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The child goes over and sits at the piano. He spreads out his hands and starts crashing them down on the keys. It sounds horrible! It gives you a headache. Quickly you try to end this onslaught on your ears. The problem is: discordant sound waves are not pleasing to our ears or to our psyche.

Remember your high school science class that talked about oscillating sound waves? As long as those oscillations are in sync with each other (think of the various keys on a piano) they won't crash together and sound discordant. Thus, the blending together of different notes that have the same oscillations creates harmony to the human ear. And harmony is pleasing to the inner psyche.

Discord comes in many forms. Right now we're seeing the politics of discord, harsh words, and nasty demeanor emanating from Washington, D.C. As a result the nation is unsettled. If you're stuck in a traffic jam and someone starts car horns blaring, discord reigns and assaults our eardrums. It also leaves you feeling uptight when you finally arrive home. I've noticed how my blood pressure goes up when traffic on Route 62 is loud during rush hour but when it's quiet early on Sunday morning I feel relaxed and calm. Discord is not a good thing for us physically or emotionally.

When God made the world it was all in complete harmony with itself. Animals got along, the climate was calming, and humans were at inner peace with themselves and with God. Then sin came along and discord was introduced. It shattered the harmony and introduced cacophony on every level.

One of the great things about going to church each week is that we're treated to a harmonious rest for our ears and for our souls. Traditional Christian music shies away from discord tones and notes with the occasional exception of certain Good Friday selections. But have you ever noticed that literally all Christian music ends with chords that resolve in harmony? That's because in Christ everything ultimately resolves in harmony. Hence, the music reflects the theology. (As to what this says about much modern music that is discordant throughout, I'll leave you to draw your own conclusions. But I think it's pretty clear that people who "enjoy" discord in music don't have much harmony in their lives.)

God is all about harmony. Everything finds completeness in Him, after all: "God is love." True love is not and does not seek discord. Christ's passion and Easter are the ultimate stage for discord losing out to harmony. The betrayal of Jesus by Judas in Gethsemane is jarring and unsettling. The mock trial before the High Priest and Jesus being denied by Peter is awful. The God of all creation being condemned by a prissy, arrogant hack like Pilate is unsettling and jolts any sense of justice. Then there's the cross with its roughness and the nails with their hardness. And finally comes death, the death of God's Son. Discord reigned

supreme on Good Friday. Discord appeared to have won out over harmony and resolution. The stone being rolled over the tomb's entrance oscillated the sound waves all the way to heaven itself with a dull yet shrieking roar.

But, then comes Easter. The stone is rolled back with a new shuttering earthquake. But this earthquake doesn't bring death, it brings life! Christ walks out of the tomb! He lives! God has restored harmony to the pinnacle of His creation: humankind. God has conquered discordant death by raising our Surrogate to life! He has proclaimed to all creation—including Satan and his minions—that His love, mercy, and forgiveness reign in eternal supremacy. The result is: the women are overjoyed, the disciples are joyously dumbfounded, and humans of every generation breathe a huge, harmonious sigh of relief! Yes, we **can** be saved. Yes, we **have been** saved. Yes, we **are** saved by Christ's victory over death!

This Easter season take time to listen to how all the music pieces at church end in harmonious resolution. Note how it makes you feel positive and happy and blest as you walk out of church. All that is a reflection of how God restored our harmonious balance with Him through Christ on Easter.

Music reflects theology, or how you understand the world you live in; and theology shows itself in and through music. And it all must end with resolution. For Christians that means: heaven; because God is all about loving harmony and not cacophonous conflict. Hallelujah to that!