If they had not obeyed Joshua strictly for the first six days, they would have flopped on the seventh day. Don't have the mistaken idea that the loudness pulls down strongholds. It's not just the loudness it's the content. It's the Word content that brings a degree of power.

Thirdly, in the area of hymns it has an eternal prophetic aspect. In the book of

Deuteronomy, we talked about Moses' experience in our earlier message but this time we want to see why God taught him that song. Deut. 31:19 *Now therefore, write down this song for yourselves, and teach it to the children of Israel; put it in their mouths, that this song may be a witness for Me against the children of Israel. When I have brought them to the land flowing with milk and honey.*

Notice that it is a song that they continue to teach the people. It is a prophetic song. It is a Word song; God gave the words. God knew that the Israelites were going to go astray. And God says He wants them to learn this song so that some times when they are somewhere going astray and they sing this song they would remember what He told them and turned back to Him. Remember some of you were backsliding and somewhere along the line, you heard a song that reminds you of your experience with God and you turned back to Him. A song can bring you back to the Lord. But it must be song with Word content. That's the third element where it moves into prophecy.

Most of David's songs have Word content. David predicted many things about the Lord Jesus Christ. He moved into prophecy like the other prophets didn't even move into except for Isaiah. There are two books in the Old Testament that are constantly quoted in the new - the book of Psalms and the book of Isaiah. Although Isaiah doesn't seem to be a melody kind of singer, the book of Isaiah is very poetic. All his prophecies are poetic. He had Word content. He spoke those prophetic words and New Testament authors constantly quote them. But David was different. He had the Word content and he had the melody content for he was an instrument player. The word *psalms* in the bible speak about an element of musical instrument involved. Psalms are not like the other two spiritual songs and hymns. So, hymns may not have any musical instrument involved. Sometimes when you are skilled only in one area then you move as much in God as possible in that area and try to learn up the other areas later.

The key to move to the other side is to be filled with the Spirit. You speak in tongues for hours and hours and you will find tunes. Even your tongues start changing. Some people say why is my tongue so dull? How long do you pray? Only fifteen minutes a year. No wonder you only know one tune. They will always sing

“ke la pa ke la pa.” They never move out and see any new things in God. But if you pray in tongues more and you begin to worship God and began to enjoy yourself in God your tongues will increase more. How long can you pray with “ke la pa ke le pa” - even after some time you also feel dull. God has been listening to your tongues for two hours. God whispers to one of the worship angels and say, “You give him some new tunes.” So, the angel comes down and gives you a new tune. And you began to sing in a new tune. Then God smiles and says, “Very good.” So, tunes come from being filled with the Spirit. But theological content comes from the hymn side.

In the third area, hymns have an eternal prophetic content and you saturate yourself with the Word of God. To sing psalms, you move into new tunes and you have to be filled with the Spirit. You got to be so deep in the Spirit and just flowing along with the Spirit. Sometimes you are dancing onto Him. Or whatever it is you just flow along in that area. But the second major development is important. Tunes flow from somewhere. Eph 5: 18-19 says *making melody in your heart*.

Let me point to a historical development during the time of the Israelites. Notice that every time the Israelites are at their peak of spiritual and national experience there is one constant theme they sing about God – goodness and mercy. I have always studied that and wondered who started it. I know Moses built the tabernacle but there is no record of them playing music as they put the tabernacle in place. You see Moses was not a musician. Moses could speak hymns but Moses could not speak psalms. Maybe Miriam his sister could. So all Moses did was move in the realm of the Word. Now don't despair if some of you find that you move only in one realm. There are three realms in a new song. If you move only in one, don't despair. You learn to move in the realm you know how and sometimes as God is willing, He would grant His grace so that you could move into all three realms. So here is the psalm aspect, the tune, the melody. Moses did not have the melody aspect. So, I know that at the inception of Moses' tabernacle in Exodus 40 there is no music.

Between the time of Moses and David, the tabernacle and the ark were neglected. They were placed in various places. But there was no musician. Although David set up a simple tent for the tabernacle waiting for Solomon to start work on the temple, the tabernacle is named after David. The tabernacle of David shall be restored. It

was king David who started the worship ministry in the worship of the ark. He organized them into teams and had them worshipping God twenty-four hours. And David was a composer. The bible tells us he writes songs for his musicians to sing. When David came in I Chronicles when he went out and got the ark the bible tells how delighted he was that he danced onto to the Lord in a manner that offended some.

It says in I Chron. 16 :1 *So they brought the ark of God, and set it in the midst of the tabernacle that David erected for it. Then they offered burnt offering and the peace offerings, he blessed the people in the name of the Lord. Then he distributed to everyone of Israel etc.*

Verse 7 *On that day*

David first delivered. Notice the word first. And on that day when the ark was brought into Jerusalem from Obed Edom's house David first delivered. The Holy Spirit doesn't miss anything - when He put the word *first*, it is the first and if He put the word *second*, then it is the second. First apostles, second prophets thirdly teachers He says in I Cor. 12 there is a purpose for all those things.

Verse 7 *On that day David first delivered **this psalm**;* the word *this psalm* is in italics. If your bible doesn't put the word *this psalm* in italics then your bible is an interpretative translation. In other words, if the word were not there they would still put the English word there to make the sentence complete but you would not know that there was no original Hebrew or Greek word. But the New King James version is a literal translation where if the translators don't find a particular word in the Hebrew or Greek, they would the English word in italics to let you know that its placed there by the translators.

Into the hand of Asaph and his brethren to thank the Lord O give thanks to the Lord. And he continues to talk about the things that the Lord has done. I like verse 25 For the Lord is great and greatly to be praised. Then we look over here in verse 34 Oh give thanks to the Lord, for He is good! For His mercy endures forever. I got a feeling that is the part or essence that people remember that song.

Many, many years later when Solomon had finished the temple in II Chron. 6:42,

look at what Solomon's cry is. He depended on David his father. *O Lord God, do not turn away the face of Your Anointed; Remember the mercies of Your servant David.* Remember the mercy of David. In other words, the covenant that God has made with David was based on His mercy. Look at chapter 7 verse 3 we are told that the Israelites and the choir sang this song. I am sure its quite a long song and not just two words. But there were two words recorded like a refrain and a chorus. Verse 3 *When all the children of Israel saw how the fire came down, and the glory of the Lord on the temple, they bowed their faces to the ground on the pavement, and worshiped and praised the Lord, saying For He is good, For His mercies endures forever.* Originally they had sang that also in chapter 5:13 *Indeed it came to pass, when the trumpeters and singers were as one, to make one sound to be heard in praising and thanking the Lord and when they lifted up their voice with the trumpets and cymbals and instruments of music, and praised the Lord, saying" For he is good; For His mercy endures forever.*

You cannot escape from the fact that the mercy of God is the most important aspect of God. If in your life you think that the judgment of God is most important, you are wrong. The bible tells us that His judgment endures but for a moment but His mercy endures forever. As we grow in our Christian life, remember this you may know thousands of aspects about God but the most important is mercy. What about your life? What is your strongest point? If your strongest point is discipline, I am sorry for you. If your strongest point is a high intellect, humans will adore you but I am sorry for you. Your strongest point in your life should be mercy. So what kind of person are you? If you are critical and judgmental, you are not like God. You are a little bit like God because He says His judgment endures for a moment. I believe that the greatest aspect is mercy. This is why Heb. 4 tells us to enter boldly to the throne of grace and you will find mercy. And in Moses tabernacle the ark has a little seat between the cherubim. What did they call that seat? Mercy Seat. Suppose you learn everything in the sixty-six books in the bible from Genesis to Revelation and you missed out on the aspect of mercy. You have missed out the main point. It is like going to a driving school and learning how to drive. You learn to start the engine, fasten your seatbelt, look into the rear mirror, studied the traffic and road signs and everything else but you didn't learn how to change gears. You have missed out the most important part of driving. So remember the main point in Christianity is mercy. For His mercy endured forever.

Some time much later in the book of II Chronicles when king Solomon had died and

during the time of Jehoshapat, they had to sing a song for victory. Of all the songs to choose from, they chose to sing God's mercies. II Chronicles 20:21 *And when he had consulted with the people; he appointed those who should sing to the Lord and who should praise the beauty of holiness, as they went out before the army and were saying; Praise the Lord For His mercy endures forever.*

My question is, are you merciful? Blessed are the merciful for they shall obtain mercy. The most important thing in our Christian life I believe is mercy. And as you study it, the latter musicians and singers may have taken the theme from king David. Why did David sing about the mercy of God? He knew the Lord had been merciful to him. He experienced the mercy of God. And he set a theme throughout the rest of his generation.

Now the first area to move into the psalm is to be filled with the Spirit.

The second is to be able to catch the tune of the others and move into it, just like Solomon caught the tune of David and he sang it. Some of the tunes may be retained or some are changed through time. Like long ago, John Newton would be amazed how the tune of his song, "Amazing Grace," could change over the ages. The theological and Word content of his hymn remain but through time the tune changed. I mean when John Newton composed "Amazing Grace" there was no guitar. When you compose a song based on the available instruments at that time, the instruments will put limitations on the expression of your song. This is why some composers like Beethoven and Johann Bach may come and hear some of their compositions played by today's orchestra and they would think their composition sounds different. For the past composers do not have as many instruments as we have today. The number of musical instruments increases and develops throughout the century. That is why two different pianists can play the same composition differently. That is called the expression. But that's what I call the melody expression since the tune flows from each person's inner soul. A fiery conductor would conduct his orchestra in a fiery manner. A cool conductor brings out the coolness out of an orchestra.

So the second aspect is to catch the tune and the melody as a whole and then you move into deeper things. Retain the hymns and the content or move into new ones that you experienced from the Lord. For example if you are artist and you want to draw the face of Jesus, this is probably what you would do. You will look at every other drawing of Jesus then you will pray and try to see Jesus the way your spirit sees and draw it out. Now why must you refer to other drawings? It is because it sparks out the image of Jesus. Or if you are an engineer or architect and you are supposed to design a bridge that spans a huge river. What do you do? You don't just start from scratch. You study other people's designs of bridges and you innovate and improve it. So in a sense all creativity flows from one to the other.

If Henry Ford were alive today and look at Ford cars today, he would be amazed at the numerous additions and innovations to his basic Ford model - signal lights, airbags, gadgets, air-condition, fuel injection, auto cruise, sensors, automatic gearbox etc. But he produced the first car and later generations innovate through time. In the end, it changed so much that he wouldn't be able to recognize it. I mean you put a model Ford together with one of these latest designs and you would see a world of a difference. So we realize that inventiveness or creativity flows. There is a river of wisdom that flows. Sometimes you need what I call reference point in order to launch forth. That principle exists in any field. If you want to move higher in that field you must first understand that field and know what is going on there and then move on from there.

And that applies also in music. When you need a tune and you need to express it, you first have to tap on a reference point. From that reference point, you could move into something new. And that creativity seems to turn on something to function inside you. Sometimes the tune comes fresh from heaven. But at other times, it comes from a song that you get something new. Just like sometimes if I have a song that has a nice chorus but there is no stanza written to the song. You sing that song a few times and you seem to feel something like a stanza that could harmonize with that. That is how song leaders worship and lead songs. You notice what they do. They cluster the songs into groupings like "Making Melody in my heart onto the King of kings," and "Jesus, Jesus, sweetest name I know." They try to get the songs together. They cluster them because there is a linkage. It sounds a bit harmonious to put them together. But some songs cannot be put together, like "This is the Day," and "How great Thou art." If you learn this, you can move into new

melody.

The second aspect is what I call tapping on the flow and moving into a newer flow. Lets say you want to get a new song that links up to Amazing Grace. So you keep singing it over and over again. "Amazing Grace, how sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me. I once was lost but now am found. Was blind but now I see." Then you keep singing it over and over again until something in you clicks and you could move into another song connected with grace that may link up with that song. "Amazing grace how sweet the sound but now I see." (same tune) "I love you Lord, I love you Lord for saving my soul from sin." That's a new song. You must get that exact melody and then something on your inside find from some other melody deep in your soul that attaches to that song.

So composing songs is not a difficult thing. You learn the art. Suppose you want to draw some complex picture of atoms and molecules for a science book. You look at other pictures of atoms and molecules, conceive a new image that is different and then you draw it. You need a reference point. If you are happy and you got a new song you sing, "This is the day that the Lord has made we will rejoice and be glad in it." You see the composition is not in your head; it's something deep inside that links that tune to another some new tune that is already cooking on your inside. Of course, you need some music training to move into that area. The area of psalms implies to musical instruments. But I am speaking especially to those who are already musicians too so that you could get new songs easily. Having a new song is not a big complicated thing. But there is what I call a free flow - you know that you having that song to get another song. And you want a song or tune that can link up to that.

Remember a song is only an expression of heart. And you must have the right kind of heart to get the right song that you want. So, the songs are able to impress the state of heart in us that we could make melody in our heart in that state and then come up with a new melody. Singing "This is the day that the Lord has made....." and you notice it goes along with the song "Come and go with me to my Father's house" " I will rejoice in Him and be glad." You see its in a raw state but you get a little bit of it then you go back to "This is the day ..." See those songs help you to prepare your heart in the right state. You see "This is the day" then "I will rejoice"

something like that is coming out. Sometimes the musical instruments help in the area of psalms. When you play an instrument, you don't just play one note. You play a series of notes that broaden your field of all those sounds. Singing "This is the day that the Lord has made" then singing "Come and rejoice, come and rejoice in the presence of the Lord." So that's what we mean by a reference point.

I believe that David introduced a catchy and melodious tune to the song, "Surely goodness and mercy endures forever." And then from there through the years that song sank into the lives of the people. By Solomon's time and Hezekiah's time, they would have retained most of the tunes. Hezekiah was responsible for compiling a lot of the psalms, especially the later portions. Look at Psalms 136 that may be one of the songs they may have sung during Hezekiah's time. Look at what he says, *O give thanks to the Lord for He is good. For His mercy endures forever.* The last portions of the psalms may or may not have been composed by David. David did not compose all the psalms. Some were composed by Moses, some by David, some by Ashap.

We are giving you the key to compose songs. You don't just start blank. Now you see why some people have difficulty composing songs because all they have is the Word without a melody. If the wording of your songs is majestic, you must feel the wording. If it goes like "How great Thou art," then you keep focusing on the song and something will come out from your spirit that will have a tune of majesty. But it will be fitting and nice for your new wordings. If you have some majestic wordings like "Blessed be the God for power and great are His," you want to give the song a majestic expression. A dancing or rejoicing expression may be less fitting.

We are teaching the practical aspect of Eph. 5:18-19. Eph. 5:18-19 is not only for some Christians. It's not only for worship leaders. Like for example being able to draw doesn't just belong to the artist. Everyone can pray for the sick but some have the gift of healing. What we want to emphasize is that Eph. 5:18-19 belongs to everybody. It implies every believer needs to be filled with the Spirit. And every believer needs to be able to make melody in his or her heart. So, the second point in psalms in order to move deeper is what I call the reference aspect. We need the reference point to get the right heart and the right mood. And you could jump between the psalms and hymns and you get both melodies correct.

The third aspect is vitally important is found in Eph. 5:18 it contrast being filled with the Spirit as being drunk. Do you notice it says, *do not be drunk with wine*. And we do realize that when the people were filled with the Spirit in Acts 2 that everybody thought that they were drunk. Apparently being filled with the Spirit has an element of being relaxed, of letting go and letting God. You just flow along. You know what a drunkard man is like. A drunkard man has no senses. A drunkard man can be very irrational. When you are strongly intellectual, you may lose out on flowing creatively. You box yourself in with all your intellectual analyses. A drunkard man may not know the difference between a road and a drain. What does he do? He let go of his whole feelings. Now being filled with the Spirit is not to become like a drunkard man. But being filled with the Spirit in a way is like being drunk with the Spirit. Your thoughts won't just go in a single direction. Being filled with the Spirit God can speak to you about many things, like angels, your life, power, glory. That's what prophecies are in the Spirit. They don't link necessarily and logically. Sometimes they talk about Jesus' birth and then in the second part they talk about Jesus second coming. A little here, a little there, precepts upon precept, line upon line. It is not in an ordinary chronological order.

Like a prophet wanted to prophesy like in the book of Samuel. What do they do all the time? They sing, "Yahweh, Yahweh," all the time. Then they move into the illogical aspect of the mind where there is creativity. And we know what creativity is like.

Creativity is just free flow. And today in modern terms, they tell you how to outline creativity on your point. You draw a circle and in the circle, you think for example, about a car. Then in your mind comes a picture of a motorbike. To tap on creativity they draw a line and put a motorbike there. Then they start thinking about motorbike. Then suddenly they go back to the flow and think of the shape of the motorbike. Then suddenly they thought about another aspect about bus. So, they draw another line here about bus. They are not logically linked and they have a way of drawing it out and then they link, link. Then from that free flow you get a fresh idea. See there has to be an element of free flow to get something fresh from God. That's the element of the Spirit here that we are talking about. You don't force yourself to think in one direction. You will never get creativity. You got to free your mind. So there are three points to go into the area of psalms.