"Cross Connection"
Radio Ministry of Hope Wesleyan Church and Wells of Salvation Ministries
Ultimate Oldies Radio – FM 97.7 and 101.5, Huber Heights, Ohio

Series: Christian Messages In Secular Music 10/16/07

Program 3 – **"Are You Ready"** Pacific Gas and Electric

From album of the same name released in 1970 – this song reached #14 nationally for Pacific Gas and Electric. The band included guitarist Glenn Schwartz, who earlier had left the James Gang after becoming a Christian.[1] His testimony and influence are readily apparent in the lyrics to "Are You Ready".

There's rumors of war
Men dying and women crying
If you breathe air, you'll die
Perhaps you wonder the reason why
But wait! Don't you worry
A new day is dawning
We'll catch the sun, and away we'll fly...

- An end-time prophecy (Matthew 24:6) "You will be hearing of wars and rumors of wars. See that you are not frightened, for those things must take place, but that is not yet the end" NASV
- Pollution, global warming, etc.

Are you ready to sit by His throne?
Are you ready not to be alone?
Someone's coming to take you **home**
And if you're ready, then He'll carry you **home**

We enter eternity when God's church is raptured, or when we cross over at death – See 1 Cor. 15:50-52
How does one get ready? Are you ready = have you put your faith in Jesus Christ for salvation?

Note that the lyrics capitalize pronouns to signify Deity

- In this physical life, believers in Christ are away from their real home. An old song says it well…

"This world is not my home, I'm just a-passing through
My treasures and my hopes are all beyond the blue…

Oh Lord, You know I have no friend but you
If Heaven's not my home, Oh Lord what will I do?
The angels beckon me from Heaven's open door
And I can't feel at home in this world anymore"[2]

People say that He won't come
And I don't know what say you
But if He should, would you be the one?
I've got a little question I'd like to ask you

Are you ready to sit by His throne?
Are you ready not to be alone?
Someone's coming to take you home
And if you're ready,
then He'll carry you home

- The Bible says this will occur in the last days! *"…in the last days scoffers will come… They will say, "Where is this 'coming' he promised? Ever since our fathers died, everything goes on as it has since the beginning of creation…The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise…He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance"* -- 2 Peter 3:3-4, 9 NIV

[1] http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pacific_Gas_%26_Electric_%28band%29
[2] "This World Is Not My Home", Albert Brumley and Mary Reeves

Brothers and sisters, I have many
Stumbling along to do their thing
Love is a song, it's better than any
It's better for music, it's easy to sing

(Chorus repeats several times,
With added descriptions of Heaven)…

Are you ready? (Yes, I'm ready)
I've got to know, yeah (Yes, I'm ready)
Gonna be sunshine again (Yes, I'm ready)
And the flowers growing (Yes, I'm ready)
Children playing (Yes, I'm ready)
Gonna be all right (Yes, I'm ready)
You've got to be ready (Yes, I'm ready)

- Our lives are aimless – free floating without anchor when we don't trust in God for direction. He has a purpose for each of us!
- *"The steps of a good man are ordered by the LORD: and he delights in his way"* – Psa. 37:23
- *"Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will direct your paths"* -- Proverbs 3:5-6

"…There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain…" – Revelation 21:4
"…there will be no night there…" – Rev. 21:25
"…Now the dwelling of God is with men, and he will live with them" – Revelation 21:3

Final Thoughts:

The great American poet Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, lamenting the chaos, killing and destruction during the Civil War, wrote:

And in despair I bowed my head;
There is no peace on earth," I said;
For hate is strong,
And mocks the song
Of peace on earth, good-will to men!

Composed by Longfellow on Christmas Day, 1864[3]

One only needs to look at today's headlines to know that the world still desperately needs peace. No matter how much we desire peace, the world will not see or know true, lasting peace until the Prince of Peace, Jesus Christ, "carries us home". Until then, Christians feel away from home. The Psalmist said, *"I am a stranger on earth"* (Psalm 119:19). The "heroes of the faith" in Hebrews 11:13 *"…admitted that they were aliens and strangers on earth".* And Peter addresses his first letter *"…To God's elect, strangers in the world…"* – 1 Peter 1a, NIV.

When you surrender your heart and life to Jesus Christ, and ask Him into your life, you immediately become a new citizen of Heaven, and you sense a longing for your true home. As Pacific Gas and Electric so powerfully queried over the secular airwaves – are **you** ready to sit by His throne? Never to be alone again? If you are, someday He **will** carry you to your true home with Him!

"Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. ***I go to prepare a place for you.*** *And if I go and prepare a place for you,* ***I will come again and receive you to Myself****; that where I am, there you may be also."* – John 14:1-3 NKJV

[3] http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/I_Heard_the_Bells_on_Christmas_Day