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WHY SHOU'D BELIEVERS, WHEN THEY MEET

CHRISTIAN INTERCOURSE.

"Then they that feared the Lord spake often one to another."

MALACHI iii. 16.





Is any other name so great As his who bore the sinner's load? Is any subject half so sweet,

So various as the love of God?

'Tis this that charms reluctant man, That makes his opposition cease: Beholding love's amazing plan,

He drops his arms, and sues for peace:

'Twas so with us, we once were foes, Were foes to him who gave us breath; But he whose mercy freely flows Has sav'd us from eternal death.

We look with hope to that great day . When Jesus will with clouds appear: A sight of him will well repay. Our labours and our sorrows here.

Of him then let us speak and sing, Whose glory we expect to share: In heavn we shall behold our king, And yield a nobler tribute there.

"Thou hast put gladness in my heart, more than in the time that their corn and wine increased."



All the worldling's mirth is madness, All his labour fruitless toil: 'Tis the saints that taste of gladness, Tho' the world their choice revile: Sweet their portion! Life is in the Saviours smile. Worlds wou'd seem as nothing to us,
Balanc'd with a Saviour's love:
Since the Lord is mercy drew us
Drew our souls to things above,
Earthly objects
Can no longer greatly move

Once the world was all our treasure:
Then'the world our hearts possess'd:
Now we taste sublimer pleasure,
Since the Lord has made us blest;
We can witness,
Jesus gives his people rest.

SWEET SOUNDS OF GRACE

"Blessed are the people that know the joyful sound."

PSALM lxxxix.15.



Till now to vain desire a prey;

Nor peace nor pleasure cou'd he find:
But see, old things are past away!

New objects occupy his mind.

A Saviour's love, a Saviour's death,

(Fit themes for sinful man to hear,)

Not heard before, or not in faith,

Now captivate his listning ear.

The world no longer keeps his heart:
His chains dissolve before the cross:
His choice is now the better part;
And former gain appears but loss.

'Tis thus the gospel wins its way:

It brings good tidings to the poor
The sinner who has nought to pay,
Is welcome to its richest store.

THE GOSPEL COMES WITH WELCOME NEWS

"Sinners, of whom I am chief"."

1 TIM. 1. 15.





2

Of sinners sure I am the chief,

But grace is rich and free.

This welcome truth affords relief

To sinners, ev'n to me.

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Of merit now let others speak,
But merit I have none;
For merit tis in vain to seek;
I'm sav'd by grace alone.

'Twas grace my wayward heart first won;
'Tis grace that holds me fast:
Grace will compleat the work begun
And save me to the last.

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Then shall my soul with rapture trace
What God has done for me;
And celebrate redeeming grace,
Throughout eternity.



Thro' ten thousand channels flowing, Streams of mercy find their way; Life, and health, and joy, bestowing, Making all around look gay: O, ye nations! Hail the long expected day.

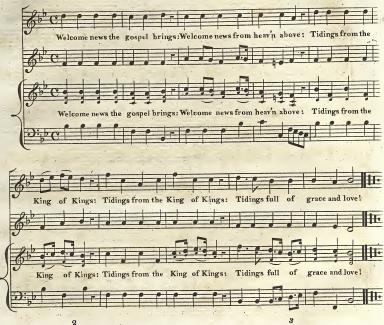
Gladden'd by the flowing treasure,
All enriching as it goes;
Lo, the desert smiles with pleasure,
Buds and blossoms as the rose,
Evry object
Sings for joy where er it flows.

Trees of life the bank adorning, Yield their fruit to all around; Those who eat are sayd from mourning, Pleasure counes and hopes abound:
Fair their portion!
Endless life with glory crown'd.

WELCOME NEWS THE GOSPEL BRINGS

"And the truth shall make you free."

JOHN viii. 32 .



O, ye sons of men give ear!

Listen to "The joyful sound."

Better news ye cannot hear:

In the gospel truth is found.

Truth, that makes the simple wise:
Truth, on which the hungry feed:
Truth, the minister of joys:
Truth that makes us free indeed.

Welcome news the gospel brings:
Welcome to the poor and vile:
Gladden'd by these glorious things,
Guilt and poverty may smile.

SEE THE WILDERNESS REJOICES

EFFECTS OF THE GOSPEL.

"And the desert shall rejoice?"





Here where nought but thorns and briers,
Lately grew and wildly spread,
Lo the Cedar now aspires!
Lo the Cypress lifts its head!
Lord we own the work divine!
All the glory Lord be thine!

See the trees thine hand has planted,
Watch them with a constant care:
O let our request be granted!
Make them fruitful, make them fair;
Keep,O keep them still in view
Let them live and flourish too!

Further Lord, is our desire,
(Turn not thou away thine ear)
Root out evry thorn and brier;
In their place let trees appear:
Thus from plants injurious freed,
Shall the desert smile indeed.

BOUNDLESS GLORY

"To turn them from darkness to light."

ACTS xxvi.13.





2
Hither is the Gospel come;
'Tis "the pow'r of God' to come:
O let such in praise unite,
To the Lord that gives them light.

Darkness long. involv'd us round; Till we knew "the joyful sound; Then our darkness fled away, Chas'd by truth's celestial ray. They are bless'd, and none beside;
They who in the truth abide;
Clear the light that marks their way,
Leading to eternal day.

Ye who walk this heavily road, Hasting to the saint's abode: See how bright it shines above! There appears the God of love.

Soon your stronger sight will bear,
To behold that glory near;
Light that now wou'd but destroy,
Then will yield sublimest joy.

AND ART THOU GRACIOUS MASTER GONE,

REPROACH OF THE CROSS.



Shou'd I to gain the world's applause,
Or to escape its harmless frown,
Refuse to countenance thy cause
And make thy people's lot my own;
What shame wou'd fill me in that day,
When thou thy glory wilt display!

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s above! of love,

And what is man, or what his smile?

The terror of his anger what?
Like grass he flourishes awhile,
But soon his place shall know him not
Thro' fear of such a one shall I
The Lord of Heavh and Earth deny?

No! let the world cast out my name,
And vile account me if they will:
If to confess the Lord be shame,
I purpose to be viler still.
For thee, my God, I all resign,
Content if I can call thee mine.

What transport then shall fill my heart,
When thou my worthless name wilt own;
When I shall see thee as thou art,
And know as I myself am known!
From sin and fear and sorrow free,
My soul shall find its rest in thee.

AWAY! THOU DYING SAINT, AWAY!

DEATH OF BELIEVERS. "And the spirit shall return to God who gave it."

ECCLES.xii.7.

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Thy toils at length have reach'd a close;

No more remains for thee to do: Away, away to thy repose,

Beyond the reach of sin and woe.

3 er realms of light,

Away to yonder realms of light,

Where multitudes redeem'd with blood,
Enjoy the beatific sight,

And dwell for ever with their God.

4

Go, mix with them, and share their joy:
In heav'n behold the sinner's friend:
In pleasures share that never cloy:
In pleasures that will never end.

5

And may our happy portion be,
To join thee in the realms above:
The glory of our Lord to see,
And sing his everlasting love.

WHAT IS LIFE? 'TIS BUT A VAPOUR;

"For what is your life? It is even a vapour." JAMES iv. 14. ANDANTE vapour; Soon it vanish_es a _ way: Life dying but a vapour, Soonit vanishes a way: Life is like a dying ta_per: O my soul, why wish to stay? Why not spread thy wings and fly, Straight to yonder ta per: 0 my soul, why wish to stay? Why not spread thy wings and fly, Straightto yonder joy? Straight to yonder world of joy? Straight to yonder world joy P Straight to yonder world of joy? Straight to yonder world of joy? See that glory: how. resplendent! Joyful crowds his throne surrounding,

See that glory: how resplendent!
Brighter far than fancy paints.
There in majesty transcendent
Jesus reigns, the king of saints.
Spread thy wings, my soul, and fly
Straight to yonder world of joy.

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Joyful crowds his throne surrounding, Sing with rapture of his love: Through the heavins his praises sounding, Filling all the courts above. Spread thy wings, my soul, and fly Straight to yonder world of joy.

Go, and share his peoples glory:
 "Midst the ransom'd crowd appear:
 Thine a joyful, wondrous story:
 One that angels love to hear.
 Spread thy wings, my soul, and fly
 Straight to yonder world of joy.

LORD BEHOLD US FEW AND WEAK,

PETITION FOR THE DIVINE PRESENCE.

"Wherefore come out from among them and be ye separate saith the Lord."

2 COR. vi.17.





2

When we lay in sin and death,
Thou didst pass and bid us live;
Thou didst give thy people faith.
Thou didst all our sin forgive.

3

Jesus thou didst shed thy blood:
On this rock our hope we raise:
Thou hast brought us nigh to God:
Thine the work and thine the praise.

4

'Tis thy will that we shou'd be Separate from all around; Let our will with thine agree; Let thy people thus be found. Teach us Lord to walk with thee;
Teach us to adorn thy cause;
Let us live in unity:

Hating pride and self-applause!

Let us bear each other's load!
Faithful to each other prove!
Till we gain the saint's abode;
Till we take our place above.

7

There we see without a cloud;
There without fatigue to sing;
Mix with heav'n's triumphant crowd,
And for ever praise our King.