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## **Include a hymn in your prayer**

The purpose, power, and effectiveness of singing a hymn is an amazing subject to ponder when seeking the spiritual closeness with God that His children desire. There is a special benefit resultant from hymns, and occasions of great importance in the Scriptures have been related to the singing of hymns. These spiritual songs need not be only conducted by large groups on appointed gatherings, but the sole and singular “pray-er” can as well delight in the expression of a holy hymn. Here's what we know about hymns in the Bible:

When Yahweh God delivered Israel from Egypt in the days of Moses it resulted in a great song to God on the part of the whole of the people lifting up their voices in thankful melody:

*“Then sang Moses and the children of Israel unto Yahweh, and spake, saying I will sing unto Yahweh, for He hath triumphed gloriously: the horse and his rider hath He thrown into the sea”* (Exodus 15:1-21 as this hymn of victory was 21 verses long)

Another victory hymn even longer was sung by Deborah and Barak when Israel defeated Jabin the king of Canaan. (Judges 5:1-31)

When Paul and Silas were in prison in Macedonia they sang hymns along with their prayers that preceded an earthquake resulting in their freedom. (Acts 16:25,26)

The disciples sang when Christ gave them the “bread and wine” memorial remembrance of His body and blood that would be sacrificed on the cross for our sins: *“and when they had sung an hymn, they went out into the mount of Olives.”* (Matthew 26:26-30) The eternal praise of heaven's elders are hymns with a new song of the redemption of Christians by the slain Lamb of God who died on the cross so that we may reign with Him. (Revelation 5:8-14)

Singing hymns to yourself is part of walking in the love of Christ: *“Be ye therefore followers of God, as dear children and walk in the love of Christ --- speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Master.”* (Ephesians 5:1, 19) We are also told that singing with the brethren is a way of teaching and encouraging each other. (Colossians 3:16)

Sing a hymn with your prayer, or make a hymn from your prayer. Be a blessing to others and be blessed!