"OUR NEW SONG"

(God-Honoring Christian Music)

INTRODUCTION: Psalm 104:33-34

Music is <u>commanded</u> (Deuteronomy 31:19). Music is unforgettable (Deuteronomy 31:21).

A. Characteristics of Our New Song

The new believer's song is:

- 1. <u>Derived</u> from God "And He hath put. . ."
- 2. <u>Distinct</u> from the world "a <u>new</u> song in my mouth. . ."
- 3. <u>Directed</u> toward God "even praise unto our God. . ."
- 4. <u>Displayed</u> in public view "many shall see it. . ."
- 5. <u>Designed</u> to attract others to salvation "and fear, and shall trust in the LORD"

B. Characteristics of God-honoring Music

1. The music must have <u>UNITY</u>

II Chronicles 5:13a; I Corinthians 14:33, 40)

2. The music should be aimed at PRAISING God

II Chronicles 5:13b; Psalm 7:17; 18:49; 21:13; 27:6; 47:6-7; 68:4, 32; 150)

3. The music should be JOYFUL

Psalm 98:4; Psalm 100:1-2

4. The music should be properly <u>ORDERED</u> and <u>BALANCED</u>

Melody	\Rightarrow	Spirit
Harmony	\Rightarrow	Mind
Rhythm	\Rightarrow	Body

Melody should be pre-eminent (Ephesians 5:19)

5. The music's message should <u>CLEAR</u> not vague

Psalm 40:3; SEE: I Corinthians 14:7-11, 15-16

6. The music should <u>REFRESH</u> the <u>SPIRIT</u>

I Samuel 16:23; II Chronicles 20:21; Acts 16:25-30)

7. The music should be <u>DOCTRINALLY SOUND</u>

Colossians 3:16

8. The music should be sung or played from the HEART

Colossians 3:16b; Ephesians 5:19

- 9. The music we sing or listen to should be based on <u>STANDARDS</u> (Philippians 4:8), not tastes (preferences, likes or dislikes) (Jeremiah 17:9)
- **10.** Musicians should be: GODLY (Psalm 33:1, 3)

"Questions to Ask About Music"

INTRODUCTION:

Music is a language (it has grammar, syntax, etc.). Being such, it can communicate a good or bad message, just as language can.

1. **Does the music glorify God?** Or the <u>musician</u>?

I Cor. 10:31

2. Is the music sensual?

Rom. 13:14

3. Is the music worldly?

I John 2:15-17

4. Is the music worthy of God's dignity?

Psalm 7:17

Is the music's character or style consistent with the message it claims to convey?

5. Is the music <u>associated</u> with someone who has a known unchristian reputation?

Ephes. 5:11

6. Does the music (melody, harmony, and rhythm) match the text of the song?

7. What <u>message</u> does the music communicate without the words?

(Exod. 32:17-20)

8. Is the music good and wholesome?

Phil. 4:8

9. Is the music <u>acceptable</u> to God?

Eph. 5:10

10. Would the music cause others to stumble?

Rom. 14:13, 21

11. Does the music edify me or others?

I Cor. 10:23

12. What physical response will this music produce?

[If one was to dance to this music, what type of dance would he do?] [What type of physical behavior would the music bring out?] [What emotion(s) would this music stimulate?]

13. Is the music well-written?

(Is the music doctrinally correct? Theologically sound?)