

The Invitation of the Gospel

Isaac Watts, Hymns and Spiritual Songs

Watt's Original Text:

Let every mortal ear attend,
And every heart rejoice;
The trumpet of the gospel sounds
With an inviting voice.

Lo! all ye hungry, starving souls.
That feed upon the wind,
And vainly strive with earthly toys
To fill an empty mind.

Eternal Wisdom has prepared
A soul-reviving feast,
And bids your longing appetites
The rich provision taste.

Ho! ye that pant for living streams,
And pine away and die,
here you may quench your raging thirst
With springs that never dry.

Rivers of love and mercy here
In a rich ocean join;
Salvation in abundance flows,
Like floods of milk and wine.

[Ye perishing and naked poor,
Who work with mighty pain
To weave a garment of your own
That will not hide your sin,

Come naked, and adorn your souls
In robes prepared by God,
Wrought by the labors of his Son,
And dyed in his own blood.]

Dear God! the treasures of thy love
Are everlasting mines,

Deep as our helpless miseries are,
And boundless as our sins.

The happy gates of gospel grace
Stand open night and day;
Lord, we are come to seek supplies,
And drive our wants away.

#2 in the 1835 Kirtland Hymnal

1. Let ev'ry mortal ear attend,
And ev'ry heart rejoice;
The trumpet of the gospel sounds
With an inviting voice.

2. Ho! all ye hungry, starving souls,
That feed upon the wind,
And vainly strive with earthly toys
To fill an empty mind;

3. The blessed Savior hath prepar'd
A soul-reviving feast,
And bid your longing appetites
The rich provision taste.

4. Ho! ye that pant for living streams,
And pine away and die,
Here you may quench your raging thirst
With springs that never dry.

5. Rivers of love and mercy here,
In a rich ocean join;
Salvation in abundance flows
Like floods of milk and wine.

6. The gates of glorious gospel grace
Stand open night and day:
Lord, we are come to seek supplies,
And drive our wants away.