

11-22-2011 BEAUTIFUL MUSIC

I have had the benefit of attending many different churches. There are several good ones which preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Regardless of denomination, there is BEAUTIFUL MUSIC in many worship services. I'm Ken Trahan & Welcome to Walking in the Word with Williams Blvd. Baptist Church.

I love MUSIC. I find lot of MUSIC to be BEAUTIFUL. Many non-denominational churches go the route of Gospel MUSIC. Many African-American churches are into emotional Gospel MUSIC, full of expression.

The traditional Baptist Church & the traditional Catholic Church services feature traditional, conservative hymns. Some churches offer youth services which incorporate modern, Christian contemporary & Christian rock tunes.

I enjoy them all. I think it is great that "How Great Thou Art" can be followed by a "Casting Crowns" tune. Of course, there are vast differences of opinion from the congregation when it comes to MUSIC.

My friend Jonathan Key does a great job of mixing different forms, different genres of MUSIC into our worship services at Williams Blvd. Baptist Church. his predecessor, Wayne Bridges did as well.

Like all, I have some favorites. Chris Tomlin songs are always good. I get a huge rise from "Days of Elijah." I love "It Is Well With My Soul." Michael W. Smith songs are always welcome.

Unfortunately, many churches & church members divide over the choice of songs in service. I see it frequently--some sing with loud voices, others shake their heads in silence over the song they don't like.

BEAUTIFUL MUSIC can be traditional or contemporary. Praise & worship meets guitars and trumpets. I am good either way. Many of the elderly members of our church don't even know that "Shout To The Lord" is a contemporary song, rather than a hymn of old.

Some like to raise hands & clap in song. Others cannot stand that. I get it. Just remember--it isn't the style, it is the substance.

Psalm 81 says to "sing for joy to God our strength; shout aloud to the God of Jacob! Begin the MUSIC, strike the tymbrel, play the melodious harp & lyre.

Psalm 68:32 says, "sing to God, you kingdoms of the earth, sing praise to the Lord." Psalm 104:33 says, "I will sing to the Lord all my life; I will sing praise to my God as long as I live."

Psalm 44:23 says, "Sing for joy, you heavens, for the Lord has done this; shout aloud, you earth beneath. Burst into song, you mountains, you forest & all your trees, for the Lord has redeemed Jacob, He displays His glory in Israel."

The Old Testament is full of passages which include the words, "Sing Praise To The Lord." I love to praise the Lord in Song. I fully understand that I cannot sing very well, in fact, not well at all. That, despite the fact that I speak for a living.

Psalm 100:1-2 says, "Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth. Worship the Lord with gladness; come before Him with joyful songs."

When I first started attending Williams Blvd. Baptist Church, I didn't know the songs I was hearing except for "How Great Thou Art" and "Amazing Grace." I quickly came to learn words & like new songs.

When it comes to MUSIC in church, open your eyes & ears to the possibilities. Diversity is a good thing. Ultimately, we all have our preferences. Make a joyful noise. Join in the singing. As John Wesley said, "sing lustily & with good courage." Believe me, I need courage to let folks here me! Thank your music minister for his or her efforts. That is truly BEAUTIFUL MUSIC.

For a text copy, e-mail me @ kentrahan@aol.com & ask for BEAUTIFUL MUSIC. For Pastor Tim Williams, thanks for joining us. I'm Ken Trahan. God bless you!