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By God's Grace and For His Glory in Christ Jesus

TO BE A PILGRIM

*"For we are strangers before thee, and sojourners,
as were all our fathers: our days on the earth are as
a shadow, and there is none abiding."*

1 Chronicles 29:15

JON J. CARDWELL

Who Would True Valour See? Let Him Come Hither
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TO BE A PILGRIM LYRICS

PreachingChristCrucified.com

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• HE PAID A DEBT

Date: Unknown

Refrain Lyrics by Anonymous

Verse Lyrics by Jon J. Cardwell & Rachel Cardwell

A paraphrase of Isaiah 53:1-4

Christ Jesus paid a debt, that I could never pay—

Who hath believed our doctrine?
T' whom has God's arm been reveal'd?
He grew up a plant so tender;
From the ground so dry and seal'd.

Refrain: He paid a debt He did not owe;
I owed a debt I could not pay;
I needed someone to wash my sins away.
And now I sing a brand new song:
“Amazing Grace,” the whole day long;
Christ Jesus paid a debt that I could never pay.

He did not have form nor beauty;
When He's seen we turn away;
Wasn't comely to desire—
T' cause a natural man to stay.

Refrain

Men despis'd Him with rejection;
A Man of sorrows knowing grief.
We withheld from Him all honor;
We despis'd Christ like a thief.

Refrain

Surely He hath borne our grieving,
And our sorrows on Him plac'd;
God afflicted Jesus with wrath;
His inj'ry sought we with all haste.

Refrain

• TO BE A PILGRIM

Date: 1672

Lyrics by John Bunyan (1628-1688)

From *The Pilgrim's Progress*

aka "Who Would True Valour See"

Arranged by Jon J. Cardwell

Music: Pilgrim, 2013

Who would true valor see, Let him come hither;
One here will constant be, Come wind, come weather
There's no discouragement, Shall make him once relent
His first avowed intent, To be a pilgrim.

Whoso beset him round, With dismal stories
Do but themselves confound; His strength the more is.
No lion can him fright, He'll with a giant fight,
He will have a right, To be a pilgrim.

Hobgoblin nor foul fiend, Can daunt his spirit,
He knows he at the end, Shall life inherit.
Then fancies fly away, He'll fear not what men say,
He'll labor night and day, To be a pilgrim.

• A LIVING AND DYING PRAYER FOR THE HOLIEST BELIEVER IN THE WORLD

Date: 1776

Lyrics by Augustus Toplady (1740-1748)

aka "Rock of Ages"

Music: Toplady

Rock of Ages, cleft for me, Let me hide myself in Thee;
Let the water and the blood, From Thy riven side which flowed,
Be of sin the double cure, Save from wrath and make me pure.

Not the labours of my hands, Can fulfill Thy law's demands;
Could my zeal no respite know, Could my tears forever flow,
All for sin could not atone: Thou must save, and Thou alone.

Nothing in my hand I bring, Simply to Thy cross I cling;
Naked, come to Thee for dress; Helpless, look to Thee for grace;
Foul, I to the fountain fly; Wash me, Saviour, or I die.

While I draw this fleeting breath, When my eye-strings break in death,
When I soar to worlds unknown, See Thee on Thy judgment throne;
Rock of Ages, cleft for me, Let me hide myself in Thee.

Then above the world and sin, Thro' the veil, drawn right within,
I shall see Him face to face, Sing the story, saved by grace,
Rock of Ages, cleft for me, Let me ever be with Thee.

• THE HOPE SET BEFORE US

Date: 1835

Lyrics by Anonymous

First appeared in *Hymns, Selected & Organized; for use of the citizens of Mount Zion, &c...*

Arranged by Jon J. Cardwell

Music: Sure Hope, 2012

The hope set before us is Jesus the Lord;
The gospel reveals it; doth comfort afford;
With strong consolation, for those, we are told,
Who once on His merits have fled to lay hold.

If Satan assails thee, and guilt should intrude,
None but the Redeemer can e'er do thee good;
Lay hold on His blood, 'tis sufficient for thee,
Thy conscience to cleanse, and from guilt set thee free.

To this we are pressing, with ardent desire,
Through floods of affliction, temptation, and fire;
Tho' often dejected, and filled with dismay,
Because of the trials attending the way.

Then lift Him, ye heralds that speak in His name;
Proclaim Him to-day and for ever the same;
The life of His people, which none can destroy;
Their hope and their portion, and fulness of joy.

• IF ANY MAN FOLLOW CHRIST

Date: 2010

Lyrics by Jon J. Cardwell

Music: Promised Land

Traditional American Melody

“If any man come after Me
Let him deny himself,
And take his cross and follow Me,”
The Lord said to the Twelve.

For whosoever wills to save
His life for selfish gain;
Will find that he has lost it all,
Condemn'd to hellish pain.

Yet, he who does forsake his life
In love for only Christ,
Will find that he has gained instead,
Blessed eternal life.

For what is profited a man,
If the world he should gain?
To lose his soul for worldly things,
Is not a bless'd exchange.

In glory shall the Son of man,
Return, with angels too;
And judgment will be His reward,
Upon all works men do.

• FAITH'S REVIEW AND EXPECTATION

Date: 1779

Lyrics by John Newton (1725-1807)

From Olney Hymns

aka "Amazing Grace"

Music: New Britain

Amazing grace! How sweet the sound,
That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost but now am found
Was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
And grace my fears relieved;
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed!

Through many dangers, toils, and snares,
I have already come;
'Tis grace hath brought me safe thus far,
And grace will lead me home.

The Lord has promised good to me,
His word my hope secures;
He will my shield and portion be
As long as life endures.

Yes, when this flesh and heart shall fail,
And mortal life shall cease,
I shall possess, within the veil,
A life of joy and peace.

The earth shall soon dissolve like snow,
The sun forbear to shine;
But God, who called me here below,
Will be forever mine.

• THE GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST

Date: 2010

Written by Jon J. Cardwell

"For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek." —**Romans 1:16**

So what is the Gospel? The word gospel simply means "good news." I believe that the shortest Biblical definition for the Gospel is that which is written in **1 Corinthians 2:2**, *"For I determined not to know any thing among you, save Jesus Christ, and him crucified."* Although this verse does not contain every element of the Gospel, it provides the central thrust of its power and preeminence. For a slightly more expanded Biblical definition of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, we can find that in **1 Corinthians 15:1-4**,[\[1\]](#)

1 Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand;

2 By which also ye are saved, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain.

3 For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures;

4 And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures:

What are the **essential** truths contained in this good news? I can summarize that with this statement: The Gospel of Jesus Christ is the revelation of God, according to the scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, which focuses on the Person and work of Jesus Christ in His **incarnation, crucifixion, resurrection, ascension, and restitution** of all things in His bodily return.

What do we mean by the incarnation?

1. When we speak of the incarnation, we mean that **God became a Man**. Expounded upon, this truth states that Jesus Christ, the eternal Son of God, is very God, holy and transcendent, who condescended to become a man, with a fully human nature coexisting with His divine nature as God. He was born of a virgin, which originates from the first proclamation of the Gospel immediately after Adam's fall: *"And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel"* (**Genesis 3:15**). Being a "seed" indicates Christ's human birth. Being the seed of the woman indicates His virgin birth, thus maintaining all deity in His divine nature. The bruising of Christ's heel speaks of His death by crucifixion. The bruise or crushing of the serpent's head indicates the destruction of Satan's power and, furthermore, indicates the sufficiency and supremacy of Christ's sacrificial death.

The truth of **Christ's Glorious Deity** is essential because it is important to know who has saved us; otherwise, our worship is in vain. This truth is also important because the

salvation, which is of the LORD (**Jonah 2:9**), is supremely powerful to save and sufficiently powerful to preserve that saving work to the end.

2. By it, we also mean that **Christ, as a Man, lived a holy and righteous life**. Born as a babe, like every descendent of Adam, but of a virgin, He is like no other man who was, or ever will be born. His being born like any other descendent of Adam indicates Christ's complete humanity, yet, it also speaks of His unique character by His holiness unto God and His sinlessness among men. He was made subject to every infirmity and affliction common to man, yet He endured. He was tempted in every way, like as we are, yet He was without sin: holy, blameless, undefiled, and always pleasing to the heavenly Father. His thinking was of the purest thoughts unto godly obedience to His Father. His heart harbored no vain or selfish grudge. Every utterance of His mouth was heavenly, having no guile, nor deceit, nor slander, nor gossip, nor malignity. His every deed was honorable and honoring before every vestige of heaven. He was the only righteous Man who ever lived, the only pious Prophet who spoke truth in purity and equity, the only Jew who ever kept the entire law perfectly, and the only Son who ever obeyed His Father sweetly, completely, lovingly and sincerely.

The truth of **Christ's Righteous Humanity** is essential because it is important to recognize that the sins and corruptions held, harbored and inherited in the flesh of every man, woman, and child since Adam's fall, and because of his fall, are so heinous and so offensive against God, that to save mankind from their sins, it took nothing less than God condescending to be clothed in the likeness of men (**Philippians 2:6, 7**). A denial of Christ's humanity is not of God (**1 John 4:3**).

What do we mean by the crucifixion?

1. When we speak of the crucifixion of Christ, or use the expression, "Christ crucified," we are speaking of the redemption of sinners by the **Penal Substitutionary and Atoning Sacrifice** of Jesus Christ upon a tree (a Roman cross), as it is written, "*Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree*" (**Galatians 3:13**). Jesus Christ, the God-Man, humbled Himself in His condescending incarnation. He willingly laid down His life by the love of God. He obediently gave Himself by the decree of the heavenly Father. He surrendered Himself to lay down His life as God's sufficient Substitute, taking upon Himself all the pains, miseries and torments of the wrath of God upon His Person; of those afflictions visible upon His body inflicted upon Him by sinful men who hated God (**Isaiah 52:14; 53:3-5**); and also, by the invisible, spiritual penalty, receiving the full measure God's wrath for a sin debt He did not owe; He then was also the substitute for the debt of sin we owe to God; a debt we could not possibly pay (**Psalms 75:8; Isaiah 53:10-11**).

2. His crucifixion also speaks of His shed blood for the forgiveness of sins (**Hebrews 9:22**). The purity of Christ's shed blood, typified and foreshadowed by the blood sacrifice of innocent and unblemished animals, presents the cleansing power of His blood to provide forgiveness of confessed and repentant sin (**Romans 10:9-10**). The power of the purity of Christ's blood is sufficient to cleanse the redeemed soul from every confessed sin he has committed after he has been saved by God's grace (**1 John 1:7-10**).

3. Furthermore, when we speak of the crucifixion of Christ, it reflects the corruptions contained in a world that has been turned upside down. The corruption of the world, which took place at Adam's fall, is so egregiously offensive to God since the fall of man, the fact that the world has not been utterly destroyed is evidence of the satisfying propitiation found in Christ's sacrifice (**1 John 2:2**). This sacrifice is such an exultant demonstration of God's love in the Person of Christ, such a superlative satisfaction of divine justice in the work of Christ, and the most supreme manifestation of grace and mercy in the condescension of Christ, that the earth will also be resurrected in the restoration of all things (**Ephesians 3:21**).

4. When we speak of the cross of Christ or Christ crucified or the crucifixion of Christ, we are speaking of the holy splendor of Christ's deity to condescend to save lost men because of God's love. The cross speaks of the humble obedience of Christ's humanity to go to death, even the death of the cross. His righteousness was sufficient enough to be applied to all lost souls that repent and believe savingly. His excellence in all His ways was sufficient to pay the debt of sins for every man, woman, and child that trust in the Person and work of Christ for salvation. His righteous life, His humble obedience, and His holy sacrifice upon the cross is of such infinite value, the power that dwells savingly in the Person and work of Jesus Christ reconciles the sinner to God by God's grace through faith in Christ.

The revelation of the exceeding excellence of Christ's life and holiness of His sacrificial death, illuminated by the efficacious grace of the Holy Spirit, will bring a sinner to see the depravity of his lost condition when set against the overwhelming goodness of Christ. Truly, *"We are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags; and we all do fade as a leaf; and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away"* (**Isaiah 64:6**). The shame that comes to our souls in the light of the revelation of the offense our very lives bring to God, far exceeds the shame of Adam and Eve when their nakedness was revealed to them.

What do we mean by the resurrection?

When we speak of the resurrection we mean **Christ's Rising from the Dead** in His crucified body after three days and nights in the tomb.

The resurrection of Christ is God's open display to the entire creation of His seal and acceptance of Christ's sacrifice. Anyone can claim to be God (**John 10:33**). Anyone can claim to have the power to forgive sins (**Luke 7:48**, et al). Anyone can claim to give one's life to redeem many souls (**John 10:15; Matthew 20:28**). And anyone can claim to raise Himself from the dead (**John 2:19; 10:17-18**). But no one can prove any of these things... that is, except for Jesus Christ of Nazareth.

This one sign, the bodily resurrection of Jesus Christ, was the only sign given to an evil and adulterous generation of the excellence and worth of Christ before God, in all He is and all He has done.

The resurrection of Christ also assures God's promise to all whom He has saved in Christ that there will one day be a resurrection of the dead. The importance of the

resurrection is such that a denial of the bodily resurrection of Christ means a denial of the faith altogether (**1 Corinthians 15:12-19**).

What is meant by the ascension?

When we speak of the ascension of Christ, we mean **Christ's Ascending to the Throne of David in Heaven (Acts 2:29-36)**. Jesus Christ is King of kings and Lord of lords. He is the only one who has ever ascended into heaven (**John 3:13**).¹

His ascension was necessary and important because Jesus said, *"Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is expedient for you that I go away: **for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you**; but if I depart, I will send him unto you. And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: Of sin, because they believe not on me; Of righteousness, because I go to my Father, and ye see me no more; Of judgment, because the prince of this world is judged. I have yet many things to say unto you, but ye cannot bear them now. Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come. He shall glorify me: for he shall receive of mine, and shall shew it unto you."*

It was necessary for Jesus to ascend to the right hand of Majesty on high (**Hebrews 1:3**), else the Comforter, or Helper, *"will not come."*

The Comforter, the Holy Spirit of Christ must come. Christ's ascension was so very important for this reason. As the Holy Spirit rebukes the world of sin, righteousness and judgment (**John 16:8**), through the means of God's Word (**Romans 10:17**), God *"commands all people everywhere to repent"* (**Acts 17:30**, ESV).

As the Holy Spirit also guides in all truth (**John 16:13**) and glorifies Christ (**John 16:14**), belief unto confession is essential to the Gospel of Jesus Christ. It is one of the first evidences of a regenerated life unto saving conversion. It is written, *"That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation"* (**Romans 10:9-10**). The Spirit testifies of the truth of Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord, and by God's grace prompts a soul to openly confess Christ because the new heart and new spirit in the regenerate soul (**Ezekiel 36:26-27**) has the commandments of God written upon his heart.

The rule and reign of Christ upon His heavenly throne, and His rule and reign in the lives of believers He has saved through the indwelling presence of the Holy Spirit, is the work God is performing upon earth, gathering one people unto Himself. This people are a particular people, growing in unity through the doctrinal truths of God's Word, provoking one another unto love and good works in submission to King Jesus as faithful subjects, until Jesus Christ returns unto the restitution (or restoration) of all things (**Acts 3:21**).

¹ Enoch *"was not; for God took him"* (**Genesis 5:24**); *"Elijah went up by a whirlwind into heaven"* (**1 Kings 2:11**).

What is meant by the restoration (restitution), or return of Christ?

1. When we speak of the return of Christ and the restitution (or restoration) of all things, we mean that one day Christ will return to earth imminently (**Mark 13:32**; **Acts 1:7**), visibly (**Revelation 1:7**), and bodily (**Acts 1:11**).

a. This includes the scriptural truth of Christ's coming in righteous judgment: for the wicked unto the praise of God's glorious justice; and for the righteous elect, unto the praise of God's glorious grace.

b. This important doctrine also includes the truth that there is a hell. Although a detailed understanding of hell or the lake of fire is not essential for salvation, a sober awareness and knowledge of hell is certainly essential. Hell is described by the Lord Jesus as a place where *"their worm dieth not"* (**Mark 9:44, 46, 48**). For those wicked that will be dispatched in that great and terrible Day of the Lord, the presence of God is a consuming fire that burns hotter than the sun shining in its strength, and being an eternal fire that is never quenched (**Mark 9:44, 46, 48**).

c. The doctrine of heaven is also included within the truth of Christ's coming. More than being the place of the new heaven and earth, and the New Jerusalem, it is more infinitely grand than that. The same presence of God that is a consuming fire for the wicked dead, Christ's presence is peace and comfort (**2 Corinthians 1:3**), and fullness of joy with pleasures forever more at His right hand (**Psalms 16:11**). He, Jesus Christ, the God of our salvation, is our eternal inheritance and it is His presence that makes heaven heavenly. It is written, *"Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is"* (**1 John 3:2**).

As a recap, let us review that which is the good news of the Gospel of Jesus Christ:

—It contains the doctrine of **Christ's incarnation**. Jesus Christ was born of a virgin, and therefore, He is very God, yet fully man.

—It contains the doctrine of **Christ's crucifixion**. Being both God and Man, having two distinct natures, yet being one Person, His penal substitutionary and atoning sacrifice is powerful to save and regenerate, merciful to forgive and guard, holy to cleanse and purify, effectual to transform and sanctify, and mighty to accomplish and fulfill to the end.

—It contains the doctrine of **Christ's resurrection**. As Christ was crucified and resurrected the third day, we should also reckon ourselves dead and risen with Him. This gives us grace upon grace for growth, strengthened faith to trust upon Christ for the present, and blessed hope to wait upon Christ for the future.

—It contains the doctrine of **Christ's ascension**. As Christ has ascended upon the throne of His glory, He has made us to sit together in heavenly places in Christ, who has blessed us with all spiritual blessings in the heavenlies in Christ.

—It contains the doctrine of **Christ's restoration**. Jesus Christ is returning for His own. All those who have not repented and confessed Christ, who have not cast themselves upon Christ alone in trusting faith; those should tremble in dread fear and sober consideration.

God commands all men everywhere to repent and to believe upon the Lord Jesus Christ. Look ye upon Jesus Christ and be ye saved.

• BLESSEDNESS IN CHRIST

Date: 2010

Lyrics by Jon J. Cardwell

Based upon Matthew 5:3-12

Music: traditional American melody

Blessed they be in poverty; When spirit is undone.
Apart from grace we wretched are— There's nothing save the Son.

Blessed are they that mourn and weep, For comfort is their due;
When Jesus is their trust and hope, For Gentile and the Jew.

When God's foes speak against the meek,
There's blessing in Christ's words;
They're strengthen'd by His grace and they'll Inherit the new earth.

Blessed are they when hungry and For righteousness do thirst:
They shall be fill'd and satisfi'd, With Christ whom they love first.

Blessed they are, the merciful; For mercy they've obtained,
In th' precious blood of Jesus Christ, The Lamb who had been slain.

Bless'd they are, the pure in heart, For their God they shall see;
When Christ returns to bring them home— With Him forever be.

Bless'd are they when persecuted, For Christ's righteousness' sake;
The kingdom has been promis'd them— Enduring by God's grace.

Blessed are ye, when men revile; And mock you for Christ's sake
Rejoice and be exceeding glad, Your reward in heav'n's great.

Blessed again are ye when they, Speak evil of your faith,
Rejoice and be exceeding glad, Your gift: to see Christ's face!

• THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

Date: 2010
Lyrics by Jon J. Cardwell
Music: Hudson

You shall not possess other gods,
Within your heart or mind.
This first commandment of God's Law,
Within your soul must shine.

Says Command two: you cannot make
An image from the earth;
Or from heaven or beneath,
Idolatry's a curse.

The third command says do not speak
The Lord's name worthlessly.
The Lord's will not hold him guiltless
In this profanity.

We must recall the Sabbath day,
That is the fourth command;
'Tis holy to the Lord our God
And needed rest for man.

To honor parents is the fifth
Commandment from our Lord.
It gives a blessing of long life,
And promis'd by God's Word.

You shall not murder nor commit
Adultery nor steal;
These are commandments 6 thru 8
To man as God reveal'd.

Against your neighbor do not lie,
Says the ninth command.
The tenth is not to covet things,
Own'd by another man.

• DISCIPLES' PRAYER

Date: 2010

Written by Jon J. Cardwell

Based upon Matthew 6:9-15

Music: Prayer, 2012

Our Father who in heaven lives
And heavenly is Your frame;
You're greater than all things you give;
Holy is Your blessed name!

I pray dear Lord Your kingdom come,
And all Your will be done;
That all Your pleasure is fulfill'd,
And heav'n and earth is one.

Give us this day our daily bread,
And please forgive our debts;
As we also forgive debtors—
And Your mercy not forget.

Lead us not into temptation,
Free us from the evil;
I do not have the strength myself
To defeat the devil.

And if I have forgiven them,
Who trespass and offend;
God's mercy fills my heart with joy,
My Father has forgiv'n.

And if I fail to forgive them,
Who trespass and deceive;
'Tis clear that my heart is not His:
Forgiveness' unreceiv'd.

• WRETCHED MAN I AM

Date: 2010

Written by Jon J. Cardwell

Based upon Romans 7:14-25

Music: Wretched, 2012

O, wretched man that I am now,
And wretched I have been,
When lost in wicked sinful flesh,
And clinging to my sin.

Yet, Christ has sav'd me by His grace,
His precious blood He shed;
He took my sins upon Himself,
My curse upon His head.

O, wretched man that I am still,
Though Christ had paid it all.
Yet, what I wish I do not do,
I'm weak and do still fall.

This wretchedness that Christ allows,
Reveal'd by holy truth;
Keeps me clinging to His cross,
And grace with pow'r to soothe.

This wretchedness I suffer now,
Doth work within me grace;
To grow in Christ and holiness,
Till we are face to face.

Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ,
Who'll come again to claim,
This wretched one he calls His own,
And purge me from all shame.

• PRAISE FOR THE FOUNTAIN OPENED

Date: 1779

Lyrics by William Cowper (1731-1800)

From Olney Hymns

aka "There is a Fountain Filled with Blood"

Music: Cleansing Fountain

There is a fountain filled with blood drawn from Emmanuel's veins;
And sinners plunged beneath that flood lose all their guilty stains.
Lose all their guilty stains, lose all their guilty stains;
And sinners plunged beneath that flood lose all their guilty stains.

The dying thief rejoiced to see that fountain in his day;
And there have I, though vile as he, washed all my sins away.
Washed all my sins away, washed all my sins away;
And there have I, though vile as he, washed all my sins away.

Dear dying Lamb, Thy precious blood shall never lose its power
Till all the ransomed church of God be saved, to sin no more.
Be saved, to sin no more, be saved, to sin no more;
Till all the ransomed church of God be saved, to sin no more.

E'er since, by faith, I saw the stream Thy flowing wounds supply,
Redeeming love has been my theme, and shall be till I die.
And shall be till I die, and shall be till I die;
Redeeming love has been my theme, and shall be till I die.

Then in a nobler, sweeter song, I'll sing Thy power to save,
When this poor lisping, stammering tongue lies silent in the grave.
Lies silent in the grave, lies silent in the grave;
When this poor lisping, stammering tongue lies silent in the grave.

Lord, I believe Thou hast prepared, unworthy though I be,
For me a blood bought free reward, a golden harp for me!
'Tis strung and tuned for endless years, and formed by power divine,
To sound in God the Father's ears no other name but Thine.

• JUST A CLOSER WALK WITH THEE

Date: Unknown

Written: Anonymous

I am weak, but Thou art strong;
Jesus, keep me from all wrong;
I'll be satisfied as long
As I walk, let me walk close to Thee.

Refrain:

Just a closer walk with Thee,
Grant it, Jesus, is my plea,
Daily walking close to Thee,
Let it be, dear Lord, let it be.

Through this world of toil and snares,
If I falter, Lord, who cares?
Who with me my burden shares?
None but Thee, dear Lord, none but Thee.

Refrain

When my feeble life is o'er,
Time for me will be no more;
Guide me gently, safely o'er
To Thy kingdom shore, to Thy shore.

Refrain

• THE LILY OF THE VALLEY

Date: 1881

Lyrics by Charles W. Fry

Music by William S. Hays

I have found a friend in Jesus, He's everything to me,
He's the fairest of ten thousand to my soul;
The Lily of the Valley, in Him alone I see
All I need to cleanse and make me fully whole.
In sorrow He's my comfort, in trouble He's my stay;
He tells me every care on Him to roll.

Refrain: He's the Lily of the Valley,
The Bright and Morning Star,
He's the fairest of ten thousand to my soul.

He all my grief has taken, and all my sorrows borne;
In temptation He's my strong and mighty tower;
I have all for Him forsaken, and all my idols torn
From my heart and now He keeps me by His power.
Though all the world forsake me, and Satan tempt me sore,
Through Jesus I shall safely reach the goal.

Refrain

He will never, never leave me, nor yet forsake me here,
While I live by faith and do His blessed will;
A wall of fire about me, I've nothing now to fear,
From His manna He my hungry soul shall fill.
Then sweeping up to glory, I'll see His blessed face,
Where the rivers of delight shall ever roll.

Refrain

• ABOUT THE AUTHOR



Jon J. Cardwell is a wretched sinner saved by God's free and sovereign grace. He lives in Anniston, Alabama with his wife, Lisa, his daughter, Rachel, and his mother-in-law, Virginia. He is the pastor at [Sovereign Grace Baptist Church](#) in Anniston after having ministered as a missionary and as a missionary-pastor in the Philippines, California, and remote bush Alaska.

He is the author of the bestseller, *Christ and Him Crucified*, the CEO of Vayahiy Press, and the founder and overseer of Free Grace Tentmakers. Jon has also held the office of vice-chairman of the national [Sovereign Grace Baptist Fellowship](#) (2009-11), was elected as chairman on September 13, 2011, and reelected September 11, 2012.

His Christianity has been shaped tremendously and influenced deeply by such redeemed sinners as John Bunyan (1628-1688), Charles H. Spurgeon (1834-1892), John Newton (1725-1807), and Granville Gaudin (1929-).

Jon spent several years in the Navy, most markedly as a U.S. Navy diver. He was medically discharged in 1993 after a decade and a half of service. He reached his highest paygrade, Chief Petty Officer (E-7), in 1989.

Some of Jon's other titles include:

[*Christ and Him Crucified*](#) (#1 Best Seller, *Christian Apologetics*)

[*Lord, Teach Us to Pray*](#)

[*Fullness of the Time*](#)

[*A Puritan Family Devotional*](#)

[*A Pilgrim Family Devotional*](#)

[*A Puritan Bible Primer*](#)

[*Master Mega Writing*](#)

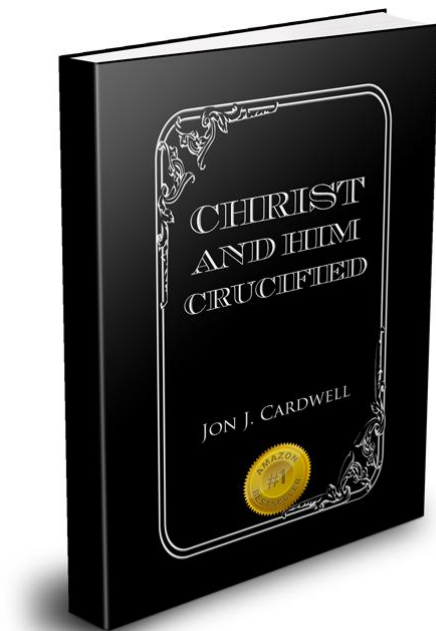
[*Custom Classic Cars*](#) (*bestselling non-fiction for teens*)

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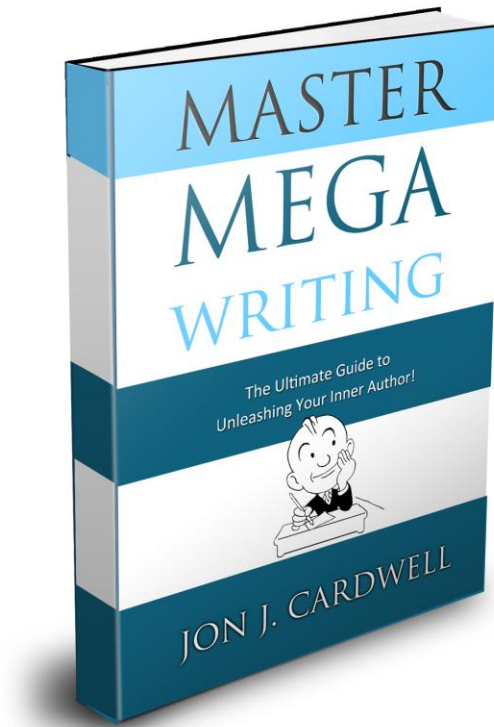
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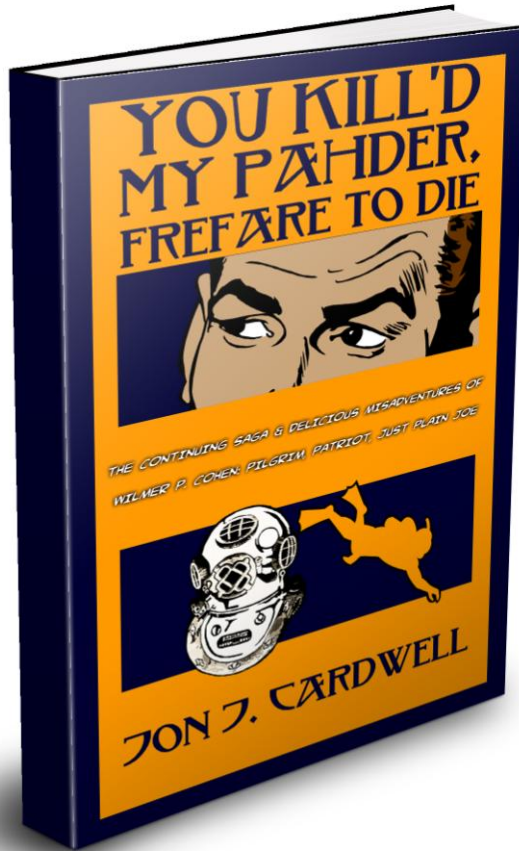


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