

Sing to Him a New Song: Early Christians in the Midst of Myths of Competing Culture

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A New Song in My Mouth:

Early Christians in the Midst of
Myths of Competing Culture

Psa. 40:3



Clement of Alexandria,
AD 150–211/215

Born in Athens

Active in Alexandria 180-202

Fled to Cappadocia 202

Last heard alive 211

Confirmed dead by 215



Orpheus Representing Christ in Early Christian Catacomb Art
SS. Marcellinus and Peter, 4th c.

Orpheus in Roman Literature

Ovid, *Metamorphoses*, AD 8

Virgil, *Georgics*, 29 BC

Boethius, *Consolation of Philosophy*, AD 524



Great Library at
Alexandria, c. 323 BC
Famous for attracting the
top minds of
The Ancient World

EXHORTATION
TO THE HEATHEN
(Protrepticus)



Clement of Alexandria

Protreptikos:

from the Greek word "to persuade"

Many references to SONG in the Bible:

The Lord is my strength and SONG (Exo. 15:2; Psa. 118:14)

References to NEW SONG in the Old Testament:

Sing to Him a NEW SONG (Psalm 33:3)

He has put a NEW SONG in my mouth (Psa. 40:3)

Sing to the Lord a NEW SONG (Psa. 96:1; Psa. 98:1; Psa. 149:1; Isa. 42:10)

I will sing a NEW SONG to You, O God (Psa. 144:9)

References to NEW SONG in the New Testament:

And they sing a NEW SONG, saying: You are worthy to take the scroll and to open its seals, for You were slain and have purchased for God by Your blood men out of every tribe and people and nation (Rev. 5:9)

And they sing a NEW SONG before the throne and before the four living creatures and the elders;
and no one could learn the song except the one hundred and forty-four thousand who have been purchased from the earth (Rev. 14:3)

TRANSFORMATIVE POWER

RESURRECTION POWER

EXPRESSIVE POWER

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