

LYING TO GOD

Back in college I used to belong to a campus Christian group called Inter-Varsity Christian Fellowship. I still recall a talk which one of the staff workers gave on hymnology, the singing of hymns. He said something that jolted me. He said Christians probably tell more lies to God singing hymns than at any other time.

For example, we sing, "I surrender all." The question is, have we? Have we truly surrendered everything in our lives to the Lordship of Christ? If we haven't then we're lying to God. I've heard congregations sing, "We fall down and we worship you Lord." When was the last time you saw a congregation fall on their knees before the Lord? Or, how easy it is to sing *Onward Christian Soldiers*, and yet we are anything but soldiers for Christ. How few Christians have battle scars from hand to hand combat with evil. Jesus and the disciples cast out demons. How many Christians do you know who are willing to go head to head with Satan? I've worked in psych hospitals with Satanists and encountered demonization multiple times. I remember the first time a real demon manifested itself, it scared the daylights out of me, but then I discovered that as I used the name of Jesus and the Word, the demons would obey me. My fear went down and my faith and courage went up. I still find dealing with the demonic distasteful, but I no longer run from it. I now see demons more like little playground bullies. They talk big and bluff a lot, but they run for the hills if you resist them, which is exactly what the Bible says: Resist the devil and he will flee.

The next time you're singing a hymn, if you come across some words you can't sing without lying, then please stop singing. Singing lies to a holy God is anything but true worship.