JEFF LIPPENCOTT & R.C. SPROUL

# To The

SACRED MUSIC FOR THE PEOPLE OF GOD



Worship is not simply a feeling that is experienced; it must also involve understanding and the mind.



- R.C. SPROUL

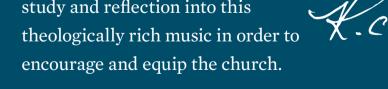
HRISTIANITY IS DOCTRINE. It is truth that changes our lives. However, the life of the church is enriched by more than her doctrine. This is why the people of God have always sung songs in worship. Moses sings, "The LORD is my strength and my song" (Ex. 15:2). David sings, "The LORD is my rock and my fortress" (2 Sam. 22:2). And even the angels in Revelation sing, "Worthy is the lamb" (Rev. 5:12). So, we follow their example and sing.

During the Protestant Reformation, Martin Luther wanted a reformation of the whole church. To that end, Luther composed music, for he considered music—after biblical truth—to be the greatest conveyor of the transcendent majesty of God. We are educated through hymns. As we sing them over and over again each Sunday, they teach us doctrine, and truth penetrates our hearts.

In fact, the best hymns endure Sunday after Sunday, from generation to generation.

That is why, like Martin Luther, we seek to make the truths of God known to a new generation through *Glory* to the Holy One. I have poured a lifetime of biblical study and reflection into this

In collaboration with awardwinning composer Jeff Lippencott, we have pursued musical excellence. By God's grace, these hymns will serve to help spark a new reformation in the hearts of His people, even as His people return to the truth of His Word.



# 1517

Music by Jeff Lippencott | Read by R.C. Sproul



NE HAMMER in the hand of an obscure Augustinian monk changed the world forever. Martin Luther posted his Ninety-Five Theses on the church door in Wittenberg, Germany calling his fellow professors to examine issues of supreme theological importance. Thus began the Reformation through which the light of God's Word was brought out of the darkness to shine with clarity once more.

One of the central cries of the Protestant Reformation was this: "The just shall live by faith." Luther's development of the doctrine of justification by faith alone recovered the gospel that had been hidden during the Middle Ages. And at the center of that gospel is the affirmation

that the righteousness by which we are declared just before a holy God is not our own.

It's a foreign righteousness, an alien righteousness, a righteousness that Luther said is *extra nos*—apart from us. Namely, it's the righteousness of Jesus Christ—that righteousness that's imputed or counted for all who put their trust in Him.

Because of that affirmation Luther was involved in serious controversies—controversies that culminated in his being brought to trial before the princes of the church and even before the emperor of the Holy Roman Empire, Charles the V.

And there at the Diet of Worms, summoned in Germany,
Luther was called upon to recant his views. He answered his interlocutors by saying,
"Revoco? You want me to say revoco? That I recant? I will not recant unless I am convinced

by sacred Scripture or by
evident reason. I cannot recant
for my conscience is held
captive by the Word of God.
And to act against conscience
is neither right nor safe. Here
I stand. I can do no other. God

In every generation the gospel must be published anew with the same boldness, and the

help me."

same clarity, and the same urgency that came forth in the 16th century Reformation.

The church has always done this in both the spoken word and in song—producing hymns that tell us of the great salvation that has been wrought by God alone through Christ alone.

THESE HYMNS THAT YOU HEAR TODAY
ARE SACRED MUSIC FOR THE CHURCH
GIVING GLORY TO THE HOLY ONE.



# GLORY TO THE HOLY ONE

Music by Jeff Lippencott | Words by R.C. Sproul



Seated on the heav'nly throne Above all mortal view The King supreme in glory sat Bathed in resplendent hue Shielded eyes and covered feet The angels hovered high Glory shook the portal walls And smoke rose to the sky

Refrain
"Holy, Holy, Holy"
Cried the seraph throng
Glory to the Holy One
Join in heaven's song

Refrain

All around the mercy seat
The heav'nly creatures sang
Glory to our God on high
Their poignant anthem rang

"Angel come now, purge my lips Make pure my soul anew Now I'll rise and stand again In grace to go for you"

Refrain

# COME, O LAMB OF GOD

Music by Jeff Lippencott | Words by R.C. Sproul



Come, O Lamb of God, to save

Our hearts are chilled with fear

Raise our souls from torpid daze

And send Thy Spirit near

Enflame our spirits by Thy power

Our zeal to persevere

Give life and breath to passive saints

To truth that You hold dear

Refrain

We rise to Thee from bended knee

To do whate'er You say

We give our love, our hearts, our all

Your summons to obey

We love Thy law, O precious Lord

It brightens ev'ry path

In it we see Thy perfect rule

Thy mercy and Thy wrath

Refrain

Roar forth, Thou King of Judah's seed

That we might never fall

Give strength and might

That we may heed

Thy sacred royal call

# THE SECRET PLACE

Music by Jeff Lippencott | Words by R.C. Sproud



Who dwells within His most secret place Is never far from His blessed grace 'Neath His great shadow all will be well No better place now for us to dwell

Ten thousand more may have yet to die Yet plague and sword can Ne'er kill the soul His angels guard us now safe and whole

A thousand fall now at ev'ry side

Refrain

The secret place of God Most High
The shadow of our mighty King
The dwelling place where angels cry
Is where our praise will forever ring

Refrain

Refuge and fortress for all who trust
No safer pasture for men of dust
'Neath wings and feathers of Holy Lord
No greater comfort can He afford

Fear not the terror that comes at night
Nor flaming arrows by morning light
His truth is always our sword and shield
Against His power, all foes must yield

Refrain

# VARIANT ON BENEDICTUS

This version, music by Dan Forrest and Jeff Lippencott Words by R.C. Sproul



Chosen first among the priests

To serve within the temple walls

Zacharias stood in awe

As he heard the angel call

Refrain

Benedictus

Benedictus

Blessed is the Lord

Benedictus

Benedictus

God's incarnate Word

Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God

Will come to raise salvation's horn

God Incarnate, Word made flesh

To a virgin shall be born

Refrain

Christ brings light to sin's dark night

Our Dayspring, Jesus, from on high

Saints and angels sing God's praise

All the earth and heav'ns reply

Refrain

God's incarnate Word

Benedictus

Benedictus

# HEAVY IS OUR SAVIOR'S CROSS

Music by Jeff Lippencott | Words by R.C. Sproul



Refrain

Heavy is our Savior's cross
Weighed down by human sin
His blood so pure, no earthly dross
Is borne by only Him

Mocked, scourged,
with thorns for a crown
The Lamb is led away
A cross to bear for sinners bound
On this, His final day

Refrain

Rough, hewn, unpolished the wood A cross for all man's sin Will hold the pain no mortal could A death reserved for Him A death reserved for Him Life torn from flesh and from bone

Yet still a pain far worse

For all of sin He must atone

The weight of heaven's curse

Refrain

Death, loss, the dark shadows day His work now almost done Naught else will do, no other way Salvation must be won

Refrain

His blood so pure, no earthly dross Is borne by only Him

# HIGHLAND HYMN

Music by Jeff Lippencott | Words by R.C. Sproul



Above the mists of Highland hills E'en far above the clear blue skies The end of pain and earthly ills

When we shall see His eyes

Refrain
Lutes will sing
Pipers play
When we see Him face to face
On that day

His face now hidden from our sight Concealed from ev'ry hidden gaze In hearts made pure from sinful flight Is the bliss that will amaze Refrain

We know not yet what we will be In heaven's final blessed state But know we now that we shall see Our Lord at heaven's gate

The beatific glory view
That now our souls still long to see
Will make us all at once anew
And like Him forever be

# VIAM DEI

Music by Jeff Lippencott



VIAM DEI—a Latin title meaning "Way of God"—is a work that tries to express musically the struggles, the push and pull, the pain and peace that the Christian encounters on the road on which God has placed each of His beloved—the path toward sanctification. Structurally, the continued use of a two-chord progression provides the thematic content throughout the work as a reminder that during this life we are inevitably torn between peace and pain, victory and defeat, joy and sorrow. As the piece nears its conclusion, we find a chordal resolution that represents our finished journey. The Christian's faith, having been tested, is now made complete in the sight of the Savior, face-to-face.



## NO MORE THE GRAVE

Music by Jeff Lippencott | Words by R.C. Sproul



The stone rolled clear, a grave so bare
The women filled with fear
The Lord of life, an empty tomb
No Savior lying there

Refrain

No more the grave can yield its sting

No more is death our foe

Our souls can now with gladness sing

Now gone all curse and woe

The mortal parts, immortal comes Corruption flees our hearts Our death is His, His life is ours Eternal life to start

Refrain

He once was dead but now He lives A groom now fit to wed The Alpha and Omega reigns Beginning to the end



# CLOTHED IN RIGHTEOUSNESS

Music by Craig Courtney | Words by R.C. Sprou



Fallen race in Eden fair
Exposed and full of shame
Fled we naked from Thy sight
Far from Thy holy Name

Refrain
Clothe us in Your righteousness
Hide filthy rags of sin
Dress us in Your perfect garb
Both outside and within

Sent from the garden in the east
Outside of Eden's gate
Banished there from Thy pure light
Were Adam and his mate

Scarlet souls are now like snow
By Thy atoning grace
Crimson hearts become like wool
For Adam's fallen race

Refrain

No work of ours is good enough For evil to atone Your merit, Lord, is all we have It saves, and it alone

# THESE GREAT THINGS

Music by Jeff Lippencott  $\mid$  Words by R.C. Sproul



How can it be, this truth divine,

Declared by God above

That all things by His grand design

Work good for us by love

Called by our Lord in purposed ends

No tragedy shall win

No curse for those He calls His friends

He saved us from our sins

Refrain

What shall we say to these great things?

Of mystery sublime

That if He is for us we can sing

Now and for all time

Foreknown by Him with

Hearts made new

To His Son we conform

No pow'r on earth can this undo

For those He's made reborn

Refrain

First He did choose, and called He then

To surely justify

For those of the faith beyond our ken

He soon will glorify

# COME, THOU SAVIOR, SPREAD THY TABLE

Music and words by R.C. Sproul



Come, Thou Savior, spread Thy table Feed Thy helpless, starving sheep Give Thy grace to saints unable To drink Thy cup so deep

For Thy bride is weak in spirit
As her Groom will soon appear
With her spotted soul and wrinkled gown
She trembles to draw near

Refrain

Jesus, Jesus, we adore Thee

Gift of heaven's Bread

Jesus, Jesus, we adore Thee

Keep our spirits fed

Keep the feast of Paschal Lamb His presence sure and real His own death for us we now recall With sacred sign and seal

We taste Thee now as death doth
Wait to bring us to Your side
We now long to enter heaven's gate
And e'er with You abide

#### Refrain

To heaven's gate our souls fly
To sup with You anew
Now with all saints from our labors rest
To find our peace with You

# WORTHY IS THE LAMB

Music by Jeff Lippencott | Words by R.C. Sproul



The veil of heaven opened wide
The scene was clearly set
John saw a scroll writ either side
Where seven seals were met
With booming voice the angel said
To now unseal the scroll
But none was found to meet the task
Not even one lone soul

Refrain
Worthy, worthy is the Lamb
Worthy, worthy is the Lamb who was slain

Convulsed with tears and broken heart
John's hope was now assailed
"Weep not," the elder counseled him,
"A Lion has prevailed!"
No lion came to take his claim
No beast of royal reign
Instead there stood a bloodied Lamb
Like one who had been slain

#### Refrain

Ten thousand times, ten thousand more
The host of heaven cried
All blessing, honor, glory, and pow'r
To Christ, the Lamb that died

Refrain

Christ the Lamb, who was slain

# AMEN

Music by Jeff Lippencott | Words by R.C. Sproul



Amen, amen
We come to You, amen
Thy Word is true, amen
Amen, amen

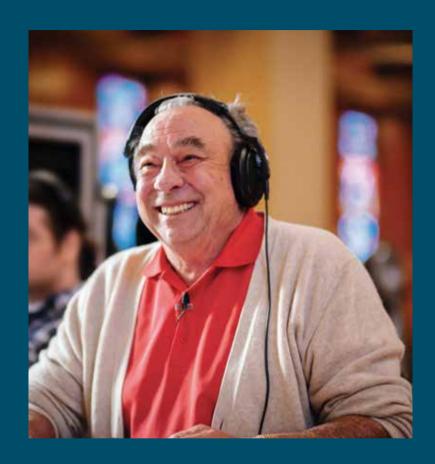
Amen, amen
We kneel to You, amen
Our lives we yield, amen
Amen, amen

Amen



DR. R.C. SPROUL is founder and chairman of Ligonier

Ministries, located near Orlando, Fla. He also serves as co-pastor
of Saint Andrew's Chapel in Sanford, Fla., and as chancellor of
Reformation Bible College. His teaching can be heard on the
radio program Renewing Your Mind, and he is executive editor of
Tabletalk magazine and general editor of the Reformation Study
Bible. In addition, he is an amateur musician, having experience
with both violin and piano. The author of more than ninety books
and speaker at conferences, churches, and schools around the world,
Dr. Sproul is an expert communicator of the truths of God's Word.



responsible for the music of many hit television series and film scores, including *The Apprentice, MasterChef*, and *Grace Unplugged*. In 2003, Lippencott, along with Mark T. Williams, founded Ah2 Music in Valencia, Calif. Since that time, Ah2 has grown to be one of the most sought-after composing teams in the world, garnering gold and platinum records, multiple ASCAP and BMI Film and Television awards, and two Primetime Emmy nominations, among other industry accolades.





## SPECIAL THANKS

#### FROM JEFF LIPPENCOTT

To my wife: Words will never suffice. Thank you for traveling alongside me on the path less traveled. My Love. To R.C.: What a privilege and honor to collaborate with you on this special project. I will always be thankful for our time working together on these pieces, your gifts to the kingdom of God, and your gift to me—friendship. "You know." To Chris Larson: Thanks for letting this project be what it is. You caught the vision early and let R.C. and me paint on an open canvas. No expectations. Just go create and let's see what we have at the end. I am truly humbled that you entrusted me in this sacred task. Thank you, my friend. To Mark Williams: Thanks for being my friend and allowing the music to flow without limits on time, space, or compensation. Your contribution is sown by my time away from Ah2. Thank you, my other brother.

Thanks to all the players, singers, directors, engineers, and talent who lent their God-given gifts to this work. And last, but certainly not least, a special heartfelt thanks to all my staff at Ah2 who were patient and helpful throughout.

#### FROM R.C. SPROUL

To Vesta: Whose tear ducts are daily cleansed after listening to the sacred music of this project. To Jeff: The genius whose baton brings heaven to earth and whose ear detects the smallest orchestral peccadillo. To Chris Larson: Whose vision and creativity gave birth to this undertaking. To Stephanie: Who can't make up her mind which piece she loves the most. To the Lord: Whose praise this is for.

Arranged, orchestrated, and conducted by Jeff Lippencott

Produced by Jeff Lippencott

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*This Hymn, My Simple Offering*: Music and words composed by Jeff Lippencott © 2014 Ciaos Tunes, ASCAP.

#### NORTHWEST SINFONIA ORCHESTRA

Recorded at The Bastyr Chapel, Kenmore, Wash.

Contractor: David Sabee Concertmaster: Simon James

Music copy, preparation, and production assistance:

Ken Eberhard, Jon Beers, and Paul Paramo Recording Engineer: Kory Kruckenberg

Recorded June 9-10, 2014

#### THE PHOENIX CHORALE

Recorded at the Walter Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass Media

Arizona State University, Phoenix

Artistic Director and Conductor: Charles Bruffy

President and CEO/Assistant Conductor: Joel Rinsema

Recording Engineer: Eric Xu

Recording Coordinator: Alex Kosiorek

#### THE CHORISTERS OF CANTERBURY CATHEDRAL on 1517. Variant on

Benedictus, Heavy Is Our Savior's Cross and Amen.

Recorded at The Canterbury Cathedral, Canterbury, U.K.

Director of Music: Dr. David Flood

Recording Engineer: Paul Barton Hodges

Special thanks to David Searles for all the help along the way.

Recorded July 14, 2014

Overdubs at Abbey Road Studios, London

Calum Stewart: Uilleann Pipes on Highland Hymn

Ed Cervenka: Hammered Dulcimer on Highland Hymn

Jeff Lippencott: Piano on Variant on Benedictus, Worthy Is the Lamb, The Secret Place,

No More the Grave, and This Hymn, My Simple Offering. Vocals on This Hymn, My

Simple Offering.

Recording Engineer: Sam Okell

Assistant Engineer: Paul Pritchard

Contractor: Isobel Griffiths and Lucy Whalley

Booking: Colette Barber

Recorded July 13, 2014

Organ on Come, O Lamb of God, Glory to the Holy One,

No More the Grave and These Great Things

Recorded at Saint Andrew's Chapel, Sanford, Fla.

**Organist: Terry Yount** 

Recording Engineer: Kent Madison

Recorded July 17, 2014

Mixed at Studio X, Seattle

Mixed by Kory Kruckenberg

Mixed August 13-16, 2014

Mastered by Dmitriy Lipay

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All photos taken at Bastyr University, Kenmore, Wash.



# ABOUT LIGONIER

Ligonier Ministries is an international Christian discipleship organization founded by theologian Dr. R.C. Sproul in 1971 to equip Christians to articulate what they believe, why they believe it, how to live it, and how to share it. Proclaiming God's holiness is central to Ligonier's purpose. Ligonier produces *Renewing Your Mind* radio broadcasts, the *Reformation Study Bible, Tabletalk* magazine, books through the Reformation Trust Publishing division, and various teaching series. It also offers academic degrees through the Ligonier Academy of Biblical and Theological Studies and Reformation Bible College. In addition, Ligonier hosts national and regional conferences, offers an online learning community through Ligonier Connect, streams twenty-four-hour Christian internet radio through RefNet, and makes available more than eight thousand unique resources online at Ligonier.org.



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