



REDEEMER



SIMI HILLS
CHRISTADELPHIANS

PROGRAM

Matthew's Begats

Brightest and Best

Come and See

Come to Me

Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus

There Was Jesus

Judas

That We Might Have Life

My God, My God

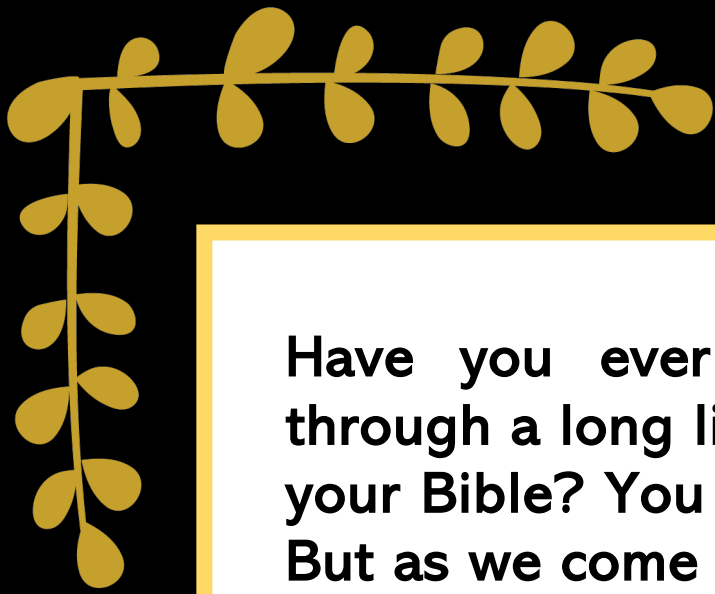
His Heart Beats

King of Kings

If the Savior Stood Beside Me

Redeemer

The Joy of Jesus



Have you ever been tempted to skip through a long list of names while reading your Bible? You wouldn't be the only one. But as we come to Matthew chapter 1, the beginning of the New Testament, we rejoice to find the history of Jesus' family, As you hear their names sung by our kids, consider all those who have waited, hoped, made mistakes, and eventually found themselves redeemed by Christ. He is the answer to all God's promises.

Matthew's Begats

Abraham had Isaac
Isaac, he had Jacob
Jacob, he had Judah and his kin

Then Perez and Zerah
Came from Judah's woman,
Tamar
Perez, he brought Hezron up
And then came

Aram, then Amminadab
Then Nahshon, who was then the
dad of Salmon
Who with Rahab fathered Boaz

Ruth, she married Boaz who had
Obed
Who had Jesse
Jesse, he had David who we
know as king

David, he had Solomon by dead
Uriah's wife
Solomon, well you all know him
He had good old Rehoboam
Followed by Abijah who had Asa

Asa had Jehoshaphat had Joram
had Uzziah
Who had Jotham then Ahaz then
Hezekiah

Followed by Manasseh who had
Amon
Who was a man
Who was father of a good boy
named Josiah

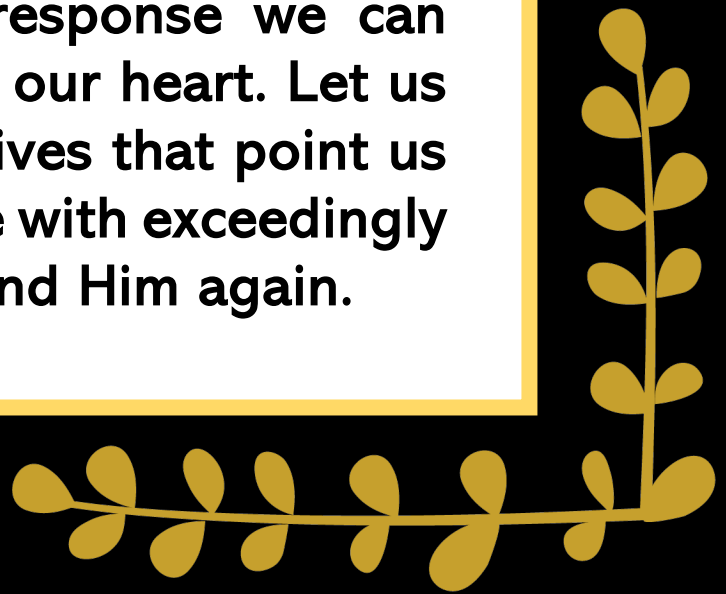
Who grandfathered Jehoiachin
Who caused the Babylonian
captivity
Because he was a liar

Then he had Shealtiel, who begat
Zerubbabel
Who had Abiud who had Eliakim
Eliakim had Azor who had Zadok
who had Akim
Akim was the father of Eliud then

He had Eleazar who had Matthan
who had Jacob
Now, listen very closely
I don't want to sing this twice

Jacob was the father of Joseph
The husband of Mary
The mother of Christ

Written from the perspective of the wise men who came to visit the newborn Christ, we are reminded when we sing this hymn that there are no gifts - even kingly ones such as gold, frankincense or myrrh that we probably can't afford anyway - that we can ever give to "secure our favor" with God through Jesus. The love is there for us to receive - and the best response we can return is the adoration of our heart. Let us look for the stars in our lives that point us towards Christ and rejoice with exceedingly great joy every time we find Him again.



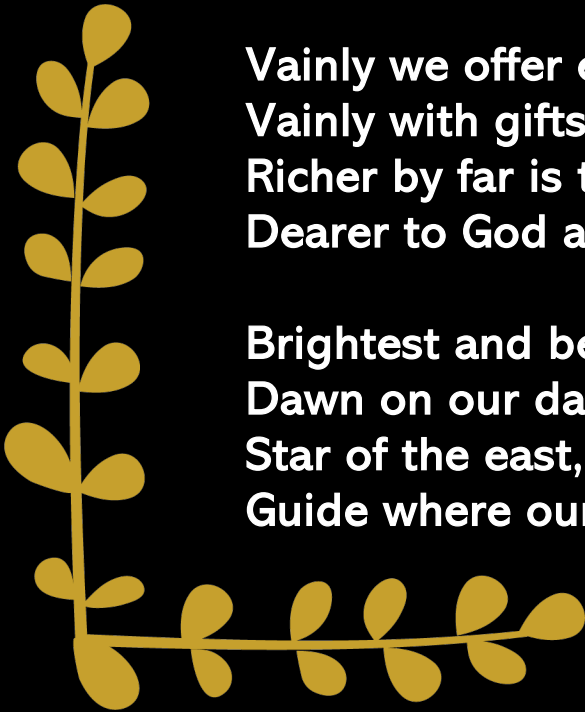
Brightest and Best

Brightest and best of the sons of the morning,
Dawn on our darkness, and lend us thine aid;
Star of the east, the horizon adorning,
Guide where our infant Redeemer is laid.

Say, shall we yield him in costly devotion
Odours of Edom, and offerings divine,
Gems of the mountain, and pearls of the
ocean,
Myrrh from the forest, or gold from the mine?

Vainly we offer each ample oblation,
Vainly with gifts would his favour secure;
Richer by far is the heart's adoration;
Dearer to God are the prayers of the poor.

Brightest and best of the sons of the morning,
Dawn on our darkness, and lend us thine aid;
Star of the east, the horizon adorning,
Guide where our infant Redeemer is laid.



Let's imagine now that we are among those observing Christ's early ministry. Rumors are growing strong that he is working with power, performing true and complete acts of healing - maybe we or one of our own family members even has such a testimony! Listen as he calls his followers, as we hear the work he accomplished, the work his Father had planned for him to accomplish from the beginning. Listen as he calls to you - yes, there is a personal cost. But as Paul puts it, anything we give up to become followers of Jesus pales in comparison to the surpassing worth of knowing him. He is the only one who provides true rest and peace. Just come and see! (1 Peter 1:10-12, Phil. 3:7-8, Luke 10:23-24)

Come and See

Is he the one we're waiting for?
He offers life forevermore,
And the gospel he is preaching to the
poor.
He is calling the worst sinners to
repent,
And says to rescue lost sheep he was
sent;
He will not cast them out.

He cleansed the woman who once
bled,
The ruler's child raised from the dead
And the hungry selfish multitude he
fed.
But they did not understand his
parables,
And they only came to see his
miracles,
But still he calls to them.

Come and see what countless kings
and prophets longed to see.
Come and hear the words I speak, the
truth that sets you free.
Come unto me, repent and be blest
For I will forgive you when you
confess.
Come follow me; come follow me and
I will give you rest.

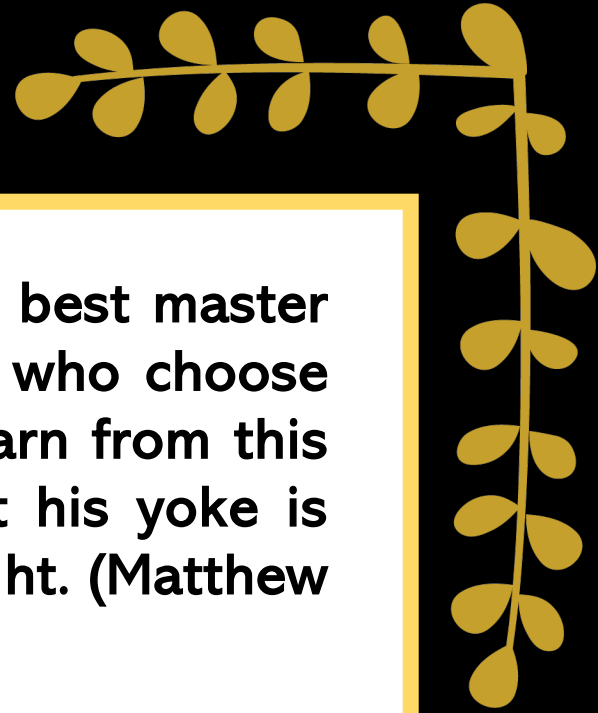
They struck his face, his back was
torn,
They forced on him the crown of
thorns,
And he said: "For this hour I was
born."
Unflinchingly he drank the bitter cup,
And willingly was cruelly lifted up
To draw all men to him.

His voice still echoes through the
ages,
Grips us from the sacred pages;
He's calling us to follow him!
We see him bear the cross in sorrow,
Count the cost and choose to follow
in his way, day by day,
And as we walk we hear him say:

"Come and see what countless kings
and prophets longed to see.
Come and hear the words I speak, the
truth that sets you free.
Come unto me, repent and be blest,
For I will forgive you when you
confess.
Come follow me; come follow me and
I will give you rest.

Come unto me, see what it cost;
Believe in me, take up your cross
And I will give you rest."
Come and see.

Jesus is the kindest, gentlest, best master we could ever ask for. Those who choose to follow and continuously learn from this Master will come to find that his yoke is easy and his burden is light. (Matthew 11:28-30)



Come to Me

Come to me all you who are weary and
burdened.

Come to me, O come to me,
and I will give you rest.

Take my yoke upon you
and learn from me
for I am gentle
and humble in heart.

Come to me all you who are weary and
burdened.

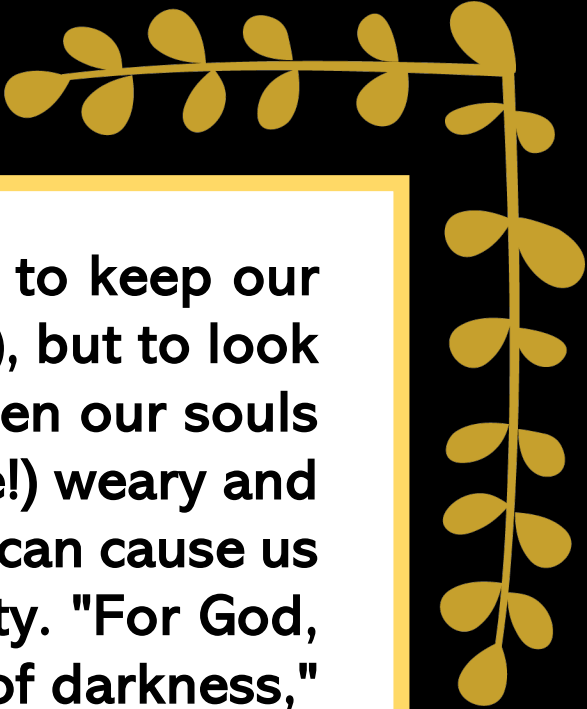
Come to me, O come to me,
and I will give you rest.

For my yoke is easy
and my burden is light.
And you will find rest,
find rest for your souls.

Come to me all you who are weary and
burdened.

Come to me, O come to me,
and I will give you rest.

I will give you rest.
I will give you rest.



This song reminds us not only to keep our eyes fixed on Jesus (Heb. 12:2), but to look "full in his wonderful face". When our souls are (as they no doubt often are!) weary and troubled, Jesus is the one who can cause us to see truly, to see God's reality. "For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the *face* of Jesus Christ." (2 Cor. 4:6)

Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus

O soul are you weary and
troubled
No light in the darkness you see
There's light for a look at the
Saviour
And life more abundant and free

Turn your eyes upon Jesus
Look full in his wonderful face
And the things of earth will grow
strangely dim
In the light of his glory and grace

Through death into life
everlasting
He passed, and we follow him
there
O'er us sin no more hath
dominion
For more than conqu'rors we are

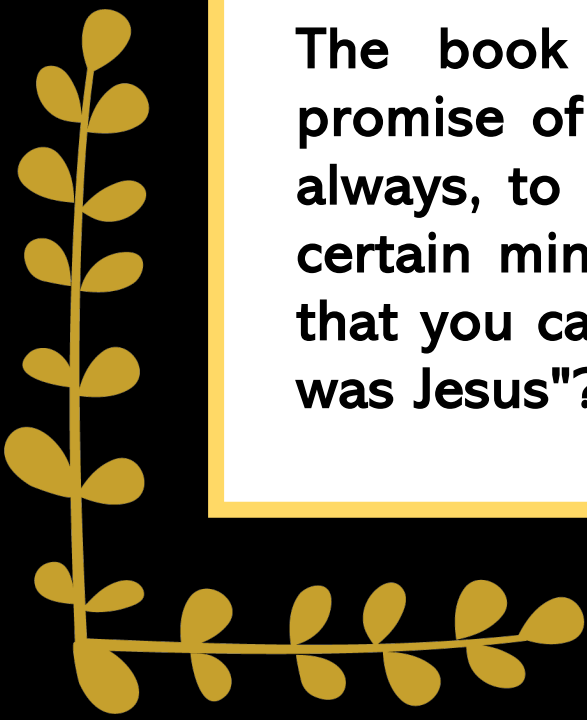
Turn your eyes upon Jesus
Look full in his wonderful face
And the things of earth will grow
strangely dim
In the light of his glory and grace

His word shall not fail you he
promised
Believe him and all will be well
Then go to a world that is dying
His perfect salvation to tell

Turn your eyes upon Jesus
Look full in his wonderful face
And the things of earth will grow
strangely dim
In the light of his glory and grace

Turn your eyes upon Jesus
Look full in his wonderful face
And the things of earth will grow
strangely dim
In the light of his glory and grace

And the things of earth will grow
strangely dim
In the light of his glory and grace



The book of Matthew ends with this promise of Jesus: "Behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age." Are there certain minutes and moments of your life that you can look back to and say, "There was Jesus"?

There Was Jesus

Every time I tried to make it on my own
Every time I tried to stand and start to fall
And all those lonely roads that I have travelled on
There was Jesus

When the life I built came crashing to the ground
When the friends I had were nowhere to be found
I couldn't see it then but I can see it now
There was Jesus

In the waiting, in the searching
In the healing and the hurting
Like a blessing buried in the broken pieces

Every minute, every moment
Where I've been and where I'm going
Even when I didn't know it or couldn't see it
There was Jesus

For this man who needs amazing kind of grace
For forgiveness at a price I couldn't pay
I'm not perfect so I thank God every day
There was Jesus (There was Jesus)

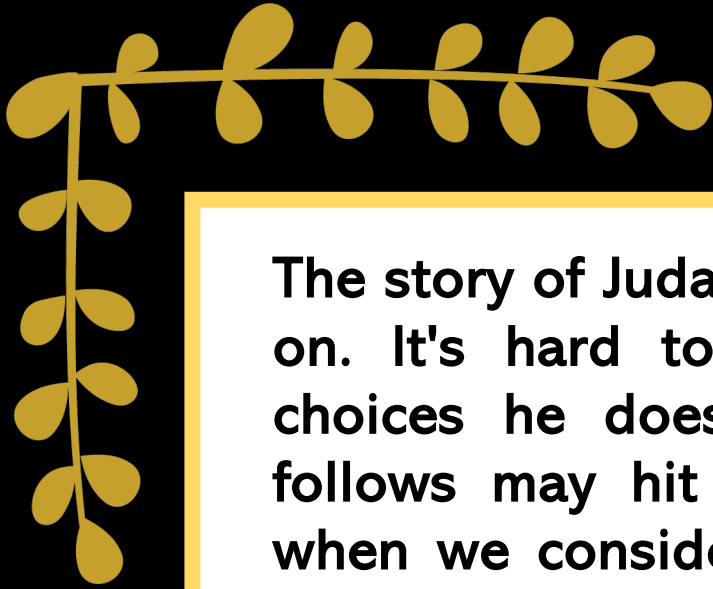
In the waiting, in the searching
In the healing and the hurting
Like a blessing buried in the broken pieces

Every minute, every moment
Where I've been and where I'm going
Even when I didn't know it or couldn't see it
There was Jesus

On the mountain, in the valleys (There was Jesus)
In the shadows of the alleys (There was Jesus)
In the fire, in the flood (There was Jesus)
Always is and always was
No I never walk alone (Never walk alone)

You are always there
In the waiting, in the searching
In the healing and the hurting
Like a blessing buried in the broken pieces

Every minute (Every minute), every moment (Every moment)
Where I've been and where I'm going
Even when I didn't know it or couldn't see it
There was Jesus
There was Jesus



The story of Judas isn't one we often dwell on. It's hard to watch Judas make the choices he does, and the trajectory he follows may hit painfully close to home when we consider our own lives and the lives of our loved ones. And yet, it is the hard stories that we can often learn the most profound truths from. By God's grace, let us find ourselves in the category of "perplexed, but not driven to despair" (2 Cor. 4:8). Let us bare our doubting hearts to Jesus and to our friends who are also trying to follow him. There is no height, depth, or anything else in all of creation that can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus. (Rom. 8:39)

Judas

He walked with us in Jesus' steps, the light shone on his way.
Called and loved and chosen, he did mighty acts of faith.
But somewhere on that long, hard road conviction waned and love grew cold;
The ground where Jesus sowed his seed was hiding seeds of doubt...

Christ promised him a throne if he would just take up his cross.
But though the crown was tempting, he was wary of its cost.
What if the world can offer more than all that Jesus has in store?
The riches of this life entice him to depart from Christ.

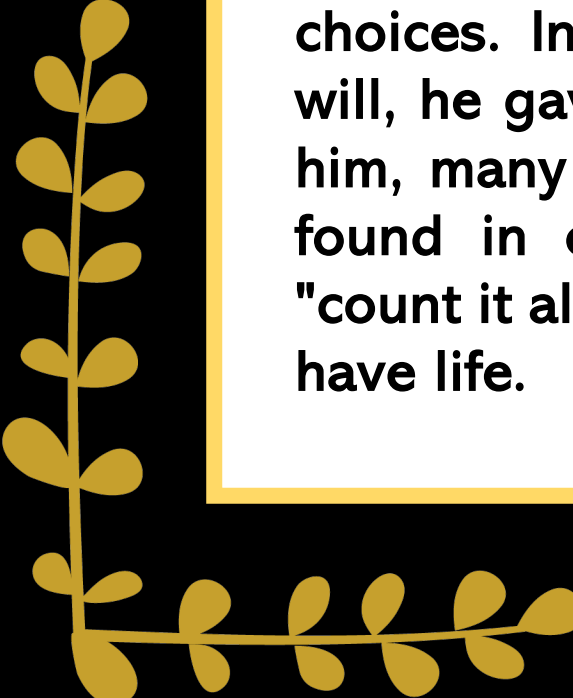
But he did not voice his questions and we did not see him fade,
While he was losing faith we just assumed he knew the way.
He went about each daily task, we did not look behind his mask,
Where deep within his hardened heart, betrayal had begun.

So Judas by transgression fell, he sold himself to sin.
Christ's warnings fell unheeded, he refused to let them in.
He lost his faith and left the light, rejecting Christ he chose the night,
He squandered Yahweh's gifts of grace and made his life a waste.

For when he saw what he had done lifting his heel against God's son,
Though he sought to undo his crime it was too late:
Christ's blood was spilled, he could not bear his guilt...

He thought his sin was far too great for any man to bear;
He could not bring himself to turn to God in tearful prayer.
Could not believe his treachery could ever be repaired.
But no matter what you've done, there is no reason for despair!

No reason for despair, since Jesus overcame!
He will your burdens share if you embrace his name.
Remember Jesus died for you; believe his promises are true!
He can forgive, he'll make you new!
The hope of glory, the hope of glory, the hope of glory Christ in you!
The hope of Christ in you!



Jesus, too, had to consider the cost of his choices. In perfectly keeping his Father's will, he gave up, to the eyes of all around him, many of the best things that can be found in earthly lives. And why did he "count it all as loss"? For us. That we might have life.

That We Might Have Life

You endured the cross and you counted all as loss. This was all for us.

And it hurts to think of the depth of suffering you went through for me.

Surrounded by those angry men, who tore and beat you 'til you bled,
But silently you took it all and perfectly you kept your Father's will.

There's no greater love that your life was given up to take away my sin.

And it hurts to think of the depth of suffering you went through for me.

What was going through your mind? Were you feeling calm or in

The garden were you terrified, afraid of giving up your life?
Surrounded by those angry men, who tore and beat you 'til you bled,

But silently you took it all and perfectly you kept your Father's will.

We believe that the grave could not hold him.

That the stone was rolled away.

That he's risen back to life.

That he's conquered the grave,

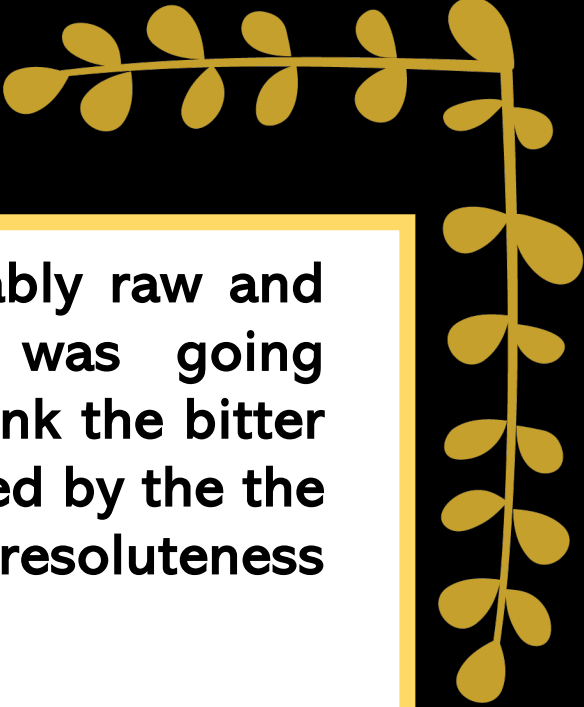
That we might have life.

That we might have life,

That we might have life.

We believe that he died so that we might have life.

You endured the cross and you counted all as loss. This was all for us.



Psalm 22 gives us a remarkably raw and moving insight into what was going through Jesus' mind as he drank the bitter cup for us. Listen and be moved by the the depth of Jesus' love and the resoluteness of his trust in his God.

My God, My God

My God, my God, why have you
left me here?
Where are you now when I need
you near
To rescue me, deliver me from
fear?
Please don't forsake me.

My God, my God, why have you
left me here?
Where are you now when I need
you near
To rescue me, deliver me from
fear?
Please don't forsake me.

LORD answer me, do you not
hear my sighing?
All day and night my eyes are
sore from crying.
I long for you to keep my hope
from dying.
I find no rest.

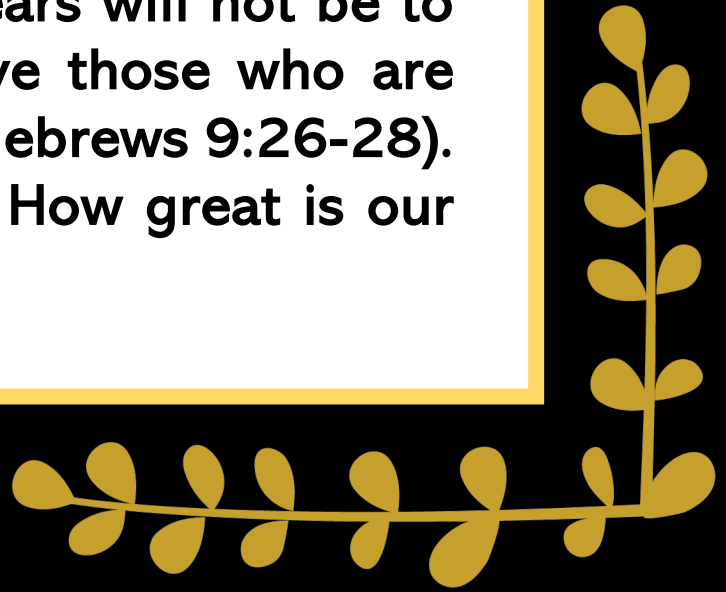
My God, my God, why have you
left me here?
Where are you now when I need
you near
To rescue me, deliver me from
fear?
Please don't forsake me, my God.

See, o my God that I am poor and
weak.
I have no voice, I have no
strength to speak.
They scoff and stare, have
pierced my hands and feet.
My heart is melting.

O LORD, my God, my enemies
despise me.
They steal my clothes, they mock
and compromise me.
"Where is your God?" they taunt
and terrorize me.
Don't stay away.

My God, my god, why have you
left me here?
Where are you now when I need
you near
To rescue me, deliver me from
fear?
Please don't forsake me, my God.

Oh grave, how grave is your defeat! There is nothing that can undo the work of redemption that Christ has completed. "Jesus appeared once for all at the ages to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself." The next time Jesus appears will not be to deal with sin, but to save those who are eagerly waiting for him (Hebrews 9:26-28). How great is his victory! How great is our joy!



His Heart Beats

His heart beats, his blood begins to flow
Waking up what was dead a moment ago
And his heart beats, now everything is
changed
'Cause the blood that brought us peace
with God is racing through his veins
And his heart beats
His heart beats

He breathes in, his living lungs expand
The heavy air surrounding death turns to
breath again
He breathes out, he is word and flesh once
more
The Lamb of God slain for us is a Lion
ready to roar
And his heart beats

So crown him the Lord of Life
Crown him the Lord of Love
Crown him the Lord of All

He took one breath
And put death to death
Where is your sting, O grave?
How grave is your defeat?
I know, I know His heart beats

He rises, glorified in flesh
Clothed in immortality, the firstborn from
the dead
He rises, and his work's already done
So he's resting as he rises to reclaim the
Bride he won
And his heart beats

So crown him the Lord of Life
Crown him the Lord of Love
Crown him the Lord of All

He took one breath
And put death to death
Where is your sting, O grave?
How grave is your defeat?
I know, I know his heart beats

The last enemy to be destroyed is death
The last enemy to be destroyed is death
He must reign until no enemy is left
The last enemy to be destroyed, to be
destroyed is death

His heart beats, he will never die again
I know that death no longer has dominion
over him
So my heart beats with the rhythm of the
saints
As I look for the seeds the King has sown
To burst up from their graves

I know, I know
He took one breath
And put death to death
Where is your sting, O grave?
How grave is your defeat?

I know, I know
He took one breath
And put death to death
Where is your sting, O grave?
How grave is your defeat?
How great, how great is his victory
I know, I know his heart beats
His heart beats
I know, I know his heart beats
His heart beats

Threads of our story circle back together now. We long to see the exalted Christ, the lion of Judah, the King of Glory receive worship from his ransomed brothers and sisters, who have gained the victory through him. Now through a glass darkly, and then face to face, his followers behold him, adore him, and sing his praises ceaselessly. Like the wise men, may we be part of that multitude approaching him with our offerings - the abundant offerings of love.




King of Kings

Lo! he comes, the King of glory,
See the royal victor's brow;
Once for sinners marred and gory,
Jesus is exalted now;
While before him
While before him
All his ransomed brethren bow.

Blessèd morning! long expected:
Loud resounds the peopled air;
Mourners, once by man rejected,
They with him exalted there,
Sing his praises,
Sing his praises,
And his throne of glory share.

Judah! lo, thy royal Lion
Reigns on earth, a conqu'ring King;
Come, ye ransomed tribes, to Zion,
Love's abundant offerings bring;
There behold him,
There behold him,
And his ceaseless praises sing.

King of kings! let earth adore him,
High on his exalted throne;
Fall, ye nations, fall before him,
And his righteous sceptre own.
All the glory,
All the glory
Be to God and him alone.



An awareness of the presence of Christ in our daily life is something we must all work to cultivate; though he is in a sense more real to us than anyone else, our eyes sometimes play tricks on us. Meditating on the alive and active Word is a big help in this endeavor. The questions posed in this reflective song are wonderful ones to ask ourselves daily.

If the Savior Stood Beside Me

If the Savior stood beside me,
would I do the things I do?
Would I think of His
commandments and try harder to
be true?
Would I follow His example?
Would I live more righteously,

If I could see the Savior standing
nigh, watching over me?
If the Savior stood beside me,
would I say the things I say?
Would my words be true and
kind if He were never far away?
Would I try to share the gospel?
Would I speak more reverently

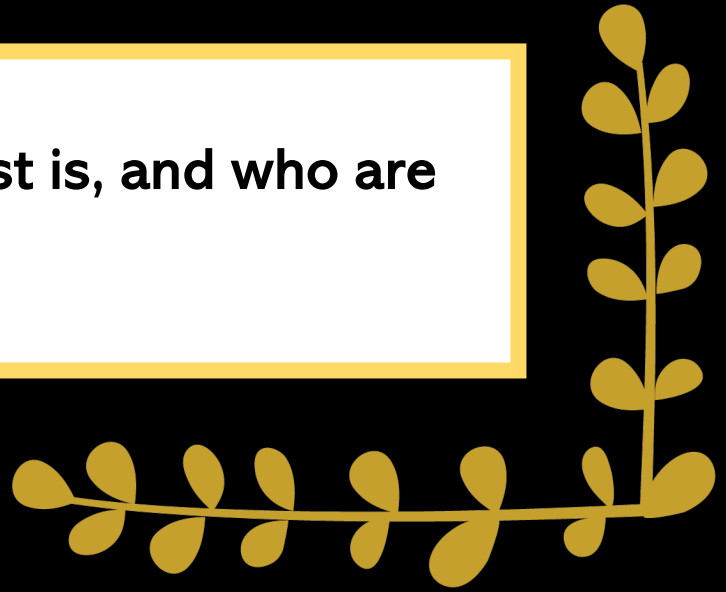
If I could see the Savior standing
nigh, watching over me?
If the Savior stood beside me,
would my thoughts be clean and
pure?
Would His presence give me
strength and hope, and courage
to endure?
Would His counsel guide my
actions?
Would I choose more worthily

If I could see the Savior standing
nigh, watching over me?
If the Savior stood beside me,
would I often kneel to pray?
Would I listen to the Spirit's
voice, and hasten to obey?
Would I count my many
blessings?
Would I praise Him gratefully

If I could see the Savior standing
nigh watching over me?
If the Savior stood beside me,
would I comfort those in need?
Would I try to show the Savior's
love in every word and deed?
Would I give to those who
hunger?
Would I serve more willingly

If I could see the Savior standing
nigh, watching over me?
He is always near me, though I
do not see Him there
And because He loves me dearly,
I am in His watchful care
So I'll be the kind of person that I
know I'd like to be
If I could see the Savior standing
nigh, watching over me.

Who, then, do we say Christ is, and who are we in light of Him?



Redeemer

Some say he's a prophet like those
who came before.

To some he is a teacher, to others
something more...

Some say he's a healer and some say
he's a fraud;

But I believe he is the Christ, the
promised son of God.

Some say he's a legend, a myth, a
foolish tale.

A zealot and a rebel, whose
revolution failed.

Some say he's a hard man who asks
too much of us;

But I make him my master, and in him
I will trust.

For he is my Redeemer! He is my
King!

He is my example, the one I'm
following.

I was lost, but now I'm found.

I was blind, but now I see.

I'm a dead man made alive!

I'm a captive he set free; I am
redeemed!

The son of God he loved me, and
gave himself for me.

They cruelly crucified him, lifted on
the tree.

Some at this will stumble, and some
will mock and scorn;

But in his cross I will boast, for by it
I'm reborn!

For he is my Redeemer! He is my
King!

He is my example, the one I'm
following.

I was lost, but now I'm found.

I was blind, but now I see.

I'm a dead man made alive!

I'm a captive he set free; I am
redeemed!

I was self absorbed and lonely,
broken and confused.

I was wretched, blind, and naked, by
my foolish choices bruised.

But through my ignorance and
blindness came a light that touched
my soul;

When Jesus Christ came to me,
forgave and made me whole!

Now he is my Redeemer! He is my
King!

He is my example, the one I'm
following.

I was lost, but now I'm found.

I was blind, but now I see.

I'm a dead man made alive!

I'm a captive he set free; I am
redeemed!

I am redeemed!

A benediction for all in this room, from the bottom of our hearts, with gratitude that you came to share in this time and space. May you know the joy of Jesus, and may the joy of Jesus be with you.

The Joy of Jesus

May the grace of my God be with you
May the grace of my God be with you
May you know the grace of my God
And may the grace of my God be with you

May the love of my Lord be with you
May the love of my Lord be with you
And may you know the love of my Lord
And may the love of my Lord be with you.

And may you dance and laugh and sing
May you know the warmth of His embrace
And may you make your life an offering
As you come to seek His face

May the joy of Jesus be with you
May the joy of Jesus be with you
May you know the joy of Jesus
And may the joy of Jesus be with you

May the joy of Jesus be with you
May the joy of Jesus be with you
May you know the joy of Jesus
And may the joy of Jesus be with you

Thank you for coming and thank you to everyone who made this possible.

Click the link on the picture below to listen to the Redeemer album by Shouts of Grace.



Image Credits: Corinne Reich

