

Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus

Charles Wesley · 1744 · Tune: Hyfrydol (Rowland H. Prichard)
Meter: 8.7.8.7

Verse 1

Come, Thou long expected Jesus,
Born to set Thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us,
Let us find our rest in Thee.
Israel's strength and consolation,
Hope of all the earth Thou art;
Dear desire of every nation,
Joy of every longing heart.

Verse 2

Born Thy people to deliver,
Born a child and yet a King,
Born to reign in us forever,
Now Thy gracious kingdom bring.
By Thine own eternal Spirit
Rule in all our hearts alone;
By Thine all sufficient merit,
Raise us to Thy glorious throne.

History

Charles Wesley wrote the verses in 1744 in response to the plight of orphan children in England, longing for the comfort of Christ's coming. The most familiar tune, 'Hyfrydol' ('cheerful'), was composed by Welsh musician Rowland Prichard around 1830 when he was about 20 years old.

Scripture References (KJV)

Haggai 2:7

And I will shake all nations, and the desire of all nations shall come: and I will fill this house with glory, saith the LORD of hosts.

Luke 2:25

And, behold, there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon; and the same man was just and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Ghost was upon him.