

Hymns to the Highest

1 Corinthians 16:14 (NIV)

Do everything in love.

Ephesians 6:23 (KJV)

Peace be to the brethren, and love with faith from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Psalms 7:17 (NIV)

I will give thanks to the Lord because of His righteousness and will sing praises to the name of the Lord Most High.

BIBLICAL POETRY

Hymns to the Highest

STEPHEN HERVEY



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PREFACE

Hymns to the Highest is a compilation of spiritual and romantic songs and poems. The doxological songs and spiritual poems are encouraging and edifying and expound on the weightier matters of the Word. The unique style presented in many of these poems involve relating a romantic dimension with a spiritual message. Romance and spirituality are integral attributes for enhancing relationships.

The prominent subject addressed in this book is love, expressed from romantic, brotherly and godly concepts. Love is paramount in the Bible and in life. Love is intrinsic for a relationship with God as stated in 1 John 4:8 (NIV): “Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love.” The love a Christian displays not only comes from the heart, but it comes from God. Romans 5:5 (KJV): “And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Spirit which is given unto us.” Faith, hope and love are essential attributes which dwell and endure in the hearts of converted individuals. 1 Corinthians 13:13 (NIV): “And now these three remain: faith, hope and love, but the greatest of these is love.” Many of the poems in this book accentuate the

value of love. Having nothing but love is far greater than having everything but love. God's spiritual law of love is a momentous ecumenical doctrine of the Christian church.

These inspirational poems contain enlightening messages predicated from the Word of God. This book applies various principles from the Bible for evangelizing and professing the Christian faith. Ephesians 5:19 (KJV): "Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord." Colossians 3:16 (KJV): "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord." 1 Corinthians 14:26 (NIV): "What then shall we say, brothers? When you come together, everyone has a hymn or a word of instruction, a revelation, a tongue or an interpretation. All of these must be done for the strengthening of the church."

Hymns to the Highest is an informative testimony and record of God's truth and advocates the magnifying and praising of God. Psalms 34:3 (KJV): "O magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt His name together." The more we praise God the more we will find ourselves focusing on the awesomeness of God, Psalms 34:1 (KJV): "I will bless the Lord at all times: His praise shall continually be in my mouth." As we try to grasp the greatness of God, we will find ourselves searching into the unsearchable. Psalms 145:3 (KJV): Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised, and His greatness is unsearchable."

The Holy Bible exhorts us to be diligent in praising God. Psalms 9:1-2 (KJV): "I will praise thee, O Lord, with my whole heart: I will shew forth all thy marvelous works: I will be glad and rejoice in thee: I will sing praise to thy name O thou most High." The praising of God is never perfunctory and never tiring, but is always sincere and always inspiring. Psalms 44:8 (KJV): "In God we boast all the day long, and praise thy name forever. Selah."

Hymns to the Highest is a poetic perspective to proclaiming the glorious gospel of God. The spiritual songs are didactic in the way of God and profitable for Biblical understanding. This book contains uplifting poetry and excellent examples of songs that extol God. The proverbial poems reiterate the truth from the Holy Scriptures and elucidate how the revelation of love is inextricable from God's Word. 2 Thessalonians 3:5 (NIV): "May the Lord direct your hearts into God's love and Christ's perseverance."

—Stephen Hervey

Ephesians 3:16-19 (NIV)

I pray that out of His glorious riches He may strengthen you with power through His Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the saints, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge,

The task of following Jesus Christ can
be quite laborious,
but the emolument for our labor of love
is so glorious.

1 Thessalonians 4:9 (NIV)

Now about brotherly love we do not need to write to you, for you yourselves have been taught by God to love each other.

We really give love a lot of thought when it is by God that we have been taught.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I thank and acknowledge Almighty God who has called me out of darkness and into His marvelous light. I am grateful for the Love God has given me to give to others. I will declare the praises of God forever.

Next, I would like to thank my loving wife, Sarah, for her help and support. Many of the poems in this book were originally written for my wife for being such a blessing in my life.

Next, I would like to thank my parents, Roosevelt and Violet, for their generosity and help, and I thank all my family members and friends who are always so willing to help.

Proverb 3:5-6 (KJV)

“Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your path.”

1 Corinthians 15:57

But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Psalms 150:1 (KJV)

Praise ye the Lord. Praise God in His sanctuary: praise
Him in the firmament of His power.

God's word shall have a life saving effect, on those
who are His very elect.

Jude 21 (KJV)

“Keep yourself in the love of God looking for the mercy
of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life.”

Our Eternal God wants to bless us with His beatitude,
so let us stay in His Love as it states in verse
twenty-one of Jude.

Isaiah 26:3 (NIV)

You will keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed
on You: because he trusts in You.

When we keep our minds full of the things of God,
in a special way we will be so odd.

When we keep our minds stayed on God always,
we'll be the peculiar people whom God will praise.

Let us thank God for the truth that we have heard,
let us really thank God for giving us His Word.

INTRODUCTION

Hymns to the Highest is a Book of spiritual poetry containing meaningful messages derived from the teachings of the Holy Bible. This Book expounds on a variety of principles pertaining to the gospel of Christ, with love being the primary subject emphasized in many of the poems. The preponderance of love is expressed in this anthology since love is for life and life is for love. This collection of poetry is enjoyable to read, thought provoking, epigrammatic and filled with the truth for all who desire to have the Word of God dwelling in them richly. These hymns, poems and spiritual songs also concur with the Biblical instructions for teaching and admonishing one another. This unique book is filled with rhythm, rhyme, romance, and Scriptural poetry that is truly edifying, enlightening, uplifting and profound, it is especially designed for all who desire the solid food or meat of the Word. Hebrews 5:14 NIV states “But solid food is for the mature, who by constant use have trained themselves to distinguish good from evil.” This book can be helpful for married couples, Christians and all who have a real interest in the Word of God.

Proverbs 16:24

Pleasant words are as a honey comb,
sweet to the soul, and health to the bones.

With pleasant words of poetry
let's talk about love and unity
and being with God in harmony.

With words of comfort and edification,
let's build up others with exhortation
and let's stay encouraged with God's consolation.

Psalm 128:1 (KJV)

Blessed is every one that feareth the Lord;
that walketh in His ways.

The fear of the Lord is being afraid to stray,
from God's Word and wonderful way.

Hebrews 10:24 (KJV)

And let us consider one another to provoke
unto love and to good works:

Be provoked to love in every situation
and live a life with continuous invocation
and experience a life so full of exultation.

Almighty God wants us to inquire,
about His love and His desire.

Just like a hand goes into a glove,
let's give God a hand and stay in love.

SPIRITUAL SONGS

1 Chronicles 16:9 (KJV)

Sing unto Him, sing psalms unto Him, talk ye of all his wondrous works.

Psalms 33:3 (NIV)

Sing to Him a new song: play skillfully with a shout of joy.

Psalms 9:11 (KJV)

Sing praises to the Lord who dwells in Zion. Declare His deeds among the people.

It is the sacrifice of praise that we bring,
when we come before our God and sing.

THIS LOVE



Love is a blessing that comes from above,
produced from the Spirit of life and love.
This love is holy, harmless and heavenly,
this love is what God has called us to be.
This love is what the Holy Spirit imparts,
this love is poured out within our hearts.

Joy is a blessing that comes from above,
produced from the Spirit of life and love.
This love is the one that casts out fear,
this love is so certain and so sincere.
This love is free with so much to give,
this love enables us to rejoice and live.

Peace is a blessing that comes from above,
produced from the Spirit of life and love.
This love has beauty beyond any flower,
this love is strong and so full of power.
This love gives grace and it is a guide,
this love can spread so far and wide.

Longsuffering is a blessing that comes from above,
produced from the Spirit of life and love.
This love is unlimited from the Most High,
this love is for us to show and apply.
This love we know now is not so strange,
this love is spiritual and does not change.

Kindness is a blessing that comes from above,
produced from the Spirit of life and love.
This love is forever and will ever endure,
this love never fails and this love can cure.
This love promotes us to give God praise,
this love is complete with no end of days.

Goodness is a blessing that comes from above,
produced from the Spirit of life and love.
This love is absolute and it is so right,
this love is the law of liberty and light.
This love involves being together as one,
this love is why God sacrificed His Son.

Faith is a blessing that comes from above,
produced from the Spirit of life and love.
This love is a treasure we're blessed to find,
this love is a pleasure to keep in mind.
This love abides within God's sheep,
this love is so awesome and so deep.

Meekness is a blessing that comes from above,
produced from the Spirit of life and love.
This love is incorruptible and supreme,
this love is a gift that we highly esteem.
This love is the way to increase and excel,
this love is from the God of Israel.

Self-control is a blessing that comes from above,
produced from the Spirit of life and love.
This love I have is so great and ideal,
this love I have is so high and real.
This love I have is so serving and true,
this love I have is God's love for you.

1 Corinthians 13:2 (NIV)

And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge; and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not love, I am nothing.