REWORDINGS OF TRADITIONAL SONGS FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

FOR THE FOLLOWERS OF JESUS

Lyrics by Walter L. Williams

LOVE IS THE LIGHT

Look for the light,

that distant light.

If we detect it we’ll know it outright.

We can perceive with a little foresight.

A message is here for the world.

Head toward the light,

increasing light

The message appears in the evening twilight

Read all the words and then start to recite:

Love is the light of the world.

Accept the light,

the truthful light.

Get rid of fear that makes some feel contrite.

As we learn more we won't be so uptight.

Love is the light of the world.

Come to the light,

beautiful light

Come where compassion and mercy shine bright

Our spirit will soar as we gain more insight.

Love is the light of the world.

Walk in the light,

comforting light.

Seek out and cherish the right that makes might.

Create a world that is peaceful and right

Love is the light of the world.

Bring out the light,

fantastic light.

Happiness grows and it is our birthright.

When we tell others we feel great delight.

Love is the light of the world.

HYMN OF THE REPUBLIC

Jesus came into the world to help all people to be free.

He said loving one another and acceptance is the key.

The compassion in his spirit has transfigured you and me.

His truth advances on.

Glory, glory, halleluiah

Glory, glory, halleluiah,

Glory, glory, halleluiah,

His truth advances on.

If we follow Jesus’ teachings of a spiritual rebirth,

We can make a life of happiness, fulfillment and of worth.

He will bring peace, love, and kindness, making heaven here on earth,

His truth advances on.

Glory, glory, halleluiah

Glory, glory, halleluiah,

Glory, glory, halleluiah,

His truth advances on.

Jesus taught me love and kindness, live with people peaceably.

Unto others do what I would want, for them to do to me.

By forgiving everybody I can make my conscience free.

His truth advances on.

Glory, glory, halleluiah

Glory, glory, halleluiah,

Glory, glory, halleluiah,

His truth advances on.

I think about the sermons and the lessons of Jesus

If we follow his ideas we’ll make the world more fair and just.

He will guide us in our daily life to be victorious

His truth advances on.

Glory, glory, halleluiah

Glory, glory, halleluiah,

Glory, glory, halleluiah,

His truth advances on.

Jesus said don’t be judgmental, you should love your enemy

He said share our wealth with others and treat all respectfully.

Don’t be angry with your neighbor and avoid hypocrisy.

His truth advances on.

Glory, glory, halleluiah…. Glory, glory, halleluiah,

Glory, glory, halleluiah, His truth advances on.

JESUS LOVES THE LITTLE CHILDREN

Jesus loves the little children…. All the children of the world.

Red and yellow, black and white… All are precious in his sight.

Jesus loves the little children of the world.

Jesus embraces all the children…. All the children of the world.

For all others you should do… As you wish them do to you,

That’s the Golden Rule for people of the world.

Jesus cares for all the children…. All the children of the world.

Love for everyone is best…. Live in peace and happiness.

And enjoy the happy children of the world.

Jesus wants all little children… All the children of the world,

To be careful what you do…. Live as Jesus wants you to.

Jesus loves the little children of the world.

Jesus really loves each one of us…. He loves us just the way we are.

Every day, right now and here…. Keep our hearts so full of cheer.

Jesus loves each one of us the way we are.

Jesus loves the little children…. All the children of the world.

Red and yellow, black and white… All are precious in his sight.

Jesus loves the little children of the world.

JOY TO THE WORLD

Joy to the world, for peace to come…. Let earth receive the love.

Let every heart, prepare it room…. So everyone can sing….

So everyone can sing…. So every, every one can sing.

Joy to the world, for peace to reign…. Let all people employ.

In fields and floods… rocks, hills and plains…. Repeat the sounding joy….

Repeat the sounding joy…. Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

No more let pain and sorrows grow…. No thorns infest the ground.

Love comes to make… All blessings flow…. To make all blessings flow….

To make all blessings flow…. To make, to make, all blessings flow.

Peace rules the world with truth and grace…. And makes the nations prove,

The glories of, all righteousness…. And wonders of all love….

And wonders of all love…. And wonders, and wonders, of all love.

JESUS LOVES ME

Jesus loves me, this I know…. For his teachings tell me so.

Little ones to him belong…. They are weak but he is strong.

Yes, Jesus loves me…. Yes, Jesus loves me…. Yes, Jesus loves me.

His teachings tell me so.

Jesus loves all those on earth…. Every person from their birth.

We must do the same to all…. If we follow his great call.

Yes, Jesus loves me…. Yes, Jesus loves me…. Yes, Jesus loves me.

His teachings tell me so.

Love each other as he did…. Help the poor and invalid.

Don’t judge others or we’ll find…. We ourselves get judged divine.

Yes, Jesus loves me…. Yes, Jesus loves me…. Yes, Jesus loves me.

His teachings tell me so.

Treat all people with respect…. Hold prejudice and hate in check.

Bless-ed is the peacemaker…. No more strife and war incur.

Yes, Jesus loves me…. Yes, Jesus loves me…. Yes, Jesus loves me.

His teachings tell me so.

He said unto others do…. What we wish for me and you.

If we spread joy and allow.... Heaven is within us now.

Yes, Jesus loves me…. Yes, Jesus loves me…. Yes, Jesus loves me.

His teachings tell me so.

ROCK OF AGES

Rock of Ages, cleft for me…. Let me hide myself in Thee.

Let the water and the land…. Help me gain fulfillment and…

With compassion as the cure…. Give me joy and make me pure.

Keep me from anger and greed…. Help me not make stupid deed.

These for sure bring misery…. Make life wretched all for me.

It will be no accident…. Bring me peace and good content.

Nothing in my hand I bring…. Simply to the Rock I cling.

I must all my torments face…. Helpless, look inside for grace.

I will purposefully strive…. Make good cause while I’m alive.

Help make kindness commonplace…. Build the world a better place.

When I draw my fleeting breath…. When my eyes shall close in death.

I’ll be happy, though alone…. As I soar to worlds unknown.

Rock of Ages, cleft for me…. Let me hide myself in Thee.

AMAZING GRACE

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound…. That saved someone like me.

I once was lost, but now am found…. Was blind, but now I see.

I lived within a world of fear…. Jesus my fear relieved.

How precious did his grace appear…. The hour I first believed.

Through many dangers, toils and snares…. I have already come.

It’s Jesus brought me safe thus far…. His teachings I draw from.

He always promised good for me…. His love my hope secures.

He will my shield protector be…. As long as life endures.

But when this flesh and heart shall fail…. And mortal life will cease.

I shall possess, within myself… Feelings of joy and peace.

And if the earth should melt like snow…. The moon no longer shine.

Still, Jesus’ teachings I will know…. They’ll be forever mine.

If I could live ten thousand years…. Bright shining as the sun.

I’d never sing his praise enough…. Than when I first begun.

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound…. That saved someone like me.

I once was lost, but now am found…. Was blind, but now I see.

WHAT A FRIEND WE HAVE IN JESUS

What a friend we have in Jesus…. Knowing he is here to care.

What a privilege he can help with…. Every problem, thought, or dare.

Oh, what peace we often forfeit…. Oh, what needless pain we bear.

All because we do not carry…. Everything to him in prayer.

Have we trials and tribulations?... Is there trouble anywhere?

We will never be discouraged…. If we say it all in prayer.

Can we find a friend so faithful?... Who will all our sorrows share?

He can see our every weakness…. And forgive them all in prayer.

When we’re sad and heavy laden…. Burdened with a load of care,

Meditation is our refuge…. We release it all in prayer.

Do my friends leave and forsake me?... Was I treated so unfair?

Meditation can help shield me…. I will find my solace there.

Blessed Jesus, he did tell us…. Not to worry what to wear.

Nor to strive for wealth in this world…. Wealth of heaven is more rare.

What a friend we have in Jesus…. All our problems he will bear.

What a privilege we can carry…. Everything to him in prayer.

WE SHALL OVERCOME

We shall overcome. We shall overcome. We shall overcome some day.

Oh, deep in my heart, I do believe, that we shall overcome some day.

We are not afraid. We are not afraid. We are not afraid today.

Oh, deep in my heart, I do believe, that we are not afraid today.

We’re on the road to victory. On the road to victory. We’re on the road to victory today

Oh, deep in my heart. I do believe. We’re on the road to victory today.

Love will see us through it all. Love will see us through. Love will see us through today.

Oh, deep in my heart. I do believe. That love will see us through today.

We’ll all walk hand in hand. We’ll all walk hand in hand. We’ll all walk hand in hand peacefully some day.

Oh, deep in my heart. I do believe. We’ll all walk hand in hand some day.

The truth shall make us free. The truth shall make us free. The truth shall make us free some day.

Oh, deep in my heart. I do believe. The truth shall make us free some day.

And that day is coming, and that day is coming, when we’ll live in peace each day.

Oh, deep in my heart. I do believe. That we shall live in peace each day.

THIS LITTLE LIGHT OF MINE

This little light of mine, I will let it shine. This little light of mine, I’m gonna let it shine.

This little light of mine, I will let it shine. Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Every where I go, I will let it shine. Everywhere I go, I’m gonna let it shine.

Everywhere I go, I will let it shine. Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

When going out in the dark, I won’t be afraid. Going out in the dark, I won’t be afraid.

Going out in this dark world, I won’t be afraid. Won’t be afraid, be afraid, be afraid.

Cause this little light of mine, it will brightly shine. Oh, this light of mine, it will brightly shine. This little light of mine, it will brightly shine. Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Every day I live, I wanna let it shine. Everyday I live, I wanna let it shine.

Every day I live, I wanna let it shine. Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

With this light of mine, I can let it shine. With this light of mine, I can let it shine.

With this light of mine, I can let it shine. Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Search for your own light, you can make it shine.

Everyone has their own light, you can make it shine.

Search for enlightenment, you can make it shine.

It’s your light, it’s your light, make it shine.

DOWN BY THE RIVERSIDE

I’m gonna lay down my sword and shield…. Down by the riverside….

Down by the riverside… Down by the riverside.

Gonna lay down my knife and gun… Down by the riverside. Gonna study war no more.

I’m gonna study war no more. Gonna study war no more. I’m gonna study war no more.

I’m gonna put on a robe of peace…. Down by the riverside….

Down by the riverside… Down by the riverside.

I’m gonna put on a robe of peace… Down by the riverside. Gonna study war no more.

I’m gonna study war no more. Gonna study war no more. I’m gonna study war no more.

ONWARD, JESUS FOLLOWERS

Onward, Jesus’ followers…. Spreading peace and love….

All the words of Jesus… Hoisted from above.

Jesus tells us firmly… In him there is no doubt.

Love is the greatest need right now…. We’ll say this with a shout.

Onward, Jesus’ followers…. Spreading peace and love….

All the words of Jesus… Hoisted from above.

At the sign of triumph…. All prejudice will flee.

On then, Jesus messengers…. On to victory.

Hatreds and all ignorance leave…. At the shout of praise.

Brothers sisters lift your voices…. Loud your anthems raise.

Onward, Jesus’ followers…. Spreading peace and love….

All the words of Jesus… Hoisted from above.

With our voice proclaiming that…. Peace and love is best.

Acceptance of all forms of love…. Is what brings happiness.

We are not divided now…. All one body we.

One in hope and teaching love…. One in charity.

Onward, Jesus’ followers…. Spreading peace and love….

All the words of Jesus… Hoisted from above.

Crowns and thrones will perish…. Empires rise and wane.

But the words of Jesus will…. Constantly remain.

Ignorance can never win…. Against his word prevail.

We have Jesus’ teachings now…. And those will never fail.

Onward, Jesus’ followers…. Spreading peace and love….

All the words of Jesus… Hoisted from above.

Onward then, all our people…. Join our happy throng.

Blend with ours your voices…. In the triumph song.

Glory, laud, and honor…. Unto Jesus bring,

This through countless years to come…. Let all people sing.

Onward, Jesus’ followers…. Spreading peace and love….

All the words of Jesus… Hoisted from above.