

Worship in Song

“When My Love for Christ Grows Weak”

(Luke 22:39-46)

- Introduction:
1. This song was written by John Wreford in the mid 1800’s.
 2. Note how some songs have a long lifespan while others seem to be little more than a fad.
 - a. Amazing Grace – 1779.
 - b. Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing – 1757.
 - c. Doxology – 1674.
 - d. A Mighty Fortress is Our God - 1529
 3. I love many of the modern praise songs.
 - a. But “new” doesn’t mean “better.”
 - b. Many of these songs, because of their shallowness and repetition, will soon be forgotten.
 4. Tonight’s song may sound personal to you, because most of us have had moments in our lives when we have struggled with our faith.

I. Verses 1 & 2 – Turn to the Garden of Gethsemane

- A. (Luke 23:39-46).
- B. His condition.
 1. (Luke 22:44).
 2. Hemotidrosis.
 3. (Hebrews 5:7).
- C. (Hebrews 12:4).
- D. Remembering what Jesus did makes us realize our indebtedness.
- E. Remembering that Jesus was disappointed by his friends makes the same, when it happens to me, common.
- F. Remembering how Jesus was strengthened is a reminder for us to pray.
- G. Many go straight to the cross to describe the suffering of Jesus, but we shouldn’t overlook Gethsemane.

II. Verses 3 & 4 – Turn to the Cross

- A. (Luke 23:33-47).
- B. The events of the cross are faith producing, causing a Roman soldier to believe (Luke 23:47).
 1. There was darkness at from noon to 3 p.m. (Luke 23:44).
 2. The veil of the temple was torn from top to bottom (Luke 23:45; Matthew 27:51).
 3. A great earthquake (Matthew 27:41).
 4. In addition, he must have witnessed his love (Luke 23:34, 43; 1 Peter 2:23).

III. Verse 5 – Turn Back to the World

- A. After seeing what Jesus suffered, and why he suffered, it strengthens us.
- B. How can we complain (Hebrews 12:2).
- C. Our problems seem so minor when compared to what Jesus endured.
- D. Oftentimes, we need a good dose of perspective to get us “over ourselves.”

- Conclusion:
- 1. When the world seems to close in on you and you find yourself struggling spiritually...
 - a. Go back to Gethsemane.
 - b. Go back to the Cross.
 - 2. When you do, your troubles will seem minor, or at least manageable.