

Wed Blessing not Cursing 2022 08 31

Blessing not Cursing

Wednesday, August 31, 2022

Hymns

593

529

374

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Hymn 593

We gather together to ask the Lord's blessing,
To sing of God's goodness as year turns to year.
We gather professing Your grace and Your blessing,
With thanks for the gospel that gathers us here.

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Your Spirit consoles us. We're safe in Your keeping.
When roads are uncharted, Your love shows the way.
Where new hope is springing You fill us with singing;
Your presence delights us with each dawning day.

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What, then, can we give You in praise for our journey,
When all the earth's treasures were Yours from the start?
We offer our labors, our love for our neighbors,
Our gifts and the worship of each hand and heart.

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Hymn 529

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Love divine, Your healing presence
Lifts us to the holy place,
Where we see Your whole creation
Filled with light and crowned with grace.
We Your children know your glory,
See your power from above
Sweep away the shade of darkness
With the healing tide of love.

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Humble hearts accept Your blessing,
Turn from sorrow, want, and sin.
Turn the page, rewrite that story,
As the Christ is welcomed in.
Now we know our true relation,
Perfect God and perfect child,
We can live in joy and freedom,
Loved, and pure, and undefiled.

.

Hymn 374

Hymn 374, 375

JOHN RANDALL DUNN

(374)

ALL SAINTS NEW

HENRY S. CUTLER

(375)

THORNBURY

BASIL HARWOOD

Music by permission of Basil Harwood

We thank Thee and we bless Thee,
 O Father of us all,
 That e'en before we ask Thee
 Thou hear'st Thy children's call.
 We praise Thee for Thy goodness
 And tender, constant care,
 We thank Thee, Father-Mother,
 That Thou hast heard our prayer.

We thank Thee and we bless Thee,
 O Lord of all above,
 That now Thy children know Thee
 As everlasting Love.
 And Love is not the author
 Of discord, pain and fear;
 O Love divine, we thank Thee
 That good alone is here.

We thank Thee, Father-Mother,
 For blessings, light and grace
 Which bid mankind to waken
 And see Thee face to face.
 We thank Thee, when in anguish
 We turn from sense to Soul,
 That we may hear Thee calling:
 Rejoice, for thou art whole.

The Bible

1. Ps. 1:1

- 1 BLESSED *is* the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful.

2. Rom 12:14 (to :)

- 14 Bless them which persecute you:

3. I Sam. 15:13 Blessed (to 2nd :)

- 13 Blessed *be* thou of the LORD:

4. Deut. 27:11 Moses, 12 (to :), 14-19, 24-26

- 11 Moses charged the people the same day, saying,
- 12 These shall stand upon mount Gerizim to bless the people, when ye are come over Jordan;
- 14 ¶ And the Levites shall speak, and say unto all the men of Israel with a loud voice,
- 15 Cursed *be* the man that maketh *any* graven or molten image, an abomination unto the LORD, the work of the hands of the craftsman, and putteth *it* in *a* secret *place*. And all the people shall answer and say, Amen.
- 16 Cursed *be* he that setteth light by his father or his mother. And all the people shall say, Amen.
- 17 Cursed *be* he that removeth his neighbour's landmark. And all the people shall say, Amen.
- 18 Cursed *be* he that maketh the blind to wander out of the way. And all the people shall say, Amen.
- 19 Cursed *be* he that perverteth the judgment of the stranger, fatherless, and widow. And all the people shall say, Amen.
- 24 Cursed *be* he that smiteth his neighbour secretly. And all the people shall say, Amen.
- 25 Cursed *be* he that taketh reward to slay an innocent person. And all the people shall say, Amen.
- 26 Cursed *be* he that confirmeth not *all* the words of this law to do them. And all the people shall say, Amen.

5. Deut. 28:1-7 it (to :), 9

- 1 it shall come to pass, if thou shalt hearken diligently unto the voice of the LORD thy God, to observe *and* to do all his commandments which I command thee this day, that the LORD thy God will set thee on high above all nations of the earth:
- 2 And all these blessings shall come on thee, and overtake thee, if thou shalt hearken unto the voice of the LORD thy God.
- 3 Blessed *shalt* thou *be* in the city, and blessed *shalt* thou *be* in the field.
- 4 Blessed *shall be* the fruit of thy body, and the fruit of thy ground, and the fruit of thy cattle, the increase of thy kine, and the flocks of thy sheep.
- 5 Blessed *shall be* thy basket and thy store.
- 6 Blessed *shalt* thou *be* when thou comest in, and blessed *shalt* thou *be* when thou goest out.
- 7 The LORD shall cause thine enemies that rise up against thee to be smitten before thy face:
- 9 The LORD shall establish thee an holy people unto himself, as he hath sworn unto thee, if thou shalt keep the commandments of the LORD thy God, and walk in his ways.

6. Num. 22:2-6 (to 1st :), 12

- 2 ¶ And Balak the son of Zippor saw all that Israel had done to the Amorites.
- 3 And Moab was sore afraid of the people, because they *were* many: and Moab was distressed because of the children of Israel.
- 4 And Moab said unto the elders of Midian, Now shall this company lick up all *that are* round about us, as the ox licketh up the grass of the field. And Balak the son of Zippor *was* king of the Moabites at that time.
- 5 He sent messengers therefore unto Balaam the son of Beor to Pethor, which *is* by the river of the land of the children of his people, to call him, saying, Behold, there is a people come out from Egypt: behold, they cover the face of the earth, and they abide over against me:
- 6 Come now therefore, I pray thee, curse me this people; for they *are* too mighty for me:
- 12 And God said unto Balaam, Thou shalt not go with them; thou shalt not curse the people: for they *are* blessed.

7. Num. 23:16, 20

- 16 And the LORD met Balaam, and put a word in his mouth, and said, Go again unto Balak, and say thus.
- 20 Behold, I have received *commandment* to bless: and he hath blessed; and I cannot reverse it.

8. Gen. 27:29 blessed

- 29 blessed *be* he that blesseth thee.

9. Matt 4:23

- 23 ¶ And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all manner of sickness and all manner of disease among the people.

10. Matt. 5:2, 43-48

- 2 And he opened his mouth, and taught them, saying,
- 43 ¶ Ye have heard that it hath been said, Thou shalt love thy neighbour, and hate thine enemy.
- 44 But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you;
- 45 That ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven: for he maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust.
- 46 For if ye love them which love you, what reward have ye? do not even the publicans the same?

And if ye salute your brethren only, what do ye more *than others?* do not
47 even the publicans so?

48 Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect.

11. Neh. 13:2 our

2 our God turned the curse into a blessing.

12. II Tim. 2:1-4 my, 8-12 (to 1st :), 15, 16, 19-26

1 my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus.

2 And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also.

3 Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ.

4 No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of *this* life; that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier.

8 Remember that Jesus Christ of the seed of David was raised from the dead according to my gospel:

9 Wherein I suffer trouble, as an evildoer, *even* unto bonds; but the word of God is not bound.

10 Therefore I endure all things for the elect's sakes, that they may also obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory.

11 *It is* a faithful saying: For if we be dead with *him*, we shall also live with *him*:

12 If we suffer, we shall also reign with *him*:

15 Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

16 But shun profane *and* vain babblings: for they will increase unto more ungodliness.

19 Nevertheless the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, The Lord knoweth them that are his. And, Let every one that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity.

20 But in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and of silver, but also of wood and of earth; and some to honour, and some to dishonour.

21 If a man therefore purge himself from these, he shall be a vessel unto honour, sanctified, and meet for the master's use, *and* prepared unto every good work.

22 Flee also youthful lusts: but follow righteousness, faith, charity, peace, with them that call on the Lord out of a pure heart.

23 But foolish and unlearned questions avoid, knowing that they do gender strifes.

24 And the servant of the Lord must not strive; but be gentle unto all *men*, apt to teach, patient,

- 25 In meekness instructing those that oppose themselves; if God peradventure
will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth;
- 26 And *that* they may recover themselves out of the snare of the devil, who
are taken captive by him at his will.

13. Rom. 12:14, 21

- 14 Bless them which persecute you: bless, and curse not.
- 21 Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good.

Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures by Mary Baker Eddy

1. SH 234:12-14 (to ;)

We should love our enemies
and help them on the basis of the Golden
Rule;

2. SH 266:13-15

- Friends will betray and enemies will slander, until the
lesson is sufficient to exalt you; for “man’s extremity
15 is God’s opportunity.”

3. SH 20:14

- Jesus bore our infirmities; he knew the error of mortal
15 belief, and “with his stripes [the rejection of error] we are
healed.” “Despised and rejected of men,”
returning blessing for cursing, he taught mor-
18 tals the opposite of themselves, even the nature of God;
and when error felt the power of Truth, the scourge and
the cross awaited the great Teacher. Yet he swerved not,
21 well knowing that to obey the divine order and trust God,
saves retracing and traversing anew the path from sin to
holiness.

Perfect example

4. SH 30:14, 26

- Rabbi and priest taught the Mosaic law, which said:
15 “An eye for an eye,” and “Whoso sheddeth man’s blood,
by man shall his blood be shed.” Not so did Jesus, the
new executor for God, present the divine law of Love,
18 which blesses even those that curse it.

- If we have triumphed sufficiently over the errors of
27 material sense to allow Soul to hold the control, we
shall loathe sin and rebuke it under every mask. Only
in this way can we bless our enemies, though they
30 may not so construe our words. We cannot choose for
ourselves, but must work out our salvation in the way
Jesus taught. In meekness and might, he was found
31:1 preaching the gospel to the poor. Pride and fear are unfit

to bear the standard of Truth, and God will never place

3 it in such hands.

5. SH 33:18

18 When the human element in him struggled with the
 divine, our great Teacher said: “Not my will, but
 Thine, be done!” — that is, Let not the flesh,
 21 but the Spirit, be represented in me. This
 is the new understanding of spiritual Love. It gives all
 for Christ, or Truth. It blesses its enemies, heals the
 24 sick, casts out error, raises the dead from trespasses
 and sins, and preaches the gospel to the poor, the meek
 in heart.

The holy
struggle

6. SH 597:3-10

3 The Judaic religion consisted mostly of rites and cere-
 monies. The motives and affections of a man were of
 little value, if only he appeared unto men to fast. The
 6 great Nazarene, as meek as he was mighty, rebuked the
 hypocrisy, which offered long petitions for blessings upon
 material methods, but cloaked the crime, latent in thought,
 9 which was ready to spring into action and crucify God’s
 anointed.

7. SH 49:17-21

Forsaken by all whom he had
 18 blessed, this faithful sentinel of God at the highest
 post of power, charged with the grandest trust of
 heaven, was ready to be transformed by the renewing
 21 of the infinite Spirit.

8. SH 9:5-14

The test of all prayer lies in the answer to these
 6 questions: Do we love our neighbor better because of
 this asking? Do we pursue the old selfish-
 ness, satisfied with having prayed for some-
 9 thing better, though we give no evidence of the sin-
 cerity of our requests by living consistently with our
 prayer? If selfishness has given place to kindness,
 12 we shall regard our neighbor unselfishly, and bless
 them that curse us; but we shall never meet this great
 duty simply by asking that it may be done.

Summit of
aspiration

9. SH 317:6

6 Whosoever lives most the life of Jesus in this age
 and declares best the power of Christian Science, will
 drink of his Master’s cup. Resistance to
 9 Truth will haunt his steps, and he will in-

The cup of Jesus

cur the hatred of sinners, till “wisdom is justified of
her children.” These blessed benedictions rest upon
12 Jesus’ followers: “If the world hate you, ye know that
it hated me before it hated you;” “Lo, I am with you
always,” — that is, not only in all time, but in *all ways*
15 and conditions.

10. SH 131:26-30

The mission of Jesus confirmed prophecy, and ex-
27 plained the so-called miracles of olden time as natural
demonstrations of the divine power, demonstra-
tions which were not understood. Jesus’ works
30 established his claim to the Messiahship.

John the Baptist,
and the Messiah

11. SH 132:8

And
9 blessed is he, whosoever shall not be offended in me.” In
other words, he gave his benediction to any one who
should not deny that such effects, coming from divine
12 Mind, prove the unity of God, — the divine Principle
which brings out all harmony.

12. SH 589:19 (only, to .), 21 pure
JOSEPH. pure affection blessing
21 its enemies.

13. SH 579:15-1 (to 1st ;)

15 **ADAM.** Error; a falsity; the belief in “original sin,”
sickness, and death; evil; the opposite of good, — of God
and His creation; a curse; a belief in intelligent matter,
580:1 finiteness, and mortality;

14. SH 103:6-9

6 The destruction of the claims of mortal mind through
Science, by which man can escape from sin
and mortality, blesses the whole human fam-
9 ily.

Liberation of
mental powers

15. SH 453:18-20

18 You uncover sin, not in order to injure, but in order
to bless the corporeal man; and a right motive has
its reward.

16. SH 10:22

Experience teaches us that we do not always receive
the blessings we ask for in prayer. There is some mis-
24 apprehension of the source and means of
all goodness and blessedness, or we should
certainly receive that for which we ask. The Scrip-

Asking amiss

27 tures say: “Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask
amiss, that ye may consume it upon your lusts.” That
which we desire and for which we ask, it is not always
30 best for us to receive. In this case infinite Love will
not grant the request. Do you ask wisdom to be mer-
ciful and not to punish sin? Then “ye ask amiss.”
11:1 Without punishment, sin would multiply. Jesus’ prayer,
“Forgive us our debts,” specified also the terms of
3 forgiveness. When forgiving the adulterous woman he
said, “Go, and sin no more.”

17. SH 13:14

Even if prayer is
15 sincere, God knows our need before we tell Him or our
fellow-beings about it. If we cherish the desire hon-
estly and silently and humbly, God will bless it, and
18 we shall incur less risk of overwhelming our real
wishes with a torrent of words.

18. SH 3:27

27 If we are ungrateful for Life, Truth, and Love, and
yet return thanks to God for all blessings, we are in-
sincere and incur the sharp censure our Master pro-
30 nounces on hypocrites. In such a case, the only
acceptable prayer is to put the finger on the lips and
remember our blessings. While the heart is far from
4:1 divine Truth and Love, we cannot conceal the ingrati-
tude of barren lives.

19. SH 557:16

When the mist of mortal mind evap-
orates, the curse will be removed which says to woman,
18 “In sorrow thou shalt bring forth children.” Divine
Science rolls back the clouds of error with the light of
Truth, and lifts the curtain on man as never born and as
21 never dying, but as coexistent with his creator.

20. SH 340:23-29

One infinite God, good, unifies men and nations; con-
24 stitutes the brotherhood of man; ends wars; fulfils the
Scripture, “Love thy neighbor as thyself;” annihilates
pagan and Christian idolatry, — whatever is wrong in
27 social, civil, criminal, political, and religious codes;
equalizes the sexes; annuls the curse on man, and leaves
nothing that can sin, suffer, be punished or destroyed.

21. SH 264:24

Spiritual living

and blessedness are the only evidences, by which we can
recognize true existence and feel the unspeakable peace
27 which comes from an all-absorbing spiritual love.

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