

Amazing Grace

John Newton · 1779

Meter: C.M. (8.6.8.6)

Verse 1

Amazing grace! how sweet the sound,
That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found,
Was blind, but now I see.

Verse 2

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
And grace my fears relieved;
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed.

Verse 3

Through many dangers, toils, and snares,
I have already come;
'Tis grace hath brought me safe thus far,
And grace will lead me home.

Verse 4

The Lord hath promised good to me,
His word my hope secures;
He will my shield and portion be,
As long as life endures.

Verse 5

When we've been there ten thousand years,
Bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise
Than when we'd first begun.

History

Written by former slave-trader John Newton for his New Year's Day sermon of 1773, first published in the Olney Hymns of 1779. The familiar 'New Britain' tune was paired with the text in 1835.

Scripture References (KJV)

Ephesians 2:8

For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God.

Luke 15:24

For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.

1 Chronicles 17:16-17

Who am I, O LORD God, and what is mine house, that thou hast brought me hitherto?

