Blues Discussion Questions

Playlist: https://tinyurl.com/mr3s5765

Question 1

If official records tell us what the river did, what do blues and gospel tell us about what the flood meant?

Question 2

Should music be treated as historical evidence? What kinds of truth can blues preserve that may be absent from government archives or newspapers?

Question 3: Memory

Why were musicians still recording songs about the 1927 flood two years later? What does that tell us about the difference between an event ending and a disaster becoming part of cultural memory?

Listening Sheet

Song Title	What happened?	What emotion or experience is being preserved?	Who is speaking?	What does this source tell us that another archive might miss?
