

# There Rings a Melody



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#### There Rings a Melody

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#### **PREFACE**

Nearly everyone loves music! What a privilege it is to join together in sweet fellowship and unite our voices in song to honor the God of Heaven. When assembling at youth gatherings, camp meetings and other special events, a handy book such as *There Rings a Melody* is a great asset. This beautiful little book includes essential excerpts from the *Reformation Hymnal*, along with additional favorites from other sources.

"The melody of praise is the atmosphere of heaven; and when heaven comes in touch with the earth, there is music and song—'thanksgiving, and the voice of melody' (Isaiah 51:3)."—Education, p. 161. In a corrupt world bombarded with overly rhythmic and sensual music, how refreshing it is to enjoy the lovely contrast provided by the simple, innocent, melodious tunes which characterize true Christian worship.

The apostle urges, "Be filled with the Spirit; speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord" (Ephesians 5:18, 19). That *There Rings a Melody* will supply good, wholesome musical options in holy convocations everywhere, is the earnest prayer of

The Publishers

#### In My Heart There Rings a Melody

Elton M. Roth

I have a song that Jesus gave me, It was sent from heav'n above; There never was a sweeter melody, 'Tis a melody of love.

I love the Christ who died on Calv'ry, For He washed my sins away; He put within my heart a melody, And I know it's there to stay.

'Twill be my endless theme in glory,
With the angels I will sing;
'Twill be a song with glorious harmony,
When the courts of heaven ring.

#### Refrain

In my heart there rings a melody, There rings a melody with heaven's harmony; In my heart there rings a melody; There rings a melody of love.



# General Classification of Hymns

PRAISE 1–21
HOPE22–39
MY BEST FRIEND40-61
MEDITATION
CONSECRATION 67–82
BAPTISM
THE CHRISTIAN LIFE 92–126
FELLOWSHIP
THE SABBATH
FAVORITES OF THE YOUNG 145–156
SPREAD THE WORD! 157–169

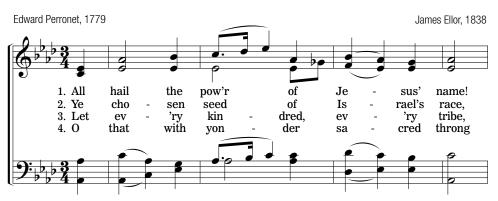
"Rejoice in the Lord,
O ye righteous:
for praise is comely for the upright.
Praise the Lord with harp:
sing unto him with
the psaltery and an instrument of ten
strings. Sing unto him a new song."

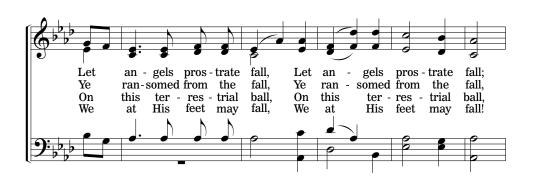
Psalm 33:1-3.

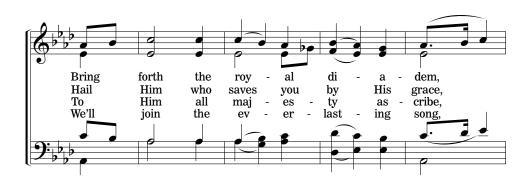
#### All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!

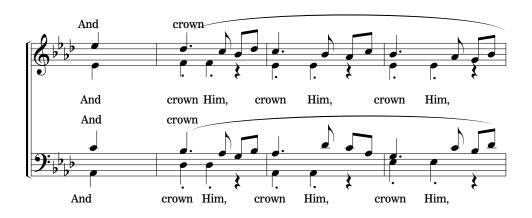


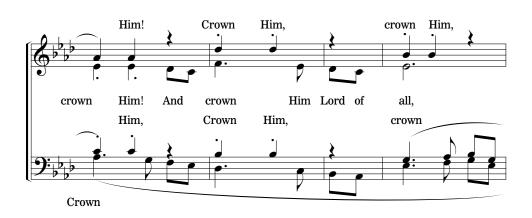
## 2 All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

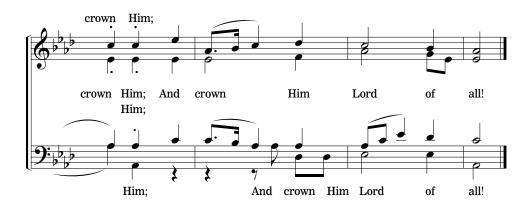












# 3 Christ the Lord Is Risen Today



Come, Thou Almighty King Unknown Felice de Giardini, 1769 al might King, Help Thy 1. Come, Thou us Com ho 2. Come, ly fort er, Thy cred sa 3. Thou might art the One, On earth Thy y praise! to Help Fa ther all name sing, us to wit ness bear this hour. Thou who al -In glad will be done From shore to shore. Thy sov - ereign 0'er glo ous, all vic to ri ous, Now rule might art, in ev ery heart, ty May we in glo ry see, Come and reign An cient of Days! ver us, ne'er it And from us de part, Spir of power! and dore! to ter ni Love ty

5

## Fairest Lord Jesus







#### How Great Thou Art

Swedish folk melody



## 9 Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise



## In Joyful High and Holy Lays

10

Edmund S. Lorenz Edmund S. Lorenz joy - ful high and ho - ly lays My soul her grate-ful voice would raise; joy by day, a peace by night, In storms a calm, in dark-ness light, 3. My hope for par-don when I call, My trust for lift - ing when I fall, who can sing the wor - thy praise Of the won-der-ful love of Je-sus? a balm, in weak-ness might, Is the won-der-ful love of Je-sus. in death, my all in all, Is the won-der-ful love of Je-sus. love! Won - der-ful love! Won - der-ful love of Won - der - ful love! Won - der - ful love of

#### 11 Lord, We Come Before Thee Now



## O Worship the King



#### 13

#### O Worship the Lord



#### Crown Him With Many Crowns



#### 15

#### Praise to the Lord

Joachim Neander, 1680 Trans. by Catherine Winkworth, 1863 Harm. by W. S. Bennett, 1864 the King of the Lord, the Al - might - y, tion! the Lord, who o'er all things so won-drous - ly reign eth, 2. Praise the Lord, who doth pros-per thy work and de-fend my soul, praise Him, for He is thy health and sal - va tion! His wings, yes, so gen - tly sus-tain eth! Shield-eth thee un - der His good-ness and mer-cy here dai-ly thee. All His tem - ple draw ye who hear, now to near; Hast how thy de e'er thou not seen sires have been Pon der new what the might - y can do, Join ye in glad ad ra tion! ed in what He dain eth? Grant or with His love He be friend thee.

#### The Lord in Zion Reigneth

#### 16

Fanny J. Crosby, 1886 Hart P. Danks 1. The Lord Zi - on reign - eth; let all the world re - joice, Zi - on reign - eth, 2. The Lord in and who SO great as He? 3. The Lord in Zi - on reign - eth, these hours Him And come be-fore His throne of grace with tune - ful heart and voice; The depths of earth are in His hands; He rules the might - y sea. en - ter now His tem - ple gates, and fill His courts with song; Lord in Zi - on reign - eth, and there His praise shall ring, His stan - dard wave, Be - neath His roy - al Him shall prin-ces bend the knee and kings their glo - ry dis - tant isles be - youd the deep shall own His power save. Ex - alt the King of heaven and earth, and crown Him Lord

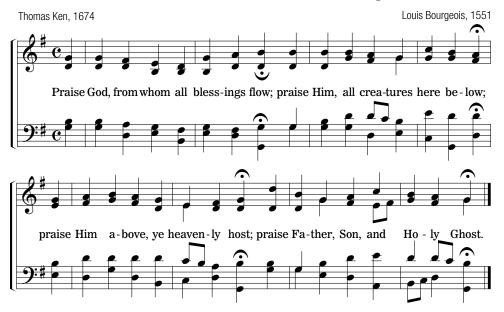
#### 17

#### The Love of God





# Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow 18



#### 19

#### This Is My Father's World



#### We Gather Together



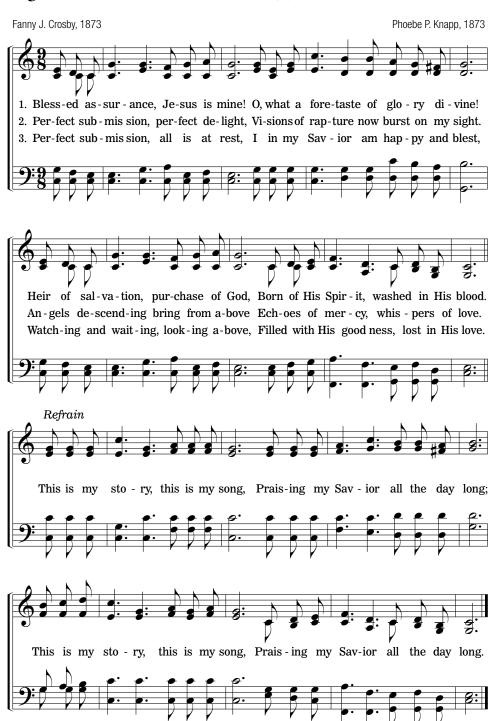
# Worthy, Worthy Is the Lamb



## Angels From the Realms of Glory



## Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine!



## Face to Face With Christ My Savior



25

#### I Shall See the King



James McGranahan, 1880 Daniel W. Whittle 1. Je-sus is coming! O the glad word! Com-ing for those He resing 2. Je-sus is coming! The dead shall a - rise, Loved ones shall meet in a 3. Je-sus is coming! His saints to re-lease; Com-ing to give to the 4. Je-sus is coming! The prom - ise true; Who are the chos-en, the is His blood, Com - ing to reign as glo - ri - fied deemed by the sur - prise, Caught up to - geth - er Him in the - ful to war - ring earth peace: Sin - ning and sigh - ing, and sor-row shall cease. faith - ful. the few, Wait - ing and watch-ing, pre-pared for re - view? Refrain com - ing a - gain! sus is com-ing, a - gain! a - gain! Je - sus is com-ing com-ing Shout the glad tid-ings o'er moun-tain and plain! Je - sus is com-ing a - gain!

## Let Us Sing a Song





## Lift Up the Trumpet







# 30 One Hundred Forty-Four Thousand





# There Is Sunlight on the Hilltop





# There Shall Be Showers of Blessing





#### Watch, Ye Saints

Phoebe Palmer, 1844 William J. Kirkpatrick, 1882 1. Watch, ye saints, with eye-lids wak-ing; Lo! the powers of heaven are shak-ing; the prom - ise of your Sav - ior, Par-doned sin and pur-chased fa - vor, 3. Na-tions wane, thoughproud and state-ly; Christ His king-domhast-eneth great-ly; 4. Sin-ners, come, while Christ is plead - ing; Now for you He's in - ter - ced - ing; Keep your lamps all trimmed and burn-ing, Read - y for your Lord's re-turn-ing. Blood-washed robes and crowns of glo-ry; Haste to tell re-demp-tion's sto-ry. lat-est pangs is sum-ming; Shout, ye saints, your Lord is com-ing. Haste, ere grace and time di-minish-ed Shall pro-claim the mys-tery fin-ished. Refrain Je-sus comes. Lo! He comes, He comes all-glo-rious! Lo! He comes, lo! Je - sus comes to reign vic - to - rious, Lo! He comes, yes,

## What Heavenly Music



#### When Love Shines In





#### Would You Be Free?







## At Calvary



#### Close to Thee

41

Fanny J. Crosby, 1874 Silas J. Vail, 1874 ev - er - last - ing por - tion, more than friend or for ease or world-ly pleas-ure, nor for fame my prayer shall be; 3. Lead me thro' the vale of shad-ows, bear me o'er life's fit - ful sea; pil - grim jour-ney, a - long my Sav - ior, let me walk with Thee. and suf - fer, let me walk with Thee. Glad - ly on - ly e - ter - nal en - ter, Lord, with Thee. Refrain to Thee, close a - long my pil - grim jour - ney, Sav - ior, let me walk with Thee. will Ι toil and suf - fer, on - ly let me walk with Thee. e - ter - nal may I

## 42 Crowded Is Your Heart With Cares



## Have I Need of Aught, O Savior!

Corie F. Davis, 1881 W. O. Perkins 1. Have I need of aught, O Sav - ior! Aught on earth but Thee? of friends so man - y, 2. Though I have Love, and gold, and health, kind and pa - tient With there heart so my fail - ings all? ex-change it This sweet faith worlds would I Thee! Have Ι in the heav - ens, Thee? Hold I Ι have not Thee, my Sav - ior, an y wealth? true and read - y, An - swer - ing voice call? somy All Thou art trea - sures can - not me. Refrain Thee, on - ly O the won-drous love shown me! On - ly Thee, on - ly Thee, Thee, Thee, None on earth Thee. on - ly but Thee, on - ly Thee,

## He Lives







## Lead Me to Calvary

46

Jennie E. Hussey, 1921 William J. Kirkpatrick I crown Thee now, Thine shall the glo - ry life, 2. Show me the tomb where Thou wast laid, Ten - der - ly mourned and wept; Ma - ry, thro' the gloom, Come with a gift 4. May will - ing, Lord, to bear Dai - ly my cross for - get Thy thorn crowned brow, Lead me An - gels in robes of light ar - rayed Guard-ed Thee whilst Thou slept. the emp - ty tomb, Lead me to me now Cal - va - ry. grief share, Thou hast borne all to Refrain for-get Geth - sem - a - ne, Lest I for-get Thine ag - o - ny; for - get Thy for me, Lead me to Cal - va love

#### I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say Horatius Bonar, 1846 Louis Spohr 1. I heard the voice Je - sus say, "Come un - to Me and rest; 2. I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Be - hold, I free - ly give heard the voice Je - sus sav. am this dark world's light; Lay down, thou wea - ry one, lay down Thy head u - pon liv - ing wa - ter; thirst - y one, Stoop down and drink, and live." un - to Me; thy morn shall rise, And thy days all be bright." came to Je - sus as was— Wea-ry, and worn, and came to Je - sus, and that life - giv - ing stream; drank Of Him mv looked to Je - sus, and found In star, Him a rest-ing place, And He has made me glad. thirst was quenched, my soul re-vived, And now I live light of life I'll walk, Till all my jour-ney's done.

I Know Not Why God's Wondrous James McGranahan, 1883 Daniel W. Whittle, 1883 God's won-drous grace To me He hath made known, know not why know not how this sav - ing faith To me He did part, know not how the Spir - it moves, Con-vinc-ing men sin, know not when my Lord may come, At night or noon - day why, un - wor - thy, Christ in love Re - deemed me for His own. how be - liev - ing in His word Wrought peace with-in my heart. veal-ing Je sus thro' the word, Cre - at - ing faith in vale with Him. Or meet Him in air. Refrain "I know whom I have be-liev-ed, and am per-suad-ed that He is a-ble

Nor

Nor

that which I've com-mit - ted Un - to Him a-gainst that day."

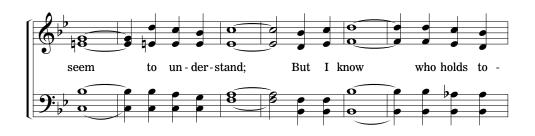
# 49 I Know Who Holds Tomorrow



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## I Must Tell Jesus

Elisha A. Hoffman, 1893 Elisha A. Hoffman, 1893 must tell Je-sus all of my tri - als, I can not bear these bur-dens a-lone; must tell Je-sus all of my trou-bles, He is a kind, com-pas-sion-ate Friend; how the world to e-vil allures me! O how my heart is tempt-ed to sin! In my distress He kind - ly will help me, He ev-er loves and cares for His own. I but ask Him, He will de - liv - er, Make of my trou-bles quick-ly an end. I must tell Je-sus, and He will help me O-ver the world the vic-t'ry to win. Refrain I must tell Je-sus! I must tell Je-sus! I can-not bear my bur-dens a-lone; I must tell Je-sus! I must tell Je-sus! Je-sus can help me, Je-sus a - lone.

#### In Times Like These Ruth Caye Jones Ruth Caye Jones Ιń 1. In times like these you need Sav - ior, times like these 2. In times like these you need the Bi - ble, In times like these 3. In times like these times like these Ι have Sav - ior, In vou need an an-chor; Be ver - y sure, be ver-y sure, Your an-chor Oh. i - dle; Be ver - y sure, Your an-chor be be ver-y sure, not have an an-chor; I'm ver - y sure I'm ver - y sure, My an-chor Refrain holds and grips the Sol - id Rock! holds and grips the Sol - id Rock! This Rock is Je-sus, Yes, He's the holds and grips the Sol-id Rock! This Rock is Je-sus, One: The on - ly One! 1, 2. Be ver - y 3. I'm ver - y Your an-chor holds and grips the Sol-id Rock! sure, be ver - y sure, sure. I'm ver - v sure, My an-chor holds and grips the Sol-id Rock!

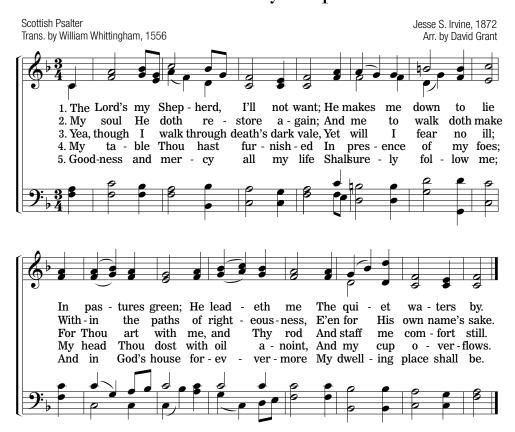
#### I Never Walk Alone





## The Lord's My Shepherd

53



# When My Lifework Is Ended





#### More About Jesus



#### Our Great Savior

56



# 57 Sweeter As the Years Go By





# Take the Name of Jesus With You



### 'Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus

59



# Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus



# While Jesus Whispers

61



### Beneath the Cross of Jesus



## Take Time to Be Holy



### Near to the Heart of God



### What Shall I Do With Jesus?



### When Peace Like a River



### All to Jesus I Surrender

67



# 68 "Are Ye Able," Said the Master



<sup>\*</sup> Author?s original word is [able.]

# Dying With Jesus

69



# Father, We Come to Thee



### I Am Thine, O Lord

/ ]

Fanny J. Crosby, 1875 William H. Doane, 1875



- . I am Thine, O Lord, I have heard Thy voice, And it told Thy love to me;
- 2. Con se-crate me now to Thy ser-vice, Lord, By the power of grace di-vine;
- 3. O the pure de-light of a sin-gle hour That be-fore Thy throne I spend,
- 4. There are depths of love that I can-not know Till I cross the nar-row sea;





But I long to rise in the arms of faith, And be clos-er drawn to Thee. May my soul look up with a stead-fast hope And my will be lost in Thine. When I kneel in prayer, and with Thee, my God, I com-mune as friend with friend! There are heights of joy that I may not reach Till I rest in peace with Thee.





Draw me near - er, near-er, bless-ed Lord, To the cross where Thou hast died.

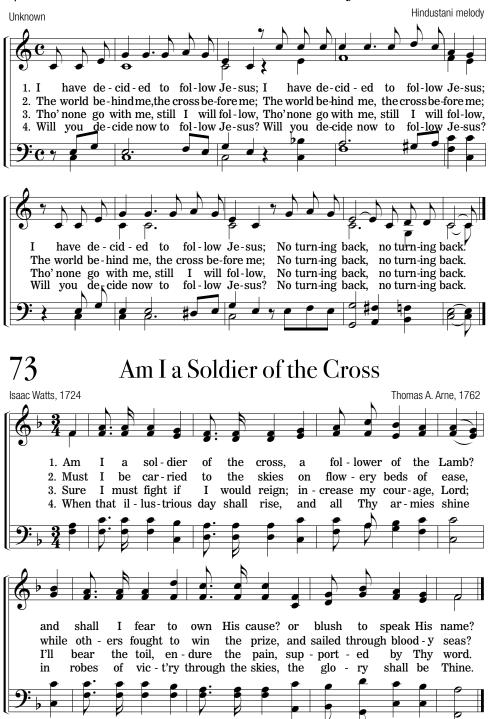




Draw me near-er, near-er, near-er, bless-ed Lord, To Thy pre-cious, bleed-ing side.







# I Would Be, Dear Savior, Wholly Thine 74



# 75 I'll Go Where You Want Me to Go



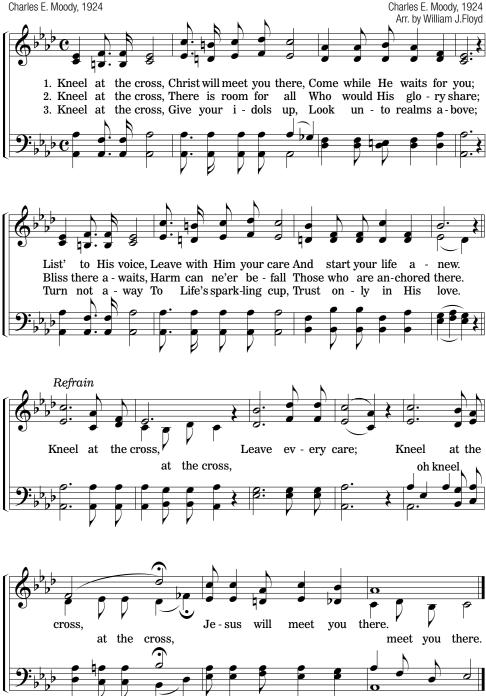


### Just As I Am



#### **Kneel at the Cross**

///



# Nearer, My God, to Thee



<sup>\*</sup> Author?s original word are [Day light all gone.[

#### Nearer, Still Nearer Lelia N. Morris, 1898 Lelia N. Morris, 1898 close er, still near - er, Thy heart, Draw me, my 2. Near er, still near - er, noth - ing Ι bring, Naught as an 3. Near er, still near - er, Lord, to be Thine; Sin, with its 4. Near er, still near - er, while life shall last; Till safe in pre - cious Sav - ior, Thou art; Fold me, 0 fold me of - fering Je - sus my King-On ly sin ful. to my fol - lies, glad - ly All Ι re - sign; of its plea - sures, glo - ry my an - chor cast; Through end - less ges, close to Thy breast, Shel - ter me safe in that "Ha - ven of con - trite heart; Grant me the cleans - ing Thy blood doth impomp and its pride; Give me but Je - sus, my Lord cru ci er to be. Near er. mv Say - ior. still near - er Rest," Shel - ter me safe that "Ha ven of Rest." in

cleans - ing

Je - sus,

Sav - ior,

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### O to Be Like Thee!



### One Thing I of the Lord Desire

81

Walter C. Smith Fred H. Byshe 1. One thing I of the Lord de-sire, For all my paths have mir-y been, 2. If clear-er vi-sion Thou im-part, Grate-ful and glad my soul shall be; 3. Yea, on - ly as this heart is clean May larg-er vi - sion yet be mine, 4. I watch to shun the mir-y way, And stanch the springs of guil-ty thought, O make me clean, O make me clean. wa - ter or by fire, yet to have a pur-er heart, Is more to me, Is more to For mir-rored in Thy life are seen The things di-vine, The things di-vine. But watch and strug - gle as I may, Pure I am not, Pure I Refrain So wash me Thou, with-out, within, Or purge with fire, If that must be, No mat-ter how, if on-ly sin Die out in me, die out in

### Ready to Do His Will



### Cleanse Me



#### I Will Follow Thee



## In Tenderness He Sought Me

85



### My Jesus, I Love Thee

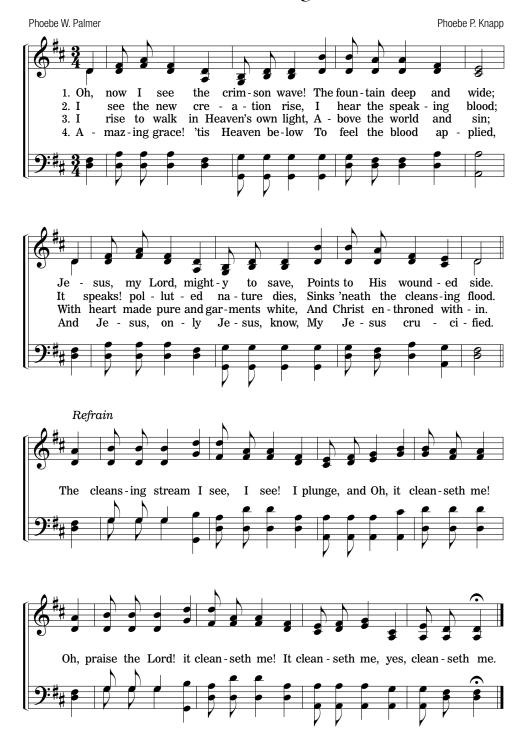


### O Happy Day!

8/



# The Cleansing Stream



Early American melody William Cowper, 1771 Arr. from Lowell Mason, 1830 1. There a foun-tain filled with blood, Drawn from Im - man - uel's veins; since by faith I saw the stream Thy flow-ing wounds sup - ply, 2. E'er believe Thou hast pre-pared, Un - wor-thy though I be. no-bler, sweet-er song, I'll 4. Then sing Thy power to save, sin - ners plunged be - neath that flood, Lose all their guilt - y stains. And deem-ing love has been my theme, And shall be till Ι die, a blood-bought free re - ward, A For gold - en harp for me! When this poor lisp - ing, stammering tongue Is ran-somed from the grave, guilt - y stains, Lose all their guilt - y Lose all their stains; And shall be till I die, And shall be till die; me! A gold - en harp for me, gold - en harp for Is ran-somed from the grave, Is ran - somed from the grave; sin - ners plunged be-neath that flood, Lose all their guilt - y stains. Re - deem - ing love has been by theme, And shall be a blood-bought, free re-ward, A gold - en harp for me! When this poor lisp - ing, stam-mering tongue Is ran-somed from the grave.

### The Gate Ajar for Me



## What Can Wash Away My Sin?

91



#### **Almost Persuaded**



#### Channels Only



#### **Count Your Blessings**





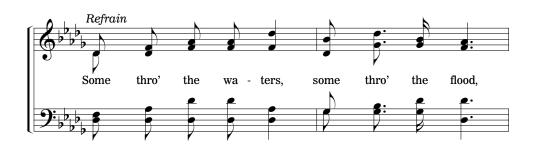
#### If Any Little Word of Mine



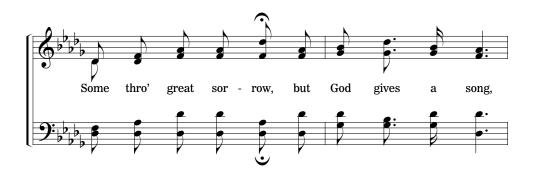
#### Did You Think to Pray?

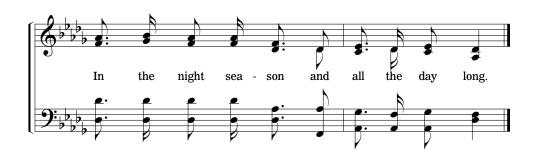


#### God Leads Us Along G. A. Young G. A. Young shad - y, green pas - tures, rich and SOsweet, 2. Some-times the mount where the sun on shines so bright, be - fall Sa sor - rows us and tan op - pose, mire and way from God leads His dear chil dren long; God leads His chil dear dren long; God leads His dear chil dren long; God leads His dear chil dren long; the wa - ter's cool flow bathes the wea - ry one's dark - est Some times in the val - ley, in of night, Through grace we can con - quer, de - feat our foes, up in ter ry, God leads His dear chil - dren long. God leads His dear chil - dren a long. God leads His dear chil - dren long. chil - dren God leads His dear









#### Holy Spirit, Faithful Guide



#### I Love the Sacred Book



# 100 I Would Be Like Jesus



#### **Higher Ground**

101

Johnson Oatman, Jr., 1898 Charles H. Gabriel, 1892 1. I'm press-ing on the up-ward way, New heights I'm gain-ing ev-ery day; 2. My heart has no de-sire to stay Where doubts a-rise and fears dis-may; want to live a-bove the world, Though Satan's darts want to scale the ut-most height And catch a gleam of glo-ry bright; Still I'm on - ward bound, "Lord, plant my feet on high - er ground." Though some may dwell where these abound, My prayer, my aim, is high - er ground. faith has caught the joy - ful sound, The song of saints on high - er ground. For still I'll pray till Heaven I've found, "Lord, plant my feet on high - er ground." But me up, and let me stand By faith on Heav - en's ta - ble-land; A high - er plane than I have found: Lord, plant my feet on high - er ground.

### 102 $\,$ In My Heart There Rings a Melody



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#### In the Service of the King



#### **Blessed Quietness**

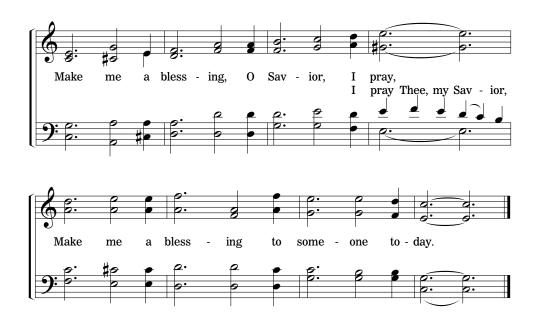


#### Always Cheerful



#### Make Me a Blessing





# Breathe on Me, Breath of God 107



#### 108 Charles H. Gabriel, 1906 Charles H. Gabriel, 1906 1. More like the Mas - ter I would ev er be, 2. More like the Mas - ter is my dai ly prayer; 3. More like the Mas - ter Ι would live and grow; More His meek - ness, more mil - i of hu -More Ι must bear; strength to car cross - es ry oth - ers More of His love to Ι would show; More zeal to la - bor, more cour - age to be true, ef -His fort bring king - dom More ear - nest to in; More self - de ni al, like His in Gal - i for He bids do. More con - se - cra tion work me win. More His Spir it, the wan der of - er to More like the Mas ter Ι long to be. ev er

More Like the Master



### None of Self and All of Thee



#### Open My Eyes, That I May See

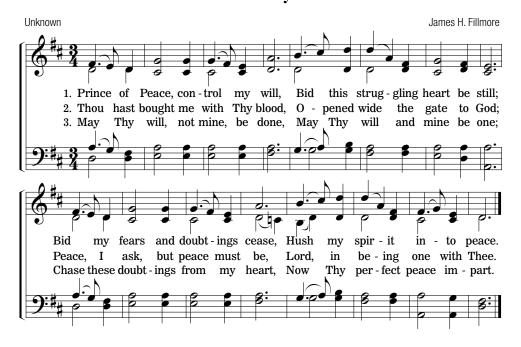


#### **Precious Promise**

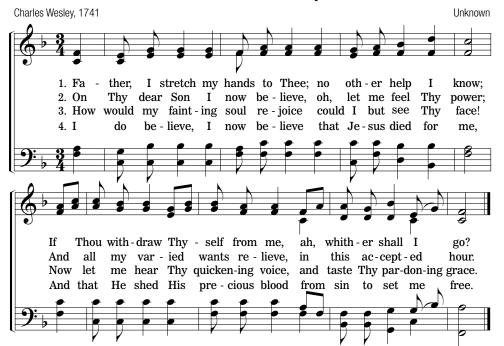


#### Control My Will

112



# Father, I Stretch My Hands 113



# Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus



#### Ye Must Be Born Again



# Standing on the Promises





# The Beautiful Garden of Prayer











#### Only Two Ways



# There's Sunshine in My Soul Today 119



### 120 Tis Love That Makes Us Happy



#### Trusting Jesus



#### 122 What a Friend We Have in Jesus



#### Trust and Obey



# You May Have the Joy Bells





### Yield Not to Temptation



## All That Thrills My Soul



127 Blest Be the Tie That Binds



#### Courage, Brother!



#### God Be With You



## I Am Praying for You

S. O'Maley Cluff, 1904 Ira D. Sankey, 1904 Sav - ior - He's plead - ing in glo - ry, have Fa - ther— to me He has giv - en Α hope for ere - splend - ent in white-ness, A - wait - ing in robe; 'tis have That my 4. When He has found you, tell oth - ers the sto - ry, Sav-ior, though earth friends be few; And now He is watch-ing in ten - der-ness ter - ni - ty, bless - ed and true; And soon He will call me to meet Him in glo - ry my won - der - ing view; Oh, when I re-ceive it all shin - ing in Say - ior is your Say-ior, too; Then pray that your Say - ior will bring them to Refrain me, But oh, that my Sav-ior were your Sav-ior, too. heav - en, But oh, that He'd let me bring you with me, too! For you I am brightness, Dear friend, could I see you re - ceiv-ing one, too! glo - ry, And prayer will be an-swered, 'twas an-swered for you! pray-ing, For you I am pray-ing, For you I am pray-ing, I'm pray-ing for you.

#### I Need the Prayers



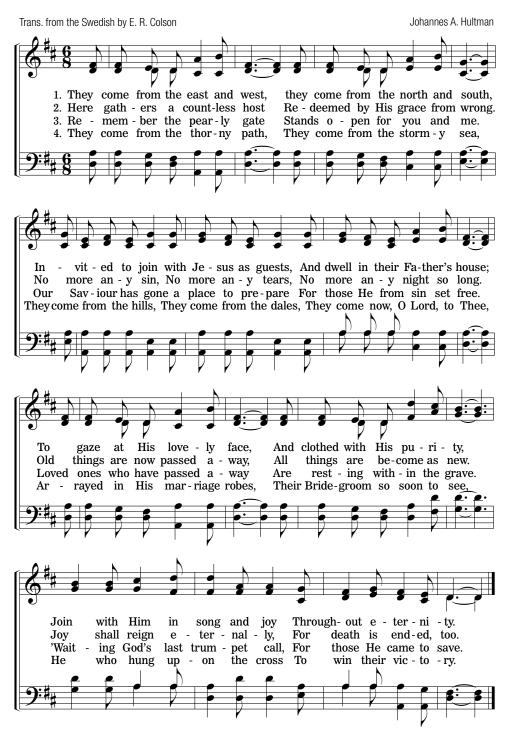
#### Shall We Gather at the River?



## Sweet By and By



# They Come From the East and West 135



#### Heavenly Sunlight

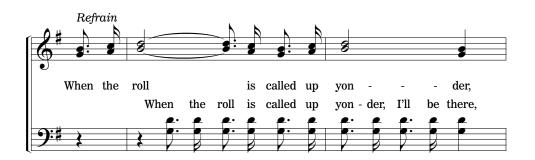


## Leaning on the Everlasting Arms 13



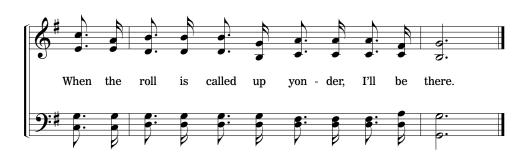
## When the Roll Is Called Up Yonder











## Day Is Dying in the West



## The Day Thou Gavest



# 141 O Day of Rest and Gladness



## Safely Through Another Week



## 143 The Dawn of God's Dear Sabbath



## Welcome, Delightful Morn



# All Things Bright and Beautiful

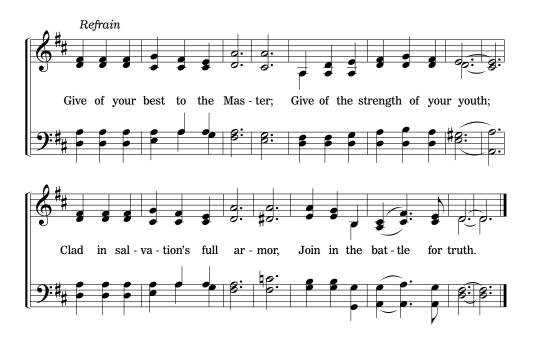


### He Loves Me, Too



## 147 Give of Your Best to the Master





## Lord, Speak to Me

Frances R. Havergal, 1872

148

Arr. from Robert A. Schumann, 1839

- 1. Lord, speak to me that I may speak in liv ing ech oes of Thy tone;
- 2. O lead me, Lord, that I may lead the wandering and the wa-vering feet;
- 3. O strength-en me, that while I stand firm on the Rock, and strong in Thee,



## 149 I Am So Glad That Our Father



## I Will Early Seek the Savior



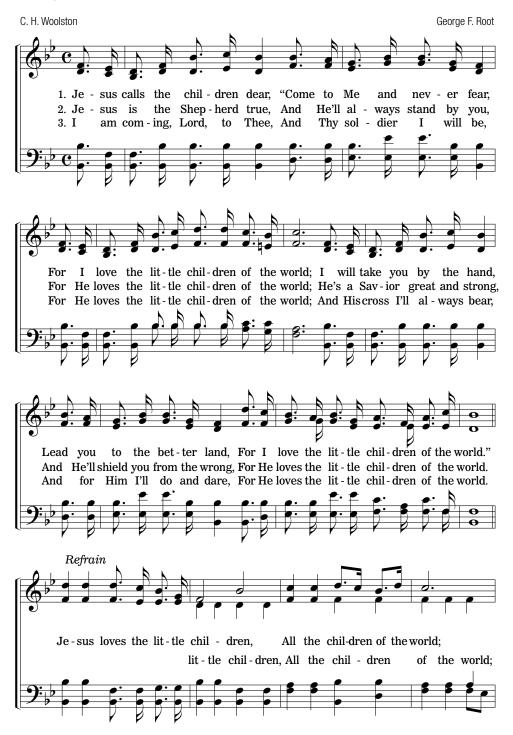
#### Jesus Bids Us Shine

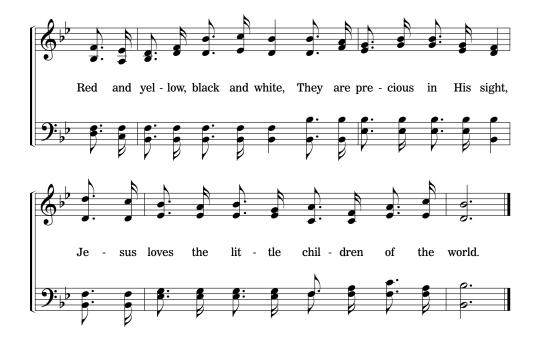


#### Jesus, I Will Follow Thee



## 153 Jesus Loves the Little Children





## Jesus, Friend of Little Children 154



#### Dare to Be a Daniel



#### When He Cometh



## 157 There Lives a Voice Within Me





## Hark! the Voice of Jesus Calling



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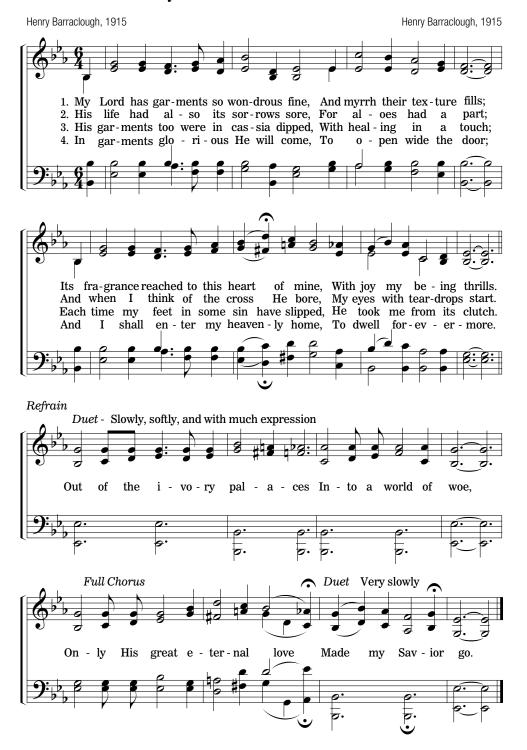
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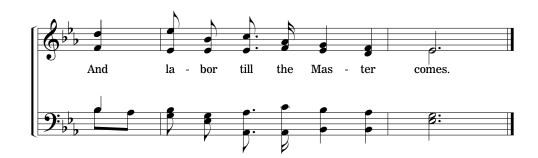












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#### **Insights on Sacred Music**

Compiled from the writings of E. G. White

## HOW IMPORTANT IS MUSIC IN OUR CHRISTIAN LIFE?

Music is of heavenly origin. There is great power in music. It was music from the angelic throng that thrilled the hearts of the shepherds on Bethlehem's plains and swept round the world. It is in music that our praises rise to Him who is the embodiment of purity and harmony. It is with music and songs of victory that the redeemed shall finally enter upon the immortal reward.

There is something peculiarly sacred in the human voice. Its harmony and its subdued and heaveninspired pathos exceeds every musical instrument. Vocal music is one of God's gifts to men, an instrument that cannot be surpassed or equalled when God's love abounds in the soul. Singing with the spirit and the understanding also is a great addition to devotional services in the house of God.

How this gift has been debased! When sanctified and refined it would accomplish great good in breaking down the barriers of prejudice and hard-hearted unbelief, and would be the means of converting souls. It is not enough to understand the rudiments of singing, but with the knowledge, must be such a connection with heaven that angels can sing through us.<sup>1</sup>

Those who have the gift of song are needed. The melody of praise is the atmosphere of heaven. Often by the words of sacred songs, the springs of penitence and faith have been unsealed. Song is one of the most

effective means of impressing spiritual truth upon the heart.<sup>2</sup>

The melody of song, poured forth from many hearts in clear, distinct utterance, is one of God's instrumentalities in the work of saving souls.<sup>3</sup>

## LEARNING THE ART OF SACRED SONG

Upon one occasion a company of prophets met Saul at the "hill of God," not far from Gibeah, with psaltery and tabret, pipe and harp. Under the influence of the Holy Spirit, these men were prophesying and praising God with the music of instruments and the voice of song. The Spirit of the Lord and His converting power came also upon Saul, and he prophesied with them.

The art of sacred melody was diligently cultivated in those schools of the prophets. No frivolous waltz was heard, nor flippant song that should extol man and divert the attention from God; but sacred, solemn psalms of praise to the Creator, exalting His name and recounting His wondrous works. Thus music was made to serve a holy purpose, to lift the thoughts to that which was pure and noble and elevating, and to awaken in the soul, devotion and gratitude to God.

How different the objects to which musical talent is often devoted! How many who profess this gift employ it to honor and exalt self, instead of glorifying God! A love for music leads the unwary to unite with world lovers in pleasure gatherings where God has forbidden His children to go. Thus that which is a great blessing when rightly used, becomes one of Satan's most successful agencies to allure the mind from God and from eternal things.

Music forms a part of God's worship in the courts above. We should endeavor in our songs of praise to approach as nearly as possible to the harmony of the heavenly choirs. I have often been pained to hear untrained voices, pitched to the highest key, literally shrieking the sacred words of some hymn of praise. How inappropriate those sharp, rasping voices for the solemn, joyous worship of God. I long to stop my ears, or flee from the place, and I rejoice when the painful exercise is ended.

Those who make singing a part of divine worship should select hymns with music appropriate to the occasion, not funeral notes, but cheerful yet solemn melodies. The voice can and should be modulated, softened, and subdued.

The proper training of the voice should be regarded as an important part of education. The singer should train himself to utter every word distinctly. It should be remembered that singing as a part of religious service is as much an act of worship as is the prayer. The heart must feel the spirit of the words, to give them right expression. Parents should not employ to instruct their children, a teacher of music who has no reverence for sacred things, nor should they allow them to learn and practice dance songs and frivolous music.4

Music can be a great power for good, yet we do not make the most of this branch of worship. The singing is generally done from impulse or to meet special cases, and at other times those who sing are left to blunder along, and the music loses its proper

effect upon the minds of those present. Music should have beauty, pathos, and power. Let the voices be lifted in songs of praise and devotion. Call to your aid, if practicable, instrumental music, and let the glorious harmony ascend to God, an acceptable offering.

But it is sometimes more difficult to discipline the singers and keep them in working order than to improve the habits of praying and exhorting. Many want to do things after their own style; they object to consultation, and are impatient under leadership. Well-matured plans are needed in the service of God.

Common sense is an excellent thing in the worship of the Lord. The thinking powers should be consecrated to Christ, and ways and means should be devised to serve Him best. The church of God who are trying to do good by living out the truth and seeking to save souls, can be a power in the world if they will be disciplined by the Spirit of the Lord. They must not feel that they can work carelessly for eternity.<sup>5</sup>

Great improvement can be made in singing. Some think that the louder they sing the more music they make; but noise is not music. Good singing is like the music of the birds—subdued and melodious. . . .

The long-drawn-out notes and the peculiar sounds common in operatic singing are not pleasing to the angels. They delight to hear the simple songs of praise sung in a natural tone. The songs in which every word is uttered clearly, in a musical tone, are the songs that they join us in singing. They take up the refrain that is sung from the heart with the spirit and the understanding.<sup>6</sup>

## IN THE HEART, THE HOME, THE NEIGHBORHOOD

If you sit in heavenly places with Christ, you cannot refrain from praising God. Begin to educate your tongues to praise Him and train your hearts to make melody to God; and when the evil one begins to settle his gloom about you, sing praise to God. When things go crossways at your homes, strike up a song about the matchless charms of the Son of God, and I tell you, when you touch this strain, Satan will leave you. You can drive out the enemy with his gloom; his dark shadow will be swept from your pathway by praising God, and you can see, oh, so much clearer, the love and compassion of your heavenly Father.7

In every school, instruction in singing is greatly needed. There should be much more interest in voice culture than is now generally manifested. Students who learned to sing sweet gospel songs with melody and distinctness, can do much good as singing evangelists. They will find many opportunities to use the talent that God has given them, carrying melody and sunshine into many lonely places darkened by sin and sorrow and affliction, singing to those who seldom have church privileges.

Students, go out into the highways and the hedges. Endeavor to reach the higher as well as the lower classes. Enter the homes of the rich and the poor, and as you have opportunity, ask, "Would you be pleased to have us sing? We should be glad to hold a song service with you." Then as hearts are softened, the way may open for you to offer a few words of

prayer for the blessing of God. Not many will refuse.

Such ministry is genuine missionary work. God desires every one of us to be converted, and to learn to engage in missionary effort in earnest. He will bless us in this service for others, and we shall see of His salvation.<sup>8</sup>

#### INSPIRED BY HEAVEN

All should sing with the spirit and with the understanding also. God is not pleased with jargon and discord. Right is always more pleasing to Him than wrong. And the nearer the people of God can approach to correct, harmonious singing, the more is He glorified, the church benefited, and unbelievers favorably affected.

I have been shown the order, the perfect order, of heaven, and have been enraptured as I listened to the perfect music there. After coming out of vision, the singing here has sounded very harsh and discordant. I have seen companies of angels, who stood in a hollow square, everyone having a harp of gold. At the end of the harp was an instrument to turn to set the harp or change the tunes. Their fingers did not sweep over the strings carelessly, but they touched different strings to produce different sounds. There is one angel who always leads, who first touches the harp and strikes the note, then all join in the rich, perfect music of heaven. It cannot be described. It is melody, heavenly, divine, while from every countenance beams the image of Jesus, shining with glory unspeakable.9

All heaven was waiting the hour of triumph when Jesus should ascend to His Father. Angels came to receive the King of glory and to escort Him trihave a song that Jesus gave me, It was sent from heav'n above; There never was a sweeter melody, 'Tis a melody of love.

I love the Christ who died on Calv'ry, For He washed my sins away; He put within my heart a melody, And I know it's there to stay.

"Twill be my endless theme in glory,
With the angels I will sing;
"Twill be a song with glorious harmony,
When the courts of heaven ring.

#### Refrain

In my heart there rings a melody,
There rings a melody with heaven's harmony,
In my heart there rings a melody;
There rings a melody of love.





#### INSIGHTS ON SACRED MUSIC

umphantly to heaven. After Jesus had blessed His disciples, He was parted from them and taken up. And as He led the way upward, the multitude of captives who were raised at His resurrection followed. A multitude of the heavenly host were in attendance, while in heaven an innumerable company of angels awaited His coming. As they ascended to the Holy City, the angels who escorted Jesus cried out, "Lift up your heads, O ye gates; and be ye lift up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of glory shall come in." The angels in the city cried out with rapture, "Who is this King of glory?" The escorting angels answered in triumph, "The Lord strong and mighty, the Lord mighty in battle! Lift up your heads, O ye gates; even lift them up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of glory shall come in!" Again the waiting angels asked, "Who is this King of glory?" and the escorting angels answered in melodious strains, "The Lord of hosts, He is the King of glory." And the heavenly train passed into the city of God. Then all the heavenly host surrounded their majestic Commander, and with the deepest adoration bowed before Him and cast their glittering crowns at His feet. And then they touched their golden harps, and in sweet, melodious strains filled all heaven with rich music and songs to the Lamb who was slain, yet lives again in majesty and glory.<sup>10</sup>

That the Maker of all worlds, the Arbiter of all destinies, should lay aside His glory and humiliate Himself from love to man will ever excite the wonder and adoration of the universe. As the nations of the saved look upon their Redeemer and behold the eternal glory of the Father shining in His countenance; as they behold His throne, which is from everlasting to everlasting, and know that His kingdom is to have no end, they break forth in rapturous song: "Worthy, worthy is the Lamb that was slain, and hath redeemed us to God by His own most precious blood!"11

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Manuscript Releases, vol. 5, p. 197.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The Upward Look, p. 91.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Testimonies, vol. 5, p. 493.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> The Signs of the Times, June 22, 1882.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Testimonies, vol. 4, p. 71.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup>Evangelism, p. 510.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> The Review and Herald, August 5, 1890.

<sup>8</sup> Ibid., August 27, 1903.

<sup>9</sup> Testimonies, vol. 1, p. 146.

<sup>10</sup> Early Writings, pp. 190, 191.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> The Great Controversy, pp. 651, 652.