

A bouquet of yellow and red flowers with green leaves, set against a dark red background. The text is overlaid on the bouquet.

Lord's Day June 25, 2023

Jon Hardinger



Hymns For The Little Flock #104

"Abba," Father—thus we call
Thee,
 (Hallowed name!) from day
to day;
'Tis Thy children's right to
know Thee,
 None but children "Abba"
say.
This high honor we inherit,
 Thy free gift, through Jesus'
blood;
God the Spirit, with our spirit,
 Witnesseth we're sons of
God.

Abba's purpose gave us being
 When in Christ, in that vast
plan,
Abba chose the saints in Jesus
 Long before the world
began;
Oh what love the Father bore
us!
 Oh how precious in His
sight!
When He gave the church to
Jesus!
 Jesus, His whole soul's
delight!

Though our nature's fall in
Adam
 Seemed to shut us out
from God,
Thus it was His counsel
brought us
 Nearer still, through
Jesus' blood;
For in Him we found
redemption,
 Grace and glory in the
Son;
Oh the height and depth of
mercy!
 "Christ and we, through
grace, are one."

1. "Ab - ba," Fa - ther—thus we call Thee, (Hal - lowed name!) from day to day;
 2. Ab - ba's pur - pose gave us be - ing When in Christ, in that vast plan,
 3. Though our na - ture's fall in Ad - am Seemed to shut us out from God,

'Tis Thy chil-dren's right to know Thee, None but chil - dren "Ab - ba" say.
 Ab - ba chose the saints in Je - sus Long be - fore the world be - gan;
 Thus it was His coun - sel brought us Near - er still, through Je - sus' blood;

This high hon - or we in - her - it, Thy free gift, through Je - sus' blood;
 O what love the Fa - ther bore us! O how pre - cious in His sight!
 For in Him we found re - demp - tion, Grace and glo - ry in the Son;

God the Spir - it, with our spir - it, Wit - ness - eth we're sons of God.
 When He gave the church to Je - sus! Je - sus, His whole soul's de - light!
 Oh the height and depth of mer - cy! "Christ and we, through grace, are one."

LF Cross References verse 1 Hymn #104

- Romans 8:15-16 “For you have not received a spirit of slavery leading to fear again, but you have received a spirit of adoption as sons by which we cry out, “Abba! Father!”
- Galatians 4:6 -7 “Because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into our hearts, crying, “Abba! Father!” Therefore, you are no longer a slave, but a son; and if a son, then an heir through God.”
- 1 John 2:13 “I am writing to you, fathers, because you know Him who has been from the beginning. I am writing to you, young men, because you have overcome the evil one. I have written to you, children, because you know the Father.”
- Ephesians 2:13 “But now in Christ Jesus you who formerly were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ.”

LF #104

Verse 2

References

- 2 Timothy 1:9 “who has saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace which was granted us in Christ Jesus from all eternity”
- Ephesians 1:4 “just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we would be holy and blameless before Him.
- 1 John 3:1 “See how great a love the Father has bestowed on us, that we would be called children of God; and such we are.”
- Isaiah 43:4 “Since you are precious in My sight, Since you are honored and I love you,”
- Hebrews 2:13 “And again, “Behold, I and the children whom God has given Me.”
- Matthew 3:17 “and behold, a voice out of the heavens said, “This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well-pleased.”(I chose verse 17 not 14)

- Romans 5:12-21, Ephesians 1:11, Ephesians 2:13, Ephesians 1:7, Psalms 84:11, Psalms 108:4, Psalms 119:64, 2 Corinthians 1:3, and 1 Corinthians 12:12.
- Psalms 84:11 “For the Lord God is a sun and shield; The Lord gives grace and glory; No good thing does He withhold from those who walk uprightly.”
- Psalms 119:64 “The earth is full of Your lovingkindness, O Lord; Teach me Your statutes.”
- 2 Corinthians 1:3 “Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort,”
- 1 Corinthians 12:12 “For even as the body is one and yet has many members, and all the members of the body, though they are many, are one body, so also is Christ.”

LF #104 References for verse 3

Preface and Forward comments

Little Flock 1881 edition I believe was JND himself.

Three things are needed he wrote: Basis of truth and sound doctrine, Something of the spirit of poetry, and human affections believing what is being done together.

“thirdly the most difficult of all, the experimental acquaintance with the truth in the affections which enables a person to make this hymn (if led of God to compose one) the vehicle, in sustained thought and language, of personal grace and truth which sets the soul in communion with Christ and rises even to the Father, and yet this is such sort that it is no mere individual experience, which, for assembly worship, is out of place. In a word, the Father’s love and Christ developed in the soul’s affections, rising in praise back again to its source. God alone can give this so as to meet the wants of the assembly. Like assembly prayer it must not rise too completely beyond the state of the assembly, yet must reach up to God, and to raise the assembly’s affections up to Him, so that what He is in grace developed in the soul should be jointly proclaimed.

“There are hymns which suit prayer meetings, home devotions, even the gospel; though there the difficulty is very great. Abstractly, you are making people sing as having certain feelings and then preaching to them because they have not. But in actual Christendom things are not so sharply defined, and there are hidden souls with hidden wants which the hymn may give expression to and set the soul free to make it apprehend God’s love and sometimes more effectively than the sermon.”

The reader will kindly remark that there are changes necessitated by putting “we” for “I” which, but for that, there would have been no occasion for.

Preface Hymns of Grace and Truth Copyright 1904

The hymns' selected alterations have been made, but only when necessary to correct an error, secure dignity of expression, or guard against misapprehension. In this difficult task the desire has always been to depart as little as possible from the words of the original author, whose right to his own expressions should be respected.

A word will not be out of place as to the proper use of hymns, It is surely abhorrent to a God of truth for unsaved persons to use the language of hymns suited only to believers. It is proper for the evangelist to warn the unconverted of this. Nor should the saints of God be less careful to avoid giving expression to sentiments which do not truly represent their state of soul.

So be it in the work of an evangelist. Yet on the other hand, families' devotions at the dinner table bring their children into the faith's language, and they join in too.

For example, before she could talk RR was singing "Jesus Paid It All"

What about copyright? What is given to us by God must have integrity.

Revelation 22:18–19 (NASB95)

18 I testify to everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: if anyone adds to them, God will add to him the plagues which are written in this book;

19 and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God will take away his part from the tree of life and from the holy city, which are written in this book

What is given to an author that is given to him by God or call it his work. There is some protection we have legally to what we do, and this is like a patent, or what we said that is protected. I believe this can be an honor or given a paid service. It is beyond an hourly wage, but honorarium.

The elders who rule well are to be considered worthy of double honor, especially those who work hard at preaching and teaching. For the Scripture says, “You shall not muzzle the ox while he is threshing,” and “The laborer is worthy of his wages.” 1 Timothy 5:18 NASB

May 25, 2023, 8:41 pm. Psalms 19:1 "The Heavens Declare"

