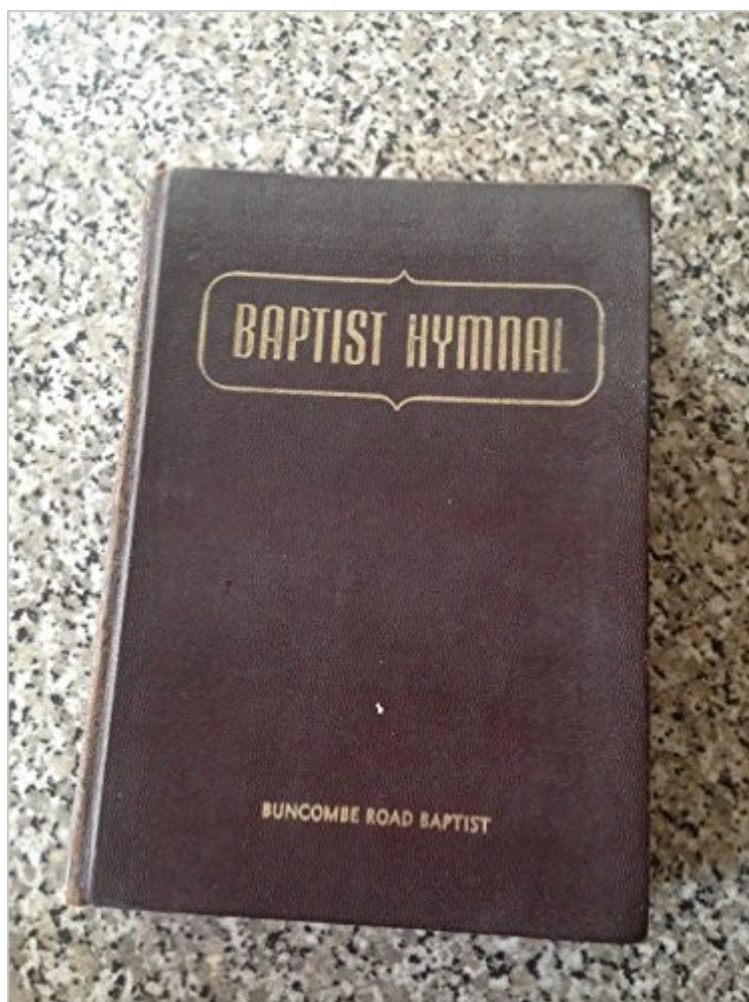


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Baptist Hymnal



Synopsis

Baptist Hymnal, 1956, edited by Walter Sims. Hardcover with 566 pages, published by Convention Press.

Book Information

Hardcover: 566 pages

Publisher: Convention Press; 19th print edition (1956)

Language: English

ASIN: B000V1D212

Product Dimensions: 8.3 x 6.2 x 1.4 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.6 pounds

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (32 customer reviews)

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Customer Reviews

This 1991 hymnal is meant for Baptists. If you are not a Baptist, especially Southern Baptist, you may not like this hymnal. Yet, this hymnal has retained the best-loved hymns in the Southern Baptist hymnic tradition, but has broadened the repertoire to include well-loved hymns from other denominations. Theologically, the hymnal is a bit contradictory, which I believe shows disagreement within the Baptist tradition concerning Arminianism ("I Have Decided to Follow Jesus") versus Calvinism ("Not What These Hands Have Done"). The language updates are a bit conservative concerning the "thees" and "thous," yet it does not foist inclusive language at the expense of theology and poetry. The musical arrangements are traditional so they lend themselves well for 4-part harmony. The hymnbook is arranged in an almost church-year format, which is a welcome addition. In short, this hymnal is thoroughly conservative yet modern.

Don't get me wrong... I thoroughly enjoy the selection of songs in this hymnal, both old classics and new contemporary, but it's missing some of my favorites from childhood for some reason or another... such as: Almost Persuaded, Another Day is Dawning, Bring Them In, Bringing in the Sheaves, Let the Lower Lights Be Burning, Every Day With Jesus, Thanksgiving, Our Best, His Way With Thee, Where We'll Never Grow Old, Jesus Loves Even Me, Peace, Be Still!, Must I Go and Empty-Handed, The Haven of Rest, O Holy Night, The Unclouded Day, Seal Us O Holy Spirit, Some Sweet Day, Take Me As I Am, That Will Be Glory For Me, The Light of the World is Jesus, The Lord

Bless Thee and Keep Thee, Sweet Peace the Gift of God's Love, We Three Kings, While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks, Why Do You Wait, Work for the Night is Coming All of those listed are MIA (missing in action), and they're GREAT hymns! If not for these exceptions, it would have received a 5 out of 5 from me... Maybe on the next update/version they will add these back in? Who knows?

The Baptist Hymnal contains not only all of the wonderful old standards, but contains many of the more recent hymns or Christian Songs. It also contains an excellent section of responsive reading. This hymnal is by far the most thorough in Christian Music.

This book was in excellent shape and brought back a lot of memories from my youth. Why churches these days don't use hymnals nor sing these beautiful hymns anymore is beyond me. I for one would like to see them come back.

I grew up in the south, the son of a Baptist preacher father. Every Sunday we sang the old hymns from the The Baptist Hymnal. I had been missing these beautifully written and inspired songs, especially one like "The Old Rugged Cross", "In The Garden" and "How Great Thou Art". So I purchased the Hymnal. Now, I have all of these glorious hymns at my fingertips. If you are a gospel music lover like me, I highly recommend this wonderful collection of some of the most beautiful hymns ever written.

When you have sixteen million members in your denomination, your churches and parishioners constitute such a vast market that you don't have to be bound by the rule of thumb a pew hymnal should last 25 or more years. Thus the Southern Baptist Convention has released and endorsed (but not mandated) new hymnals in 1956, 1975, 1991, and 2008 - roughly every 17 years. I own the 1991 version and am happy with it. It is very much a Southern, and a Southern Baptist, hymnal but has some modern numbers in it, too. The book measures six by nine inches and has plenty of selections in it, but is not too thick and is easy to handle. About two-thirds of the hymns in it were retained for the 2008 hymnal of the same name, and for many of the remaining two hundred-odd I must admit it was probably time to go. For example, this hymnal has three consecutive tune settings to "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name": `DIADEM,' `CORONATION,' and the much less used `ST. MILES': surely this is overkill? The hymn is in Common Meter and all sorts of tunes will work, but why three? Apparently the '91 hymnal was the height of color options - eight in all, but I must tell you (trust me) that the turquoise is more of a Nineties teal. Still, it's a keeper, if only to see how further

editions evolve. I have also reviewed the 2008 BAPTIST HYMNAL and overall liked it a little better.

Every home needs a good Baptist (or other denominational) hymnal. All the hymns we learned growing up are there. Sometimes I open mine randomly and just start to play on our piano whatever hymn comes up. Then I do it again. And again...

I was raised in a Southern Baptist church and this is just like the hymnals at church, which is what I was looking for. For someone like me who can't get to church very often due to health problems, it is a great thing to have.

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