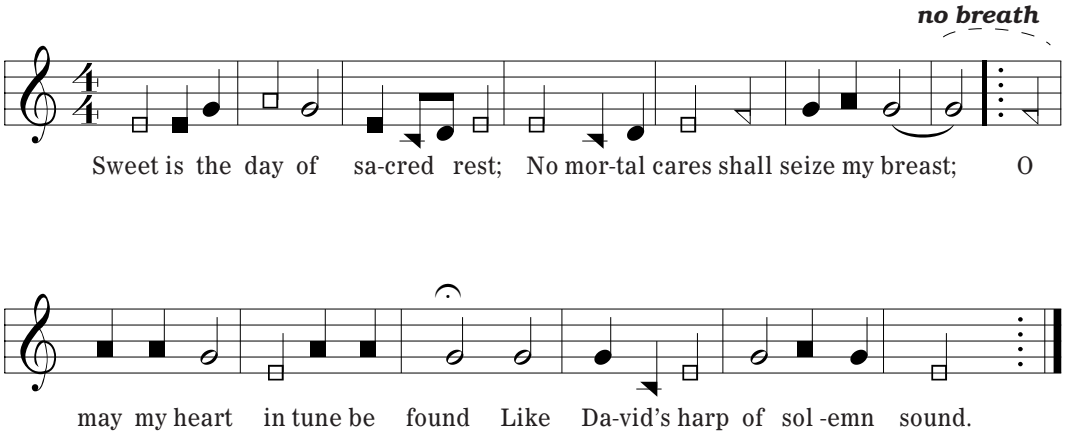
Musings
from the pen of Academician Mixie Lidyan...

Today's nit-pick look is at #48 top DEVOTION as it is sung at singings on Sand Mountain and Lookout Mountain in Alabama.

Many of you have listened to the **Wootten Cousins** recording and heard them sing #48 top. Perhaps you wondered what it was that they were doing differently, for what they sing and what's printed is not the same! There are several variants to notice: the "no breathing" between the two halves of the song (i.e. over the heavy bar in the center of the song); the very definite pulse and accent to the song given by beating it in a dignified "four beats" using the "Sand Mountain L" pattern; and the variant alto notes, which make an important difference to the overall harmonic sound.

Here's what those altos are actually singing: