

Amazing Grace

Amazing Grace ! How sweet the sound,
That saved a wretch like me ! I once was lost,
but now am found.
Was blind but now I see.

In evil long I took delight,
Unawed by shame or fear;
Till a new object met my sight,
And stopped my wild career.

I saw one hanging on a tree,
In agonies and blood;
Who fixed his languid eyes on me,
As near his cross I stood.

Sure, ne'er untill my latest breath,
Can I forget that look;
It seemed to change me with his death,
Though not a word He spoke.

My conscience felt and owned the guilt,
And plunged me in despair;
I saw my sins HIS BLOOD HAD SHED,
And helped to nail Him there.

Alas, I knew not what I did,
But all my tears were vain;
Where could my trembling soul be hid,
For I the LORD had slain.

A second look He gave that said;
"I freely all forgive" !
This blood is for my ransom paid,
"I died that thou mayest live."

'Twas Grace that taught my heart to fear,
And Grace my fears relieved;
How precious did that Grace appear,
The hour I first believed.

Through many dangers, toils and snares,
I have already come;
'Tis Grace hath bro't me safe thus far,
And Grace will lead me home.

The LORD has promised good to me,
His word my hope secures;
His will my shield and portion be,
As long as life endures.

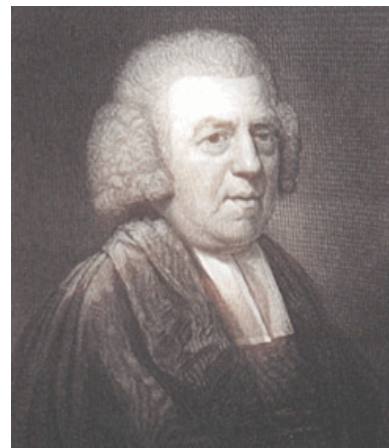
Yes ! when this flesh and heart shall fail,
And mortal life shall cease,
I shall possess within the veil,
A life of joy and peace.

The earth shall soon dissolve like snow,
The sun forbear to shine;
But GOD who called me here below,
Shall be forever mine.

When we've been there ten thousand years,
Bright shining as the sun;
We've no less days to sing GOD'S praise,
Than when we first begun !

John Newton's Epitaph

The epitaph which was written by John Newton himself and is engraved on a marble plaque located on his gravestone in St Mary, Woolnoth, UK, says:



John Newton 1725-1807

JOHN NEWTON, CLERK [PREACHER]
ONCE AN INFIDEL AND LIBERTINE
A SERVANT OF SLAVES IN AFRICA,
WAS, BY THE RICH MERCY
OF OUR LORD AND SAVIOUR
JESUS CHRIST,
RESTORED, PARDONED AND
APPOINTED TO PREACH
THE GOSPEL WHICH HE HAD
LONG LABOURED TO DESTROY.
HE MINISTERED,
NEAR SIXTEEN YEARS IN OLNEY, IN BUCKS,
AND TWENTY EIGHT YEARS IN THIS CHURCH.