

This Little Light of Mine

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine!

Hide it under a bushel? No! I'm gonna let it shine
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine!

Don't let Satan blow it out, I'm gonna let it shine
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine!

Everywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine!

Jesus at the Center

Jesus at the center of it all
Jesus at the center of it all
From beginning to the end
It will always be, it's always been you Jesus

*Nothing else matters
Nothing in this world will do
Jesus you're the center
Everything revolves around you
Jesus, you*

Jesus at the center of my life
Jesus at the center of my life
From beginning to the end
It will always be, it's always been you Jesus

From my heart to the heavens,
Jesus be the center
It's all about you
Yes it's all about you

Jesus be the center of your church
Jesus be the center of your church
And every knee will bow
And every tongue shall confess You Jesus

It Is Well

When peace like a river attendeth my way
When sorrows like sea billows roll;
Whatever my lot, Thou hast taught me to say
"It is well, it is well with my soul."

*It is well (it is well)
With my soul (with my soul)
It is well, it is well with my soul.*

Though Satan should buffet
Though trials should come
Let this blest assurance control
That Christ has regarded my helpless estate
And hath shed his own blood for my soul.

My sin, oh the bliss of this glorious thought
My sin, not in part, but in whole
Is nailed to the cross and I bear it no more
Praise the Lord, Praise the Lord oh my soul

But, Lord, 'tis for Thee, for Thy coming we wait
The sky, not the grave, is our goal
Oh trump of the angel! Oh voice of the Lord!
Blessed hope, blessed rest of my soul!

And, Lord, haste the day when my faith shall be sight
The clouds be rolled back as a scroll;
The trump shall resound, and the Lord shall descend
Even so, it is well with my soul.

How Great Is Our God

The splendor of the King, clothed in majesty,
Let all the earth rejoice, all the earth rejoice
He wraps Himself in light, and darkness tries to hide
And trembles at His voice, trembles at His voice

How great is our God, sing with me,
How great is our God, all will see
How great, how great is our God

Age to age He stands, and time is in His hands,
Beginning and the end, beginning and the end
The Godhead, three in one: Father, Spirit, Son,
The Lion and the Lamb, the Lion and the Lamb

Name above all names,
Worthy of all praise,
My heart will sing
How great is our God

Acts 6:8-8:3 New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)

The Arrest of Stephen

8 Stephen, full of grace and power, did great wonders and signs among the people. 9 Then some of those who belonged to the synagogue of the Freedmen (as it was called), Cyrenians, Alexandrians, and others of those from Cilicia and Asia, stood up and argued with Stephen. 10 But they could not withstand the wisdom and the Spirit with which he spoke. 11 Then they secretly instigated some men to say, "We have heard him speak blasphemous words against Moses and God." 12 They stirred up the people as well as the elders and the scribes; then they suddenly confronted him, seized him, and brought him before the council. 13 They set up false witnesses who said, "This man never stops saying things against this holy place and the law; 14 for we have heard him say that this Jesus of Nazareth will destroy this place and will change the customs that Moses handed on to us." 15 And all who sat in the council looked intently at him, and they saw that his face was like the face of an angel.

Stephen's Speech to the Council

7:1 Then the high priest asked him, "Are these things so?" 2 And Stephen replied:

"Brothers and fathers, listen to me. The God of glory appeared to our ancestor Abraham when he was in Mesopotamia, before he lived in Haran, 3 and said to him, 'Leave your country and your relatives and go to the land that I will show you.' 4 Then he left the country of the Chaldeans and settled in Haran. After his father died, God had him move from there to this country in which you are now living. 5 He did not give him any of it as a heritage, not even a foot's length, but promised to give it to him as his possession and to his descendants after him, even though he had no child. 6 And God spoke in these terms, that his descendants would be resident aliens in a country belonging to others, who would enslave them and mistreat them during four hundred

years. **7** 'But I will judge the nation that they serve,' said God, 'and after that they shall come out and worship me in this place.' **8** Then he gave him the covenant of circumcision. And so Abraham became the father of Isaac and circumcised him on the eighth day; and Isaac became the father of Jacob, and Jacob of the twelve patriarchs.

9 "The patriarchs, jealous of Joseph, sold him into Egypt; but God was with him, **10** and rescued him from all his afflictions, and enabled him to win favor and to show wisdom when he stood before Pharaoh, king of Egypt, who appointed him ruler over Egypt and over all his household. **11** Now there came a famine throughout Egypt and Canaan, and great suffering, and our ancestors could find no food. **12** But when Jacob heard that there was grain in Egypt, he sent our ancestors there on their first visit. **13** On the second visit Joseph made himself known to his brothers, and Joseph's family became known to Pharaoh. **14** Then Joseph sent and invited his father Jacob and all his relatives to come to him, seventy-five in all; **15** so Jacob went down to Egypt. He himself died there as well as our ancestors, **16** and their bodies were brought back to Shechem and laid in the tomb that Abraham had bought for a sum of silver from the sons of Hamor in Shechem.

17 "But as the time drew near for the fulfillment of the promise that God had made to Abraham, our people in Egypt increased and multiplied **18** until another king who had not known Joseph ruled over Egypt. **19** He dealt craftily with our race and forced our ancestors to abandon their infants so that they would die. **20** At this time Moses was born, and he was beautiful before God. For three months he was brought up in his father's house; **21** and when he was abandoned, Pharaoh's daughter adopted him and brought him up as her own son. **22** So Moses was instructed in all the wisdom of the Egyptians and was powerful in his words and deeds.

23 "When he was forty years old, it came into his heart to visit his relatives, the Israelites. **24** When he saw one of them being wronged, he defended the oppressed

man and avenged him by striking down the Egyptian. **25** He supposed that his kinsfolk would understand that God through him was rescuing them, but they did not understand. **26** The next day he came to some of them as they were quarreling and tried to reconcile them, saying, 'Men, you are brothers; why do you wrong each other?' **27** But the man who was wronging his neighbor pushed Moses aside, saying, 'Who made you a ruler and a judge over us? **28** Do you want to kill me as you killed the Egyptian yesterday?' **29** When he heard this, Moses fled and became a resident alien in the land of Midian. There he became the father of two sons.

30 "Now when forty years had passed, an angel appeared to him in the wilderness of Mount Sinai, in the flame of a burning bush. **31** When Moses saw it, he was amazed at the sight; and as he approached to look, there came the voice of the Lord: **32** 'I am the God of your ancestors, the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.' Moses began to tremble and did not dare to look. **33** Then the Lord said to him, 'Take off the sandals from your feet, for the place where you are standing is holy ground. **34** I have surely seen the mistreatment of my people who are in Egypt and have heard their groaning, and I have come down to rescue them. Come now, I will send you to Egypt.'

35 "It was this Moses whom they rejected when they said, 'Who made you a ruler and a judge?' and whom God now sent as both ruler and liberator through the angel who appeared to him in the bush. **36** He led them out, having performed wonders and signs in Egypt, at the Red Sea, and in the wilderness for forty years. **37** This is the Moses who said to the Israelites, 'God will raise up a prophet for you from your own people as he raised me up.' **38** He is the one who was in the congregation in the wilderness with the angel who spoke to him at Mount Sinai, and with our ancestors; and he received living oracles to give to us. **39** Our ancestors were unwilling to obey him; instead, they pushed him aside, and in their hearts they turned back to Egypt, **40** saying to Aaron, 'Make gods for us who will lead the way for us; as for this Moses who led us out from

the land of Egypt, we do not know what has happened to him.’ 41 At that time they made a calf, offered a sacrifice to the idol, and reveled in the works of their hands. 42 But God turned away from them and handed them over to worship the host of heaven, as it is written in the book of the prophets:

*‘Did you offer to me slain victims and sacrifices
forty years in the wilderness, O house of Israel?*

43

*No; you took along the tent of Moloch,
and the star of your god Rephan,
the images that you made to worship;
so I will remove you beyond Babylon.’*

44 *“Our ancestors had the tent of testimony in the wilderness, as God directed when he spoke to Moses, ordering him to make it according to the pattern he had seen. 45 Our ancestors in turn brought it in with Joshua when they dispossessed the nations that God drove out before our ancestors. And it was there until the time of David, 46 who found favor with God and asked that he might find a dwelling place for the house of Jacob. 47 But it was Solomon who built a house for him. 48 Yet the Most High does not dwell in houses made with human hands; as the prophet says,*

49

*‘Heaven is my throne,
and the earth is my footstool.*

*What kind of house will you build for me, says the Lord,
or what is the place of my rest?*

50

Did not my hand make all these things?’

51 “You stiff-necked people, uncircumcised in heart and ears, you are forever opposing the Holy Spirit, just as your ancestors used to do. **52** Which of the prophets did your ancestors not persecute? They killed those who foretold the coming of the Righteous One, and now you have become his betrayers and murderers. **53** You are the ones that received the law as ordained by angels, and yet you have not kept it.”

The Stoning of Stephen

54 When they heard these things, they became enraged and ground their teeth at Stephen. **55** But filled with the Holy Spirit, he gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. **56** “Look,” he said, “I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!” **57** But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. **58** Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. **59** While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.” **60** Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, “Lord, do not hold this sin against them.” When he had said this, he died.

8:1 And Saul approved of their killing him.

Saul Persecutes the Church

That day a severe persecution began against the church in Jerusalem, and all except the apostles were scattered throughout the countryside of Judea and Samaria. **2** Devout men buried Stephen and made loud lamentation over him. **3** But Saul was ravaging the church by entering house after house; dragging off both men and women, he committed them to prison.