



FROST LIKE ASHES

AZAHEL

This idea of music having a spiritual significance is a very interesting one. I think that I can speak for the rest of the members of Frost Like Ashes on this subject because we have had many discussions about this very thing. I feel as though almost everything has a spiritual aspect to some degree. Music, however, seems to go much deeper than most. Music is spoken of as being the method of thanksgiving and praise to God. This is not only the natural out-flowing from human beings, which I would say is something designed by God, but it is actually commanded and required in certain instances. I find it interesting that worship is not simply something that is expected to occur on earth, but also in Heaven. Since Heaven is primarily a place of spiritual beings, it seems as though music and song are the preferred method of communicating with spirits.

If there is something that is spiritual outside of the physical realm, then it stands to reason that music has a spiritual connection even in the physical realm. So we see a spiritual connection in music. Another aspect of this, and I think an evidence of the importance of music that seems to deal with the spirit specifically, is the several times in Biblical scripture where among the destruction brought onto a rebellious people, is the specific statement that the song of that people will be silenced or brought low. It is the only thing that seems to be mentioned in the lists of judgments that is not tangible but goes deeper to the very heart of the people. It is as if the music or song of the people is their very soul, without which they cease to exist.

This is also eluded to by the many places where God is actually expressed as the personification, spiritually speaking, of the song from His followers. It seems that the music or song of the people is actually their identity. In more



modern times, we can see this is the case with many people worldwide. They may be a lot of things, but people tend to identify most with a particular form of music. Even in football where many people of the world place their entire identity in a certain club, a significant part of that identity is found within the songs they sing at the matches. In fact, much of the pride taken away from the matches by the fans is the superiority of the songs sung.

For the vast majority of people, music is everything. Music, as well, is the actual instrument of war and destruction in several places in Biblical scripture, and is something that accompanies the very destruction of God. What could be more powerful than that! This form of music must come directly from the spiritual realm to have such power and influence. Music is even mentioned to have an affect on actual spirit beings. And finally, God gave music the ever important task of being His testimony to the people of Israel. Music was the chosen medium to express the message of God to people. That, again, denotes the special place music has in communication with the spirit realm.

I personally believe that all people are created by God. I also believe that all talents that people possess are given by God. Most assuredly, the talent of creating and performing music. Therefore, all music sends glory to God by its very creation and performance. Granted, songs can be designed to bring disgrace or glory, to lift up good or evil. Any musician can be used to bring glory to God by a follower of God, and all music, even if intended to bring shame or disgrace, actually brings some sense of glory by its very existence for those who recognize it. Music is powerful and tied directly into our souls; possibly the strongest link we have to the spirit realm, and should always be valued, respected, and treasured.



QOHELETH

I believe the spiritual significance of music lies in the fact that humans are created in God's image. It's obvious that music is a mysteriously powerful force which can usher us into the heights of pleasure or drag us into despair. We use it for ritual and it's a necessary part of our lives. As with all the basics, such as our need for relationship, and our search for meaning, music is right up there speaking to our very souls and waiting to be used to speak out to others. Why is music not like the air we breathe? So music seems to be a built-in and pre-existent part of the life we're born into to help us find ourselves, and call out to others on a level that simply does not exist elsewhere. J. R. R. Tolkien hit on something incredibly profound with his music of the Ainur. It was the divine act of musical creation of the Ainur and Eru, Middle Earth's God, that brought about creation and gave it meaning. In reality as well, music ultimately has that profound, mysterious, and inexplicable quality. Music needs no introduction, no explanation, and no apology. It just is. So be it.



AZAHEL (CENTRE FRONT) AND QOHELETH (CENTRE BACK)

VOCALIST AND KEYBOARDS IN FROST LIKE ASHES