



"We thank Thee, Lord, for weary days When desert springs were dry, And first we knew what depth of need Thy love could satisfy.

Days when beneath the desert sun, Along the toilsome road, O'er roughest ways we walked with One, That One the Son of God.

We thank Thee for that rest in Thee The weary only know, That perfect, wondrous sympathy We only learn below:

The sweet companionship of One Who once the desert trod: The alorious fellowship with One upon the throne of God.

We know Thee as we could not know Thro' heaven's golden years; We there shall see Thy glorious face.-Here under understand Thy tears!

—Isaac B. Woodbury

as eagles." Isaiah 40:31



Dear friends.

I'm quite sure that each one of us has had some weary days in our lives. We sometimes face hard decisions and disappointments. As some of us get older we often find we cannot do the things that we used to do. We may go through the loss of loved ones and often we may feel lonely or discouraged. This morning in my quiet time I seemed to be drawn to John's gospel chapter 11.

My attention was drawn to five statements in this chapter. They are: "Jesus heard," "Jesus loved," "Jesus came," Jesus said," and "Jesus wept." These five words can really bring comfort to us, because Jesus Christ is the same, yesterday and forever.

In this wonderful chapter we find that Martha and Mary sent this message to the Lord Jesus. "Lord, behold, he whom Thou lovest (Lazarus) is sick." The Lord Jesus heard the

message. And we are told that Jesus loved Martha, Mary and Lazarus. Jesus received the message right away but did not immediately go to Bethany to see Lazarus. John 11:3-35. But then Jesus came. Verse



He never will leave us alone to face the losses, trials and disappointments that we may experience. As the hymn puts it so well:

"No, never alone!, No never alone!, He promised never to leave me, Never to leave me alone:!"

"I will never leave thee nor forsake Thee" Hebrews 13:5

When Jesus and His disciples arrived in Bethany Lazarus had already died. Martha said to the Lord, "If Thou hadst been here our brother would not have died." Verse 21. Jesus said to Martha that her brother would rise again. Martha replied "I know that he shall rise again in the resurrection at the last day." Then Jesus said unto her, "I Am the resurrection and the life: He that believeth in Me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: And whosoever liveth and believeth in Me shall never die. Believeth thou this? She answered yea, Lord."

Some times when we are going through sickness or trials we may wonder why our prayers are not answered right away. But how comforting it is to know that **He loves us** and that He does hear our prayers and will answer them in His due time. Yes, **Jesus heard! He always hears our prayers.** Does He love us? We read in verse 5 "Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister, and Lazarus. Yes, Jesus not only hears our prayers but He loves us with an unchanging love. He not only loved Martha, but also her sister and Lazarus.

When Mary was come where Jesus was she fell down at His feet saying unto Him, "Lord, if Thou hadst been here my brother had not died." Jesus asked her, "Where have you laid him? They said unto Him, Lord, come and see.

It is then that we read these wonderful words: "<u>Jesus wept."</u> How precious these words are to us today. As another has written:

"He knows, He loves, He cares. Nothing this truth can dim. He gives the very best to those Who put their trust in Him."

He knows what sorrows are and He invites us to "Cast all our care upon Him." He cares and loves us with an everlasting love.

As they came to the grave it had a heavy stone rolled up against the cave. And Jesus asked that the stone be removed. After the stone was removed the Lord Jesus lifted up His eyes, and said, "Father, I thank Thee that Thou hast heard Me. And I knew

that Thou hearest Me always: but because of the people which stand by I said it that they may believe that Thou hast sent Me." It is then that the Lord Jesus cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus come forth." And he that was dead came forth, bound hand and foot with grave clothes. And Jesus said unto them, "Loose him, and let him go".

What a Savior! This reminds us of a day that is coming very soon when "In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible and we shall be changed." 1st Corinthians 15:52-58.

The Lord Jesus reminded us of that day before He went to the cross with these words: "And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto Myself; that where I am there ye may be also"

In His Love

John D. McNeil

It is in trial and sorrow that we learn in an experimental way the sympathy and succor of Christ—His love as priest. He enters into every feeling of weakness and suffering. When He was here, healing thousands of people of various diseases, He felt and bore in His spirit all that he removed by His power.

And even if it were death itself, we see Him in that matchless scene at Bethany—how can one speak of it?—in company with a bereaved heart; the blessed Son of God entering into it all and weeping with those who wept! And now He has gone up to the right hand of God to intercede for his tried and disciplined saints down here. The intercession of Christ ever goes along with the discipline of God, to the end that it may effect a divine result in our souls. It is all in deep, divine love.

---C. A. C.

If the affections and joys of our hearts are in the current of the Spirit of God, we shall, so to speak, encourage Him in His blessed service by the response of our hearts. Where this is lacking, the Spirit is grieved, though there may be no sin on the conscience. —C. A. C.

For address correction or free new name addition, write to:

Leslie L. Winters or Christine Albury