

I Need Thee Every Hour

Annie S. Hawks · 1872 · Tune: Need (Robert Lowry)
Meter: 6.4.6.4 with refrain

Verse 1

I need Thee every hour, most gracious Lord;
No tender voice like Thine can peace afford.

I need Thee, O I need Thee; every hour I need Thee!
O bless me now, my Saviour, I come to Thee.

Verse 2

I need Thee every hour, stay Thou nearby;
Temptations lose their power when Thou art nigh.

Verse 3

I need Thee every hour, in joy or pain;
Come quickly and abide, or life is vain.

Verse 4

I need Thee every hour, teach me Thy will;
And Thy rich promises in me fulfill.

Verse 5

I need Thee every hour, most Holy One;
O make me Thine indeed, Thou blessed Son.

History

Annie Hawks, a Brooklyn housewife and member of Robert Lowry's congregation, wrote the verses one morning in 1872 while doing housework, struck by a sudden sense of nearness to God. Her pastor, Lowry, added the refrain and tune, and it was sung at the National Baptist Sunday School Convention later that year.

Scripture References (KJV)

John 15:5

I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing.

Hebrews 4:16

Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.