

Hymn Analysis

This is a series of analyses of hymns that are commonly sung in independent Baptist churches and generally do not raise questions concerning their content. However, this series of articles is necessary, as many of the hymns are not doctrinally sound but are nonetheless sung as though there is no question as to their accuracy. This series does not and will not address the music that is used with the hymn, as that requires an entirely different focus, but rather will examine the doctrine and teaching of the hymn. This is imperative, as we will remember the words of the hymn, and thus the doctrine, far more quickly than we will remember something we have simply read without music. Moreover, in this series we will not even examine the doctrine of the writer and composer of the hymn.

In the Scripture we are instructed to “Prove all things, hold fast to that which is good.” In music this should be especially true, as music is one of the most powerful weapons that Satan can use against us. Instead, what we find today is that people, particularly Christians, do not even begin to prove the first things about music, let alone look at the doctrine of the hymn they are using. This is a sad commentary on the state of modern society, and Christians in particular.

In Christ,

Paul W. Davis