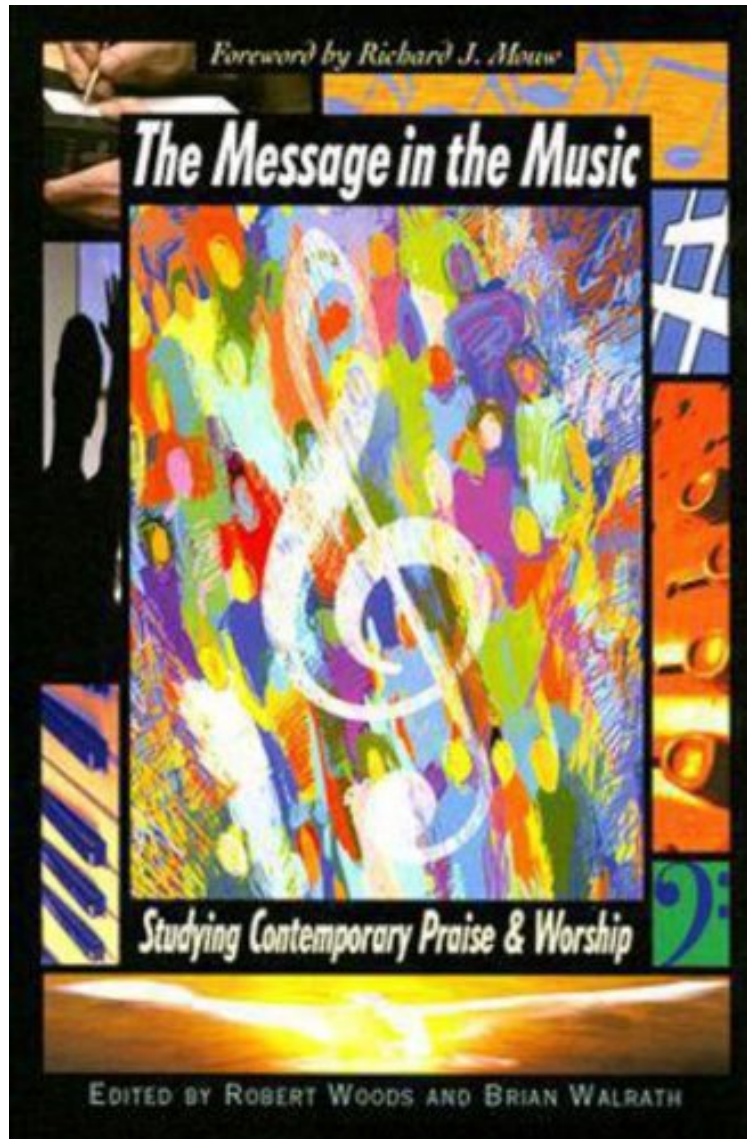


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## The Message in the Music: Studying Contemporary Praise and Worship

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**From Abingdon Press :** **The Message in the Music: Studying Contemporary Praise and Worship** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Message in the Music: Studying Contemporary Praise and Worship:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. This contents of this book should be studied and its ...By Neal WoodruffThis contents of this book should be studied and its contents updated often by every serious student of the

theology of congregational singing. Dr. Mark Frisius and Dr. Neal Woodruff carried some elements of this study to further dates. This data may be found at the Olivet Nazarene University Digital Commons: [http://digitalcommons.olivet.edu/musi\\_facp/2/](http://digitalcommons.olivet.edu/musi_facp/2/) What we have discovered to date is that the contents of the most popular songs sung in Christian churches shy away from clear doctrinal teachings (Trinity, God the Father, Holy Spirit, etc) in favor of a more genericized "I love Jesus" sentimentality. What is said about the atonement refers to Christ's substitutionary work on our behalf, but fails to ever express the Moral Influence part of atonement. IE, we are saved in this life, but only legally, and without practical, personal application. It may be that a steady diet of these popular congregational songs could lead one toward the early church heresy of Marcionism. This book, and subsequent investigation, should be carefully considered by pastors interested in teaching the whole counsel of God to their congregations. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. much needed discourse By Daniel Thornton Contemporary Congregational Songs (CCS) have had such a monumental impact on the global church over the last 40yrs, it's about time they were given this kind of attention. Especially referenced through CCLI data. I don't agree with some of the scholarship, but it opens the conversation... Excellent 8 of 9 people found the following review helpful. Balanced and Informative By Over the Hill This well edited publication put into words what I had often felt: something was missing or awry in our contemporary church music. The best part is that each author offered constructive criticism and suggestions. This should be in the hands of worship leaders and pastors across the country in all types of churches. What a gift to the Christian community!

The definitive guide to the meaning of today's most popular praise and worship songs. Few things influence Christians' understanding of the faith more than the songs they sing in worship. The explosion of praise and worship music in the last fifteen years has profoundly affected our experience of God. So what are those songs telling us about who God is? In what ways have they made us more faithful disciples of Jesus Christ? In what ways have they failed to embody the full message of the gospel? Working with the lists of the most frequently sung praise and worship songs from recent years, the authors of this book offer an objective but supportive assessment of the meaning and contribution of the Christian music that has been so important in the lives of contemporary believers.

About the Author Brian D. Walrath is Associate Professor of Music and Worship Arts at Spring Arbor University in Spring Arbor, Michigan. Robert H. Woods Jr. is Associate Professor of Communication and Media at Spring Arbor University in Spring Arbor, Michigan.