

A Study of The St Matthew Passion by Johann Sebastian Bach  
Music Assignment Grades 6-8

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Listen to Leonard Bernstein's musical analysis of the Bach St. Matthew Passion (16 minutes) and answer the following questions:

1. Who does the chorus represent? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. What hymn does the boys choir sing? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3. What instrument accompanies the narrator? \_\_\_\_\_

4. What instruments accompany Jesus and what do those instruments represent? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

5. How does Bach give the impression that all the apostles are asking "Lord, is it I?" in a frantic and desperate manner? \_\_\_\_\_

6. How many times is the question "Lord is it I?" asked? \_\_\_\_\_

7. How does Bach paint the musical image of going up to the Mount of Olives? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

8. How does Bach portray Christ's words "the flesh is weak?" \_\_\_\_\_

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9. How does Bach portray Our Lord's pain and disappointment at the crowd's choice of

Barabbas over Him? \_\_\_\_\_

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10. Are the last word's of Jesus on the cross accompanied by the same instruments as in the

rest of the Passion? \_\_\_\_\_ Why or why not? \_\_\_\_\_

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11. The farewell music as Christ is being laid in the tomb is like what kind of song? \_\_\_\_\_

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12. Did the listening of this analysis help you appreciate the music of J.S. Bach? \_\_\_\_\_

13. Did the listening of this analysis help you appreciate the sacrifice made by Our Lord? \_\_\_\_\_

14. To listen to the entire musical composition (in English!) please visit

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2mIMiscytcg&list=OLAK5uy\\_kS91eN21dm-EA-fFPXrZ\\_TzwTP4XrZY-0](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2mIMiscytcg&list=OLAK5uy_kS91eN21dm-EA-fFPXrZ_TzwTP4XrZY-0)