"I Will Sing with the Spirit"

1 Corinthians 14:15

Introduction: Singing is the devotional approach to God by emotion. This evening we will sing songs as we look at the history and purpose of singing. It is my hope that we will gain a better appreciation for what we sing by singing applicable songs.

I. A history of singing.

A. One of the earliest songs recorded was a song of deliverance by the children of Israel ($\underline{\text{Ex. 15:1-21}}$).

B. Jehoshaphat appointed singers to praise God as they went into battle (<u>2 Chron. 20:20-22</u>).

C. Our song book has numerous songs from the book of Psalms.

1. David is described by many scholars as the most gifted writer and the sweetest singer.

2. Turn to Psalm 19:7-10 and let's sing <u>Song #439</u> straight from our Bible. The first stanza in the song is verse 7 in Psalms 19. The second stanza is verse 8 and the third stanza is verse 9. The chorus is from verse 10.

D. Solomon inspired many songs in his writings. Two of them are mentioned in one verse (Songs of Solomon 2:1). [Song #594]

E. At the birth of Christ, a multitude of heavenly host inspired many songs we sing (Luke 2:13-14). Can you imagine the reaction of the shepherds to this event?

F. Right after Jesus instituted the Lord's supper and before departing for the Mount of Olives where He would be betrayed, "they sung a hymn" (Matt. 26:30).

G. Paul and Silas took the opportunity in prison to sing (<u>Acts 16:25</u>). Certainly, it was an odd time and place. Soon thereafter they converted the Philippian jailer.

H. The book of Revelation records that 144,000 sang a new song (<u>Rev. 14:3-5; 15:3</u>). It is the song earth can not know. [<u>Song #682</u>]

II. The purpose of singing.

A. For teaching and admonishment (Col. 3:16)

1. All the Way My Savior Leads Me; Song #129

2. Live for Jesus; Song # 335

B. For edification (<u>1 Cor. 14:26</u>)

1. Ye Are the Light of The World; Song # 453

2. How Sweet, How Heavenly; Song #219

C. For praise and thanksgiving (<u>Heb. 13:15;</u> Eph. 5:20). Hallelujah Praise Jehovah; <u>Song #2</u>

Conclusion: We are to sing from the heart (<u>Eph. 5:19-20</u>). To sing without our heart is like being baptized without being immersed. It would fulfill no purpose. I pray we will always sing from our hearts, and I'll pray for your soul if you haven't been baptized by immersion for the remission of your sins.