

Magnificent Truth

Readings, prayers, and hymns

Ken Bible

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Lord, Give Me Light

46

Lead Me On

48

Magnificent Truth

~

*Where then does wisdom come from?
And where is this place of understanding?...
God understands its way,
And He knows its place.
For He looks to the ends of the earth;
He sees everything under the heavens....
Behold, the fear of the Lord, that is wisdom;
And to turn away from evil is understanding. (Job 28:20, 23-24, 28, NASB)*

God is Light, and in Him there is no darkness at all. (1 John 1:5, NASB)

~

O God,
You are absolute truth!
How magnificent You are,
so how magnificent is the truth!
The truth is
beautiful,
holy, and
loving,
and in You we
know it,
speak it, and
live it.

The Truth

You will know the truth, and the truth will set you free (John 8:31-32, NIV)

Truth is reality.
Truth is the way things really are.
It flows from You,
 the source of all being and
 the center of reality.

Thus living in You, Lord God, is
 living in the truth.
It is living in line with reality.
It is natural, harmonious living.
Living in You is
 living in peace.

Anything not in line with You is unnatural,
 out of harmony with reality.
It is a lie,
 doomed to cause unhappiness and
 ultimately to pass away.

Humility is truth.
Pride is a lie.

Your glory is truth.
Any other glory is a lie.
Oneness with You and with other believers is truth.
Self-exaltation is a lie.

Lord Jesus, purify my heart and mind and life.
Help me think and live in You.

~

All that you see is temporary and passing.
Your relationship with the living God will
 always be the focus of reality for you.
 Set your heart on Him alone.

~


Hymn recording: [Beyond Imagination](#)

Beyond Imagination


TUNE: O God, Our Help in Ages Past (ST. ANNE)
Psalm 34:8; Galatians 5:22-23; Ephesians 3:14-21

♩ = 84


C C F $\frac{C}{E}$ Am $\frac{Dm^7}{F}$ G C Am Em $\frac{Am}{C}$ D G




1. Lord God, be - yond our thoughts and prayers, Be - yond all we can see,
2. His pres - ence bears de - li - cious fruit From gar - dens all a - bove.
3. With - in this life of flesh and blood, A life more deep and broad,
4. Lord God, be - yond all we can do Your bless - ing is re - stored:



G C F Dm G C FM7 $\frac{Dm}{F}$ E $\frac{C}{E}$ Dm C $\frac{Dm}{F}$ G7 C



Your Spir - it grows with - in our hearts A new re - al - i - ty.
We taste and see that You are good And glad - ly trust Your love.
A bound - less life, a life com - plete: The full - ness of our God!
We breathe the heart, the life and love Of Je - sus Christ our Lord!



WORDS: Ken Bible
MUSIC: William Croft

ST. ANNE
C.M.

Alt. Tune: AZMON

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CCLI Song #4764595. For CCLI information call 1-800-234-2446.

Start with God

Do you want to better understand your life?
Do you want to better understand your world?
Yourself?

Start with God.

See Him high and lifted up.

See Him for who He is:

all power,
all wisdom,
all love, justice, and rightness.

All that is flows **from** Him, the Source.

All that is flows **through** Him,

the Mover,
the Means,
the Doer,
the Planner,
the Power.

All that is flows **to** Him, the Goal.

To understand

your purpose,
your design,
your destiny,

start with Him,

for He is the Source and Goal of all you are.

This marvelous God made You in His own image.

He made you to be like Himself.

He is holy,

free from wrong,
free from anything that binds, corrupts, or destroys.

And He longs to make you holy.

He understands your limitations, yet

He intends to make you holy as He is holy,

completely,
freely,
naturally,
by simple faith.

He loves

lavishly,

abundantly,
without any selfishness or reserve.
And He frees you to love the same.

He is eternal,
without beginning or end.
He is unbound by time –
never hurried.
Time is not His master,
but His slave.
And He wants to share His limitless eternity with you.

Do you want to understand
your purpose,
your design,
your destiny?
Do you want to begin to experience
what your life can be
today and every day?
Know and worship God
high and lifted up.
Start with Him.

~

Father,
throughout my days,
throughout my life,
here and forever,
fill my thoughts with
all You are!

~

Hymn recording: [All-in-all](#)

All-in-all

*Psalm 39:4-7; 90:1-12; 104:1-2; Acts 17:28;
Romans 1:20; Ephesians 3:14-21; Colossians 1:19; 2:9-10*

♩ = 66

N.C. Gm Gm F Gm E Cm⁶
Unison Eb

1. O God of all be - ing, we thirst for the truth: The
2. O God, we are weak - ness, so fu - tile and small. We

Gm Gm Dm⁷ Dm Gm Gm D⁷ Gm Gm Gm Eb
D A F E

won - der of all that You are. You sing it and paint it thro'
blos - som and die in a day. But You are the whole - ness, the

Gm Gm Cm⁶ Cm⁷ Cm⁶ Gm Gm N.C. Dm Gm Gm Eb
Bb D Eb F

all You cre - ate- All beau - ty, each breath, ev - 'ry star. Al -
Source and the Goal, The heav - en for which we were made, Our

WORDS: Ken Bible
MUSIC: *The Southern Harmony*, 1835; arr. by Ken Bible

SAMANTHRA
11.8.11.8.D.

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B \flat F F 7 G m $\frac{Gm}{B\flat}$ D sus D D 7

might - y, all - ho - ly, one God All - in - all, Pure
hope, our com - plete - ness, the life and the love, The

E \flat $\frac{Cm}{A}$ D $^7_{sus}$ D 7 N.C. G m $\frac{Gm}{F}$ $\frac{Gm}{E}$ E \flat

light, all a - round, all a - bove, We lis - ten with awe as You
joy that our hearts all pur - sue. Our rich sat - is - fac - tion be -

$\frac{Gm}{B\flat}$ G m C m^6 C m^7 $\frac{Cm^6}{E\flat}$ $\frac{Gm}{D}$ G m N.C. D m G m $\frac{Gm}{D}$ G m

whis - per Your might But might - i - ly thun - der Your love.
yond ev - 'ry dream, Our full - ness, O Fa - ther, is You!

The Most Natural Way

*All the ways of the Lord are loving and faithful
toward those who keep the demands of his covenant. (Psalm 25:10, NIV)*

What if it's all true:

What if all that is was created by a wonderful Being,
more vast and mysterious than the universe itself;
if He formed us and somehow patterned us after himself;
if He loves us as His own children;
if He came to us in person to share our lives,
to deliver us from our wrongness,
to die for us when we couldn't help ourselves;
if this Creator wants to teach us the happiest way to live . . .
What if it's all true?

Look at this beautiful, orderly, intricate world. Look at Jesus Christ - His love, His self-sacrifice. Look at yourself and the wrongness you sense inside. If all the above is true, then how should we be living? Shouldn't we turn to our loving, wise Creator to find the best, the simplest, the most natural way to live?

He has put us here together, His children, to care for each other and to depend on each other. He has given us families, friends, communities. Yet we think and live so selfishly, and so many among us are needy and lonely.

He provides for us beautifully and abundantly day by day. What do we need that His world doesn't provide? Yet we are anxious, fearful, and greedy.

He wants to enrich us in ways we can't even imagine. He wants us to know Him better. He wants each of us to have a face-to-face relationship with Him. Yet we consider Him irrelevant and look right past Him.

Look at the people around you. Look within yourself. Is anxiety and selfishness really the most natural way to live? The most common, perhaps, but the simplest, the most peaceful, the most satisfying? In our smallness and helplessness, is it logical to ignore the One who created us?

The One who gives us day and night, sun and rain, work and rest, the One who conceived and shaped this world of ours, cannot He guide us to the most natural way to live?

Cannot He help you become the person you were designed to be, that you want to be?

Is He not listening if you talk to Him right now?

~

I have a personal, constant relationship with
the Lord of all reality.
We converse freely.
We walk together in relaxed silence,
like loving Parent and child.
What could be more wonderful than this?

~

Hymn recording: [Present Lord](#)

Present Lord

TUNE: Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee (ST. AGNES)

Isaiah 57:15

The musical score is written for a 3/4 time signature in the key of D major. It consists of two systems of music, each with a treble and bass staff. The first system contains four lines of lyrics, and the second system contains three lines. Chord symbols are placed above the treble staff for each measure. The lyrics are as follows:

1. Al - might - y, High Ex - alt - ed God, Ho - ly, un - touched, un - seen;
2. Cre - a - tor, Fa - ther, Pres - ent Lord, Lov - ing Com - pan - ion, Friend,
3. Wor - ship and work - ing, joy and rest, Speak - ing and list - 'ning flow;
4. Nour - ish a full, whole - heart - ed trust That I might glad - ly trace

Yet in Your love You draw me near— No one can come be - tween.
When You re - veal how real You are, Fear and its strug - gles end.
Freed by the truth that You are here, Love in its beau - ty grows.
How far be - yond all thought You are, Yet see You face to face.

WORDS: Ken Bible
MUSIC: John B. Dykes

ST. AGNES
C.M.

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Reflection on Hebrews 6:19-20

This hope we have as an anchor of the soul, a hope both sure and reliable and one which enters within the veil, where Jesus has entered as a forerunner for us, having become a high priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek (Hebrews 6:19-20, NASB).

What does an anchor do?
It grips immovable ground so that
 when all the storms of this world
 attack us and
 pressure us and
 try to blow us away,
we are held steady.

So what is the immovable ground
 to which we anchor ourselves?

It is the
 unchanging,
 immovable,
 eternal,
 almighty
GOD,
 the I AM,
 the source and ground of
 all Being and
 all reality.

And what is the anchor that
 grips Him and
 will never let go?

Our anchor is
 the hope He has given us.

This is not the weak “hope so” of human hope, but
 the absolute confidence,
 the full assurance

that God
 is all He says He is and
 will do all He says He will do.

His Word is sovereign.
 He speaks, and
 His will becomes reality.

His promises
never change,
never weaken with time, and
never fail.

Anchor yourself to what
cannot and
will not move.

Anchor yourself to
Almighty God.

~

Father,
I am not sure of myself,
but I am sure of You.

~

Hymn recording: [Anchored in God](#)

Anchored in God

Hebrews 6:19-20

♩ = 58

Chord progression: A^b D^b C^{A^b} B^{E^b} B^b E^b A^b E^b

1. Our an - chor grips un - mov - ing ground Tho' storms are
 2. You are the ground that holds us still - Al - might - y
 3. Hope is our an - chor strong and sure. Your time - less

Chord progression: E^b7 A^b E^b A^b G^{A^b} F^m A^b B^b7^{sus} B^b7

fierce, and we so small. Tho' life is pres - sure all a -
 God, Im - man - u - el. Our joy, our peace: Your sov - 'reign
 Word is al - ways now. Our glo - rious fu - ture is se -

Chord progression: E^b E^b7 E^b7^{B^b} A^b E^b G^{A^b} E^b13 E^b7 A^b

round, You hold us stead - y through it all. Soon ev 'ry
 will. You are the Lord, and all is well. Un - fail - ing
 cure - We don't know when, we don't know how. We trust Your

Chord progression: D^b A^b A^b E^b7 F^m D^b F^m D^b A^b_{sus} E^b A^b E^b_{sus} E^b E^b7 A^b

storm You will sub - due. Till then our an - chor holds in You.
 love in all You do, We are for - ev - er safe in You.
 Word, for - ev - er true. Our hope, our con - fi - dence is You.

WORDS: Ken Bible

MUSIC: Isaac B. Woodbury (1819-1858) and Ken Bible

SELENA 2
8.8.8.8.8.8.

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Perfect Love, Wisdom, and Power

Father, You are perfect love.
With all Your being
You always want what is best for me.
I will trust You.

You are perfect wisdom.
You always know what is best.
I will trust You.

You are perfect power.
You are fully able to do all that is best.
I will trust You.

Perfect love.
Perfect wisdom.
Perfect power.
You never change.
You will always be who You have always been.
You will always do what You have always done.
You will finish everything You start.
I will trust You.

When appearances deny You, and
even when I can't understand You,
I will trust You,
rest in You, and
rejoice in You.

~

As I wait in the darkness,
my God,
You are working out Your purpose.

~

Hymn recording: [You Are Lord](#)

You Are Lord

Psalms 46:1-3; 56:3; Philippians 2:9-11

♩ = 60

Unison D $\frac{E^m}{G}$ G D $\frac{G}{B}$ $\frac{D}{A}$ $\frac{A^{sus}}{G}$

1. Through bit - ter in - jus - tice You are Lord.
2. Through strug - gle and sor - row You are Lord.
3. When death looms be - fore us, You are Lord.

With

$\frac{D}{F\#}$ D $\frac{F\#m7}{C\#}$ $\frac{G}{B}$ $\frac{D^{sus}}{B}$ G M7 A sus $\frac{A^{sus}}{E}$ A

dark - ness all a - round us You are Lord.
pain and suf - fring threat - en, You are Lord.
all the world may crum - ble, You are Lord.

Lord.

Refrain

$\frac{D}{F\#}$ $\frac{D M7}{F\#}$ G $\frac{D^{sus}}{G}$ A $\frac{D}{F\#}$ $\frac{D M7}{F\#}$ G Gadd⁹ A $\frac{D}{F\#}$ $\frac{D M7}{F\#}$ G Gadd⁹ A $\frac{D}{F\#}$ $\frac{D M7}{F\#}$

Ev-'ry knee will bow, Ev-'ry tongue con - fess. We are rest - ing here On Your

G $\frac{G}{A}$ $\frac{Gadd^9}{B}$ $\frac{Gadd^9}{D}$ A sus $\frac{F\#m}{A}$ A D $\frac{D}{F\#}$ G $\frac{F\#m}{A}$ A D $\frac{D}{A}$ D

faith - ful - ness. You are Lord. You are Lord.

WORDS & MUSIC: Ken Bible

GORE
6.3.7.3.w.Ref.

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Set Apart

“Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth.” (John 17:17, NIV)

We are weak, imperfect people
sent into an evil, hostile world
to do the work of a holy God.
How can we be protected from the evil all around us?
How can we effectively do God’s work here?

We must be sanctified.
“Sanctified” means “set apart”.
We must be set apart to God:
consecrated entirely to Him,
cleansed and made entirely His own,
equipped for His service.

What does God use to set us apart entirely as His own?
He sets us apart and keeps us
by the truth—that is,
by the *reality* and *reliability* of His mighty word.
We go into this evil world in complete safety and
do His work boldly and effectively
because we are shielded and empowered by
the *reality* and *reliability* of Who He is and all He says.

In all our weakness
we can be holy and effective in this world
because God is Who He is, and
we are in Him.

~

As you trust God,
you can do
anything He calls you to do.
Anything!

~

Hymn recording: [Lord Jesus, Living Presence](#)

Lord Jesus, Living Presence

TUNE: Lead On, O King Eternal (LANCASHIRE)

Philippians 4:13

Chords: D^b D^b G^b/D^b D^b D^b/C^b G^b/B^b D^bM⁷/A^b G^b A^b

1. Lord Je - sus, Liv - ing Pres - ence, Your en - er - gy in me
2. Lord Je - sus, Liv - ing Pres - ence, Your heart for those in need
3. Lord Je - sus, Liv - ing Pres - ence, Your faith - ful - ness to me

Chords: A^b7 D^b D^b7 G^b/D^b D^b A^b/E^b E^b7 A^b

Is pow - er ev - 'ry mo - ment To will and work and be.
Cries out from all a - round us- My God, it cries to me
Has nev - er failed or wa - vered. In You I'm tru - ly free.

Chords: A^b7 D^b D^b7/A^b D^b7 F D^b7 G^b B^b7/F E^b E^b7/B^b E^b7/G E^b7 A^b

I fold my plans and list - en To hear Your wis - dom speak.
To turn from fear and small - ness, To give Your pow'r its place,
Now free - ly, Lord, I trust You To use me as Your seed

Chords: A^b7/G^b D^b/F E^bm⁷/G^b D^b7/A^b G^b/B^b G^b D^b/A^b A^b7 A^b D^b

Your mind, Your love, my Je - sus, Are all I need and seek.
To see and love and serve You In ev - 'ry hu - man face.
That love for You may flour - ish And You be praised in - deed!

WORDS: Ken Bible
MUSIC: Henry T. Smart

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LANCASHIRE
7.6.7.6.D.

Reflection on Psalm 77

My God, You never change.

My body,
my emotions,
my world

are blown about on a
sea of change.

You see all reality.

You see and

know and
are only

complete, absolute truth.

I tend to see and feel through
small and self-centered eyes.

What I see and feel is often
not reality.

So when I pray to You,

transcendent,
all-knowing,
almighty God,

help me to keep my eyes focused always on

You,
not me.

Keep me trusting You,

loving You, and
praising You.

Keep me patiently waiting and
rejoicing in

Your perfect will and
Your perfect timing.

~

Almighty Father,
I cannot see or feel You
responding to my prayer.
But I remember what
You have done in the past, and
I trust You.

~

Hymn recording: [Psalm 77](#)

Psalm 77

TUNE: Dear Lord and Father of Mankind (REST, alt.)

♩ = 80

Unison C C° C C_E Dm⁷ G_B C A m D⁷_A

1. I try to pray as prob - lems press, But noth - ing seems to
 2. O God, You seem for - ev - er gone. My world is not the
 3. But in the si - lence I re - cite The truth of all You've
 4. So in this dark - ness, Lord, I rest, As - sured of what is

G G_D G C C_D^{sus} C_E E⁺ E⁷ A m A m_G

change. The sol - id faith my words pro - fess Now
 same. The hope I built my life up - on And
 done - Your part - ed seas, Your gra - cious might, Your
 true: Through ev - 'ry trau - ma, ev - 'ry test Your

F A m⁷_E Dm⁷ D_C G_B G⁷ C C⁷ F_{sus} F Dm⁷ D^{o7} C C_G C

ech - oes with my emp - ti - ness, And joy - ful songs feel strange.
 all its glo - ries feel with-drawn And mock the faith I claim.
 ac - tions, al - ways good and right, Your bat - tles al - ways won.
 love can on - ly give the best. I wait, I trust in You.

WORDS: Ken Bible
 MUSIC: Frederick C. Maker (1887) and Ken Bible

REST 2
 8.6.8.8.6.

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Reflection on Psalm 139

You know me, Father.

You know me
 constantly and
 completely.

Whatever I am doing,
 however I am distracting myself,
beyond my shallow self-understanding,
fuzzy motives and all,
 You know me.

Your knowing
 surrounds me and
 encircles me,
 penetrating to the very core of
 who I am and
 why I do what I do.

At the very root of my thoughts,
before I speak,
before I act,

 You know.
 You understand.

Your hand is always on me.

You are with me
 every moment,
 in that intimate knowing.

Wherever I am,
whatever my situation,
whatever stress is pressing in on me,
 You are with me.

I cannot hide from You
 anything about myself.

It is futile to try.

You were the One weaving me together
 in my mother's womb,
 before even she knew I was there.

So,
 since I cannot run, and
 since I cannot hide,
search me.
 Try me.

Know me completely.
If there is anything that doesn't please Your
all-wise,
all-loving heart,
do what only You can do, and
enable me to do what only I can do.
Make me right,
through and through.
I know You want to, and
I know You can.
Now I want it, too.

Creator,
recreate me in the beautiful image of
Your holy, loving Son,
Jesus Christ.
Make me just like Him!

~

Father, You know me thoroughly and
in every detail,
from my roots on up.
Examine me, and
help me to simply trust You in
all my thoughts and
all my ways.
Complete our loving union,
O my God!

~

Hymn recording: [Psalm 139](#)

Thank you, Dr. Richard Neiderhiser

Psalm 139

Unison
♩ = 88

C G $\frac{G}{D}$ F $\frac{C}{E}$ $\frac{C}{G}$ $\frac{F}{A}$ $\frac{FM7}{A}$ $\frac{F}{A}$ FM7 G sus G

1. Ev - 'ry mo - ment, in - ti - mate know - ing-
2. Com - ing, go - ing, Lord, in Your pres - ence,
3. In Your wis - dom, in Your self - giv - ing,
4. Search me, know me, teach me, my Sav - ior;

A m $\frac{Em}{G}$ F FM7 $\frac{C}{E}$ Dm⁹ Dm⁷ FM7 G sus G

God, You are liv - ing and breath - ing with - in,
Run - ning and hid - ing can't hide me from You.
In Your great love all I am was be - gun.
Cleanse all the think - ing that leads me to fear,

C G $\frac{G}{D}$ F $\frac{C}{E}$ $\frac{C}{G}$ $\frac{F}{A}$ $\frac{FM7}{A}$ $\frac{F}{A}$ FM7 G sus G

All my think - ing, speak - ing, and do - ing
Self - ish mo - tives, flim - sy ex - cus - es,
Fa - ther, Dream - er, O what a won - der!
In Your Spir - it, lov - ing and ho - ly,

$\frac{F}{A}$ $\frac{C}{G}$ Dm⁷ $\frac{C}{E}$ Dm⁷ G⁷ C

Ful - ly dis - cern - ing be - fore they be - gin.
Ly - ing is fu - tile; You know what is true.
Now as I trust You, my God, we are one!
Joy - ful, my Fa - ther, to know You are here!

WORDS: Ken Bible

MUSIC: Johannes Brahms (1833-1897) and Ken Bible

BRAHMS ROMANZE

9.10.9.10.

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CCLI Song #7181678.

Can We Reasonably Trust the Bible?

Psalm 119:89, 91, 96-97

Can we trust the Bible? Can a book that is so thoroughly human in its origins reasonably claim to be completely and timelessly true? We say that it is inspired by God, but does that make it any more accurate than all the other writings that God has, in some sense, inspired?

Without pretending to give complete answers to these questions, let me share these thoughts. First, I find it meaningful to look to Jesus Christ. John 1 refers to Him as the Word – that is, the Word of God. He also was fully human in every way, yet fully divine. His thoughts, His words, and His life were uniquely, beautifully pure and true.

If we affirm that the Bible is the Word of God, we find confidence that it also can be uniquely, beautifully pure and true. Just as He was one perfect, human-but-divine life among many righteous-but-imperfect lives, so we can reasonably believe that the Bible is one fully inspired, human-but-divine book among many inspired-but-imperfect books.

The truthfulness of the Bible is thus driven by the same energy that drove the life of Christ: God's loving desire to be fully known by His people. We also must take seriously what the Bible says repeatedly about itself, or at least portions of itself:

- *Be diligent to present yourself approved to God as a workman who does not need to be ashamed, accurately handling **the word of truth*** (2 Timothy 2:15, NASB).
- *All Scripture is inspired [margin: **God-breathed**]* (2 Timothy 3:16, NASB).
- *The law of the Lord is **perfect...sure...right...pure...clean...true*** (Psalm 19:7-9, NASB).
- *The words of the Lord are **pure words**; as silver tried in a furnace on the earth, **refined seven times*** (Psalm 12:6, NASB).

I trust the Bible as

one fully inspired book among
many inspired-but-imperfect books

for the same reason I trust Jesus Christ as

one perfect person among
many good-but-imperfect people:

because I trust my Father's passion for being fully and accurately known by His people.

~

Father, You have communicated
precious, eternal truths to me,

and at such a cost!
Help me to read and
truly hear and
keep each one,
with Your Spirit's help within.

~

Hymn recording: [The Word of the Lord](#)

The Word of the Lord

Psalm 33:4-11; Isaiah 40:8

♩ = ca. 96

Dm Dm C Gm Bb Gm7 Bb Dm A Gm6 Dm A Am7

1. Hear it thun - der thro' all times— The Word of the
 2. Thro' the fire and thro' the flood— The Word of the
 3. Thro' our strug - gles, thro' our fears— The Word of the

Dm Gm D Dm Dm C Gm Bb Gm7 Bb Dm A G7 sus Dm Gm6 Bb

Lord. All a - round its won - ders shine— The Word of the
 Lord. Proph - ets die to lift it up— The Word of the
 Lord. Dai - ly we will bow to hear The Word of the

A sus A A G Dm F A7 sus E Dm Dm C Gm Bb Bb A sus A

Lord. Be - fore the earth and all that is, Be -
 Lord. Thro' war and death and dark - est days, Thro'
 Lord. Soon all we see and touch and know Will

Dm A7 sus E F A sus A A G Dm F A7 sus E Dm Dm C Gm Bb Gm7 Bb Dm

fore the worlds a - bove, Our Fa - ther spoke in might - y love
 li - ars, thieves, and kings, The faith - ful know the hope it brings—
 fade and fall a - way. But praise to God! The truth re - mains—

WORDS and MUSIC: Ken Bible

FRANITZA
7.5.7.5.8.6.8.5.

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D _m A	G _m ⁶	D _m A	A _m ⁷	1, 2 D _m G _m E	3 D _m G _m E	D.S. A ₇ E	4 D _{sus} D
---------------------	-----------------------------	---------------------	-----------------------------	--	---	-----------------------------	-------------------------

The musical score is written for two staves, Treble and Bass clef, in a key with one flat (B-flat). The melody is in the Treble clef, and the bass line is in the Bass clef. The lyrics are: "The Word of the Lord. The Word of the Lord. The Word of the Lord. All Lord." The score includes a repeat sign after the first two measures of the first staff. The final measure of the first staff is a whole note chord, and the final measure of the second staff is a whole note chord.

Embracing Our Ignorance

*As the heavens are higher than the earth,
So are My ways higher than your ways
And My thoughts than your thoughts.
(Isaiah 55:9, NASB)*

I treasure God's Word and have spent much of my life reading and studying it. Thus I have strong opinions on some theological issues.

At one point I had just finished studying an important section of scripture and had come away with the conviction, more powerful than ever, that those who disagreed with me on the interpretation of that scripture were wrong, and dangerously wrong. I prayed and asked God what He wanted me to do about their "serious error". He told me, "Do what I trained you to do: write a clear and practical hymn based on that passage." I did, and when finished, I felt good about the hymn and the accuracy of its message.

But as I looked at the completed hymn, I realized that it was just as acceptable and meaningful to my "theological opponents" as it was to me.

Perhaps that was because hymns are best when they are heartfelt and life-centered. And while believers often disagree about theology on a theoretical level, they rarely disagree about the way we all should live and long to live. For the most part, we are one in that living faith.

I've often experienced a strange silence from God about theological positions I consider erroneous. I've sensed that somehow, He was more tolerant than I. I kept expecting Him to send me out against the misguided with my sword drawn. He never has.

God gradually helped me realize that He hadn't called me to straighten out all that is false in the world and in His Church. He has called me to lift up Jesus Christ so that all may find the truth in Him.

Let's face it. Ignorance is something we all have in common. We are small, short-lived, often self-centered creatures. We are tiny specks in a sea of time, space, and spiritual reality. Our ignorance, at least in this life, is inherent and inescapable. If God couldn't put up with our ignorance, He would have nothing to do with us.

I pray that God keeps me conscious of my own ignorance and patient with everyone else's. At the same time, I want my life to boldly, unfailingly proclaim the beautiful, living truth that is in Jesus Christ alone.

~

Father,

we try to bind You with the ropes of our own
ignorance and
weakness.
But You are beyond all
our limitations,
our control,
our understanding, and
our imagination.
You are the I AM.

~

Hymn recording: [I Have the Truth](#)

I Have the Truth

John 8:31-32; 14:6

♩ = 100

D A⁷_{sus} D D A A⁷_{sus} D

1. I have the truth, so clear and love-ly,
2. I have a joy and hope un-fail-ing
3, 4. I have a life and love un-end-ing

D A⁷_{sus} D F#m F#sus GM⁹ GM⁷ A_{sus} A A⁷

Light - ing my heart and mind and soul.
Warm - ing my heart and mind and soul.
Fill - ing my heart and mind and soul.

D A⁷_{sus} D D A B_{sus} Bm D⁹₆ A GM⁷ G A G A¹³_G

I have the truth, so clear and love-ly. This truth, this light is
I have a joy and hope un-fail-ing. This hope, this joy is
I have a life and love un-end-ing. This love, this life is

D^{add9}_{F#} D^{add9}_A D_{F#} G D A A_{sus} A¹³ 1 D_{sus} D

Je - sus. This truth, this light is Je - sus.
Je - sus. This hope, this joy is Je - sus.
Je - sus. This truth, this joy is

WORDS & MUSIC: Ken Bible

LIVING TRUTH
Irregular

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2, 3, 4 3rd time rit. and Fine

D^{sus}

D

G

A

A⁷

Je

-

sus.

Sim - ple,

na - tur - al,

Je

-

sus.

D

$\frac{A^7_{sus}}{D}$

D

G

A

A⁷

D

$\frac{A^7_{sus}}{D}$

D

$\frac{D}{C\#}$

per-son-al,

Rich and real and ev - 'ry day!

B_m

$\frac{D}{F\#}$

$\frac{DM^7}{G}$

$\frac{DM^7}{A}$

$\frac{G}{B}$

D

$\frac{D}{A}$

B^{sus}

B_m

$\frac{Bm}{A}$

All

I've

ev -

er

want - ed

or

wished

for

Has a

$\frac{Em}{G}$

G

$\frac{GM^7}{G\#}$

E

E⁷

A^{sus}

$\frac{A^7_{sus}}{E}$

A

$\frac{A}{B}$

$\frac{A}{C\#}$

D.C.

face

and the touch

of a Friend!

Wisdom in Our Ignorance

*Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God!
How unsearchable his judgments,
and his paths beyond tracing out!* (Romans 11:33, NIV)

We human beings are inherently ignorant. Physically we live a fraction of a second on a grain of sand in a universe that is ancient and vast beyond all imagining. Our perspective and objectivity are minuscule. Our view of truth is highly tainted by our personal prejudices and selfish desires. To claim that we understand reality, or that our minds and limited senses are an accurate gauge of reality, is laughable. Ignorance is common to each and every one of us.

God in His greatness has chosen to reveal Himself to us. And by degree He graciously helps us understand reality as we understand Him. He has given us His own Spirit to enlighten and guide us.

But *we have this treasure in jars of clay* (2 Corinthians 4:7, NIV). As we trust His revealed Truth and faithfully speak the Truth and live the Truth, we need to remember our limitations and the weakness of the vessel in which we hold His treasure. Our understanding of our great and boundless God is always only partial.

Yet God's promise to us is this:

- God, who through the millennia has spoken to us in many different ways, has spoken fully and finally in Jesus Christ, His own Son (Hebrews 1:1-2).
- *In Christ all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form, and you have been given fullness in Christ* (Colossians 2:9-10a, NIV).

All the treasures of wisdom and knowledge are hidden in Christ (Colossians 2:3). If you desire wisdom, if you want understanding, seek Him.



In Jesus Christ
we have infinite room to
discover,
grow, and
become.

~

Hymn recording: [The Truth of God Is Greater Far](#)

The Truth of God Is Greater Far

TUNE: I Sing the Mighty Power of God (ELLACOMBE)

Psalm 119:96; Isaiah 55:8-9; Romans 11:33-36; Colossians 2:2-3; Hebrews 1:1-3

♩ = 92 tacet

A^\flat C Fm B^\flatm F E \flat A \flat D \flat A^\flat C D \flat 6 E \flat A \flat

1. The truth of God is great-er far Than our poor hu-man mind,
2. Who dares to lim-it God Him-self To what we un-der-stand,
3. O Lord, Your Word is Je-sus Christ, Your truth in us be-gun,

tacet

A^\flat C Fm B^\flatm F E \flat A \flat D \flat Fm E \flat sus E \flat A \flat

Than an-y doc-trine, creed, or sect, All par-tial and con-fined.
To shrink His sprawl-ing mys-ter-y And hold it in our hand?
But O the depths of all He is And all that He has done!

A^\flat E^\flat 7sus A^\flat A \flat E \flat G A \flat D \flat E \flat E \flat susE \flat Fm E^\flat G A \flat E \flat G A \flat D \flat E \flat

His treas-ures hold un-count-ed wealth That hearts have nev-er heard.
Im-mens-i-ty of pur-est love! An o-cean un-ex-plored!
Let faith and love each day in-crease The hun-ger You have stirred:

tacet

A^\flat C Fm B^\flatm F E \flat A \flat D \flat Fm E \flat sus E \flat E \flat 7 A \flat

Our bound-less God has yet more light To shine out from His Word.
Our bound-less God has yet more light To shine out from His Word.
May more and more of Christ our Light Shine bright-ly from Your Word!

WORDS: Ken Bible and George Rawson (1807-1889)

MUSIC: *Gesangbuch der Herzogl*, 1784

ELLACOMBE

C.M.D.

Alt. Tunes: FOREST GREEN; CLEANSING FOUNTAIN; LANDAS

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Pride

Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. (Philippians 2:3, NIV)

Pride focuses thought, energy, and attention on me -
a poor,
pitiable,
helpless creature –
rather than on our
magnificent,
loving,
eternal Father.

Pride steals glory and praise from God.
It distracts those He would draw to himself.

Pride is a lie.
It cloaks me in
darkness and
self-delusion
rather than in
light,
love, and
truth.

Pride focuses inward rather than
upward and
outward.
It makes my world smaller.

Pride perverts,
binds,
blinds, and
destroys.

Merciful Jesus, save me from the foolishness of pride.

~

Father, since You are who You are and
I am who I am,
help me to starve my gluttonous ego,

not feed it.

~

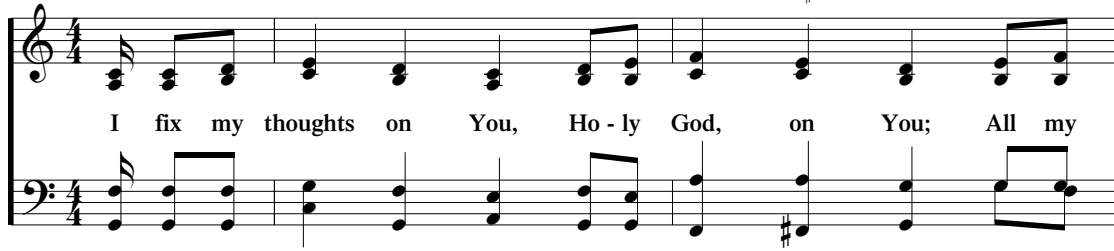
Hymn recording: [I Fix My Thoughts on You](#)

I Fix My Thoughts on You

Psalm 141:8a; Hebrews 12:2

Resolutely, with confidence ♩ = 84

Chords: $\frac{E}{G}$ G⁷ C G⁷ A^m G⁷ $\frac{E^m}{G}$ F $\frac{A^m}{F\sharp}$ G $\frac{E^m}{G}$ $\frac{G^7}{F}$



I fix my thoughts on You, Ho - ly God, on You; All my

Chords: E^m $\frac{E}{G\sharp}$ $\frac{E^7}{G\sharp}$ A^m E^m⁷ E^m D^m⁷ D^m¹¹ G $\frac{F}{G}$ G⁷ C G⁷ A^m G⁷ $\frac{E^m}{G}$



dreams, all my joys- I have made my choice. I fix my thoughts on You, Al- ways,

Chords: F $\frac{A^m}{F\sharp}$ G $\frac{E^m}{G}$ $\frac{G^7}{F}$ $\frac{C}{E}$ E^m E^m⁷ F G⁷



on - ly You. I am free when I am fixed on You.

Chords: C C G⁷ C G⁷ C



You. Not drained by fear But strong in faith; Not

WORDS & MUSIC: Ken Bible

BROTHER LAWRENCE
Irregular

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F $\frac{F}{G}$ $\frac{F}{A}$ $\frac{F}{B}$ C $\frac{C}{E}$ F $\frac{Am}{F\#}$ G $\frac{C}{E}$ F E

bound by pride But freed by praise; My goals set a - side, My

Am Em⁷ Am $\frac{CM^7}{G}$ F Em Dm⁷ F G^{sus} G

D.C. al Fine

life's o - pen wide To be filled by You a - lone!

Humility

*From Him and through Him and to Him are all things.
To Him be the glory forever. (Romans 11:36, NASB)*

Humility is seeing God.
Humility is worshiping Him.
Humility is loving Him with
all our heart, soul, mind, and strength.

Humility is loving others fully and joyfully.

Humility is truth.
It is seeing the world and ourselves
as we really are.

Humility is sweet freedom from
life's most constant and most crushing burden:
the burden of self-concern.
Humility is the freedom to release selfish anxiety and
embrace Christ for all He is.

Father, humility is knowing You.
It is one of the gifts of knowing You are with me.
Thank You, my Lord!

~

Don't despise your own
weakness and smallness.
They glorify God.
He uses them to display
His power and greatness.

~

Hymn recording: [Meekness](#)

Meekness

TUNE: I Am His, and He Is Mine (EVERLASTING LOVE)

Isaiah 6:1-7; Matthew 5:5; 11:28-30; Ephesians 4:1-3; Colossians 3:12-13

♩ = 60

D $\frac{A^7_{sus}}{D}$ D G D $\frac{Gm}{D}$ D $\frac{A^7}{E}$ D $\frac{D}{F\#}$ D $\frac{A^7}{C\#}$ D A

1. You are great be-yond all words, I have noth - ing but my need.
 2. As You lift me to Your-self, As You show me all You are,
 3. Give the Spir - it of Your Son, All the meek - ness of His heart,

D $\frac{A^7_{sus}}{D}$ D G D $\frac{Gm}{D}$ D $\frac{A}{C\#}$ Bm7 $\frac{E^7}{B}$ D E E7 A

You are strength and bound - less pow'r, I am help - less - ness in - deed.
 As I crown You Lord of all, As I praise You from my heart,
 All the love His hands would give, All the warmth His words im - part,

Bm7 $\frac{A^7}{C\#}$ D G D G $\frac{A^9}{G}$ D $\frac{D}{F\#}$ D $\frac{A^7}{C\#}$ D A

You are pure and high a - bove, I was born in greed and sin,
 I am freed from all my chains, Self - con - cern and vain con - ceit,
 All His kind - ness to the weak, All the smile of His de - light.

D $\frac{A^7}{E}$ D $\frac{D}{F\#}$ G F#7 Bm $\frac{Bm}{A}$ G D A D $\frac{D}{F\#}$ A7 $\frac{1}{D}$ $\frac{2}{D}$

You, so glo - rious in Your love, I, un - love - ly all with - in. in.
 Glad - ly lost in You a - lone— Meek-ness pure and real and sweet. sweet.
 May the lives of all I touch Feel the gen - tle-ness of Christ. Christ.

WORDS: Ken Bible
 MUSIC: James Mountain

EVERLASTING LOVE
 7.7.7.7.D.

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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.

~

Father, help me not to limit reality to
my own puny understanding.
I am so small.
There is so much I can realize
only by trusting You.
Only by trusting You can I begin to
know You and
understand Your Word and
grasp all You can do.

~

Hymn recording: [Lead Me On](#)

Lead Me On

Philippians 3:12-14

♩ = 100

Lead me on; I will fol - low. Lead me up - ward; I will go, Stand-ing

strong in the con - fi - dence That on - ly faith can know, Step by

step, ev - er trust - ing, With e - ter - ni - ty in view, Not in

fear but re - joic - ing, For I'm walk - ing, Lord, in You.

WORDS & MUSIC: Ken Bible

UPWARD
7.7.8.6.7.7.7.

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