

Sing a New Song

by Carolyn Webb

Television shows often come up with very catchy tunes to represent the show's theme. If you were to pick a theme song for your life, what would it be? The song that seems to have been adopted at our house is "Gloom, Despair and Agony on Me" from the old Hee Haw TV show. For those who are unfamiliar with the song written by Buck Owens and Roy Clark, the refrain goes like this:



*Gloom, despair and agony on me
Deep, dark depression, excessive misery
If it weren't for bad luck, I'd have no luck at all
Gloom, despair, and agony on me.*

On the HeeHaw show that ran from 1969-1992, the song was interspersed with jokes about how something that started out looking really good suddenly turned out to be just the opposite. When our family runs into a string of apparent bad luck, I hear the refrain of this song.

If there were a Bible character that had every right to sing this song, it was Job. God permitted Satan to take away Job's livelihood, his family, his reputation, his health, his wealth, everything by which we would measure success and happiness in this life. Yet in the midst of all his suffering Job proclaimed one of the most beautiful, prophetic truths: "I know that my Redeemer lives and in the end he will stand upon the earth" (Job 19:25) There are many lessons that can be learned from the book of Job, but the one that I hold tight to is that no matter what happens in my life, I know that my Redeemer lives. God took an event that looked so terrible, the crucifixion of his Son, and turned it into beautiful salvation for all who believe. Doesn't God do a similar thing with many of the things that look so bad in our lives? "We know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose." (Romans 8:28) I might not always be able to see the immediate benefit of the challenges that God allows in my life, but I can be certain that it will work to my eternal benefit. Whenever the gloom, despair, and agony refrain pops into my head, I want to hear a new song:

*Sing to the LORD a new song,
For he has done marvelous things;
His right hand and his holy arm
have worked salvation for him.
(Psalm 98:1 NIV)*

No matter what challenges we face in this life, we always have the certainty of the salvation that the LORD provided for us. We can rejoice in that salvation day after day and remember that nothing can take that salvation away from us. Sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous things.



Season: Pentecost

Video: 3. Is Your Glass Half Empty or Half Full?

Devotions: 45. Where's My Rose Garden?

139. "Mary, Did You Know?"

146. No More Cloudy Days

Prayers: 31. Triumphant King! We are over the top proud to sing praises of...

49. Today I am bursting with thanksgiving...

Super Girl: 122. This morning I woke up with "To God Be the Glory" on an eternal loop...

Scripture References: Luke 1:51; Revelation 5:9; Exodus 15:6; Psalm 33:3; Psalm 40:5; Psalm 89:13; Psalm 96:3; Isaiah 12:5; Isaiah 14:7; Isaiah 25:1

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