

72 – Thy Strong Word

1. Thy strong Word did cleave the darkness;
At Thy speaking it was done.

For created light we thank Thee,
While Thine ordered seasons run.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise to Thee who light dost send!
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia without end.

2. Lo, on those who dwelt in darkness,
Dark as night and deep as death,
Broke the light of Thy salvation,
Breathed Thine own life-giving breath.

Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise to Thee who light dost send!
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia without end.

3. Thy strong Word bespeaks us righteous;
Bright with Thine own holiness,
Glorious now, we press toward glory,
And our lives our hopes confess.

Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise to Thee who light dost send!
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia without end.

4. From the cross Thy wisdom shining
Breaketh forth in conqu'ring might;
From the cross forever beameth
All Thy bright redeeming light.

Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise to Thee who light dost send!
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia without end.

250 – A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

1. A mighty Fortress is our God,
A trusty Shield and Weapon;
He helps us free from ev'ry need
That hath us now o'ertaken.

The old evil foe
Now means deadly woe;

Deep guile and great might
Are his dread arms in fight;
On earth is not his equal.

2. With might of ours can naught be done,
Soon were our loss effected;
But for us fights the Valiant One,
Whom God Himself elected.
Ask ye, Who is this?
Jesus Christ it is.
Of Sabaoth Lord,
And there's none other God;
He holds the field forever.

3. Though devils all the world should fill,
All eager to devour us.
We tremble not, we fear no ill,
They shall not overpower us.
This world's prince may still
Scowl fierce as he will,
He can harm us none,
He's judged; the deed is done;
One little word can fell him.

4. The Word they still shall let remain
Nor any thanks have for it;
He's by our side upon the plain
With His good gifts and Spirit.
And take they our life,
Goods, fame, child, and wife,
Let these all be gone,
They yet have nothing won;
The Kingdom ours remaineth.

378 – Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice

1. Dear Christians, one and all, rejoice,
With exultation springing,
And, with united heart and voice
And holy rapture singing,
Proclaim the wonders God hath done,
How His right arm the vict'ry won;
Right dearly it hath cost Him.

2. Fast bound in Satan's chains I lay;
Death brooded darkly o'er me.
Sin was my torment night and day;
In sin my mother bore me.
Yea, deep and deeper still I fell;
Life had become a living hell,
So firmly sin possessed me.

3. My good works so imperfect were,
They had no pow'r to aid me;
My will God's judgments could not bear,
Yea, prone to evil made me;
Grief drove me to despair, and I
Had nothing left me but to die;
To hell I fast was sinking.

4. But God beheld my wretched state
Before the world's foundation,
And, mindful of His mercies great,
He planned my soul's salvation.
A father's heart He turned to me,
Sought my redemption fervently;
He gave His dearest Treasure.

5. He spoke to His beloved Son:
"Tis time to have compassion.
Then go, bright Jewel of My crown,
And bring to man salvation.
From sin and sorrow set him free;
Slay bitter death for him, that he
May live with Thee forever."

6. This Son obeyed Him cheerfully,
And born of virgin mother,
Came down upon the earth to me
That He might be my Brother.
His mighty power doth work unseen,
He came in fashion poor and mean,
And took the devil captive.

7. He sweetly said: "Hold fast by Me,
I am thy Rock and Castle.
Thy Ransom I Myself will be;
For thee I strive and wrestle.
For I am with thee, I am thine,

And evermore thou shalt be Mine;
The foe shall not divide us.

8. "The foe shall shed My precious blood,
Me of My life bereaving.
All this I suffer for thy good;
Be steadfast and believing.
Life shall from death the vict'ry win,
My innocence shall bear thy sin;
So art thou blest forever.

9. "Now to My Father I depart,
From earth to heav'n ascending,
Thence heav'nly wisdom to impart,
The Holy Spirit sending.
He shall in trouble comfort thee,
Teach thee to know and follow Me
And to the truth conduct thee."

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5. Give us lips to sing Thy glory,
Tongues Thy mercy to proclaim,
Throats that shout the hope that fills us,
Mouths to speak Thy holy name.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
May the light which Thou dost send
Fill our songs with alleluias,
Alleluias without end!

6. God the Father, Light-Creator,
To Thee laud and honor be.
To Thee, Light of Light begotten,
Praise be sung eternally.
Holy Spirit, Light-Revealer,
Glory, glory be to Thee.
Mortals, angels, now and ever
Praise the holy Trinity!