THE DAYS OF THY YOUTH



0.

- 2. He seeks thy heart, my child, he wants to make the blessed; thy soul with his own joy to fill, to give thee peace and rest.
- 3. Be early wise for heaven, choose thou the narrow way; the gate is strait, the road is rough, but it will end in day.
- 4. Shun the vain, giddy crowd! its shows, and snares, and lies; above its beauty and its love, lift thou thy wandering eyes.
- 5. Set thou thy heart on truth!The way of truth is one.Shun error, sweet though it may be; look upward to the Sun.

6. One Sun there is above, one sun of light below; take the one light from the one Sun, so shall thy light o'erflow.

0.

O•

- 7. Love thou the book of God, prize every holy line; steep in its truth thy thirsty soul, and claim each hope as thine.
- 8. Know thou the God of love; seek thou thy joy in him, a joy that shall endure and bless, when other joys grow dim.

- 9. Take thou the side of God, in things or great or small; so shall he ever take thy side, and bear thee safe through all.
- 10. Aim high! thou wert not made to grovel in the ground:aim high! this life is not the last;the higher lies beyond.
- 11. Quail not before the bad, be brave for truth and right; fear God alone, and ever walk as in his holy sight.
- 12. Each stroke the marble moulds, and every touch the clay; each sunbeam rising from the deep unfolds the gorgeous day.
- 13. So does each little word, or wish, or deed, or plan, each hour's impression, help to give form to the future man.
- 14. Shun what is low or mean, be generous and true; the noble models of the past, keep them before thy view.
- 15. Stoop not to brood on self, check the self-pitying tone; rise above self and selfish thoughts, and learn to stand alone.
- 16. Alone, with only God for guidance and for light, for wisdom and for sympathy, for counsel and for might.

- 17. Love the broad fields of earth, its ever mirthful flowers; the fragrance of its waving boughs, alike in sun and showers.
- 18. Love all that God hath made, each bud, each leaf, and gem; they shine all fair in him, and he shines beauteously in them.
- 19. Read thou the real and true, lest thou become a lie, thy life a fiction, and thy words mere words of mockery.
- 20. Dread unreality,and be what thou dost seem:the true is fairer than the false,whatever men may dream.
- 21. Be real to thyself, be real to thy God, be real to thy fellow-men; keep thou the one true road.
- 22. Bend the expectant knee, love the still hour of prayer; go to the seat of God, and pour thy heart's deep fullness there.
- 23. See'st thou yon cross afar?
 There died the Son of God:
 that cross, it leads and beckons thee
 along the heavenly road.

Words: Horatius Bonar. Music: Johannes Thomas Rüegg.
Copyright © 2014, 2024 Johannes Thomas Rüegg. Source: www.christmysong.com/571/