

Our God, He Is Alive

Sunday AM 09/13/20

Introduction:

Psalms 111:1 Praise the LORD! I will praise the LORD with my whole heart, In the assembly of the upright and in the congregation. 2 The works of the LORD are great, Studied by all who have pleasure in them.

A.W. Dicus wrote the song "Our God, He Is Alive. Aaron W. Dicus obeyed the Gospel in the fall of 1908 at the age of twenty. At that time he made a promise to God, "If the Lord will allow me to get an education, I will use it in service to the Lord."

I) A.W. Dicus

A) Inventor, Professor, Scientist

1. Invented the turning signal in the automobile, the pencil sharpener, and the skill saw.
2. In 1910 he got married and started to do some fill in preaching.
3. Degrees include a Bachelor's of Science, eventually he earned a PH.D. from Indiana University in Bloomington.
4. After teaching science at a number of High Schools he was elected to teach science at Indiana University.
5. In 1930, he moved to Cookeville, Tennessee, to become professor and head of the department of physics at Tennessee Polytechnic Institute.
 - a. Where he trained graduates in nuclear science. It was said by those looking to hire people in that area, a Dicus student was well trained.
 - b. Specialized in atomic particles.

6. In January, 1950, he moved to Temple Terrace, Florida, to become the dean of Florida Christian College.

B) Preacher and Song writer

1. While head of Florida College he preached at a number of congregations within driving distance of Tampa.
2. Eventually a group of saints started meeting at Temple Terrace, he was instrumental in the forming of that congregation.
3. After retiring he took up the hobby of song writing. "Lord, I Believe" and "Our God, He is Alive" are two of his songs.

C) In the late 1960's and early 70's the God is dead movement had gained steam.

1. Time Magazine in 1966 had the cover of their magazine "Is God Dead?"
2. Not by accident A.W. wrote "Lord, I Believe" in 1966 and "Our God, He Is Alive" in 1968.
3. Both songs affirm the existence and power of God.

II) "Our God, He is Alive"

A) First stanza

**There is, beyond the azure blue
A God, concealed from human sight
He tinted skies with heav'nly hue
And framed the worlds with His great might**

1. Azure blue -- is a bright, cyan-blue color named after the rock lapis lazuli. It is often described as the color of the sky on a clear day

2. A God we cannot see – the Bible affirms God created all that there is in the universe.

Hebrews 11:3 *By faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that the things which are seen were not made of things which are visible.*

Psalms 33:6 *By the word of the LORD the heavens were made, And all the host of them by the breath of His mouth. 7 He gathers the waters of the sea together as a heap; He lays up the deep in storehouses. 8 Let all the earth fear the LORD; Let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of Him. 9 For He spoke, and it was done; He commanded, and it stood fast...*

3. This God knows all and sees all

Psalms 33:13 *The LORD looks from heaven; He sees all the sons of men. 14 From the place of His dwelling He looks On all the inhabitants of the earth; 15 He fashions their hearts individually; He considers all their works.*

4. The universe itself declares the very glory and magnificence of God.

Psalms 19:1 *The heavens declare the glory of God; And the firmament shows His handiwork. 2 Day unto day utters speech, And night unto night reveals knowledge. 3 There is no speech nor language Where their voice is not heard.*

B) Second stanza

**There was a long, long time ago
A God whose voice the prophets heard**

**He is the God that we should know
Who speaks from His inspired word**

1. Deals with the Creator speaking and the result of revelation.

2 Peter 1:19 *And so we have the prophetic word confirmed, which you do well to heed as a light that shines in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts; 20 knowing this first, that no prophecy of Scripture is of any private interpretation, 21 for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit.*

2. Without God's word mankind is in darkness, inspiration – God breathed, used to describe the wind in the sails of a ship
3. The prophets heard, received His inspired word.

1 Corinthians 2:13 *These things we also speak, not in words which man's wisdom teaches but which the Holy Spirit teaches, comparing spiritual things with spiritual.*

C) Third stanza

**Secure is life from mortal man
God holds the germ within His hand
Tho men may search they cannot find
For God alone does understand**

1. Germ - God holds within His hand—ability to create life, God created living beings.

Genesis 2:7 *And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath*

of life; and man became a living being.

2. Difference in a pile of dirt or a bunch of chemicals and a living being.
3. God gave us an eternal spirit, different from the physical body we possess.

D) Fourth stanza

**Our God, whose Son upon a tree
A life was willing there to give
That He from sin might set man free
And evermore with Him could live**

1. Deals with the death of Jesus on the cross.

Galatians 3:13 *Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us (for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree"),*

2. It is through the death on the cross that God demonstrates, shows, His love for mankind,
3. In order to set man free.

John 8:31 *Then Jesus said to those Jews who believed Him, "If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. 32 "And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." 33 They answered Him, "We are Abraham's descendants, and have never been in bondage to anyone. How can you say, 'You will be made free'?" 34 Jesus answered them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, whoever commits sin is a slave of sin. 35 "And a slave does not abide in the house forever, but a son abides forever. 36 "Therefore if the Son makes you free,*

you shall be free indeed.

E) Chorus

There is a God (There is a God), **He is alive** (He is alive)
In Him we live (In Him we live) **and we survive** (and we survive)
From dust our God (From dust our God) **created man** (created man)

He is our God (He is our God), **the great I Am** (the great I Am)

1. This is a bold proclamation – God is real and He is alive.

John 8:58 ***Jesus said to them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I AM."***

2. In Him we live and survive!

Acts 17:28 ***"for in Him we live and move and have our being, as also some of your own poets have said, 'For we are also His offspring.' 29 "Therefore, since we are the offspring of God, we ought not to think that the Divine Nature is like gold or silver or stone, something shaped by art and man's devising.***

Conclusion:

In 1961 Russian astronaut Uri Gargarin, first man in space said, "I see not God up here."

In 1968 Apollo 8, Frank Borman, William Anders, and Jim Lovell; circled the moon. On Christmas Eve, December 24, the following transmission occurred:

Lovell said, "The vast loneliness is awe-inspiring and it makes you realize just what you have back there on Earth."

William Anders:

"For all the people on Earth the crew of Apollo 8 has a message we would like

to send you".

"In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.

And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters. And God said, Let there be light: and there was light.

And God saw the light, that it was good: and God divided the light from the darkness."

Jim Lovell:

"And God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And the evening and the morning were the first day.

And God said, Let there be a firmament in the midst of the waters, and let it divide the waters from the waters.

And God made the firmament, and divided the waters which were under the firmament from the waters which were above the firmament: and it was so.

And God called the firmament Heaven. And the evening and the morning were the second day."

Frank Borman:

"And God said, Let the waters under the heavens be gathered together unto one place, and let the dry land appear: and it was so.

And God called the dry land Earth; and the gathering together of the waters called he Seas: and God saw that it was good."

Borman then added,

"And from the crew of Apollo 8, we close with good night, good luck, a Merry Christmas, and God bless all of you - all of you on the good Earth."