

A lot of songs in popular music of all times deal with the concept of love. Some titles that come to mind are "Don't Worry Baby", "Cherish", "My Girl", "Close to You", and my personal favorite, "Something".

We relate to these songs, and others in the same category, because they are saying what we think and feel. All these songs speak to our desire to be loved, to be valued, to have someone who will be right next to us all the time, especially in challenging times.

On a spiritual level, there are many songs that have been written about our love to Jesus for willingly going to the cross to die to pay the price for our sins. I think of hymns like "Blessed Redeemer" and "Calvary Covers It All" and "Jesus Paid it All". I think of contemporary songs like "10,000 Reasons" and "Love Song for a Savior" (Jars of Clay) and "In Christ Alone".

And as good as these songs and ideas are on a human level, both popular songs and hymns and gospel songs, the love of God surpasses these by a degree I can't even begin to describe. What I want to hear is Jesus' love song to us. That would be the best.

As is usually the case, Jesus doesn't do things the way we do, or the way we might expect. We put together all the ideas into a 3-4 minute package. Jesus expresses His love song to us across the Scriptures, in multiple places.

Consider Jer. 31:3, where God tells Jeremiah, "I have loved you with an everlasting love; therefore I have continued my faithfulness to you." He speaks this to Israel, after they have been brought back to Him after being unfaithful.

An everlasting love. Jesus is co-equal with the Father. He loves us with an everlasting love.

What does Jesus "sing" to us in the Gospels?

- A. Matt. 9:12: (Jesus' reply to Pharisees on his eating with tax collectors and sinners): But when Jesus heard this, He said, ***"It is not those who are healthy who need a physician, but those who are sick. 13) But go and learn what this means: 'I desire compassion, and not sacrifice' for I did not come to call the righteous, but sinners."*** His love song is to remind us that He came to heal those He knew were sick. He came for sinners. He came for us.

- B. His song tells us He loves us and how great His love for us is. John 15:13 says, **“Greater love has no one than this, that one lay down his life for his friends.”**
- C. In the space of one chapter, Jesus’ “song” shows how much He loves us by healing those who are in need.

Matt. 8:3b: ***I am willing; be cleansed.*** (leper)

Matt. 8:7: ***I will come and heal him.*** (Cent.’s servant—volunteers)

Matt. 9:2b: ***Seeing their faith, Jesus said to the paralytic, “Take courage, son; your sins are forgiven.***

Here, he doesn’t even wait to be asked. He “sees” the faith of the friends, and forgives

- D. He sings in John 13-17 of the relationship He longs to have with us.

John 13:8: If I do not wash you, you have no part with Me.

John 14:18: I will not leave you as orphans: I will come to you.

John 15:5: I am the vine, you are the branches; he who abides in Me and I in him, he bears much fruit, for apart from Me you can do nothing.

John 15:15: No longer do I call you slaves...but I have called you friends, for all things that I have heard from My Father I have made know to you.

John 15:16: You did not choose Me but I chose you

John 17:13-20: Jesus’ prayer to the Father re: his disciples

Jesus has sung us the best love song ever. He sings of the relationship He wants with us, of the challenges He knows we face that He will work out in us and for us. He comes to us, seeks us out, because He sees how great our need is. He sees our need and addresses it even before we ask Him to. How great is the love of Jesus for us. Seeing this, o wonder we have so many songs that express the love we have for Him!

Prayer: Father God, thank You for the great love show to us by Jesus, who sought us, met our need before we knew we had one, and died on the cross in our place to meet that need. In Jesus' name, Amen.