

My Move Away from Worship Songs

When I was at university in the 1970's my favourite comedians were Peter Cook & Dudley Moore, Peter Sellers, and 'The Goon Show' on the radio. A few years ago I watched a Peter Cook & Dudley Moore sketch and couldn't understand why I used to think they were so very funny. Even Peter Sellers' old movies aren't funny to me these days.

One could think that this change is because I've become an old fuddy-duddy. Actually, this is not the case. What's happened is that my humour has changed as I've matured. While the Keystone Cops were hilarious in the silent film era, they are no longer considered funny today because our humour as a society has changed. People and societies change and mature.

Maturity brings change so that reversion to the previous is no longer acceptable.

Take boy-girl relationships for instance. In primary school, boys push girls so they are noticed by them and girls tease boys for the same reason. In high school, boys and girls prefer to hang out in groups and talk. In college, they start dating and enjoy the undivided attention of a single person. Married people would not consider going back to the primary school way of connecting because the pleasure of a one-on-one intimate relationship with a person of the opposite gender is greatly more satisfying. This is an example of maturity in relationships.

Driving in the car with my wife recently, she put on some worship music to dull the boredom of a long trip. After a while I suddenly realised, "This music doesn't do anything for me any more". Immediately I thought of how my humour had changed and how I could no longer appreciate Peter Cook & Dudley Moore. Instantly I knew where my reaction to the music was coming from: I had matured and moved on.

Having tasted of an intimate relationship with my Lord (King Jesus) who satisfies all my emotional, mental, physical, spiritual and financial needs, worshipping him in song seems so second rate. I don't want to go back to finding my intimacy in worship music when I can have the person himself as my beloved.

This is maturity.

Even though I don't reject or discount worship music, oneness with the King is too fulfilling to exchange for a substitute. After all, it IS oneness that he wants with us.¹ It's the ultimate relationship.

My aim these days is to go deeper into oneness. I don't want to sing about my beloved or to him, I want to experience him.

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