ALL PRAISE TO OUR REDEEMING LORD

Hymn Devotion – August 11

Scripture: Ephesians 4:7, 11-13

Matthew 18:20

All praise to our redeeming Lord,  
Who joins us by His grace;  
And bids us, each to each restored,  
Together seek His face.

The gift which He on one bestows,  
We all delight to prove;  
The grace through every vessel flows,  
In purest streams of love.

He bids us build each other up;  
And, gathered into one,  
To our high calling’s glorious hope,  
We hand in hand go on.

We all partake the joy of one;  
The common peace we feel;  
A peace to sensual minds unknown,  
A joy unspeakable.

And if our fellowship below  
In Jesus be so sweet,  
What height of rapture shall we know  
When round His throne we meet!

Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

As a church, a fellowship or a body of believers however you want to describe it – We are joined together by God’s grace through our Redeeming Lord – if there was no redemption there would be no reason for grace and we are to be restored - if the bond is broken and seek His face. We are to build each other up – if one has a certain gift – we are to share in the joy and have a common peace and joy.

We have a sweet fellowship with each other and with Jesus but the height of joy and rapture – ecstatic joy we will have when we meet in heaven around His throne – we cannot imagine – What a glorious hope we have in Jesus!

1. How is the Lord described?
2. How are we joined?
3. What does He bid us to do?
4. What are we to do together?
5. Verse 2: What does He bestow on one?
6. What do we all do?
7. What flows through every vessel?
8. How does it flow?
9. Verse 3: What does He bid us to do?
10. What do we do then?
11. What is to our glorious calling?
12. How do we go on?
13. Verse 4: What do we all partake in?
14. What do we feel?
15. A definition of sensual is depending on senses only not intellect or spirit.

What is unknown to sensual minds?

1. How is the joy?
2. Verse 5: What is our gathering here?
3. How is our relationship with Jesus described?
4. A definition of rapture is ecstatic delight.

What is unkown?

1. Where will we meet?

WHERE CROSS THE CROWDED WAYS OF LIFE

Hymn Devotion – August 12

Scripture: Matthew 25:34-36

Matthew 22:9

Where cross the crowded ways of life,  
Where sound the cries of race and clan  
Above the noise of selfish strife,  
We hear Thy voice, O Son of Man.

In haunts of wretchedness and need,  
On shadowed thresholds dark with fears,  
From paths where hide the lures of greed,  
We catch the vision of Thy tears.

From tender childhood’s helplessness,  
From woman’s grief, man’s burdened toil,  
From famished souls, from sorrow’s stress,  
Thy heart has never known recoil.

The cup of water given for Thee,  
Still holds the freshness of Thy grace;  
Yet long these multitudes to view  
The sweet compassion of Thy face.

O Master, from the mountainside  
Make haste to heal these hearts of pain;  
Among these restless throngs abide;  
O tread the city’s streets again.

Till sons of men shall learn Thy love  
And follow where Thy feet have trod,  
Till, glorious from Thy Heaven above,  
Shall come the city of our God!

Frank Mason North (1850-1935)

What vivid and troublesome sights and scenes are described in this hymn but we know that God is a God of the mountainside as well as the city and will be until the end! We must have compassion for others, share the gospel and pray for those in all situations both in the city and the country.

1. What crosses?
2. What sound do we hear?
3. What is the noise?
4. What do we hear?
5. Verse 2: How are the haunts described?
6. What are dark with fears?
7. What hide from the paths?
8. What do we catch?
9. Verse 3: How is tender childhood described?
10. What afflicts men and women?
11. What are the next two “froms”?
12. What has never recoiled (shrunk back from)?
13. Verse 4: What does the cup of water given still do?
14. What does the multitudes long to see?
15. Verse 5: What are we asking God to do in the first two lines?
16. Where do we want God to abide?
17. Where are we asking Him to tread?
18. Verse 6: How long are we asking Him to abide and tread?
19. What will come from glorious from heaven?

HAPPY THE HOME WHEN GOD IS THERE

Hymn Devotion – August 13

Scripture: Deuteronomy 6:4-7

Joshua 24:15

Happy the home when God is there,  
And love fills every breast;  
When one their wish, and one their prayer,  
And one their heav’nly rest.

Happy the home where Jesus’ Name  
Is sweet to every ear;  
Where children early speak His fame,  
And parents hold Him dear.

Happy the home where prayer is heard,  
And praise each day does rise;  
Where parents love the sacred Word  
And all its wisdom prize.

Lord, let us in our homes agree  
This blessèd peace to gain;  
Unite our hearts in love to Thee,  
And love to all will reign.

Henry Ware, Jr. (1794-1843)

A happy home prays and where praise rises each day to the Lord. Parent in a happy home love the sacred Word – the Bible and prize, value highly the wisdom of the Bible.

If there is unity if all in each home agrees on the importance of Jesus and His Word blessed peace will be gained. Unite – bring together our hearts in love to God, Jesus and love will reign for all.

There needs to be balance in the home too – Jesus Name and the Bible should not be used as a dictatorship - Speak, pray and praise the Name of Jesus with sweetness and love then let blessed peace and love reign!

1. What is happy when God is there?
2. What fills every breast?
3. What are all one? (list all of them)
4. Verse 2: What does Jesus’ name make a home?
5. What is Jesus’ name sweet to?
6. What do children do early?
7. What do parents do?
8. Verse 3: What is heard in a happy home?
9. What rises daily in a happy home?
10. What do parents love?
11. What do they prize?
12. Verse 4: What do we need to do?
13. What will be gained?
14. What should our hearts be?
15. What will reign to all?

BLEST BE THE TIE THAT BINDS

Hymn Devotion – August 14

Scripture: Ephesians 4:1-6

Hosea 11:4

Blest be the tie that binds  
Our hearts in Christian love;  
The fellowship of kindred minds  
Is like to that above.

Before our Father’s throne  
We pour our ardent prayers;  
Our fears, our hopes, our aims are one  
Our comforts and our cares.

We share each other’s woes,  
Our mutual burdens bear;  
And often for each other flows  
The sympathizing tear.

When we asunder part,  
It gives us inward pain;  
But we shall still be joined in heart,  
And hope to meet again.

John Fawcett (1740-1817)

There is in this world – even stronger than blood relatives is the fellowship of Christians – the tie of Jesus’ blood that binds us together is everything – our hopes, fears etc. and death cannot take away the fact we are joined in heart and hope to meet again! Praise God for such union of kindred minds!

1. What is the tie that binds?
2. What is bound?
3. What is the fellowship of?
4. What is this fellowship like?
5. Verse 2: What are we before?
6. What do we do?
7. What all are one?
8. Along with what?
9. Verse 3: What do we share?
10. What do we bear?
11. What flows for each other?
12. Verse 4: To be asunder is to be into pieces.

What happens in us when we are apart in pieces?

1. How are we always joined?

1. What is our hope?

THE CHURH’S ONE FOUNDATION

Hymn Devotion – August 15

Scripture: Ephesians 2:19-22

I Corinthians 3:11

The Church’s one foundation  
Is Jesus Christ her Lord,   
She is His new creation  
By water and the Word.  
From Heav’n He came and sought her  
To be His holy bride;   
With His own blood He bought her  
And for her life He died.

Elect from every nation,  
Yet one o’er all the earth;  
Her charter of salvation,  
One Lord, one faith, one birth;  
One holy Name she blesses,  
Partakes one holy food,  
And to one hope she presses,  
With every grace endued.

’Mid toil and tribulation,  
And tumult of her war,  
She waits the consummation  
Of peace forevermore;  
Till, with the vision glorious,  
Her longing eyes are blest,  
And the great Church victorious  
Shall be the Church at rest.

Yet she on earth hath union  
With God the Three in One,   
And mystic sweet communion  
With those whose rest is won.

O happy ones and holy!  
Lord, give us grace that we  
Like them, the meek and lowly,   
On high may dwell with Thee.

Samuel John Stone (1839-1900)

This hymn reminds us that Jesus is the only way to God, it won’t be easy but we have God, fellowship with other believers and we have God’s grace to see us through to victory!

1. What is the ONE foundation of the Church?
2. What is the Church in Christ?
3. Where did He come from?
4. What did Jesus seek her to be?
5. What did He buy her with?
6. Why did He die?
7. Verse 2: Where are the “elect” from?
8. What is the church over all the earth?
9. What is the Charter of Salvation?
10. What does the Church bless?
11. What food does the church partake?
12. What is the church united toward?
13. What is endued (provided)?

1. Verse 3: What is the church “mid”?
2. What does the church wait for?
3. Until what happens?
4. What shall the great church be?

Then what will the church be at?

1. Verse 4: What does the church have union with?
2. What is the relationship with those whose rest is won?
3. What is the description of the “ones”?
4. What are we asking for?
5. What are “them” like?
6. What may we do?