

Let God Arise

Words: Andy Gleiser

Music: Reba Snyder Miller

© 2019 Determined Hymns. All rights reserved.

***"Let God arise, let His enemies be scattered,
And let those who hate Him flee before Him.***

***But let the righteous be glad; let them exult before God;
Yes, let them rejoice with gladness." (Psalm 68:1, 3)***

My meditation of Psalm 68 launched the lyrics of "Let God Arise." The enemy of God is having his way in the lives of millions for far too long. Satan must be stopped.

I worked on this hymn over several days while sitting in the Beech Grove Public Library down the street from our house in Indiana. Struggling with the text one day, several groups of middle schoolers entered to pass the time after school let out. The more I watched them interact, listening to their not-so-quiet laughter and teenage drama, the more my heart broke. Here were the youth of America growing up with no knowledge of our God and Savior Jesus Christ. Our pop culture and national groupthink have completely banished God from the public square. Consequently, the children live in ignorance within a veil of lies spun by the enemy and enemies of God. Those wonderful teenagers in the library inspired the opening stanza.

The second stanza asks two questions: 1. *Why is the name of Christ unknown?* The answer is clear...we the church are not prioritizing the good news of the gospel. This leads to my second question. 2. *Why do we fight amongst our own?* As I watched those middle schoolers, I realized one major reason we are not reaching our world for Christ is because we waste our energies in church wars and territorial fights. Though theological and philosophical discussions are necessary, these far too often distract and weary us from our message of hope to a broken world. People all around us are perishing...why are we fighting each other?

The third stanza communicates that the church does not need to invent a new message for this late modern world. Strategies come and go, but what never changes is the power of the gospel to make new people in Christ - Let God arise and work through the preaching of the gospel!

Reba created the tune before I wrote any lyrics. For me, matching lyrics to a new tune was a unique collaboration that I believe turned out well!