

Happy Day: Tim Hughes & Ben Cantelon (2006)¹

Visualisation: Polydirectional (PD) celebration

Analysis: Themes include Jesus, his & our resurrection, spiritual forgiveness, the parousia, and possibly the cross. I am unsure whether the greatest day is meant to be Nisan 15 (death) or 17 (resurrection), or perhaps stands for the multifaceted event. The song rapidly switches from Jesus to others—one might almost image that Jesus is told to sing and shout out his own triumph. It incorporates a famous happy day song, though changes it from the third person (he washed) to the second person (you washed). Not all Christians would call their conversion day happy (eg C S Lewis)—reluctant conversions occur—and theologically I think it's the spirit, not the lord, who washes away our sin. Of course for some it is a happy day, and there is a sense in which what the spirit does Jesus does, though the spirit tends to be unrecognised. Such aside, the main problem is the stanzas toggling between *to* Jesus and *about* Jesus, though it also tends to focus on my salvation rather than our salvation—why ask you to sing & shout about that?

Stanza 2 (place/face; peace/cease) rhymes better than stanza 1 (history/me; grave/day). Stanzas 1 & 2 mismatch addressee: S1.line1 & 2.1 are to Jesus; 1.2 is about Jesus, but 2.2 is to Jesus; 1.3 is to Jesus, and 2.3 might be; 1.4 & 2.4 are about Jesus.

Granted the focus being *to* Jesus,² the task is to change 1.2, 1.4, 2.4, to the second person, if convenient establish rhyme for 1.3, and possibly establish rhyme between 2.2 (mine) and 2.4 (alive) or remove rhyme from 1.2 (alive) and 1.4 (alive). The chorus & bridge may be left intact.

Suggestions: Replace *Sing it out Jesus is alive, by I can live now, you have come in time, you have won the day, by though you were a slave, Shout it out Jesus is alive, he's alive, by You are lord now, death you overcame, you're alive, Celebrate [pause] Jesus is alive, He's alive, by One with you forever we're alive, I'm alive.*

Result: *The greatest day in history, death is beaten, you have rescued me / I can live now, you have come in time / The empty cross, the empty grave, life eternal, though you were a slave / You are lord now, death you overcame, you're alive! / / When I stand, in that place free at last, meeting face to face / I am yours [and] Jesus you are mine / Endless joy, [and] perfect peace, earthly pain finally will cease / One with you forever we're alive, I'm alive.*

BAG	A	B	C	D	E	F	G ^{1,2}	H ^{1,2}	I	J ^{1,2,3}	K	L	M	Total	Grade
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	24	-	-	-	76	B

The greatest day in history, death is beaten, You have rescued me / Sing it out [pause] Jesus is alive / The empty cross, the empty grave, life eternal You have won the day / Shout it out [pause] Jesus is alive, He's alive / / When I stand, in that place free at last, meeting face to face / I am Yours [pause] Jesus You are mine / Endless joy, perfect peace, earthly pain finally will cease / Celebrate [pause] Jesus is alive, He's alive.

¹ www.praisecharts.com/songs/details/2702/happy-day-sheet-music

² The chorus & bridge are second person.

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A = Mixed Themes (-4); B = Incompleteness (-4); C = Archaism (-8);

D = Blessing God (-4); E = Buddy or Boyfriend (-4); F = Polytheism (-8); G = Voxdeism: Soft (-24), Hard (-48);

H = Unitarianism: Soft (-60), Hard (-72); I = Misdirection (-12); J = Misvisualisation: Soft (-12), Mid (-24), Hard (-36); K = Boasting (-8); L = Decontextualising (-8); M = Hermit Harakiri (-12)