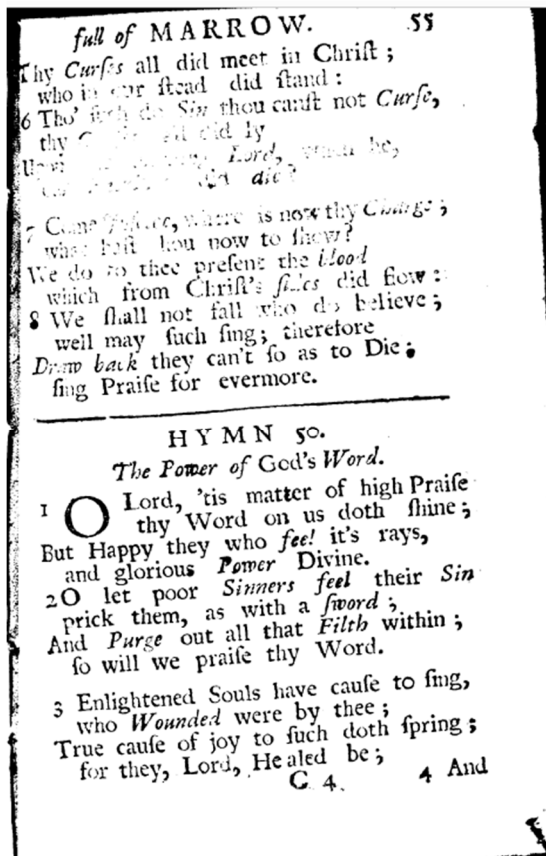
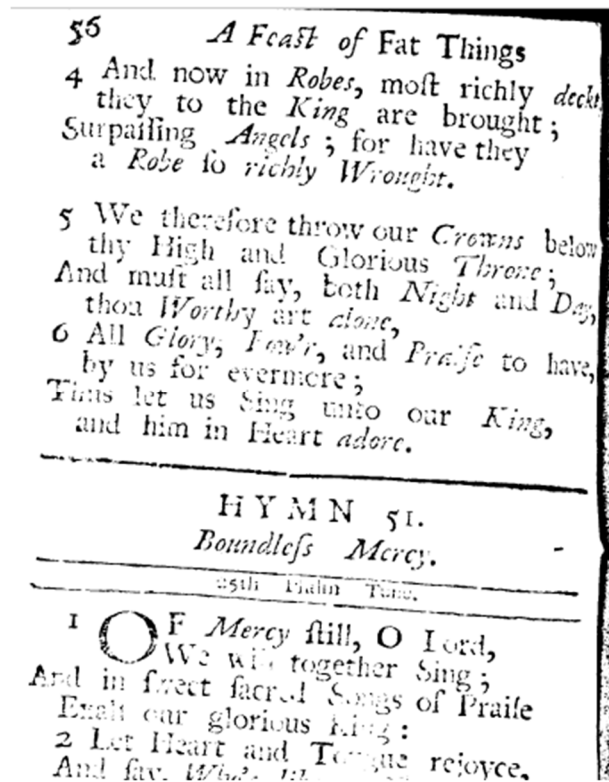


2. Keach's Songs – Examples

a. O Lord, 'Tis Matter of High Praise – 1696

- i) A Spiritual Song
- ii) Focus: Praise Unto God
- iii) Author: Benjamin Keach, 1640-1704
- iv) Notes on the author: See notes on Benjamin Keach above.
- v) Taken from *A Feast of Fat Things Full of Marrow...* 1696. #50





vi) The Biblical and Doctrinal Significance

- 1) First Stanza – “Thy word on us doth shine” – (Psalm 119:30)
- 2) First Stanza – “But happy they who feel its rays” – (Proverbs 3:13)
- 3) Second Stanza – “Prick them, as with a sword” – (Hebrews 4:12)
- 4) Second Stanza – “So will we praise thy word” – (Psalm 56:10)
- 5) Third Stanza – “Enlightened souls have cause to sing” – (James 1:18)
- 6) Fourth Stanza – “They to the King are brought” – (Revelation 4:1-2)
- 7) Fifth Stanza – “We therefore throw are crowns below Thy high and glorious throne” – (Revelation 4:10-11)
- 8) Fifth Stanza – “Thou worthy art alone” – (Revelation 5:11-14)

9) Sixth Stanza – “All glory, power, and praise to have” – (Revelation 5:13)

b. God Is a Righteous Judge Be Sure – 1696

i) A Psalm

ii) Focus: The Judgment of God

iii) Author: Benjamin Keach, 1640-1704

iv) Taken from: *Spiritual Melody...*, by Benjamin Keach, 1691, Hymn 209

v) Lyrics:

- 1) God is a righteous Judge be sure,
And one that will repay;
And with the lewd and wicked doer
God's angry ev'ry day:
- 2) Unless he do his sins forego,
And speedily repent,
He'll whet his sword, and string his bow,
He hath it ready bent.
- 3) His deadly darts he doth ordain
To smite him unawares;
And for the persecutors pain
Sharp arrows he prepares.
- 4) He made a pit, in digging which
No pains at all he spared;
And fell he is into the ditch
Which he himself prepared.
- 5) Upon his own unhappy crown
His mischief shall be spread;
His violent dealings shall come down,
And light on his own head.
- 6) But I his justice will proclaim,
Who judgeth righteously;
And with a song will praise the name
Of God until I die.

vi) The Biblical and Doctrinal Significance

- 1) First Stanza – (Psalm 7:11)
- 2) Second Stanza – (Psalm 7:12)
- 3) Third Stanza – (Psalm 7:13)
- 4) Fourth Stanza – (Psalm 7:15)
- 5) Fifth Stanza – (Psalm 7:16)
- 6) Sixth Stanza – (Psalm 7:17)

3. Joseph Stennett

- a. The Pledges of His Grace – Late 1600's to early 1700's
 - i) A Spiritual Song
 - ii) Focus: The Ordinances of the Church
 - iii) Author: Joseph Stennett, 1663-1713
 - iv) Notes on the author: Joseph Stennett was born in Abingdon, Berkshire, England, 1663. The Baptist Hymnology historian Burrage records the following regarding Joseph Stennett. *“The name Stennett has a prominent place in English Baptist history, and also Baptist Hymnology. Joseph Stennett was the author of the hymn,*

Another six days' work is done,

and many other good hymns which are still (as of Burrage's writing) in use. His grandson, Samuel Stennett, was the author of

On Jordan's stormy banks I stand,

and other hymns of equal merit. Joseph Stennett was the son of Rev. Edward Stennett, a dissenting minister, who enthusiastically espoused the cause of the Parliament and the Commonwealth. After the (English) Revolution, with other Nonconformists who had been conspicuous in the important events that preceded, he suffered persecution and for a short time imprisonment. Of his three sons, two became Baptist ministers and one a physician.”

In early life, Joseph, made a profession of faith, and united with his father's church. Under skillful teaching from his instructors he acquired a good knowledge of philosophy and theology, as well as French, Italian, Hebrew and other languages. At the age of 22 he went to London, where he obtained a position as a teacher. In 1688 he married Susanna

Guill, the following year Stennett accepted the call to pastor the Seventh Day Baptist Church, then worshiping in a hall in Devonshire Sq., London, of which his father had for a while been pastor; afterward removing to Pinner's Hall. He would preach for other churches on Sunday, but of this Seventh Day Baptist congregation he remained pastor until his death in 1713.

Stennett's first published poetical work was a poem in commendation of Rev. Samuel Wesley's "Ingenious Poem, entitled 'The Life of Christ,' etc., published anno, 1693." In 1697, he published "Hymns for the Lord's Supper," thirty-seven in number, all of his own composition, and afterward (in the third edition, 1709) increased to fifty. Among these are

"My blessed Saviour, is thy love"
"Gracious Redeemer, how divine"
"Thus we commemorate the day"

See Hymn # 845 in *Psalms and Hymns and Spiritual Songs* for "My blessed Saviour, is thy love."

- v) Taken from: *The Works of the late Reverend and Learned Mr. Joseph Stennett, vol. XX, 1732. [See next page]*



H Y M N S
FOR THE
LORD'S SUPPER.



H Y M N I.

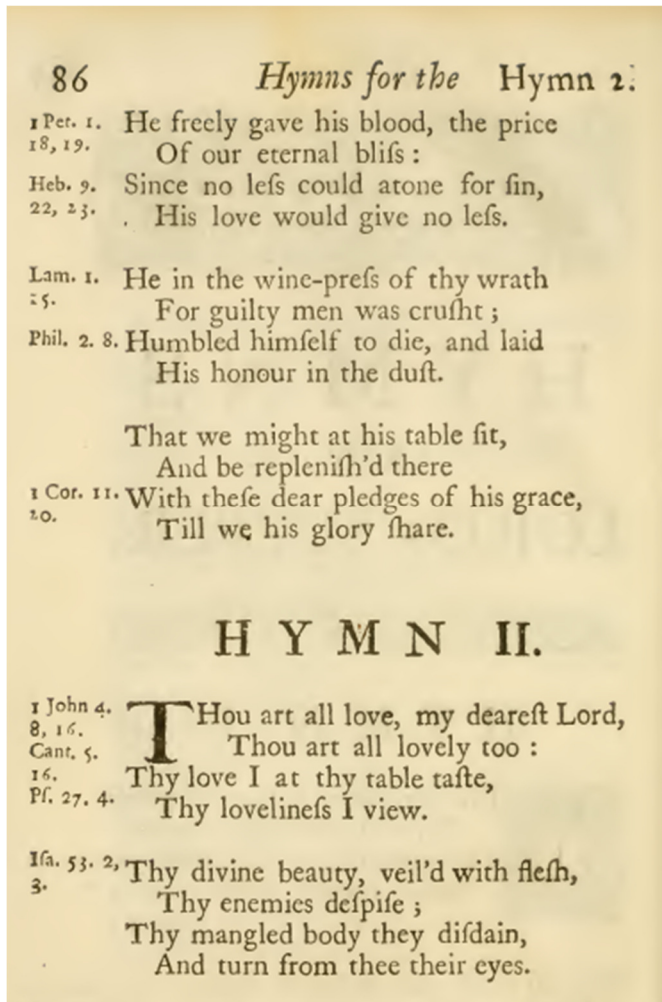


Ehovah, we in hymns of praise
Thy matchless grace adore,
That grace that gave thy only son: Rom. 8.
What couldst thou give us?²
(more?)

He's all in all: his faints in him	Col. 3. 11.
Divine perfection view:	Eph. 1. 23.
'Tis of his fulness they receive	John 1. 16.
All grace and glory too.	Pf. 84. 11.

G 3

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vi) The Biblical and Doctrinal Significance

- 1) First Stanza – “Jehovah, we in hymns of praise Thy matchless grace adore” – (Colossians 3:16)
- 2) First Stanza – “That grace that gave thy only Son: what couldst thou give us more?” – (1 John 4:10)
- 3) Second Stanza – “his saints in him Divine perfection view” – (John 14:9)
- 4) Second Stanza – “Tis of his fulness they receive All grace and glory too.” – (John 1:16)

- 5) Third Stanza – “He freely gave his blood” – (Colossians 1:14)
- 6) Third Stanza – “His love would give no less” – (John 15:13)
- 7) Fourth Stanza – “He in the winepress of thy wrath... was crushed” – (Isaiah 53:10)
- 8) Fourth Stanza – “Humbled himself to die” – (Philippians 2:6-8)
- 9) Fifth Stanza – “at his table sit, And be replenished there” – (1 Corinthians 11:2)
- 10) Fifth Stanza – “Till we his glory share” – (Matthew 26:29)

V. 1700's

- A. During the early seventeenth-century (1600's), hymn-writing developed slowly and with difficulty. Metrical psalms were still the dominate form, and they continued to appear in different versions by various writers. ⁴
 - i. 1650 also saw the work of the Scottish Psalter of that same year.
 - ii. As we have already mentioned, Benjamin Keach introduced hymn-singing into his services, and wrote hymns himself.
 - iii. William Barton (c. 1603-1678), writing both hymns and psalms, had many works that he produced as well.
 - iv. However, the English public would soon see another individual step on the scene, that individual would bring hymn-singing to a new level for congregations.
- B. Isaac Watts – (1674-1748)
 - i. Watts was born in 1674, he came on the scene at just the right time. Watts was able to take the struggling and experimental hymn form, and transform it into a glorious work, by a combination of poetic energy and high devotional seriousness.
 - ii. Watts was the son of a man who, like Bunyan, had been placed in prison for his beliefs. However, being well educated at a dissenting academy, and with his keen interests in language, philosophy, and science Watts made the best of it. Watts' hymns show the mind of a poet applied with skill and dedication to the expression of his belief.

⁴ An Annotated Anthology of Hymns, Edited with Commentary by J. R. Watson, Oxford University Press, 2003, pgs. 121-122.

- iii. Some of his hymns, especially such great ones as “When I survey the wondrous cross”, have never been surpassed; and his version of the psalms, in which he gave New Testament interpretations of Old Testament texts, contains such masterpieces as Our God, our help in ages past”. Such work set a standard for a century or more and were an inspiration to those who came after. Watts has been rightly seen as the first really great English hymn-writer.⁵
- iv. The following is a short list of the hymns and songs that Isaac Watts is well known for:
 - 1. Absent from Flesh, O Blissful Thought!
 - 2. Alas! And Did My Saviour Bleed?
 - 3. Am I A Soldier of the Cross?
 - 4. Awake, My Heart Arise My Tongue
 - 5. Come, All Harmonious Tongues
 - 6. Come, We That Love the Lord
 - 7. When I Can Ready My Title Clear
 - 8. When I Survey the Wondrous Cross
 - 9. Our God, Our Help in Ages Past (O God, Our Help in Ages Past)
 - 10. From Thee, My God, My Joys Shall Rise
 - 11. Give Me the Wings of Faith to Rise
 - 12. 'Twas By an Order from the Lord
 - 13. I Sing the Almighty Power of God
 - 14. Joy to the World
 - 15. Give to Our God Immortal Praise
 - 16. Ye That Delight the Serve the Lord
 - 17. We're Marching to Zion
 - 18. When the Battles Over
 - 19. Jesus Shall Reign (Jesus shall reign where e'er the Sun)
 - 20. My Saviour, My Almighty Friend
 - 21. Hosanna to the King
 - 22. Salvation! O the Joyful Sound!
 - 23. Up to the Hills I Lift Mine Eyes
 - 24. The Lord My Shepherd Is
 - 25. Come Let Us Join Our Cheerful Song
 - 26. The Lord Jehovah Reigns

⁵ An Annotated Anthology of Hymns, Edited with Commentary by J. R. Watson, Oxford University Press, 2003, pgs. 121-122.