

On a Hymnsong of Philip Bliss

David R. Holsinger (ASCAP)

Complete Band Instrumentation

1 - Full Score	2 - 1st Eb Alto Saxophone	2 - 1st Trombone
8 - Flute	2 - 2nd Eb Alto Saxophone	2 - 2nd Trombone
2 - Oboe	2 - Bb Tenor Saxophone	2 - 3rd Trombone
3 - 1st Bb Clarinet	1 - Eb Baritone Saxophone	2 - Baritone Treble Clef
4 - 2nd Bb Clarinet	3 - 1st Bb Trumpet (Cornet)	2 - Baritone Bass Clef
4 - 3rd Bb Clarinet	3 - 2nd Bb Trumpet (Cornet)	4 - Tuba
3 - Bb Bass Clarinet	3 - 3rd Bb Trumpet (Cornet)	1 - Timpani (Db & Ab)
2 - Bassoons	4 - 1st & 2nd F Horns	4 - Percussion
		Triangle, Suspended Cymbal, Bass Drum, Crash Cymbals, Snare Drum

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ABOUT THE MUSIC . . .

Horatio G. Spafford, a Chicago Presbyterian layman and successful businessman, planned a European trip for his family in 1873. In November of that year, due to unexpected last minute business developments, he had to remain in Chicago; but he sent his wife and four daughters on ahead as scheduled aboard the S.S. Ville du Havre. He expected to follow in a few days. On November 22, the ship was struck by the Lochearn, an English vessel, and sank in twelve minutes. Several days later the survivors were finally landed at Cardiff, Wales, and Mrs. Spafford cabled her husband, "Saved Alone." Shortly afterward Spafford left by ship to join his bereaved wife.

It is speculated that on the sea near the area where it was thought his four daughters had drowned, Spafford penned this text with words so significantly describing his own personal grief, "When sorrows like sea billows roll..." It is noteworthy, however, that Spafford does not dwell on the theme of life's sorrows and trials, but focuses attention in the third stanza on the redemptive work of Christ. Humanly speaking, it is amazing that one could experience such personal tragedy and sorrow as did Horatio Spafford and still be able to say with such convincing clarity, "It is well with my soul..."

Hymnwriter Philip Paul Bliss was so impressed with the experience and expression of Spafford's text that he shortly wrote the music for it, first published in 1876. Bliss was a prolific writer of gospel songs throughout his brief lifetime and in most cases, he wrote both the words and the music. This hymn is one of the few exceptions.

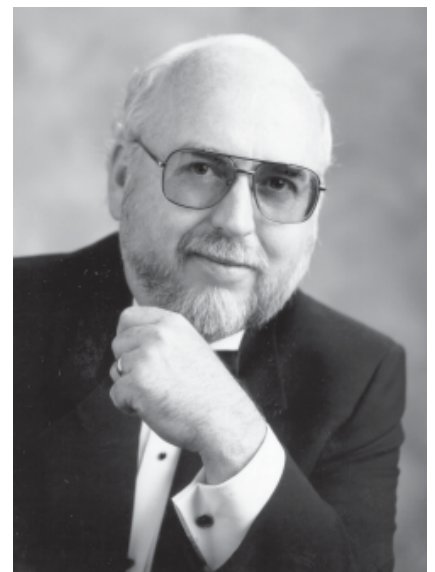
There is speculation that this was perhaps the last gospel song written by Bliss. Bliss and his wife, Lucy, were killed in a train wreck in Ashtabula, Ohio, on December 29, 1876. Most sources mention that Bliss actually escaped from the flames at first, but was then killed when he went back into the train to try to rescue his wife. Neither body was ever found.

As a postscript, Bliss' trunk was salvaged from the wreckage, and in it, evangelist D. W. Whittle found an unfinished hymn, which began, "I know not what awaits me, God kindly veils my eyes..."

ABOUT THE COMPOSER . . .

Having served 15 years as Composer in Residence to Shady Grove Church, Grand Prairie, Texas, award winning composer David R. Holsinger now resides in Cleveland, Tennessee, near Chattanooga, where he is Director of the Lee University Wind Ensemble.

Holsinger was born in Hardin, Missouri, December 26, 1945. He received his education at Central Methodist College, Fayette, Missouri, Central Missouri State University, Warrensburg, and the University of Kansas, Lawrence. He is an elected member of the American Bandmasters Association. Holsinger has been honored with an honorary doctorate and the Gustavus Fine Arts Medallion, from the Gustavus Adolphus College in Minnesota. Recent honors include the Distinguished Music Alumni Award from Central Missouri State, CIDA's 1999 Director of the Year Citation, and Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia's Orpheus Award from Epsilon Gamma Chapter.



ON A HYMNSONG OF PHILIP BLISS

Score

(for Steve Edell, from the band)

David R. Holsinger (ASCAP)

Freely, with expression (♩ = 76-80)

Musical score for 'On a Hymnsong of Philip Bliss' by David R. Holsinger. The score is for a band and includes parts for Flute, Oboe, 1st B♭ Clarinet, 2nd B♭ Clarinet, 3rd B♭ Clarinet, B♭ Bass Clarinet, Bassoons, 1st E♭ Alto Saxophone, 2nd E♭ Alto Saxophone, B♭ Tenor Saxophone, E♭ Baritone Saxophone, 1st B♭ Trumpet, 2nd B♭ Trumpet, 3rd B♭ Trumpet, 1st & 2nd F Horns, 1st Trombone, 2nd Trombone, 3rd Trombone, Baritone, Tuba, Timpani, and Percussion (Tri., Sus. Cym., B.D., C.C., S.D.). The score is in 4/4 time and features a tempo of 76-80. The key signature is B♭ major. The score is marked 'Freely, with expression' and includes dynamics such as *p* and *div.*. A large watermark for TRN Music Publisher, Inc. is overlaid on the score, with the URL <http://trnmusic.com>.

9

Fl. *mp*

Ob.

Cl. 1 *mp*

Cl. 2 *mp*

Cl. 3 *mp*

B. Cl. *mp*

Bsns. *mp*

A. Sax. 1 *mp*

A. Sax. 2 *mp*

T. Sax. *mp*

B. Sax. *mp*

Tpt. 1 *Hn. mp*

Tpt. 2

Tpt. 3

Hns. *Soli (1st Hn.) mp*

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

Tbn. 3

Bar.

Tba. *mp*

Timp. *9 p*

Perc. *l.v.*

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Fl. *rall.* **17** *a tempo* *mf*

Ob. *rall.* *mp* *rall.* *mf*

Cl. 1 *div.* *unis.* *rall.* *mf*

Cl. 2 *rall.* *cresc.* *mf*

Cl. 3 *rall.* *cresc.* *mf*

B. Cl. *rall.* *cresc.* *mf*

Bsns. *cresc.* *a2* *rall.* *mf*

A. Sax. 1 *rall.* *cresc.* *mf*

A. Sax. 2 *rall.* *cresc.* *mf*

T. Sax. *rall.* *cresc.* *mf*

B. Sax. *rall.* *cresc.* *mf*

Tpt. 1 *rall.* *a2* *mf*

Tpt. 2 *rall.* *mf*

Tpt. 3 *rall.* *mf*

Hns. *cresc.* *rall.* *a2* *mf*

Tbn. 1 *rall.* *mf*

Tbn. 2 *rall.* *mf*

Tbn. 3 *rall.* *mf*

Bar. *p* *rall.* *mf*

Tba. *rall.* *mf*

Timp. *rall.* *mf* **17** *a tempo*

Perc. *S.Cym.* *rall.* *mf* *L.v.* *p* *mf*

Fl.

Ob.

Cl. 1

Cl. 2

Cl. 3

B. Cl.

Bsns.

A. Sax. 1

A. Sax. 2

T. Sax.

B. Sax.

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Tpt. 3

Hns.

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

Tbn. 3

Bar.

Tba.

Timp.

Perc.

24 Subito: slightly slower

mf

f

p

24 Subito: slightly slower

mf

f

p

24 Subito: slightly slower

f

l.v.

p

mf

The musical score for page 7 is arranged in a standard orchestral layout. The instruments and their parts are as follows:

- Flute (Fl.):** Rests throughout the page.
- Oboe (Ob.):** Rests throughout the page.
- Clarinets (Cl. 1, 2, 3):** Play a melodic line starting in the second measure. The first clarinet has a *rall.* marking at the beginning, and all three have *rall.* markings at the end of the phrase.
- Bass Clarinet (B. Cl.):** Plays a rhythmic accompaniment. Includes a *p* marking and an *a2* (second octave) marking.
- Bassoon (Bsns.):** Plays a rhythmic accompaniment. Includes a *p* marking.
- Saxophones (A. Sax. 1, 2, T. Sax., B. Sax.):**
 - A. Sax. 1 and 2: Rests until the final measure, then play a melodic phrase. Includes *p* and *rall.* markings.
 - T. Sax.: Plays a melodic phrase starting in the second measure. Includes a *p* marking.
 - B. Sax.: Plays a melodic phrase starting in the second measure. Includes a *p* marking.
- Trumpets (Tpt. 1, 2, 3):**
 - Tpt. 1: Rests until the final measure, then plays a melodic phrase. Includes *rall.* and *p* markings.
 - Tpt. 2 and 3: Rests throughout the page.
- Horn (Hns.):** Rests until the final measure, then plays a melodic phrase. Includes *rall.* and *p* markings.
- Trombones (Tbn. 1, 2, 3):** Rests throughout the page.
- Baritone (Bar.):** Plays a melodic phrase starting in the second measure. Includes a *p* marking and a first ending bracket (*1.*).
- Tuba (Tba.):** Plays a melodic phrase starting in the second measure. Includes a *p* marking.
- Bassoon (Bsn.):** Plays a melodic phrase starting in the second measure. Includes a *p* marking and the instruction "one player".
- Timpani (Timp.):** Rests until the final measure, then plays a short melodic phrase. Includes *rall.* and *p* markings.
- Percussion (Perc.):** Rests throughout the page.

The score features a large, diagonal watermark in the center that reads "TRN MUSIC PUBLISHER, INC." with the website address "http://trnmusic.com" below it.

31 Tempo I

Fl.

Ob.

Cl. 1 *p*

Cl. 2 *p*

Cl. 3 *p*

B. Cl. *p*

Bsns. *p*

A. Sax. 1 *p*

A. Sax. 2 *p*

T. Sax. *p*

B. Sax. *p*

31 Tempo I

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Tpt. 3

Hns. *(p)*

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

Tbn. 3

Bar.

Tuba a2

31 *p* Tempo I

Timp. *p*

Perc. *p* Trgl. l.v. l.v. l.v. l.v. l.v. l.v. l.v. l.v.

Bsn. ^σ *p* one player

42 Faster (♩ = ca. 100)

The musical score is arranged in a standard orchestral format with the following parts:

- Fl. (Flute)
- Ob. (Oboe)
- Cl. 1, 2, 3 (Clarinets)
- B. Cl. (Bass Clarinet)
- Bsns. (Bassoon)
- A. Sax. 1, 2 (Alto Saxophones)
- T. Sax. (Tenor Saxophone)
- B. Sax. (Baritone Saxophone)
- Tpt. 1, 2, 3 (Trumpets)
- Hns. (Horn)
- Tbn. 1, 2, 3 (Trombones)
- Bar. (Baritone)
- Tuba
- Timp. (Timpani)
- Perc. (Percussion)

Key performance markings include *cresc.*, *f*, *a2*, *all*, *p*, and *somewhat marcato*. The score features a large watermark for TRN Music Publisher, Inc. and a URL: <http://trnmusic.com>. The percussion part includes *l.v.*, *S.Cym.*, *p*, *Cr.Cyms.*, and *B.D.* markings.

Broaden greatly

50

Fl.

Ob.

Cl. 1

Cl. 2

Cl. 3

B. Cl.

Bsns.

Broaden greatly

50

A. Sax. 1

A. Sax. 2

T. Sax.

B. Sax.

Broaden greatly

50

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Tpt. 3

Hns.

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

Tbn. 3

Bar.

Tba.

Broaden greatly

50

Timp.

Perc.



(♩ = ca. 66) 57 Slowly, with expression

The musical score is arranged in a standard orchestral format with parts for:

- Flute (Fl.):** *f~mf*
- Oboe (Ob.):** *f~mf*
- Clarinets (Cl. 1, 2, 3):** *f~mf*
- Bass Clarinet (B. Cl.):** *f~mf*
- Bassoon (Bsns.):** *f~mf*
- Saxophones (A. Sax. 1, 2, T. Sax., B. Sax.):** *f~mf*
- Trumpets (Tpt. 1, 2, 3):** *f~mf*
- Horns (Hns.):** *f~mf*
- Trombones (Tbn. 1, 2, 3):** *f~mf*
- Baritone (Bar.):** *f~mf*
- Tuba (Tba.):** *f~mf*
- Timpani (Timp.):** *f~mf*
- Percussion (Perc.):** *f*

Key markings and instructions include:

- Tempo: *(♩ = ca. 66)*
- Performance instruction: *Slowly, with expression*
- Measure numbers: 57
- Dynamic markings: *f*, *mf*, *p*
- Watermark: ETN MUSIC PUBLISHER, INC. <http://etnmusic.com>

64 a tempo

FL.

Ob.

Cl. 1

Cl. 2

Cl. 3

B. Cl.

Bsns.

A. Sax. 1

A. Sax. 2

T. Sax.

B. Sax.

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Tpt. 3

Hns.

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

Tbn. 3

Bar.

Tba.

Timp.

Perc.

rall.

p

64 *a tempo*

64 *a tempo*

p

64 *a tempo*

rall.

p

p

64 *a tempo*

p

rall.

p

64 *a tempo*

p

rall.

p

rall.

p

rall.

p

rall.

p

rall.

p

rall.

p

rall.

p

64 *a tempo*

p



