

TESTIFY

MAGAZINE

April 2026

**SPECIAL
EDITION**



Gospel Music

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IN THIS EDITION

Issue 39
April 2026

GOSPEL MUSIC EDITION



What many people do not know is that I love music, I love many different kinds of music and this has not only helped me deal with many situations in life but brought me to a place of thanksgiving.

Let me give you an example of what I am saying. Many situations in life become stressful or situations of anxiety, yet I have found in those situations I draw myself to music and find that although it does not take away the situation it helps me to be more grounded and centred.

Many times, especially in the early hours of the morning I find myself in my secluded time with Jesus to be listening to either worship or praise music depending on what I am doing, either thanking God for all He is and does for me or worshipping Him because of His greatness and love.



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COVER STORY

GOSPEL MUSIC EDITION



Comfort in the fire, Carol Wunderlich finds solace as she teaches piano lessons.

By Gerda Potgieter

For as long as I can remember, I have felt a strong urge to share the incredible story of Carol Wunderlich, a truly inspiring person who has touched many lives. Testify's focus on Gospel music for this issue provides an excellent opportunity to tell her story to the public and music enthusiasts alike. Despite being constantly plagued by severe pain that would challenge even the strongest among us, she remains a symbol of positivity and hope. Every time I see her, I am moved by her uplifting smile and spirited nature. It's extraordinary to hear others describe her in the same way, confirming that regardless of the circumstances, she embodies hope and resilience, inspiring everyone lucky enough to know her. This is an inspiring story she shared of how she finds solace as she teaches piano lessons to young people.

“My dad had psoriasis on his skin as well as psoriatic arthritis, and the effects of it overshadowed my childhood. He was in much pain. I remember him hobbling down the passage past my bedroom door, bent double. He had to grab hold of the headboard if he had to cough or sneeze. My mother thought she might eventually have to push him in a wheelchair. He tried many therapies and diets to no avail. He went from one doctor to the next without success. At some stage, he had to stop working. As time went on, his condition gradually improved, and eventually he was well - he believed God had touched him.”

“Soon it became clear that I had the illness too. I developed chronic tendinitis triggered by psoriasis. Initially, my hips were affected. They felt out of joint, and I could only walk with difficulty. Then, I found it very painful to sit. One weekend, we took the one-hour drive to the beach. When we arrived there, the pain was so excruciating that I was admitted to the hospital. Since then, I've had to lie flat in the car, and driving myself is out of the question.

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“Then I had difficulty eating at the table. I would start gobbling down my food so I could finish eating and get up from the table. I’ve resorted to reclining at mealtimes, as the ancient Romans did. The pain has spread up my spine and into the rib cage. Sometimes it affects my feet and hands, too. I could no longer work as a schoolteacher, but since I had also studied piano teaching, I could take on piano students and teach from home. Over the years, I have had to reduce the number of students as the pain increased. Now we have the piano in the guest room, so I can teach lying down.”

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A break from the pain

“I’ve been to many doctors and taken medication and supplements galore. I’ve done diets and other therapies in the hope that I’ll get better. But nothing has helped except once in 2009. A friend told us of a good doctor in Cape Town. Cape Town was on my bucket list, so I was delighted that I had a very good reason to go there. The doctor prescribed a potent medication, and I felt better immediately. What a relief!

“This coincided with the year we realised it was critical to move into the house we had been building. I was well enough to run things at home: to pack, transplant my roses, etc., and my husband could focus on finishing the house. At last, we could move in. My husband’s entire German family came for Christmas, and I was well enough to host them. “After a while, I noticed the strangely familiar pain again. And even though I was still taking the prescribed medication, it was as if I had switched to swallowing Smarties. The pain was back!

“But somehow it didn’t matter so much because the critical time of moving and hosting the family was past. It was as if the Lord granted me that year for these tasks. And it was as if He was saying to me, ‘You see, I have everything under control. I’m busy with something in your life - and in the lives of those around you. I’m not done yet.’ We went back to the doctor in Cape Town. He confirmed that medication sometimes loses its effectiveness. There was nothing more he could do. We were rather disappointed to no longer have a good reason to go to Cape Town.”

Lessons I am learning

“I was an avid, aspiring, wannabe hockey player, and I played tennis with my siblings, and we swam for hours. We often went hiking in the Drakensberg. I also spent many hours at the piano. So it was difficult and frustrating lying in bed. One day, I was complaining to a wise woman I know about having to lie in bed. She said, ‘You’ll have to accept it.’ I was stunned. Until then, I had been scheming and pushing to get out of this uncomfortable situation. This was my lesson in bowing under God’s mighty hand:

- God controls the dose of pain.
- I need to keep a quiet heart during the storm. I need to be careful what I think. All thoughts must be reined in and taken captive. No negativity is found in God. Even if it might be understandable for me to feel sorry for myself, it would not help me to

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feel better.

□ I need to find the Lord in the secret place every day, and then I will be at rest. (Ps 91v1, 2)

□ God answers prayer in his own way.

“I have been told that people with my condition always suffer from depression. And indeed, some mornings, I sense the dark clouds forming on my horizon. Then I start making plans on how to cope when they start smothering me. But then, when I look again, the clouds have disappeared. This is one of the miracles God has performed for me all these years. It is an answer to all the prayers that have been raised on my behalf for my healing. Even though my pain has increased over the years, God has been answering prayers and has been performing His miracles in other ways. I am confident that He is busy with a project, and it’s a work in progress. I am also quite sure that He is killing many proverbial birds with this one stone.”

Coping with the situation

“Our family has obviously been profoundly affected by my condition, but we have much to be thankful for. I have had to give up cooking after many years of struggling with intense pain every afternoon after cooking lunch. Thankfully, my husband enjoys cooking - he says he had better like cooking because he likes eating. He’s a far better cook than I am, and I’m not missing doing the cooking.

“Our children always know where to find me. Sometimes when I’m able to get up for a bit, they complain that they can’t find me.”

God lifts burdens

“Although we know that this condition is hereditary, we hoped it would skip our children. When our youngest started to experience pain in the same way as me, we first lived in denial and hoped there was some other reason for the pain. Eventually, we had to face up to it, and the doctor confirmed our suspicions that she has the same condition as I. Initially, I was burdened and didn’t sleep well. When I awoke one morning, the burden had disappeared. God had taken it away, and all I could think of was a list of things we could be thankful for. My cousin’s son had recently passed away from cancer. This fact made us thankful that our condition is not terminal. I was also so grateful that our daughter had not been diagnosed with some condition where you need to watch what you eat constantly. She can generally eat what she

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likes; it doesn't seem to matter. Every time she walks out the door and still goes to work, we are grateful. The list goes on of all the blessings we enjoy.”

With Jesus in the fire

Recently, my daughter and I simultaneously experienced intense pain that did not relent for many days. We were struggling to cope. Many prayers went up for us. God answered by reminding us of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego in the Bible. They were thrown into the fiery furnace, and God met them there. We were greatly encouraged: instead of resisting and trying to avoid the difficulty, we needed to look to God in the situation. Our outlook changed, and we could face the days to follow with hope.

“We face the future with confidence and trust in our Creator. He designed us and our circumstances with intricate care. We are safe in His loving hands.” Music possesses a profound spiritual quality, and Carol has a deep understanding of the distinction between melodies that are divinely inspired and those that are not. As we delve into this issue of Testify, which focuses on the essence of gospel music, I feel it's essential to issue a cautionary note. It's important to recognise that not every song that resonates with you is rooted in divine inspiration.

Many contemporary tracks, particularly those with a sound that leans towards secular influence, may create a fleeting sense of happiness. However, they may lack the spiritual depth and truth that comes from being genuinely inspired by the Lord. To help you discern the difference between truly uplifting music and the more superficial offerings, I highly recommend watching a video that explains the difference. It provides insightful guidelines to help you make informed choices about the music you listen to, ensuring your selections align with your spiritual journey:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4xUzxDzhIKI>.



FROM THE EDITOR

MUSIC AS A MEANS

What many people do not know is that I love music, I love many different kinds of music and this has not only helped me deal with many situations in life but brought me to a place of thanksgiving.

Let me give you an example of what I am saying. Many situations in life become stressful or situations of anxiety, yet I have found in those situations I draw myself to music and find that although it does not take away the situation it helps me to be more grounded and centred.

Many times, especially in the early hours of the morning I find myself in my secluded time with Jesus to be listening to either worship or praise music depending on what I am doing, either thanking God for all He is and does for me or worshipping Him because of His greatness and love.

I want to refer you to scripture:

**Psalm 105 “Oh give thanks to the Lord; call upon his name;
make known his deeds among the peoples!**

**2 Sing to him, sing praises to him;
tell of all his wondrous works!**

**3 Glory in his holy name;
let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice!**

**4 Seek the Lord and his strength;
seek his presence continually!”**

FROM THE EDITOR

The amazing part from this scripture in Psalms in the end of verse 4 where it says we need to seek God continually, but look how it starts! We also seek God not only through prayer but through song too! This is extremely important because we should be combining both prayer and song when worshipping, praising or seeking God.

Hence the Bible says when you pray go into your room and close the door, I think God was talking about me there because if you hear my singing you would certainly have to close the door.

When we look at the theme of this month's magazine of Gospel music and bringing people to thanksgiving one has to conclude that music and Gospel music in particular does that, we should not only be looking at the concert or event but also what happens in church services and even further to music schools, classes and promoting there of, all these areas contribute in a way to Gospel music and what it does for people.

My encouragement with this edition of the magazine is that we see the Gospel music picture far wider than just a concert and may I say that concerts are essential and play a huge role, please keep going with them and even more, but the genre brings into account much, much more, all music contributes in this genre just in different ways.

Please keep singing, even if it is in the shower, our Lord deserves our worship and praise ALWAYS!!



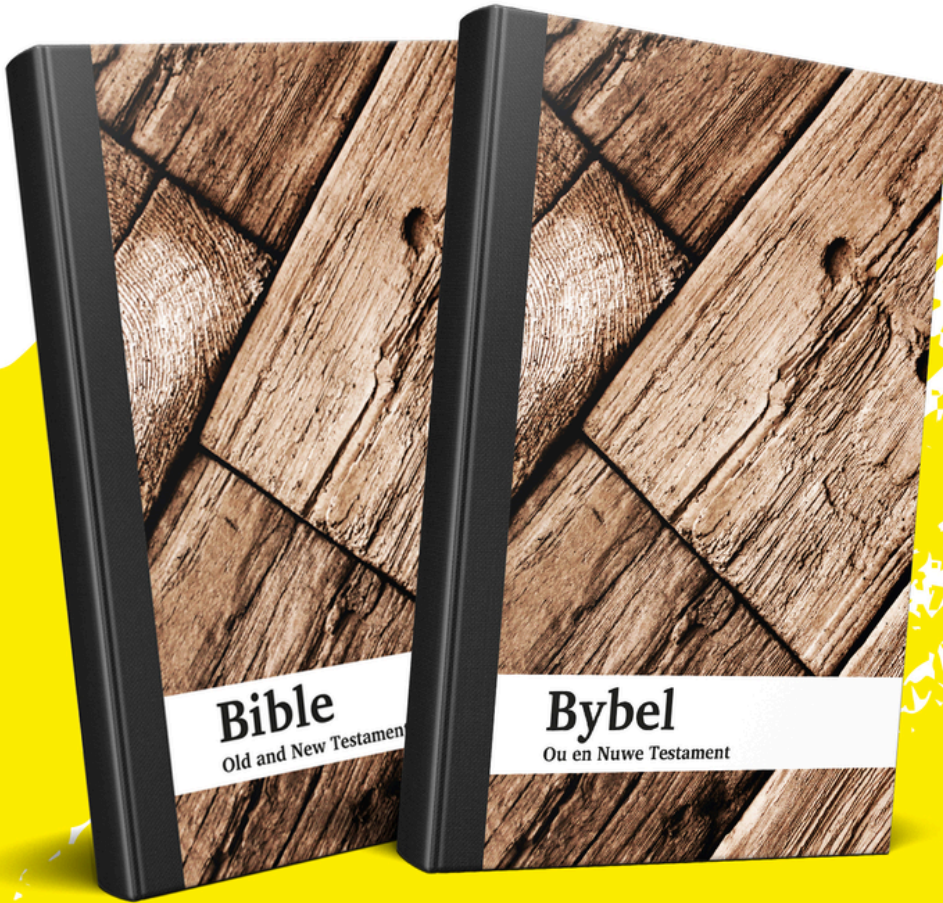
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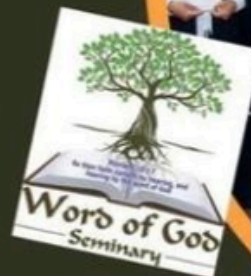
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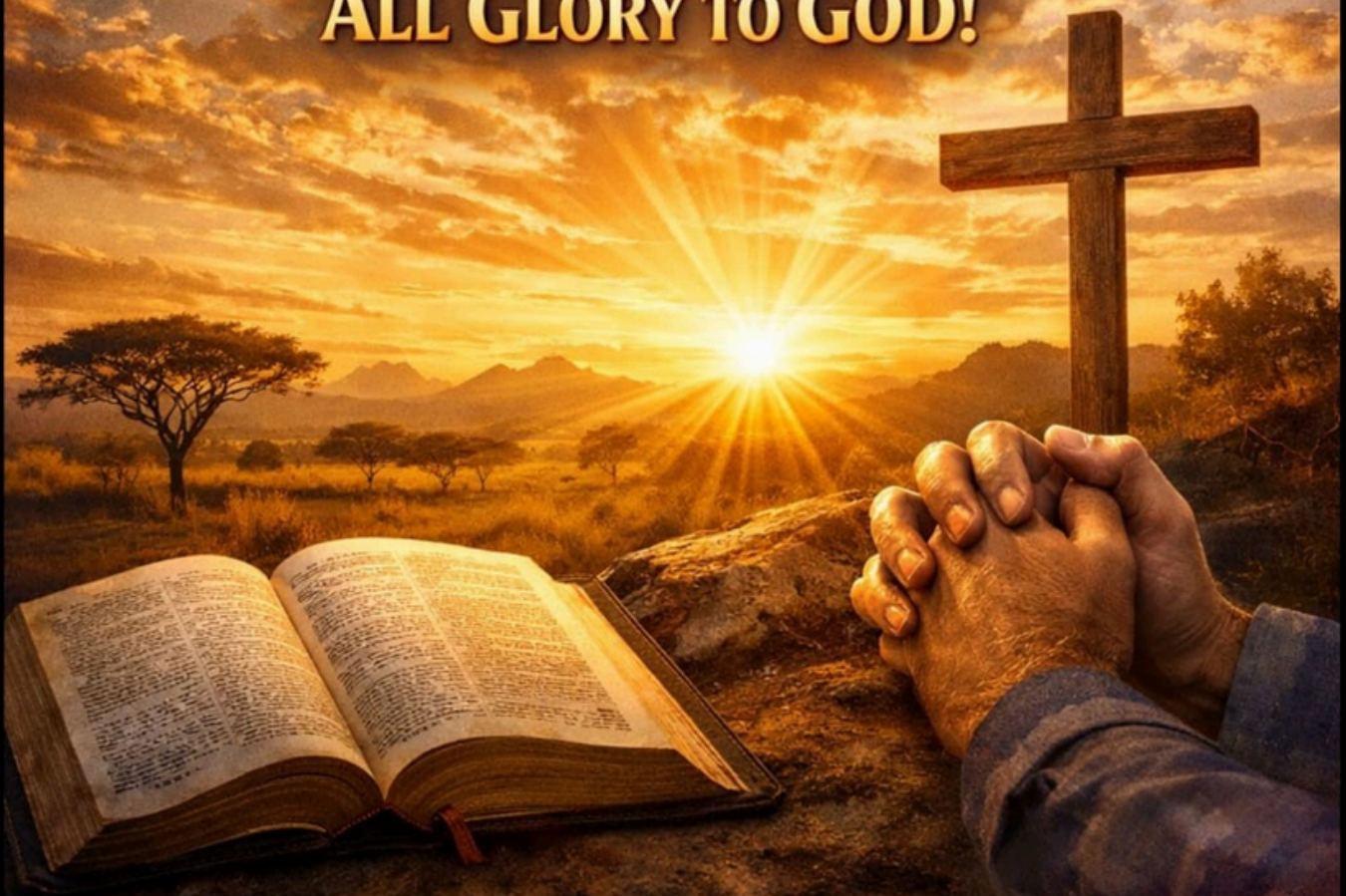
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GERDA POTGIETER

MUSIC IN EXALTING THE LORD!



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MUSIC IN EXALTING THE LORD!

Exploring the Transformative Power of Music in Exalting the Lord!

By Gerda Potgieter

Music in Christianity is not just for entertainment. It is a powerful way to worship God, teach faith, share the gospel, express prayers, and bring believers together. Evangelism and the spread of faith through music have long played important roles in sharing the Christian message.

Music plays a significant role in Christianity, serving various purposes, including worship, education, prayer, and community building. From the early days of the church to contemporary worship services, music provides believers with a means to express their faith and deepen their connection with God.

Worship and praise music are key components of how Christians honour God and enhance the worship experience. It creates an atmosphere that fosters reflection, reverence, and joy during services. The styles of music vary by denomination, ranging from traditional organs and choirs to guitars and modern bands. Many church services incorporate singing hymns, psalms, or worship songs to pay tribute to God—something encouraged in the Bible itself.

The book of Psalms, for instance, is filled with songs intended for worship. Churches often blend traditional hymns with contemporary worship songs to cater to their congregations.

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TEACHING SCRIPTURE

The relationship between teaching and remembering scripture is significant within the Christian faith. One effective way to reinforce these teachings is through music. Hymns and spiritual songs often distil core biblical messages into memorable lyrics and melodies that resonate with congregations. Music functions as a tool for learning, particularly for children, who may find it easier to remember information presented in a rhythmic, melodic format. Many hymns communicate essential biblical narratives while reflecting key beliefs of Christianity, thereby facilitating the internalisation of these messages across different age groups. By participating in singing, congregants engage more deeply with the text and teachings, which can aid in retaining scripture as part of their spiritual journey. The act of singing within the Christian community deepens understanding and appreciation of faith, positioning music as an important aspect of teaching and remembrance.

PRAYER AND SPIRITUAL EXPRESSION

Singing provides believers with a powerful outlet to express a variety of emotions, from gratitude and repentance to hope and sorrow. In many Christian traditions, prayers are often chanted or sung, which amplifies their emotional resonance. Music serves as a potent emotional language, conveying feelings in ways that words alone may struggle to achieve. This impact is realised through elements such as melody and tone. For instance, upbeat praise songs celebrate God's goodness, while slower worship songs help individuals articulate feelings of sorrow, repentance, or yearning for God's presence. The lyrics of these songs play an essential role in helping people articulate their emotions. They express sentiments such as gratitude, love, hope, and trust in God, alongside pain, struggle, or calls for help. Many Christian songs draw inspiration from the Book of Psalms, which is itself filled with poems and songs that reflect the full spectrum of human emotions, from joy and praise to sadness and fear. Additionally, the rhythm and tempo of music greatly influence emotional expression.

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MUSIC IN EXALTING THE LORD!



Fast-paced rhythms can evoke feelings of excitement and joy, while slower rhythms often create a calm, reflective, or solemn atmosphere. When congregants sing together in church, they share their emotions as a community. Singing praise songs in unison can foster a sense of shared joy, while communal singing during prayer cultivates feelings of comfort and support. Ultimately, music allows individuals to connect their personal emotions with their faith; for example, someone might sing a worship song to thank God, seek strength during tough times, or celebrate the blessings in their life.

CREATING A SENSE OF COMMUNITY

When people come together to sing in church, it fosters a sense of unity and fellowship among believers. Congregational singing encourages everyone to engage actively in worship, while choirs and worship bands create opportunities for individuals to connect

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and serve within the church community. Music has a unique ability to foster a sense of belonging, enabling people to share similar emotions, experiences, and purposes. When individuals gather to make or listen to music together, they often feel a stronger bond with one another. Singing the same song as a group not only keeps everyone involved but also helps to unite and include individuals in the experience.

In Christian churches, congregations regularly sing hymns and worship songs, which



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further strengthen ties among members. These songs reflect the group's values and beliefs, many of which draw on teachings from the Bible, especially the Book of Psalms. Singing together serves as a powerful reminder of their shared faith and identity. Music also often involves teamwork, whether through choirs, bands, or worship teams collaborating to create harmonious melodies. This collaboration fosters relationships, builds trust, and encourages cooperation among participants.

Additionally, music plays an essential role in important community events, such as church services, weddings, and celebrations like Christmas and Easter. Singing traditional songs during these occasions helps people feel connected to the community and its cherished customs. Ultimately, music brings individuals together, allowing them to participate, express common beliefs, share emotions, and celebrate traditions, thereby creating a vibrant sense of community.

CASE STUDY

For an objective evaluation, I asked my 'good friend', ChatGPT, to identify and provide a short description of what a prominent church does to exalt the Lord through music. This was its reply: "KwaSizabantu Mission exalts the Lord through music by using choirs, instruments, and worship songs to praise God and share the Christian message. Music is an important part of the church services, conferences, and outreach activities. They use choirs that sing worship songs in different languages, instrumental worship music during conferences and gatherings, and teach young people through music." "KwaSizabantu exalts the Lord through music by singing hymns, performing gospel songs, using instruments and involving choirs and young people in worship – all to praise God and share the Christian message."

I have attended numerous church services and events at KwaSizabantu, and I cannot dispute the ChatGPT report on its music. I selected the best pictures of the KwaSizabantu music items to demonstrate that ChatGPT is accurate in its report. Christian songs, gospel music, and hymns help convey the story of Jesus and the core beliefs of Christianity to diverse audiences. It seems the Mission and its congregation

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have a strong understanding of this.

**NOTE: For services that use music that exalts the Lord, visit the website:
www.ksb.org.za**



THE GOSPEL MESSAGE

SPREADING THE GOOD NEWS!

HAVE YOU ACCEPTED JESUS
CHRIST?

THE GOSPEL MESSAGE

Romans 3:23 ESV

"For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,"

The abovementioned verse is an extremely well used verse and many people know it and can even quote it off by heart, but the significance of it is the reality that every single person needs to contemplate.

If you have not accepted Jesus as your Personal Saviour yet or are thin king about it, you have to start here. The reality of your sin problem cancels and disqualifies you from the very presence of God and this bars you from eternal Life. Your choices are simple here, either an eternity with God or an Eternity without God. I would think that the logical answer would be an Eternity with God. Why? Well let's look at this:

2 Thessalonians 1:9

"They will be punished with everlasting destruction and shut out from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of his might"

NASB

This is the reality of a choice that omits Jesus as your Personal Saviour -

- = **Everlasting Punishment**
- = **Destruction**
- = **Shut Out**
- = **No Godly Presence**
- = **And no Glory at all**

This is not something to take lightly and by the way this is not scaring you into making a false decision, God is love, thus we as His followers are love, this means if I say I have the love of God, it is my duty to tell you the truth and point you into the right direction.

So in looking at the sin problem and the reality of this, what is the answer then? Let's look at this:

John 14:6

Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

NASB

What a wonderful solution to an immense problem, God has made a way and in making the way He has also made it very clear that this is the only answer to the problem. You have to accept Jesus His Son in order to obtain Eternal Life and ward off all the destruction and other bad things spoken about in the previous Bible verse.

It also makes it very clear that this can only be done through JESUS CHRIST His Son, there is no other way to salvation or Eternal life other than through Jesus, NONE!

Let's look at this too:

John 1:12-13

"But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God."

NASB

Wow! Just look at this, not only do we get Eternal Life but we become Children of God. The impact of this is massive as it speaks to the fact that we now belong to the family of God and receive the benefits of being part of a family, and not just any family but a royal family (1 Peter 2 vs 9).

So in looking and understanding all of this, How do you accept Jesus as your Personal Saviour?

Romans 10 vs 9-10

"that if you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved; 10 for with the heart a person believes, resulting in righteousness, and with the mouth he confesses, resulting in salvation."

NASB

Let me just make one point very clear before we look at the above verses, your salvation cannot be obtained by good works, you cannot go to Heaven or be part of God's family because you are a good person, or you do good deeds, No! The Bible makes it clear, if you want to accept Jesus as your Personal Saviour then it gets done on the basis of two things. These two things are critical because it will also help you on your work with the Lord and attain righteousness and a life pleasing to God.

Firstly, you have to confess with your mouth that Jesus is your Lord, this is very important because by your confession God will know and people in the world will know. This is significant because one does not hide a light under a bowl. Everyone must see and hear that you are a child of God.

BELIEF

And secondly you must believe in your heart, with your whole being and understanding that Jesus was raised from the dead and is alive and is your only Saviour.

So if you have read all of this and the Holy Spirit is directing you to accept Jesus as your Personal Saviour please pray the prayer on the next page, God loves you so much.



ACCEPTING JESUS IS EVERYTHING!

PRAYER FOR SALVATION

Dear Lord Jesus,

I understand that I am a sinner and in need of desperate saving, The Bible tells me clearly that the only answer is for me to confess with my mouth and believe in my heart. I am now confessing with my mouth that I am accepting You as my Personal Saviour and believing in my heart that you are alive and well and dwelling within me. Thank you for the gift of the Holy Spirit and the fellowship of other Believers and allow me please to follow in your footsteps. Amen!

Wow! Congratulations if you have just prayed this prayer, and know that you are now part of the family of the Kingdom of God. Please tell someone about your decision, pray all the time and read and study your Bible. Find a Holy Ghost, Bible preaching church and join.

Please let us know if you have made this decision and allow us to point you in the right direction.

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FAITH OVER FEAR INVESTIGATES

DANELLE VAN DER LINDE

GOSPEL MUSIC AND MUSIC IN GENERAL



Music is part of our existence as humans, part of our whole being. Whether you grew up in an African tribe with handmade musical instruments or were exposed to classical instruments, modern technology, and sound waves, the fact remains that music has been a part of our existence since the beginning of time, even before humans existed. We read in Ezek. 28:12;13 that the angel Lucifer was created perfectly. The workmanship of his timbrels (small drums like those used to beat out timing for a fife player) and pipes (tubes used to produce tones by blowing air through them, as in an organ) were prepared for him on the day he was created. Some scholars interpret this to mean that Lucifer, before his fall, had musical instruments incorporated into his

DANELLE VAN DER LINDE

being, possibly as part of his role in heavenly worship. In Ezekiel 28:14, he is called the anointed cherub that guards and protects. (Cherubs are angels that are often depicted with human, animal, or bird-like characteristics and wings. They are often described as guardians who protect sacred spaces and objects. For example, in the Bible, they guard the entrance to the Garden of Eden after Adam and Eve are banished. They are also described as constantly praising and worshipping God, reflecting their close proximity to the divine).

Throughout the scriptures we see that angels constantly worship God. In Luke 2:14 an angel appeared to the shepherds in the field announcing that Jesus the Saviour was born and suddenly a choir of angels was with him singing and praising God. In Luke 15:10 we read that angels even rejoice over one sinner who repents. Several places in The book of Revelation refer to multitudes of angels praising God and bowing down in worship before the One who sits on the throne.



DANELLE VAN DER LINDE

Lucifer's Fall From Heaven.

Lucifer, meaning "light-bringer" or "morning star," is depicted as a high-ranking angel, possibly the most beautiful and powerful of God's creations. He is described as being close to God's throne and leading worship, as we discussed earlier. In this sense, Satan was like the heavenly choir director, leading the songs of praise to the Lord that continue to echo in heaven.

Lucifer's downfall is rooted in pride and a desire to be equal to or even above God. He rebels against God's plan and attempts to overthrow God's authority, leading to a cosmic war in heaven. Is. 14:12-15

As a result of his rebellion, Lucifer is cast out of heaven along with a third of the angels who followed him. This expulsion is seen as the turning point where Lucifer becomes known as Satan, meaning "adversary" or "accuser". Rev. 12:4; 10

The fall of Lucifer, has significant consequences, including the introduction of evil into the universe and the creation of a realm of darkness (hell) where Satan and his fallen angels reside. Satan is depicted as an enemy of both God and humanity, aiming to deceive and corrupt people away from divine truth. Matt. 25:41, John 8:44, 1



DANELLE VAN DER LINDE

PURPOSES OF MUSIC IN THE BIBLE

1. Praise and Worship

Music is a primary way to express love and devotion to God. The Psalms are filled with songs of praise, and the Bible encourages believers to sing praises and make music for the Lord. Eph. 5:19, Ps.147:7

2. Emotional Expression:

Music can express a wide range of emotions, including joy, sorrow, and lament. It can be a way to process difficult emotions and find comfort and healing. 2 Chron. 5:13, 1 Sam. 18:6

3. Spiritual Warfare:

In the Old Testament, music is depicted as a weapon in spiritual warfare. For example, David's playing of the lyre would drive away the evil spirit tormenting King Saul. Is. 38:18-20, 1 Sam.16:23, Ps. 27:6, 2 King. 3:15, Acts 16:25-26, Jos. 6:20

4. Teaching and Admonishment:

Music serves as a valuable tool for teaching and encouraging one another. Colossians 3:16 reminds believers to teach and encourage each other through psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs. 1 Chron. 25:7;8 , 1 Chron. 6:31

5. Unity and Fellowship:

Music can bring people together and foster a sense of unity within a community. Singing together can create a shared experience and strengthen bonds between believers. 2 Chron. 5:13

6. A Gift from God:

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The Bible portrays music as a divine gift that can be used to glorify God, express emotions, and bring people closer to Him. Gen. 4:21

PRIDE AND FAME LEADS TO DESTRUCTION

– Ps. 10:4, Prov. 16:18

Let's explore some famous singers who grew up with Christian backgrounds and initially used their God-given talents to honor and glorify their Creator. Unfortunately, like Satan, many of them became prideful and fame-driven, leading to boastfulness, a love of money, and a focus on self. They exchanged the truth about God for lies, choosing to worship and serve created things rather than the Creator. (Rom. 1:25)

Innocent Miley



Miley is the enemies web



Miley Cyrus

Miley Cyrus was born to Billy Ray Cyrus, a country singer and grandson of a Pentecostal preacher, and Tish Cyrus, she was obviously raised in a Christian household. During her early years as a child star, Miley was known for her Christian faith and even wore a purity ring, signifying her commitment to abstinence until marriage. Miley has spoken about how her faith evolved as she got older. She has discussed how she found it difficult to reconcile her faith with her exploration of her sexuality, particularly her attraction to people

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regardless of their gender identity. She also mentioned that she experienced a lack of acceptance within some religious communities for her LGBTQ+ friends. She has also spoken about exploring spirituality and faith outside of traditional church structures.



INTERVIEW WITH BILLY RAY CYRUS IN 2009 ABOUT MILEY AND HER FUTURE IN THE INDUSTRY

“So, you can imagine being Miley right now, let alone me, you just gotta know that what the dark side wouldn't give to put out that light and that positive hope and love and bring down anyone. Miley gets up and wins an award

and thanks Jesus, because it's who she is and what she believes. She's been reprimanded a few times for that from people in the business, saying, "What are you doing?" Can you imagine how much joy it would bring to the devil to see Miley just do something really stupid and all these kids around the world that she's represented such a positive force to just taint it with something stupid and ruin it? There's a lot of forces that would like to see that happen. But we pray...and I still pray the same prayer...that God will give us the wisdom and the vision and the ability to see the things we're supposed to see, to do the things we're supposed to do, to sing the songs we're supposed to sing, to be the people we're supposed to be.

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Do you think God made her to do what she's doing?
That's why she was named Destiny Hope before she was born. Because I was positive that there was a voice telling me that it was her destiny to bring hope to the world.”

Read the full article here:

<https://www.beliefnet.com/entertainment/celebrities/2009/04/billy-ray-cyrus-interview.aspx>

Innocent Katy with first Gospel Album



Album: WITNESS



Transitioning Katy, Album: UR SO GAY



Katy “caught” in a spiderweb, Front & Back cover of Album



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Katy Perry during her 2014 Grammy performance of Dark Horse. Photo: VigilantCitizen.com

KATY PERRY

Katy Perry was raised by Pentecostal pastors, Mary and Keith Hudson, who have dedicated their lives to evangelical ministry. Despite being raised by Pentecostal pastors as parents, Katy gave up her family's views to concentrate on a singing career when she was only 15. At 16, Perry released a gospel record titled *Katy Hudson* (2001) under Red Hill Records, which was commercially unsuccessful. She moved to Los Angeles at 17 to venture into secular music, and later adopted her stage name from her mother's maiden name. When her second album, *One of the Boys*, featured the hit song "I Kissed a Girl," Perry was sky-rocketed into the spotlight.

In a recent interview with GQ, Perry made it very clear that she no

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longer believed in God, a proclamation that has been a sure ingredient for success for secular singers in recent years. "I don't believe in a heaven or a hell or an old man sitting on a throne. I believe in a higher power bigger than me because that keeps me accountable," she said. "I believe in a lot of astrology. I believe in aliens. I look up into the stars and I imagine: How self-important are we to think that we are the only life-form?"

The performance of her hit song "Dark Horse" at the 2014 Grammy Awards raised concerns over its overtly dark imagery that allegedly caused Christian singer Natalie Grant to walk out of the event. Grant later tweeted about the experience, saying, "We left the Grammy's early. I've many thoughts, most of which are probably better left inside my head. But I'll say this: I've never been more honored to sing about Jesus and for Jesus. And I've never been more sure of the path I've chosen." Perry's performance for the song included fire, images of demons, and witch-like attire to play into the lyrics for the "Dark Horse" song.

But Natalie Grant wasn't the only Christian performer who was not entertained by Perry's depictions of witchcraft and the direction that the Grammy's have been taking in recent years. Christian singer Mandisa, who won "Best Christian Contemporary Music Album" and "Best Contemporary Christian Music Song" last year, didn't attend the ceremony at all, stating on her Facebook page: "Both times I have gone to the Grammys I have witnessed performances I wish I could erase from my memory, and yes, I fast forwarded through several performances this year. I knew that submerging myself into an environment that celebrates those things was risky for me at this time."

Source: <https://www.gospelherald.com/news/katy-perry-to-appear-at-grammys-following-last-years-satanic-performance>

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CONCLUSION

Idol worship is one of Satan's master plans. The incident involving the golden calf, which occurred when Moses came down from the mountain in Exodus, is not an isolated event. Throughout their history, the Israelites repeatedly fell into idolatry, worshipping other gods and participating in practices associated with them, including the use of music and dance.

Music can create a translike state, especially when it is emotionally resonant and evokes relaxation or heightened focus. This effect varies based on the type of music, personal preferences, and the context. It plays an essential role in cultural rituals, enhancing collective experiences and altering states of consciousness. Overall, music can significantly influence behavior and emotions.

Music is an incredible creation of God, capable of having a powerful effect that can be either positive or negative, depending on how we choose to use or abuse this talent. Lucifer, who was created to use music and instruments for the honor and glory of God, recognized the profound influence of music. He successfully persuaded a third of the angels to follow him, likely using sound waves to create an emotional trance that manipulated them. This pattern can be observed in the lives of artists like Miley Cyrus and Katy Perry.

Unfortunately, both of these singers, along with many others, did not treat their gifts with the respect they deserve, nor did they use them to honor their Creator. As stated in John 8:44, Satan is the father of lies. If he could manipulate and convince a third of the angels, how much more