

Sunday, 6th September 2020

Welcome & announcements:

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord!

unnumbered blessings, give my spirit voice;
tender to me the promise of His word;
in God my Saviour shall my heart rejoice.

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of His Name!
Make known His might, the deeds His arm has done;
His mercy sure, from age to age the same;
His holy Name, the Lord, the Mighty One.

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of His might!
Powers and dominions lay their glory by.
Proud hearts and stubborn wills are put to flight,
the hungry fed, the humble lifted high.

Tell out, my soul, the glories of His word!
Firm is His promise, and His mercy sure.
Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord
to children's children and for evermore!

Timothy Dudley-Smith (born 1926) © Oxford University Press

Prayer:

Children's talk:

At the name of Jesus every knee shall bow,
every tongue confess Him King of Glory now.
It's the Father's pleasure we should call him Lord,
who from the beginning was the mighty Word:

Humbled for a season, to receive a name
from the lips of sinners unto whom He came,
faithfully He bore it spotless to the last,
brought it back victorious when from death He passed.

Name him brothers name Him, with love as strong as
death,
but with awe and wonder, and with bated breath;
He is God the Saviour, He is Christ the Lord,
ever to be worshipped, trusted and adored.

In your hearts enthrone Him; there let Him subdue
all that is not holy, all that is not true:
crown Him as your Captain in temptation's hour;
let His will enfold you in its light and power.

Brothers, this Lord Jesus shall return again,
with His Father's glory, with His angel train;
for all wreaths of empire meet upon His brow,
and our hearts confess Him King of Glory now.

Caroline Maria Noel (1817-1877)

Prayer:

Reading: Joshua chapter 24 vs 1 – 28

1 Then Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to
Shechem and called for the elders of Israel for their

heads, for their judges and for their officers; and they
presented themselves before God.

2 and Joshua said to all the people, "Thus says the
LORD God of Israel: 'Your fathers, including Terah, the
father of Abraham and the father of Nahor, dwelt on the
other side of the River in old times; and they served
other gods.

3 Then I took your father Abraham from the other side
of the River and led him throughout all the land of
Canaan and multiplied his descendants and gave him
Isaac.

4 To Isaac I gave Jacob and Esau. To Esau I gave the
mountains of Seir to possess, but Jacob and his
children went down to Egypt.

5 Also I sent Moses and Aaron, and I plagued Egypt,
according to what I did among them. Afterward I
brought you out.

6 'Then I brought your fathers out of Egypt and you
came to the sea; and the Egyptians pursued your
fathers with chariots and horsemen to the Red Sea.

7 so they cried out to the LORD; and He put darkness
between you and the Egyptians, brought the sea upon
them, and covered them. And your eyes saw what I did
in Egypt. Then you dwelt in the wilderness a long time.

8 And I brought you into the land of the Amorites, who
dwelt on the other side of the Jordan, and they fought
with you. But I gave them into your hand, that you
might possess their land, and I destroyed them from
before you.

9 Then Balak the son of Zippor, king of Moab, arose to
make war against Israel, and sent and called Balaam
the son of Beor to curse you.

10 But I would not listen to Balaam; therefore he
continued to bless you. So I delivered you out of his
hand.

11 Then you went over the Jordan and came to
Jericho. And the men of Jericho fought against you –
also the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Canaanites, the
Hittites, the Girgashites, the Hivites, and the
Jebusites. But I delivered them into your hand.

12 I sent the hornet before you which drove them out
from before you, also the two kings of the Amorites, but
not with your sword or with your bow.

13 I have given you a land for which you did not labour
and cities which you did not build, and you dwell in
them; you eat of the vineyards and olive groves which
you did not plant'.

14 Now therefore, fear the LORD, serve Him in
sincerity and in truth, and put away the gods which your
fathers served on the other side of the River and in
Egypt. Serve the LORD!

15 and if it seems evil to you to serve the LORD,
choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve,
whether the gods which your fathers served that were
on the other side of the River, or the gods of the
Amorites, in whose land you dwell. But as for me and
my house, we will serve the LORD"

16 So the people answered and said: "Far be it from us
that we should forsake the LORD to serve other gods,
17 for the LORD our God is He who brought us and our
fathers up out of the land of Egypt, from the house of

bondage, who did those great signs in our sight, and preserved us in all the way that we went and among all the people through whom we passed.

18 And the LORD drove out from before us all the people, including the Amorites who dwelt in the land. We also will serve the LORD, for He is our God."

19 But Joshua said to the people, "You cannot serve the LORD, for He is a holy God. He is a jealous God; He will not forgive your transgressions nor your sins.

20 If you forsake the LORD and serve foreign gods, then He will turn and do you harm and consume you, after He has done you good."

21 And the people said to Joshua, "No, but we will serve the LORD!"

22 So Joshua said to the people, "You are witnesses against yourselves that you have chosen the LORD for yourselves, to serve Him."

And they said, "we are witnesses!"

23 "Now therefore," he said, "put away the foreign gods which are among you and incline your heart to the LORD God of Israel."

24 And the people said to Joshua, "The LORD our God we will serve, and His voice we will obey!"

25 So Joshua made a covenant with the people that day and made for them a statute and an ordinance in Shechem.

26 Then Joshua wrote these words in the Book of the Law of God. And he took a large stone and set it up there under the oak that was by the sanctuary of the LORD.

27 And Joshua said to all the people, "Behold, this stone shall be a witness to us, for it has heard all the words of the LORD which He spoke to us. It shall therefore be a witness to you, lest you deny your God."

28 So Joshua let the people depart, each to his own inheritance.

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.

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.

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.

Keith Getty & Stuart Townend © 2005 Thankyou Music

Message: "A Time to Recommit."

O Jesus, I have promised

To serve thee to the end;
be Thou for ever near me,
my master and my friend:
I shall not fear the battle
if Thou art by my side,
nor wander from the pathway
if Thou wilt be my guide.

O let me feel Thee near me:
the world is ever near;
I see the sights which dazzle,
the tempting sounds I hear;
my foes are ever near me,
around me and within;
but, Jesus, draw Thou nearer,
and shield my soul from sin.

O let me hear the speaking
in accents clear and still,
above the storms of passion
the murmurs of self-will;
O speak to reassure me,
to hasten or control;
O speak, and make me listen,
Thou guardian of my soul.

O Jesus Thou hast promised
to all who follow Thee,
that where thou art in glory
there shall Thy servant be;
and, Jesus, I have promised
to serve Thee to the end:
O give me grace to follow,
my master and my friend.

O let me see Thy footmarks,
and in them plant mine own:
my hope to follow duly
is in Thy strength alone.
O guide me, call me, draw me,
uphold me to the end;
and then in heaven receive me,
my Saviour and my friend.

John Ernest Bode, 1816-74

Close

The singing of the first three hymns recorded at the Aberystwyth conference of the Evangelical Movement of Wales, reproduced by kind permission.

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