Joy CHRISTIAN CENTER

Beyond the Church

Pastor Brian Gobar
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There's More to the Song



I. INTRO/REVIEW

A. Beyond the chorus

John 4:23 (NKJV) [23] But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him.

B. Sing a new song

Psalm 96:1 (NIV) Sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth.

Isaiah 42:9-10 (NIV) [9] Behold, the former things have come to pass, And new things I declare; Before they spring forth I tell you of them." [10] Sing to the Lord a new song, his praise from the ends of the earth, you who go down to the sea, and all that is in it, you islands, and all who live in them.

- **What you know about God changes your worship.**

C. When there is no song

Psalm 137:1-4 (NLT) [1] Beside the rivers of Babylon, we sat and wept as we thought of Jerusalem. [2] We put away our harps, hanging them on the branches of poplar trees. [3] For our captors demanded a song from us. Our tormentors insisted on a joyful hymn: "Sing us one of those songs of Jerusalem!" [4] But how can we sing the songs of the Lord while in a pagan land?

II. THE BATTLE BELONGS TO THE LORD

A. What's your source?

2 Chronicles 20:3 (NKJV) [3] And Jehoshaphat feared, and set himself to seek the Lord, and proclaimed a fast throughout all Judah.

- Faith isn't the absence of fear, it's the decision to seek God in the face of fear

2 Chronicles 20:12 (NKJV) [12] O our God, will You not judge them? For we have no power against this great multitude that is coming against us; nor do we know what to do, but our eyes *are* upon You."

2 Chronicles 20:6-7 (NKJV) "O Lord God of our fathers, *are* You not God in heaven, and do You *not* rule over all the kingdoms of the nations, and in Your hand *is there not* power and might, so that no one is able to withstand You? [7] *Are* You not our God, *who* drove out the inhabitants of this land before Your people Israel, and gave it to the descendants of Abraham Your friend forever?

B. God's promise comes before the victory

2 Chronicles 20:15b (NKJV) Do not be afraid nor dismayed because of this great multitude, for the battle is not yours, but God's.



2 Chronicles 20:17 (NKJV) [17] You will not *need* to fight in this *battle.* Position yourselves, stand still and see the salvation of the Lord, who is with you, O Judah and Jerusalem!' Do not fear or be dismayed; tomorrow go out against them, for the Lord *is* with you."

- Faith responds to what God has said, even before it sees what God will do.

C. A song of victory

2 Chronicles 20:21b (NKJV) … they went out before the army and were saying: Praise the LORD, for His mercy endures forever.

2 Chronicles 20:22 (NKJV) [22] Now when they began to sing and to praise, the Lord set ambushes against the people of Ammon, Moab, and Mount Seir, who had come against Judah; and they were defeated.

- Their praise wasn't a celebration of what they could see, it was a declaration of what they believed.

D. Praise and faith belong together.

Romans 4:20-21 (NKJV) [20] He did not waver at the promise of God through unbelief, but was strengthened in faith, giving glory to God, [21] and being fully convinced that what He had promised He was also able to perform.

III. WAITING ON THE LORD

A. Don't wait for the evidence to begin thanking God

Habakkuk 3:17–19 (NKJV) "Though the fig tree may not blossom, nor fruit be on the vines; though the labor of the olive may fail, and the fields yield no food; though the flock may be cut off from the fold, and there be no herd in the stalls— [18] yet I will rejoice in the LORD, I will joy in the God of my salvation." [19] The Lord God is my strength; He will make my feet like deer's *feet,* And He will make me walk on my high hills.

VI. THE NEW SONG AND THE NEW DAY

A. Bless the Lord at all times

Psalm 40:1-3 (TPT) I waited and waited and waited some more, patiently, knowing God would come through for me, Then, at last, he bent down and listened to my cry. [2] He stooped down to lift me out of danger from the desolate pit I was in, out of the muddy mess I had fallen into. Now he's lifted me up into a firm, secure place and steadied me while I walk along his ascending path. [3] A new song for a new day rises up in me every time I think about how he breaks through for me! Ecstatic praise pours out of my mouth until everyone hears how God has set me free. Many will see his miracles; they'll stand in awe of God and fall in love with him!

- **A new day doesn't have to begin with a change in your circumstances, sometimes it begins with a change in your song.**