

MS Hymns for Love¹

MS Hymns for Love is closely related to MS Preparation for Death. It appears in the same manuscript notebook, following immediately after MS Preparation for Death, with continuous page numbering. It carries on the general focus of the hymns on preparation for death, namely the desire for a spiritual state in which one can greet death with peace. But Wesley bestows a new heading on this set of thirty-four hymns and restarts the individual numbering of hymns. Reflecting this precedent, we present this set of hymns as a distinct collection (retaining its original pagination).

This is appropriate, because the emphasis shifts in these hymns to focus primarily on the desire for *sanctification*, or the freedom from sinful inclinations—wrought by the Holy Spirit—so that one can love God truly. The first stanza of the opening hymn sets the tone: “O for a spark of heavenly fire / From the Redeemer’s throne / The pure, and permanent desire / Of loving Him alone!” Many of the hymns are appeals for the full deliverance that Wesleyans termed “entire sanctification” or “Christian perfection.” They are an important expression of Charles’s mature assumptions about the nature and dynamics of sanctification, reflecting both emphases he shared with his brother John and some of their characteristic differences.² A few of the hymns have a starkly autobiographical tone (see especially Hymn XXIV). Most are cast more generically as prayers that could be embraced by any reader, including the four that Wesley published in the *Arminian Magazine* during his life (see [blue font](#) in the Table of Contents).

MS Preparation for Death is the second section of a manuscript notebook (with pages 6.25 x 7.5 inches in size) that Frank Baker designated “MS Death.” The notebook is part of the collection in the Methodist Archive and Research Centre, accession number MA 1977/578 (Charles Wesley Notebooks Box 3). The transcription below is provided with permission of the Librarian and Director, The John Rylands Library, The University of Manchester.

¹This document was produced by the Duke Center for Studies in the Wesleyan Tradition under the editorial direction of Randy L. Maddox, with the diligent assistance of Aileen F. Maddox. Last updated: August 1, 2010.

²For a helpful survey of this topic, see S T Kimbrough, “Charles Wesley and the Journey of Sanctification,” *Evangelical Journal* 16.2 (1998): 49–75.

Table of Contents

I	41–42
II	42–44
III	44–45
IV	45–46
V	46–47
VI	48–49
VII	50–51
VIII	51–52
IX	52–53
X	53–54
XI	54–55
XII	55–56
XIII	56–57
XIV	57–58
XV	58–61
XVI	61–62
XVII	62–63
XVIII	64
XIX	64–65
XX	65–67
XXI <i>Arminian Magazine</i> 4 (1781): 567–68	67–68
XXII	68–69
XXIII <i>Arminian Magazine</i> 4 (1781), 117–18	69–71
XXIV	71–72
XXV	72–73
XXVI <i>Arminian Magazine</i> 4 (1781): 63–64	74–75
XXVII <i>Arminian Magazine</i> 7 (1784), 452	75–76
XXVIII	76–77
XXIX	77
XXX	77–78
XXXI	78–79
XXXII	79–80
XXXIII	81
XXXIV	81–82

Hymns for Love.

I.³

- [1.] O for a spark of heavenly fire
From the Redeemer's throne
The pure, and permanent desire
Of loving Him alone!
2. The pure desire unquenchable
Ev'n now I seem to prove,
But only Thou, my God, canst tell
If Thee I wish to love.
3. A stranger to the blisful grace
I hitherto have been:
But must I end my wretched days,⁴
And die at last in sin?
4. A sinner hanging or'e the grave,
Assuredly I know
Thy grace alone my soul can save
From never-ending⁵ woe.
5. When Thou hast wrought a will in me
The blessing to receive,
Thy hatred of iniquity,
Thy sinless nature give;

³A loose-leaf copy of this hymn is present in MARC: DDCW 6/76. It is nearly identical, with the few variants indicated here in notes. Published posthumously in *Poetical Works*, 8:354–55; and *Unpublished Poetry*, 3:207–8.

⁴DDCW 6/76 reads: “race.”

⁵Ori., “~~everlasting~~.” DDCW 6/76 reads: “everlasting.”

- [6.] Partaker of my flesh, impart
Thy Spirit from above,
And certify my happy heart
That God in Thee is Love.
7. That I in Thee appeas'd may know
The true, eternal God,
Thou didst become a man of woe,
And pour out all thy blood:
8. Travail'd thy soul, to ransom mine
To make me love again,
Nor woudst Thou, Lord, thy life resign,
Or bleed, and⁶ die in vain.
9. Vouchsafe me then the wish sincere,
The wish sincere fulfil,
And stamp me with thy character
According to thy will;
10. Accomplish'd see thy own desires,
And O, be satisfied,
When singing with th' immortal quires
I triumph at thy side.

II.⁷

- [1.] Son of the living God most high,
On Thee, the woman's Seed, I call,

⁶Ori., "σρ."

⁷Published posthumously in *Poetical Works*, 8:355–56.

Hear an Apostate spirit's cry,
Redeem thy creature from his fall:

2. Thy hatred of the hellish seed,
Thy holiness on me bestow,
Thou Bruiser of the serpent's head,
Destroyer of his works below.
3. Th' abominable thing, by Thee
The God of purity abhor'd,
O let it be abhor'd by me
Become one⁸ spirit with my Lord!
4. Thy strong antipathy to sin,
Thy sinless nature now impart,
Thy love of righteousness bring in,
And change, intirely change my heart.
5. If now in me thy Spirit stirs,
And groans th' inexplicable groan,
If now my soul the sin abhors,
Which nature hugs, and calls her own;
6. Deepen, and fix the enmity,
This contrariety to ill,
This horror of offending Thee
O may I every moment feel!
7. Thee let me still my refuge know,
Till Thee the End of sin I find,

⁸Ori., "on"; but clearly means "one."

Excluder of the inbred Foe,
Destroyer of the carnal mind;

8. Thyself the Finisher reveal,
The fatal stumbling-block remove,
And claim my ransom'd soul, and fill
Its whole capacity with Love.

III.⁹

- [1.] Jesus, my Lord, my God,
Who didst thy life resign
To buy with all thy sacred blood
This worthless heart of mine;
If now thy grace I feel,
O may I always prove
By pure antipathy to ill,
That Thee I truly love!
2. With sin and wickedness
I wage eternal war,
And all vain thoughts, and all false ways
I utterly abhor:
My heart to my dear Lord
I woud intirely give,
I woud be govern'd by thy word,
And in thy Spirit live.
3. I only live to win
Thy pure and heavenly mind,

⁹Published posthumously in *Poetical Works*, 8:356–57.

Like Thee averse from every sin,
To every good inclin'd:
O that I now with Thee
Thy nature might possess,
Thy hatred of iniquity,
Thy love of righteousness!

4. I will not let Thee go,
But wrestle on in prayer,
Till Thou the gracious token show,
Till Thou thy will declare:
And when thy will is done,
I live intirely thine,
For ever sav'd, for ever one
With Holiness Divine!

IV.¹⁰

- [1.] How can I hate what nature loves,
And love what nature hates,
Till in my soul thy Spirit moves,
And me anew creates?
Till Thou out of a thing unclean
An holy thing produce:
I then shall loath, and fly from sin,
And only goodness chuse.

¹⁰ Published posthumously in *Unpublished Poetry*, 3:220–21. Stanza 1 and a second stanza composed of the first four lines of stanza 2 and the last four lines of stanza 3 appeared in *Poetical Works*, 8:358.

2. O that the miracle of grace
 Were now display'd on me
Renew'd in real holiness,
 Created after Thee!
O might I now with joy perceive
 That born of God above
I cannot sin, I cannot grieve
 Whom I intirely love.

3. Lover of man's apostate kind,
 In me thyself reveal,
Thy nature pure, thy heavenly mind,
 Thy Spirit impeccable:
Satan, the world, and sin t' exclude;
 Thy matchless power exert,
And dwell with all thy plenitude,
 Jehovah, in my heart.

V.¹¹

- [1.] What shall I do to love Thee
 Who perfect goodness art?
Let thy own nature move Thee
 To tell my listning heart:
To Thee its pining anguish
 Its every wish is known;
In life, in death I languish
 To love my God alone.

¹¹Published posthumously in *Poetical Works*, 8:358–59.

2. Weary alas, of living
 A stranger to my Lord,
Yet still, in darkness, cleaving
 To thy most faithful word,
The blessing I implore
 The gift of righteousness,
And knock at mercy's door,
 And seek the promis'd grace.

3. Surrounded with temptations
 I for thy coming stay,
Possess my soul in patience
 And long to see thy day:
O when shall thy appearance
 Bid all my troubles cease
And crown my perseverance
 With true, eternal peace?

4. O could I once behold thee
 The joy of those above,
In arms of faith in fold thee
 The Object of my love,
With humblest adoration
 I should my soul resign,
And glory in Salvation
 Thro' endless ages mine!

VI.¹²

- [1.] Why should I live another day
Without my Saviour's love?
O take this heart of stone away,
This mountain-sin remove,
Whate'er retards thy faithful word,
And keeps me still unblest,
A stranger to my pardning Lord,
My soul's eternal Rest.
2. What can th' Omnipotent withstand,
Or cross thy sovereign will?
Thy own desire, thy own command,
Jesus, in me fulfil:
Who didst a Man of grief appear,
Who hast for sinners died,
The end of all thy sufferings here
See, and be satisfied.
3. Appear as crucified for me
The purchase of thy blood;
To get thyself the victory
Come, O my Lord, my God;
To make thy depth of mercy known
Thy Spirit now impart,
And break by thy expiring groan,
And take my broken heart.

¹²Published posthumously in *Poetical Works*, 8:359–61.

4. It must, alas, continue whole,
 Till I my Saviour see
As pouring out his spotless soul,
 As dying on the tree:
That piteous spectacle alone
 My flinty heart can move,
And turn to flesh the soften'd stone,
 And melt me into love.

5. Come then, thou slaughter'd Lamb Divine,
 Thy bleeding wounds display,
And seize to day this heart of mine
 While it is call'd to day:
A time to Thee I woud not set,
 Yet at thy cross I bow,
Restless, resign'd thy coming wait,
 And long to meet thee Now.

6. Thou art not slack to keep thy word,
 O help my unbelief,
Make haste to help thy servant, Lord,
 And end my sin and grief:
This moment, if thy time is come,
 Inspire the heavenly grace,
And take my loving spirit home
 To see thy blisful face.

VII.¹³

- [1.] O that I could but pray!
O that I could but love!
Take, gracious Lord, the stone away
The secret bar remove;
Help by thy Spirit's might
My soul's infirmity,
To wrestle for the pure delight,
The love which flows from Thee.
2. O might I look, and mourn
Or'e my Redeemer slain
And never more to sin return,
Or pierce my Lord again!
Repentance deep and true
Thou slaughter'd Lamb impart,
As crucified, appear in view
And break this stubborn heart.
3. I cannot pray aright,
I cannot pray at all,
Till vanquish'd by that piteous sight
Before thy cross I fall:
Thy hands and side reveal
Thy all-victorious blood,
And let the balmy virtue heal
My base ingratitude.

¹³Published posthumously in *Poetical Works*, 8:361–62.

4. How shall I plead with Thee?
 Assist me to declare
Thy bowels sounding on the tree,
 Thy strong affection there,
 Thy grace and fervent zeal
 By agonies divine
To save from sin, and death, and hell
 This dear-bought soul of mine!
5. This, this is all my hope
 Thy charity's excess
Shall lift the dying sinner up,
 Thy blood shall seal my peace,
 Shall wash my sins away;
 And when the power I prove,
I only live to praise and pray,
 To weep, adore, and love.

VIII.¹⁴

- [1.] Mercies, Lord, belong to Thee
 Tho' I have rebellious been,
O forgive the enmity,
 O forget the cancel'd sin,
For thy mercies' sake forgive
Bid thy pardon'd rebel live:
2. Live for deeper grief to cry
 When¹⁵ thy smile my sorrow cheers

¹⁴A loose-leaf hymn containing the first two stanzas of this hymn, titled "On Daniel 9:9–10," is present in MARC: 1977/583/32, #2. There is only one variant (noted below). Published posthumously in *Poetical Works*, 8:362–63.

¹⁵MA 1977/583/32, #2 reads: "While."

Live at those dear feet to lie,
 Live to wash them with my tears,
Live, to love, lament, and pray,
Live to weep my life away.

3. Blest with constant power to mourn,
 Thus woud I my love express,
Till my glorious Lord's return
 Brings the joys that never cease,
Saves the penitent forgiven,
Dries up all these tears in heaven.

IX.¹⁶

- [1.] When shall my grief and pain
 Thy kind compassion move?
Thou know'st I languish still t' attain
 The happiness of love:
 If Thou my suit deny,
 Out of thy presence cast,
Excluded from thy love, I die,
 I die unsav'd at last.
2. How shall I plead with Thee,
 Saviour, of sinful men?
Let thy own dying love for me
 Thy pitying heart constrain:

¹⁶Published posthumously in *Poetical Works*, 8:363–64.

The universal load,
The Cross Thou didst endure
With all the vengeful wrath of God,
To make my pardon sure.

3. That grace unspeakable
Thou only canst impart,
And by thy Spirit of faith reveal
The secret in my heart:
Ah, give me now to know
Thy life hath ransom'd mine,
And bid my sprinkled heart o' reflow
With charity divine.

4. The infinite I AM,
The Lord of earth and heaven,
Th' eternal God, the bleeding Lamb
For dear-bought sinners given,
Appear as crucified
Jehovah from above,
And conscious of thy blood applied,
My Lord, my God I love.

X.¹⁷

[1.] God in Christ to whom I pray,
Thy omnipotence exert,
Take these evil thoughts away,
Change this poor, polluted heart

¹⁷Published posthumously in *Poetical Works*, 8:364.

By the energy of grace
By the Spirit of holiness.

2. When my heart is circumcis'd,
 Emptied of the hell within,
When my spirit is baptis'd,
 Perfectly detach'd from sin,
Fervent then as those above
Thee I shall intirely love.

XI.¹⁸

- [1.] Full of sin, and void of Thee,
Lord, my real state I see,
Ask according to thy will
Thou thy own desire fulfil
Take this evil all away
Give the good for which I pray.
2. Granting my incessant suit
Sin destroy both branch and root,
All the unregenerate mind,
All my heart to sin inclin'd,
All my bent to sin remove
Cast it out by purest love.
3. Purest love, and joy, and peace
Everlasting righteousness,
All the good with Christ bestow'd
All the plenitude of God,

¹⁸Published posthumously in *Poetical Works*, 8:364–65; and *Representative Verse*, 242.

Bring into my newborn soul,
Consecrate, and fill the whole.

4. Nothing more can I desire,
Nothing less will I require,
God supreme for ever blest
Come, and in thy temple rest,
Father, Son, and Spirit come,
Seal me thine eternal home.

XII.¹⁹

- [1.] Thou, Sovereign Good for whom I groan,
Till Thou thy blisful Self impart,
Love of a dying God unknown,
Enter, and cheer this wretched heart,
And witness with the sprinkled blood
That Thou art Christ, that Thou art God.
2. I must by faith behold Thee here,
Or cannot see thy face above;
Lover of souls, in mine appear,
Be manifest as pardning Love,
And fill me with the sweet surprize
Snatch'd to my Lord in paradise.
3. For this a dying life I live,
For this I in a dungeon mourn,

¹⁹Published posthumously in *Poetical Works*, 8:365–66.

Till Thou the pure affection give;
And then I to thy arms return,
To Thee conform'd my soul resign,
And plunge in depths of Love Divine.

XIII.²⁰

- [1.] Thou God unknown
 For whom I groan;
Till the dark hour is over,
 God in Christ reveal thy Son,
Thyself in Christ discover.
2. The world thro' Him
 Thou didst redeem,
By his most precious passion
 By his agonies extreme
He purchas'd my salvation.
3. Yet without Thee
 I cannot see
My interest in my Saviour;
 Tell my heart He died for me,
For me deserv'd thy favor.
4. Bought with his blood
 O that I could
Lay hold on Jesus' merit
 Pardon'd by a dying God,
Inlighten'd by thy Spirit.

²⁰Published posthumously in *Poetical Works*, 8:366–67.

5. Thou God of grace,
 My darkness chase,
In goodness pass before me,
 Show thyself in Jesus face,
And manifest thy glory.
6. Then, then I see
 The Deity
On ransom'd sinners smiling,
 To thyself the world, and me
Benignly reconciling.
7. Thy loving son
 With Jesus one
I then shall fall before Thee
 Bold address thy gracious throne,
And worthily adore Thee.
8. Me from my Lord
 To heaven restor'd
Nor life nor death shall sever
 Crown'd with love's immense reward
With love which reigns for ever!

XIV.²¹

- [1.] Thou who givst the wish to pray,
 Supplicating power bestow,
Till Thou tak'st my sins away,
 Till Thou dost thy goodness show,

²¹Published posthumously in *Poetical Works*, 8:367–68.

Peace and purity impart,
Speak thy name into my²² heart.

2. Brightness of the Deity,
Christ, into my darkness shine,
That I may the glory see,
Thee the Light and life divine
Thee throughout my darkness prove
Pure, unutterable Love.
3. Answering to thy Spirit's call,
(After thy own will He prays)
Come, and raise me from my fall,
Plenitude of truth and grace,
Give the name, the nature new,
Give thyself the Giver too.
4. Faints my soul with strong desire
Thee this moment mine to know:
Then descend the car of fire,
Then redeem'd from all below
God, my God unveil'd I see
Mine thro' all eternity.

XV.²³

- [1.] O the lingring misery,
Saviour, of not loving Thee!

²²Ori., "thy."

²³Published posthumously in *Poetical Works*, 8:368–69.

O the endless pains I prove
Tortur'd with the want of love!

2. Love woud all my evils heal,
All I fear, and all I feel,
Draw the dire, envenom'd dart,
Angry pride, out of my heart;
3. Every appetite subdue,
Every vile affection, too,
End this cruel war within,
Quite expel the love of sin.
4. Love woud all my wishes fill,
Fashion'd after thy own will,
Make me meet to live, or die,
Give me wings to reach the sky.
5. Love woud my salvation be,
Essence of the Deity,
Fix my mind on things above,
Make me one with Him I love.
6. Come, then, O my Friend divine,
Knit my willing heart to thine,

Saviour to the utmost Thou
Give the pure affection now:

7. Now baptise my soul with fire,
Fervors of intense desire,
Such as in the Godhead glow'd,
Took the manhood into God:
8. Such as brought Immanuel down,
Crown'd thee²⁴ with a thorny crown,
Nail'd Thee to the torturing tree
Pour'd out all thy blood for me.
9. Yet unless my Lord I know,
Lost were all thy pangs below,
Thee unless I love again,
All thy blood was spilt in vain.
10. Still if my iniquity
Separates betwixt God and me,
Saviour of the sinful kind,
Call thy suffering days to mind.²⁵
11. Still if unbelief withstands,
Read my name upon thy hands,
Hear the blood that speaks for me
O remember Calvary!

²⁴Ori., "him."

²⁵Ori., "behind."

12. There thy last expiring groan
Did for all my sins atone,
Did whate'er I want procure,
More than make my pardon sure:
13. There Thou diedst for me to buy
Power at thy dear cross to lie,
Power the mountain to remove,
Power to weep, believe, and love.

XVI.²⁶

- [1.] Jesus, my soul aspires
By faith to compass Thee,
With infinite desires
To grasp Immensity:
Of all in earth and heaven
I nothing want beside,
But when my God *is* given,
My soul is satisfied.
2. Thy nature pure partaking,
To Thee in Spirit join'd
And in thine image waking
The true delight I find:
The God of my salvation
If Thou in me appear,

²⁶Published posthumously in *Poetical Works*, 8:370; and *Representative Verse*, 243.

With blest anticipation
I see, and taste thee here.

3. Yet still my Lord possessing
For more of heaven I pray,
I want the final blessing
In that most joyful day,
The intimate fruition
Of glorious Holiness,
The full, eternal Vision
Of my Redeemer's face.

4. Come then in all thy glory
The saints triumphant King,
Of all things transitory
The flaming period bring:
And lo, out of the burning
On angels wings I fly
And meet my Lord returning,
And grasp Him in the sky!

XVII.²⁷

“Thou shalt love the Lord thy God
with all thy heart.” — [Deut. 6:5].

[1.] Thou great Unsearchable Unknown
How shall I thy command fulfil,

²⁷Published posthumously in *Poetical Works*, 8:371.

Or force my faithless heart of stone
To bow obedient to thy will?

2. Unless the stony Thou remove,
Unless Thou show me Who Thou art,
Tis quite impossible to love
The Lord my God with all my heart.
3. Come then, Jehovah crucified,
The God supreme in Christ reveal'd,
And thro' thy sacred blood applied
My soul shall feel its pardon seal'd:
4. Shall truly by thy Spirit know
The God that purg'd my sinful stain,
And pay the mighty debt I owe,
And love my loving Lord again.
5. A few more days imprison'd here,
For this, and only this I live,
Till Thou the slaughter'd Lamb appear,
Till Thou the pure affection give,
6. (That purchase of thy dying groan,
That boundless charity divine)
And take possession of thy own,
And seal my heart for ever thine.

XVIII.²⁸

- [1.] What is that mysterious Name
Which faithful souls receive?
Ignorant alas, I am,
Till Thou thy Spirit give:
Fulness of the Deity,
Jesus, tell me Who Thou art,
Tell thy Father's Name to me,
And write it on my heart.
2. Who my nature didst partake,
A sharer, Lord, of thine
Me, ev'n me vouchsafe to make
Thou Character divine,
All thy glorious goodness show,
And when Thou dost the veil remove,
Then, and not till then, I know,
That Thou, my God, art LOVE.

XIX.²⁹

- [1.] Spirit of revelation,
Jehovah, Thee we own:
Make by thy inspiration
To us the Father known:
Of Jesus testifying,
His Deity assert,

²⁸Published posthumously in *Poetical Works*, 8:371–72.

²⁹Published posthumously in *Poetical Works*, 8:372–73.

His blood divine applying
To every longing heart.

2. With love beyond expression
Bless each expecting soul,
And take intire possession,
And consecrate the whole;
By thy own signet seal us
Thy permanent abode,
With all the graces fill us,
With all the life of God.
3. The Earnest, and the Witness
Vouchsafe in us to dwell,
And give the blisful meetness
For bliss ineffable;
With heavenly joy transported
We then our course shall run,
By angel-hosts escorted
To the eternal throne.

XX.³⁰

- [1.] Wretched soul, the strife forbear,
The long, successless pain,
Sink o' rewhelm'd with just despair
To love thy God again;

³⁰Published posthumously in *Poetical Works*, 8:373–74.

Seek no more the things above,
To none but loving spirits given:
If thou canst not hope for love,
Thou canst not hope for heaven.

2. Never shall I love my God,
Till God in Christ I know,
Him who bought me with his blood,
Who died to save his foe:
Never shall I cease from sin,
Till in his loving Spirit reveal'd
Jesus witnesses within,
And speaks my pardon seal'd.

3. Jesus (if I may once more
Without presumption pray)
Comfort to my soul restore,
And take my sin away,
All the guilt, and all the power
And all the nature, Lord, remove;
Save me, save me in this hour
By *bringing* in³¹ thy love.

4. Come thyself into my heart,
Essence of love divine,
Thy own nature to impart
And make it truly mine:

³¹Ori., "me."

Then I know salvation sure
I find the glorious Earnest given
One with my Beloved, mature
For all the joys of heaven.

XXI.³²

- [1.] O Love, thou sovereign Good unknown,
Anxious, I wait for Thee alone,
Before I take my flight,
Before I can depart in peace,
Or hope for endless happiness
In a new world of light.
2. Joyful I fly this moment hence
Meet for my rich inheritance,
If Thou thyself impart,
Salvation sure in Thee is given,³³
Thou art my peace, my present heaven
My God himself Thou art.
3. O Love, O God, thyself reveal
My pardon in thy blood to seal,
My spirit to restore;
Then let me then a lot obtain
Where sin, infirmity, and pain,
And death shall be no more.

³²Published in *Arminian Magazine* 4 (1781): 567–68.

³³Ori., began “I have”; “is given” added.

4. Canst Thou deny thyself to me
A thirsty soul who gasp for Thee,
 Incapable of rest
Till I thy loving nature share,
Till Thou the mystery declare,
 And take me to thy breast.
5. Now, O Thou Love essential, come,
And lo, I sink into the tomb
 With Jesus in my heart,
Secure in that great day to rise,
And mount above the flaming skies,
 And see Thee as Thou art.

XXII.³⁴

- [1.] Great God incomprehensible,
Unless Thou dost thyself reveal
 Thee we can never know,
Can never see without thy light,
Or how to worship Thee aright,
 Or what to Thee we owe.
2. But Thou hast told us in thy word,
And certified thro' Christ the Lord
 That Thou our Father art
Thy Spirit doth thy mind explain
And cries to every soul of man
 “My child, give me thy heart!”^[29]

³⁴Published posthumously in *Poetical Works*, 8:375–76.

3. I woud; but want the power to give
Unless I previously receive
 The blessing from above,
The wisdom peaceable and pure,
The knowlege of salvation sure,
 The faith that works by love.
4. Help me with eyes of faith to see
Jehovah bleeding on the tree
 For guilty worms t' atone,
Thy love for all mankind to buy,
Th' eternal God, the Lord most high,
 Thy Fellow, and thy Son.
5. Thy dying love in me reveal,
And when the sprinkled blood I feel
 I know Thee who Thou art,
My loving Father and my God,
I thank Thee for the grace bestow'd,
 I give Thee all my heart.

XXIII.³⁵

- [1.] Dost Thou require a feeble worm
To touch the sky, t' arrest the storm,
 The mountain to remove?
Dost Thou command what cannot be
That, thy apostate creature, Thee
 I shoud intirely love?

³⁵Published in *Arminian Magazine* 4 (1781), 117–18.

2. Have I ability t' obey,
I woud not, Lord, one moment stay:
 But O, compel'd I own,³⁶
Forc'd by ten thousand efforts vain,
There is no power in fallen man
 To love a God unknown.
3. The power must then from Thee proceed
If Thee I even love indeed,
 The thing thy laws injoin
Thy Spirit must in me fulfil,
Who ask, according to thy will
 The precious grace divine.
4. If all who will receive it, may,
I humbly for the blessing pray,
 To poorest beggars given,
With strength of infinite desire
Thy only love do I require
 Of all in earth, or heaven.
5. What shall I say my suit to gain?
Father, regard that heavenly Man,
 Who groan'd on Calvary,
Who paid my ransom on the cross,
And ever lives to plead my cause,
 And ask thy love for me.

³⁶Ori., "am."

6. In honor of a suppliant God,
The gift He purchas'd with his blood
 Father, on me bestow
That loving Thee with all my heart,
And thus made ready to depart,
 I to thy arms may go.

XXIV.³⁷

- [1.] Before my soul and body part,
 Saviour, to part my sin and me,³⁸
Thy love's omnipotence exert,
 And re-unite my soul to Thee:
2. Thou knowst, for more than seventy years
 I have for thy salvation stay'd,
And leaving now the vale of tears,
 I mourn the blessing still delay'd.
3. Broke off from Thee,³⁹ by passion griev'd,
 Born to lament and suffer I
A stranger to thy love have liv'd;
 And must I, Lord,⁴⁰ a stranger die?
4. I must; unless thy yearning heart
 With pure, spontaneous love or'eflow,
Unless thy nature Thou impart,
 Whose blood was shed⁴¹ to save thy foe.
5. My hope I ground on this alone,
 Thou never canst forget that tree,

³⁷A loose-leaf copy of this hymn (with some revisions, noted here) is also present at MARC: MA 1977/583/32, #18. Published posthumously in *Poetical Works*, 8:377–78.

³⁸The first two lines of MA 1977/583/32, #18 read:

 Before I from the body part,
 O woudst Thou part my sin and me;

³⁹MA 1977/583/32, #18 has “God” instead of “Thee.”

⁴⁰MA 1977/583/32, #18 has “now” instead of “Lord.”

⁴¹MA 1977/583/32, #18 reads “Who shedst thy blood.”

Where MERCY groan'd his final groan,
Where LOVE himself expir'd for me.

6. Me to redeem from sin and hell,
Thou didst thy precious life resign,
My pardon in thy blood to seal,
And God and man again to join.
7. To buy for me th' uniting grace,
That I, to holiness restor'd,
Might in the arms of faith embrace,
And live one spirit with my Lord:
8. That I th' habitual, pure delight
Might in that vital union prove,
And comprehend the depth, and height,
And length, and breadth of Dying Love!

XXV.⁴²

“God would have all men to be saved.”
— [1 Tim. 2:4].

- [1.] If willing to save All Thou art,
Thou must be willing to save me;
Yet, if Thou dost not love impart,
To raise the dead, it cannot be.
2. Thee without love I cannot know,
I cannot taste thy blessings given:
Love is the life of saints below,
Love is the life of saints in heaven.

⁴²Published posthumously in *Poetical Works*, 8:378–79.

3. Innocent Love! it doth no ill,
 But truly thy commands obeys,
And leads us to thy holy hill
 Thro' peaceful paths, and pleasant ways.
4. Love only doth our souls secure
 From anger, and desire, and pride,
And by this crown of grace mature
 The perfect law is satisfied.
5. O were it pour'd into my heart,
 O could I now to love begin,
This moment the first act exert,
 And cease, this moment cease from sin!
6. Redeemer of the sinful kind,
 If Thou hast given thyself for me,
Found in thy heart, O may I find
 Salvation, life, and love in Thee!
7. Accomplishing thine own desire
 To have thy ransom'd creature blest,
With charity divine inspire,
 And take possession of my breast:
8. So shall I, Lord, to all proclaim,
 In earth beneath, or heaven above,
There is no other saving name,
 There is no other God but LOVE!

XXVI.⁴³

- [1.] The knowledge of thy love
 O how shall I attain?
Its excellence is far above
 The reach of fallen man:
 For more than seventy years
 I for the bliss have pined,
And sought with ceaseless prayers and tears
 What I could never find.
2. Tremendous God unknown,
 Hath thy severe decree
Rejected as perdition's Son,
 And sternly pass'd by me;
 The saving grace with-held,
 That left to Satan I
By thy resistless will compel'd,
 Might sin, despair, and die?
3. Blasphemous thought, away,
 As hell itself abhor'd!
Thy attributes the lie gainsay,
 Thy nature, and thy word;
 Thy oath forbids my fears,
 And comforts all that grieve,
Thy bloody sweat, thy cries and tears,
 Thy death would have me live.

⁴³Published in *Arminian Magazine* 4 (1781): 63–64.

4. Woud have me love my God,
 Who lov'd the world so well:
Surely I then the grace bestow'd,
 The purchas'd bliss shall feel:
 Thou wilt the bliss confer
 Before I hence depart,
And the abiding Comforter
 Shall take up all my heart.

XXVII.⁴⁴

- [1.] When, O my Saviour, shall I find
 Planted in me thy heavenly mind?
 When wilt Thou make me as Thou art,
 Lowly, and meek, and pure in heart?
2. Till with thy mind and Spirit blest,
 I cannot enter into rest,
 Rest to my soul I cannot know,
 Till fashion'd like my Lord below.
3. Thou man of grief Thou man of love,
 This wrath, desire, and pride remove,
 My nature by thy own expel,
 And in my soul for ever dwell.
4. Thou knowst for this alone I live,
 Thy spotless image to retrieve,
 With peace, and wisdom from above,
 With gentle, chast, and humble love.

⁴⁴Published in *Arminian Magazine* 7 (1784), 452.

5. O Love, essentially Divine
I nothing want, when Thou art mine:
Substantial Holiness Thou art,
And God inhabiting the heart.
6. Come then to vindicate thine own,
And fix in me thy lavish throne,
Thyself my whole salvation be,
My heaven thro' all eternity.

XXVIII.⁴⁵

- [1.] A man of misery and sin,
Of lips, and life, and heart unclean,
The glorious God of purity,
Unholy, I can never see;
2. Unless, while at the point to die,
I to the open Fountain fly,
And wash off all my guilty load
Implung'd in my Redeemer's blood.
3. What but thy hallowing blood could cleanse
This deep, original offence,
This foul impediment remove
And fill my sprinkled heart with love?
4. Sure of thy dying love to me,
Saviour, my heart shall cleave to Thee,
I must, if love my heart constrain
Salvation, and perfection gain.

⁴⁵Published posthumously in *Poetical Works*, 8:381–82.

5. Love only doth thy law fulfil,
The chosen heirs of glory seal,
My spirit to Thyself unite,
And fit me for the Blisful Sight.
6. Come, Lord, with love my soul inspire,
And then possess of my desire,
I feel the glorious Earnest given
Made meet for all the joys of heaven.

XXIX.⁴⁶

“Thou lovest righteousness, and hatest
iniquity.” — Psalm 68.⁴⁷

- [1.] O when shall I thy spotless mind,
Thy pure, implanted nature feel,
Continually to good inclin'd,
Continually averse from ill?
2. Restore me to my first estate,
Renew me, Saviour, from above
And sin I perfectly shall hate
And Thee I perfectly shall love.

XXX.⁴⁸

- [1.] O Jesus, prove thy Name on me,
In life, in death my Saviour be;

⁴⁶Published posthumously in *Poetical Works*, 8:382.

⁴⁷The citation is clear in the manuscript, but incorrect; the verse quoted is Ps. 45:7.

⁴⁸Published posthumously in *Poetical Works*, 8:382–83.

Me from my bosom-sin avert,
And change the bias of my heart.

2. I mourn my heart to ill inclin'd
My will corrupt, my carnal mind;
Ah!⁴⁹ who its enmity shall slay,
And tear me from myself away?
3. This strong propensity to sin
Which still I groan to feel within,
What but thy nature can remove,
Thou God of holiness and love?
4. Me, for thy truth and mercy's sake,
Partaker of thy nature make,
My longing soul with love inspire,
And then my loving soul require.

XXXI.⁵⁰

- [1.] Give me love, and let me die,
Happy die, or happy live,
Live thy Name to glorify
Die thy fulness to receive:
Thou the Potter, I the Clay,
I thy only will obey.
2. By thy most benign command
Bound I am my God to love:

⁴⁹Ori., "And."

⁵⁰Published posthumously in *Poetical Works*, 8:383.

Who against thy will can stand?
Mountains at thy word remove,
Stone is turn'd to flesh, and I
With thy dear command comply.

3. Now the pretious grace impart,
Now the promis'd good bestow,
Pour thy love into my heart,
Let it all my soul or'eflow,
Love which none can comprehend,
Without bound, and without end.
4. Then, without a wish, I wait
Till my change appointed come
Till the ministers of fate
Bear my ready spirit home
All thy plenitude to prove
Lost in an abyss of Love.

XXXII.⁵¹

- [1.] Thy Servant ready to depart,
Jesus, to Thee for help I cry,
The virtue of thy Name exert,
Or saved so long, in sin I die.
2. Preserv'd by my redeeming Lord
In twice ten thousand conflicts past,
Unless thy help Thou still afford,
I faint, and perish in the last.

⁵¹Published posthumously in *Poetical Works*, 8:384–85; and *Representative Verse*, 243–44.

3. If thro' thy strength I have run well,
And almost won the doubtful race,
Most sensibly my want I feel
Of more, of persevering grace.
4. The countless storms of life brought thro',
If Thou refuse my heart's desire,
Justly forsook, the land I view,
And shipwreck'd in the port expire.
5. I cannot to the end endure,
Unless the patience Thou bestow,
And make my latest footsteps sure,
And with me thro' the valley go:
6. But jealous of myself, I hope
Thou wilt my Guide and Keeper be,
My weak, defective faith fill up,
And to the end remember me.
7. Throughout my life, of death afraid,
Yet, Lord, in Thee I still confide;
On Thee my trembling soul is stay'd
Who hast for me both lived and died:
8. Thou wilt, I stedfastly believe,
My Saviour to the utmost prove,
And to thyself in death receive
The purchase of thy dying love.

XXXIII.⁵²

- [1.] Prone to ill, averse from Good,
Plagued by passions unsubdued,
My continual want of grace
Need I, Lord, to Thee confess?
2. Grace if Thou forbear to give,
Me if Thou one moment leave,
Well Thou knowst, I surely shall
Into sin that moment fall.
3. This alas, I always feel,
Till Thou dost the plague expel,
Stay the foes Thou dost controul,
Change the bias of my soul:
4. Make me thro' thy wondrous Name
The reverse of what I am,
Copy true of what Thou art,
Lowly, meek, and pure in heart;
5. To thy only will resign'd
One with Thee in heart and mind:
Then matur'd for joys above
Swallow up my soul in LOVE.

XXXIV.⁵³

- [1.] Fain woud I see a few good days,
Before I cease on earth to breathe,
Woud taste the sweetness of thy grace,
And sink into the arms of death.
- [2.] My soul with infinite desire
Pants for the hidden things above;

⁵²Appears also (with an additional stanza) in MS Miscellaneous Verse 1786, 18. Published posthumously in *Poetical Works*, 8:385.

⁵³Published posthumously in *Poetical Works*, 8:385–86.

What is it, Lord, my hopes require
But the experience of thy love?

- [3.] Thy love which did my soul redeem,
To this poor, dying worm be given,
Be here my happiness supreme,
And antedate the days of heaven.
- [4.] Ah grant me first the rapt'rous powers
Of that eternal world to taste,
And then cut short my *happy* hours,
And give me then to breathe my last.