





## ALONE

AERY NUGGEIS

It was alone the Saviour prayed In dark Gethsemane: Alone He drained the bitter cup And suffered there for me

It was alone the Saviour stood In Pilate's judgment hall; Alone the crown of thorns He wore, Forsaken thus by all.

Alone upon the cross He hung That others He might save: Forsaken then by God and man, Alone, His life He gave.

Can you reject such matchless love? Can you His claim disown? Come, give your all in gratitude, Nor leave Him thus alone.

## Refrain:

Alone, alone, He bore it all alone; He gave Himself to save His own, He suffered, bled and died alone, alone. Ben H. Price

Dear Lonely Ones,

You've been in my thoughts lately, and though I don't know who all of you are, yet I know there are many out there feeling the loneliness that comes from being neglected, rejected or friendless.

A friendless condition might either be the result of being a stranger in a strange place, perhaps as the result of being in new surroundings, or our own attitude towards those around us. Solomon wrote, "A man that hath friends must show himself friendly." (Proverbs 18:24)

A notable example of this is found in the history of Ruth the Moabitess, who employed the prerogative of a poor person, gleaning grain in the field of a rich man, who took note of her efforts and spoke kindly unto her. She replied to him, "Let me find favor in thy sight, my lord; for that thou hast comforted me, and for that thou hast spoken friendly unto thine handmaid" (Ruth 2:13).

Neglect of those to whom concern is due runs rampant today. The fast pace of life and the many demands upon one's time causes the needs and welfare of the helpless, aged and less demanding to fall through



the cracks and be over looked or denied. Parents and children alike fall prey to this disregard so that being loved is questioned. One of the marks of, "Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows" (James 1:27).

Being outspoken, especially on positive matters, can lead to one being isolated from the pack, Elijah, who was a loud voice against the evils practiced by the nation of Israel, felt so rejected by the people that he said to God, "I am left alone, and they seek my life" (Romans 11:3).

After at least two years of faithful ministry in their area, the Apostle Paul had to say, "All they which are in Asia be turned away from me" (2 Tim. 1:15).

How sad to fall prey to the loneliness brought about by any one of these situations, but if this happens, what is our recourse? A verse that comes to mind tells us to, "Consider him that endured such contradiction of sinners against himself, lest ye be wearied and faint in your minds" (Hebrews 12:3).

Often times when we are passing through a time of trial we may feel like Jeremiah, who uttered the words, "Behold and see if there be any sorrow like unto my sorrow" (Lam. 1:12). How good to be able to consider the One Who, "Was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin", and, "In that he himself hath suffered being tempted, he is able to succor them that are tempted" (Heb.2:18). "Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need" (Heb. 4:16).

Now let us consider what led up to the solitariness of the Lord as set before us in the song on page one. I believe, and say reverently, that God wanted someone to shower His love upon, thus His decision, "Let us make man in our image" (Gen.1:26). Having created man with social instincts, and knowing that it was not good for man to be alone, an help meet was formed for Adam.

Through the passing centuries God made attempt after attempt to draw the crowning result of His act of creation, Man, to Himself, to little avail. As a final resort, God chose to reveal Himself to man as One like themselves in bodily form. Thus the coming of the One of Whom it is written, "They shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is God with us" (Matt. 1:23).

Was there a great rejoicing at His advent? Very little, except by the heavenly host of angels and a few shepherds. Of His earthly kin we are told, "He came unto his own, and his own received him not" (John 1:11). In fact, from the first, and throughout His life, various attempts were made to kill Him. Prophetically we read of Him as being One Who could say, "I watch, and am as a sparrow alone upon the house top: (Ps. 102:7). When Jesus was accosted in the garden, "All the disciples forsook him and fled" (Matt. 26:56).

Finally, we see the ultimate act of man's rejection, when the incarnate Son of God hung upon the cross, "And all his acquaintance, and the women that followed him from Galilee, stood afar off, beholding these things" (Luke 23:49). Beyond our comprehension was the Lord's desolation when He uttered the words, "My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me" (Mark 15:34)

In our times of solitude can't we receive much comfort from the consideration of this One, Who before the cross, said, "Except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone: but if it die it bringeth forth much fruit" (John 12:24).

Even before enduring the cross, "For the joy that was set before him" (Heb. 12:2), Jesus, in anticipation, expressed the longing desire, "Father, I will that they also, whom thou hast given me, be with me where I am; that they may behold my glory, which thou hast given me" (John 17:24). To us who have received Him as our Savior, he has said, "I will come again and receive you unto myself; that where I am there ye may be also" (John 14:3).

Longing for His return,

Leslie L. Winters

Longing for the Bride, Lord Jesus,
Of Thy heart,
To be with Thee in the glory,
Where Thou art:
Love so groundless, grace so boundless,
Wins my heart.
Wins my heart.

Miss C. A. Wellesley G. & T. #85

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I believe that it is a fine moment for one who is decided. We must be Christians in good earnest, and accept the foolishness of God as wiser than men, and the weakness of God as stronger than men. A humble walk, in entire dependence on God, LOOKING UNTO JESUS, is singularly blessed in these present days, and soon will come the rest.

Truth is eternal and love endures forever; both are in our precious Saviour; let us hold them fast through grace. JND

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