OUT OF CONTEXT WORSHIP SONGS

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Surprisingly the post that has received the most comment or response lately is the one about worship songs.Â But far be it from me to tread an easy path and I'll once more go where fools fear to tread and say some words about a Matt Redman song: Blessed Be Your Name. Before you start reaching for your keyboards to compose replies, let me quickly say that there is nothing wrong with the song in itself, but rather with the context in which we sang it at church this morning.

We'd just listened to a sermon on Job during which we heard that when we are pain it is ok to question God and to ask him what is going on. It was a bit of a surprise then to follow up the sermon with a song that says that whatever is going wrong in my life I will cry out *Blessed be the name of the Lord.*Â As I say, there is nothing wrong with the song and in the right context it could be powerful - but it did rather see to contradict the theme of the sermon.

Even better: as we started to sing the song, the service leader announced that we would be taking up the offering while the song was sung. For those who don't know the song, the second verse contains the line *When there is pain in the offering.* Yes, I know, I should grow up, but I just love juxtapositions like that one. Had me giggling all the way through the song.