REJOICE IN THE LORD ALWAYS



- 2. He it is, who joy and gladness brought again to this poor earth, after all the woe and sadness whereto sin has given birth. In this barren waste how precious are the waters which refresh us! Come, obey the gracious call, from this well-spring drink ye all!
- 3. Can ye hear unmoved the story of the Saviour's lowly birth, which the angels, bright with glory, brought that blessed night to earth? While angelic hosts are singing at the news which they are bringing, can your hearts unmoved remain, as tho' all had been in vain?
- 4. While Jerusalem rejoices
 that her King has to her come,
 shall alone your hearts and voices
 still be lifeless, cold, and dumb?
 While the people palms are bringing,
 and hosannas loudly singing,
 will you dull and mournful stand,
 bearing nothing in your hand?
- 5. See the patience uncomplaining, see the love of God's dear Son!
 Is there anything remaining, which for you he hath not done?
 That your joy may be o'erflowing, hath he shrunk from undergoing bitter anguish, shame, and loss, and e'en death upon the cross?
- from the gloomy grave's dark night?
 Hath he not burst through his prison,
 to procure us life and light?
 Lives he not, that he may gladden
 hearts which sin and sorrow sadden?
 To the mourner, "Lo!" he saith,
 "weep not; I have conquered death."

- 7. To bestow on us salvation, he ascends his Father's throne; songs are heard of exultation wheresoe'er his name is known. Conquering and to conquer goeth Jesus forth, till he o'erthroweth all his foes beneath his feet, to await his judgment-seat.
- 8. O what joys shall be their dowry, who have loved and known him here, when they see him in his glory in the clouds of heaven appear; sweetly will he then reward them with the joys he hath prepared them, welcoming and leading them to the New Jerusalem.
- 9. Day no more shall be succeeded by the gloomy shades of night; sun and moon shall not be needed, for the Lamb shall be their Light. In his brightness shall they wander, full of joy and rapture yonder, gazing on the glory there, which they shall forever share.
- 10. And all this is your possession, thro' the love of Jesus Christ, who himself for your transgression freely gave and sacrificed.And will you, by cold behaviour, grieve so kind and true a Saviour?Will you stand unmoved, as though nothing to his love you owe?
- 11. Banish such unworthy sadness, ye redeemèd of the Lord;testify your joy and gladness by sweet song and tuneful chord.Bring him, while on earth yet living, sacrifices of thanksgiving;thus prepared, in heaven shall ye praise him through eternity.

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