

西琴曲意，八章

Eight Songs for Western Keyboard

Lyrics by 利瑪竇 Matteo Ricci

With character by character interpretation. Fluent translation at
<http://www.silkqin.com/01mywk/themes/programs/mrxinqinqui.htm>

商音 *Shang mode*

1 2 4 5 6 1 2

(6 = A = 415 - 440 or more Hz)

Music adapted by John Thompson,
 based largely on the melody
 墨子悲歌 *Mozi Bei Ge* in
 伯牙新法 *Boya Xinfu* (1609)

1. My promises are above 吾願在上，一章

(See 1609 Sec. 1) *slgw and freg*

誰 識 人 類 之 情 也？
 Shei shi ren lei zhi qing ye?
 Who can know man-kind's circumstances?

人 也 者， 乃 反 樹 耳。
 Ren ye zhe, nai fan shu er.
 People types (are) just the opposite of trees, that's all.

樹 之 根 本 在 地， 而 從 土 受 養，
 Shu zhi gen ben zai di, er cong tu shou yang,
 A tree's roots are in the earth, so from the earth it receives nourishment.

其 幹 枝 向 天 而 竦。
 qi gan zhi xiang tian er song.
 Its trunk & branches towards heaven just respectfully incline.

人 之 根 本 向 乎 天， 而 自 天 承 育，
 Ren zhi gen ben xiang hu tian, er zi tian cheng yu,
 People's roots incline towards heaven, thus from heaven receive nurture.

其 幹 枝 垂 下。
 qi gan zhi chui xia.
 their trunks & branches extend downwards.

1. (cont.)

君 子 之 知， 知 上 帝 者，
 Jun zi zhi zhi, zhi Shang Di zhe,
 Civilized people's knowledge is knowing what Above Supreme Ruler does (know).
 (i.e. God)

君 子 之 學， 學 上 帝 者，
 Jun zi zhi xue, xue Shang Di zhe,
 Civilized people's learning is what can be learned of God's learning.

因 以 擇 誨 衆 也。
 yin yi ze hui zhong ye.
 thus one uses this in selecting how to instruct the people.

上 帝 之 心， 惟 多 憐 恤 蒼 生，
 Shang Di zhi xin, wei duo lian xu cang sheng,
 God's heart only has great sympathy for the common people.

少 許 霹 靂 傷 人，
 shao xu pi li shang ren,
 very seldom (lets) rumbling thunder harm people.

當 使 日 月 照 而 照 無 私 方 矣！
 dang shi ri yue zhao, er zhao wu si fang yi!
 Since (God) causes the sun and moon to shine down, so it shines not in private places, ah!

常 使 雨 雪 降， 而 降 無 私 田 兮！
 Chang shi yu xue jiang, er jiang wu si tian xi!
 (God) often causes rain and snow to fall, but it falls not on private fields, ah!