

About...

Sovereign God

...how and why it was written

I wrote this song over a weekend away – without my keyboard, and mostly whilst in the car - and I think it has a different feel and sense of freedom because it was written in a vocally-led way.

It started off with just a few phrases, and I was singing them over and over to myself to make sure I didn't forget them, and gradually the whole song built up over a journey from Oxford to Ashbourne, Derbyshire.

It surprised me in two ways. Firstly with regard to pace... when it was just a vocal it felt like it was going to be a far quieter, more intimate song... but once the chords and accompaniment feel kicked in it turned out to be a much stronger, declarational song – at a considerably different pace and feel to what I had anticipated.

Secondly, with regard to application. The first phrases of the song were written after a thought-provoking conversation I had with a colleague at Christian Aid about climate change and trusting in God's sovereignty. I wrote the song with very much a corporate circumstance in mind – and though mountains falling and waters rising are recurrent Biblical images, I was thinking of literal physical threats brought about by the changing climate... however, after writing the song, I realised how relevant it was to my personal circumstances at the time.

It was one of the first in what is now quite a long line of trust songs – most of which start off as the more personal of the songs I write...

...how, where and when it could be used

Although due to the rhythm, and particularly kick beat feel, it can be difficult for a band to pick up, it works very well congregationally, and is topically very useful for declaring commitment to stand, trust in God's sovereignty and building faith.

...its place on the journey to where world and worship meet

More and more when we look at the world around us, we need to fix our eyes back on God. He can be trusted. He is sovereign. We must not be shaken by what we see around us – instead, we must allow it to bring us to our knees in compassion – confident that our sovereign God has the world, and all our futures, in his hands. Whatever it may look like, he is still crafting Love's perfect plan.