J. S. BACH: THE GOOD LORD OF INFLUENCE
Agenda

- Thesis
- Three main points
  - Educational opportunities
  - Career positions
  - Religious beliefs
- Summary
- Questions
J. S. Bach’s educational opportunities, career positions, and religious beliefs influenced and completed his excellent compositional style.
Educational Opportunities

Fleischgasse
- Inspired musical creativity
  - Hymnal pictures

St. George’s School
- Introduced music ensembles
  - Chorus *musicus*
Educational Opportunities

Ohrdruflf *Lyceum Illustre Gelichense*

- Provided foundational experiences
  - Vocal music
  - Keyboard music
Educational Opportunities

St. Michael’s School

- Provided practical experience
- Provided extensive exposure
  - Written scores
  - Live performances
Educational Opportunities

Family Influence

- Father’s teachings
  - Keyboard
  - Violin
- Uncle’s influence
Career Positions

Arnstadt and Mühlhausen

- Exposure to various genres
  - Instrumental music
  - Vocal music
- Exposure to live performances
Career Positions

Weimar

- Duke Wilhelm Ernst
  - Sacred music
- Ernst August and Johann Ernst
  - Secular music
Career Positions

Cöthen

- Ability to travel
- Ability to express
Career Positions

Leipzig
Early Years

- Sacred music
  - Cantor at St. Thomas’s church
- Secular music
  - Director of *Collegium Musicum*
Career Positions

Leipzig

Later years

- Final statement
  - *Art of Fugue*
Religious Beliefs

- Unification of faith and music
  - *St. Matthew’s Passion*
  - *Christ lag in Todesbanden*
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