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Dr. Lyle Anderson

October 18, 2013

- Jewel Maxwell: Thank you for joining Omega Mu, as we hold the second lecture of the Dr. J. Murray Murdoch Legacy Lecture Series. For those of you who aren't familiar with Omega Mu, it is the Cedarville University's chapter of Pi Sigma Alpha. Pi Sigma Alpha is the national honorary for political science students. Last year ... It's a smaller org because it is very difficult to actually get into the org, so we generally have somewhere between 7 and 12 students in the org. But we decided that it was important for us to be able to reach out to the campus community.
- Jewel Maxwell: And so through a couple meetings, we decided we would start this lecture series. And, really, the intent ... We came up with three purposes, or three reasons why we wanted this lecture series. First of all, to provide current students, and others that are new to the campus community, with a better understanding of Cedarville's unique history. Second, to honor faculty members who have served at Cedarville for more than 20 years. And then, finally, establish an event that recognizes Cedarville's historic commitment to being a campus where a biblical worldview is integral in every subject that is taught.
- Jewel Maxwell: And so with those goals, as we established the lecture series last year, we thought that it was important to also recognize Dr. Murdoch, who has served here since 1965, and has been integral in biblical integration, here at Cedarville. So, this lecture series started last spring, with Dr. Murdoch's lecture, and we will now invite one faculty member each semester who has served at Cedarville for more than 20 years, and ask them to reflect on their faith journey while serving here at Cedarville.
- Jewel Maxwell: So, thank you for joining us this evening. At this time, I'm going to turn it over to Andrew Travis, he's the President of Omega Mu, he's gonna open us up in prayer.
- Andrew Travis: Let's pray. Dear Lord, thank you for this opportunity that we have to come together to hear from Dr. Anderson about his time here at Cedarville. I thank you for the blessing he's been to so many students [inaudible] inspired them here at Cedarville. I pray that as we celebrate his time here, that your name will be glorified [inaudible] we pray, Amen. We'll now introduce Dr. Murdoch [inaudible].
- Murray Murdoch: Thank you very much. Thank you to Dr. Maxwell, to Omega Mu for this opportunity. I'm really excited to introduce our speaker this evening. He's got a lot of credentials, but he's one of my kids. He and his wife are both very dear to me, since they came to Cedarville. Dr. Lyle Anderson is Professor of Music; his wife, Connie, is the Assistant Professor of Pedagogy Piano. They've been here since 1970.

Murray Murdoch: And so, today [inaudible] these guys for a long time, but today I thought, "I better get some credentials [inaudible]." He has just done some amazing things for God and for Cedarville. He is the coordinator of choral studies, conducts the Concert Chorale, Men's Glee Club, and Vocal Arts Ensemble. He's an authority on choral conducting and speaks throughout the Midwest in many conferences and so on. He's a clinician, guest conductor throughout the Midwest.

Murray Murdoch: And since 1970, he has led 13 overseas ministries, and 60 concert tours here in our country. That's amazing, isn't it? That shows dedication beyond the classroom to the total ministry of this institution. He was honored as Cedarville's faculty member of the year in 1999. And I guess if I could just personalize a little bit; to me, the greatest thing about him is the way that he and his wife, Connie, have modeled godly living, not merely in the good times, they've had a lot of good times, but through some extremely difficult times, as well.

Murray Murdoch: A godly couple, a great joy to my heart, I'm privileged to know them. Most of all, to me, with all his accomplishments, I just consider him a very dear friend. Please join me in welcoming Dr. Lyle Anderson.

Lyle Anderson: Thank you so very much, Dr. Murdoch, and Dr. Maxwell, Omega Mu, and all of you friends here who have come tonight. I know you have other things to do, and so this is very precious to me to have this privilege. I really would be more comfortable doing this all night, but I'll try my hand at public speaking here a little bit more.

Lyle Anderson: Dr. Murdoch was my U.S. History prof. As a freshman, I came here from Des Moines, Iowa, and I soon learned that, by means of Dr. Murdoch's teaching, I was not in Grade 13. It jumped at least to 16 or 17 after high school. And I remember, I used to have to run home to find a dictionary after every class period to look up terms like, "noblesse oblige," and the "vicissitudes of life," and thank you for building my vocabulary wonderfully, Dr. Murdoch.

Lyle Anderson: We've shared some great times with your two boys, as well, and, Ruth, we appreciate you so dearly. Their son, Jim, was our host and showed us all around New York City when my wife did some graduate study at Columbia University, so he was a valuable tour guide for us and a tremendous young gentleman.

Lyle Anderson: It's hard for me to know where to start and where to stop, too. This has been overwhelming to think through 44 years of teaching here, and then four years prior to that as a student. But although my career track has been exclusively in the field of music, I thought for the benefit of you political science majors I would just do a little name-dropping here.

Lyle Anderson: As a little boy, I actually said, "Hi, Mr. President" to Dwight D. Eisenhower, and he looked down at me and said, "Hi," like that. Here's the hero of World War II and the President of the United States, and I'll never forget that moment, along with a lot of other vignettes throughout a lot of time.

Lyle Anderson: I'm a great Abraham Lincoln fan, I have been, life-long, so I'm trying to build a rapport with those of you who are history and political science majors, especially. My father-in-law, Ed Clark, who now lives in Washington state with his wife Amy, was in the Navy, and he was stationed in the office of Admiral Chester Nimitz in Pearl Harbor. And so that was another aspect of history and of my gratitude to him for his life-long love of our country. My dad also served in the Navy; both my dad and my mother are now in Heaven. My parents-in-law, as we mentioned, are out in Washington state.

Lyle Anderson: But there are two things that I think some of you will really, especially, be happy about, and that is that my wife, Connie, and I are great fans of Band of Brothers and Downton Abbey. And I know that's pretty common among the entire milieu of Cedarville University, but especially among our political scientists.

Lyle Anderson: Growing up years. I was blessed to grow up in a fine, committed Christian family. None of my relatives had gone to college, back in Des Moines, Iowa; neither were they especially musical. They could hold a tune and sing at church in an audience kind of way, congregational way. But the one thing they did that started me off on my musical odyssey was to provide piano lessons for my older brother and myself.

Lyle Anderson: And someone donated a huge upright piano, painted pink, to us as a family, and it sat in our little dining room, which was kind of slanted through the years, the floor went down like this. Thirteen keys didn't play, but who's counting? It was the beginning of my musical career, in a way. I've always loved to sing, although my mother told me that I couldn't carry a tune, until I started piano lessons. And that changed everything, for sure.

Lyle Anderson: My coming to Cedarville as a student was under the auspices, or under the encouragement, rather, of my minister of worship, Mr. Jack Payne, who, later, many decades later, became a colleague, a faculty peer in our Music Department. I remember him giving us exercises, my little fingers were kind of double-jointed, so we'd go over to the wall and do push-ups against the wall to build strength here for that. But he implanted in me the concept of music plus ministry. He scheduled me to play the piano for our church. I played for funerals; I played at the Union Gospel Mission often, in downtown Des Moines.

Lyle Anderson: So, all these things were a part of my upbringing, and I'm extremely grateful to them, and to Jack Payne as well as Mr. Steve Bolt, who was a Cedarville University graduate, and he's the one who said, "Lyle, you ought to try going to Cedarville for a year." I said, "Okay," I'd been accepted at Drake University, but I said, "All right, I'll do that." And so we came out here to Ohio, and we've been here ever since, not only in studies, but as a faculty member.

Lyle Anderson: Through the encouragement of the university, Dr. Warren Webber, the Chair of the Music Department at that time, and Dr. David Matson, who was my voice teacher, concert choir teacher, music history teacher, they approached me in my sophomore year here and said, "What would you think about the possibility

of teaching music theory here sometime?" And I had always wanted to be a high school music teacher, but that really resonated with me, and I thought, "I could see myself in a collegiate setting, someday, way down the road." Well, the university graciously provided my tuition to go to Ohio State for a year, four quarters, for my Master's degree. And I'll be eternally grateful to them and to Mr. Kenneth St. Clair, who just went to glory a few days ago, as many of you know.

Lyle Anderson: It continues to be an extreme and extraordinary blessing to teach students of this caliber. It's amazing how much I have learned from you. And it's awesome to think that God has given me a position of responsibility, and I desperately want to be worthy of that calling, and encourage you not only academically and artistically, but, also, to mentor you and to pray for you. I have a little sign in my office that some of you may have seen, "The teacher who does not pray for his students has no right to teach them," and that's a solemn reminder to me to have all of my students firmly in my prayer life.

Lyle Anderson: It continues to astound me as to how I received the greatest blessing of my life, beyond salvation, and that is my dear wife, Connie. As you can tell, I definitely married up. She has been by my side through all of these years. I first met her, just very fleetingly, in Spokane, Washington, when the traveling quartet representing Cedarville College, at that time, worked our way all the way to the West Coast, and we sang in her church.

Lyle Anderson: And then a couple years later, she matriculated at Cedarville, as well, and she won the Talents for Christ competition in piano, and she was designated as my accompanist for my voice lessons. And maybe you think I wasn't thankful, I was incredibly thankful, not only for her musicianship, but what blossomed into a wonderful life together these 42 years.

Lyle Anderson: Our first date, in case anybody's interested, was right after my senior recital. We took an exotic venturesome trip over to Xenia, Ohio, to an A&W root beer stand, and had a root beer float together, that was our first date. We've done a few more exciting things than that since then. She is a Proverbs 31 woman, and she manifests that every day of my life. I could not have done this without her encouragement and without her love through these many, many years.

Lyle Anderson: Tonight, I'm especially glad, also, to have our daughter, Lori Hoffeditz, who is here, along with Jenna and Josiah, the two youngest of our five grandchildren. Their daddy, and Lori's husband, David, is with a tour in Greece and Turkey at this very moment, biblical tours, ancient tours, and he's showing everybody all of the churches mentioned in the book of Revelation, and all the missionary journeys of Paul, and so, obviously, he couldn't be here tonight.

Lyle Anderson: Our son, Eric Anderson, is in his 16th year as Minister of Worship at College Park Church, over in Indianapolis, and he has a marathon Thursday, every Thursday, in preparation for the church activities in that very active and powerful godly

church. And so his wife, Heather, is also a grad of Cedarville, as is Lori and our son, and David. They have three daughters, 12, 11, and 8.

Lyle Anderson: Music and ministry. The public nature of music ministry is humbling. Oftentimes, people start talking about talents, and if it happens to be public, such as athletics or music, it tends to get too much shrift because every single one of you is endowed with God's gifting and talents, and some are more conspicuous than others, to be sure, but all are for the glory of God.

Lyle Anderson: And with this, we try to make His praise a glorious thing, as musicians. It's not about us, we are the means by which God may choose to bless people's lives, may use the Holy Spirit to prompt others to respond to the Gospel or to grow in their Christian pilgrimage. It's humbling, and it's scary, those of us in the arts would all agree that we want to be, again, transferring any public notoriety to our great God and Savior.

Lyle Anderson: Under Cedarville's MIS program, our family began a ministry, I'll get to the college students here real quick. In 1982, we did 70 ministries in public schools, street corners, shopping malls, churches, in Australia; our son was eight at that time, our daughter was six, and that planted the seeds of service for all of us. It continued to grow for Connie and me, but for our children, they grew up with musical, ministry, inextricably woven together.

Lyle Anderson: Our daughter is currently a professional counselor, Christian counselor in Indianapolis, and we mentioned what our son does in his Christian vocation. But we can see how those experiences helped develop their affinity for the professional fields that God has placed them in.

Lyle Anderson: There is no greater joy than to know our children walk in truth and to know that our grandchildren are walking in truth, as well. Little Josiah, age four, claimed Christ as his Savior just a couple of weeks ago, at his instigation. He talked to his mommy and daddy and said that he wanted to know Jesus, he wanted to go to Heaven. And that is, for us grandparents and parents, the tops.

Lyle Anderson: Musical ministry. For 10 years, our family gave over 500 concert ministries in foreign countries, as well as around the entire United States, including driving up the Alcan Highway to Alaska. Every one of those experiences shaped who we are, and reminded us that God can use music anywhere at any time, it doesn't have to be some official concert, it can be an impromptu singing in a hotel lobby to virtually anywhere.

Lyle Anderson: We thank God for creating music as a means of praise and worship for him. Dr. Murdoch mentioned our Chorale, our Glee Club, Vocal Arts Ensemble, and all the other touring groups represented by our department. And, by the way, I would be remiss not to thank the stellar incredibly gifted faculty colleagues that I am privileged to work with, thank you so much for your input into my life; I'm

challenged by you every day, and your stewardship and your love for the Lord, it really, really shows, and I know our students would echo that, dramatically.

Lyle Anderson: A couple of things about our domestic tours. These have nothing to do with ministry, as such, but I thought you might like to know that through all of these years of touring, the angels of God have been encamped 'round about us on all of those buses, as we've gone from Maine to Colorado, and every place in between.

Lyle Anderson: In Philadelphia, for example, coming down a huge hill, the driver turned around and looked at me and said, "I've lost my brakes. I've lost my air," and we're going full speed, with 55 students on board, and down at the bottom of this hill is traffic that's going back and forth all the way across. And I said, "Lord, help us," that was my prayer. And do you know that as we came down to the bottom of that hill, and of course gained a lot of speed with all of that weight, there was just a little break in the traffic, and we said, "Thank you, Lord, to God be the glory." That's just one.

Lyle Anderson: One time, after we got off of the bus, out in Maine, the driver started taking off, and the back wheel fell completely off the bus. These are big Greyhound-like things. And then one more, about five years ago, driving between Lafayette, Indiana, and Indianapolis the angels were very, very active. Our driver, I noticed, was having a little trouble keeping the bus in his lane, coming down I-65. We had a carload of students behind us because they had to get back to Cedarville and had to provide their own transportation for that.

Lyle Anderson: Well, needless to say, I usually doze off or do book work or something in that front seat, opposite the bus driver. And I kept thinking, "Okay, he'll pull it back now. He'll pull it back, right?" And he just kept going, kept going towards the median, and, honestly, I jumped from here to there, and grabbed the wheel, he had passed out. He woke up, he said, "I'm all right, I'm all right, I'm all right." Not too many people touring have had that experience. I don't recommend it, but I wanted to say that because so many miles are traveled by our smaller groups, our larger groups, and the angels of God truly are kept busy in that regard, and we give Him, again, all the glory and praise.

Lyle Anderson: All right, just a few highlights from some of those international tours that were mentioned. In the Czech Republic, the first time we went overseas, in 1995, there were 55 of us that year. We sang in a variety of places, even on the airplane, we couldn't do that in this generation, but they found out we were a choir and they said, "Sing something," so we sang on the long flight overseas.

Lyle Anderson: The flight crew asked us, as we got off of the plane, in Prague, "Where is your first concert?" And they all showed up. The flight attendants, the captain, co-pilot, and others, and there's a large crew, as you know, on international flights, so that warmed our hearts, and we were able to testify through music and personal testimonies that were interpreted for the audience in Saint Nicholas(?)

Cathedral. If you want to see a picture of it, drop by my office sometime, it's a stunning venue, as many places in Europe are.

Lyle Anderson: One of our members led our hotel clerk to saving faith in Jesus Christ on that tour. So, we all learned to be instant, in-season, out-of-season, upfront, or witnessing to the Prague Children's Choir around dinner, they divided us all up, and every single one of those kids heard the Gospel through our members. So, those are the types of things that you can't put into words. The ministry, in a concert setting, is one thing, but we had the privilege of doing so much more than upfront testifying.

Lyle Anderson: You'd be interested to know, maybe, that, in France, we had eight of our guys have to jump off of the bus, in their tuxedos, in order for us to make it to our concert venue, which was a large church, I think it was the American Cathedral, in Paris. The streets of Paris are real narrow. Well, there was a car parked there, like T-shaped, and there was no way that this huge bus could get by. I looked at the bus driver, he looked at me, and he said ... We jumped off of the bus, we lifted that car, in our tuxedos, up onto the curb, and we made it on time to our ministry.

Lyle Anderson: Okay, another venue, I'm just going to mention a few of these, we won't get through all 13 of them, but, Thailand, we had the opportunity to hear and sing with a prison choir, led by a quite professional choral director, and, that, we will never forget. You know what, in that country, they have prisons associated with the offense of each of those who are incarcerated. So, we went to this prison, that was exclusively for drug abusers, dealers, people who were in prison for that reason.

Lyle Anderson: We sang with that prison choir, and it made it on national TV in Thailand. And the next day, walking around Thailand, Bangkok, people were saying, "Oh ..." you know, they point, they had seen us on TV. So, all of these things, no one could have scripted in our itinerary, but they happened, and, once again, reminding us that music ministry is not always up on a stage, such as this, it's wherever the Lord provides the opportunity.

Lyle Anderson: As you know, a lot of history is learned on tours. We will never forget standing in the very gas chambers in Auschwitz and Birkenau that took thousands of lives. We did no singing there. We spent three or four hours learning all about that. And talk about an object lesson, something that we will never forget, that was certainly mind-boggling to us. In Scotland, we got to sing in the same church in which John Knox ministered. And it was a blessing, each and every place we sang.

Lyle Anderson: I've asked one of our fine music students, Michael Wood, to assist me, and we'll just see a few photos, and I'll try not to get too verbose, that's another word I learned from you, Doc. With each of these, showing other highlights from ministry and music, this is what it's all about.

Lyle Anderson: Well, that's an old LP. The one standing in the middle, this is at John Bryan State Park, by the way, where we had our picture taken. That was me, about 100 pounds ago, right there. And another LP, as soon as we got back from Australia, we had the opportunity to make this recording, we jumped in the car and drove to Springfield, Missouri, and produced this treasured memory.

Lyle Anderson: And I want you to see the verse down here that we have adopted as our own family verse, we have it in our home, we refer to it all that we can. From Joshua 24:15, "As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord." And we trust that will always be true, even though the kids are out of the "house" now; they come back often. But it is a joy to mix music and ministry together, it's been a way of life for us.

Lyle Anderson: All right, Michael, thank you. Brazil, we took two MIS teams to Brazil. Some of you may recognize Jay LaBlanc, holding the microphone out there in front of him, one of our grads, of course all these are our grads. David Hoskins, who goes to church at Southgate, where we worship. And this is in a shopping mall, you see the escalator going up behind. And we had to learn 13 songs in Portuguese. [Singing Portuguese] ... That was John 3:16, and we sang that at every possible opportunity. We've sung in Swahili, Hebrew, not necessarily on MIS ministries, but elsewhere. And this is just one of those places that God allowed us to minister.

Lyle Anderson: A small church there, Cedarville Singers, the sign was as big as the church, do you see? Hope Baptist Church [speaking Spanish, just to give you a little flavor of that. And, of course, there was a lot of interaction before and after our public ministries; we had the opportunity to witness and to proclaim Christ, and they always, of course, enjoyed trying out their English on us, too, in the process.

Lyle Anderson: It was more than singing and doing puppet ministries. We did the story of Daniel, and then the fiery furnace, and Nabucodonosor, by the way, is the equivalent of Nebuchadnezzar, in case anybody's interested, in Portuguese. In addition to singing, we, at this camp, poured concrete for the roof; that, again, is Jay LaBlanc hauling this wheelbarrow full of wet cement up a very precarious plank, as you can see. That's David Hime right behind him. So, it's all of the above: music, ministry, and whatever we're called upon to do.

Lyle Anderson: This is in England, we were singing there, in a wonderful local church in Swinden. About 10 of our members did not make this picture because we came across some things, staying in a hostile hostel, came down with some illness the night before, but we were able to still drive down there and do this particular ministry.

Lyle Anderson: Gazebos, all a part of the ministry locations. This is at Oxford University, in one of the chapels there. An audience came in, we were not doing a public performance as such, but we were touring the university, and they said, "Oh, you're a choir? Please sing, please sing," and so they didn't have to twist our

arms, with acoustics like that, in a country which highly prizes choral music, as you know.

Lyle Anderson: This is in front of Chartres Cathedral, where we sang on Easter Sunday morning. These cathedrals, unless you see them up close and personal, you just can't believe it. And the crowd, they come, they go, they listen, they move on, and so that was just another France experience, it's about 50 miles outside of Paris. This is the hotel in which we were staying in Paris, and they asked us to do something down in the dining commons area there, which we gladly obliged them with.

Lyle Anderson: Another larger church there, in France. And one of these churches had a foot-washing ceremony, and several of our students participated in that, it was a very meaningful, humbling kind of experience, of course to show the example of Christ washing feet, and the Chorale sang as they were doing that. Another unique experience for us.

Lyle Anderson: This is in Beijing, China, the equivalent of their Lincoln Center over there. It's right next door to the Communist Party Headquarters, and we went in there and sang everything that we knew from our theological base, and it was a remarkable experience. Then we had the opportunity to sing together ... whoops, one back, thanks ... with the Beijing Conservatory Choir. They wanted to do a spiritual with us, and so we did Elijah Rock, some of you know that Moses Hogan arrangement, and that was a phenomenal experience.

Lyle Anderson: And, of course, we had to sing one in their language, too, we had the music in advance, but that was a challenge, it was called The Herding Song, as in sheperd, and all of the nuances of that language were just extraordinary, but they seem to think it passed, in terms of our pronunciation, and we'll never forget that experience. It's the Forbidden City Concert Hall, by the way, it's what it's called.

Lyle Anderson: And on a trip to ... this same trip, China and Thailand together, we went with Steve Green and did several ministries with him, at the Hong Kong Baptist University. Jumping ahead real quickly here, for time's sake, I'm sorry. This is Poland. And when we finished one song there, we looked out, and the audience was just weeping.

Lyle Anderson: For those of you who were part of the Master Works Concert last year, remember Va' Pensiero? [singing Italian]. Well, that brought back so many memories from their suffering during World War II, the older folks, that they just all started to weep because that was like Amazing Grace to them. It showed them just what God had preserved them through.

Lyle Anderson: And then another little venue, likewise, in Poland. Walked into that sylvan setting here, and sang the Gospel, once again. Notice we traveled with a nine-foot concert grand, right there in the middle. Carting that around cobblestone

streets and ... there's a special reward in Heaven for all of those students who helped with this. This is Kevin Yvonne(?) at the keyboard, he is recognized as one of the top 25 organists in America, he just got a magazine article about him this past week.

Lyle Anderson: The thing that really touches our hearts is to know how many of the students who went on those MIS ministries, two to Brazil, two to England, and then all of these international tours, how many of them are in ministry today, it absolutely warms our hearts every time we stop and think about it. As full-time vocational missionaries, as pastors, as teachers, on foreign soil, in Russia. I remember Jenny Mitchell... I've got her last name incorrect now ... Jenny, who is currently in Russia serving, she went on the Czech Republic tour, and that planted a seed in her life, and it's very gratifying to see all of the byproducts, the joys of how God can use these musical/ministry experiences.

Lyle Anderson: Here we are, 300 feet underground, in the salt mines, carved out very opulently, including the chandeliers, down in the salt mines, it's a huge setting, and the acoustics there were quite favorable, too, you might imagine. It was in Poland.

Lyle Anderson: And just a sample tour from the Ireland tour, just to show you some of the pieces, maybe that's too small to read, but we tried to sing the whole counsel of God. And that is one of the chief ways that I, as a musician, can practice biblical integration, selecting music that is first and foremost based upon the absolute pitch of the word of God. Representing several styles, sure, but the best we tried to rehearse and refine so that we could make His praise glorious.

Lyle Anderson: Now, this is way more material than we'll get through, there are over 700 references to music in the scriptures. We're not going to go through all of them tonight, just a few that pertain especially to the area of music-making, spiritually. One of my favorite verses, Colossians 3:16, and I think one facet of this verse is something we often overlook: the admonitional aspect of making music: teaching and admonishing one another. Praise, yes, of course, but teaching us. There are times when we hear music that we should be weeping in contrition for how the text has grabbed us.

Lyle Anderson: Singing with grace in our hearts, not just about the Lord, but remembering that he's in every audience that we'll ever sing in front of. I like to envision him, personally, in one of the seats in whatever venue we are ministering in. Our heart has to be right in order to make this work, and God honoring, Psalm 108:1.

Lyle Anderson: 1 Corinthians 14:15, I love how the Scripture puts praying and singing in the same verse, "I will pray with the spirit, I will pray with the understanding, also. I will sing with the spirit, and with the understanding, also." Is it possible to do one without the other? Yes, it surely is. So, this is a good admonitional verse for us in music. We want to not park our brain just because of the emotional nature of music-making. It's possible to start singing all kinds of heresy and everybody gets blessed with a warm heart and good feelings. And so that's the kind of

thing we always want to guard against in our music selection and planning, technically.

Lyle Anderson: Well, as Jay Elton Trueblood once said, he's an older theologian, "Holy shoddy is still shoddy." And we all are prompted every day, around this place, to present our best sacrifice of praise to God continually. "Singing forth the honor of his name, trying to make his praise a glorious thing," there's several verses, including Psalms 66:2, that quote that. Play skillfully with loud noise; so, instrumentalists, you're not off the hook for sure, either.

Lyle Anderson: And then this next passage is a little longer and, again, it might be too small, but all the Levites who were musicians, remember a lot of them were not, but they were the priestly order in the Old Testament, "Asaph, Heman, Jeduthun and their sons and relatives stood on the east side of the altar, dressed in fine linen, and playing cymbals, harps, and lyres. They were accompanied by 120 priests sounding trumpets." Anybody here in the Brass Choir? Don't have 120 trumpets, do you, quite?

Lyle Anderson: I love this, "The trumpeters and singers joined in unison, as with one voice, to give praise and thanks to the Lord. Accompanied by trumpets, cymbals, and other instruments, they raised their voices in praise to the Lord, and sang," this is their text, ""He is good, his love endures forever." Then the temple of the Lord was filled with a cloud, and the priests could not perform their service because of the cloud, for the glory of the Lord filled the temple of God."

Lyle Anderson: The Holy Spirit had transformed that worship setting, and, by the way, the occasion here was the dedication of Solomon's temple; this is when all this actually happened. And we had the joy of going to Israel in June, and not seeing the original temple, obviously, but the setting and the model of it, and that's the wonderful thing, that God brings all of this and makes it connect in so many wonderful ways.

Lyle Anderson: Spiritual, technical, attitudinal. Serve the Lord with gladness. Sometimes rehearsals can get pretty tedious, laborious, very tiring. But we keep our eyes set upon serving the Lord with gladness, and I always remind myself and our singers, players, that the Lord comes to rehearsals, too.

Lyle Anderson: "I will sing of your love and justice, I will sing praise, I will be careful to lead a blameless life." I love that phrase coming right on the heels of encouraging us to make melody in our hearts to the Lord. A blameless life. See, we don't want to negate our testimony by looking wonderful in public, sounding hopefully wonderful. If our personal lives are shouting much louder than those wonderful texts that we're singing.

Lyle Anderson: And, thirdly, this is David, the instant when he was looking for a place to build an altar, and the man named Araunah, in the Old Testament, said, "Here, just take this threshing floor, it's perfectly laid out, and, look, it's yours." And he said,

"No, I appreciate it, but I will not offer to the Lord that which costs me nothing." He knew the importance of sacrificing, and that's the kind of thing that we counted all joy to do in rehearsals. We might work for three months on a piece of music, and do it once, perform it publicly once. But we've had the benefit of having that take root in our lives, textually, emotionally, we get to spend a lot of time with it.

Lyle Anderson: And one of the greatest joys in my whole life in music has been the way that God brings texts back to me. You have had the same experience with fragments of a hymn that just comes out of nowhere and it fits the situation you're in, perfectly, that's the Holy Spirit. And so much Scripture can be memorized if we're singing Scripture, or paraphrases of it. We just can't thank the Lord enough for that uniqueness, as we deal with choral music.

Lyle Anderson: And then, of course, one verse that applies to every one of us, regardless of our academic discipline, "Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart as working for the Lord and not for men." If I were to choose a life verse, or one of many life verses, this particular one, Psalm 43, would be it. "He has put a new song in my mouth, a hymn of praise to God, many shall see and fear and shall trust in the Lord." Interesting phrase in various versions of the Scripture. Can the Lord see my song? May he always be able to see the song of our life, honestly portrayed, in terms of our relationship with him. We can hear songs, yes, but our very lives are, in some respects, a song in and of themselves. "May Christ be seen in us," Psalm 43.

Lyle Anderson: Would you join me in singing one of my favorite hymns? Because it's all about God's faithfulness. I'm astonished and astounded and humbled to think how he's led me and our family through several decades of attempting to serve him, minister for him, through the field of music. Sing with me, would you, please?

Lyle Anderson

Great is Thy faithfulness
O God my Father
There is no shadow of turning with Thee
Thou changest not
Thy compassions they fail not
As Thou hast been
Thou forever will be

Great is Thy faithfulness
Great is Thy faithfulness
Morning by morning new mercies I see
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided
Great is Thy faithfulness
Lord unto me

Lyle Anderson: And the last verse

Pardon for sin
And a peace that endureth
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside

Great is Thy faithfulness
Great is Thy faithfulness
Morning by morning new mercies I see
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided
Great is Thy faithfulness
Lord unto me

Lyle Anderson: My testimony. Thank you very, very much. ... I don't want to impose upon your time beyond the allotment here, but if there is an interest in a little Q&A, as Mike Huckabee said, "Questions & Avoidance," I'd be happy to oblige you if something comes to mind, or else you can ask me personally, obviously any time. So, anyone, a quick question? I guess that will do it, then. Dr. Maxwell.

Jewel Maxwell: All right, well, thank you all for coming tonight. Let's go ahead and close in a word of prayer. Heavenly Father, we thank you that we can just come here tonight and just hear Dr. Anderson's testimony, hear how you worked in his life, as well as the life of so many students that he's had an opportunity to reach out to. We're thankful for Cedarville University, and where it stands, as it stands in your word, your truth, Lord. We're thankful for Dr. Murdoch and his continued service here, as well. And we would just ask, Lord, as we leave here tonight, we do recognize your faithfulness, we recognize that you're the one who gives us the gifts and the talents, the abilities, and that you just deserve all the honor in all that we do. We pray all these things in Jesus name, Amen. Thank you.