O FOR A HEART TO PRAISE MY GOD

Hymn Devotion – August 26

Scripture: Ezekiel 11:19-20

Revelation 2:17

O for a heart to praise my God,  
A heart from sin set free,  
A heart that always feels Thy blood  
So freely shed for me.

A heart resigned, submissive, meek,  
My great Redeemer’s throne,  
Where only Christ is heard to speak,  
Where Jesus reigns alone.

A humble, lowly, contrite, heart,  
Believing, true and clean,  
Which neither life nor death can part  
From Christ who dwells within.

A heart in every thought renewed  
And full of love divine,  
Perfect and right and pure and good,  
A copy, Lord, of Thine.

Thy nature, gracious Lord, impart;  
Come quickly from above;  
Write Thy new name upon my heart,  
Thy new, best name of Love.

Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

So many think that being a Christian is to follow rules, do the rituals and be “holier than thou”. But this hymn is life’s journey – the journey of the heart - to have the heart of Christ, believing, humble, true, repentant, pure, right – a place where Christ not only dwells but reigns and neither life nor death can part us from Christ. Where His name is written – the best name of Love is written.

1. What are we asking for?
2. What do we want our heart set free from?
3. What do we want our heart to always feel?

Why?

1. Verse 2: How do we want our heart to be?
2. Whose throne?
3. Who only is heard to speak?
4. Who only reigns?
5. Verse 3: How do we want the state of our heart to be?
6. What do we want our heart to be?
7. What two things can never part us from Him?
8. Where does He dwell?
9. Verse 4: What in our heart should be renewed?
10. What should our heart be full of?
11. What are the ideals for our heart?
12. What is the goal of our heart?
13. Verse 5: What are we asking the Lord to impart?
14. How soon?
15. What are we asking for Him to write upon our heart?
16. What kind of name?

LORD, IT BELONGS NOT TO MY CARE

Hymn Devotion – August 27

Scripture: Philippians 4:11-13

Isaiah 26:4

Lord, it belongs not to my care  
Whether I die or live;  
To love and serve Thee is my share,  
And this Thy grace must give.

If life be long, I will be glad,  
That I may long obey;  
If short, yet why should I be sad  
To welcome endless day?

Christ leads me through no darker rooms  
Than He went through before;  
He that unto God’s kingdom comes  
Must enter by this door.

Come, Lord, when grace hath made me meet  
Thy blessed face to see;  
For if Thy work on earth be sweet  
What will Thy glory be?

My knowledge of that life is small,  
The eye of faith is dim;  
But ’tis enough that Christ knows all,  
And I shall be with Him.

Richard Baxter (1613-1691)

To be content as Paul points out in Philippians 4:11 - content to put it all in the hands of God the all knowing, all powerful – for life and death are in His care – we have no control over it – to love and serve is our part, His love and grace will see us into His glory!

1. Whose care are we in?
2. Whether what happens?
3. What is our share?
4. What are we asking for?
5. Verse 2: What will we be glad for?
6. What will we be able to do?
7. What will happen at the end of life whether long or short?
8. Verse 3: Where does Christ lead us?

Than what?

1. What do we come into?
2. How must we enter?
3. Verse 4: What will bring us to Thy blessed face to see?
4. How can God’s work on earth be described?
5. Can we answer the question – What will glory – heaven be like?
6. Verse 5: What is small?
7. What is dim?
8. What is enough?
9. Where shall we be?

BREATHE ON ME, BREATH OF GOD

Hymn Devotion -August 28

Scripture: Romans 8:11-12, 14

Ezekiel 37:5

Breathe on me, breath of God,  
Fill me with life anew,  
That I may love what Thou dost love,  
And do what Thou wouldst do.

Breathe on me, breath of God,  
Until my heart is pure,  
Until with Thee I will one will,  
To do and to endure.

Breathe on me, breath of God,  
Till I am wholly Thine,  
Till all this earthly part of me  
Glows with Thy fire divine.

Breathe on me, breath of God,  
So shall I never die,  
But live with Thee the perfect life  
Of Thine eternity.

Edwin Hatch (1835-1889)

This is a hymn stated in simple words as the prayer of our hearts to have the breath of God, the Holy Spirit breathed upon us until His will and our will is one, with a pure heart, to glow with His fire, His purpose divine – to be filled with a new life to love as God loves and do what He would do – this life to live in human form but also that our soul would never die and to live the perfect life of God’s eternity!

1. Whose breath do we want breathed on us?
2. What do we want to be filled with?
3. How do we want to love?
4. What do we want to do?
5. Verse 2: How long do we want to be breathed on?
6. What do we want our wills to be?
7. To \_\_\_\_\_\_ and to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
8. Verse 3: What do we want to become through God’s breath?
9. What part of us?
10. What do we want to glow with?
11. Verse 4: What will this breath of God keep us from doing?
12. How will we live with Him?
13. Where?

CHILDREN OF THE HEAVENLY KING

Hymn Devotion – August 29

Scripture: Colossians 3:1-4

Children of the heavenly King,  
As we journey let us sing;  
Sing your Savior’s worthy praise,  
Glorious in His works and ways

We are traveling home to God,  
In the way the fathers trod;  
They are happy now, and we  
Soon their happiness shall see.

Fear not, brethren; joyful stand  
On the borders of your land;  
Jesus Christ, your Father’s Son,  
Bids you undismayed go on.

Lord, obedient we would go,  
Gladly leaving all below;  
Only Thou our Leader be;  
And we will still follow Thee.

Lift your eyes, ye sons of light,  
Zion’s city is in sight:  
There our endless home shall be,  
There our Lord we soon shall see.

John Cennick (1718-1755)

We would go on obedient, leaving all below, gladly – as the Lord our leader we will still follow Thee.

We lift our eyes as sons of light, for Zion, heaven is in sight. There our endless our eternal home shall – will be, and there our Lord we soon shall see.

1. Who do we say we are children of?
2. What do we do as we journey?
3. What do we sing of?
4. What is He glorious in?
5. Verse 2: Where are we traveling?
6. In what way?
7. What are they now?
8. What will we soon see?
9. Verse 3: What are we as brethren to do?
10. Where are we standing?
11. Who is Jesus Christ?
12. How are we to go on?
13. Verse 4: How do we say we will go?
14. What will we gladly do?
15. Who will our only leader be?
16. What will we still do?
17. Verse 5: What are we to do as sons of light?
18. What is in sight?
19. What will be there?
20. Who will we soon see?

COME, YE DISCONSOLATE

Hymn Devotion – August 30

Scripture: Revelation 21:3-4

Jeremiah 31:13

Come, ye disconsolate, where’er ye languish,  
Come to the mercy seat, fervently kneel.  
Here bring your wounded hearts, here tell your anguish;  
Earth has no sorrow that heaven cannot heal.

Joy of the desolate, light of the straying,  
Hope of the penitent, fadeless and pure!  
Here speaks the Comforter, tenderly saying,  
“Earth has no sorrow that Heaven cannot cure.”

Here see the Bread of Life, see waters flowing  
Forth from the throne of God, pure from above.  
Come to the feast of love; come, ever knowing  
Earth has no sorrow but heaven can remove.

*Moore’s original lyrics:*

Come, ask the infidel what boon he brings us,  
What charm for aching hearts he can reveal,  
Sweet is that heavenly promise Hope sings us—  
“Earth has no sorrow that God cannot heal.”

Thomas Moore (1779-1852)

Altered by Thomas Hastings (1784-1872)

When we think of those that sing this hymn – people who have already brought their sorrows to the mercy seat it seems like this hymn has no one to enlighten but each time the church gathers there are those who have not brought their sorrows and anguish or at least have not given them totally over to the Lord – there is always a heart cord to be tugged! Is that heart cord yours?

1. A definition of disconsolate is unhappy, disappointed.

Languish to be or grow feeble

Who are being called?

1. What is being asked to be done?
2. What is to be brought?
3. What is to be told?
4. What of earth can heaven heal?

1. Verse 2: Joy of the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

(sad, lonely, deserted)

1. Light of the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
2. Hope of the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_,

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

1. Who speaks?
2. What does he say?
3. Verse 3: What is seen?
4. Where does it come from and how?
5. What are we to come to?
6. What can we come ever knowing?

MY JESUS, I LOVE THEE

Hymn Devotion – August 31

Scripture: I John 4:9-11, 19

My Jesus, I love Thee, I know Thou art mine;  
For Thee all the follies of sin I resign.  
My gracious Redeemer, my Savior art Thou;  
If ever I loved Thee, my Jesus, ’tis now.

I love Thee because Thou has first loved me,  
And purchased my pardon on Calvary’s tree.  
I love Thee for wearing the thorns on Thy brow;  
If ever I loved Thee, my Jesus, ’tis now.

I’ll love Thee in life, I will love Thee in death,  
And praise Thee as long as Thou lendest me breath;  
And say when the death dew lies cold on my brow,  
If ever I loved Thee, my Jesus, ’tis now.

In mansions of glory and endless delight,  
I’ll ever adore Thee in heaven so bright;  
I’ll sing with the glittering crown on my brow;  
If ever I loved Thee, my Jesus, ’tis now.

William Ralph Featherston (1846-1873)

At each phase of our lives we should be able to declare that at this point in our lives – If ever I loved Jesus – it is now – as our lives move on and change Christ should always be at the forefront of our lives – we should praise Him as long as He lends us breath – remembering that He is in control!

1. What are we stating?
2. What do we know?
3. What will we do for Jesus?
4. How is Jesus described?
5. What are we stating about Jesus now?
6. Verse 2: Why do we say that we love Jesus?
7. What did He purchase?
8. What is another reason we give for loving Jesus?
9. Verse 3: When are the two times we say we will love Jesus?
10. How long will we praise Him?
11. What will we declare when death-dew lies cold on our brow?
12. Verse 4: Where will be the next phase of praise?
13. Where will we ever adore Him?
14. What will we be wearing when we sing?
15. What is the repeated phrase and resounding declaration?