

above all lyrics and chords

above all lyrics and chords provide a comprehensive insight into one of the most beloved contemporary Christian worship songs. This article explores the lyrics and chords of "Above All," a song that has resonated deeply within many faith communities worldwide. The detailed breakdown of the song's composition, including its chord progression and lyrical themes, will assist musicians, worship leaders, and enthusiasts in performing the piece accurately and meaningfully. Additionally, the article covers the song's background, musical structure, and practical tips for playing it effectively. Whether for worship settings or personal enjoyment, understanding the above all lyrics and chords is essential for a heartfelt rendition. Below is a detailed guide organized to facilitate ease of learning and appreciation.

- Introduction to "Above All"
- Lyrics of "Above All"
- Chords and Musical Structure
- How to Play "Above All" on Guitar
- Tips for Worship Leaders and Musicians

Introduction to "Above All"

"Above All" is a worship song that has become a staple in many Christian music repertoires. Written by Lenny LeBlanc and Paul Baloche, this song emphasizes the supremacy of Jesus Christ above all things, reflecting deep theological themes through its simple yet profound lyrics. Its popularity is largely due to its emotional melody and spiritually uplifting message. The song has been widely covered and is frequently used in church services, worship sessions, and personal devotionals. Understanding the song's background and significance provides valuable context for interpreting the above all lyrics and chords.

Origins and Popularity

Originally released in the late 1990s, "Above All" gained mainstream recognition through various Christian music albums and live worship recordings. Its message of Christ's sacrifice and exaltation has made it a favorite for worship leaders globally. The song's enduring appeal lies in its ability to connect worshipers emotionally and spiritually through its lyrical depth and melodic progression.

Thematic Overview

The lyrics of "Above All" focus on the supremacy of Jesus' love and sacrifice. The song highlights themes such as humility, surrender, and the unmatched greatness of Christ. These themes are expressed in a straightforward yet poetic manner, making the song accessible for both congregational singing and individual reflection.

Lyrics of "Above All"

The lyrics of "Above All" are integral to understanding its message and emotional impact. Below is a detailed presentation of the song's lyrics, which emphasize Christ's unparalleled position above every power and earthly honor.

Complete Lyrics

Below are the full lyrics to "Above All," illustrating the song's heartfelt declaration of Christ's supremacy:

- Above all powers, above all kings
- Above all nature and all created things
- Above all wisdom and all the ways of man
- You were here before the world began
- Above all kingdoms, above all thrones
- Above all wonders the world has ever known
- Above all wealth and treasures of the earth
- There's no way to measure what You're worth
- Crucified, laid behind a stone
- You lived to die, rejected and alone
- Like a rose, trampled on the ground
- You took the fall and thought of me above all

Interpretation of Lyrics

The lyrics use vivid imagery to portray Jesus' exalted status. Phrases like "above all powers" and "above all kings" emphasize His divine authority over every earthly dominion. The metaphor of a rose "trampled on the ground" poignantly symbolizes Christ's humility and sacrifice. The repetition of "above all" reinforces the central theme of supremacy, encouraging worshipers to reflect on the magnitude of Christ's love and sacrifice.

Chords and Musical Structure

The musical arrangement of "Above All" complements its lyrical message with a gentle yet powerful melody. The chord progression is designed to enhance the worshipful atmosphere, making it suitable for a wide range of worship settings. Understanding the chords and structure is essential for musicians aiming to perform the song accurately.

Basic Chord Progression

The song is typically played in the key of D major, though it can be transposed to accommodate different vocal ranges. The primary chords used in the song are D, A, Bm, G, and Em. These chords provide a smooth harmonic flow that supports the emotional delivery of the lyrics.

- **D Major:** The tonic chord, establishing the key and home base for the song.
- **A Major:** The dominant chord, creating tension and resolution when returning to D.
- **Bm (B minor):** Adds a reflective, somber tone appropriate for the song's themes.
- **G Major:** Provides warmth and fullness to the chord progression.
- **Em (E minor):** Adds emotional depth and contrast within the progression.

Song Structure

The structure of "Above All" follows a conventional verse-chorus format, which facilitates congregational participation. The song typically includes:

1. Intro
2. Verse 1
3. Chorus

4. Verse 2
5. Chorus
6. Bridge (optional in some arrangements)
7. Final Chorus

This structure allows for dynamic build-up and emotional release, enhancing the worship experience.

How to Play "Above All" on Guitar

Playing "Above All" on guitar involves familiarizing oneself with the chord shapes and transitions characteristic of the song. This section provides practical guidance for guitarists of varying skill levels to master the song.

Chord Diagrams and Finger Placement

The essential chords for "Above All" can be played using basic open chord shapes. Below is an outline of finger placement for each chord:

- **D Major:** Index finger on 2nd fret of G string, middle finger on 2nd fret of high E string, ring finger on 3rd fret of B string.
- **A Major:** Index, middle, and ring fingers placed on the 2nd frets of D, G, and B strings respectively.
- **Bm (Barre chord):** Barre across the 2nd fret and ring finger on 4th fret of D string, pinky on 4th fret of G string, middle finger on 3rd fret of B string.
- **G Major:** Middle finger on 3rd fret of low E string, index finger on 2nd fret of A string, ring finger on 3rd fret of high E string.
- **Em:** Middle finger on 2nd fret of A string, ring finger on 2nd fret of D string.

Strumming Pattern

A common strumming pattern for "Above All" is a slow and steady down-down-up-up-down-up sequence. This pattern complements the song's reflective mood and allows for expressive dynamics. Guitarists can adjust the tempo and intensity to match the context of the performance, whether in a small group or a larger worship setting.

Tips for Worship Leaders and Musicians

Effective performance of "Above All" requires more than just technical skill; it demands sensitivity to the song's spiritual message and the atmosphere of worship. Below are practical tips for worship leaders and musicians to enhance their rendition of the song.

Vocal Dynamics and Expression

Worship leaders should focus on conveying the emotional depth of the lyrics through vocal dynamics. Starting softly during the verses and building intensity during the chorus can create a powerful worship experience. Emphasizing key phrases like "above all powers" and "You took the fall" helps communicate the song's theological significance.

Instrumental Arrangement

While the guitar often leads the accompaniment, incorporating other instruments such as piano, bass, and subtle percussion can enrich the musical texture. It is important to maintain a balance that supports the vocals without overpowering them.

Engaging the Congregation

Encouraging congregation participation by repeating the chorus or inviting spontaneous worship moments can deepen the communal worship experience. Clear introductions and transitions between song sections help maintain flow and engagement.

Frequently Asked Questions

What are the chords used in the song 'Above All'?

The chords commonly used in 'Above All' are C, G, Am, F, and sometimes Dm, depending on the arrangement.

Where can I find accurate lyrics and chords for 'Above All'?

Accurate lyrics and chords for 'Above All' can be found on popular music websites like Ultimate Guitar, AZ Lyrics, and official artist pages.

How do you play the intro of 'Above All' on guitar?

The intro of 'Above All' is typically played using a fingerpicking pattern with chords C, G, Am, and F to create a gentle and melodic sound.

Are there any capo recommendations for playing 'Above All' with chords?

Many guitarists use a capo on the 3rd fret to play 'Above All,' allowing for easier chord shapes and matching the original key.

Can 'Above All' chords be played by beginner guitarists?

Yes, 'Above All' uses basic chords like C, G, Am, and F, which are suitable for beginners with some practice on chord transitions.

Additional Resources

1. *Above All: The Ultimate Collection of Worship Lyrics and Chords*

This book compiles the most popular worship songs, including "Above All," with complete lyrics and guitar chords. It is designed for worship leaders and musicians to easily follow and perform. The clear formatting makes it simple for beginners and experienced players alike to use during services or personal worship.

2. *Worship Songs Simplified: Lyrics and Chords for Every Skill Level*

Ideal for guitarists at any skill level, this book breaks down worship songs, including "Above All," into easy-to-learn chords and lyrics. It focuses on accessibility, ensuring that even novice players can quickly learn and accompany worship songs. The book also includes helpful tips for chord transitions and strumming patterns.

3. *Modern Worship Essentials: Lyrics and Chords for Contemporary Praise*

Featuring a collection of contemporary worship songs, this book includes "Above All" and other favorites with full lyrics and chord charts. It caters to modern worship bands looking to expand their repertoire. Additionally, it offers guidance on song arrangements and performance techniques.

4. *Acoustic Worship: Songs and Chords for Intimate Praise*

This book focuses on acoustic renditions of worship songs, providing lyrics and chords for "Above All" and many others. It is perfect for small gatherings, home worship, or unplugged sessions. The arrangements emphasize simplicity and emotional expression through acoustic guitar.

5. *Worship Chord Bible: Over 200 Songs with Lyrics and Guitar Tabs*

A comprehensive resource for worship musicians, this Bible includes lyrics, chords, and guitar tabs for more than 200 songs, including "Above All." It serves as a go-to reference for worship teams seeking a wide variety of songs. The book is organized for quick song lookup and easy navigation.

6. *Faith in Music: Exploring Worship Songs Through Lyrics and Chords*

This book not only provides lyrics and chords for worship songs like "Above All" but also delves into the meaning and background of each song. It is an excellent resource for worship leaders who want to deepen their understanding of the songs they lead. The reflections and insights enrich the worship experience.

7. Sing and Play: Worship Songs for Guitar and Voice

Designed for vocalists and guitarists, this book features lyrics and chords for popular worship songs, including "Above All." It includes melody lines to assist singers along with chord diagrams for guitarists. This dual focus helps musicians collaborate effectively during worship.

8. Worship on the Move: Portable Lyrics and Chords for Musicians

This compact songbook offers a selection of worship songs with lyrics and chords, including "Above All," in a portable format. It's ideal for worship leaders and musicians on the go, making it easy to carry to rehearsals or worship nights. Despite its size, it provides clear and complete song information.

9. Above All Worship Sessions: A Guide to Leading with Lyrics and Chords

Specifically centered on the song "Above All" and its use in worship settings, this book offers detailed lyrics, chord progressions, and tips for leading the song effectively. It includes arrangement suggestions and variations to suit different worship styles. This focused guide is perfect for worship leaders looking to master this iconic song.

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