# Whole in Christ

Reflections,
prayers,
scripture, and
recorded new hymns
for
public worship and
personal devotions

from the series:

Fresh Views of Timeless Truths

Ken Bible

LNWhymns.COM

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### I Am Yours Completely

Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own? For you have been bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body.

(1 Corinthians 6:19-20, NASB)

```
Creator God, Father God,
      I am Yours.
You conceived me and shaped me
      from Yourself.
You gifted me
      from Yourself.
My life,
      my dignity,
      any ability or awareness or worth I have
are all given by You and
      shared with You.
I can only exist
      in You.
I can only be whole
      in You.
I am from You.
Redeemer God, Son of God,
      I am Yours.
When I was hopelessly enslaved to
      sin, weakness, and death,
      You laid down Your own life to buy me back.
I belong to You
      body,
      mind, and
      spirit.
My only life is
      in You.
My only forgiveness is
      in You.
My only holiness is
      in You.
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Breath of God, Spirit of God, I am Yours. Moment by moment

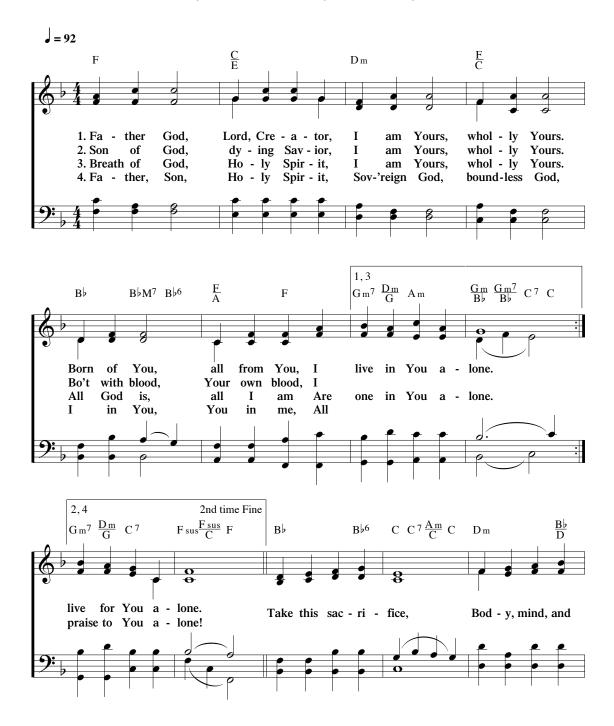
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in You.
I am one with the Son
      in You.
I breathe the life,
      the power, and
      the wisdom of God
             in You.
Father,
      Son, and
      Spirit,
by Your Word,
      by Your blood, and
      by Your breath,
I am Yours completely
      now and
      forever.
Praise to You!
```

I am one with the Father

Hymn recording: Give God What Is God's

### Give God What Is God's

Genesis 2:7; Mathew 22:21; Mark 12:17; John 14:16-17; 17:23; Acts 17:28; 20:28; Romans 12:1-2; 1 Corinthians 6:19-20; Galatians 2:20; 1 Peter 1:18-19

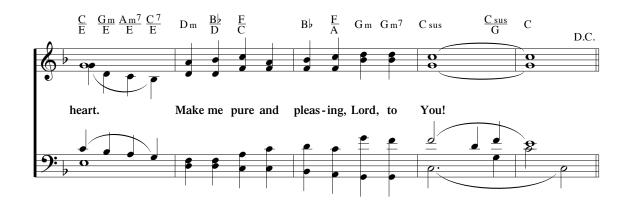


WORDS & MUSIC: Ken Bible

RENDER TO GOD 7.6.6.6. w. Bridge

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#### What Do You Wish?

The Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream at night; and God said, "Ask what you wish Me to give you." (1 Kings 3:5, NASB)

Father, if you were to ask me this, how would I respond?
What would I wish for?

Father, You are eternal.
You are all-wise and
all-loving.
You are all joy.
You are all truth.
You are harmony,
perfection, and
peace.

Father, I want to please You.

That is my wish.

I want to please You in my thinking and

please You in my doing.

I want to please You in my daily activity and

please You in the deepest desires of my heart.

I want to please You in my working and

please You in my waiting.

I want to please You in my praying and

please You in all my unguarded moments.

I want to please You

as Your Son pleased You.

Father, give me

His mind,

His heart,

His faith,

His peace in You.

That is what I ask.

I ask for the Holy Spirit of Your Son Jesus.

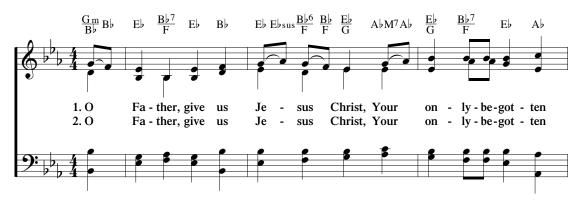
"If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him?" (Luke 11:13, NASB)

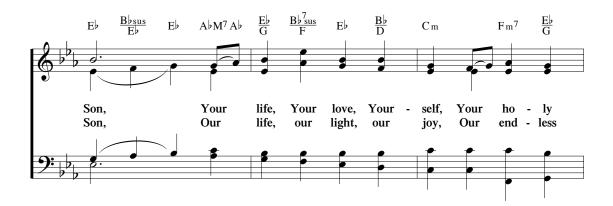
Hymn recording: O Father, Give Us Jesus Christ

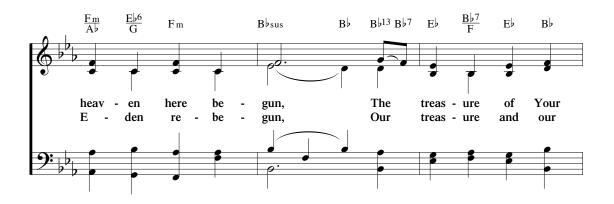
## O Father, Give Us Jesus Christ

Matthew 7:11; 13:44-46; Luke 11:13; John 1:14-18; 6:53-58; 10:9; 14:6; Acts 17:28; Colossians 2:2-3, 9-10









WORDS: Ken Bible MUSIC: Jean-Joseph Mouret and Ken Bible MOURET 8.7.6.8.D.w.Bridge



#### One with You in Christ

No one has ever seen God, but the one and only Son, who is himself God and is in closest relationship with the Father, has made him known. (John 1:18, NIV)

Jesus cried out and said, "He who believes in Me, does not believe in Me but in Him who sent Me. He who sees Me sees the One who sent Me." (John 12:44-45, NASB)

[Jesus said,] "He who has seen Me has seen the Father; how can you say, 'Show us the Father'? Do you not believe that I am in the Father, and the Father is in Me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own initiative, but the Father abiding in Me does His works. Believe Me that I am in the Father and the Father is in Me." (John 14:9-11, NASB)

```
I can know You -
I can know You completely,
You who are
      all life.
      truth.
      holiness, and
      beauty.
In Christ, our knowing is
      full and
      organic,
      heart-to-heart and
      being-to-being.
I share Your life.
I breathe Your breath.
Your Spirit is
      my spirit.
In Christ, I am one with
      everyone who shares in You.
In Jesus Christ, Father, You became incarnate in
      a Person.
And as we are all in Christ,
You become incarnate in
      a people.
All life is
      in You,
```

Father, in Jesus Christ

And in You, all life is love, joy, and complete, eternal well-being.

Hymn recording: Father, as You Love Your Son

## Father, As You Love Your Son

TUNE: AURA LEE (Love Me Tender) John 14:20-23; 17:20-26



WORDS: Ken Bible MUSIC: George R. Poulton; arr. by Ken Bible AURA LEE 7.5.7.5.6.5.7.5.

### Philippians 3:7-14

(NASB)

Whatever things were gain to me,

those things I have counted as loss for the sake of Christ.

More than that, I count all things to be loss

in view of the surpassing value of

knowing Christ Jesus my Lord,

for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and

count them but rubbish

so that I may gain Christ, and

may be found in Him,

not having a righteousness of my own derived from the Law,

but that which is through faith in Christ,

the righteousness which comes from God on the basis of faith,

that I may know Him and

the power of His resurrection and

the fellowship of His sufferings,

being conformed to His death;

in order that I may attain to the resurrection from the dead.

Not that I have already obtained it or

have already become perfect,

but I press on so that

I may lay hold of that for which also

I was laid hold of by Christ Jesus.

Brethren, I do not regard myself as having laid hold of it yet;

but one thing I do:

forgetting what lies behind and

reaching forward to what lies ahead,

I press on toward the goal

for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

#### I Want to Know You

My life is crowded with so many desires. But, Jesus, I truly want only one thing:

I want to know You.

All my ambitions, all my goals and dreams of glory, I give them to You. I release them and cut the cord. Nothing else is worth holding onto. I want to know You.

I look to the future,
and I know more storms will come.
But what does it matter?
Each trouble will help me know You better.
Each will give me a faith that
sees You more constantly and clearly.
I want to know You.

My heart leaps at the thought of being found always and entirely in You,
with the baggage of self-interest gone forever.

Praise to You!
You are doing it,
and You always finish what You start.

I know You now, Jesus, and
then I will know You fully, even as I am fully known.

Thank You, Lord!
Fill my heart now with the desire that will delight me throughout eternity:

I want to know You, Lord.
I want to know You.

We will soon realize by personal experience what has always been true: it does not matter how rich we are materially, but only how rich we are in Jesus Christ.

Hymn recording: Eternal Life Is Knowing You

## **Eternal Life Is Knowing You**

TUNE: What Wondrous Love Is This (WONDROUS LOVE)

Genesis 2:7; Psalm 63:1-8; Isaiah 41:10; Matthew 1:23; John 17:3;

1 Corinthians 13:9-12; 2 Corinthians 1:20; Philippians 3:7-11;

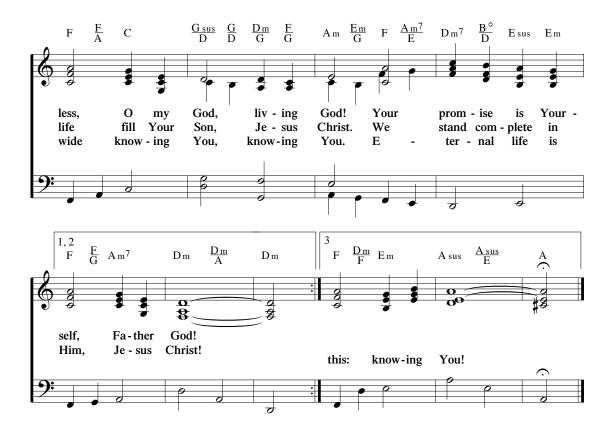
Colossians 1:9-10; 2:1-3, 9-10; Hebrews 2:11; 2 Peter 1:2-3, 5-8; 3:18



WORDS: Ken Bible MUSIC: Southern Harmony, 1835; arr. by Ken Bible WONDROUS LOVE 12.9.6.6.12.9.

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#### Lord, Today

You do not even know what will happen tomorrow. What is your life?
You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes. (James 4:14, NIV)

My life is a breath.

I appear,

then disappear.

I can't speak with confidence about

the next moment,

much less about the future.

When I think about the future, it usually turns to useless speculation and worry.

I get anxious about my own selfish concerns, and I miss today's opportunities for blessing those around me.

Lord, I don't know what the future holds.
But I know You are there.
I know You are working today
to draw us further into
the fullness of Your great blessings.

Lord Jesus, today matters. Today I will keep my eyes and my heart fixed on You.

Savior, my responsibility today is to follow You today, focusing on each task You put in front of me. The future is beyond my knowledge and control. I leave it in Your wise and loving hands.

**Hymn recording:** Today in Your Presence

## **Today in Your Presence**

TUNE: Be Thou My Vision, adapted (SLANE 2)

Deuteronomy 6:4-5; Psalm 36:5-9; 118:24; Isaiah 33:2; 49:15; 66:13; Jeremiah 31:3;

Lamentations 3:22-23; Romans 8:10; Ephesians 3:14-19; Philippians 4:8



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#### Lord, Give Me Light

[Jesus] said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness." (John 8:12, NIV)

Lord, give me light from Your side of reality today.

Don't leave me here in the darkness of
my own little plans and
preoccupations.

Talk to me about what You see as important.

Lead me into what You want me to do.

Teach my heart to feel

what You feel

where You're sitting.

Lord, give me light from Your side of reality today.

Don't leave me here in the darkness of
my own little plans and
preoccupations.

I don't want this to be an empty day,
a self-centered day.

As I pause, Lord,
draw me closer.

Teach me about You.
Use me as would please You, Lord.
I love You.

Hymn recording: I Only Want to Walk in You

## I Only Want to Walk in You

Exodus 33:15



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Irregular

#### The Simplicity of Love

I am jealous for you with
God's own jealousy,
for I promised you in marriage
to one husband,
to present you as a pure virgin to Christ.
But I fear that as the serpent deceived Eve by his cunning,
your thoughts might be led astray from
a simplicity toward Christ. (2 Corinthians 11:2-3, author's translation)

We are engaged to Christ, and we need to hold onto the simplicity of that relationship.

I was drawn to the word "simplicity" in the above verses because at times, my Christianity has seemed anything but simple. My relationship with God seemed fuzzy, distant, and strained. I wasn't sure what was expected of me, nor how to accomplish it. And I wasn't sure what God thought of me with all my failures.

In the original language, the word translated "simplicity" means a singleness of mind and heart. No pretending. No divided loyalties. The word is used lots of different ways in the Bible. Sometimes "purity" is the sense. That's the case above, where the writer refers to the faithfulness of a bride to her husband. Sometimes "sincerity" fits well. When connected with financial giving, "generosity" is the meaning. We're urged to give with a "simplicity" that gives openly, holding nothing back. After all, that's the way God gives to us (see James 1:5).

But with all these shades of meaning, the one word that summarizes it best for me is "wholeheartedness." That means having one purpose and one loyalty. It's a singleness of mind that expresses itself in undistracted devotion.

Notice in the opening scripture that this undistracted devotion comes from an intimate, face-to-face love. It's like the wholeheartedness of a marriage engagement. If you're married, do you remember your engagement? Spending time together, sharing feelings and concerns, expressing genuine love, being totally faithful to each other – all these actions were so natural. You felt no strain, no obligation, no dry routine. You did it all because you simply enjoyed each other. You were in love.

Your relationship with Jesus Christ can be like that. Look to Him, and discover how beautiful He is, and how wonderful He can be in Your daily life. Fall in love with Him – or if you've known Him, fall in love all over again.

Never forget that being a Christian is nothing but the simplicity and wholeheartedness of a personal love relationship with Jesus Christ as a living, wonderful Being.

Hymn recording: One with You, My Jesus

# One with You, My Jesus

TUNE: Too-Ra-Loo-Ra-Loo-Ral *Ephesians 1:3-14; 3:14-19* 



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#### The Essence of Life

By current U.S. standards, my financial means are modest. I'm comfortable, but my lifestyle isn't lavish. I'm a typical middle-class American.

Yet compared to other times and places, I am pampered beyond measure. My luxuries far outstrip what the world's wealthiest could imagine just a few years ago.

I live in a comfortable, climate-controlled environment.

I enjoy virtually instant communication with almost anyone, anytime, anywhere.

With careful planning, I can travel nearly anywhere in the world. And compared to earlier years, travel today is quick, comfortable, and reliable.

I live in relative safety - the best civilization can provide. I live in a strong, stable country where the government works to protect its citizens from a wide variety of dangers.

I have ready access to virtually any educational information I desire.

I have a comfortable home, meaningful work, and a wonderful family. I am in good health and have affordable access to excellent health care. A wide variety of nourishing foods is always at my fingertips.

Freedom of religion, freedom of speech, freedom to go where I want, leisure time, a whole range of entertainments, a strong, active church—all these luxuries and more surround me every day. I have virtually every good thing the human imagination can conceive.

Yet with all this, my happiness is determined not by what I have, but by what I give. It is measured not by what I possess, but by the love I give out and live out day by day.

I look at my life. I look honestly at my daily happiness, and I see that it is so.

Specifically, my happiness is determined by my response to what Jesus called life's two greatest commandments:

Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.

Love your neighbor as yourself (Mark 12:30, 31, NIV).

Love shapes my happiness. Not material goods. Not comfort. Not the finest luxuries. Love.

Hymn recording: The Rich Young Ruler

## The Rich Young Ruler



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ETERNAL RICHES

WORDS: Ken Bible

MUSIC: Traditional Folk Tune and Ken Bible

#### **True Freedom**

You were called to freedom, brethren; only do not turn your freedom into an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another. (Galatians 5:13, NIV).

I used to think that freedom meant doing what I wanted. Freedom was the ability to please myself.

But I've learned that in fact, self is life's
heaviest and
most constant burden.
What is more binding, draining, wasteful, and demeaning than
always thinking about ourselves?

Love is freedom.

Love for God and

love for others

sets us free from the crushing burden of self-concern.

And it is a truly glorious freedom!

Taste that freedom, and

you'll want to live in it always.

We were created to love.
That is the beautiful purpose for which the Creator designed us.
Only when we love do we find fulfillment, freedom, and peace.

O Christ,
bless me with
Your Spirit,
so that everything I say
to anyone is said
in love and
in You.

Hymn recording: Freedom in You

### Freedom in You



WORDS & MUSIC: Ken Bible

FREEDOM IN CHRIST 9.9.9.7.7. w. Bridge

### **Complete in Christ**

In [Christ] are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. In Him all the fullness of the Deity dwells in bodily form, and in Him you have been made complete.

(Colossians 2:3, 9-10, NASB)

Not in an abstract sense; not just someday, but right now, Lord. All the treasures of wisdom and knowledge are in You, Jesus. All the treasures.

I am complete in You.

Complete as a person.
Complete as the being You created me to be.
Complete in You.

Jesus, help me to remember this in the push and pull of life today.

Remind me of this when other things call for me to

want them and
seek them and
need them.

Today, Lord, all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge are in You. Today I am complete in You. Today I will desire only You.

Father,
my neediness is
deep and
wide and
permanent.
But in You
I am sufficient,
no matter what comes.

Hymn recording: Complete in Jesus Christ

### Complete in Jesus Christ

TUNE: Come, Christians, Join to Sing (MADRID, alt.) Colossians 1, 2, & 3



MUSIC: Traditional Spanish Melody; arr. by Ken Bible

MADRID 6.7.6.7.6.6.6.7.

#### **Ashes to Ashes**

We do not lose heart.
Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day.
(2 Corinthians 4:16, NIV)

We're all engaged in a battle to keep our bodies healthy and attractive.

It is a worthy effort.

But it is a battle we will lose. Our bodies will decay and die. It is happening right now.

Jesus, I look forward to ever-increasing health in You.

**Hymn recording: Ashes to Ashes** 

## **Ashes to Ashes**

Genesis 3:19; Ecclesiastes 12:7; Romans 8:11



WORDS & MUSIC: Ken Bible

OKE Irregular