I LOVE THY KINGDOM LORD

Hymn Devotion – August 16

Scripture: Colossians 1:25-26

 Psalm 137:5-6

I love Thy kingdom, Lord,
The house of Thine abode,
The church our blessed Redeemer saved
With His own precious blood.

I love Thy church, O God.
Her walls before Thee stand,
Dear as the apple of Thine eye,
And graven on Thy hand.

For her my tears shall fall
For her my prayers ascend,
To her my cares and toils be given
Till toils and cares shall end.

Beyond my highest joy
I prize her heavenly ways,
Her sweet communion, solemn vows,
Her hymns of love and praise.

Sure as Thy truth shall last,
To Zion shall be given
The brightest glories earth can yield
And brighter bliss of Heaven.

Timothy Dwight (1752-1817)

 Sometimes it seems in this hymn the writer is thinking of the church as a building but we must remember the church is a body of believers – with one common goal to believe, praise, pray to and work for the Lord because of what Christ has done for us graven – written in the scares of His hands – He paid for the church with His blood – Thanks and Praise to Jesus our blessed Redeemer.

1. What are we declaring that we love?
2. What is “the house”?
3. What description is used for Jesus?
4. What did Jesus do for the church?
5. Verse 2: What is our next love?
6. What stands before God?
7. How is the relationship described with the church?
8. A definition of graven is fixed indelibly.

 How is the church graven on

 Jesus’ hand?

1. Verse 3: What will fall for the church?
2. What will ascend?
3. What will we give to the church?
4. Until what happens?

1. Verse 4: What do we say we prize beyond our highest joy?
2. List the rest of the ways of the church:
3. Verse 5: What is sure to last?
4. What will Zion be given?

BLEST BE THE DEAR UNITING LOVE

Hymn Devotion – August 17

Scripture: Philippians 2:1-2

 I Corinthians 2:2

Blest be the dear uniting love,
That will not let us part!
Our bodies may far off remove,
We still are one in heart.

Joined in one spirit to our Head,
Where He appoints we go;
And still in Jesus’ footsteps tread,
And show His praise below.

O may we ever walk in Him,
And nothing know beside;
Nothing desire, nothing esteem,
But Jesus crucified.

Partakers of the Savior’s grace,
The same in mind and heart,
Nor joy, nor grief, nor time, nor place,
Nor life, nor death can part.

Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

 We are partakers, we receive the Savior’s grace – all believers are in the same mind and heart. Nothing– not joy, grief, time, place – where we are, life or death can part – can tear away the dear uniting love that we have through Jesus! Romans 8:38 has the same list!

 What a comfort to know that there are others of like faith that we are united to in the love of Christ, through Jesus the crucified that nothing can separate us from the love of Jesus – Wow – praise His Name!

1. What blest be?
2. What will it not let us do?
3. What may be far removed?
4. What are we still one in?
5. Verse 2: What are we joined in and to?
6. What happens when He appoints?
7. Where do we tread?
8. What do we do below?
9. Verse 3: What may we ever do?
10. List all the “nothings”:
11. What only to know?
12. Verse 4: What are we partakers of?

1. What are we the same in?
2. List all the “Nor” can part list?

JESUS, THY BOUNDLESS LOVE TO ME

Hymn Devotion – August 18

Scripture: Philippians 3:7-8

 Ephesians 3:18

Jesus, Thy boundless love to me
No thought can reach, no tongue declare;
Unite my thankful heart with Thee
And reign without a rival there.
To Thee alone, dear Lord, I live;
Myself to Thee, dear Lord, I give.

O love, how cheering is thy ray!
All pain before thy presence flies;
Care, anguish, sorrow, melt away
Wherever thy healing beams arise.
O Jesus, nothing may I see,
Nothing desire or seek, but Thee!

In suffering be Thy love my peace,
In weakness be Thy love my power;
And when the storms of life shall cease,
Jesus, in that important hour,
In death as life be Thou my guide,
And save me, who for me hast died.

Paul Gerhardt (1607-1676)

Translated by John Wesley (1703-1791)

Many more verse on the web!

 His love is boundless, our desire, our goal should be to give ourselves to Him and to live only for Him and the ultimate is to have His love our peace and power through all of life’s situations – let’s begin today to strive for those goals with even more zeal than before – our solemn or important hour is coming quicker moment by moment – let Jesus guide us in this life and then in death safely into heaven through His boundless love.

1. How is Jesus’ love described?
2. What cannot reach or declare?
3. How do we want our thankful heart joined to Jesus?
4. How will He reign there?
5. How are we saying we will be toward Jesus?

What will we give?

1. Verse 2: How is love described?
2. What flies?
3. What all melts away?
4. What arises?
5. List all the “nothings”:
6. What only to seek?
7. Verse 3: What will love in suffering be?

1. What will love in weakness be?
2. What shall cease?
3. How is the hour described?
4. In what two places will Jesus be our guide?

CHRIST IS MADE THE SURE FOUNDATION

Hymn Devotion – August 19

Scripture: I Peter 2:4-6

 Isaiah 28:16

What Christ is made the sure foundation,
Christ the head and cornerstone;
Chosen of the Lord, and precious,
Binding all the Church in one,
Holy Zion’s Help forever,
And her confidence alone.

To this temple, where we call Thee,
Come, O Lord of hosts, today;
With Thy wonted loving-kindness
Hear Thy servants as they pray.
And Thy fullest benediction
Shed within its walls alway.

Here vouchsafe to all Thy servants
What they ask of Thee to gain;
What they gain from Thee forever
With the blessed to retain,
And hereafter in Thy glory
Evermore with Thee to reign.

Laud and honor to the Father,
Laud and honor to the Son,
Laud and honor to the Spirit,
Ever Three and ever One;
One in might, and One in glory,
While unending ages run.

Latin Hymn (seventh century)

Translated by John Mason Neale

 (1818-1866)

 This is a Trinity “lesson” – the Bible dictionary uses the illustration that generosity originated with the Father, expressed by the Son and energized by the Holy Spirit thus the workings of God are fulfilled. Let’s not get lost in this concept but just praise and honor God – the Three in One!

1. What of Christ is made?
2. What is Christ?
3. What does the Lord do?
4. Verse 2: Where is Jesus called?
5. How is the Lord described?
6. The definition of wonted is habitual, accustomed, and usual.

What is wonted?

1. What are we asking the Lord to do?
2. A definition of benediction is a blessing.

What kind of benediction?

1. A definition of shed is to radiate.

 What should shed and where after

 the benediction?

1. Verse 3: Vouchsafe here means grant:

 What are we asking to be

 vouchsafed? (second line)

1. How long will what we gain last?
2. With whom will we retain this gain?
3. What in and evermore with Him will we do?
4. Verse 4: List all we are to Laud and honor:
5. What are they ever and ever?
6. What are they in might and in glory?
7. How will the ages be?

COME, YE SINNERS, POOR AND NEEDY

Hymn Devotion – August 20

Scripture: Mark 2:16-17

 Mark 11:28-30

Come, ye sinners, poor and needy,
Weak and wounded, sick and sore;
Jesus ready stands to save you,
Full of pity, love and power.

*Refrain*

*I will arise and go to Jesus,
He will embrace me in His arms;
In the arms of my dear Savior,
O there are ten thousand charms.*

Come, ye thirsty, come, and welcome,
God’s free bounty glorify;
True belief and true repentance,
Every grace that brings you nigh.

*Refrain*

Come, ye weary, heavy laden,
Lost and ruined by the fall;
If you tarry till you’re better,
You will never come at all.

*Refrain*

View Him prostrate in the garden;
On the ground your Maker lies.
On the bloody tree behold Him;
Sinner, will this not suffice?

*Refrain*

Lo! th’incarnate God ascended,
Pleads the merit of His blood:
Venture on Him, venture wholly,
Let no other trust intrude.

*Refrain*

Let not conscience make you linger,
Not of fitness fondly dream;
All the fitness He requireth
Is to feel your need of Him.

*Refrain*

Joseph Hart (1712-1768)

 If we keep putting off coming to Jesus we will probably never do it – DONOT tarry! Call on the Name of Jesus today!

1. List all of the descriptions of a sinner:
2. What does Jesus stand ready to do?
3. What is Jesus full of?
4. Verse 2: What are we?
5. What are we to do?
6. What are we to glorify?
7. What should be true?
8. What brings us nigh to Jesus?
9. Verse 3: List the conditions of the human race from the Fall:
10. What will happen if we tarry – put off coming to Christ until we are better?
11. Verse 4: How was He in the garden?
12. Who lay on the ground?
13. How was Jesus beheld?
14. Who should His death be sufficient to?
15. Verse 5: How is God described?
16. What does He plead?
17. To venture is to take a risk – How should we venture on Him?
18. What should not intrude?
19. Verse 6: What should not make us linger?
20. What should we not dream fondly of?
21. What is the only fitness He requires?
22. Chorus: What do we say we will do?
23. What will He do?
24. What are there in the arms of the Savior?