

ALL THAT MATTERS - COLTON DIXON



Colton Dixon's 2013 debut, *A Messenger*, set the record for biggest first-week sales by a new solo Christian act, becoming the No. 1 selling album of 2013 by a new Christian artist and the No. 9 best selling album of 2013 in the Christian genre overall. *A Messenger* also became the No. 22 best-selling album across all genres that same year, while Dixon was still reeling from his highly publicized seventh place finish on Season 11 of *American Idol*.

As kids, he and his sister Schyler would regularly perform for their parents, but the music gene wasn't necessarily something that was inherited. It was actually a passion that grew slowly and steadily. An aunt who taught piano talked Colton's parents into signing him up for lessons when he was eight. It was hardly love at first sight. In fact, like many kids, he grew to hate those structured sessions, but they gave him a musical foundation that would take him places he couldn't even begin to imagine back then. At age 13, he sang in public for the first time, and that's when everything finally began to fall into place.

His earlier athletic pursuits gave way to activities like school choir and songwriting. Throughout his teen years, the piano became his escape. "Some people journal, some vent to other people, I liked sitting behind a piano, playing what I felt," he shares.

If music hadn't worked out, Colton probably would have gone into ministry. His passion for inspiring people and meeting them where they are may have been put to use pastoring a church, leading worship full-time or serving as a youth minister. Instead, music just happens to be the tool God gave him to minister to others.

"I have a strong passion for my generation, to motivate them to keep the torch lit," he says. That passion plays a starring role on the new album. After the first record, he realized how easy it was to get distracted, to drift from where he needed to be. That's where the title *Anchor* came from. That tendency to drift wasn't something unique to him. Colton knew that others would relate, and that he could encourage listeners by being honest about his own struggles.

Information from: http://www.newreleasetoday.com/artistdetail.php?artist_id=3389

LYRICS

I've tasted hopelessness, I know what heartache is
Somehow through all of it your love remains
I've lived through brokenness, feeling faceless
I'm not anonymous, you know my name

Your word is a light unto my feet
Your love is my identity

All that matters is You make all things new
There's no disaster that You cannot undo
This world will fade, and life will change
All of this is true
But all that matters is that I matter to You

You've counted every breath, each hair upon my head
You know exactly who I am and will always
So I stand with confidence on all Your promises
Your love is evidence You know my name

All that matters is You make all things new
There's no disaster that You cannot undo
This world will fade, and life will change
All of this is true
But all that matters is that I matter, yeah

All that matters is Your love will never fade
All that matters is You're for me for always
All that matters is Your love will never fade
All that matters is You're for me for always

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Psalm 8:1-9, English Standard Version (ESV)

1 O LORD, our Lord,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!
You have set your glory above the heavens.

2 Out of the mouth of babies and infants,
you have established strength because of your foes,
to still the enemy and the avenger.

3 When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers,
the moon and the stars, which you have set in place,
4 what is man that you are mindful of him,
and the son of man that you care for him?

5 Yet you have made him a little lower than the heavenly beings
and crowned him with glory and honor.

6 You have given him dominion over the works of your hands;
you have put all things under his feet,
7 all sheep and oxen,
and also the beasts of the field,
8 the birds of the heavens, and the fish of the sea,
whatever passes along the paths of the seas.

9 O LORD, our Lord,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!

1. What parts of the song can you relate to?
2. Why is it so amazing to you that Jesus knows our name and cares about us?
3. What are some of the claims made about God in verses 1-3? What do they mean to you?
4. How does the tone change in verse 4?
5. What is the author really asking in verse 4?
6. What things are we promised in verses 5-8?
7. What should our response be due to our position before God through Jesus? (see verse 9)