

I Am Healed ~ continued...

After much prayer, I was teaching at the [Steve Hurst School of Music](#) a few years ago where I had actually sung the song the previous two years. One of the groups attending the school, Simeon's Promise, recorded the song after hearing it the first year and the next year they decided to sing it as their performance song for the student body. Wouldn't you know, Gary Casto [*Tribute Quartet*] was their instructor during a private lesson in which they were working on the song for that night's performance.

When Gary heard the song he asked them where they got it. They said, "Sherry Forbes wrote it and sang it here last year." He finished his lesson and came into the building where I was sitting. He came over to me and said, "I just heard a song that I have got to record, and I hear that you wrote it." I told him Daywind had the publishing on the song, and that night, Rick Shelton [*Daywind*] came to the evening concert. Gary approached Rick about getting permission to record it and the rest is history.

Since that recording, and many nights of performing the song, including the main stage of the NQC, [Tribute Quartet](#) was asked to sing at a benefit concert where money was being raised for the tornado victims in Alabama. They agreed to go and it was [aired on TBN](#). Jan Crouch [TBN] just happened to be sitting on the front row when they sang it, and she informed her staff to get their hands on that song. Gary provided them a copy of the song and she then requested that they come to the TBN studios in Nashville to sing a few songs, but insisted on that song. INSP has also gotten wind of the song and they are putting together a compilation CD of songs written about healing and they chose that song to be a part of that recording.

God is really using the song to bring healing not only to those who are physically suffering in their bodies but He is healing people's relationships and hurts that they have experienced. I am so honored to have been chosen to write the song and I look forward to seeing what God does in the future with it.

HAPPY NEW YEAR

from **Audio Media One**

audio_media1@yahoo.com

CD Duplication/Retail Ready

Contact: Jerry Mullaly

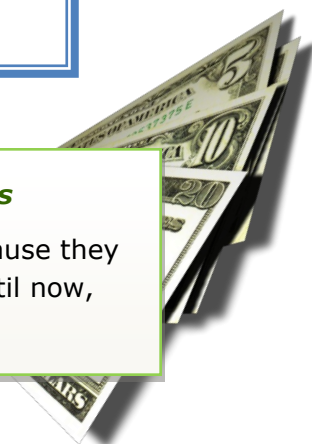
(912) 288-4612



Be sure to let Jerry know you saw his ad in Gospel Songwriter Magazine

Sell More Products By Accepting Credit & Debit Cards

Too many performing artists are "leaving money on the table" because they don't have a tool that helps them accept credit and debit cards, until now, and Mickey can help. [Click Here](#) for details on how to get started.



Trivia

[Phil Kelly](#)



January 1, New Year's Day, is the most celebrated holiday around the world; it's used to make resolutions and commitments. I am recommitting myself, my life, my all, to follow Jesus more faithfully and to continue writing songs and tearing holes in the "darkness" for Christ, in spite of the deceiver's attacks.

Winter begins in late December and lasts until late March. Let's take a look at just a few things that occurred during winters of yesteryears. Some of these were good, some were bad and some were controversial but they happened.

January 1714: A patent was issued for the first typewriter to British inventor Henry Mill.

January 1776: George Washington unveiled the Grand Union Flag, our first national flag.

January 1815: The Battle of New Orleans was won by General Andrew Jackson.

January 1863: The Emancipation Proclamation was issued by President Abraham Lincoln.

January 1907: Charles Curtis of Kansas became the 1st Native American to serve in the Senate.

January 1966: Robert Weaver became the first African American cabinet member in the US.

January 1972: Japanese soldier Shoichi Yokoi was discovered on Guam after he had spent 28 years hiding out in the jungle not knowing World War II had long since ended.

January 1973: U.S. involvement in the Vietnam War ended.

January 1973: The Supreme Court legalized abortion in the US.

January 1986: The U.S. Space Shuttle Challenger exploded 74 seconds into its flight.

January 1990: Douglas Wilder, Virginia, became the 1st African American governor in the US.

February 380 AD: Roman Emperor Theodosius makes Christianity the official law of the land.

February 1455: Johannes Gutenberg publishes the Bible, the first book printed on a press with movable type.

February 1913: The 16th Amendment was ratified, allowing Congress to tax us.

February 2003: The Space Shuttle Columbia broke apart in flight over west Texas.

March 515 BC: 2nd Temple in Jerusalem was completed. The western wall still stands.

March 1918: The Spanish influenza first reached America.

March 1934: The Philippine Islands were granted independence by the US.

March 1979: The Three Mile Island nuclear power plant accident occurred.



Happy New Year

from **Signature Sound Stage** recording studio

www.signaturesoundstage.com

Contact: Kevin Hunt
(352) 369-8863

Tell Kevin "Mickey" sent you



Signature Sound Stage is currently working on Mickey's album. He highly recommends this studio.

Writers Direct

Do I Have A Song For You

Need Songs? These Gospel songwriters are waiting to serve you.
Click on their name to visit their webpage and hear their songs.
Please mention Gospel Songwriter Magazine when you contact them.

www.gospelsongwriter.com/KevinCobb Southern Gospel

www.gospelsongwriter.com/JoeDiehl Southern Gospel

www.gospelsongwriter.com/DebbyHarrah Southern Gospel

www.gospelsongwriter.com/MarkHawkins Southern Gospel

www.gospelsongwriter.com/FawnJacobs Southern Gospel

www.gospelsongwriter.com/WesLambert Southern Gospel

www.gospelsongwriter.com/NinaNash Bluegrass Gospel

www.gospelsongwriter.com/DixiePhillips Southern Gospel

www.gospelsongwriter.com/AndyThompson Southern Gospel

Thanks!

Training Tips

[Mickey Mixon](#)

“Student of the Craft”

In my 20-plus years of training songwriters the one thing I keep encouraging them to do is become a student of the craft. Learn as much about songwriting (and the industry and artists) as you can. Read books and websites, learn from training audio and video, attend conventions and seminars and songwriter events, network with songwriters and artists, etc.

I have served over 1,000 songwriters and very few have expressed interest in developing their craft. This is to their disadvantage, but to the advantage of writers who are students of the craft. Why? One major reason is because competition among songwriters has increased expeditiously.

Competition has increased for several reasons and two reasons in particular are (1) the bad economy has affected concert attendance to the point that many churches and concert promoters have ceased scheduling concerts thus many artists no longer perform and record, thus less songs are employed, and (2) the digital age has made duplication so simple and convenient that many people, including Christians, are bootlegging music to the point that artists have seen a major reduction in table sales and income, thus many artists can no longer afford travel expenses and have ceased scheduling concerts and recording music.

I have been told, and it has been confirmed, that some professional songwriters are working diligently to develop close, personal relationships with the artists in an attempt to obtain as many cuts as possible and to prevent other songwriters from obtaining cuts from these artists. This information came from an award winning, chart topping songwriter who has experienced this unfortunate trend. So, where does that leave amateur, semipro and up-and-coming songwriters?

Some artists will not be manipulated (by writers, publishers or record labels) but are looking for great songs no matter who they come from. Thus, you need to know how to write, demo and pitch great songs in order to gain the attention and favor of these artists, and the only way to do that is to become and remain a student of the craft.

Being a student of the craft not only assists in your development as a writer but also helps open doors that would otherwise remain closed. It's to your advantage, for more than one reason, to be a student of the craft and I just shared one of those reasons with you ~ competition.

Remember, there will always be more songs written than there are artists to employ them. Thus, competition will always be a challenge, but being a student of the craft will help you level the playing field.



Critiquing Your Gospel Song

by Ray Lewis

Mickey Mixon said, “This is a great training tool for beginner, amateur and semipro songwriters. I added it to my Writer’s Library, you should too.

Get your copy today. Only \$15.00 [order here](#)

Please let Ray know you saw his ad in Gospel Songwriter Magazine.

Song Review

by Mickey Mixon



Kevin Cobb

One of the GospelSongwriter.Com writers I have come to appreciate is Kevin Cobb. This talented singer, songwriter, musician and minister has several songs I like including “If Longing For It Would Rapture Me”.

This is one of those “down to earth, longing for Heaven, stir the audience songs” that will be a great addition to an album and concert song list.

“If Longing For It” has a melody and arrangement that easily transports the audience to that Heavenly Paradise via the theater of the mind. The message reminds us of the peace, love and perfection that awaits us there, along with precious family reunions and time spent with our dear Jesus. I’ve clicked the play button, of this song, several times.

Kevin’s work-demo gives the song an easy listening, 70’s pop-country feel; and as far as I know there is currently nothing like it on radio. Yep, it’s up for grabs.

I have no doubt that with the right artist, arrangement, cut and promotion this song will become a fan and radio favorite.

You need to hear this song, but hurry, other GSM readers will be listening too and you’ll want to be one of the first to contact Kevin about employing this jewel.

Please be sure to let Kevin know you saw his song reviewed in Gospel Songwriter Magazine. Thanks!

www.gospelsongwriter.com/kevincobb



Ladies Hats Have Always Been In!
MyHappyHats are In-Credible!

Hats That Are Different!
Hats That Make You Feel
"Lah-Dee-Dah!"
Designer Originals!

MyHappyHat
Was Inspired By A
Cancer Survivor!
One-Size-Fits-All (XS-L)

Visit us on the web For the Ultimate Gift!
Teenyboppers To Granny's!
No More Bad-Hair Days!
Put On A MyHappyHat & You're Off To Work,
A Party, The Supermarket Or Church!

www.myhappyhat.com - 615-325-8735/838-4072 - P. O. Box 749 Portland, TN 37148

I Wonder What God's Singing

[James McMickin](#)

"The Lord thy God in the midst of thee is mighty; he will save, he will rejoice over thee with joy; he will rest in his love, he will rejoice over thee with singing." Zephaniah 3:17



These succinct, amazing words from the pen of the Prophet Zephaniah have for years enthralled me. I'm fascinated as I try to fathom what might be the nature of the lyrics written by the Most High, and with what type of voice He sings them. Naturally, I conjecture that those Divine vocal chords emit a powerful, booming, golden bass voice.

Years ago, back in the mid-1990s, I incorporated this verse into a song, verbatim. Then a couple of years later, as I continued to muse over this concept, I wrote "I Wonder What God's Singing". I'll recite the chorus here:

*I wonder what God's singing 'bout me
As all the angels join in, in perfect harmony
Is He singing good things 'bout what I'm gonna be
I wonder what God's singing 'bout me*

Then I affirm my thoughts in the tag:

*I believe He's singing good things 'bout what I'm gonna be
But I wonder just what God's singing 'bout me*

Of course, we must realize that the context of Zephaniah 3:17 bespeaks the nation of Israel in the Millennium, when the atrocious acts and intentions of her evil neighbors are archived in the annals of history; and finally, history won't repeat itself. Hallelujah! I can affirm this on the basis of verse 15, which emphatically declares that Israel shall "not see evil any more".

Nonetheless, we can logically deduce that the God, who will sing songs of joy over Israel in the Thousand Year Reign, no doubt also sings over His Church in the Church Age, and I don't believe God sings the Blues. Furthermore, we can venture to assume that He sings customized songs specifically for each Believer, Prophetic Songs of Divine Blessings to come.

As we embark upon the journey waiting in the wings of 2012 we face the most uncertain and troublesome times we've ever been dealt. But we serve a Certain God. Nothing that befalls or besets us in 2012 will surprise Him. He has a Plan, and it's right on schedule. So we would do well to draw our focus away from the deplorable and despicable conditions of this old world and to this Promise, *"For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure"* *Philippians 2:13*.

I wonder what God's singing about me for 2012. Wouldn't you like to know what He's singing about you? Happy tunes for 2012, everyone!



Are We Holding Back The Hand Of God?

[Mark Hawkins](#)



There is no doubt that times are tough for most of us. Long-term successful ministries and businesses are shutting down. I think, as a nation and as the body of Christ, we are reaping a harvest for some of the bad seeds we have sown. You may not agree with all I have to say and you may become angry with me, you may even say “This is not me” and you may be right. But I invite you to take a moment to consider what I have to share, and pray about it before you react.

There are many examples of the hand of God delivering his children out of bondage, slavery and hard times, so I don’t doubt His ability and power.

I’ve been involved with the ministry most of my life and I’ve witnessed God bless many times. I’ve been a Minister of music, choir director, worship leader, church musician, deacon, soloist and songwriter. I’ve been blessed by the Lord and I’ve seen Him move but I have also seen the power of the Gospel diminished by two things that I want to share with you in this poignant article.

I believe We Are Holding Back the Hand of God via two particular ways, dishonesty and ungratefulness. Stay with me, now.

1) Dishonesty:

a) Many artists have seen large portions of their love-offerings disappear out of the offering plate. I used to travel with a music group; I’ve experienced the thievery of church staff that collected the offering on behalf of the artist and kept some for the church. There are many hardworking artists that sacrifice much to minister, only to see some of the money be stolen from them. It’s inexcusable and dishonest!

b) Dishonesty also happens via nonpayment of royalties to songwriters. Would anyone go into a Wal-Mart and expect to take items without paying for them? If you do you are a thief and if you get caught you will most likely be arrested. Many record labels and artists point their fingers at each other and say the other is responsible for paying the royalties, but it is wrong either way. Too many artists think and proclaim they are “serving in ministry” and thus shouldn’t have to pay what they owe, or they do not have enough money to pay the royalties. I could go along with that if they were giving their CDs away for free but I know that seldom happens. Most singers are generating money via concert performances and CD sales of writers’ songs, thus they do have the money to pay royalties due. Not paying is unrighteous and dishonest...

Continued ...

If we have sown unto you spiritual things, is it a great thing if we shall reap your carnal things?
1st Corinthians 9:11

Are We Holding Back The Hand Of God?

Continued...

2) Ungratefulness:

a) Although I've been blessed in many ways and would not trade my ministry for anything; as minister of music I spent countless hours teaching young people and others only to see some of the ones I helped the most betray me the worst. I've been lied about and lied to. These things should not be, they are unrighteous and reveal an ungrateful heart.

b) I've seen Mickey and Rainie Mixon pour their heart and money into the ministry of Gospel Songwriter and the songwriters. Here is a very faithful husband and wife team giving their best for the Lord. Then they have to deal with the ungratefulness, often painful, distasteful and uncalled for reactions when Mickey tries to give the writer some constructive and beneficial ideas or ask for some financial help with the ministry. What a shame. For the most part these are actions of a few and most have been grateful for all Brother Mickey and his wife have done, but still, the ungratefulness is discouraging to say the least.

One thing I've learned in leadership is if good people do not speak out about what's wrong they end up sharing some of the responsibility for what's wrong. So, I'm speaking out.

In love, I implore us all, please, let us cleanse ourselves from dishonesty and ungratefulness so we won't hold back the hand of God. God knows we need His hand of blessing now more than ever before.

Do ye not know that they which minister about holy things live of the things of the temple? And they which wait at the altar are partakers with the altar? Even so hath the Lord ordained that they which preach the Gospel should live of the Gospel. 1st Corinthians 9:13-14

Royalty Reminder

Thanks for paying royalties. Gospel songwriters appreciate your recording and performance of their songs, and your support via paid royalties. Demo production, CD duplication and shipping, and internet costs can be quite expensive. Royalties help defray the cost and keep these writers writing more songs for you to employ. So, again, thank you for paying royalties.

Owe no man anything but to love one another, for he that loves another has fulfilled the law.

Romans 13:8

Why Songs Don't Get Recorded

In March of 2009 I surveyed a number of people in the Gospel music industry which included award winning songwriters, award winning singers, publishers, producers, promoters, DJs, etc.

I presented this question: *What would you say are the three major reasons why a lot of Gospel songs do not get recorded?*

Several took time from their busy schedule to reply. I thanked them and requested and received permission to share their answers. I shared some of their answers in the Fall issue of GSM, but instead of making you wait for the rest of their answers to be presented over the next few issues I decided to give you full access to all their replies via GospelSongwriter.Com.

Many writers have already read this free, informative education article, including the award winning writer and publisher Dee Gaskin. I post some of their responses below.

I trust this free article will be a blessing to you.

Happy New Year,

Mickey Mixon

I learned a few things myself from this.

God Bless,

Dee Gaskin

This is very interesting. Rick Shelton probably helped me see something that the others haven't. I have read and reread his remarks several times. Thank you Rick!

Gregg Floyd

You have no idea how much your research of the topic, why songs don't get recorded, means to Gospel songwriters such as me. Thanks again, Mickey.

Gordon Eggleston

Thank you to everyone who contributed. This is an excellent source of info!

Susan Jones

I really enjoyed "why songs don't get recorded". It has allowed me to look at myself and the call in my life in a different way. I stayed up until 2:00 a.m. soaking it all in. Some hit hard and some light but with each comment it allowed me to see some mistakes in myself and understand other things better.

Marlene Pelt

This was a great expose', very much needed by writers and artists alike. I really enjoyed reading it. Keep up the good work.

Marcia Henry

Need Songs?



Hey Artist ... do you need songs for review for possible recording and performance?

GospelSongwriter.Com can help, FREE.

GospelSongwriter.Com has networked Gospel singers with Gospel songwriters since 1999.

It's easy, just visit our [website](#) and go to the Artist Service page, where you can peruse our Writers Directory, see the profile pages of our writers, listen to their songs and contact them directly or complete our Song Search request form and we'll e-mail your request for songs to our writers. It's a simple and free service.

You can logon to www.gospelsongwriter.com/artistlist.htm to see a list of the names of over 1,000 artists who have used our service. Thanks for allowing us to serve you, too!!!