

BETTER IS ONE DAY

How lovely is Your dwelling place, O Lord Almighty.
For my soul longs and even faints for You.
For here my heart is satisfied within Your presence.
I sing beneath the shadow of Your wings.

Better is one day in Your courts,
better is one day in Your house.

Better is one day in Your courts, than thousands elsewhere.

One thing I ask and I would seek: to see Your beauty,
To find You in the place Your glory dwells.

One thing I ask and I would seek: to see Your beauty,
To find You in the place Your glory dwells.

REPEAT CHORUS

My heart and flesh cry out for You, the living God.
Your Spirit's water to my soul. I've tasted and I've seen.
Come once again to me.

I will draw near to You, I will draw near to You.

Better is one day. Better is one day.
Better is one day than thousands elsewhere.

Better is one day. Better is one day.
Better is one day than thousands elsewhere.

REPEAT CHORUS

CALL TO WORSHIP

How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord of hosts!
Our souls long, yes, faint for the courts of the Lord;
our hearts and flesh sing to the living God.

**For the Lord God is a sun and shield;
the Lord bestows favor and honor.**

**No good thing does he withhold
from those who walk uprightly.**

O Lord of hosts, blessed is the one who trusts in you!
—Psalm 84:1-2; 11-12—

ALL CREATURES OF OUR GOD & KING

All creatures of our God and King,
lift up your voice and with us sing
Alleluia, alleluia!

Thou burning sun with golden beam,
thou silver moon with softer gleam,
O praise him, O praise him, Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Let all things their Creator bless,
and worship him in humbleness,
O praise him, alleluia!

Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,
and praise the Spirit, three in one.

O praise him, O praise him, Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

ALL CREATURES OF OUR GOD & KING cont.

All the redeemed washed by His blood,
come and rejoice in His great love
O praise Him, alleluia!

Christ has defeated every sin,
Cast all your burdens now on Him
O praise him, O praise him, Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

He shall return in power to reign,
heaven and earth will join to say
O praise Him, alleluia!

Then who shall fall on bended knee?
All creatures of our God and King
O praise him, O praise him, Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

JESUS I COME

Out of my bondage, sorrow and night,
Jesus, I come; Jesus I come.
Into Thy freedom, gladness and light, Jesus, I come to Thee.

Out of my sickness into Thy health,
Out of my wanting and into Thy wealth,
Out of my sin and into Thyself, Jesus, I come to Thee.

Out of my shameful failure and loss,
Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come.
Into the glorious gain of Thy cross, Jesus, I come to Thee.
Out of earth's sorrows into Thy balm,
Out of life's storms and into Thy calm,
Out of distress into jubilant psalm, Jesus, I come to Thee.

Out of unrest and arrogant pride,
Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come.
Into Thy blessed will to abide, Jesus, I come to Thee.
Out of myself to dwell in Thy love,
Out of despair into raptures above,
Upward forever on wings like a dove, Jesus, I come to Thee.

Out of the fear and dread of the tomb,
Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come.
Into the joy and light of Thy home, Jesus, I come to Thee.
Out of the depths of ruin untold,
Into the peace of Thy sheltering fold,
Ever Thy glorious face to behold, Jesus, I come to Thee.

Heidelberg Catechism Lord's Day 37

Q101. But may we swear an oath in God's name if we do it reverently?

A. Yes, when the government demands it, or when necessity requires it, in order to maintain and promote truth and trustworthiness for God's glory and our neighbor's good. Such oaths are grounded in God's Word and were rightly used by the people of God in the Old and New Testaments.

Heidelberg Catechism Lord's Day 37 cont.

Q102. May we also swear by saints or other creatures?

A. No. A legitimate oath means calling upon God as the only one who knows my heart to witness to my truthfulness and to punish me if I swear falsely. No creature is worthy of such honor.

CONFESSION OF SIN

God of love and justice, we long for peace within and peace without. We long for harmony in our families, for serenity in the midst of struggle. We long for the day when our homes will be a dwelling place for your love. Yet we confess that we are often anxious, we do not trust each other, and we harbor violence. We are not willing to take the risks and make the sacrifices that love requires. Look upon us with kindness and grace. Rule in our homes and in all the world; show us how to walk in your paths, through the mercy of our Savior. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

In Christ all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross. And you who were once estranged and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, he has now reconciled in his fleshly body through death, so as to present you holy and blameless and irreproachable before him. Brothers and sisters: through the cross of Christ we are forgiven and reconciled to God. Praise be to God!

—based on Colossians 1:19–22, NRSV—

IN CHRIST ALONE

In Christ alone my hope is found,
He is my light, my strength, my song;
this Cornerstone, this solid Ground,
firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace,
when fears are stilled, when strivings cease!
My Comforter, my All in All,
here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone! who took on flesh
Fullness of God in helpless babe!
This gift of love and righteousness
Scorned by the ones he came to save:
Till on that cross as Jesus died,
The wrath of God was satisfied
For every sin on Him was laid;
Here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground His body lay
Light of the world by darkness slain;
Then bursting forth in glorious Day
Up from the grave he rose again!

IN CHRIST ALONE cont.

And as He stands in victory
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me,
For I am His and He is mine
Bought with the precious blood of Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death,
This is the power of Christ in me;
From life's first cry to final breath.
Jesus commands my destiny.
No power of hell, no scheme of man,
Can ever pluck me from His hand;
Till He returns or calls me home,
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand.

SERMON**DOXOLOGY**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heav'nly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

COMMUNION**JESUS, I MY CROSS HAVE TAKEN**

Jesus, I my cross have taken,
All to leave and follow Thee.
Destitute, despised, forsaken,
Thou from hence my all shall be.
Perish every fond ambition,
All I've sought or hoped or known.
Yet how rich is my condition!
God and heaven are still my own.

Let the world despise and leave me,
They have left my Savior, too.
Human hearts and looks deceive me;
Thou art not, like them, untrue.
O while Thou dost smile upon me,
God of wisdom, love, and might,
Foes may hate and friends disown me,
Show Thy face and all is bright.

Man may trouble and distress me,
Twill but drive me to Thy breast.
Life with trials hard may press me;
Heaven will bring me sweeter rest.
Oh, tis not in grief to harm me
While Thy love is left to me;
Oh, twere not in joy to charm me,
Were that joy unmixed with Thee.

JESUS, I MY CROSS HAVE TAKEN cont.

Go, then, earthly fame and treasure,
Come disaster, scorn and pain
In Thy service, pain is pleasure,
With Thy favor, loss is gain
I have called Thee Abba Father,
I have stayed my heart on Thee
Storms may howl, and clouds may gather;
All must work for good to me.

Haste thee on from grace to glory,
Armed by faith, and winged by prayer.
Heavens eternal days before thee,
God's own hand shall guide us there.
Soon shall close thy earthly mission,
Soon shall pass thy pilgrim days,
Hope shall change to glad fruition,
Faith to sight, and prayer to praise.