

# *The Gospel Herald*

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“As the truth is in Jesus” (Ephesians 4:21)

For The LORD’S PILGRIMS, STRANGERS & SOJOURNERS

by

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## ***“For without me ye can do nothing”***

*John 15:5*

*Dear beloved blessed with God’s divine grace to lay hold upon the person of Jesus Christ by faith’s supernatural hand, look at the words of this poetic song with me of the one whom we cannot do without.*

***United to Jesus, the Vine, we’ve life, strength, and righteousness too,  
But this he will teach us in time, without Him we NOTHING can do.***

***Our hope of performing what’s right, and strictly obeying our God,  
If not wholly built on HIS MIGHT, will leave us exposed to his rod.***

***Unless he uphold by his grace, we sink under Satan and sin,  
and plunge into shame and disgrace, nor can we deliverance obtain.***

***We neither can hope or believe, nor pray in a time of distress,  
But as we from Jesus receive the fruits of his own righteousness.***

*(Gadsby Hymnal #670)*

*I ponder these words, and reflect upon the context of scripture, and seek to find what I have been able to achieve apart from my Saviour’s divine grant.*

*I found that within there was no ability to see my dreadful condition, due to the blindness of my natural eye. My soul, by nature, was going along the broad road fulfilling the lust of my flesh, the lust of the eye and the pride of life without any knowledge whatsoever that I had any problem within. Then, grace took hold of my heart and exposed my dreadful demise, and sadness and grief overwhelmed me, seeking help from my cursed disease. When the Spirit of God with faith’s sweet and*

*divine fruit was granted, this poor wretched sinner was enabled to see the one who died for me.*

*Overcome with sin's degradation and my unworthiness felt, repentance was granted as I fell upon my knees, O Jesus, if you be that Saviour whom the Bible records, have mercy upon this poor sinner lest I perish with the absence of hope. Faith continued its work of revealing this glorious Saviour to me, as repentance continued to ease the pain in my soul. Oh, to believe on Him whom I cannot see with the fleshly physical eye, was a marvelous miracle of grace divine. For I was made to LOVE this one whom faith only could see. To reminisce upon that experience of conversion of heart and soul, I continually ask, "What part did I play in this newfound love?" Was the revelation of my sinful state an intellectual thought? Did I all of a sudden decide to meditate upon my right and wrong? No, no, nothing I could come up within this sinner-man could have done what ONLY grace can.*

*Salvation so rich and free was sovereignly granted to me. In God's determined and appointed time, I was MADE to hear the voice of God's darling Son, he called with irresistible summon, CAUSING me to approach unto him. I was convinced through this ability to believe, that only God alone could cause one like me to see and hear the Good Shepherd's voice as he called unto me. For now, some many years since, I have learned, "that ALL my sheep shall hear my voice and follow me," for this was the reason I was made to hear and see when my Saviour beckoned me.*

*Can by my "performance" and "duty" please this one who has shown mercy toward me? For what part of man can accomplish righteousness that is demanded by command? Is not our performance of He who causes us "to will and to do?" Is it not of our sovereign Head who has PERFORMED a good work in us to fulfill it unto the day of Christ? Is he not faithful who promised who "shall also do it?"*

*Oh! Dear brethren of God, if our Lord by free sovereign love, mercy and grace alone has blessed us to receive, how can the creature glory in any "duty, work or righteousness?" Blessed be the savoir of sinners who "became sin for us that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him." Yes, even He who KNEW NO SIN, became sin for us. Our Sin-bearer, our Redeemer, Advocate, Justifier, Propitiation, and All in All.*

***FOR WITHOUT HIM WE CAN DO NOTHING AND SHALL NEVER BE ANYTHING. To Christ be praise and glory without end.***