

Sunday Morning,
October 19

2025

Services at:

8:30 & 10:45

Sunday School
for ALL Ages:

9:35–10:35

Our message will
be brought by

Pastor David Rawley.

@**Otterbein Church**
of the United
Brethren in Christ

146 Leitersburg St.
Greencastle, PA
17225-1346



— **PSALM 137** —

**“How Can We Sing the
Lord's Song in
a Strange Land?”**

DREAM – **happiness**, **usefulness**, **influence**

Sitting... singing... by the river >
dream **fulfilled**! (beauty, joy, peace)





But when the river has become a river
in Babylon > dream **destroyed** (horror,
bitterness, disbelief)

THE CHOICE

- ✓ **sadness** “we wept”
- ✓ **silence** “hung our harps in the trees!”
- ✓ **stubbornness** “songs are one thing,
but songs for the Babylonians?
No way!”
- ✓ **short sightedness** “If we find new joy
[singing in Babylon], we’ll forget
our old joy” [singing in Israel]

Sometimes it would be easier to have died!
The blow was painful, but surviving the blow
is bitter. The loss is staggering, but the fact
that we must continue on as a "SURVIVOR"
is overwhelming.

This is illustrated by the Babylonians torture of the Israelis by first **kidnaping** them (injury) then **kidded** with them, demanding that they sing and dance (insult). Even more insulting was the mockery of their faith in God. Sing us one of your “Zion songs.”

STRENGTH?

- Determination to be joyful... lean on your faith (and humor)
- Vision of life BEYOND present circumstance
- Example of Jesus

This question raises two possibilities of emphasis. “How can we sing...”

a) the Lord’s song in a FOREIGN LAND?

* Why would I want to sing?

Inappropriate place! **No**

b) The LORD'S SONG in a foreign land?

* How could I not sing? It's not about which river I happen to be beside but about the song! The song doesn't belong to Israel it is GOD'S song!

YES