

“I Sing Because!”

I. **INTRO:**

- A. Once again we are given an **invitation** to come Worship the Lord!
- B. **What causes you to sing?** When all is going well? Pain & Sorrow?
 - 1. Remember the song, “I sing because I’m **happy**, I sing because I’m **free**, for His eye is on the sparrow, & I know **He watches me!**”
- C. **Civilla Martin**, who wrote the lyrics to this hymn, said this about her inspiration to write the song. *Early in the spring of 1905, my hus-band and I were sojourning in Elmira, New York. We contracted a deep friendship for a couple by the name of Mr. and Mrs. Doolittle - true saints of God. Mrs. Doolittle had been bedridden for nigh twenty years. Her hus-band was an **incurable cripple** who had to propel himself to and from his business in a wheel chair. Despite their afflictions, they **lived happy Christian lives**, bringing inspiration and comfort to all who knew them. One day while we were visiting with the Doolittles, my husband commented on their **bright hopefulness** and asked them for the secret of it. Mrs. Doolittle’s reply was simple: *“His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me.”* The beauty of this simple expression of boundless faith gripped the hearts and fired the imagination of Dr. Martin and me. The hymn *“His Eye Is on the Spar-row”* was the outcome of that experience.*

 - 1. I asked myself today, **Why do blind people always seem to be smiling?** (gentleman I saw at Loma Linda today) **Down Syndrome kids also!**
 - 2. **What causes you to sing?**

- D. **Our Title** to Psalm 96: **“I Sing Because!”**
- E. **Outline:**
- F. **Sing, Sing, Sing** is how the Psalm **starts**.
 - 1. Call to joyful worship because all **glory** belongs to Him.
- G. **Give, Give, Give** is how the Psalm **continues**.
 - 1. Call to joyful worship because all **gifts** belongs to Him.
- H. **Let, Let, Let** is how the Psalm **ends**.
 - 1. Call to joyful worship because all **government** belongs to Him.

II. **I SING BECAUSE!**

- A. **SING, SING, SING!** (1-6)
 - 1. Call to joyful worship because all **glory** belongs to Him.

B. **What to sing?** (1,2)

1. **New Song!** - What needs to take place to **tune your heart** to sing a new song.
 - a) How to **harmonize** with heavens choir in joyful song.
 - b) **Come sing a new song** because you have a **new experience** with Him!
2. **Necessary Song!** - Told to Proclaim.
 - a) A **missionary song**. "If we had no other verse in the bible but this one to teach us our duty to the lost in pagan lands, this would be enough!"

C. **Where to sing?** (3)

1. **Among nations, among all peoples!** - among the heathens.
 - a) It's a **gospel song!**

D. **Why sing?** (4-6)

1. **Fear!** (4) - When we get to **know** Him better we **love** Him, **but** a healthy **fear of the Lord** is where it often **begins**.
2. **Fact!** (5) - explain fact here.
 - a) The word for idols is like the word for God "el", it is "el-eel".
 - (1) **It means no value, good for nothing, things of nought.**
 - (a) [They are nonentities]
 - (2) **They are really nonexistent except in the enslaved imaginations of those who worship them.**
 - (3) **In contrast, the Lord made the heavens. Here is a motive for song!**
3. **Fame!** (6) - **Honor & majesty; strength & beauty!**
 - a) Its a **song of victory** (strength)
 - b) Its a **song of devotion** (revealing His beauty)
 - (1) **Blue Pomegranate** - Ex.28:33 & 39:24.
4. **Some things are beautiful but not strong** (butterfly; flower);
5. **Other things are strong but not beautiful** (**concrete slab; steel girder** to support, not to be seen).
 - a) He desires **both** to be in His sanctuary, & we are his sanctuary/temple.
 - b) He wants us to have the kind of **strength** that is **beautiful** & the kind of **beauty** that is **strong!** (Wiersbe)

E. **GIVE, GIVE, GIVE!** (7-9)

1. Call to joyful worship because all **gifts** belongs to Him.
2. If we can't go, we can give! **Give 3 things:**

F. **Wonder!** (7,8a) - Acknowledge Him for who He is!G. **Wealth!** (8b) - **Bring an offering** -

1. Giving is part of the life of faith. We should honor Him with our substance.
2. **Not because he needs it, but because He graciously makes it possible for us to express, in a tangible way, something of the gratitude** of our hearts.
3. **Tithe?** No not in NT.
 - a) God however expects from us proportionate giving ("as the Lord has prospered us")
 - b) Obviously we wouldn't give **less** than those "under" the law. {remember: they gave a **tithe**, plus **sacrifices**, plus **offerings** of various kinds; 33%}

H. **Worship!** (9) - true **holiness** will always produce **beauty**.

1. True holiness is beautiful; & false holiness is not!
 - a) Pharisees had an artificial, manufactured piety.
 - b) Jesus had true holiness & it attracted people; Pharisees repelled them.
2. **You become like what you worship:** If your god is **selfish**, you become selfish; If your god is **ugly**, you become ugly.
3. **The person who worships money becomes hard; the person who worships pleasure becomes soft.**
4. **But the person who worships the true & living God becomes beautiful, (i.e.)more & more like Christ!**

I. **LET, LET, LET!** (10-13)

1. Call to joyful worship because all **government** belongs to Him.
2. **When the H.S. throws His omnipotent power behind such urging then there is no power on earth, in the heavens, or in hell itself that can prevent its coming to pass!**
3. When **Thy Kingdom Comes**, here's what you will see...

J. **Sovereignty!** (10a) - **The Lord reigns.**

1. God's ideal government is **not** a **democratic** or a **republican** form of gov.
2. It is **not** government **of** the people, **by** the people, **for** the people.
3. **It is** an **absolute monarchy** with all power concentrated into the capable hands of His dear Son. (great to be reminded of around election time) :-)

K. **Security!** (10b) - **Not be moved.**

1. **No** wars, no rebellions, no uprisings, no crime syndicates flourishing in the underworld.
2. **It will be** a reign of just, holy, impartial, universal law.

L. **Sanctity!** (10c) - **Judge righteously.**

1. **No** corruption of the legal process. **No** partiality, **no** injustice, **no** biased laws.
 - a) **These are principles of government!**

M. **All Nature!** (11-13a) -

1. **Heavens, earth, sea, field, trees, woods** -
2. I think this is what Paul had in mind in **Rom.8:19-22** (**read**)
 - a) *The whole creation is on **tip-toe to see...** (i.e. waiting) (Phillips Trans.)*

N. **All Nations!** (13b) -

1. **Earth, world, people** -
2. The predominant thought behind **judgment** here is **not punishment**, but **peace & praise & perfect government**.

O. **End:** While the day still tarries, let Him establish that kind of government in our **hearts & lives!**