

Dear Friends,

Spring has arrived! The Iowa grass is starting to turn green and the trees have started budding. Life is returning all around us. I am excited about how God is using the ministry to bring life into the lives of those who are in need. I want to share some spiritual truths that I have been learning this year.

Several years ago I had the opportunity of teaching with Dr. Logan in North Carolina at JAARS (Jungle Aviation and Radio Service) on spiritual warfare. While at the conference we were both introduced to a dear brother in Christ who has a heart for serving the Lord. A year or two ago this brother emailed our office and shared how he owned several old VHS tapes of Reverend Larry Coy's teaching. The problem was that to digitize the messages would take hours and hours. We thanked him for his offer. Unbeknownst to us he had started processing the messages, and just recently I was emailed a simple message saying he had all the videos completed.

What a joy! These messages are going on our website and other websites for the world to share in the hard work of this brother in Christ. A message I listened to really challenged me in my walk with God.

Our lives as believers are filled with ups and downs. Sometimes when we are really honest with ourselves they appear more down than they are up. These experiences in life have been seen in the Bible such as "...walk through the valley of the shadow of death... (Psalm 23: 4)." It wasn't until I listened to this message by Larry Coy on the importance of music that I saw what had been lacking in my spiritual walk.

Music is such a joy and gift from God; it not only stimulates different parts of my brain, but also involves my heart. Many of the temptations we face come at us in our mind and our emotions. Some of these temptations can be lust, anger, rebellion, envy, jealousy, bitterness and many more. The problem I found for myself is when I tried and tried to stand against the enemy I was only engaging my mind and not my heart. I was only fighting the battle with part of me. My heart was not engaged. How important is music? Lets see it in scripture written below:

"Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, making the best use of the time, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit, addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with your heart."

Eph. 5:15-19 ESV (Underline added for emphasis)

A sign of being filled with the Holy Spirit is that I will have a song in my heart that I am singing back to the Lord. I cannot explain how exciting it has been to be going to bed with a song I am singing to the Lord only to be awakened with a new song in my heart. The joy is greater than the birds that sing their spring time song unto the Lord. I would like to challenge you to find a song that ministers to your heart, and make it a practice of singing it in your heart to the Lord! I am going to list some songs that have ministered to me these last couple of months. God Bless

It Is Well with My Soul: Horatio Spafford

When peace, like a river, attendeth my way, When sorrows like sea billows
roll; Whatever my lot, Thou has taught me to say, It is well, it is well, with my soul.

Refrain: It is well, with my soul, It is well, it is well, with my soul.

Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come, Let this blest assurance
control, That Christ has regarded my helpless estate, And hath shed His own blood
for my soul.

My sin, oh, the bliss of this glorious thought! My sin, not in part but the whole, Is
nailed to the cross, and I bear it no more, Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!

For me, be it Christ, be it Christ hence to live: If Jordan above me shall roll, No pang
shall be mine, for in death as in life Thou wilt whisper Thy peace to my soul.

But, Lord, 'tis for Thee, for Thy coming we wait, The sky, not the grave, is our
goal; Oh, trump of the angel! Oh, voice of the Lord! Blessed hope, blessed rest of my
soul!

And Lord, haste the day when the faith shall be sight, The clouds be rolled back as a
scroll; The trump shall resound, and the Lord shall descend, Even so, it is well with my
soul.

Thank You, Lord: Dennis Jernigan

For all that You've done, I will thank You. For all the You're going to do. For all that You've
promised, And all that You are .Is all that has carried me through. Jesus I thank You!

And I thank You. Thank You Lord. And I thank You. Thank You Lord.

Thank You for loving and setting me free. Thank You for giving Your life just for me. How I
thank You Jesus! I thank You! Gratefully thank You! Thank You!

Holy, Holy, Holy: Reginald Heber

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee.
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty,
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore thee,
casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;
cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee,
which wert, and art, and evermore shalt be.

Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide thee,
though the eye of sinful man thy glory may not see,

only thou art holy; there is none beside thee,
perfect in power, in love and purity.