

Intro.

- A. Have you ever thought about how profoundly pleased God must be with singing?
1. On 5th day God made a multitude of birds, many of which were designed w/ beautiful melodious voices
 2. Job poetically expresses the songs of angels during Creation. **Job 38:4-7** (See note.)
- B. Since creation, God has always been praised in song!
1. O.T. singers start w/ Israel's song of deliverance on freedom's side of Red Sea (**Ex. 15:1ff, vs. 21**)
 - a. Listen to the sweet singer of Israel in the songbook of the Jews, **to Psa. 100:1-2;101:1**
 - b. The *Song of Solomon* is but 1 of 1,005 of Solomon's songs according to **1 Kgs. 4:32**
 2. God's singers in the 1st Cent. ---
 - a. **Mk. 14:26** - Jesus & the 11 concluded their worship in the upper room with a song.
 - b. As prisoners, Paul & Silas found consolation in songs of praise, **Ac. 16:25**
 - b. At least in part, **Heb. 13:15** = an admonition & encouragement to us about our singing.
 - c. **James (5:13)** wrote about *prayer amidst afflictions & psalms of joy* for the cheerful & happy.
 3. God has singers in heaven --- Worthy Art

Thou

- a. Listen to *the new song* sung in that thrilling throne scene in **Rev. 5:9-11** (bro. Teddlie's song ☞)
 - b. **Rev. 15:3** tells of the redeemed singing *the song of Moses... & the Lamb*.
- C. Continuing our study of *Sermons from Songs*, focus your attention on..... (title)
1. What motivated Luther Presley & Virgil Stamps to write is not specifically known. (sermon, B. study?)
 2. Have you ever considered the differences & contrast in *singers / songs / & destinations* ???
 - a. God's singers today sing because we are commanded to sing, **Eph. 5:19 & Col. 3:16**
 - b. Joy in the sphere of salvation & the realm of righteousness causes us to sing, (c. **Jas. 5:13**)
 - c. Singing bonds us as we encourage, exhort, admonish & comfort each other in songs of worship.
 - d. **In contrast**, Satan's singers sing lyrics which appeal to baser lust of men & women:
 - Sing re: violence, rebellion, profanity, and blasphemy, illicit sex, suicide, etc.
 - Sing on radio & T.V., in night clubs (*certainly not all*, but much!)
 - e. Their songs = filled w/ the very things God's singers are taught to deny (**Tit. 2:12**) so that we can enjoy the provisions of God's grace.
 - f. The sounds of singing in heaven = sharp contrast to the wailing & gnashing of teeth heard f/ hell!!!
- D. What lessons can we learn from that beautiful hymn: **When all of God's singers get home....**

Discuss.I. Lessons f/ First Stanza:

- A. Songs sung in heaven will be punctuated w/ **deep delight!**
1. **All** will be singing & each will be *happy, contented & tranquil*
 2. Two reasons:
 - a. God will have removed all pain, suffering & death => **no tears in heaven, (Rev. 21:3-4)**
 - b. Satan's singers will be silent, his power to influence will have been completely overcome.
- B. Songs will be diff. because of where we are: "*in that city so bright.... 'neath heaven's fair dome*"
1. Earthly cities characterized by vice & violence, fear & filth (trash).
 2. Heaven = bright & beautiful, purity, happiness & serenity (**Rev. 21:1-2 & 2 Pet. 3:13**)
 - a. *holy city* = place filled with all that is holy (sanctified, set apart for God) = God, angels, saints
 - b. *bright city* = God is light (**1 Jn. 1:5**), so there is *no need of sun, moon, candle or lamp* (**Rev. 21:23**)
- C. *Sing with the understanding* (**1 Cor. 14:15**) necessitates us to learn what the words mean in songs we sing.
1. delightful song will be **wafted** –
 - a. idea = *of carrying / propelling something in the air or over water*
 - b. melodious melodies will float thru air, over crystal pure river preceding f/ God's throne, **Rev. 2:1**
 2. singing will be '*neath heaven's fair dome* –
 - a. Webster's Dict. **Dome** = *a mansion or stately building*.
 - b. This would be the *mansion* spoken of by Jesus in the Upper Room in **Jn. 14:2**

3. those singing = the *ransomed* **Rev. 5:9-14**

II. 2nd Stanza States A Strong Contrast:

A. Need to think about the difference in our singing today & what will be in eternity.

1. Tone of sp. songs = diff.: No *Almost Persuaded*, *You Never Mentioned Him to Me*, or *Have you Counted the Cost?*
 2. Even songs of hope (e.g. *Beyond the Sunset*) sometimes season us w/ sadness remem. Those gone on.
 3. Songs of mirth (i.e., *gladness* or *joy*), like those sung at a baptism (e.g, *O Happy Day; I Have Decided*)
- B. A foretaste of *rapture* to come
1. *Foretaste* = just a hint (or small pinch) of the Sweet Rest on Heaven's shore across river of life.
 2. *rapture* = to be carried away by emotion (*Webster's 1st defin.*)
 - a. Mr. Presley's suggestion of the "rapture to come" is very diff. f/ a premillennial rapture.
 - b. Bible = silent on a "7-yr. period of rapture" in heaven during an identical time of tribula. on earth.
- C. One of the best commentaries on *the glory up there* is found in **1 Jn. 3:1-3 (c. Mk. 10:37; Eph. 1:16-18)**
1. Like- Queen's evaluation of Solomon's reputed wisdom, *the half has not been told* re: glories of heav
 2. Heaven => *home* – place where we belong & are secure; family (diff. in dysfunctional & Ch. homes)

III. 3rd Verse Sings of Jubilant Celebration:

A. *Having overcome sin* = reason to celebrate

1. 7 churches of Asia were told to Examine Christ (Head) --- He = the motivation towards grand promise.
 2. The message = simple: *If you will overcome, then you may come over & live eternally w/ God.*
- B. *Hallelujah, Amen* -- speaks of loyalty to Christ & victory in Him!
1. *Hallelujah* = exclamation, hymn, or song of praise to God (*Webster's New World Dict.*)
 2. *Amen* = indicates solemn ratification or hearty approval.
 3. *light-heartedness* describes freedom of burdensome worries & concerns

Concl.

IV. Chorus (written by Virgil Stamps) Echoes the Sounds of Victory & Celebration in Heaven!!!

A. **ALL** of God's *faithful singers* will be at home w/ God w/o one single exception!!!

1. These will wear crowns of righteousness, **2 Tim. 4:8.**
 2. They = the ones who learned the Truth, loved, taught, defended & lived it!
- B. They = going home --
1. The real *dwelling place* of the holy = in heaven, **(2 Chron. 30:27)**
 2. **Heb. 11:13** strangers & pilgrims on earth; **1 Chron. 29:15**- we are aliens, pilgrims
 3. Once => saved reach heaven, *no sorrow or heartaches*, **Rev. 7:17**, [imagine always feeling like singing
- C. No place like heaven, when all of God's singers get home!
1. W. B. West used to tell re: blind child whose parents heard of skilled surgeon in Alps who might help
 2. Arrangements made, surgery performed, bandages removed – to see if much anticipated sight would be a reality.
 - a. hope ended in sight & gt. joy
 - b. Child asked her mother: *Why didn't you tell me how beautiful the world is? {I tried!}*
 3. That is precisely indescribable heaven will be for all of God's singers.
- D. (Extend the invitation)