

References in this leaflet
are from the Bible:

1. Exodus 15:1-18; 2. 1 Kings 4:32;
3. Song of Songs 1:1; 4. Matthew 26:30;
5. Revelation 15.3

LET'S FACE THE MUSIC AND ... ?

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Let's Face the Music and Dance is a well-known popular song written in 1936 by Irving Berlin for the film *Follow the Fleet*. It featured a dance duet with Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers.

'*Face the music*' is what we say when we have to confront something difficult. Have you ever wondered where the phrase originated? One popular account relates to music hall artistes going on to the stage and having to face the pit orchestra - and the audience of course. If the performance wasn't appreciated, audiences could become quite hostile! A more sobering explanation is the sombre 'music' of the drum roll which announced a military execution.

Music generates a wide range of emotions and is one of life's pleasures. Most brass bands have hymns in their repertoire. One classic - '*Eternal Father strong to save*' has all the atmosphere of danger at sea and the confidence of God's protection. Another is '*Abide With Me*' with its words of comfort at the thought of life ending.

There are more than 185 songs in the Bible: The first is by *Moses* when the Israelites escaped across the Red Sea and Pharaoh's army was destroyed by the returning water.¹ *King Solomon* wrote over 1000 songs,² but the greatest of these is the beautiful story of love told in the *Song of Solomon*.³

The Lord Jesus Christ sang with His disciples before leaving Jerusalem to go to the Garden of Gethsemane.⁴ In the space of a few hours he was arrested, tortured, humiliated, then executed. **His crucifixion was the culmination of God's great plan for our redemption.**

We have a greater danger to face than that of the hostile audiences at the theatre mentioned at the start of this leaflet: one day we will have to face our Maker - God, and He will judge what we have done with our lives. We deserve punishment, but the Lord Jesus faced up to this for us so that we could escape it.

The purpose of Christ's death is explained in the popular Easter hymn, '*There is a green hill ...*' One verse reads:

*There was no other good enough to pay
the price of sin. He only could unlock
the gate of heaven and let us in.*

In Revelation - the last book of the Bible - there is a rousing finale to its collection of songs. We read: *And they were singing the song of Moses, the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb:*

*Great and marvellous are your works,
O Lord God, the Almighty.
Just and true are your ways,
O king of the nations'.⁵*

Why not accept the work of the Lord Jesus dying to save you from the penalty of sin today, and be assured of joining in the joy of that great song in Heaven - **NOT 'facing the music' of eternal judgement for your sins.**