LORD OF ALL BEING, THRONED AFAR

Hymn Devotion- August 1

Scripture: Hebrews 12:28-29

Revelation 4:2, 3

Lord of All Being, Throned Afar

Lord of all being, throned afar,  
Thy glory flames from sun and star;  
Center and soul of every sphere,  
Yet to each loving heart how near!

Sun of our life, Thy quickening ray,   
Sheds on our path the glow of day;   
Star of our hope, Thy softened light  
Cheers the long watches of the night.

Our midnight is Thy smile withdrawn;   
Our noontide is Thy gracious dawn;   
Our rainbow arch, Thy mercy’s sign;   
All, save the clouds of sin, are Thine.

Lord of all life, below, above,   
Whose light is truth, whose warmth is love,   
Before Thy ever blazing throne  
We ask no luster of our own.

Grant us Thy truth to make us free,   
And kindling hearts that burn for Thee,   
Till all Thy living altars claim  
One holy light, one heavenly flame.

Oliver Wendell Holmes (1809-1894)

Grant, give to us Thy truth to make us free, free from sin and that our hearts may be kindled and burn for Thee, for God. Until all Thy living altars, everyone claims One holy light, One heavenly flame – this could be the end of time when all believers will be in His presence.

1. How is the Lord described?
2. Where is He?
3. Where are His glory flames from?
4. What of every sphere?
5. What is He to each loving heart?
6. Verse 2: What is He of our life?
7. What does His quickening ray do?
8. What is He the star of?
9. What does the star’s light do?
10. Verse 3: What is our midnight?
11. What is our noontide?
12. What is our rainbow arch?
13. What are the clouds and whose are they?
14. Verse 4: How is the Lord described?
15. Where is He?
16. How is light and warmth described?
17. How is His throne described?
18. What do not ask for?
19. Verse 5: What are we asking to granted to us and what will it do?
20. What do kindling hearts do?
21. What will all living altars claim one day?

OF THE FATHER’S LOVE BEGOTTEN

Hymn Devotion– August 2

Scripture: Colossians 1:16-18

John 3:16

Of the Father’s love begotten,

Ere the worlds began to be,  
He is Alpha and Omega,

He the source, the ending He,  
Of the things that are, that have been,  
And that future years shall see,

Evermore and evermore!

O ye heights of heaven adore Him;

Angel hosts, His praises sing;  
Powers, dominions, bow before Him,

And extol our God and King!  
Let no tongue on earth be silent,  
Every voice in concert sing,

Evermore and evermore!

Christ, to Thee with God the Father,

And, O Holy Ghost, to Thee,  
Hymn and chant with high thanksgiving, And unwearied praises be:  
Honor, glory, and dominion,  
And eternal victory,

Evermore and evermore!

Aurelius Clemens Prudentius (348-c.413)

Translated by John Mason Neale (1818-1866) and Henry W. Baker (1821-1877)

Evermore, evermore is repeated – in the first verse to remind us that He was, is and will be in the future the source of creation and He will be until the very end. The second verse is the praising and unity of praise from angels, to kings and kingdoms to include every tongue. The in the last verse we should not grow weary of praising God, with high thanksgiving being sure that the honor, glory, authority and eternal victory will be His forever. Praise the Lord!

1. How was it that the worlds began to be?
2. What is He?
3. What does that mean?
4. List the three “Of the things that”?
5. For how long?
6. Verse 2: What adores Him?
7. Who sing His praises?
8. Who bow before Him?
9. Who do they extol?
10. What should no tongue be?
11. How should every voice ring?
12. Verse 3: List the “to Thee” people:
13. What all should be?
14. What should the praises contain?
15. What is repeated?

PRAISE TO THE LORD, THE ALMIGHTY

Hymn Devotion – August 3

Scripture: Psalm 103:1-5

Psalm 150:1-2

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!  
O my soul, praise Him, for He is thy health and salvation!  
All ye who hear, now to His temple draw near;   
Praise Him in glad adoration.

Praise to the Lord, who over all things so wondrously reigneth,   
Shelters thee under His wings, yea, so gently sustaineth!  
Hast thou not seen how thy desires ever have been  
Granted in what He ordaineth?

Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy work and defend thee;   
Surely His goodness and mercy here daily attend thee.  
Ponder anew what the Almighty can do,   
If with His love He befriend thee.

Praise to the Lord, O let all that is in me adore Him!  
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before Him.  
Let the Amen sound from His people again,   
Gladly for aye (forever) we adore Him.

Joachim Neander (1650-1680)

Translated by Catherine Winkworth (1827-1878)

Ponder anew – think of all the things the Almighty can do – will do if with His love He is our friend – for Him to befriend us we have to invite Him into our lives – accept Him as our Lord and Savior – He will grant us all our desires within His will.

PRAISE TO THE LORD!

1. How is God described?
2. What reasons should our soul praise Him?
3. Who are to draw near to the temple?
4. What are we to join in?
5. Verse 2: What reason is given to praise the Lord?
6. What two things does God do?
7. A definition of ordain is to decree or appoint.

What happens when our desires

are in what God ordains?

1. Verse 3: What is the reason to praise the Lord?
2. What daily attends us?
3. What should we ponder anew?
4. With what may He befriend us?
5. Verse 4: What are we to praise the Lord with?
6. Who are to come with praises before Him?
7. Who should sound the amen – so be it – again?
8. How should we adore Him?
9. How long?

BEFORE THY THRONE, O GOD, WE KNEEL

Hymn Devotion -August 4

Scripture: Psalm 51:10-13

Psalm 25:18

Before Thy throne, O God, we kneel;  
Give us a conscience quick to feel,  
A ready mind to understand  
The meaning of Thy chastening hand;  
Whate’er the pain and shame may be,  
Bring us, O Father, nearer Thee.

Search out our hearts and make us true,  
Wishful to give to all their due;  
From love of pleasure, lust of gold,  
From sins which make the heart grow cold,  
Wean us and train us with Thy rod;  
Teach us to know our faults, O God.

For sins of heedless word and deed,  
For pride, ambitious to succeed;  
For crafty trade and subtle snare  
To catch the simple unaware;  
For lives bereft of purpose high,  
Forgive, forgive, O Lord, we cry.

Let the fierce fires, which burn and try,  
Our inmost spirits purify:  
Consume the ill; purge out the shame;  
O God! be with us in the flame;  
A newborn people may we rise,  
More pure, more true, more nobly wise.

William Boyd Carpenter (1841-1918)

The good news through all of this is that if we have Jesus as our Savior we are forgiven by the grace of God and we have this Spirit within us to purify the ill, the sinful nature and purge, cleanse us from the shame – Let us rise a new person to be purer, truer and make better, wiser choices – through Jesus Christ our Lord!

1. What should we do before the throne?
2. What are we asking to be given to us?
3. How do we want our mind?
4. A definition of chastening is to discipline or punish.

What do we want to understand?

1. What do we want to be even through pain and shame?
2. Verse 2: How are we asking our hearts to be made?
3. What are we wishful of?
4. List the “from” items:
5. What do these things make the heart do?
6. What are we asking God to do?
7. What do we want to be taught?
8. Verse 3: For sins of:
9. List the rest of the “for” statements:
10. The definition of bereft is deprived – suffering from lack of something.

What are our lives lacking?

1. What are we asking the Lord to do?
2. Verse 4: What is the result of the fierce fires which burn and try?
3. What will be consumed and purged?
4. Where do we want God to be?
5. What will rise?
6. What “more” will we be?

DAY IS DYING IN THE WEST

Hymn Devotion - August 5

Scripture: Psalm 104:19-24

Isaiah 6:3

Day is dying in the west;   
Heav’n is touching earth with rest;   
Wait and worship while the night  
Sets the evening lamps alight  
Through all the sky.

Refrain

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts!  
Heav’n and earth are full of Thee!  
Heav’n and earth are praising Thee,   
O Lord most high!

Lord of life, beneath the dome  
Of the universe, Thy home,   
Gather us who seek Thy face  
To the fold of Thy embrace,   
For Thou art nigh.

Refrain

While the deepening shadows fall,   
Heart of love enfolding all,   
Through the glory and the grace  
Of the stars that veil Thy face,   
Our hearts ascend.

Refrain

When forever from our sight  
Pass the stars, the day, the night,   
Lord of angels, on our eyes  
Let eternal morning rise  
And shadows end.

Refrain

Mary Artemisia Lathbury (1841-1913)

The end of the day is peaceful as should be the end of our lives, when our passing days are turned into eternal morning and shadows of night come no more! Praise God!

1. What happens in the evening?
2. What does heaven do?
3. What are we to do?
4. What is set alight through the sky?
5. Verse 2: What is the Lord of?
6. How is His home described?
7. What are we gathered to do?
8. Where are we?
9. Why?
10. Verse 3: How do the shadows become?
11. What is enfolding all?
12. Through what?
13. What do the stars do?
14. What ascends?
15. Verse 4: When what forever passes from our sight?
16. What is the Lord of?
17. What do we want on our eyes?
18. Ending what?
19. The Chorus: What is the response to God?
20. How is God described?
21. What is heaven and earth full of?
22. What is heaven and earth doing?
23. Who is the most high?