CHRISTMAS CAROLS

Do I have Christ’s Christmas Carol playing in my soul?

1. **TODAY’S Christmas Carols**
   
   A. Christmas “hymns” were originally sung in high-church Latin by fifth century priests.
   
   B. Christmas “carols” were “ring-dance songs” that people danced to outside of church.
   
   C. St. Francis of Assisi helped blend the two traditions into carols as we know them today.

2. **The ORIGINAL Christmas Carol**

   *(Luke 2:13-14) Suddenly there was a multitude of the heavenly host with the angel, praising God and saying: Glory to God in the highest heaven, and peace on earth to people He favors!*

   A. Peace is available to all people God “favors.”
   
   B. God “favors” those who trust and follow Jesus.

3. **The NEW Christmas Carol**

   *(Psalm 40:3) He put a NEW SONG in my mouth, a hymn of praise to our God.*

   *(Psalm 149:1) Sing to the Lord a NEW SONG, His praise in the assembly of the saints. Let Israel rejoice in their Maker; let the people of Zion be glad in their King. Let them praise His name with dancing and make music to Him with tambourine and harp. For the Lord takes delight in His people; He crowns the humble with salvation. Let the saints rejoice in this honor and SING FOR JOY.*

   A. He puts a NEW SONG in our hearts.
   
   B. It transforms us from sad and empty people into joyful people.