

1. Oh, once I had a glo-r'ous view Of my re-deem-ing Lord; He said, "I'll be a God to you" And I be-lieved His word.  
 2. Oh, what im-mor-tal joys I felt, On that ce-les-tial day, When my hard heart be-gan to melt, By love dis-solved a-way.

3. Once I re-joiced the saints to meet, To me they were most dear; I then could stoop to wash their feet, And shed a joy-ful tear.  
 4. I once could mourn o'er dy-ing men, And longed their souls to win; I tra-vailed for their poor chil-dren, And warned them of their sin:

5. I for-ward go in du-ty's way, But can't per-ceive Him there; Then back-wards on the road I stray, But can-not find Him there:  
 6. What shall I do? shall I lie down, And sink in deep de-spair? Will He for-ev-er wear a frown Nor hear my fee-ble prayer?

But now I have a deep-er stroke Than all my groan-ings are; My God has me of late for-sook, He's gone, I know not where.  
 But my com-plaint is bit-ter now, For all my joys are gone, I've strayed! I'm left! I know not how; The light's from me with-drawn.

But now I meet them as the rest, And with them joy-less stay; My con-ver-sa-tion's spir-it-less, Or else I've naught to say.  
 But now my heart's so care-less grown, Al-though they're drowned in vice, My bow-els o'er them cease to yearn The tears have left mine eyes.

On the left hand, where He doth work, A-mong the wick-ed crew, And on the right I find Him not, A-mong the fa-vored few.  
 No: He will put His strength in me, He knows the way I've strolled; And when I'm tried suf-fi-cient-ly, I shall come forth as gold.