THERE IS A BALM IN GILEAD

Hymn Devotion - March 6

Scripture – Jeremiah 8:21-22

Jeremiah 46:11

*Refrain*

*There is a balm in Gilead  
To make the wounded whole;  
There is a balm in Gilead  
To heal the sin sick soul.*

Sometimes I feel discouraged,  
And think my work’s in vain,  
But then the Holy Spirit  
Revives my soul again.

*Refrain*

If you can’t preach like Peter,  
If you can’t pray like Paul,  
Just tell the love of Jesus,  
And say He died for all.

*Refrain*

Traditional spiritual

We all have sin-sick souls until we know the love of Jesus. We cannot become discouraged, we are not all meant to be mighty preachers or prayers but we can be “tellers” of Jesus love, even without words. Actions speak louder than words. In James 1:22 it says “Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says.“ We are to live out our faith and we can do that when healed by the love of Jesus through His death on the cross and forgiveness of sins!

Balm of Gilead is an aromatic resin used for medical purposes. (Jeremiah 8:22).

1. How do we sometimes feel?

2. List some things besides work that we may think are in vain?

3. Who can lift our spirits?

4. What does He do for our souls?

5. Verse 2: Who can very likely preach better than us?

6. Likewise who can very likely pray better than us?

7. What MUST we tell?

8. And say?

9. The chorus: Who is our “Balm of Gilead”?

10. What does He do for the wounded?

11. What kind of soul does He heal?

BREAD OF HEAVEN, ON THEE WE FEED

Hymn Devotion - March 7

Scripture – John 6:32-35, 51

Bread of Heav’n on Thee we feed,  
For Thy flesh is meat indeed:  
Ever may our souls be fed  
With this true and living Bread;  
Day by day with strength supplied,  
Through the life of Him who died.

Vine of Heav’n, Thy blood supplies  
This blest cup of sacrifice,  
Lord, Thy wounds our healing give,  
To Thy cross we look and live:  
Jesus, may we ever be  
Grafted, rooted, built in Thee.

Josiah Conder (1789-1855), altered

As Gentiles and Christians we are grafted into the Vine and we need the root and the main stem to survive, we get our life giving nourishment from Jesus the Vine.

Our once and forever sacrifice - Jesus - died and rose that we may live eternally, taking our sins to the cross so we can have forgiveness opening the way to having a relationship with Jesus. We as humans forget ever so easily and we need to have the Lord’s Supper to reminded us of His sacrifice for us. Take eat and do this in Remembrance of Him.

1. Who is the “Bread of heaven”?

2. What do we do on Him?

3. What is the “meat” of His flesh?

4. What may ever be fed?

5. What describes this Bread?

6. What is supplied day by day?

7. How do we get this?

8. Verse 2: Who is the Vine of heaven?

9. His blood supplies a blest cup because He was our \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

10. What does His wounds give us?

11. Where do we look and live?

12. What do we ask to ever be?

O LOVE THAT WILL NOT LET ME GO

Hymn Devotion - March 8

Scripture – Romans 8:37-39

Psalm 13:5

O Love that wilt not let me go,  
I rest my weary soul in thee;  
I give thee back the life I owe,  
That in thine ocean depths its flow  
May richer, fuller be.

O Light that followest all my way,  
I yield my flickering torch to thee;  
My heart restores its borrowed ray,  
That in thy sunshine’s blaze its day  
May brighter, fairer be.

O Joy that seekest me through pain,  
I cannot close my heart to thee;  
I trace the rainbow through the rain,  
And feel the promise is not vain,  
That morn shall tearless be.

O Cross that liftest up my head,  
I dare not ask to fly from thee;  
I lay in dust life’s glory dead,  
And from the ground there blossoms red  
Life that shall endless be.

George Matheson (1842-1906)

Life has ups and downs and same with our walk with Christ but no matter Jesus does not leave us or forsake us His love is ever there for us. We have only our life to give to Him for what He has done for us. Although life has many a pain and trial we still can see the beauty of his love through the rain and because He promises to ever be there our mornings can be tearless. Praise the Lord for His everlasting love.

1. Whose love will not let us go?

2. What can we do?

3. What do we give back to Jesus?

4. His love flows deep as the ocean and if we are in His love our life is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

5. Verse 2: What follows us all our way?

6. What is our light in comparison?

7. Our hearts send back its \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ ray.

8. How does the restored or returned ray come back?

9. Verse 3: What seeks us through pain?

10. What must we not do?

11. What is traced through the rain?

12. If we believe in the promises of God our morning will be?

13. Verse 4: What cross lifts up our head?

14. What do we not want to do?

15. Even in death the life blossoms red because if we believe in Jesus life is?

AWAKE, MY SOUL, AND WITH THE SUN

Hymn Devotion - March 9

Scripture – Psalm 65:1-4

Psalm 17:15

Awake, my soul, and with the sun  
Thy daily stage of duty run;  
Shake off dull sloth, and joyful rise,  
To pay thy morning sacrifice.

Wake, and lift up thyself, my heart,  
And with the angels bear thy part,  
Who all night long unwearied sing  
High praise to the eternal King.

All praise to Thee, who safe has kept  
And hast refreshed me while I slept  
Grant, Lord, when I from death shall wake  
I may of endless light partake.

Lord, I my vows to Thee renew;  
Disperse my sins as morning dew.  
Guard my first springs of thought and will,  
And with Thyself my spirit fill.

Direct, control, suggest, this day,  
All I design, or do, or say,  
That all my powers, with all their might,  
In Thy sole glory may unite.

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Thomas Ken (1637-1711)

Let us shake off laziness for the sake of the morning and arise with joy, refreshed, asking forgiveness, and to have our thoughts and will guarded and to be filled with the Holy Spirit. Everyone should be praising God for the blessings that flow from Him, all creatures on earth and all the heavenly hosts - Praising God the Father, Son and Holy Ghost! Amen.

1. What is our soul to do with the sun?

2. What are we to do on our daily stage?

3. A sloth is laziness or reluctance to make an effort. What are we to shake off? How are we to rise?

4. What are we to pay?

5. Verse 2: What are we to lift up when we awake?

6. We are to do our part with whom?

7. What have they done?

To whom?

8. Verse 3: All praise to Him who has done what?

9. What happens while we sleep?

10. What is being asked in the last sentence?

11. Verse 4: What vows might we renew each morning?

12. Disperse or scatter, send away. What is the wish for our sins?

13. What is being asked of our first thoughts and will in the day?

14. What are we wanting to be filled with?

15. Verse 5: What three things are being asked for this day?

16. List the “All I”

17. With all our power and might how do we want to unite with God?

18. Verse 6: What flows from God?

19. Who are to praise Him below?

20. Who above?

21. Who are we praising?

O THE DEEP, DEEP LOVE OF JESUS

Hymn Devotion - March 10

Scripture – Ephesians 3:17-19

O the deep, deep love of Jesus,

Vast, unmeasured, boundless, free!  
Rolling as a mighty ocean

In its fullness over me!  
Underneath me, all around me,

Is the current of Thy love  
Leading onward, leading homeward

To my glorious rest above!

O the deep, deep love of Jesus,

Spread His praise from shore to shore!  
How He loveth, ever loveth,

Changeth never, nevermore!  
How He watches o’er His loved ones,

Died to call them all His own;  
How for them He intercedeth,

Watcheth o’er them from the throne!

O the deep, deep love of Jesus,

Love of every love the best!  
’Tis an ocean full of blessing,

’Tis a haven giving rest!  
O the deep, deep love of Jesus,

’Tis a heaven of heavens to me;  
And it lifts me up to glory,

For it lifts me up to Thee!

Samuel Trevor Francis (1834-1925)

We need to think about the Love of Jesus more often - how deep and wonderful His love is - we cannot even begin to understand the vastness of it. The ocean and the current that moves the ocean is a great way to think of it. In this world there is probably nothing bigger or stronger than the ocean. There is no love in this world that is bigger or stronger than the love of Jesus. How many people would lay down their life for you, not many, most people would do anything to save their hide. Jesus died so that our sins can be forgiven, He lives and He intercedes for us watching over us and our daily needs. What a wonderful love!

1. What four adjectives describe this deep, deep love of Jesus?

2. How does the love of Jesus roll?

3. In its fullness how does His love move around us?

4. How and where does His love lead us?

5. Verse 2: Because of His deep, deep love - How far are we to spread His love?

6. How does He love? Does He change?

7. What does He do over His loved ones?

8. He \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to call them \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

9. What does He do for us?

10. From where does He watch over us?

11. Verse 3: The deep, deep love of Jesus - How does this love compare to other loves?

12. List the next two descriptions of this love:

13. What should this love be to us?

14. It lifts me up to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

because it lifts me up to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.