

CHRISTIAN
MUSIC ★ **REVIEW**
MESSAGE. FIRST.

ALBUM REVIEW FORM

Album Title: *Furious*
Artist Name: **Jeremy Riddle**
Release Date: September 20, 2011
Reviewer Name: **Justin Morden**
Reviewer E-Mail: justin.morden@christianmusicreview.org
Date Review Written: September 18, 2011
Record Label: Vineyard Worship

RATING

Message: 4.0 of 4.0
Music: 2.6 of 3.0
Production: 2.0 of 2.0
Creativity: 0.6 of 1.0
Overall Points: 9.2 of 10.0

SCORE/LETTER GRADE: 92% (A-)

REVIEW

If you do not recognize the name “Jeremy Riddle,” you have most likely heard his worship song “Sweetly Broken” which has been sung in churches all over the country. Jeremy is back with the new album *Furious*, his third release and a record that focuses on God’s love. When trying to describe that love, the best word Jeremy could think of was “furious.” Jeremy Riddle says, “We tend to translate [furious] as angry, but I see it as a super-powerful force; stronger, deeper, broader than our vocabulary can fully describe.” He also sees the word as being related to the description of the lion Aslan, the Jesus Christ figure in C.S. Lewis’s *The Chronicles of Narnia*, who is said to be “not a tame lion; but He’s good.” In short, *Furious* is about the strong, unfathomable love of God.

Furious actually begins on a soft note with “Fall Afresh,” a slow worship song asking the Holy Spirit to fill up our bodies. I found the song to be a very nice opener to an album with the theme of God’s love. The following song is the title song “Furious” which is very upbeat and full of excitement. As with the album, the focus on the song is on the Lord’s love, saying, “His love is deep, His love is wide/ And it covers us/ His love is fierce, His love is strong/ It is furious.” Powerful lyrics and a welcoming tune make this song very desirable to listen to. “Love Came Down” continues that same topic of the love of God, but this one is more of a song of praise to the Lord.

“One Thing Remains” refers to God’s great love as never failing and always remaining, no matter the trials we are facing. Jeremy Riddle sings in the bridge, “My debt is paid, there is nothing that can separate my heart from your great love.” That love has acquitted us from being sent to Hell, as sung about in “Acquitted.” In the chorus, Jeremy declares that he will sing about what God has done for us, and then encourages us to join him in proclaiming the Lord’s goodness. He again talks about singing of God’s goodness in “You Are Good” in which he also says, “I’ll dance because You are good.” The song’s rhythm makes the listener want to start dancing to the Lord as well!

With a piano-based melody, “Walk In The Promise” speaks of waiting for the presence of the Lord to come over us. Towards the end, the music becomes drum/guitar-driven, and Jeremy sings of lifting our *Please Note:* This review is the written and stated opinion of the above mentioned writer and all credit, mention and/or quotes taken from this review need to be credited to the writer and ChristianMusicReview.org.

God up. The topic of "One Thirst" is Christians looking forward to the day when we will see God's glory in full power. Jeremy refers to this moment that we are waiting for as our "one thirst and hunger." Following the very slow song is "Glory To The Lamb," an upbeat praise and worship song about glorifying our Lord.

Jeremy express his need for nothing but God in "The Lord Is My Shepherd." The line in the chorus that says "*the Lord is my Shepherd and I want for nothing*" sums up the entire theme of the song. Perhaps the slowest songs on the album come next, starting with "Here," a song in which Jeremy Riddle praises, and expresses his love for, the name of the Lord. In "Always," Jeremy sings about waiting for the Lord's love. Following the two slow songs comes the album's closer "Nations Rage", a much more upbeat song that begins with Jeremy talking about nations going against our God. He switches in the chorus to singing of God's majesty and power, praising Him.

CLOSING THOUGHTS (or Quote)

Worship music has become a very popular genre in the world of CCM (Contemporary Christian Music). The best part of this genre is that there is hardly anything negative one can find in it. The message is always beautiful and music is not usually a problem. Still, some worship songs succeed better than others, and I would put these songs from Jeremy Riddle's new album in the former of the two. *Furious* contains great songs talking about the love God has for us, and this is really the only thing that matters in life. Without the Lord's love, Jesus would not have died for us and we would never have eternal life. Thus, it is nice to listen to a record that's entire focus is on this topic. *Furious* is an album that all Christians will enjoy listening to!