

MUSIC AND WORSHIP FINAL

THIS IS AN OPEN-BOOK TEST, BUT YOU USE QUOTATIONS FROM THE BOOK, YOU MUST PROPERLY FOOTNOTE (MLA STYLE IS OK)
EXAMPLE: [Webber, p. 150] after a direct quote. Though you may use quotations, NOT MORE THAN 10% of your paper may be quoted.

You are graded on a “curve;” so recall that each question should receive a complete, excellent answer, not just a word or even one sentence. We have some very fine writers in the class and they will set a high standard of excellence for this test. You may use the entire site as well as the book to research this final exam BUT you must write well and thoroughly.

THIS IS A SENIOR LEVEL COURSE AND MUST REFLECT EXCELLENT WRITING SKILLS AND YOUR OWN CRITICAL THINKING.

PART I: Please explain the connection between the Passover and the Lord’s Supper. (20 points). Explain why the New Testament stresses that the last meal with the Disciples was a Passover meal, by answering the following questions:

a.) The word, “Passover”: What was/is its significance in both Testaments, and today?

The term “Passover” has great meaning and significance within the Christendom. It is first introduced in the Bible in Exodus 12:13, as God gives Moses and Aaron instructions for the members in the community of Israel to obey. The order follows that each family was to take a whole lamb for their whole household, roast it, draw the blood from the Lamb and put it on the sides and top of the doorframes of the houses where they lived. They were given this instruction, because it was The Lord’s Passover, because God was going to strike down every firstborn person and animal from every family who did not have the lamb’s blood on the doorframes, and which ever one that did have the blood, He would pass over it, protecting them from harm and death. This was given in the Old Testament.

In the New Testament, you could see that at this time, the people of Israel was still celebrating the festival of the Unleavened Bread, in which they would commemorate the Passover. Here, Jesus and the Disciples are having the supper for this festival and He correlates the elements that were given in the Passover now with Himself, being that He was fulfilling what was given in the Old Testament, now in Himself. For the bread that was broken, He said that it was His body, and for the cup that was there, it represented His blood.

What this means for us today is this: the bread that was broken for us represents that broken body of the Lamb of God, which is Jesus. The cup that was given for the disciples

represents the blood of Jesus. As we are washed by the blood of Jesus, we are essentially marked by His blood, in other words we are justified. In Romans 5:9, it explains that as we now have been justified by the blood of Jesus, we shall be saved from the wrath of God through Christ, which means that the wrath of God which was initially aimed at us as we lived in our sin, as we have come to faith in Christ, we are now justified, His wrath will pass over us, and will bring us into eternal life. Just as how in the Old Testament, as the people of Israel were able to be delivered from Egypt as they had the blood of the lamb on their doorposts, we too shall be delivered from our spiritual Egypt into the great eternal life, through Christ Jesus and His blood for us.

b.) Why were and are bread and “the fruit of the vine” (wine or grape juice) used as important elements of Passover/Lord’s Supper or (Holy Communion?).

The reason why the bread and the wine/grape juice are both important elements of communion is because they are a symbol of remembrance of both the Passover, and what Christ has done for us. For The Passover Seder, the Matzah bread was symbolic of the lamb that was killed in order for the family to have their provision to eat; for the wine, it was symbolic for the lamb’s blood who was poured on the doorposts. In The Lord’s Supper, Jesus used these as symbols for His body, the body that would be broken on the cross, signifying His body and flesh that was severely mutilated for us through the bread. For the blood, this was a symbol of the blood that was spilled out for us that covers our sins and justifies us.

c.) Why is the story of the Exodus retold during the Passover meal? What story is retold at the celebration of Communion in many churches?

In the article “The Triduum: Three Days in Extraordinary Time,” it is stated that re-telling and re-enacting were teaching tools given by God to the Jewish people and to us to ensure the continuation of our understanding of what He has done for us throughout history.” (Triduum, p.2). In the days that Jesus was here on earth, the people of Israel re-told the Exodus story to remind their family of their Jewish heritage, and to remind themselves of how Adonai had delivered the people of Israel from slavery to the Egyptians, in order for them to reflect on what God had done for them. This is still continued for those who practice Judaism in the present-day.

In the celebration of Communion today for the church, the story that is mainly retold is the story of Jesus Christ and His saving acts throughout the three days of The Passion. As followers of Jesus do believe that Christ has ushered us into a new covenant with God, the body of Jesus, the spotless/sinless Lamb of God, is now our Passover into eternal life with the Father. So that is the Christian Church today reminisces on the story of Christ Jesus in the celebration of Communion today.

d.) Why is Psalm 118 so important to Passover and to the Lord's Supper (It is always recited at the end of the Passover meal?). You may look up Psalm 118.

It is most plausible that David wrote Psalm 118. It is important to note that David knew well of the Jewish history, and how God had delivered the people of Israel out of Egypt. The reason why I state this is because David implemented symbolism of Israel's deliverance within this Psalm.

In Psalm 118, I observed a couple of verses that related back to the salvation of Israel from Egypt. In verse 2, it says "Let Israel say: 'His love endures forever;'" in verse 7, it says "The Lord is with me; he is my helper. I look in triumph on my enemies;" Verses 10-11 exclaim "All the nations surrounded me, but in the name of the Lord I cut them down. They surrounded me on every side, but in the name of the Lord I cut them down." Lastly, verse 13 says that "I was pushed back and about to fall, but the Lord helped me."

If we were to look back in Exodus and see the tragedies and pain that the people of Israel suffered under Egypt, it would be easy to say that they needed the help of The Lord in order for their deliverance to occur, for they were suffering under them. The Lord mightily delivered Israel, and as they crossed the Red Sea, they erupted in praise, as it is shown in Exodus 15.

To go back, the reason why Psalm 118 is exceptionally important to the Passover and The Lord's Supper is because it denotes the victory that had received from The Lord in order for their deliverance, and how they extolled the Lord for how He helped them. As it is recited in the end of the Passover meal, they are concluding their reflection of what God had done with them with a praise for God's victory, denoting their confession of faith that He is the God who saves, sets free, and brings victory.

e.) Explain the reason that the Liturgy of the Passover is celebrated precisely the same way "to all generations." How does repetition teach us? How is this similar to the Lord's Supper?

The reason as to why the Liturgy of the Passover is celebrated precisely the same way onto all generations is for all the descendants that came out of Israel to come into the knowledge of how God is transcendent from time, and how He is involved with the history of the people of Israel in regards to their liberation from Egypt.

In Psalm 78:4, the verse denotes that they will not hide from their descendants; they will tell the next generations the praiseworthy deeds of the Lord, his power, and the wonders He has done. If you were to continue on reading that Psalm, you would see how it goes in deep in talking about God's people, from the time of Jacob to the time of Moses.

What this repetition teaches us is that we ought not to forget of the saving deeds that God has shown the people of Israel, but to continue on telling to others what He has done, so that His story may be well known throughout all the world. This is similar to The Lord's Supper because as Jesus was fulfilling the Passover and was going to become the substitute for the perfect and ultimate sacrifice, He already knew of what would occur after: the resurrection. As Jesus defeated death and resurrected, He told His disciples to continue on Psalm 78:4 teaches us, to tell the future generations, now through the Great Commission.

PART II: Please list three worship song—including at least one hymn—that can be used for each of these typical parts of worship. *Briefly* explain your choices.

The Gather and/or Processions: What songs can help us to gather and focus?

1.) Come, Now Is The Time To Worship - Brian Doerksen

Being someone who grew up in the church, this song here is primarily a classic now to us Christians. This song is a call to corporate worship, inviting the body to come worship The Lord and give our hearts, just the way that we are, before our God. It brings timeless truths as it expounds on the fact that all will worship Him, and every knee will bow and every tongue confess, however to us, it is a great privilege for us to worship on this side of eternity as we get a glimpse of how heaven will sound as we are together.

2.) Banner - Brooke Ligertwood

This is a more modern song, as it came out beginning of 2022, but just because it is a modern worship song, it does not change the fact that it is highly reverent of Jesus as King and Lord, and how it is a great reminder for the body that there is only One who is worthy. The bridge invites the church to build an altar of praise and worship before Him as we magnify Him.

3.) We Gather Together - Hymn

This is a Dutch hymn written by an unknown author in 1597. This song is a beautiful invitation for the body as they say that they gather together to ask the Lord for His blessing, and recognizes that although He does chasten us, we are still praising Him as He does not forget His own.

The Liturgy of the Word (Bible Reading): What songs can prepare our hearts to receive God's Word and the sermon?

1.) Word of God Speak - MercyMe

This song talks about the personal experience one would have as they encounter the power and the preciousness of the Word of God. It is a sung prayer that asks for The Word of God to pour down like rain over to reveal the majesty and holiness of Christ Jesus as we receive the word.

2.) Promise Keeper - Hope Darst

Although fairly new, Promise Keeper emphasizes that The Word of God, the Bible, is filled with promises that are for us. As we are getting ready to receive The Word of God, we are getting our hearts ready to receive the promises that has been written down and anchored deep within us.

3.) How Firm A Foundation - Hymn

In Matthew 7, one of the parables that Jesus teaches is that if anyone were take and listen to His Word with obedience, we would be a house whose foundation is strong and will not collapse as the rain and winds came. This hymn talks about how The Word of God is a firm foundation beneath us, explaining how it is an encouragement to us saints.

The Celebration of Holy Communion (Eucharist, the Lord's Table): What songs can help us remember what we are doing and why?

1.) Remembrance - Hillsong Worship

This song talks about the elements of the eucharist, which is the bread and the cup, and expounds how these symbols are pointed to the crucifixion of Jesus. This is a song that brings to us what communion truly is: remembrance. As Christians, we ought to live our lives as a remembrance to all He has done in our lives.

2.) Communion - Brooke Ligertwood

Continuing in the tone of remembrance, Ligertwood also explains how communion points back to the elements, which is now found in Christ Jesus. It expounds on the notion that Jesus is our spotless Lamb of God.

3.) Nothing But The Blood - Hymn

Daniel Ribeiro

This hymn is personally one of my favorites, as it talks about one of the elements found in communion: the blood of Christ Jesus. It is the blood of Jesus that washes us clean and leads us to justification, a right standing before The Father.

The Dismissal, or Sending Forth: What songs can challenge us to “live the Liturgy all week long” and to share the faith with others?

1.) Missionary Anthem - YWAM Kona Music

As the dismissal approaches, this song is appropriate to our sending now as our response to all that we have received. Although this song points back to Jesus, talking about His victory and conquer, how truly worthy He is, this song is now a call to action to the believers as it says that the harvest is ready and we are now meant to go, and how we will not stop until the whole world hears about the gospel.

2.) The Blessing - Kari Jobe

This is a song based on The Priestly Blessing, found in Numbers 6:24-26. This song is a declaration over the families on the blessings found in God, how He will keep us, shine His face on and keep us safe with His peace as the days go by.

3.) Sent Forth by God's Blessing - Hymn

To conclude, this is a hymn which says that we are now sent by God's blessings to others around us. As it recognizes that the service of the word and communion has ended, we are now extending the fruits of what we have received to others who are in dire need of hearing it.

PART III: (30 points)

The three great days that define us as Christians—Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Sunday—are called the “Great Triduum.”. Please answer the following questions:

1. How are these days important in the life of all Christians, whatever their denomination, whether they are celebrated in your home church or not? (5 points each):

- a.) Holy Thursday (the Lord’s Supper and the Garden of Gethsemane):

This is the day that Jesus is taken away and arrested. However, something that truly marks this day is the action as to which Jesus took in order to truly and humbly serve the disciples. The King who rules the nations with an iron scepter, and whose mouth is a sharp sword (as said in Revelation 19), is also the King who came down to His knees with a bowl of water and a towel to wipe the feet of His disciples. This is the most profound thing someone could have ever done. This is also the day in which Jesus had His last supper with the disciples, as to which we see Him fulfilling the symbols of the Passover.

- b.) Good Friday (Christ’s Suffering and death on the Cross):

The great prophet Isaiah wrote on one of the most intricate and detailed prophecy given, which is found in Isaiah 53. This prophecy was given 700 years before the crucifixion was a punishment put in place by the Romans, and here Jesus was fulfilling that prophecy, taking on the sin of all mankind, taking up our pain, our suffering, pierced for our transgressions, crushed for our iniquities. This was the punishment that was intended for us, however, Jesus took it on and this punishment now brought us peace. This is the day in which Jesus became the perfect sacrifice and we now have full and complete access into the Presence of God, as a sacrifice was needed to get in. The Father’s wrath was completely satisfied. It is indeed a good Friday because of one terrible cross.

- c.) Easter Sunday (Resurrection):

At the root of the Christian faith is the very fact that Christ Jesus has defeated death and rose back to life. This is the very thing in which we have the privilege to boast to the people around us, that not even death had the power to hold Jesus, as He came back to eternal life. 1 Corinthians 15 explains that without the resurrection of Jesus, our faith would be meaningless. This is why it is important for us to celebrate this day because we are celebrating the very essence of our faith on this day: Jesus Christ is alive!

2. What differences from the worship of your own church did you note when you visited a church outside of your own tradition? List them. (10 points) What can we learn from visiting churches outside of our own tradition from time to time?

I had the privilege to watch a Greek Orthodox service online and noted how they performed their own tradition of worship. I currently go to a modern, evangelical, non-denominational church, and the worship that is done here is completely different than to the worship found in the Greek Orthodox church. For the gathering in the Greek Orthodox, it began with a word of prayer of confession, which in this case was done with the prayer of "Our Father." There would be times in which they would head into singing the scriptures after reading and confession. For the service of the reading, there were various texts being read, some of which were portions of Psalm 118, Psalm 119, Psalm 146, and Romans 13-14. For the service of the Lord's Table, bells were rung before calling the people to remembrance. The priest would later dip the spoon into the chalice of bread and wine & would then on feed the congregated. For the dismissal, there would be a divine liturgy read, with a reading of a blessing, which came with announcements following that.

What can be learned from visiting churches outside of my traditions from time to time is to see how different we can all worship The Lord, however it is still acceptable onto His sight.

3.) What musical or worship changes might you like to suggest to your church, if you were empowered to do so, that would enhance the congregation's understanding of the Great Three Days (Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Sunday)? If you do not currently have a home church, please consider their possible celebration in chapel service. (5 points).

If I were empowered to suggest a change in my church's worship, I would love to suggest the act of feet washing. Although I do attend a non-denominational church, which can tend to be a bit seeker-friendly, this would break a bit of the stigma that comes with feet washing, however, it would be a beautiful demonstration for us to truly see how Christ truly came to serve His disciples, and us as the church. As we do meet yearly for Good Friday, something that has been done since 2020 is that for Good Friday we met online, however, for this year, this was done in order for us to have communion done intimately with our brothers and sisters as we watched the service get streamed online. However, what I would like to suggest is for this to be done in person with the entire congregation next year as it is meant to be done corporately for the entire church to remember what Christ has done for us.

PART IV: (25 points)

1. How can Bible study **and** the study of the historical worship of the Church, from the time of the Old Testament through to the present day, help you to be a more competent worship leader? (15 points)

Bible study and studying the historical worship of the Church done is important because worship remembers all what God has done. There are plenty of worship leaders today that rely on fragments of what they know of the Bible instead of coming to truly know the whole story of The Bible, which is the gospel, and that greatly hinders worship today in the church.

Webber explains this by saying that “Fragmentation in worship is expressed in a worship that emphasizes one or another aspect of God’s story but neglects the story as a whole.” (Webber, 41). He goes on to explain what biblical worship is by saying that “it remembers God’s work in the past, anticipates God’s rule over all creations, and actualizes both past and future in the present to transform [people], communities, and the world...Biblical remembering brings God’s saving events to mind, body and soul...[and] makes the power and the saving effect of the event present to the worshipping community.”(Webber, 43).

How studying the Bible, and how the church worshipped in the beginning, can greatly affect me to become a more competent worship leader is that I am going to bring into light all of the stories of the Bible and make that the centerpiece of worship, and look back at how theologically sound the worship songs were in the beginning of the church and translate that into our contemporary language so that we can salvage what was said back then in order for their to be a remembrance of what God has done through the Bible, and how He is still the same today.

2. Although dance may not be an element of your worship service, it was certainly an important part of Old Testament worship. Explain, and relate to your worship experience and possibilities for present-day Christian worship. (10 points)

As a Brazilian, I grew up listening to both American and Brazilian worship ministries, however, there was one worship ministry that had a profound impact in my life, which is the Brazilian Worship ministry called Diante do Trono (*Before The Throne*). In the time that this worship ministry came into being, dance was something that was actually seen as something “sinful” in Brazil, as it looked like it was something sensual. However, the ministry responded by using plenty of scripture by saying that dance was done throughout the Old Testament.

My experience with dancing in worship was something that has truly left an impact in my heart because it shows that worship is also something that can be

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expressive and not held back by someone holding a guitar, and singing, or etc. Worship ought to be done with things that come naturally to us, and we are supposed to worship The Lord with the best we have to offer.

I do have a burning desire in seeing dance being brought back into worship once again, as it shows what it means to truly have a heart of worship, and not care of what others think when one worships.