

# SEVEN PILLARS

Church of Praise / International



**MINISTERS**  
**MUSICIANS**  
**PLATFORM WORKERS**

**A STUDY ON MINISTERIAL RESPONSIBILITIES  
IN GOD'S HOUSE**

by Paul M Hanssen

## 1. THE FIRST MUSICIAN IN THE BIBLE

### **Genesis 4:21**

*And his brother's name was Jubal: he was the father of all such as handle the harp and organ.*

The name of the first musician ever mentioned in the Bible - JUBAL. Apart from this verse, nothing more is said in God's Word about this man. However, the meaning of his name tells us the duty and calling of a musician.

**JUBAL = YAW-BAL / to flow, bring forth, carry, lead, bear long, carry away**

This verse is also the first-time musical instruments were mentioned in the Bible; the harp (to twang, a stringed instrument) and the organ (pipes, a breathing instrument). Music, musicians, and worship are for the purpose of opening the flow of God's Spirit, bringing forth His glory presence, and leading others into His presence.

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## 2. PURPOSE OF THE PRIESTHOOD, MUSICIANS AND WORSHIP LEADERS IN WORSHIP

### a. **1 Chronicles 15:3-12**

Bring in the Ark of the Covenant and make a habitation for God's Glory, God's Presence, and God's Government

### b. **1 Chronicles 15:23-24**

Herald the coming of the Ark, to go before the Ark, prepare the way for the Ark, and be a doorkeeper.

**DOORKEEPER = (Hebrew) SHAW-AR / to split or open, gate keeper, porter, reason out, calculate**

**GO BEFORE THE ARK= (Hebrew) PAW-NEEM / in front of, battle for, in the presence of**

**Psalm 84:9** I had rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than to dwell in the tents of wickedness.

**Isaiah 14:12** Lucifer was called "Son of the Morning". His ministry was to *open the way* for the "Day", or to be a doorkeeper for the *Day Star, the Christ, the Living Word*, who is the Light of the world. Lucifer was a worshipping warrior. He was the highest cherub that covered the Ark in holy defense and he was the lead musician of Heaven. God created him with tabrets (the beat, drums) and pipes (breath instrument, harmony, melody). With his warring and worshipping ministry, Lucifer was to open the curtains, as it were, to the rising Day Star every new day. His ministry did not involve projecting

himself or trying to shine brighter than the One he was opening the way for.

**Ezekiel 28:13-14**

*...the workmanship of thy tabrets and of thy pipes was prepared in thee in the day that thou wast created. Thou art the anointed cherub that covereth; and I have set thee so: thou wast upon the holy mountain of God; thou hast walked up and down in the midst of the stones of fire.*

A serious problem within the Church (especially among those who serve in various ministries and music) is people using their place of service to shine the light of attention upon themselves rather than on the One they are opening the door for!

It is the responsibility of the worship leaders, musicians, platform workers, and general leadership to lead God's people into His Holy presence and to open the way for the Spirit of God to move among His people. Even the deacon and doorkeeper hold this place of responsibility. The worship leader in particular needs to be very sensitive to the Spirit of God and be watching for the Spirit's moving on the people. It is important, therefore, that the leader of worship and the musicians:

- i. Remain in tune with the pastor/worship leader of the church whilst watching for his/her direction during worship.
- ii. Keep a watchful eye on the flock. It is important for the leaders to watch for what God is doing and how the Spirit is moving on and among the flock. The leader needs to keep their eyes open as much as possible because he needs to be mindful of how the Spirit is touching people and therefore move accordingly.
- iii. Remain in tune, and in charge of the musicians. No musician is an island on their own. All musicians need to be watching the leader. Even though they may not like what the leader is doing, or how the leader is leading, it is important that the musicians follow the leader and not break rank or unity.
- iv. Do not be bound to forms, traditions, or the clock. Rather, always be sensitive to the leading of the Spirit. There is really only one thing that needs to happen in each service: God's Will!!
- v. Remember, leading God's people into the presence of the Lord is a joint effort of the whole music team and leadership team. Remain as ONE, flow as one, move as one. Never show signs of irritation or disgust to one another before the congregation. Always deal with disputes or discipline after the service in private, but with a witness.

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**3. MINISTERS PREPARATION BEFORE GOD**

**1 Chronicles 15:13-14** - They sanctified themselves

SANCTIFIED= (Hebrew) KAW-DASH / consecrate, dedicate, hallow, be holy, prepare, be separate

God cannot use dirty vessels. It is of utmost importance that all those who serve Him in any capacity take time to sanctify themselves. A clean vessel is a vessel that God's Spirit and life can flow through.

(Ex 19:22, Ex 30:30, Ex 40:13, Lev 8:12, Lev 20:7)

**Joshua 3:5** Sanctify yourselves, tomorrow the LORD will do wonders

The spirit you carry, the attitude of mind you have, and your demeanor in general is what will spill out and over from your spirit and will affect and influence those to whom you minister. Is it any wonder that God desired for His priests and His servants to be clean?

**Leviticus 6:18** Anyone that touches a *sanctified Levite* shall be holy.

The word TOUCH means to reach, extend, apply, draw near, lay hand upon, and come nigh. WE TOUCH PEOPLE and PEOPLE TOUCH US THROUGH OUR SERVICE AND MINISTRY unto the LORD!

**Holiness, Worship and Warfare** go hand in hand. God required holiness and worship before war.

**2 Chronicles 20:21-23** - Here God required praise and holiness before the war and the victory

(**Exodus 15: 11** - ....glorious in *holiness*, fearful in *praises*, doing *wonders, victory*)

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#### **4. MINISTER'S PREPARATION FOR SERVICE**

##### **a. SKILLFUL**

##### **Personal Preparation**

**1 Chronicles 15:22** A leader/musician must be skillful

SKILLFUL=BENE / to separate mentally or distinguished, understand, attend, consider, be cunning, discern, eloquent, feel, inform, instruct, have intelligence, perceive, be prudent, wise man...

To be skillful one must be practiced, prepared, and mentally separated for the task in which you are called upon to perform. It takes time, effort and applying 'self' to be skillful. Skillfulness distinguishes you from others and sets you apart in your calling.

- Deuteronomy 32:10 BENE=instructed
- 1 Samuel 16:17-18 BENE=prudent
- 1 Kings 3:9 BENE=understanding
- 2 Chron 34:12 BENE= skill

**b. SKILLFULLY**

**Public Performance**

***Psalm 33:3*** Play Skillfully

SKILLFULLY = (Hebrew) YAW-TAB / make well, sound beautiful, successful, right, accepted, please, make sweet, make cheerful, be comely.

Public performance of any kind in service to the Lord should be performed well and in an acceptable and pleasing manner before Him. There should be a distinguished difference between speaking, singing, playing an instrument, and performing any other function in God’s house than doing such things anywhere else. God’s House, and His presence, is to be revered and highly honored. He not only deserves the best, but He demands it!

*Wherefore we receiving a kingdom which cannot be moved, let us have grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear: For our God is a consuming fire. (Hebrews 12:28-29)*

**5. MINISTER’S APPEARANCE & APPAREL**

The manner in which a servant of God presents him/herself is of utmost importance:

-2 Chronicles 5:12

-2 Chronicles 15:27 David and all the Levites and singers were clothed in linen robes.

Leviticus 16:32

ROBES = (Hebrew) MEH-EEL/ to cover, a cloke, a mantle

LINEN = (Hebrew) BAD/ to divide, be separated, be solitary, be alone

The dress and appearance of the ministers was always, and is still always, important to God. We should dress and cover our bodies appropriately for the office and ministry that we are fulfilling. Our clothing should cover our bodies well, be garments that portray separation and a walk of solidarity before the LORD. The call of God upon your life sets you apart. In other words, you are divided from all others in the sense of

service, calling, ministry, and relationship with God.

Our apparel and presentation of ourselves proclaims who we are. Every profession on earth wears an outward distinguishable garment that portrays the vocation, office, or service of the individual. Doctors, flight attendants, fast food restaurant workers, pilots, nurses, courier delivery persons, waiters, and many other public servants in society are all identified by what they wear. The garments on their body sets them apart in the duty they are called upon to perform. So also, God intended it to be for His servant workers.

*I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. (Romans 12:1)*

Our bodies are to be presented before God as a living sacrifice. This means that we 'live out' our calling and service to Him sacrificially, offering ourselves, presenting ourselves, in a manner that is acceptable to God.

*But if I tarry long, that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth. (1 Timothy 3:15)*

In this present generation, there are relatively few who consider 'how they ought to behave' in the house of God. But when you stop and think for a moment that your service is not in a theater, not in a night club, not upon a worldly stage, but is indeed within the Church of the Living God, then we ought to stop and consider how we behave, or conduct, ourselves in His house.

The word 'behave' means to conduct one's self in a specific way. God cares about the way we present and conduct ourselves in our service to Him. Presenting ourselves to the Lord in a way that pleases Him causes His presence and glory to be experienced.

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## **6. MUSIC PROPHECIES**

### ***1 Samuel 10:5-6***

*And the Spirit of the LORD will come upon thee, and thou shalt prophesy with them, and shalt be turned into another man.*

Music has the power, impact, sound and ministry of prophecy.

PROPHECY = (Hebrew) NAW-BAW/ speak or sing by inspiration in prediction or simple discourse (communication), to be under the influence of the Divine Spirit.

It's not enough to have skill. A minister, in whatever form or capacity he/she is serving, needs to be under the divine influence, power, and authority of the Spirit of God. This will cause the speaking, praying, singing, and playing of His servant to minister under the inspiration and anointing of God.

a. Miriam

**Exodus 15:20-21** Miriam prophesied through music.

b. Elisha

**2 Kings 3:15-16**

*But now bring me a minstrel (to beat a tune on a stringed instrument – a stringed instrument also used to make a beat). And it came to pass, when the minstrel played, that the hand of the LORD came upon him. And he said, Thus saith the LORD, Make this valley full of ditches.*

The Prophet Elisha valued musical accompaniment as a means of providing an environment for prophecy. Anointed prophetic music creates the atmosphere for the word of prophecy to flow, whether it be through the gift prophet or the speaking/teaching of the Word Prophet. Music opens doors and releases the fountain of inspired prophetic utterance through sound.

c. David

**1 Chronicles 25:1**

*Moreover David and the captains of the host separated to the service of the sons of Asaph, and of Heman, and of Jeduthun, who should prophesy with harps, with psalteries, and with cymbals: and the number of the workmen according to their service was:*

King David formally instituted prophecy to musical accompaniment, along with praise and worship, in the Tabernacle of David.

d. New Testament Church

**Ephesians 5:18-19**

*And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit; Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord;*

In the New Testament, the Apostle Paul spoke concerning 'psalms, hymns and spiritual songs' (see also Colossians 3:16-17). The Greek words translated 'spiritual songs' are *oide pneumatikos* and could also be translated as 'songs of the Spirit.' (See also 1 Corinthians 14:15) These songs could be prophetic in nature, as well as spiritual songs of praise to God.