

## Hymns of Grace

Joella Pickup

While looking through an old hymn-book, I was struck with nostalgia for the old hymns we sang at worship services during my growing-up years. Just reading their titles refreshed my spirit. We are so fortunate to live in this Christian Era — to be able to pray and have the confidence of God's Grace because of the great sacrifice Jesus made for our sins.

Jesus came to earth as a babe, born to Mary, and fathered by God's Holy Spirit. He lived a holy life, without sin, and even at twelve years old, He already knew what His mission was. Growing up, He learned the carpentry trade from His earthly father, Joseph. The people knew He was a good man, but they were not prepared for His being the Messiah of prophecy and many would not accept that.

The ruling classes in Judea considered Him a blasphemer when He revealed to them that He had personally come from God. He went about the Jewish environs teaching His disciples and preaching to the multitudes about righteousness and the imminent arrival of the Kingdom of Heaven. He performed many miracles to prove He was from God. Disillusionment and hypocrisy brought about His death by horrible crucifixion. Jesus was betrayed by Judas Iscariot, one of His own twelve apostles. Satan must have chortled in evil glee at His death, but God trumped his bid for the soul of Jesus. At the right hand of God He now sits in judgment and majesty.

### *Hymns of Praise*

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty  
Hallelujah, Praise Jehovah!  
O Worship The King  
A Mighty Fortress Is Our God  
Worthy Art Thou  
Christ The Lord Is Risen Today  
The Lord Is In His Holy Temple  
Blessed Assurance

### *Hymns of His Coming*

Fairest Lord Jesus  
Silent Night  
Hark, The Herald Angels Sing  
Why Did My Savior Come To Earth?  
Where He Leads I'll Follow  
Joy To The World  
I Know That My Redeemer Liveth  
He Leadeth Me

### *Hymns Concerning His Ministry*

Jesus, Savior, Pilot Me  
Master, The Tempest Is Raging  
Savior, Teach Me Day By Day  
Savior, Lead Me Lest I Stray  
Rock Of Ages  
Are You Sowing The Seed Of The Kingdom, Brother?  
Far And Near The Fields Are Teeming  
We Shall See The King Someday

### *Hymns That Admonish Us*

I Will Sing The Wondrous Story  
Rescue The Perishing  
Where Livest Thou?  
We'll Work Till Jesus Comes  
Stand Up, Stand Up For Jesus  
Send The Light  
God Is Calling The Prodigal  
Is Thy Heart Right With God?

### *Hymns That Remind Us Of God's Love*

O Thou Fount Of Every Blessing  
Near To The Heart Of God  
Love Lifted Me  
I Am Thine, O Lord  
Leaning On The Everlasting Arms  
Count Your Blessings  
God Will Take Care Of You  
Wonderful Story Of Love

### *Hymns That Strengthen Faith*

Jesus Loves Me  
Amazing Grace  
How Firm A Foundation  
A Charge To Keep I Have  
Standing On The Promises  
Give Me The Bible  
Trust And Obey

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### *Hymns About The Crucifixion*

Tis Midnight And On Olive's Brow  
Night With Ebon Pinion  
Were You There?  
Beneath The Cross Of Jesus  
At The Cross  
When I Survey The Wondrous Cross  
Jesus Paid It All  
Low In The Grave He Lay

### *Hymns of Prayer And Hope*

Purer In Heart, O God  
Guide Me O Thou Great Jehovah  
Nearer, My God, To Thee  
In The Morning Of Joy  
Blest Be The Tie That Binds  
Faith Is The Victory  
Have Thine Own Way, Lord  
My Hope Is Built On Nothing Less

The Love of Jesus is so inexpressibly gracious and remarkable. He is the Son of God who came to earth to save sinners. No one else, no man on earth, or angel from Heaven, could have accomplished it. [WWW](#)

## Your Faith—Living or Dying?

*Joella Pickup*

How many of us have recently studied the book of James? What is its main purpose? Who is addressed and why? Which of the three “James’s” mentioned in the Scripture is the penman of this epistle?

There is great Wisdom for the Christian found in the book of James. He does not write to non-Christians, but to his own people, (the twelve tribes), the Jews who have obeyed the Lord and have been scattered because of persecution. However, we non-Jews, having obeyed the Lord’s Gospel also, are within the promise to Abraham, father of the Jewish race. We are of those nations (Gentiles) “afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call.” We are blessed through the Messiah, Jesus, just as were the Jews (Genesis 22:18; Galatians 3:16).

This is a book of exhortation from the Holy Spirit, through James, to those who are in danger of becoming again like the world of sin. Behind this danger lurks the “intellectual perception of faith” in the Truth of God, but without the application to life and conduct that their faith should exemplify. James first tells us not to be overcome with

temptations that may come our way, but to pray for heavenly wisdom to guide us and to help us learn patience through trials. God will reward those who walk wisely, according to His Precepts, with a “crown of life” at His coming. We are warned to be “swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath, for the wrath of man will not conform to the righteousness of God.” Our religion is useless if we do not bridle the tongue and with it cause strife.

As we proceed further, we are warned against “respect of persons” such as honoring the right and dishonoring the poor. In today’s world we would call that attitude as being “stuck-up.” We are to love our Christian brethren and be ready to help the destitute. Faith alone cannot save a person who does nothing for others. “As the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also.” James 2:26.

We are cautioned about what we say and how we say it. Teachers are especially warned concerning this point. James says the tongue is small but it can cause confusion and every evil work, being set on fire by Hell. Going on, James declares that friendship of

the world is enmity with God. We must “resist the devil and he will flee from you.” Our lives are like a vapor—here a short while—but then vanishes away. Therefore, we ought to say, “If the Lord wills”, I will do thus and so. The rich go after more riches and the just are killed, but be patient until the Lord comes. The man Job is given as a fine example of patience. As God is the Creator of all things, let us pray to Him and praise Him and He will help us in times of trouble. One commentator has said, “This epistle has been called the Christian Book of Proverbs because its teachings are in the form of moral precepts rather than a structure built around a central theme.”

The last two verses of James 5 leaves us with this benediction: “Brethren, if any of you do err from the Truth, and one convert him, let him know that he which converteth the sinner from the error of his way shall save a soul from death, and shall hide a multitude of sins.” Is our faith alive and working, or is it dying through indifference toward the Word of God?

P. S.—Did you find out which James wrote the Book of James? (Mark 6:3) [WWW](#)