

Worship in Song

“Into Our Hands the Gospel is Given”

(2 Corinthians 4:7)

- Introduction:
1. Tonight’s song is not one that we frequently sing.
 2. In fact, over the past 3600 songs sung at Karns, we’ve only sung it three times.
 3. So, apparently, it’s not the most popular song in our song book or any songbook for that matter.
 - a. Ruth Johnson Carruth, a preacher’s wife (Roy Carruth) from Texas wrote this song in 1959 and Tillitt S. Teddlie put it to music.
 - b. According to Hymnary, her song was only published in two song books, “Sacred Selection” and a Mennonite song book (That is not an accurate number, but not far off).
 - c. Compared to “Amazing Grace” – it is in approximately 1400 song books.
 4. But the message is a powerful one that reminds us of our obligation to evangelize.

I. The Clock is Ticking on Our Lives

- A. Do you remember the parable of the Talents (Matthew 25:14-30).
 1. A talent is not a coin, but a weight of currency, approximately 66 – 75 lbs.
 2. Doing nothing is unacceptable.
 3. We have to have something to show for our time here on earth.
- B. (2 Corinthians 5:10).
- C. (Ephesians 5:16).
- D. We will reap what we sow (Galatians 6:7-8).
- E. (Luke 12:16-21).
- F. We can’t guess when Jesus will return and even if we could, we cannot manipulate God by “cramming for the final exam.”

II. Lost Without the Gospel

- A. Are people really lost without the gospel? Will people go to Hell who have never even heard of Jesus?
- B. To answer this question, we must first harness our emotions, and allow God’s word to speak to the question.
- C. Reasons people are lost without obedience to the gospel.
 1. (Romans 1:20).
 2. Why are people lost? Not because they’ve never heard the gospel, but because they sinned. One is the cause, the other is the remedy.
 3. (1 Thessalonians 1:7-8).
 4. If saved in ignorance, why evangelize?

5. If saved in ignorance, what are we to think of God sending Jesus to the cross?

III. **Our Obligation to the Lost**

- A. Every gospel account ends with the great commission (Matthew 28:19-20; Mark 16:15-16; Luke 24:46-47; John 20:21).
- B. 2018 Barna Poll of Church Goers.
 1. Have you heard of the great commission?
 - a. 51% had never heard of it.
 - b. 25% had heard of it but didn't know what it was.
 - c. 17% knew what it was.
- C. (Acts 20:26-27).
- D. (2 Corinthians 4:13).

- Conclusion:
1. This song should remind us of our accountability to God.
 2. It should also remind us of our place in God's scheme of redemption.