

If Any Lacking Wisdom

An imitation of James 1:5

If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.

If any lacking wisdom were to ask of God--no matter the confusion and despite how much anxiety had tasked our troubled souls across the rocky span of vexing ignorance--our Father hears the plea, he sees the tears, and even though solutions do not always come as clear as all our wearing troubles seem to do, he is a freely giving God, no stone to offer to his hungry child, but peace to send. Although we may yet feel alone, in time the answers come with sweet release.

This is at least the wick on which I burn, as I await the patience I must learn.

All We Like Sheep

An imitation of Isaiah 53:6

Like sheep, like erring sheep, we go astray. Not one of us can keep the even path to God, the Son, who showed us all the way to peace, a land beyond the guilt of wrath. But none of us is righteous, not a one. Pretending well, we still misunderstand, observing much, still blinded to the sun of preservation. And the most our grand, our token motions move us we will fall again, unprofitable and perverse. We do not seek the saving God of all, but slide from best to less and then to worse. Not one can good perform, not any one but Jesus, saving Lord and holy Son.

The Eye Hath Not Seen

An imitation of 1 Corinthians 2:9-10

But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him. But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God.

In holy writ, in prophets' ink, it's said the eye with all her searching has not seen, nor has the patient ear with patience read, nor has it entered hearts both whole and clean, those glories, blanket blessings thick and full, that he our loving God has long prepared, has saved and savored till at last he pulls the heavens whole on souls whose hearts are bared in pure and simple love for him. And yet our gracious master has revealed this boon through spirit, holy washing grace, through wet and cleansing peace upon us, heaven's tune.

For Spirit searches well and fathoms deep to find in us divinity to keep.

When I Was a Child

An imitation of 1 Corinthians 13:11

To put away these many childish things my childish thoughts, my understanding dark with odd enigmas, fragmented with wings whose dropping feathers trace and hide the mark of first creation, brooding still in vast abysses, restless and obscured behind the glass enveloping both present, past, as much as I can seeking seeking find to see it face to face as I am known, no longer shards and splinters but the whole, the egg, the center core, unseamed unsewn--not these, the pebbles loosened in the shoals along this sheltered shore hid from the moon of knowledge promising the morning's soon.

Bread

An imitation of D&C 20:77

O God, Eternal Father, in the name
of Jesus Christ, thy slain and risen Son--
that we who, heavy laden, full of blame
may through His spirit find our woes undone;
recalling His weak body, frail as ours,
that long before Golgotha's final trial
had passions known, disease, fatiguing hours,
the strains all human flesh must know awhile;
that we His name may take into our lives
as emptied Jesus did His father's breath;
that He, His words obeyed, may us revive
as His commands insure our souls from death--
Bless, we pray, this sweet and saving bread,
for we shall live who but for Him were dead.

Wine

An imitation of D&C 20:79

As human life is held in bloody flow
that pulses in its circuit, keeps us whole,
so this, our Savior's flowing life we know
as we partake the water of His soul.
Confirm, oh God, the blessing of this cup,
and let our thoughts recall the solemn deed
when Jesus for our sins was offered up:
the sacramental one who bows, who bleeds!
Our spirit minds flow back to staunch each wound
that each we gave unto the suffering Son.
We cannot help to ebb the Savior's swoon,
yet hoping help, find mercy newly won.
 What swallowed in an instant and is gone,
 endures in hearts that holy blood makes strong.

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