



My Faith Has Found a Resting Place



"My faith has found a resting place - not in device nor creed;
I trust the Everliving One - His wounds for me shall plead.

"Enough for me that Jesus saves - this ends my fear and doubt;
a sinful soul I come to Him - He'll never cast me out.

"My heart is leaning on the Word - the written Word of God:
salvation by my Savior's name - salvation thru His blood.

"My great Physician heals the sick, the lost He came to save;
for me His precious blood He shed, for me His life He gave.

"I need no other argument, I need no other plea;
it is enough that Jesus died, and that He died for me."

"I am not ashamed, for I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep what I have committed to Him until that Day." - 2 Timothy 1:12

"I am the Way, the Truth and the Life; no man comes to the Father except by Me." - John 14:6

The author of today's hymn is listed as Lidie H. Edmunds in my hymnbook, which was the pen name for Eliza Edmunds Hewitt, who also wrote "More About Jesus," "Sunshine in My Soul" and "When We All Get to Heaven."

Eliza Hewitt was born on June 28, 1851 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. She became a teacher, but soon suffered a serious spinal injury when a student struck her with a heavy slate. Eliza was an invalid for a long time, but she turned her attention to writing hymns. "My Faith Has Found a Resting Place" was published in 1891 in a book "Songs of Joy and Gladness," and put to the tune of a Norwegian folk melody.

Paul urged the Corinthian believers to examine their faith, because some were falling away from the truth of the gospel and drifting toward more sinful lifestyles. In 2 Corinthians 13:5 he challenges them in this way:

"Examine yourselves to see if you are in the faith; examine yourselves! Or do you not recognize this about yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you - unless indeed you fail the test?"

The text of today's hymn raises some important questions - In this age of tolerance, are there still any absolute truths? On what basis will we stand before a Holy God when this life ends? Can we - and do we - trust in the Everliving One whose death on the cross paid the penalty

for our sin and reconciled us to God? Are we willing to confess that our faith is in Christ as the only Savior of the world? (John 3:16). Do we rest in the knowledge that Jesus' sacrifice was "enough" and that we are secure in His assurance of our salvation?

Have we acknowledged our sin, as defined in the written Word of God? Do we believe that the Bible is without error, and is our guide for knowing God and living in a way that pleases Him? In times of trial and suffering, can we cast our fears and doubts upon Him and trust in His sovereign and loving care?

Do we find ourselves at a loss for answers when confronted by arguments against the truth we claim to believe? Oftentimes challenges to the veracity of Scripture are voiced by people who have never read the Bible or truly considered its claims with an open mind and heart. They may simply be repeating thoughts of others who are ready to dismiss the real truth and accept lies that are more agreeable to their sinful natures.

Paul describes such people in Romans 1:16-19, where he says, "I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, 'But the righteous man shall live by faith.' For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men who suppress the truth in unrighteousness because that which is known about God is evident within them, for God made it evident to them."

The fourth verse refers to "My Great Physician," which is how Jesus presented Himself in Luke 5:31-32. We all need His healing hand in so many aspects of our lives. Sometimes our need may be physical, or something of a more spiritual nature. But whatever our "sickness" may be, we can turn to the great Physician who knows our struggles and wants us to cast our cares upon Him.

Our greatest need, of course, is a spiritual one. As we approach the Easter season, it is of utmost importance to examine our faith, as Eliza Hewitt expresses so well. We are surrounded by all kinds of devices and creeds, and many people would agree that all religions lead to the same outcome, as long as we "have faith." But where does our faith rest ultimately?

The ultimate answer for the Christian is found in 1 Peter 2:24, which reads, "He Himself bore our sins in His body on the cross, so that we might die to sin and live to righteousness; for by His wounds you were healed." May we find true healing for our souls as we take these words to heart and rest our faith in Him.