

106 – On Jordan’s Bank the Herald’s Cry

1. On Jordan’s bank the herald’s cry
Announces that the Lord is nigh;
Awake and hearken, for he brings
Glad tidings of the King of kings.
2. Then cleansed be ev’ry Christian breast,
And furnished for so great a Guest;
Yea, let us each our hearts prepare
For Christ to come and enter there.
3. For Thou art our Salvation, Lord,
Our Refuge and our great Reward;
Without Thy grace we waste away,
Like flow’rs that wither and decay.
4. To heal the sick stretch out Thine hand
And bid the fallen sinner stand;
Once more upon Thy people shine
And fill the world with love divine.
5. All praise, eternal Son, to Thee,
Whose advent set Thy people free:
Whom with the Father we adore
And Holy Ghost, forevermore.

107 – When All the World Was Cursed

1. When all the world was cursed
By Moses’ condemnation,
Saint John the Baptist came
With words of consolation.
With true forerunner’s zeal
The Greater One he named,
And Him, as yet unknown,
As Savior he proclaimed.
2. Before he yet was born,
He leaped in joyful meeting,
Confessing Him as Lord
Whose mother he was greeting.
By Jordan’s rolling stream,

A new Elijah bold,
He testified of Him
Of whom the prophets told:

3. Behold the Lamb of God
That bears the world’s transgression,
Whose sacrifice removes
The enemy’s oppression.
Behold the Lamb of God,
Who beareth all our sin,
Who for our peace and joy
Will full atonement win.
4. Thrice blessed every one
Who heeds the proclamation
Which John the Baptist brought,
Accepting Christ’s salvation.
He who believes this truth
And comes with love unfeigned
Has righteousness and peace
In fullest measure gained.
5. O grant, Thou Lord of Love,
That we receive, rejoicing,
The word proclaimed by John,
Our true repentance voicing,
That gladly we may walk
Upon our Savior’s way
Until we live with Him
In His eternal day.

102 – Comfort, Comfort Ye My People

1. “Comfort, comfort ye My people,
Speak ye peace,” thus saith our God.
“Comfort those who sit in darkness,
Mourning ’neath their sorrows’ load.
Speak ye to Jerusalem
Of the peace that waits for them;
Tell her that her sins I cover
And her warfare now is over.”

2. Yea, her sins our God will pardon,
Blotting out each dark misdeed;
All that well deserved His anger
He no more will see or heed.
She hath suffered many a day
Now her griefs have passed away.
God will change her pining sadness
Into ever-springing gladness.

3. Hark the herald's voice is crying
In the desert far and near,
Bidding all men to repentance
Since the Kingdom now is here.
O that warning cry obey!
Now prepare for God a way;
Let the valleys rise to meet Him
And the hills bow down to greet Him.

4. Make ye straight what long was crooked;
Make the rougher places plain.
Let your hearts be true and humble
As befits His holy reign.
For the glory of the Lord
Now o'er earth is shed abroad,
And all flesh shall see the token
That His Word is never broken.

105 – Rise, Children of the Kingdom

1. Rise, children of the kingdom!
The King is drawing nigh.
Arise, and hail with gladness
The Ruler from on high.
Ye Christians, hasten forth!
Your praise and homage bring Him
And glad Hosannas sing Him;
Naught else your love is worth.

2. Arise, ye drooping mourners!
The King is very near.
Away with grief and sorrow,
For lo! your help is here.
Behold, in many a place–

O blessed consolation–
We find Him, our salvation,
In His pure means of grace.

3. Arise, ye much afflicted!
The King is not afar.
Rejoice, ye long dejected!
Behold the Morning Star.
The Lord will give you joy,
Though troubles now distress you,
With comfort He will bless you,
E'en death He will destroy.

5. O rich the gifts Thou bring'st us,
Thyself made poor and weak;
O love beyond expression,
That thus can sinners seek!
For this, O Lord, will we
Our joyous tribute bring Thee,
And glad Hosannas sing Thee,
And ever grateful be.

87 – Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

1. Come, Thou long-expected Jesus,
Born to set Thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us,
Let us find our rest in Thee.

2. Israel's Strength and Consolation,
Hope of all the earth Thou art,
Dear Desire of ev'ry nation,
Joy of ev'ry longing heart.

3. Born Thy people to deliver,
Born a Child and yet a King,
Born to reign in us forever,
Now Thy gracious kingdom bring.

4. By Thine own eternal Spirit
Rule Thou in our hearts alone;
By Thine all sufficient merit
Raise us to Thy glorious throne.

