

Chapter 9. Scripture and Symphony Script to DVORAK: SYMPHONY NO.9 NOTES

MOVEMENT 1

God speaks to the heavens and the earth. What else is there? He offers solutions to our griefs. But first we should realize what our situation is: grief-filled.

“In the last days” – God’s plans are always for reconciliation – redemption – getting back to God. He always explains the plans. He speaks about the “house of Jacob”. Jacob was the father of Joseph in the Old Testament. God always gives special preference to those who honor him.

The zeal of the Lord will perform this. In God there is zeal – energy – purpose – a striving to perform his wondrous works. In the Psalms it says: Cast your burden upon the Lord, and He will sustain you.

Light is always better than darkness. Usually, the things that are described of being better, are connected with light. Why do we string up lights at Christmas? Jesus said he is the light of the world. The world just started doing the light thing without much consideration of why. It happens that way sometimes! The first thing God created was light. He did that on the first day of Creation. Jesus resurrected on the first day of the week. How would we notice how good light is if we never were in darkness?

A branch from Jesse: Jesse was the father of David. It is humorous to note that David played the harp, and yet, he slew Goliath. Not only slew him, but he was the only one who had the courage to confront him. He didn’t do it with his harp, but chose things that could do some damage. And they did. We may be like David. We may play an instrument. We know our God and his mighty power. Not everyone enjoys music enough to listen carefully to it. It can make us listen better. The world is full of noise. Every minute of our lives we are beset with noise. Very few really listen. There are beautiful sounds, and when we listen for them we hear with our souls.

MOVEMENT 2

A way back to God. Every black spot can be obliterated. Who can do that? That lifeless statue in the garden? That statue is still out in the dark at night. It does not look any different when the sun is up. Birds sit on it. God said, “I am the Lord. That is my name, and my glory will I not give to any other, neither my praise to graven images.” Many people think that this only refers to statues. A “graven” image is a man-made image. Pictures are also images and also films.

(Isaiah 25:1) O Lord, you are my God. I will exalt you. I will praise your name for you have done wonderful things. Your counsels of old are FAITHFULNESS AND TRUTH. Who can say that? Hasn't God shown his faithfulness to us? He is always there when we call. There is never a "busy" signal. Why does God remind us that He has been faithful from the beginning, starting with Jerusalem. He did not throw off his ties with the people who were his from the beginning. Christianity started in Israel. "He will be very gracious unto you at the voice of your cry. When he shall hear it, he will answer you. And your ears shall hear a word behind you, saying, "This is the way, walk in it." He never says sit still and do nothing. It seems he wants us to keep moving.

Make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Anyone knows that the quickest way to travel between two points is a straight line. If one wants to be with God, that person needs to find the quickest way, and it is Jesus.

One thing Jesus did not say: "Go and find a person who can explain what I just said to you."

MOVEMENT 3

Jesus said, "When you have lifted up the Son of Man, then shall you know that I am he, and that I do nothing of myself, but as my Father has taught me, I speak these things." Many church gatherings think "lifting up Jesus means to be loudly praising him" Jesus said this, speaking of his crucifixion. How do they do that? The person must lie on the cross while they pound in the stakes. Then they **lift up** the cross and the person. He is lifted up. Why does he refer to himself as "the Son of Man"? He is the first Son of Mankind – the first son inherits all things from the Father. Jesus inherited, willingly, the sins of the whole world. He also inherited the ability to call the end to his own life. No one killed him. He waited for the moment when he was to go to the Father, and he said "it is finished," and the Scripture said, "he gave up the ghost". Jesus also said, previously, that he has the power to lay his life down and the power to take it up again. "No one takes it from me. This command I received of my Father."

While the disciples were at the Passover Supper with Jesus, they ate that first. After supper he gave the broken bread and the "cup of the new covenant". Judas did not drink that. In three of the Gospels it is written that after supper Judas went out into the night. However, when Jesus gave the wine to the disciples, he said to them that he would not drink any more of the fruit of the vine until he drinks it anew in his Father's kingdom. The guards at the crucifixion offered him wine vinegar, and after he tasted it, he refused it. Wine-vinegar is vinegar, not wine. The Bible is very specific.

When Jesus said to the Jews who believed on him, "If you continue in my word". Only that would make them know the truth and it will make them free. Free of

what? Free from all of the laws and traditions of their past religious lives that were supposed to give them all they needed, and they would be free from condemnation. Jesus came to give a straight path to God – himself. “Continue” and “Word” are very important words. Jesus never said, “Now, I want you all to listen to Peter and John, and they will be able to tell you what I have said.” No. He said, “continue in my word.” Isn’t it great that God provided people to write everything down that Jesus said and did? Words are very powerful. Everyone is known by what they say.

MOVEMENT 4

Jesus is the “good shepherd”. Why not just “shepherd”? And furthermore, he is “**the** good shepherd”, meaning there is no other. Jesus said there will be one fold and one shepherd. The sheep are his to protect and lead to good pastures (He is the Way, the Truth, and the Life). Jesus said, “I am the good shepherd”. A hired shepherd, however, does not feel responsible for the sheep to the extent to be ready to die for them. Only one has done that. There is only one: Jesus.

Jesus states, plainly, he gives eternal life to his sheep.

The Son of Man should be glorified. I think “glorified” means “made evident” that he is from God.

I believe the words of Jesus are the words of light, so we can see we have eternal life that he provided. We need more and more of the words of Jesus, so we may believe more. He is the light of the world – his words are the lights that need to be turned on in us. Yes, study the Bible, read it, but everyday Jesus is the way.

I also believe we have memorized too much. We repeat the verses and know right where they are. We say them in a sing-song type of rhythm, dwelling on every word that Jesus spoke. His whole life was sharing everything about his Father to those with whom he was speaking. He said, “I do nothing of myself.” We, then, should not devise or imagine anything other than what Jesus told us. He said, “When you have lifted up the Son of Man, then you will know that I am He.” He was lifted up on the cross, and we all put him there.

The times of Jesus on the cross included the 6th hour when darkness covered the earth. Man was created on the 6th day, and he sinned on that day. On the 9th hour Jesus commends his spirit to the Father. That is three hours after the 6th hour. Can that be in reference to the 3rd day and his resurrection? These are just thoughts.

John 6:47-48

Jesus said, “Verily, verily, I say to you: He who believes on me has everlasting life. I am that bread of life.”

Karen Lak