

ST. PAUL

An Oratorio
For Full Chorus of Mixed Voices
And Soprano, Alto, Tenor, and Bass Soloists

By
Felix Mendelssohn

BOISE JUNIOR COLLEGE CHOIR

C. Griffith Bratt, Director

Featured Soloists

Dr. Charles Fisher, Baritone -- (Saul) St. Paul
Helen Cain Schloffman, Soprano
Ralph McFarlane, Tenor
Nancy Loughrey, Alto

Other Soloists

Jim Anderson, Gary Keyser, Basses;
Jerry Hall, Tenor; Barbara Bratt, Soprano

BOISE JUNIOR COLLEGE AUDITORIUM

April 24 and 25, 1958

8 P. M.

PART I

Chorus - "Lord, Thou Alone Art God"

Chorale - "To God on High Be Thanks and Praise"

Recitative and Duet - "And the Many That Believed"

Chorus - "Now This Man Ceaseth Not"

Recitative and Chorus - "And All That Sat in Council"

Air - "Jerusalem, Thou That Killest the Prophets"

Recitative - "Then They Ran Upon Him"

Chorus - "Stone Him to Death"

Recitative - "And They Stoned Him"

Chorale - "To Thee, O Lord, I Yield My Spirit"

Recitative - "And the Witnesses Laid Down Their Clothes"

Chorus - "Happy and Blessed are They Who Have Endured"

Recitative and Aria - "Consume Them All"

Recitative and Arioso - "But the Lord is Mindful of His
Own"

Recitative and Female Chorus - "As He Journeyed Near
Damascus"

Chorus - "Rise! Up! Arise!"

Chorale - "Sleepers, Wake, A Voice is Calling!"

Recitative and Aria - "O God, Have Mercy"

Recitative - "And There Was a Disciple Named Ananias"

Solo and Chorus - "I Praise Thee, O Lord, My God"

Recitative - "And Ananias Went His Way"

Chorus - "O Great is the Depth of the Riches"

ARGUMENT

PART I

The persecuted Christian Church in Jerusalem prays to the Lord for Power to resist the fury of the Heathen.-- Stephen is accused of blasphemy by the incensed people, and is brought before the Council.--Being questioned by the High Priest, he reproves his judges for the obstinacy with which they and their fathers have rejected the true faith, and resisted the Holy Ghost.--They refuse to hear him, and insist upon putting him to death.--Heeding not the reproof that Jerusalem had ever killed the Prophets which had been sent to her, they shout "Stone him to death"; and Stephen suffers martyrdom, praying for mercy upon his persecutors.--Devout men carry him to his burial, with much lamentation, and utter words of peace and hope over his grave.--Saul, who is present at the martyrdom, resolves to continue his persecutions of the Christian Church, and for this purpose journeys toward Damascus.--A sudden light shines around him, and he is struck with blindness.--A voice from Heaven calls upon him to proclaim the glory of the Lord to the benighted people, and his companions lead him by the hand into Damascus.--There he prays, in bitter repentance, until the Lord sends to him Ananias, who restores his sight, and confers upon him his divine commission as a Christian preacher.--He is baptized, and preaches in the synagogues; and the congregation praises the wisdom and knowledge of God.

PART II

Saul, who after his conversion takes the name of Paul, preaches before the congregation.--Paul and Barnabas are selected by the Holy Ghost, and sent as ambassadors to spread a knowledge of Christianity abroad.--The multitude acknowledges them as messengers who preach the gospel of peace. The Jews, not believing in the Saviour, are envious, and consult how to kill Paul--But Paul and Barnabas, telling them that they have rejected the truth, although they were chosen first to have the word of the Lord set before them, turn from them to preach unto the Gentiles.--Paul miraculously cures a cripple at Lystra; and the Gentiles, believing that the gods have come down from heaven as mortals, call them Jupiter and Mercurius, and desire to offer sacrifices to them.--But the Apostles refuse such vain homage; and Paul endeavors to divert the minds of the people from the worship of false idols to that of the one living God.--This excites the anger of the multitude; and both Jews and Gentiles accuse him of having spoken against Jehovah's temple and the holy law, and raise a cry of "Stone him."--But the Lord, whose help is ever nigh unto the faithful, saves him from persecution.--Paul convokes the elders of Ephesus, telling them that he is bound in the spirit to go forth to Jerusalem, and that they will see his face no more.--They weep and pray; but Paul expresses his readiness to die for the Lord, and takes his leave, the elders accompanying him unto the ship.--It is their comfort now to be God's own children.--To him who has fought a good fight, and kept well the faith, a crown of righteousness shall be given--and not only unto him, the believers sing, but to all them that love His appearing.--So they bless the Lord, and praise His holy name for ever.

PART II

Chorus - "The Nations are Now the Lord's"

Recitative - "And Paul Came to the Congregation"

Duet - "Now We are Ambassadors"

Chorus - "How Lovely are the Messengers"

Recitative and Arioso - "I Will Sing of Thy Great Mercies"

Recitative and Chorus - "Thus Saith the Lord"

Chorus - "Is This He?"

Chorale - "O Thou, the True and Only Light"

Recitative and Duet - "For So Hath the Lord Himself Commanded"

Recitative and Chorus - "The Gods Themselves as Mortals Have
Descended"

Recitative and Chorus - "O Be Gracious, Ye Immortals"

Recitative and Air - "For Know Ye Not That Ye are His Temple?"

Chorus - "But Our God Abideth in Heaven"

Recitative and Chorus - "This is Jehovah's Temple"

Recitative and Cavatina - "Be Thou Faithful Unto Death"

Recitative - "And Paul Sent and Called the Elders"

Chorus - "Far Be it From Thy Path"

Chorus - "See What Love Hath the Father Bestowed on Us"

Recitative - "And Though He Be Offered"

Chorus - "Not Only Unto Him, But to All Them that Love Truly
His Appearing"

CHOIR

Sopranos

Lorraine Atkinson
Barbara Bratt
Linda Cole
Brenda Griffin
Kathleen Helvey
Evelyn Kerr
Gladys Pollard
Donna LaPrise
LaBerta McKnight

Altos

Gloria Bills
Mary Bills
Lurlene Fisher
Bette Fulcher
Nancy Loughrey
Shirley Olson
Nancy Rhodes

Basses

Jim Anderson
Leslie Balfour
Jack Beers
Ray Bloomfield
Jim Freeman
Gary Keyser
Larry Rexroad

Tenors

Bob Adkins
Jerry Hall
Tom Holter
Don Lloyd
Ralph McFarlane

REFRESHMENTS SERVED

THE STUDENT UNION BUILDING WILL BE OPEN
DURING THE HALF HOUR INTERMISSION BETWEEN
PARTS I and II. LIGHT REFRESHMENTS
WILL BE AVAILABLE.