

Worship in Song

“All You that Have Confessed”

(1 Peter 2:17)

- Introduction:
1. As has been stated earlier, Alexander Campbell had a great affection for the church’s hymnal.
 2. He stated that it was the most important book, next to the Bible.
 3. But Campbell also believed that we can be distracted when we sing, and go through the motions without the spirit or heart.
 4. Therefore, although he published five hymnals, he did not include musical notations in any of them. He thought they were a distraction.
 5. Tonight’s song is from his hymnal that he, Walter Scott, and Barton W. Stone edited in 1834.

I. The Church is a Collective Body of Believers

- A. There is a reason we are called to assemble (Hebrews 10:25).
- B. Context – (Hebrews 10:19:25).
 1. Since we have boldness by the blood of Jesus (v. 19).
 2. Since we have access to God (v. 20).
 3. Since Jesus is our High Priest (v. 21).
 4. Let us – draw near (v. 22).
 5. Let us – Hold fast to our hope (v. 23).
 6. Let us – Consider one another (v.24).
- C. What did Paul do when he became a Christian (Acts 9:26).

II. The Old Testament Allusion to Faithfulness

- A. Zion – Jerusalem.
- B. Altar – Place of Worship.
- C. Solemn feasts – (Leviticus 23; 1 Kings 12:25-33)
- D. Joys Partake – Worship and faithfulness to God is not a chore but a joy (Malachi 1:13).
- E. We don’t “have” to go to church, we “get” to go to church.

III. Devotion to the Church is Necessary

- A. “Thoughts,” “Care,” “Wish,” “Prayer.”
- B. Do our actions reflect our care for the church or our selfish will?
- C. If we loved the church like we do our children, we would make any sacrifice necessary for its success.
- D. Ills. – WWDC.

IV. Humility is Needed

- A. There’s a powerful contrast in the book of 3 John.

1. Diotrephes – loved to have the pre-eminence.
 2. Demetrius – has a good testimony from all, as well as the truth.
- B. Brethren don't hurt the church to get your way.
- C. (Philippians 2:1-4).
- D. (Romans 12:10) Ills. Chip and Dale Chipmunks.

V. Be Faithful Unto Death

- A. (Revelation 2:10).
- B. It's not how or when you start the race, it's whether you stick it out and finish.

- Conclusion:
1. I believe we could all come to a greater appreciation for the church.
 2. And when we do, conflicts among brethren will largely vanish away.