FIGHT THE GOOD FIGHT

Hymn Devotion – September 6

Scripture: I Timothy 6:11-12

Fight the good fight with all thy might;  
Christ is thy strength, and Christ thy right;  
Lay hold on life, and it shall be  
Thy joy and crown eternally.

Run the straight race through God’s good grace,  
Lift up thine eyes, and seek His face;  
Life with its way before us lies,  
Christ is the Path, and Christ the Prize.

Cast care aside, upon thy Guide,  
His boundless mercy will provide;  
Trust, and thy trusting soul shall prove  
Christ is its life, and Christ its love.

Faint not nor fear, His arms are near,  
He changeth not, and thou art dear.  
Only believe, and thou shalt see  
That Christ is all in all to thee.

John Samuel Bewley Monsell (1811-1875)

Trust is the element that many of us are short on – we do not trust the Lord to be our strength, guide or our provision – but as we see here in trusting we will prove that Christ is the life and love of our souls!

We can cast our cares on Him, our guide, we need not faint or fear because His unchanging arms are near and He considers us dear to Him. It sounds so simple – and for the most part it is - ONLY believe and fight the good fight – don’t become afraid or discouraged – He never changes and He is always near!

1. What are we to do and how?

 2. What is Christ?

 3. What are we to do to life?

4. What shall it be?

 5. Verse 2: How are we to run the race and through what?

6. What are we to do with our eyes?

7. What lies before us?

8. What is Christ?

9. Verse 3: What are we to cast?

10. What is God called here?

11. What will He provide?

12. What are we to do?

13. What will a trusting heart prove?

14. Verse 4: What are we not to do?

15. What are near?

16. What does He not do?

17. What are we to Him?

18. What are we only to do?

19. What will we see?

THE WISE MAY BRING THEIR LEARNING

Hymn Devotion - September 7

Scripture: Luke 18:15-17

Mark 10:14

The wise may bring their learning,

The rich may bring their wealth,   
And some may bring their greatness,

And some bring strength and health;   
We, too, would bring our treasures

To offer to the King;   
We have no wealth or learning;

What shall we children bring?

We’ll bring Him hearts that love Him;

We’ll bring Him thankful praise,   
And young souls meekly striving

To walk in holy ways;   
And these shall be the treasures

We offer to the King,   
And these are gifts that even

The poorest child may bring.

We’ll bring the little duties

We have to do each day;   
We’ll try our best to please Him,

At home, at school, at play;   
And better are these treasures

To offer to our King;   
Than richest gifts without them

Yet these a child may bring.

The Book of Praise for Children 1881

The gifts and treasures a child can bring to our King are not the ones of wealth and wisdom but of loving hearts and thankful praise – the same gifts that everyone needs to bring to our King.

Our age doesn’t matter we must approach the throne of God as a child, open and eager to learn with a heart full of love and thankful praise.

1. List all the things that we as adults may bring to Jesus? (First 4 lines)

 2. What else can we offer the King?

 3. What don’t the children have?

4. What is the question asked by the children?

 5. Verse 2: List what the children can bring?

6. What are “young” souls meekly striving to?

7. What are all these things and offered to whom?

8. Who can bring these gifts?

9. Verse 3: What will we bring? (Highlights of first 3 lines)

10. Where do we do these?

11. How are these treasures described?

12. Who do we offer them to?

13. How are these gifts described?

16. Who may bring these treasures?

NOW THE DAY IS OVER

Hymn Devotion - September 8

Scripture: Psalm 4:8

Psalm 91:4-5

Now the day is over,   
Night is drawing nigh,   
Shadows of the evening  
Steal across the sky.

Jesus, give the weary  
Calm and sweet repose;  
With Thy tenderest blessing  
May mine eyelids close.

Grant to little children  
Visions bright of Thee;  
Guard the sailors tossing  
On the deep, blue sea.

Through the long night watches  
May Thine angels spread  
Their white wings above me,  
Watching round my bed.

When the morning wakens,  
Then may I arise  
Pure, and fresh, and sinless  
In Thy holy eyes.

Sabine Baring-Gould (1834-1924)

The three “missing” stanzas – one brings in the darkness and stars and nature going to sleep – another asks for comfort to those who suffer and that those who plan evil would from their sin restrain. The last verse brings glory to the Father, Son and Holy Spirit – while all the ages run.

Night is a time when we most often seek Jesus, darkness has many foreboding shadows and noises – He is there at all times for thanksgiving, praise and comfort – forever!

1. What is the peaceful scene described here?

 2. Verse 2: What are we asking Jesus to give the weary?

 3. What are we asking for as our eyelids close?

4. Verse 3: What is asked to be granted to little children?

 5. What is the provision for the sailors on the deep blue sea?

6. Verse 4: What through?

7. What are we asking of the angels?

8. Verse 5: When morning wakens what do we do?

9. How do we appear in His holy eyes?

ALL PRAISE TO THEE, MY GOD, THIS NIGHT

Hymn Devotion - September 9

Scripture: Psalm 22:27-28

Psalm 17:8

All praise to Thee, my God, this night,  
For all the blessings of the light!  
Keep me, O keep me, King of kings,  
Beneath Thine own almighty wings.

Forgive me, Lord, for Thy dear Son,  
The ill that I this day have done,  
That with the world, myself, and Thee,  
I, when I sleep, at peace may be.

O may my soul on Thee repose,  
And with sweet sleep mine eyelids close,  
Sleep that may me more vigorous make  
To serve my God when I awake.

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)

There are more stanzas on the web and a hymnal has one verse that isn’t here – the verse asks that we be taught to live so that when we die we will rise glorious at Thy judgment day – If we praise God for blessings, ask forgiveness and can rest peacefully at night to rise with more energy to serve Him when we awake – we will be victorious!

1. Who are we praising and when?

 2. What are we praising Him for?

 3. What are we asking for and from whom?

4. Where are we asking to be kept?

 5. Verse 2: What are we asking for and from whom?

6. What is the forgiveness request for?

7. Who and what all do we want to be at peace with when we sleep?

8. Verse 3: Who do we want our soul to repose or rest upon?

9. What is our desire when our eyelids close?

10. What do we want this sleep to help us to do?

11. Verse 4: Who are we praising?

12. What flows from Him?

13. Who are to praise Him here below?

14. Who praises Him above?

15. Praise \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and

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PEACE, PERFECT PEACE

Hymn Devotion – September 10

Scripture: John 16:31-33

Isaiah 26:3

Peace, perfect peace, in this dark world of sin?  
The blood of Jesus whispers peace within.

Peace, perfect peace, by thronging duties pressed?  
To do the will of Jesus, this is rest.

Peace, perfect peace, with sorrows surging round?  
On Jesus’ bosom naught but calm is found.

Peace, perfect peace, our future all unknown?  
Jesus we know, and He is on the throne.

Peace, perfect peace, death shadowing us and ours?  
Jesus has vanquished death and all its powers.

It is enough: earth’s struggles soon shall cease,  
And Jesus call us to Heaven’s perfect peace.

Edward Henry Bickersteth (1825-1906)

Peace, perfect peace is repeated to make sure that we remember it – We wonder in this life if we can ever have peace, much less perfect peace – this hymn shows us the way and that way is through the blood of Jesus, doing His will, finding calm on Jesus’ bosom and remembering He is on the throne and has defeated death by His resurrection and the everlasting perfect peace will be when our struggles on earth are done and we are called to Heaven’s perfect peace.

No matter what life throws us there is peace found in Christ.

1. How is this peace described?
2. How is the world described?
3. What whispers peace within?
4. Verse 2: What is perfect?
5. What can our life be crowded with?
6. How is rest described?
7. Verse 3: What is surging around?
8. What is found on Jesus’ bosom?
9. Verse 4: What is unknown?
10. What do we know about Jesus?
11. Verse 5: What is shadowing us and

ours?

1. What has Jesus vanquished - defeated?
2. Verse 6: What is enough?
3. What will Jesus do?