

A Worship Minute.....

-by Bob Kauflin

Singing in the Bible

There are almost fifty direct commands to sing in Scripture, as well as four hundred references to singing. Two of those passages ([Eph. 5:19](#), [Col. 3:16](#)) instruct us to sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God and to one another. These aren't suggestions, preferences, or good ideas. They're commands. Which means God intends for us to obey them.

Singing is more a matter of our hearts than our voices. Years ago Ronald Allen wrote in his book [Worship: Rediscovering the Missing Jewel](#):

"When a non-singer becomes a Christian, he or she becomes a singer. Not all are blessed with a finely tuned ear and a well modulated voice; so the sound may not be superb-it may even be out-of-tune and off-key. Remember: worship is a state of heart; musical sound is a state of art. Let's not confuse them."

We sing and make melody to the Lord with our hearts ([Eph. 5:19](#)). The sounds we make affect those around us, for better or worse. But God hears what no one else can. It's the song of the Redeemed for their great Redeemer. It's a song we didn't originate and can't improve upon. It's true that those who led the singing at the temple were trained and skilled in music for the Lord ([1 Chron. 25:7](#)). But there's no indication either in the early church or in Revelation's depiction of heaven that anyone gets a pass when it

comes to singing praises to God. Even if we can't sing a note, we can still sing in our hearts.