Music is the language of the heart.”

1. In the time of sorrow – When the heart is filled with deep despair, man's soul is consoled by music.
2. Conversely, in the lighter moments of joy and happiness such as weddings – Music seems to enhance the feelings of those unforgettable events.
3. Music seems to form a bond between a mother and her child as she sings a lullaby.

Music has always played a major role with God and His children.

1. David was a great lover of music.
2. He selected a choir 38,000 strong from the tribe of Levi to sing praises unto God.
3. 4,000 of these were chosen to practice – singing with the instruments that he made to praise the Lord.
4. Trained musicians used the flutes, trumpets, cymbals and harps. (The harp was the most popular and the oldest instrument among the Hebrews.)

I call your attention to three events that provoked music in heaven:

A. Music at Creation
   1. Music is older than man.
      Job 38:7 When God laid the earth's foundations, the angels (morning stars) sang and shouted with joy.

B. Music at the Incarnation
   Luke 2:13-14 When Christ was born – suddenly a multitude of the heavenly host began to praise God.

C. Music at Salvation
   Luke 15:7 There is rejoicing in heaven when a sinner repents.

God calls upon us to sing praises unto Him Psalm 100

But what if we lose our sing??

Read the Passage
The picture here is Israel in exile in Babylon ...captives, slaves. They could not sing when their captors tauntingly commanded them to.

A well-known preacher was stopped by a younger preacher who introduced himself and said, “I just wanted to shake your hand. I have heard you preach several times and you have been such a blessing to my life.” The older preacher asked, “Where did you hear me preach?” “At conventions and evangelistic meeting about 15 years ago.” The old man said, “Yes, that was before I lost my song.” The music had stopped in his life.

• I know people who are in the same shape – the song has stopped – gone.

• A man said to his pastor, “I'm just working...waiting for retirement.” “How much longer do you have to work?” “12 years.” How sad.

• One preacher once asked, “How do you get out of this (the ministry)?” The music had stopped.

What do you do when the music has stopped?

I. The Origin of Music

Where does music come from anyway?

1. Genesis 4:2 “And his brother's name was Jubal: he was the father of all such as handle the harp and organ.”

2. But the origin of music is in Genesis 1:26-27. God has music in His heart...in all that He does.

3. He created in us the capacity for music – not only to enjoy but to express music – maybe not singing – maybe tapping your finger on the table.

II. The Obstacles of Music

What is it that takes the music away?

A. Sin

1. Sin robs us of our song.

2. Scriptural singing isn't a matter of the lips and voice anyway.

3. Ephesians 5:19 Singing is a heart experience.

a. We often forget where real spiritual singing takes place – the heart. You may be able
to hit every note just right, but if it does not come from the heart it is meaningless.
b. The one we sing to – the Lord. Often we sing to the wrong audience. We are not to
sing to impress folks...but to praise and magnify God.

B. Stresses
1. The daily stresses of life. We live in a
stress-filled world.
2. You can get the blues in life. Psalm
6:1-6

C. Sicknesses
Suffering makes it hard to sing – physical or emotional.

D. Sourness
1. You can just sour on life and lose your
song.
2. Charles Dickens in his story Great
Expectations, writes about Mrs. Havisham. She was a bitter woman. On the day of her
wedding she was jilted at 8:40 that morning. The clocks of her life stopped at 8:40 and from
that time there was no more song. She used to sit around in her wedding dress...went
nowhere.
3. I know folks that have become so sour
because of some 8:40 experience in their life that they no longer have a song.

III. The Objectives to Music

What's the purpose? Why does God want us to sing?
1. The music redirects us
   Draws us back to God – to look up...to be lifted up
2. It rejuvenates us

Luther Bridges – a singing evangelist – got news that his wife and two daughters had
burned to death in their house fire. He left the service he was leading and found a room
where he could be alone with God. It was there, in his grief, that God put a song in his heart
in a renewed way. Before he left the room he had written both the words and the music to a
song in out hymnal. The amazing thing is that God gave him a song that was upbeat and
full of praise.

There's within my heart a melody,
Jesus whispers sweet and low,
“Fear not, I am with thee, peace be still.”

All my life was wrecked by sin and strife,
Discord filled my heart with pain,
Jesus swept across the broken strings,
Stirred the slumb'ring chords again.

Jesus, Jesus, Jesus,
Sweetest name I know,
Fills my every longing,
Keeps me singing as I go.