AT THE NAME OF JESUS

Hymn Devotion– October 1

Scripture – Philippians 2:5-9

Psalm 115:1

At the name of Jesus

Every knee shall bow,

Every tongue confess Him

King of glory now;

‘Tis the Father’s pleasure

We should call Him Lord,

Who from the beginning

Was the mighty Word.

At His voice creation

Sprang at once to sight,

All the angel faces,

All the hosts of light,

Thrones and dominations,

Stars upon their way,

All the heavenly orders,

In their great array.

Humbled for a season,

To receive a name

From the lips of sinners

Unto whom He came,

Faithfully He bore it

Spotless to the last,

Brought it back victorious

When from death He passed.

In your hearts enthrone Him;

There let Him subdue

All that is not holy,

All that is not true:

Crown Him as your captain

In temptations’s hour;

Let His will enfold you

In its light and power.

Caroline Maria Noel (1817-1877)

1. Whose Name?

2. What shall happen?

3. What will every tongue confess?

4. What is the Father’s pleasure?

5. What was Jesus from the start?

6. Verse 2: What happened at the sound of His voice?

7. List all the created items:

8. What is all this referred?

9. How are they displayed?

10. Verse 3: How was He for a season?

11. Where did He receive a name?

12. Who did He come to?

13. How did He bear His Name?

14. What was He to the last?

15. What was He when He passed from death?

16. Verse 4: Where are we to enthrone Him?

17. What are we to let Him subdue?

18. What are we to crown Him?

19. When are we to do this?

20. What is to enfold us?

21. What are we to be enfolded in?

HOW LOVELY IS THY DWELLING PLACE

Hymn Devotion - October 2

Scripture – Psalm 84:1-4

How lovely is Thy dwelling place,   
O Lord of hosts to me!  
The tabernacles of Thy grace  
How pleasant, Lord, they be!

My thirsty soul longs ardently,  
Yes, faints Thy courts to see;   
My very heart and flesh cry out,   
O living God, for Thee.

Behold the sparrow findeth out  
A house wherein to rest;   
The swallow also, for herself,   
Provided hath a nest.

Even Thine own altars, where she safe  
Her young ones forth may bring,   
O Thou, almighty Lord of hosts,   
Who art my God and King.

Blest are they in Thy house that dwell,   
They ever give Thee praise,   
Blest is the man whose strength Thou art,   
In whose heart are Thy ways.

Scottish Psalter, 1850

When we depart from the Lord, whether in sin or just don’t come to Him in prayer or study but are away from Him – often we yearn to be in His presence but don’t know how to get back to God – we can find comfort that God looks out for the birds – Matthew 10:29 – He cares and looks after us as well – He is always there, loving and caring for us - we just have to find our way back to Him!

1. What is lovely?

2. What is He to us?

3. How is His grace described?

4. How are they?

5. Verse 2: What does a thirsty soul do?

6. What does it faint to do?

7. What cries out?

8. What does it cry out for?

9. Verse 3: What does the sparrow find?

10. What does the swallow have provided?

11. Verse 4: What does the swallow do?

12. What name is used for Jesus?

13. What is God to us?

14. Verse 5: Who are blest?

15. What is to be ever given?

16. How are we blest?

17. Where are His ways?

GREAT GOD, ATTEND, WHILE ZION SINGS

Hymn Devotion - October 3

Scripture – Psalm 84:10-12

Isaiah 12:6

Great God! Attend, while Zion sings  
The joy that from Thy presence springs;  
To spend one day with Thee on earth  
Exceeds a thousand days of mirth,  
Exceeds a thousand days of mirth.

Might I enjoy the meanest place  
Within Thy house, O God of grace,  
Nor tents of ease, nor thrones of power,  
Should tempt my feet to leave Thy door,  
Should tempt my feet to leave Thy door.

God is our Sun, He makes our day;  
God is our Shield; He guards our way  
From all the assaults of hell and sin,  
From foes without, from foes within,  
From foes without, from foes within.

O God, our King, whose sovereign sway  
The glorious hosts of heaven obey,  
And devils at Thy presence flee,  
Blest is the man that trusts in Thee,  
Blest is the man that trusts in Thee.

Isaac Watts (1674-1748)

Just to think that the joy of being one day with God is worth more than a thousand days of laughter and happiness – He is our Sun, He rules – He also shields and guards us – no matter if we are in tents of ease or in positions of power – we should not be tempted to leave His door – He is the Great God that attends while Zion sings – If you haven’t already experience that joy today!

1. Who is to attend?

2. What does joy spring from?

3. Who do we want to spend just one day with?

4. What does one day with God exceed?

5. Verse 2: Meanest being lowly or humble.

What might we enjoy?

6. How is God described?

7. What should not tempt us from leaving God’s door?

8. Verse 3: What is God?

9. What does He do?

10. As our shield – What does God do?

11. What does He guard us from?

12. Where are our foes?

13. Verse 4: How is God described?

14. What kind of sway does God have?

15. Who obeys?

16. Who flees?

17. What does a blest man do?

A CHARGE TO KEEP I HAVE

Hymn Devotion - October 4

Scripture – 2 Timothy 4:1-2, 5

Leviticus 8:35

A charge to keep I have,   
A God to glorify,   
A never-dying soul to save,   
And fit it for the sky.

To serve the present age,   
My calling to fulfill:   
O may it all my powers engage  
To do my Master’s will!

Arm me with jealous care,   
As in Thy sight to live;   
And O Thy servant, Lord, prepare  
A strict account to give!

Help me to watch and pray,  
And on Thyself rely,  
Assured, if I my trust betray,  
I shall for ever die.

Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

This jealous care needs watchfulness and prayer – most of all relying on God. This last statement seems harsh and the peril of forever death has been soft pedaled in the twenty-first century which can be good and bad but the hymnist says here to be assured if we betray the trust that we have put in God then we shall forever die – forgiveness needs to be taken into account here too – I John 1:9 – The bottom line is that we must not neglect the charge that God has given us – everyone’s is different because we will be held accountable!

Watch, pray and serve!

1. What do we have to keep?

2. Who to glorify?

3. What to save?

4. What to be fitted for?

5. Verse 2: When are we to serve?

6. What to fulfill?

7. What will it take?

8. To do what?

9. Verse 3: A definition of jealous is watchful

What do we want to be armed with?

10. Where are we living?

11. What must we be prepared to give?

12. Verse 4: What do we want help with?

13. Who are we to rely on?

14. If what betrayed?

15. What will happen?

I HEARD THE VOICE OF JESUS SAY

Hymn Devotion - October 5

Scripture – John 8:12

Matthew 11:28-30

I heard the voice of Jesus say,

“Come unto Me and rest;  
Lay down, thou weary one, lay down

Thy head upon My breast.”  
I came to Jesus as I was,

Weary and worn and sad;  
I found in Him a resting place,

And He has made me glad.

I heard the voice of Jesus say,

“Behold, I freely give  
The living water; thirsty one,

Stoop down, and drink, and live.”  
I came to Jesus, and I drank

Of that life giving stream;  
My thirst was quenched, my soul revived, And now I live in Him.

I heard the voice of Jesus say,

“I am this dark world’s Light;  
Look unto Me, thy morn shall rise,

And all thy day be bright.”  
I looked to Jesus, and I found

In Him my star, my sun;  
And in that light of life I’ll walk,

Till traveling days are done.

Horatius Bonar (1808-1889)

One important point is to come to Jesus as we are – if we wait until we think we are worthy or ready it will not ever happen – it is like couples that want to save up for a baby etc – it will never happen!

We just have to come to Him for the life giving – Spiritual water – the Good News – just as we are and when it is in our hearts – He will give us rest and will be the light to our path until our traveling days are done.

1. What was heard?
2. What are we asked to do?
3. How are we to come to Jesus?
4. What is the description of the state of our life?
5. What was found in Him?
6. What did He make us?
7. Verse 2: What does Jesus freely give?
8. How are we described?
9. What are we told to do?
10. What did we do?
11. What happened?
12. What are we doing now?
13. Verse 3: What did Jesus say He is?
14. What will happen to our day?
15. If we look to Him – What will we find?
16. Where do we need to walk?
17. How long?