

AUSTRALIAN INDEPENDENT BAPTIST NEWSLETTER

Dr David C. Bennett, Editor

2Timothy 4:2 “Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine.”

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Ephesians 5:19 *“Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord”*

THE IDOL OF MUSIC: The General Association of Regular Baptist Churches (GARBC) and the Baptist Bible Fellowship (BBFI) churches once used only the King James Bible and conservative music in their services.

However, the seed for change has always been within the two organizations albeit the changes have been gradual like the frog in the pan of water coming to a boil. Sadly today there doesn't seem to be much of a gap between the independent Baptists, GARBC¹, BBFI and the Pentecostals in their music. One **MUST** keep in mind that **when the music changes look for a change IN theology as well.**

Allow me to give a brief history. My wife was saved through the ministry of a BBFI church and after we were married we were members of a BBFI church for several years. I attended the BBFI flagship college in Springfield, MO one year before transferring to a GARBC school. The BBFI churches were once built on preaching and soul winning. Yes, we do remember a past that was totally separate from what is occurring today. So what is occurring today in the BBFI?

Today in the BBFI there is a lot of emphasis placed on music. It would appear that unless you are gyrating to the sound you are not truly “worshipping”. How is this, all played out in the BBFI churches and schools? The photo directly below is the church where the September, 2016 BBFI Fellowship meeting will be held. Note the musical instruments on the platform. Looks like any CCM church?

<http://www.bbf.org/events/>

All this emphasis on music reminds one of Daniel 3:5 “That at what time ye hear the sound of the cornet, flute, harp, sackbut, psaltery, dulcimer, and all kinds of musick, ye fall down and worship the golden image...” Is music helping to bring in the one world church?



<http://www.fellowshipweek.com/>

The colleges where the future BBFI church leaders are trained are also affected by the changes.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tye-LW6FBVE>



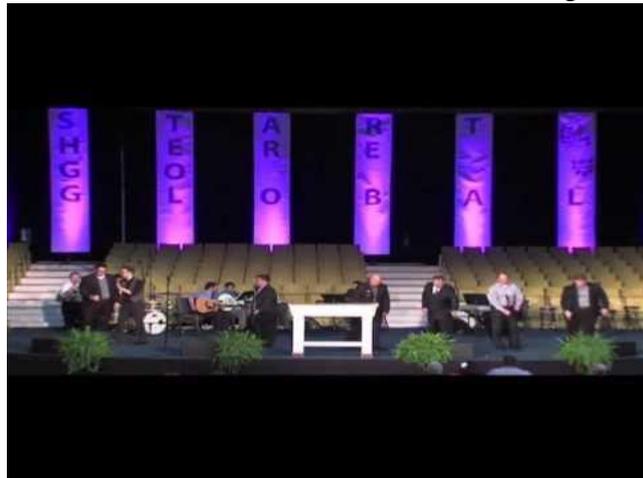
¹ <http://www.garbc.org/news/top-50-worship-songs-used-in-garbc-churches/>

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<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ANxFb13DYzs> - It is so true that how the schools go the churches soon follow. Here is a 2013 video of some BBFI “worship” pastors singing “Before the Throne of God”. Who is this person called a “worship” pastor? Where was he hiding in the 50’s and 60’s? Was this person the one we used to call the song leader!? Our supposedly independent Baptist churches seem to follow whatever fad comes on the scene whether it be titles, music, Bible version etc. as long as it brings in the numbers!



No, not all things new are bad but there should be some spiritual discernment used in the music we sing.

Who are the leaders in the BBFI allowing and following the change? For one is Eddie Lyons. Lyons is the president of the BBFI and pastor of High Street Baptist, Springfield, Missouri. This church used to be the flagship of the BBFI. High Street’s web page tells us “Worship is more than singing on Sunday morning. It’s all of your life. We work to connect you to God through music and turn your eyes and attention to Jesus. We are committed to giving God all of our devotion and inspiring others to do the same. High Street Worship is a team of musicians and live production volunteers that serve the church every weekend.”² See the emphasis; worship and music! Were we worshipping before worship leaders, drums, lights, praise bands, screens on the wall, etc came into the church?



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WF9bD6MVppg>

Now some will say “At least they are doing something” or “At least they are seeing people saved”! Listen, one does not need to know anything about music to know worldliness. What is taking place in once fundamental churches is what confronted Moses in Exodus 32:17-19 “*And when Joshua heard the noise of the people as they shouted, he said unto Moses, There is a noise of war in the camp. 18 And he said, It is not the voice of them that shout for mastery, neither is it the voice of them that cry for being overcome: but the noise of them that sing do I hear. 19 And it came to pass, as soon as he came nigh unto the camp, that he saw the calf, and **the dancing**: and **Moses’ anger waxed hot**...*” Sadly today’s leaders are not waxing hot against such worldliness in the name of WORSHIP. Music HAS BECOME AN IDOL! 1John 2:15 says “*Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him.*” CCM is the Devil’s key and he has used it to unlock the doors of many independent Baptist, GARBC and BBFI churches and sadly the leaders and people don’t seem to care.

² <http://www.highstreet.org/worship>