



grenepages

Issue 18

HEAVEN

on earth



GLORY **i am HEALED** **pay THE PRICE**
your ROAD, your GOLD the joy of SEPARATION 3
two kinds of RIGHTEOUSNESS

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18th word

the
joy
of

SEPARATION

3

22



your
ROAD,
your
GOLD

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GLORY

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I am right here on earth, but I can feel heaven's presence. I can be here, right here on earth but I live like a king, a son of the Most High.

Yes, the world may be full of corruption, but I have been re-born to live a life of RIGHTEOUSNESS; a life of GLORY. There are outbreaks of diseases here and there, but I AM HEALED. I live above diseases and sicknesses.

Nothing compares to this way of life. I will PAY

THE PRICE, look beyond THE ROAD, to lay hold of MY GOLD, which is laid up for me, not just when I get there, but here right now, as laid up by my father.

In this edition of *grenepages*, we testify of THE JOY OF SEPARATION as we experience HEAVEN OF EARTH.

Come join us...

Tobi Olowookere

my
THE
PRICE

two
kinds
of
RIGHTEOUSNESS

I
Am
HEALED

HEAVEN
On
earth

4

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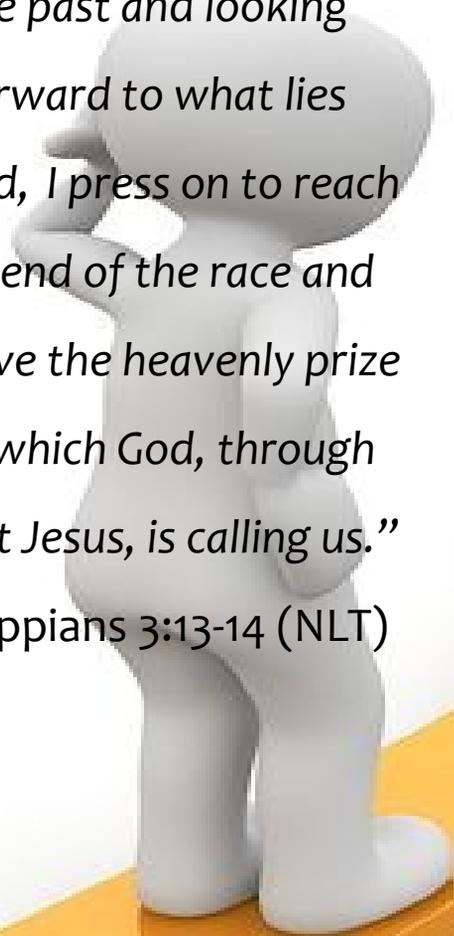
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**Ministering
Rhythms**
Joan Abimbola
[steriningrhythms.wordpress.com](https://ministeringrhythms.wordpress.com)

“No, dear brothers and sisters, I have not achieved it, but I focus on this one thing: Forgetting the past and looking forward to what lies ahead, I press on to reach the end of the race and receive the heavenly prize for which God, through Christ Jesus, is calling us.”
Philippians 3:13-14 (NLT)



Isn't it so

Not all that glitter is gold

Focus on your road

Stay true to your own

Chase your purpose

Work your seeds to growth

Challenges will shoot their arrows

With your shield, be ready and bold

Set high goals

Bring not your values low

Distractions will throw their stones

Be unbeatable and let it show

**Build the talents that unfold
Be extraordinary like it's never been told
Build your character also
Be strong yet soft as rose**

**Some things are never to be sold
Your joy, passion and soul
On the mountain or in valley low
Never let your spirit go cold**

**Those who patiently go
Ever trusting in the God on the throne
Those who live their lives so
Good success awaits, this I know**



ROAD
your
GOLD
your



Teq-Wai
Toyin Seth-Ogungbe

<http://toyeenmakogungbe.blogspot.com/>

HEA

We desire to save
what we can of
what is left in
every place we go
by giving hope,
birthing smiles
and hopefully
changing one life
at a time.

She was familiar with the pain of loss, as she had watched her siblings die in her arms when the terrorists, leaving only her, attacked her village. Her parents had died earlier in the year. Unsure of the next meal many times before the coming of the aid workers, afraid of reprisal attacks, and no longer certain how she looked, she walked out of her refugee home desiring to experience the sun a little and see familiar faces.

Every morning since they came, she had watched the Caucasian woman and her team everyday do the same thing, brace the odds, probably leaving their comfortable lives to make them meals, offering smiles, hope and ensuring they are catered for. It did not make any sense to her why anyone will leave their great lives to subject themselves to such pitiful state of living. Today, she had made up her



WEN

on earth

mind to ask.

“Good morning Miss. Cara!” She said a little above a whisper.

“Good morning pretty Godiya.” She loved the way she called her name; it always brought a smile to her face.

“Why do you do it?” Godiya asked eager to understand all of it.

“What? You mean offering help?” Godiya nodded in the affirmative as Cara took a deep breath as she hoped to give an answer suited for her young friend.

“I am not sure of the right answer, or what you hope to hear, but we desire to save what we can of what is left in every place we go by giving hope, birthing smiles and hopefully changing one life at a time. Did I answer you?”

“Yes. I think I see it now; you bring heaven to our earth so we know that God is real. We see him in your smile, your strength, your sacrifice and your love.”

Overwhelmed with tears, Cara reached for the 15 year old whose life had been stolen from her, having gone through unimaginable pain and hugs her warmly as she allowed her tears flow. Never had she thought she meant heaven to someone. It changed her forever!

Some people may never hear the great messages, own a Bible and hear the worship songs that feel us with God’s presence. However, one kind deed, one selfless act of love may just be all the heaven someone may get to feel here on earth. Always realize that your reality is someone’s dream or goal. Deliberately make a difference today with the little you have!



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Tobi Olowookere

<https://gracedpages.wordpress.com>

But he was
wounded and
crushed for our
sins. He was
beaten that we
might have peace.
He was whipped,
and we were
healed!

Isaiah 53:5 (NLT)



i am

"Will you get out?" I shouted. The lady seated next to me asked if I was talking to her and I responded, "No." It was obvious I wasn't talking to her. What was not obvious, was who I was talking to. We were about the only two in the room.

It started 12 years ago. It would last for about 5 minutes every time it happened; five minutes of unexplainable stomach pain. Not being able to do anything else, I would lie helplessly on the ground. It strikes anytime, anywhere.

Last month, as we prayed again, the leader declared that God had ended that stomachache of a long time. I knew it was for me. I received it by faith and believed that was the end of my 12-year-old problem. For weeks, I didn't even remember it until this last Sunday. Gradually I felt it building up again; just the way it starts. "So God didn't heal me again?" It was not the first time I would feel the pain again after being very sure I was healed. The pain kept coming back.

HEALED

What was building up this time went beyond the pain in my stomach, but also the disappointment in my heart. I felt, "So God didn't actually heal me of this plague after all."

My usual response would be to lie down, allow the pain to overwhelm me, torment me for 5 minutes as usual. It doesn't go beyond 5 minutes. "Even Paul had a thorn a thorn in his flesh. Three times, he prayed, but God didn't heal him. It seems like this is mine." With those words, I would 'console' myself.

Something was different this time. It was sudden, as quick as a flash. It felt like a great light beaming on my spirit. I understood it clearly.

"When an evil spirit comes out of a man, it goes through arid places seeking rest and does not find it. Then it says, 'I will return to the house I left.' When it arrives, it finds the house unoccupied, swept clean and put in order. Then it goes and takes with it seven other spirits more wicked than itself, and they go in and live there. And the final condition of that man is worse than the first. That is how it will be with this wicked generation." Matthew 12:43-45 NIV

So all these years, God actually healed me, but I kept opening the door for the devil when he comes back. He would make me feel God didn't heal me and I will agree. As soon as I feel the pain, I would lie down and allow it to have its course.

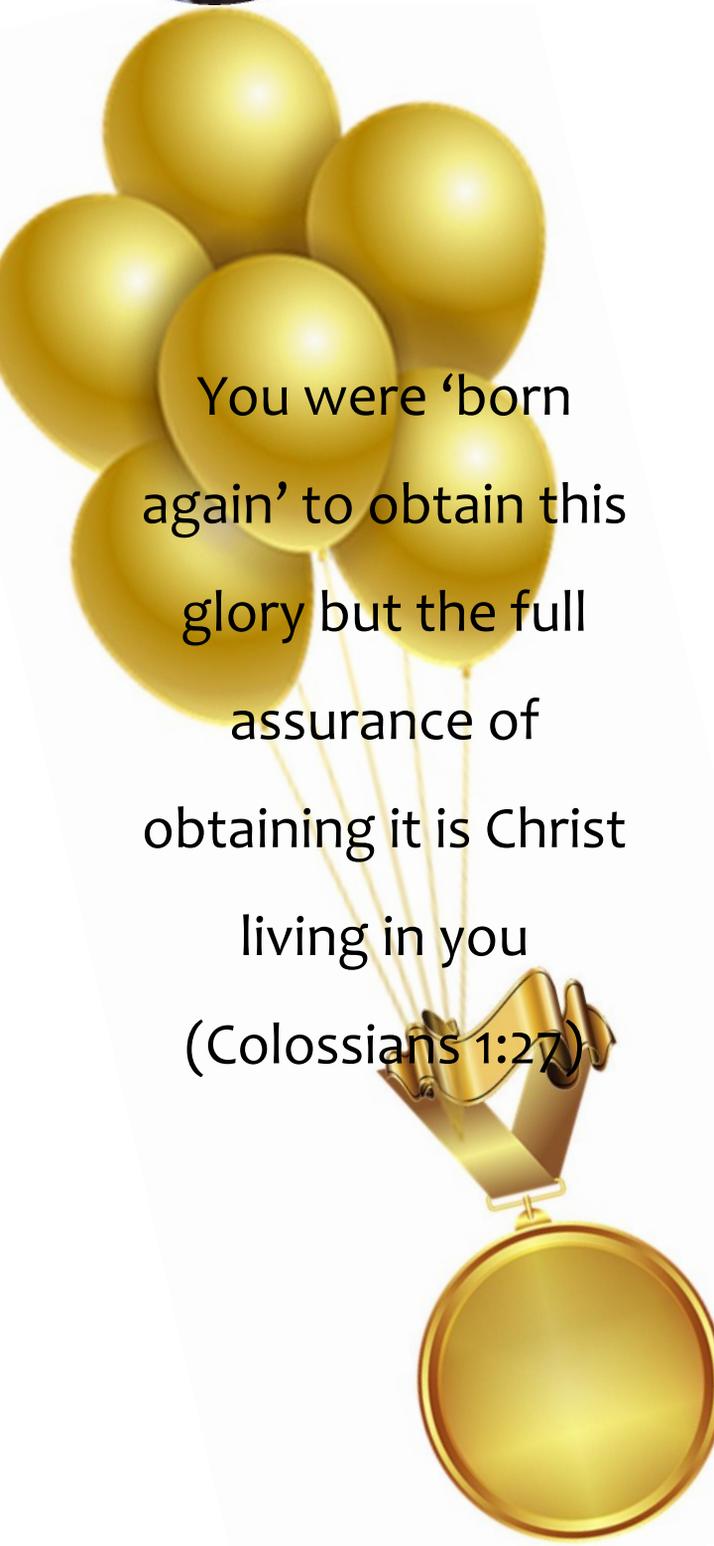
As I shouted: "Will you get out!" The pain subsided in seconds. JESU! I AM HEALED!!

Lesson One: Do you know that you are no longer sick? Are you aware you have long been healed of this disease? God has done his part. Your space is now clean and tidy. When next the devil is at your door, don't open. Don't just refuse to open, tell him to leave and never return.

Lesson Two: Keep loading your spirit with the word. You don't even have to understand it that day. Just keep feeding on it. On the day when you will need it, it will shine forth like a light.



GA



You were 'born again' to obtain this glory but the full assurance of obtaining it is Christ living in you (Colossians 1:27)

People become 'born again' for various reasons. Some took the step because they were tired of sins, fear of hell, the bandwagon effect, lure of heaven, and desire to experience the workings of the Holy Spirit. These and many more are the reasons men think they are born again. Nevertheless, you did not become 'born again' by yourself but it was God at work in you (1 Corinthians 12:3).

The reason God ensured you are 'born again' is that you might partake in the glory of Christ.

But we ought always to thank God for you, brothers loved by the Lord, because from the beginning God chose you to be saved through the sanctifying work of the Spirit and through belief in the truth. He called you to this through our gospel, that you might share in the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. 2 Thessalonians 2:13-14 NIV

Men see those reasons but the Spirit of God was at work to fulfill God's purpose. The body and mind could only attempt to interpret what the Holy Spirit was doing as those reasons. However, your spirit could understand the actual thing happening. The Holy Spirit dealt with your spirit.

GLORY

While your mind was trying to rationalize what was happening to your spirit, it attached it to a knowledge possessed. Someone who has never known about hell before would not rationalize this experience to 'escape from hell'. The mind rationalized the experience based on the information at his disposal, the feelings and knowledge acquired all along and concludes that must be what was happening to his spirit. However, your spirit understands that God was at work so that you might share in Christ's glory.

The Holy Spirit was at work to help you obtain your share in that glory and your spirit responded. While your mind was giving you reasons, your spirit was actually responding to that clarion call to partake in this indescribable glory. You were called to share in this glory. Every other thing in between are just by the way. They are bus stops on your way to your glorification. All the other things you focus on are signposts and bus stops so that you might arrive at your destination of Christ's glory. Even, fulfilling your destiny is just a path to your glorification. You living to fulfill pur-

pose are just on your way to obtain this glory.

They are means and not the end. The reason you are crossing to another world after this is to go and obtain Christ's glory.

The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children. Now if we are children, then we are heirs, heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory. Romans 8:16-17 NIV

Whatever the Son inherits, you will also inherit. If God has given Jesus his glory to inherit, we will inherit same, since we are co heirs with Jesus. We have been made co heirs with Jesus not junior partners. In law and accounting firms, they do have junior partners and senior partners. This means that the seniors have more privileges than the juniors do. However, when we say we are co-partners, it means we do not have any edge over one another.

You need to understand what God has done for you when you are born again. You have been given the same privilege due to Jesus. What he goes through, you will go through the same because

you are co heirs. A difference in privileges suggest being on different cadre. God has made Jesus the heir and called you the co heir. In other words, whatever is given to Christ has also been given to you. One vital thing Christ inherited is the glory.

You were 'born again' to obtain this glory but the full assurance of obtaining it is Christ living in you (Colossians 1:27). Dictionary limits this glory to splendor and majesty. The glory we are called to share in is more than splendor and majesty. This glory is the full nature of God (Colossians 2:9). God is a spirit, but what was bequeathed on Jesus was that in a bodily form God was fully inside him. John, Peter and James saw his glory on the mount before Jesus' death but all the apostles saw it after the resurrection.

This glory cannot be explained in details. Nevertheless, we have the first fruits of this glory. First fruit suggest the first set of harvest before the whole harvest is done. It is the first package you get. This means there will be others. First fruit suggest there will be second fruits, third fruits and so on. First fruit is simply the first out of many fruits. The Holy Spirit is called first fruit in this glory we are talking about.

Not only so, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies. Romans 8:23 NIV

And even we Christians, although we have the Holy Spirit within us as a foretaste of future glory, also groan to be released from pain and suffering. We, too, wait anxiously for that day when God will give us our full rights as his children, including the new bodies he has promised us. Romans 8:23 NLT

The Holy Spirit is also called a foretaste. The foretaste is the first taste, which you taste before the main meal. It is that little part you eat before the main meal, which makes you to anticipate the main meal. The Holy Spirit is the foretaste of God's glory coming upon us. As much as you are enjoying the Holy Ghost, he is not the main meal but a taste before the main.

Having admission into an institution does not guarantee graduation, though, the admission was granted with graduation in view. The Admission letter is not meant for display but to graduate in that course written on the admission letter. Despite being 'born again' to share in this glory, it is not a guarantee that you will share. The guarantee that you will share in this glory is Christ in you. The full assurance is not because you are born again. The full assurance is Christ in you. The assurance of being coheirs with Christ lies in Christ living in you.

Jesus laid claim that God has given him his glory before the beginning though he had to suffer many things to enter into it. Jesus suffered a lot

to enter that glory (Luke 24:26). Jesus must suffer a lot through everybody that will enter that glory. People that will enter this glory must suffer many things. To suffer a lot does not translate to hunger or lack. It means to go through things that hitherto you would not have gone through. It is passing through experiences you will not have passed through if you have your way.

If Jesus had his way, he will not die on the cross. He begged God for it to be changed. After all, he could have shed his blood in another way; he could have donated his blood. However, God made sure it was that way and Jesus went through it. He passed through things he would normally not have wanted to pass through. If you must enter the glory, Christ must suffer through you to enter that glory. He will only go through those experiences by him living in you.

Before Christ lives in anybody, that person must have been crucified with him, buried with him and raised up with him into a new life (Galatians 2:19-20). If you are not dead, you cannot be born again. You must be crucified. This is different from having a church background, baptism, activities in church, positions and titles. It is about having a genuine encounter. People do many activities for God without a personal encounter with God. Have you come to that stage in your life where you are crucified with Christ?

Except the old man is crucified, the new man cannot rise inside you. Christ cannot start living in you except you crucify the former man. If the old man is still in charge, Christ will not struggle. Only one man owns a land at a particular time. The other man will only be trespassing. Jesus will not trespass. He will wait until you relinquish the right of that land to him before he takes over. Have you actually crucified the old man? Have the old man of sin been nailed to the cross. Paul said it was no longer he living because he had been crucified. A crucified person does not live. A crucified man is on the cross, no more available. The person around now is Christ inside the crucified person's body. If Smith has actually been crucified then the Smith you see is actually Christ living inside Smith's body. The task before us is to make sure that we are no longer the one living but Christ living through our bodies. If it is Christ who lives in us, then he decides what we do.

A simple check to know who lives in our bodies is who is making the decisions. Christ must take every decision we make. That is why we call him Lord; he takes the decision, not us. This includes the small matters and not just the supposed big ones. To be assured of this glory, you must do away with the you in you and allow Christ to settle in fully.



Fresh Bread
Olufemi Babalola

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I beseech you
therefore,
brethren, by the
mercies of God,
that you present
your bodies a living
sacrifice, holy,
acceptable to God,
which is your
reasonable service.
Romans 12:1 (NKJV)

Redemption is our admission letter into the everlasting life. It is free. We did nothing to earn it. It was bequeathed to us by grace. Jesus paid the full price when He died on the cross and rose again on the third day.

For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast. Ephesians 2:8-9 NKJV

All we need to do to be saved is believe in the finished work of Christ on the cross. This is the simple way every child of God became adopted. It is the general means of admission into this unending life in Christ Jesus.

Your salvation is not superior to mine. Even if you were saved through a lightning from heaven like Paul, it does not mean you are more saved than someone else who sincerely prayed the sinner's prayer.

Meanwhile, what makes the difference in our Christian experience is not necessarily how we got saved but what we do after our salvation experience. It is not the quality of your salvation but the quality of the sacrifice and investment



you are making into your Christian life. The problem with most struggling Christians is not that they were not properly saved; they are simply not paying the price. After salvation, they simply rested on their oars thinking salvation is all there is to the Christian life.

The Christian life is like getting admission into a University. The admission is just the entry criterion, there are classes to attend, tests and examinations to pass, and many assignments to be done. Your attendance to classes will often be taken. Your character will also be tested. Only then will you be awarded a degree. Moreover, if you have been in the faith, you definitely know that a lot of trials, tests and examinations will have to be passed. You will attend many classes. You have to be taught by the Lord through the Holy Spirit.

There are a lot Christians who are truants in God's school, yet they wonder why they are spiritual dwarfs. You cannot harvest from the Spirit what you are not sowing into it. Salvation is free but what we become after we are saved is not automatic. There is a price for spiritual growth.

This is the reason for the difference in our spiritual experience.

Friend, you won't automatically know how to hear God if you don't intentionally commit yourself to spiritual exercises that will facilitate it. No one automatically becomes a spiritual giant. No one is imparted with character; it is learnt, developed and acquired over the long haul of a life committed to obeying God. No one will fast for you. This is why it is useless for you to pay prophets to do it for you. The more you pay them, the shallower you will become in the spirit. No one will read the Bible and meditate for you. No one will wake up in the morning and meet God for you. You have to pay the price.

I have also learnt that spiritual age is not measured in earthly years. You are not older than I am in the spirit simply because you came to the faith five years before me. What determines your age in the spirit is whether you are paying the price. The more committed you are to paying the price, the faster you will grow.

Most of us are like Ananias and Saphirra. The scripture tells us that they withheld part of the

THE PRICE

price. It is found in Acts 5:1-3. Look at it,

But a certain man named Ananias, with Sapphira his wife, sold a possession, and kept back part of the price, his wife also being privy to it, and brought a certain part, and laid it at the apostles' feet. But Peter said, Ananias, why hath Satan filled thine heart to lie to the Holy Ghost, and to keep back part of the price of the land? (KJV)

It is true this is related to the sale of a land but we can take a cue from the statement “kept back part of the price” and apply it to our spiritual life. Most of us are keeping back part of the price. It is not that we aren't doing something but we are not doing enough. We are not going all the way. We are not fully committed. We are not doing it, as we ought. It is like a potential 'A student' ending up with 'B' because he is not doing what he ought to do to have an 'A'. Our manifestation is far less than God's vision for our lives.

We know within us the causes of the spiritual crises we are experiencing. We know that we are not as big in the secret the way we appear in the public. We are shallow yet people think we are deep. We are not praying again. We are not making time out anymore to study the word. We are no longer fasting. We don't practice what we preach. We are not paying the full price.

We are pampering the flesh. Comfort is now a priority at the expense of our spiritual sanity. We feast instead of fasting. We have become addicted to our phones and internet. We don't pray at night again. We no longer exercise faith for our healing and provision. We quietly practice the things we once condemned under the guise of maturity. What sort of maturity? We are keeping back part of the price.

It is dangerous when one has a wife like Sapphira who will help you cover your sins. Sapphira is that kind of wife who won't challenge her husband after several days of skipping morning devotion. She won't worry even if her husband no longer fast and pray in the secret. She doesn't care though she knew her husband watches pornography. She would call it a means of turning him on so he can meet her.

How many wives are privy to their husband's secret sins and they failed to cry out? Are you a Sapphira?

The end of partial or halfhearted commitment is obvious – death. Ananias and Sapphira died prematurely. It doesn't mean we would die physically. It simply means we won't attain God's best for our lives. We will fall short of the mark. We won't accomplish the reason for our creation. We will be shortchanged. We will have less than God's best. We will be that 'A student'

who ended up with a 'B' or 'C'. When we meet God on the last day, there would be a great disparity between who we ought to be and what we became because we failed to pay the price.

This is a call to pay fully the price. It is a call to give our all on the altar. We must do what Barnabas did. He brought all to the altar (Acts 4:36-37). Giving our all is the secret to rapid spiritual growth and spiritual rest. It is the key to fulfilling and completing the work that God has given us to do.

I love the Message and the Amplified translation of Romans 12:1. It says,

So here's what I want you to do, God helping you: Take your everyday, ordinary life — your sleeping, eating, going-to-work, and walking-around life — and place it before God as an offering. Embracing what God does for you is the best thing you can do for him. (THE MESSAGE)

I APPEAL to you therefore, brethren, and beg of you in view of [all] the mercies of God, to make a decisive dedication of your bodies [presenting all your members and faculties] as a living sacrifice, holy (devoted, consecrated) and well pleasing to God, which is your reasonable (rational, intelligent) service and spiritual worship. (AMPLIFIED)

This is what God is calling us to do; to make a decisive dedication of our lives to God. It is a call to intentionally subject every part of our body

and every moment of our lives to God. This reminds me of a question asked in that popular hymn by Elisha Albright Hoffman (1839-1929), **"Is Your All On The Altar Of Sacrifice Laid?"** The hymn reads,

1. You have longed for sweet peace, and for faith to increase, And have earnestly, fervently prayed; But you cannot have rest, or be perfectly blest, Until all on the altar is laid.

2. Would you walk with the Lord in the light of His Word, And have peace and contentment always; You must do His sweet will to be free from all ill; On the altar your all you must lay.

3. Oh, we never can know what the Lord will bestow Of the blessings for which we have prayed, Till our body and soul He doth fully control, And our all on the altar is laid.

Who can tell all the love He will send from above! Oh, how happy our heart will be made! Oh, what fellowship sweet we shall share at His feet, When our all on the altar is laid!

The refrain asks,

Is your all on the altar of sacrifice laid?

Your heart, does the Spirit control?

You can only be blest and have peace and sweet rest,

As you yield Him your body and soul.

True spiritual rest comes when our all on the altar is laid. We must pay the price.

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