

Calvary Church, Brighton, UK



*An independent Bible-teaching baptist church
congregation of 40-50 people based on the south coast of England*

Today 14th November the service is led by Jerome Peirson
Speaker - Philip Wells pastor/elder
Subject – What is a gospel church? part 2 – the Bible



*The local virus infection rate is rising so we ask you to respect the **space in the back hall** as Covid-secure by kindly retaining face-coverings while moving and while singing in Back Hall.*

Children's craft activities upstairs

This evening – 18:30 at church – discussion on the morning's teaching + zoom “overspill”

*17th November 19:45 whole church prayer meeting
– mission and outreach (Mark Rayfield)*

18th Elder/Deacon meeting

19th Men's curry night 19:00

24th November – Church Members' meeting

Calvary Church Brighton



Welcome

*Remembrance Sunday
2 minutes respectful silence
for all affected by wars past and present*

** * **



Song: 46B God is our strength and refuge

Song: 260 Our God our help in ages past

Prayer – with Lord's prayer

For the children – who is Jesus, what is his message?

Prayer for our 2 new Deacons (via PW)

Bible reading: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

Song: 1148 Speak O Lord

Talk – What is a gospel church (part 2)?

Song: 427 I will sing of the Lamb of the price that was paid

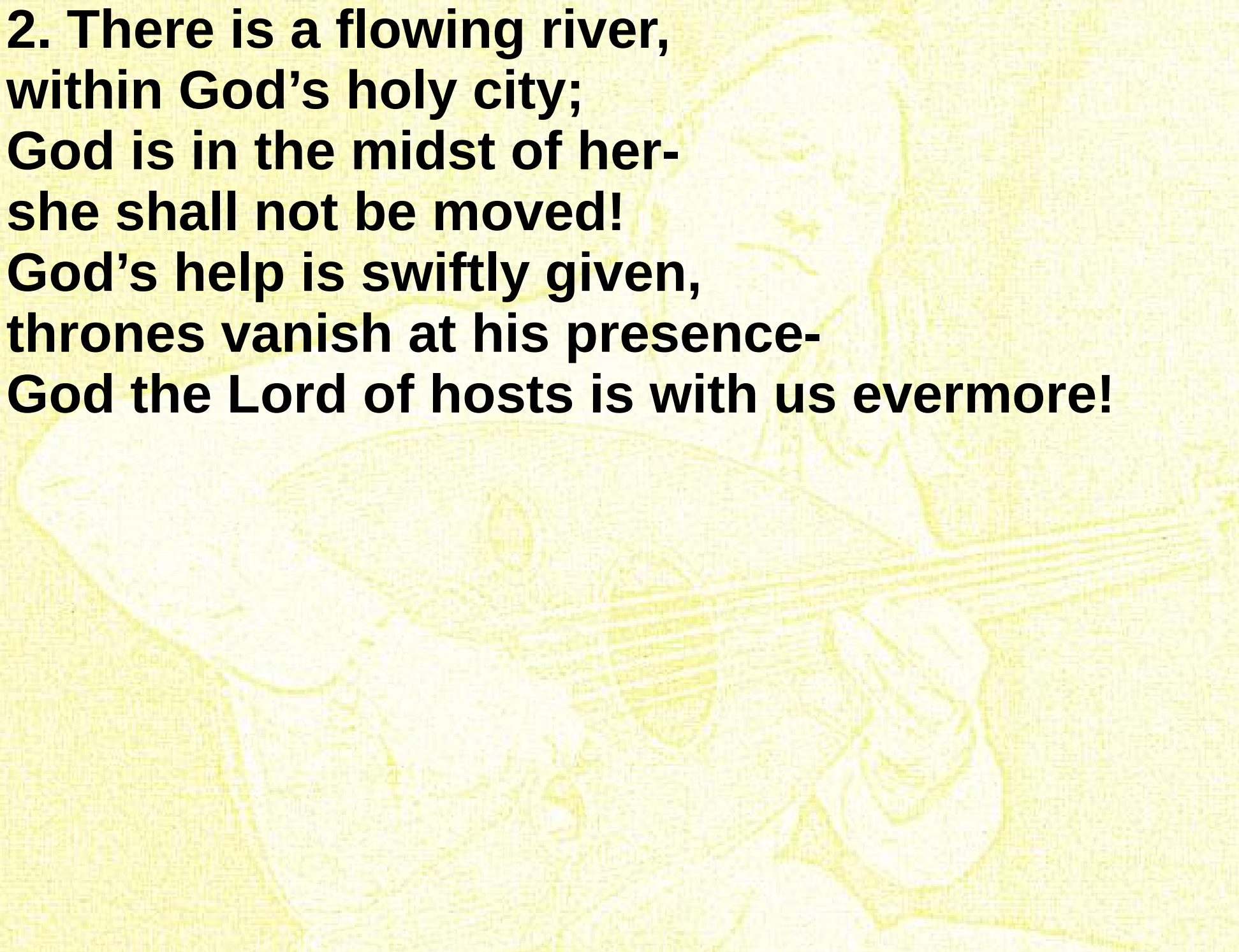
Closing prayer

Praise! 46B

Psalm 46

**God is our strength and refuge,
our present help in trouble;
and we therefore will not fear,
though the earth should change!
Though mountains shake and tremble,
though swirling floods are raging,
God the Lord of hosts is with us evermore!.**

**2. There is a flowing river,
within God's holy city;
God is in the midst of her-
she shall not be moved!
God's help is swiftly given,
thrones vanish at his presence-
God the Lord of hosts is with us evermore!**



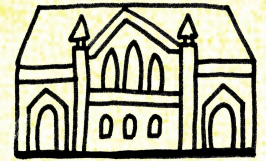
**3. Come, see the works of our Maker,
learn of his deeds all-powerful:
wars will cease across the world
when he shatters the spear!
Be still and know your Creator,
uplift him in the nations-
God the Lord of hosts is with us evermore!**

Author: Richard Bewes

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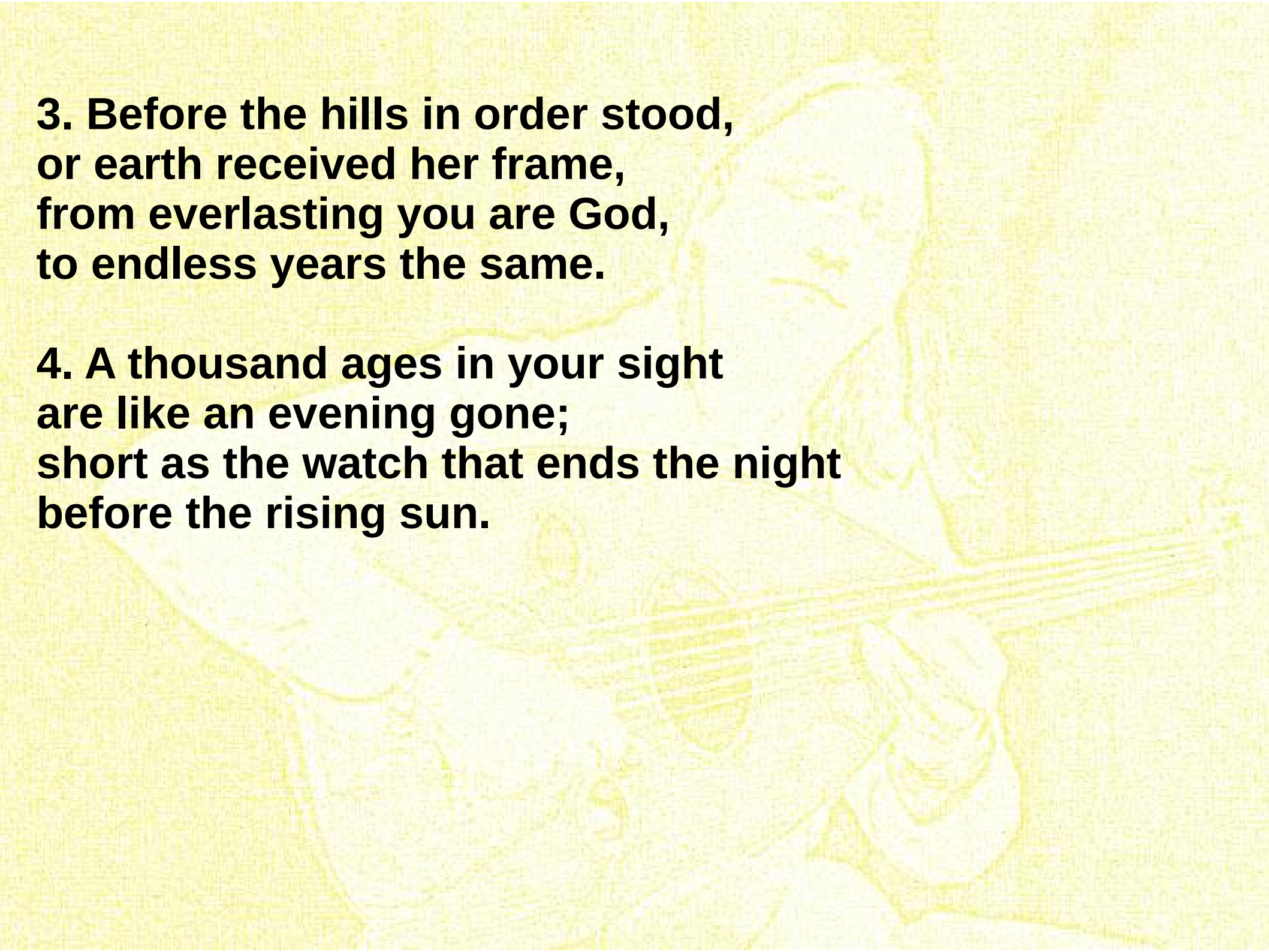
Praise! 260

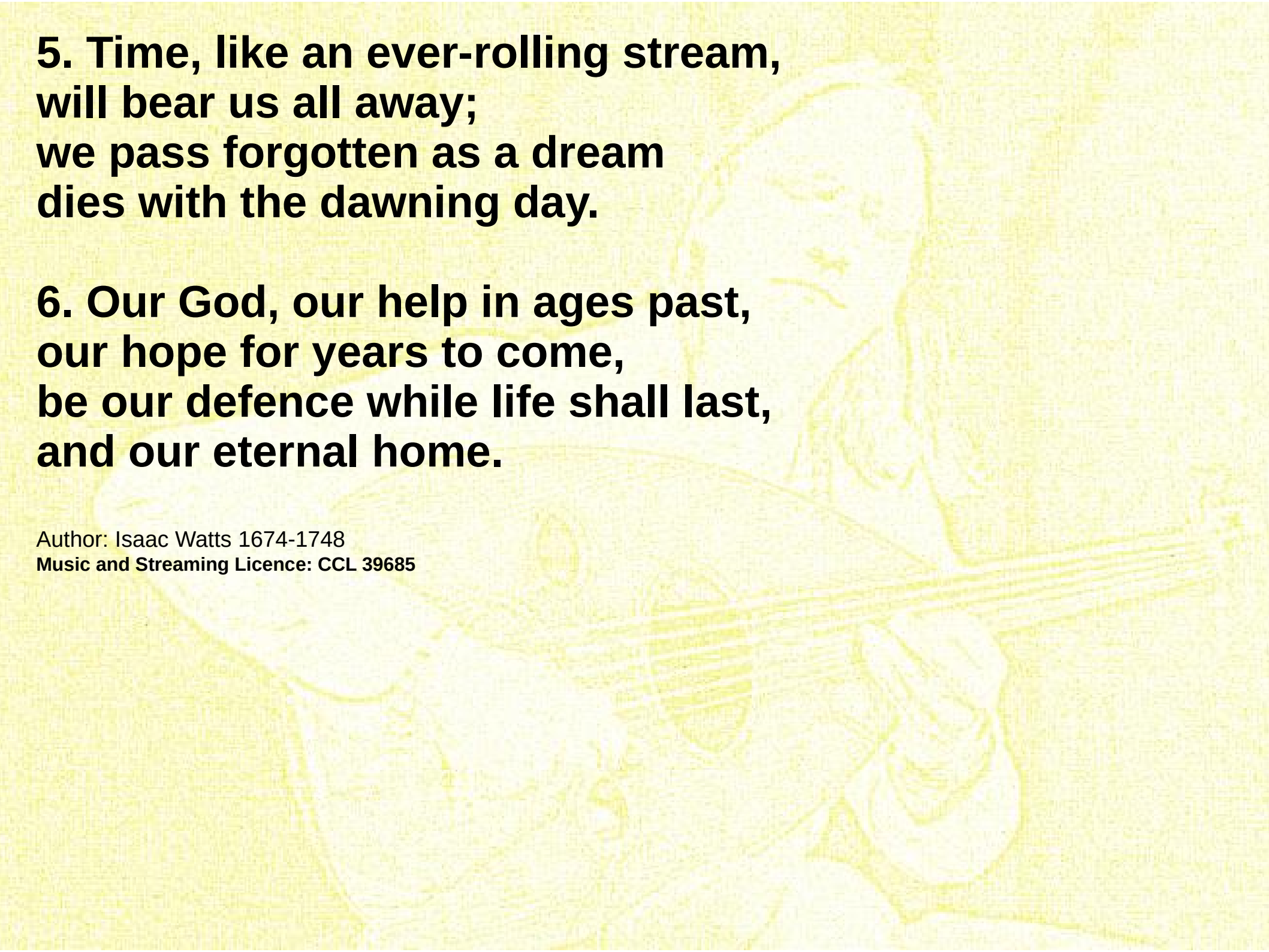
**Our God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
our shelter from the stormy blast,
and our eternal home.**

**2. Beneath the shadow of your throne
your saints have lived secure;
sufficient is your arm alone,
and our defence is sure.**

**3. Before the hills in order stood,
or earth received her frame,
from everlasting you are God,
to endless years the same.**

**4. A thousand ages in your sight
are like an evening gone;
short as the watch that ends the night
before the rising sun.**





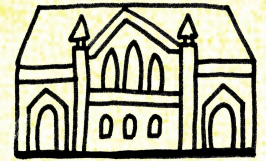
**5. Time, like an ever-rolling stream,
will bear us all away;
we pass forgotten as a dream
dies with the dawning day.**

**6. Our God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
be our defence while life shall last,
and our eternal home.**

Author: Isaac Watts 1674-1748

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Closing prayer

The Lord's prayer



Our Father in heaven

- hallowed be your name.

Your kingdom come,

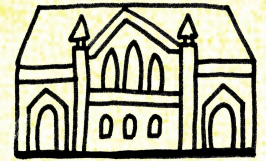
your will be done on earth as it is in heaven

Give us today our daily bread,

and forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin
against us.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil
for yours is the kingdom, the power, and the glory for
ever and ever. Amen.

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Closing prayer

Children

2 men went up to the temple to pray ...

The Christian message is

(a) for good people who can feel proud of themselves

(b) for bad people just to make them bad about themselves

(c) for bad people who know they need to be forgiven

Children

“Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners”

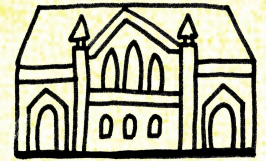
The Christian message says

(a) if you are good enough God will let you in to heaven

(b) God will let everyone into heaven anyway – so it doesn't matter if you are good or bad

(c) God will let bad people into heaven if they give their lives to Jesus

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Prayer for new Deacons

(Deacon means servant – they take a lead in serving and making sure things get done)

We thank God for our deacons past and present

– Thanks for all their care and work and service

We thank God for our new Deacons, Rosemary and Mark

– Thanks for giving them gifts and a willing heart

We pray that you will strengthen and bless the new Deacons as they take up their roles

We pray that you will bless all our Deacons as we go forward into the future – through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen

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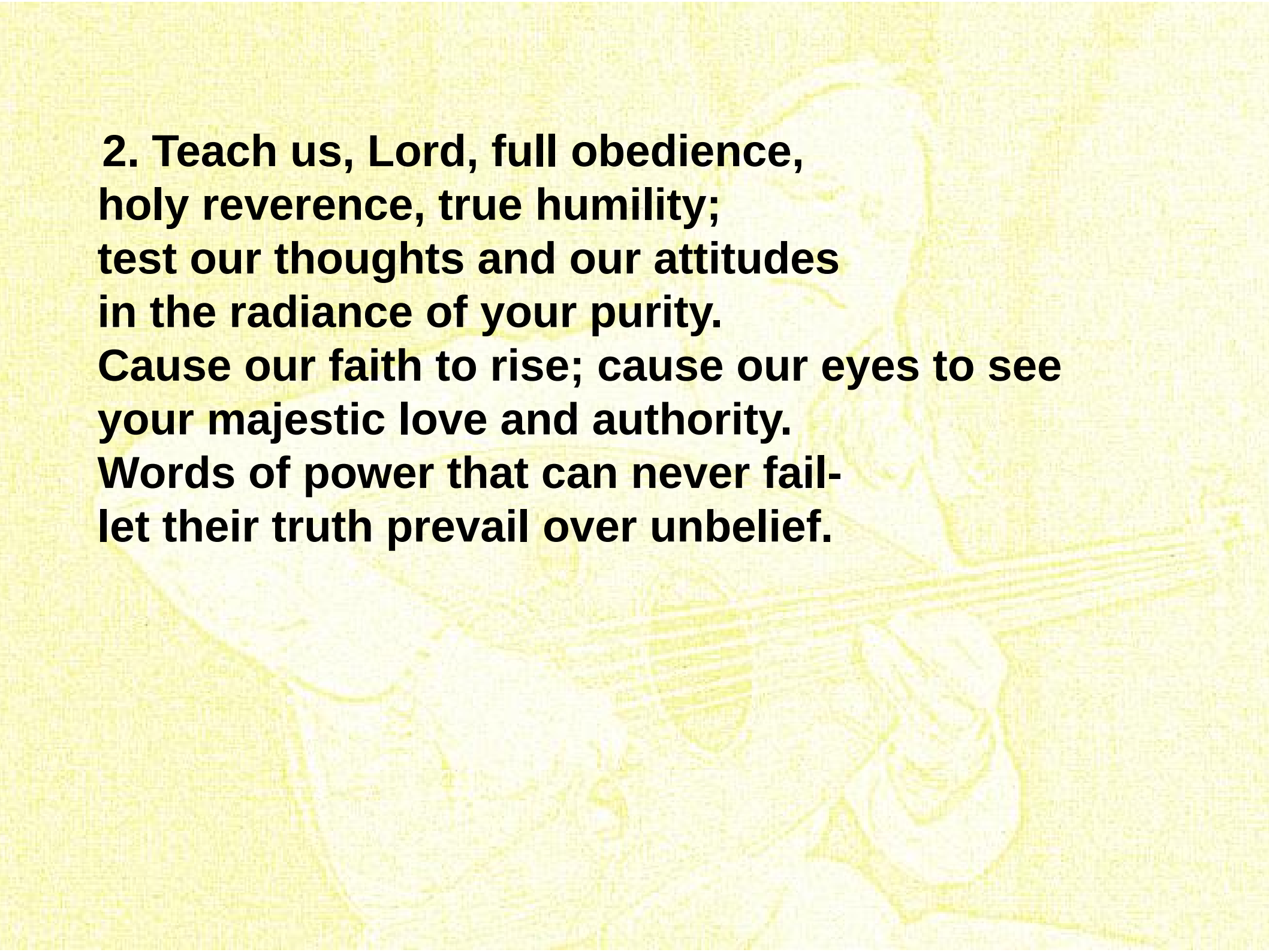
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Closing prayer

Praise! 1148

**1. Speak, O Lord, as we come to you
to receive the food of your holy word.
take your truth, plant it deep in us;
shape and fashion us in your likeness,
that the light of Christ might be seen today
in our acts of love and our deeds of faith.
Speak, O Lord, and fulfil in us
all your purposes for your glory.**

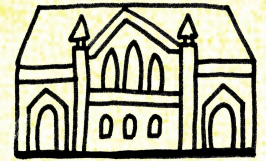


**2. Teach us, Lord, full obedience,
holy reverence, true humility;
test our thoughts and our attitudes
in the radiance of your purity.
Cause our faith to rise; cause our eyes to see
your majestic love and authority.
Words of power that can never fail-
let their truth prevail over unbelief.**

**3. Speak, O Lord, and renew our minds;
help us grasp the heights of your plans for us-
truths unchanged from the dawn of time
that will echo down through eternity.
And by grace we'll stand on your promises,
and by faith we'll walk as you walk with us.
Speak, O Lord, till your church is built
and the earth is filled with your glory.**

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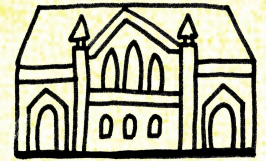
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Talk about the Bible ...

Which do you agree with?

“The Bible is old-fashioned and out of date”

“Bible is difficult to read and makes no sense [to me]”

“The Bible is unscientific and unbelievable in this modern time”

“The Bible is full of contradictions”

*“The Bible is patriarchal and is the enemy of human flourishing ...
gender and sexuality”*

*“I love to read the Bible, it brings hope & light into my soul ... I
hear God speaking”*

“What the Bible says, God says”

Talk about the Bible ...

“I love to read the Bible, it brings hope & light into my soul ... I hear God speaking”

John Wesley – old English Preacher ...

“I am a spirit come from God, and returning to God: just hovering over the great gulf; till, a few moments hence, I am no more seen; I drop into an unchangeable eternity! I want to know one thing the way to heaven; how to land safe on that happy shore. God Himself has condescended to teach the way; for this very end He came from heaven. He hath written it down in a book. O give me that book! At any price, give me the book of God!”

What is a gospel church?

Last time: churches,

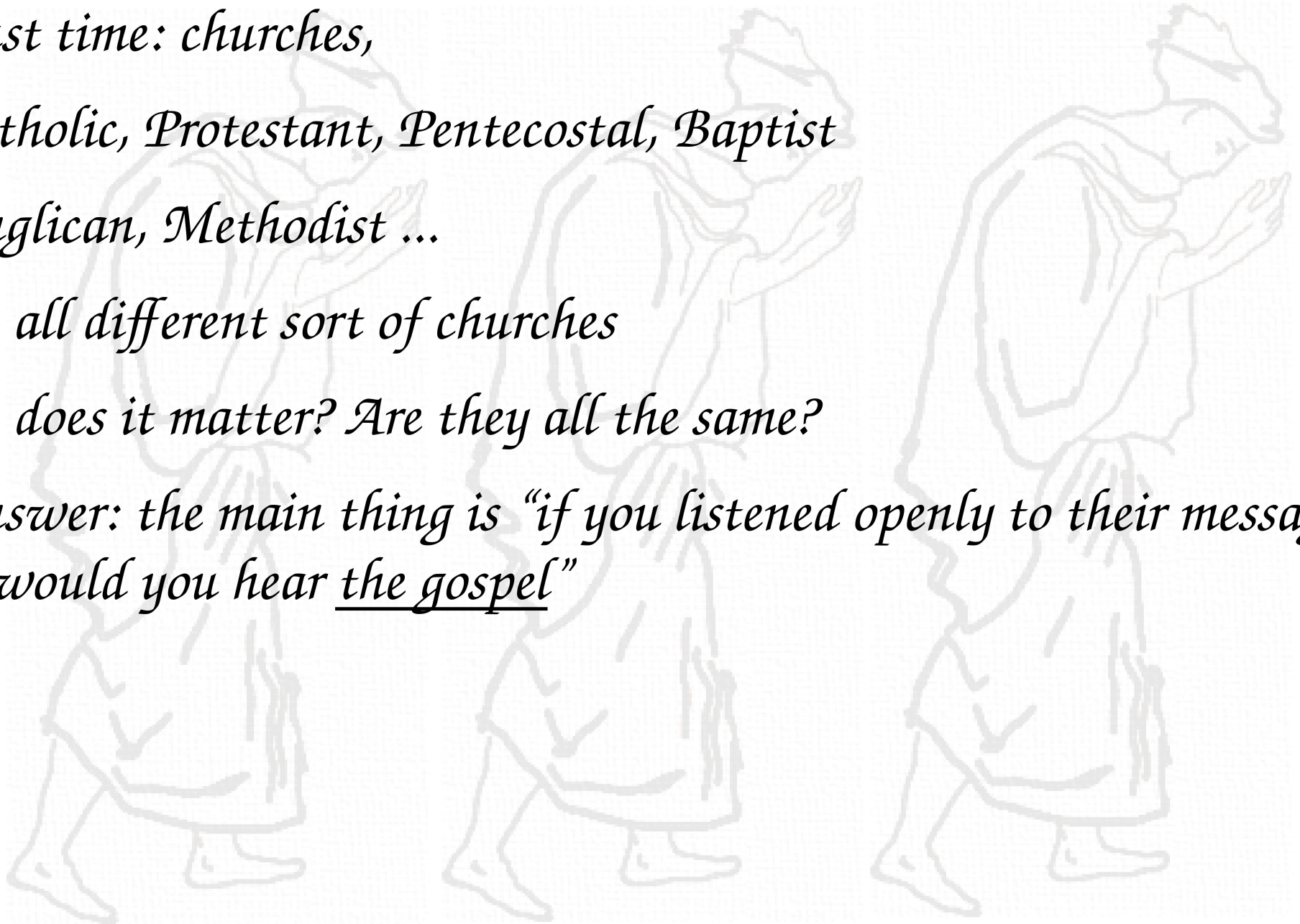
Catholic, Protestant, Pentecostal, Baptist

Anglican, Methodist ...

... all different sort of churches

... does it matter? Are they all the same?

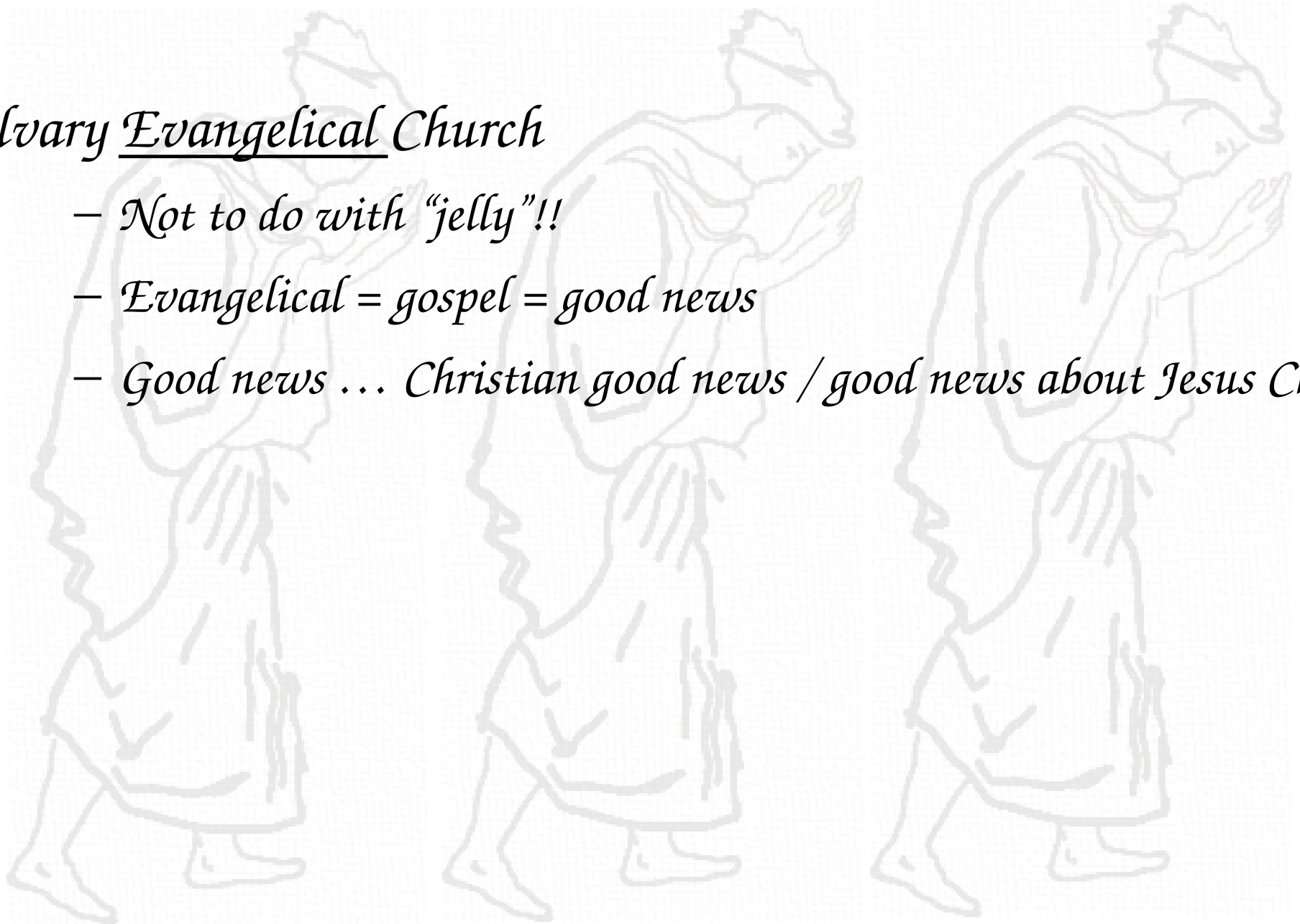
*Answer: the main thing is “if you listened openly to their message
would you hear the gospel”*



What is a gospel church?

Calvary Evangelical Church

- Not to do with “jelly”!!*
- Evangelical = gospel = good news*
- Good news ... Christian good news / good news about Jesus Christ*



What is a gospel church? The Bible

From last time:

1. what is this good news?

What the apostle Paul tells us “Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures that he was buried that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures” 1 Corinthians 15:3,4

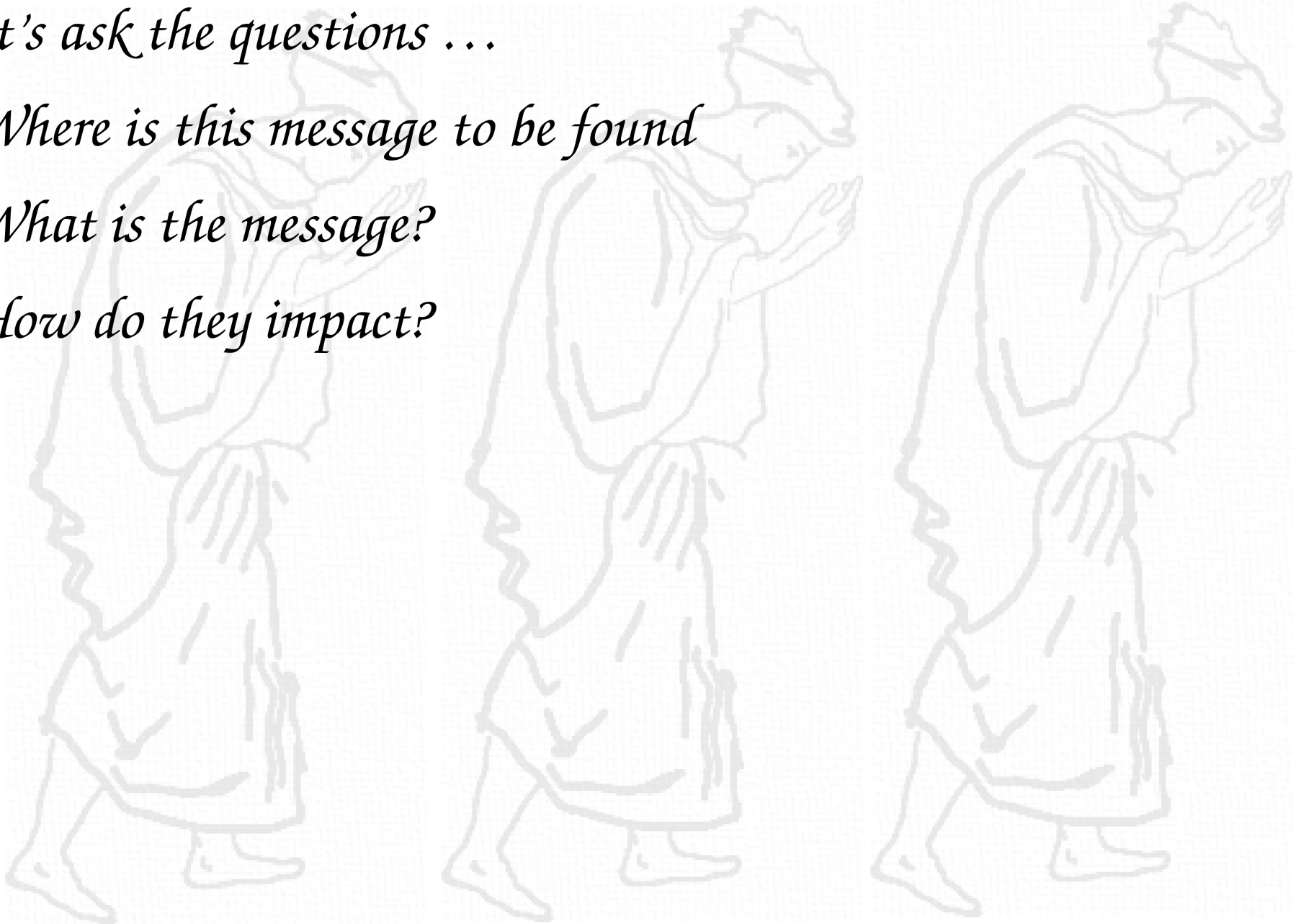
+ close with Jesus Christ personally by repentance (= turning) and faith (believing)

2. It is important because this is the only way to be saved from our sins on the day of judgment

Good news words ..

Let's ask the questions ...

- *Where is this message to be found*
- *What is the message?*
- *How do they impact?*



Where, what, how?

Witness A: John 10:2-5

- *The [good] shepherd of the sheep ...*
 - *= ??*
- *The sheep and the words of the shepherd*
 - *= they hear his voice*
 - *= they follow*
 - *= they recognise that the voice is his, and other voices do not convince them*
- *Where?*
 - *From the lips of Jesus*
 - *As recorded by those who heard him (apostles/witnesses)*
 - *As written down in Scripture*
- *What? About – his love, his death, his resurrection (v.17)*
- *How impact? - they follow*
- *==> Bible is Jesus speaking ... I just know it's his voice*
- *e.g. Mary and Jesus ...*

Where, what, how?

Witness B: Hebrews 1:1-4, 2:1-4

- *God has spoken through the prophets*
 - ***Where*** = the Bible (Old Testament)
- + *God has spoken in his Son*
 - *In these last days*
 - ***Where?***
 - *Lord spoke 2:3*
 - *Us who heard him 2:3*
 - *(this process confirmed by the Holy Spirit)*
 - *In this letter written down = Bible (New Testament)*

What?

- *2:3 a such a great salvation*

How impact?

- *We must pay careful attention (2:1)*
- *We must not drift away (2:1)*
- *We must not ignore (2:3)*
- *e.g. meet my dear old friend David ... drifted away ... came back*

Where, what, how?

Witness C: Romans 1:1-5, 16

- *Where do we hear the gospel of God?*
 - *From the apostle Paul (N.T. - now written as Scripture)*
 - *(apostle = authorised spokesman – not fake ebay)*
- *Where*
 - *In the promises of Holy Scripture v.2*
 - *3:21 the law and the prophets testify*
- *What is he saying?*
 - *Regarding his Son*
- *How impact?*
 - *v.5 call to the obedience of faith*
 - *v.16 ... is the power of God for salvation ...*

*e.g. Paul in Ephesus ... Lydia, heart the Lord opened, ... Jailor ...
converted in an earthquake*

Where, what, how?

Q: Where are the words of God?

A1: the OT is the word of God

- *Promising Jesus*
- *Depicting his role, his mission, his characteristics, his salvation*
- *e.g. as King, as Lamb, as changer of hearts, as bringer of God, as Hope of the new age*

– A2: the NT is the word of God

- *Declaring Jesus*
- *His own words and works*
- *The full confirmation, explanation by the apostles/apostolic group*

– What the Bible says – God says!

– “Give me this book”

– “read this book” – get into this book – pour it into our souls to that we eat, sleep, live, by this book

Where, what, how?

Q: what is the message of God?

A: how to be saved from sin by Jesus Christ

- From its guilt – forgiveness*
 - Unbearable guilt ... the charges are dropped!*
- From its shame – cleansing*
 - Woman at the well*
- From its power – new life*
 - Shows us the right way to live*
- From its ultimate judgment – no condemnation on the day of judgment*

Where, what, how?

Q: how does it impact?

A: power of God

- God made everything by speaking!!*
- “is not my word like a fire, declares the LORD, and like a hammer that breaks rock in pieces” Jeremiah 23:29*
- To bring to new birth ... (“Born again through the living and enduring word of God” 1 Peter 1:23)*
- To raise to new life ... e.g. Lazarus*
- To transform our lives ... to do deep surgery on our motives and desires (Hebrews 4:12)*
- To mould us into the likeness of Christ ...*

The gospel ... the Bible

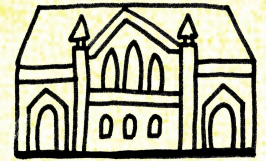
A gospel church receives, lives, tells the gospel of Jesus Christ

- Are you part of that community?*
- Has this message of Jesus got hold of your life?*
 - Surrendered? Believed? If not, why not?*

A gospel church

- Takes its stand on the gospel by believing the Bible*
- “what the Bible says, God says”*
- They see everything through the spectacles of Scripture*
- Hear his voice and follow*
- Yield to his word, trust his word, love his word*
- By his word they are under the touch of God upon their lives*
- In his word they meet and know the risen Saviour*
- What other sort of church would we want to be?*
- What in this life could be better?*

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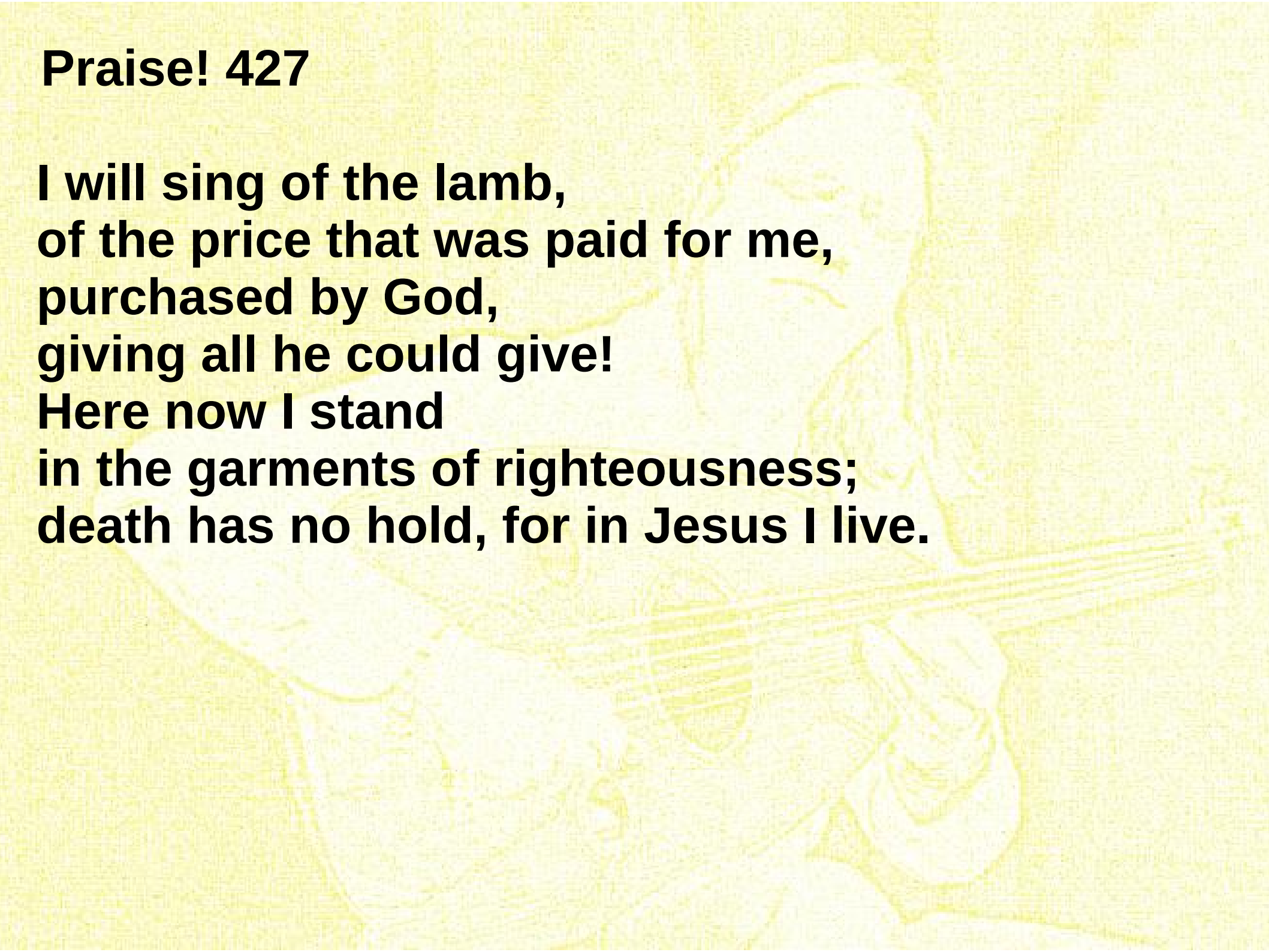
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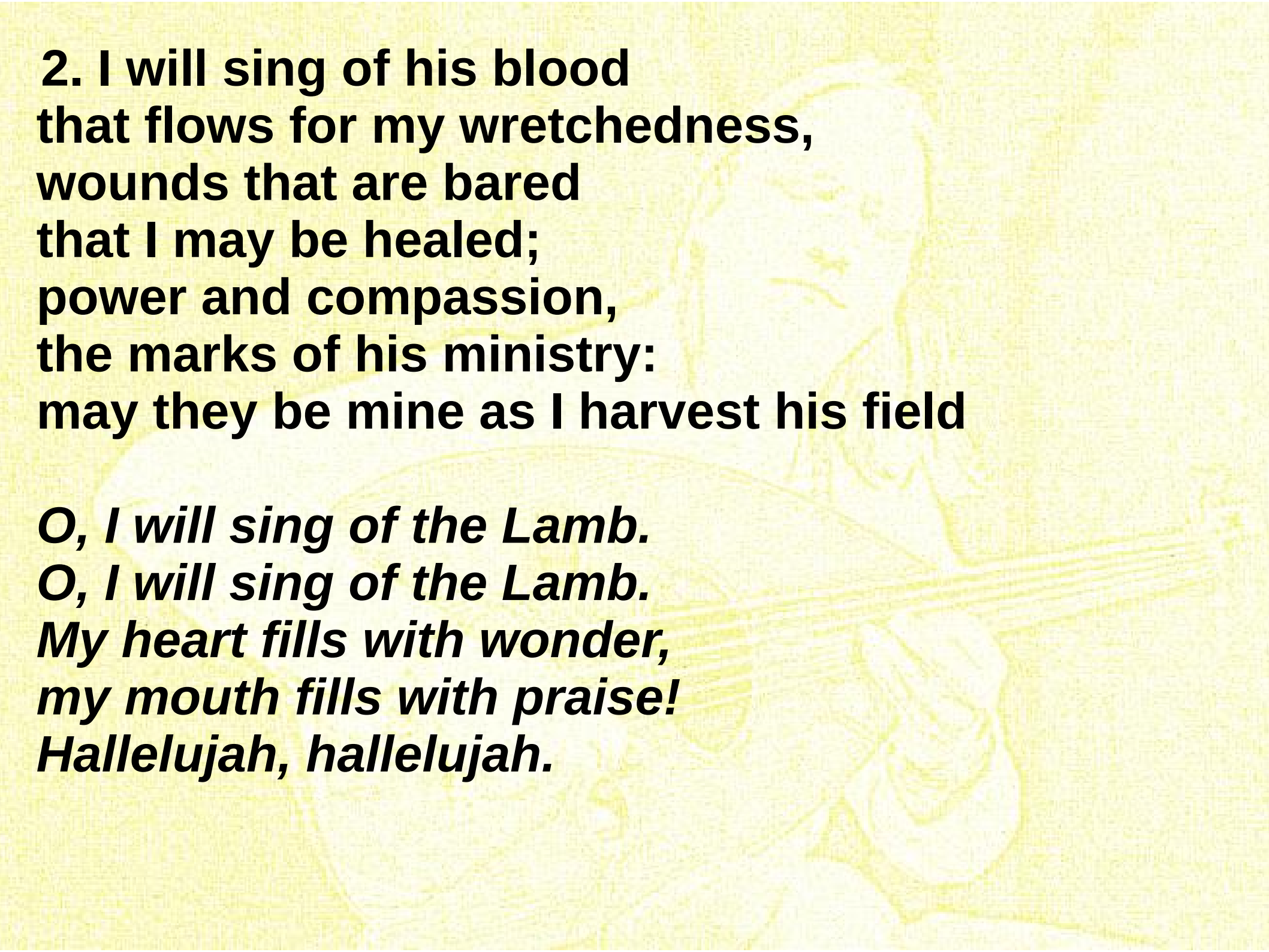
Song: 427 I will sing of the Lamb of the price that was paid

Closing prayer

Praise! 427

**I will sing of the lamb,
of the price that was paid for me,
purchased by God,
giving all he could give!
Here now I stand
in the garments of righteousness;
death has no hold, for in Jesus I live.**





**2. I will sing of his blood
that flows for my wretchedness,
wounds that are bared
that I may be healed;
power and compassion,
the marks of his ministry:
may they be mine as I harvest his field**

***O, I will sing of the Lamb.
O, I will sing of the Lamb.
My heart fills with wonder,
my mouth fills with praise!
Hallelujah, hallelujah.***

**3. Once I was blind,
yet believed I saw everything,
proud in my ways,
yet a fool in my part;
lost and alone
in the company of multitudes,
life in my body,
yet death in my heart.**

***O, I will sing of the Lamb.
O, I will sing of the Lamb.
O, why should the King
save a sinner like me?
Hallelujah, hallelujah.***

**4. What shall I give
to the man who gave everything,
humbling himself
before all he had made?
Dare I withhold
my own life from his sovereignty?
I shall give all for the sake of his name!**

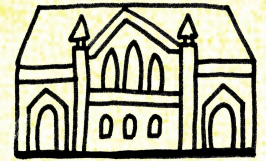
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Author: Stuart Townend

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