

My Faith Looks Up to Thee

Ray Palmer · 1830 · Tune: Olivet (Lowell Mason)

Meter: 6.6.4.6.6.6.4

Verse 1

My faith looks up to Thee,
Thou Lamb of Calvary,
Saviour divine!
Now hear me while I pray,
Take all my guilt away,
O let me from this day
Be wholly Thine!

Verse 2

May Thy rich grace impart
Strength to my fainting heart,
My zeal inspire!
As Thou hast died for me,
O may my love to Thee
Pure, warm, and changeless be,
A living fire!

Verse 3

While life's dark maze I tread,
And griefs around me spread,
Be Thou my guide;
Bid darkness turn to day,
Wipe sorrow's tears away,
Nor let me ever stray
From Thee aside.

Verse 4

When ends life's transient dream,
When death's cold, sullen stream
Shall o'er me roll,
Blest Saviour, then, in love,
Fear and distrust remove;
O bear me safe above,
A ransomed soul!

History

Ray Palmer wrote the words at age 22 in 1830, jotting them privately in a small notebook with no thought of publication. Two years later he met Lowell Mason on a Boston street; Mason asked for a hymn, Palmer copied it out, and Mason returned the next day saying, 'You may live many years and do many good things,

but I think you will be best known to posterity as the author of My Faith Looks Up to Thee.'

Scripture References (KJV)

Hebrews 12:2

Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.

John 1:29

Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.

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