

## FOREWORD

BAPTIST HYMNAL is the work of a committee of thirty-seven men and women from all sections of the Southern Baptist Convention. From the beginning it was determined that the committee would compile a flexible hymnbook suited to all types of churches, services, and needs of the denomination. Also, it was desired that the hymnal be designed especially for congregational singing.

Genuine effort has been made to preserve the many hymns and gospel songs which have been so meaningful to the worship, education, and evangelistic activities of Southern Baptists through the years. With the exception of attractive new hymns, all have become standard through successful use and the endless testing of time.

Included in the hymnal are complete indexes of authors, composers, tunes, meters, topics, first lines and titles, doxologies, responses, benedictions, and a comprehensive selection of responsive readings complete with its own topical and scriptural indexes. Dates of birth and death of authors and composers have been given as well as other pertinent information. Tune names appear on all hymns and gospel songs, many having been named for the first time in this book. *Amens* have been included only on the hymns where text and tune make them compatible.

Convention Press acknowledges with grateful appreciation the kind co-operation of individuals and publishers who have granted permission for the use of their copyrighted hymns in *Baptist Hymnal*. An earnest effort has been made to ascertain the copyright status of each hymn included. Should there be any inclusions without proper permission and credit, Convention Press will upon notification, gladly make the necessary corrections in subsequent editions.

Convention Press is greatly indebted to committee members for their many months of unselfish service in compiling the hymnal. Subcommittees on contents and topical index, words

and theology, tunes, and responsive readings made outstanding contributions and are due highest commendations. With the editor serving as chairman, the committee consisted of the following:

Theodore F. Adams	Forrest H. Heeren	Fred G. Scholfield
Clifton J. Allen	Clifford A. Holcomb	Samuel Shanko
Warren M. Angell	T. Luther Holcomb	Genter L. Stephens
Claude U. Broach	Harold E. Ingraham	James L. Sullivan
Herman F. Burns	W. D. Kendall	Noble Van Ness
George W. Card	Paul McCommon	Keith Von Hagen
Martha Moore Clancy	W. Plunkett Martin	G. Allen West
Howard P. Colson	Ruth Nininger	Jerome O. Williams
J. Marvin Crowe	Russell Newport	John H. Williams
William J. Fallis	William J. Norton	Loren R. Williams
Allen W. Graves	William R. Pettigrew	J. Campbell Wray
J. D. Grey	William J. Reynolds	Kyle M. Yates

The editor is particularly indebted to Loren R. Williams, William J. Reynolds, Novella D. Preston, and Alta C. Faircloth, who have comprised his editorial staff and who have contributed immeasurably to many editorial phases of the book.

W. HINES SIMS, Secretary  
Church Music Department  
Sunday School Board

A close reading of the names listed above, on the committee reveals individuals who are theologically conservative, and include pastors, professors of music, seminary professors, members of the Sunday School Board, and others who have long been faithful guardians of the church's doctrine. I immediately recognized several names listed; some I had a close association with, either as a Seminary Professor, or as one with whom I had a close association with at Ridgecrest. My Dad knew many of these personally, and worked along side of several, on the Sunday School Board.

They are serious-minded individuals who were carefully chosen for their faithfulness and sensibilities for what

constitutes good sacred music as opposed to pop music.  
Because such care has been taken to produce a good hymnal,  
you can trust it far more than you could ever trust a “worship  
leader.”

-Rev. Joe Hughes