AM I A SOLDIER OF THE CROSS?

Hymn Devotion - April 21

Scripture -II Timothy 2:3-5.

Am I a soldier of the cross

A foll’wer of the Lamb?
And shall I fear to own His cause,
Or blush to speak His Name?

Must I be carried to the skies
On flowery beds of ease,
While others fought to win the prize,
And sailed through bloody seas?

Are there no foes for me to face?
Must I not stem the flood?
Is this vile world a friend to grace,
To help me on to God?

Sure I must fight if I would reign;
Increase my courage, Lord.
I’ll bear the toil, endure the pain,
Supported by Thy Word.

Isaac Watts (1674-1748)

 This is a hymn that calls us to search our souls, are we doing what we should be as Christians or do we fear to own or acknowledge His cause? Do we expect others to fight the battles while we are on easy street? There are foes - sin, scoffers among other things in this disgusting world - they are not going to help us seek God as we try to make headway against the flood of temptations in this world. We each must join in the fight to reign with Christ one day, gathering courage from the Lord as we toil for His cause, enduring pain although at this point in America the pain is minimal (2010) and we have the support of the Living Word of God - the Bible!

1. This hymn is full of questions only we can answer of ourselves -

 A soldier in the Christian sense is person active in their faith whether brought up in the faith or converted from another religion.

Does that description fit you?

2. Are you a follower of Christ, the sacrificed Lamb?

3. What are we often afraid to do?

4. What should we not do when we speak His name?

5. Verse 2: Where would we be carried?

6. What kind of beds of ease?

7. What is the end result of the fight?

8. What have some sailed through?

9. Verse 3: Are there foes as Christians for us to face?

10. Stem here is to hold its own or make headway against. What are we to be able to hold our own in?

11. Is this vile - disgusting world a friend to grace - to unmerited favor?

12. Does this world help us to be Christians?

13.Verse 4: What must we do?

14. What is our request?

15. What are we saying we will bear?

16. What is our support?

WONDERFUL GRACE OF JESUS

Hymn Devotion - April 22

Scripture - Ephesians 2:4-7

 Romans 16:20

Wonderful grace of Jesus,
Greater than all my sin;
How shall my tongue describe it,
Where shall its praise begin?
Taking away my burden,
Setting my spirit free;
For the wonderful grace of Jesus reaches me.

*Refrain*

*Wonderful the matchless grace of Jesus,
Deeper than the mighty rolling sea;(Higher than the mountain, sparkling like a fountain)Wonderful grace, all sufficient for me, for even me.
Broader than the scope of my transgressions,
Greater far than all my sin and shame,
O magnify the precious Name of Jesus.
Praise His Name!*

Wonderful grace of Jesus,
Reaching to all the lost,
By it I have been pardoned,
Saved to the uttermost,
Chains have been torn asunder,
Giving me liberty;
For the wonderful grace of Jesus reaches me.

Refrain

Wonderful grace of Jesus,
Reaching the most defiled,
By its transforming power,
Making him God’s dear child,
Purchasing peace and heaven,
For all eternity;
And the wonderful grace of Jesus reaches me.

Refrain

Haldor Lillenas (1885-1959)

 When we realize the magnitude of this grace we can only magnify or glorify the precious, beloved, esteemed name of Jesus! Praise His Name!

1. How is grace, the undeserved favor of God described here?

2. What is grace greater than?

3. With what do we have trouble describing grace?

4. What do we have trouble even starting?

5. What does grace take away?

6. What is set free?

7. Who does it reach?

8. Verse 2: Whose grace is it?

9. Who does it reach?

10. By what are we pardoned?

11. Saved to the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. (extreme)

12. What has been torn asunder?

13. Giving me \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

14. What is wonderful?

15. Verse 3: Who does grace reach?

16. How is the power described?

17. What does it make us?

18. What is purchased?

19. For how long?

20. The Chorus: How is the grace of Jesus described?

21. Deeper than:

 Higher than:

 Sparkling like:

22. How is grace for us?

23. Broader than:

Greater than:

24. Magnify is to extol, glorify. What are we to magnify?

25. Then \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_!

I WILL SING OF MY REDEEMER

Hymn Devotion - April 23

Scripture - Ephesians 1:6-8

 Galatians 3:13

I will sing of my Redeemer,
And His wondrous love to me;
On the cruel cross He suffered,
From the curse to set me free.

*Refrain*

*Sing, oh sing, of my Redeemer,
With His blood, He purchased me.
On the cross, He sealed my pardon,
Paid the debt, and made me free.*

I will tell the wondrous story,
How my lost estate to save,
In His boundless love and mercy,
He the ransom freely gave.

*Refrain*

I will praise my dear Redeemer,
His triumphant power I’ll tell,
How the victory He giveth
Over sin, and death, and hell.

*Refrain*

I will sing of my Redeemer,
And His heav’nly love to me;
He from death to life hath brought me,
Son of God with Him to be.

*Refrain*

Philip Paul Bliss (1838-1876)

 He purchased us with His blood on the cross which sealed our pardon, our forgiveness, paid the debt of sin and freed us for all eternity from sin, a debt we never could pay - Only Christ, a sinless sacrifice, through the shedding of blood could obtain this pardon.

 When we know Him as our Redeemer we will be glad to - sing to, tell of and praise our dear Redeemer!

1. Who do we say we will sing of?

2. What does He have for us?

3. Where did He suffer?

4. What are we set free from?

5. Verse 2: What do we say we will tell of?

6. What was saved?

7. What are boundless?

8. What did He freely give?

9. Verse 3: Who do we say we will praise?

10. How is His power described?

11.What does He giveth?

12. Over what?

13. Verse 4: How is His loved described?

14. What has He brought us from?

15. What will we be with Him?

16. Chorus: Who are we singing about?

17. What was used to purchase us?

18. What three things were accomplished on the cross?

I KNOW THAT MY REDEEMER LIVES

Hymn Devotion - April 24

Scripture for today Job 19:25-27

I know that my Redeemer lives;
What joy this blest assurance gives!
He lives, He lives, who once was dead;
He lives, my everlasting Head.

He lives to bless me with His love,
He lives to plead for me above.
He lives my hungry soul to feed,
He lives to help in time of need.

He lives and grants me daily breath;
He lives, and I shall conquer death:
He lives my mansion to prepare;
He lives to bring me safely there.

He lives, all glory to His Name!
He lives, my Savior, still the same.
What joy the blest assurance gives,
I know that my Redeemer lives!

 Samuel Medley (1738-1799)

 This is a strong statement for today that we KNOW something is really true - even when we see it in the paper or hear it on TV there are many times the stories are changed or retracted. To know that Jesus lives and the only way you can know is through faith and what He has done in your own life. We who believe know that He was once dead and arose from the dead on Easter what joy and blessed assurance for this life and the next because He lives and is our everlasting - eternal Head, leader, and guide.

 The eight He lives lines are such a blessing, knowing all He does for us we can only give all glory to His Name, having joy and blessed assurance that our Redeemer lives!

1. What is being confirmed here?

2. What two things does this knowledge bring?

3. He who lives was once \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_!

4. How is Jesus described here?

5. Verse 2: Finish the He lives lines:

He lives to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ with \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

He lives to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_for \_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

He lives my \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

 He lives to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

6. Verse 3: Finish these He lives lines:

 He lives and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ me \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

He lives and \_\_\_ shall \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

He lives my \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ .

He lives to bring \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ there.

7. Verse 4: What do we give to His name?

8. How is our living Savior?

9. What kind of assurance does this knowledge give?

10. What do we know?

REDEEMED

Hymn Devotion-April 25

Scripture - I Peter 1:18-21

 Isaiah 42:16

Redeemed, how I love to proclaim it!
Redeemed by the blood of the Lamb;
Redeemed through His infinite mercy,
His child and forever I am.

*Refrain*

*Redeemed, redeemed,
Redeemed by the blood of the Lamb;
Redeemed, redeemed,
His child and forever I am.*

Redeemed, and so happy in Jesus,
No language my rapture can tell;
I know that the light of His presence
With me doth continually dwell.

Refrain

I think of my blessed Redeemer,
I think of Him all the day long:
I sing, for I cannot be silent;
His love is the theme of my song.

Refrain

I know I shall see in His beauty
The King in whose law I delight;
Who lovingly guardeth my footsteps,
And giveth me songs in the night.

Refrain

 Fanny Jane Crosby (1820-1915)

 The author of this hymn was blind from infancy but knew the light of His presence in her heart and soul. We can come from blindness to the light of God’s presence and make the theme of our life His love and let His commands guard and guide our footsteps putting a song in our heart and songs in the darkness of night, and in the darkness of this world. Wow being a Child of God forever!

1. Christ REDEEMED us He paid a single payment on the cross for our sins!

What should we as the redeemed do?

2. How were we redeemed?

3. What was the driving force of His actions?

4. What did we become? How long?

5. Verse 2: How are we in Jesus?

6. A definition of rapture is a mystical experience in which the soul gains a knowledge of divine things.

What cannot explain the feeling of a saved soul?

7. What are we now in?

8. When are we in this?

9. Verse 3: Who do we think of ?

10. How long should we think?

11. We sing because we cannot be \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

12. A definition of theme is a subject that a person speaks, writes or thinks.

 What is the theme of the song?

13. Verse 4: How will Jesus be seen in Heaven?

14. In what should we delight?

15. What does He do to our footsteps?

16. When does He give songs?

17. The Chorus: How are we redeemed?

18. We are now?

 How long?