

WHAT'S IN A SONG?

By Sally Campbell



Ancient of Days (Though the Nations Rage)

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The world finds itself in a never-ending cycle of banding together to fight a threat for the preservation of life and returning to fight against each other once that threat is gone. A quick internet search revealed that from 1900 to 1999 there were 281 conflicts, civil wars, global wars, and rebellions.

Some of those conflicts continue today. This information would suggest that there are generations in some countries who have lived their entire lives amid military conflict. A further study reveals that many of these conflicts came about for reasons fueled by someone's pride and anger, forcing the mass population to be unknowing, or unwilling participants in a personal vendetta.

Every year we take a moment to remember and honour our veterans for the great price they paid for all of us to remain free. And every year another war rages. The reality of our division could not be any clearer.

"Why do the nations rage and the people plot a vain thing?"¹ the Psalmist asks in the second chapter. It is an interesting question about the efforts of folks to rage against God and strive for his undoing... *selah*²

With the power of global connection and 24-hour news services, rage has become the default of our contemporary world. Valid reasons for that abound, but rampant discontent would suggest we are seeking something. I can only address my own discontent, so I must look inward. The more I come to understand the nature of God, the closer I come to understanding my own need to draw closer to him. I have learned that if I choose God as my Ancient of Days, I need not live in a state of constant fear and anxiety. Instead, there is an anchor even in the storm. I have witnessed his leading in my life and eventually, I will arrive at his dwelling³. What joy that will be!

In our modern culture we seek to evolve and move on, but often we find ourselves returning to the old ways to get ourselves out of the mess we're in. Perhaps it serves us well to consider the actual success rate of our attempts at quieting our souls through modern amenities. The soul is as ancient as the one who made it.

One of God's names in scripture is Ancient of Days⁴. This song is a gentle reminder that God is in control, even in a world gone mad. He knows how it all plays out, and he has promised to guide us through it. I trust him to lead, choosing to walk in the shadow of his love and protection. He has allowed for sadness and sorrow to prevail, but when I walk with him, I see that there is joy even when the journey of life becomes weary.

**None above him, none before him
All of time in his hands
For his throne, it shall remain and ever stand⁵
All the power all the glory, I will trust in his name
For my God is the Ancient of Days**

¹ Psalm 2:1-3

² Hebrew – Pause, think about it

³ Psalm 84:1-2

⁴ Daniel 7:9

⁵ Psalm 45:6