

PRAISE THE LORD WITH JOYFUL CRY

About the Writer of the Hymn Text: Dr. Fred Kaan was born in Holland but is a minister in England. He began writing hymns in 1960. As the minister of his church, he not only prepares a sermon each Sunday, but often writes a new hymn text on the theme of the sermon as well. He likes to write hymns on subjects that interest people today. Since many people live in cities, Dr. Kaan's hymns are often about the city. He also writes hymns that are closely related to the Bible. This is especially true about the hymn "Praise the Lord with Joyful Cry." (Psalm 150).

I Read stanza one of the hymn. Compare stanza one to verses 1 and 2 of Psalm 150: (Quotations from *The New English Bible*)

O praise the Lord.
O praise God in his holy place,
praise him in the vault of heaven, the vault of his power;
praise him for his mighty works,
praise him for his immeasurable greatness.

What are both the hymn and these verses saying? _____

II Read stanza two of the hymn. Compare this stanza with verses 3-5:

Praise him with fanfares on the trumpet,
praise him upon the lute and harp;
praise him with tambourines and dancing,
praise him with flute and strings;
praise him with the clash of cymbals,
praise him with triumphant cymbals.

Stanza two mentions "Percussion, brass and strings." Find each of these instrumental groupings in verses 3-5 above:

Percussion: _____ and _____

Brass: _____ Strings: _____ and _____

About Psalm Singing

III Psalm Singing. Psalms were often sung antiphonally, that is with two groups of alternating singers. Divide your choir into two groups. Have group one sing the first two lines of each stanza and group two sing the second two lines. Choose someone from each group to accompany this hymn with appropriate percussion. For example:

Stanza 1: Tambourine

Stanza 2: Add Triangle

Stanza 3: Add Hand Drum

||: ♪ | x ♪ | :|| ||: | x x x | x x x | :|| ||: | x ♪ | x ♪ :||

IV Psalms were also sung responsorially, using a soloist alternating with a choir. Choose a soloist from each choir to sing the first two lines of stanzas one and two. Have the choir sing the last two lines of stanzas one and two. All join in on stanza three.

Hymn Study by C. Michael Hawn