## CHRISTIAN WARFARE



- Yet, in time of my devotions, musing on thy sacred word,
   I have felt those sweet emotions which to saints their bliss afford.
   Then I prized this holy pleasure far above all worldly treasure, wished a heart entirely thine, warm with virtue all divine.
- 3. Then too vowed, full purpose making, that I only thine would be, and, my inmost powers awaking, from all evil would be free; thee my service wholly giving, ever for thy glory living, sin in all its forms would shun, and the ways of God would run.
- 4. But, alas! too soon, exerting hidden power, some passion rose, marring, hind'ring, disconcerting every good I might propose.

  Lures to pleasure, fears and troubles, ill examples, cheating bubbles, these on every side assail, and my schemes of goodness fail.
- 5. Wretched man! from evil turning, vain my utmost strength appears; then, with deepest sorrow mourning, fruitless, too, are all my tears; sin afresh stands forth to brave me, is there none from sin to save me? Thanks! my God, through Christ, will free from this load of misery!

- 6. Thou forgivest, God of mercies, those who 'gainst their errors strive: they alone shall bear thy curses, who in sin consent to live.

  May I not then hope for pardon, while I feel my sins a burden?

  Trusting to thy gracious care, can I yield me to despair?
- 7. Never cease thy kind protection!
  Sin will new advantage seek,
  while, with unattained perfection,
  I must here continue weak.
  Keep me, Lord, from self-reliance.
  When I'm tempted, from compliance,
  that, in all sincerity,
  I may humbly walk with thee.
- 8. When I fall, make me observant, careful lest I fall again, haste to strengthen then thy servant, that my course I may maintain:
  Warn me! ever go beside me!
  Daily on still onward guide me!
  till I reach eternal rest, with thy perfect image blessed!

Words: Balthasar Münter. Translation: Henry Mills. Music: Johannes Thomas Rüegg. Copyright © 2020, 2021 Johannes Thomas Rüegg. Source: www.christmysong.com/1536/