

# The ARNOLD Report

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Editor

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## Sankey's Story of the Gospel Hymns

By Ira D. Sankey

*What a Friend  
We Have In Jesus*

Words by Joseph Scriven  
Music by Charles C. Converse

*"What a friend we have in Jesus,  
All our sins and griefs to bear."*

Thousands have been cheered in time of trouble, and so led nearer to Christ, by this sweet and simple hymn; for very few hymns have been more widely published or more frequently sung. The author was born in Dublin in 1820, and came to Canada when he was twenty-five. There he lived a useful life until his death in 1886. The young lady to whom he was to be married was accidentally drowned on  
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## What To Do When Things Go Wrong

By Dr. Louis Arnold

*We are troubled on every side, yet not distressed . . . (2 Cor. 4:8).*

The Apostle Paul and his co-workers faced every kind of trial imaginable. He wrote that they were, troubled on every side, perplexed, persecuted, and cast down. Then he added, "Yet not distressed." That raises a question. How was it possible for him to be upbeat when

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## The Cost of Compromise

Dr. Louis Arnold

One of the devil's chief weapons is to lead good Christians to compromise in small steps. They would be shocked at the thought of committing big sins, but they are easily led to let down here and there. When this happens, they gradually become lukewarm Christians.

Satan's method is to tempt Christians to leave off prayer, to neglect Bible study, and to become irregular in church attendance. Soon bad habits are formed and they go along year after year without

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## Sheltered

We're traveling toward the sunset,  
And soon a life is past,  
One little burst of passion  
And the sky is overcast.

In a sea that's stormy  
We sail for a port unknown.  
But, oh, we see Another  
We do not sail alone.

His face shines through the darkness,  
And His voice dispels the storm  
And we know that He'll go with us  
And keep us safe from harm.

—Louis Arnold

## JUST TALKIN'



A fellowship called, The Old-Fashioned Preacher's Fellowship meets in Kentucky every other month. I fit right in to that fellowship, for I am an old-fashioned preacher. I was born a long time ago.

I remember the time when we did not have a telephone. There was no electricity in the house where I grew up, and the only running water we had was when I ran to the spring. Back then our only light was a "coal oil" lamp, and our only heat

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*Because thou hast been my help,  
therefore in the shadow of thy wings  
will I rejoice (Psa. 63:7).*

## Beneath His Wings

While storms of life are ranging past,  
And Satan's darts are hurling fast,  
I rest in peace where angels sing  
Beneath the shadow of His wings.  
'Tis here my Lord has made me safe  
Through His unchanging gift of grace;  
And though all hell, its force may  
fling,  
I'm safely kept beneath His wings.

—Ernest D. Hancock

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## STORY OF GOSPEL HYMNS (Continued From Page 1)

the eve of their wedding day. This led him to consecrate his life and fortune to the service of Christ. Though a graduate of Trinity College and a man of refinement, he chose humble duties. One afternoon he was seen walking down the streets of Port Hope where he lived, dressed as a plain workingman and carrying a sawhorse and a saw on his mission of help. A citizen, noticing that a friend recognized him, said:

“Do you know that man? What is his name and where does he live? I want some one to cut wood, and I find it difficult to get a sober man to do the work faithfully.”

“But you can’t get that man,” was the reply.

That is Mr. Scriven. He won’t cut wood for you.”

“Why not?” queried the gentleman.

“Because you are able to pay for it. He only saws wood for poor widows and sick people.”

Until a short time before his death it was not known that he had a poetic gift. A neighbor, sitting up with him in his illness, happened upon a manuscript copy of “*What a friend we have in Jesus.*” Reading it with great delight and questioning Mr. Scriven about it, he said that he had composed it for his mother, to comfort her in a time of special sorrow,



## Bit of Humor

“Who is the boss at your house?” a man who was being examined to become a deacon was asked.

“I’m the boss at my house,” he replied. “My wife has authorized me to say so.”

not intending that any one, else should see it. Some time later, when another Port Hope neighbor asked him if it was true that he composed the hymn, his reply was: “The Lord and I did it between us.”

Returning from England in 1875, I soon became associated with P. P. Bliss in the publication of what later became known as *Gospel Hymns No. 1*. After we had given the completed compilation to our publishers I chanced to pick up a small paper-covered pamphlet of Sunday-school hymns, published at Richmond, Virginia. I discovered this

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## Alone With God

I went to the mountains alone,  
Seeking rest for my tired weary soul;  
And God met my soul in the  
mountains;  
With His spirit He again made me  
whole.

He met my soul in the mountains;  
His cool hand He lay on my brow;  
And the strength and the faith He gave  
me,  
Is surging within me ‘til now.

He told me that others had sought Him.  
Out there in the mountains alone;  
They had come to the wild mountain  
fastness,  
To make an appeal to His throne.

There was Jesus and Paul and Moses;  
All these had sought Him alone;  
And they went from the wilds of the  
mountain,  
With a strength and a zeal not their  
own.

He had met them there in the  
mountains,  
He had met their soul’s deepest need;  
He had sent them back to their fellows;  
To bless them in word and in deed.

Friend, you have a need of the  
mountains;  
You have a need all your own.  
Fear not to go forth to the mountains—  
And to meet your God all alone.

—Thomas T. May

## AS I SEE IT (Continued From Page 1)

realizing that they have become backslidden in heart.

They lose their peace and joy, and they come to believe that is the normal state for mature Christians. They think that excitement and enthusiasm are for new converts. They do not realize that it is possible to be good church members without being good Christians. Nor do they realize that they have lost their testimony.

It is tragic that small compromises cause Christians to lose their lives. They continue to live, but they live for themselves. Jesus said, *He that findeth his life (lives for himself) shall lose it: and he that loseth his life (in service) for my sake shall find it* (Matt. 10:39). Jesus simply meant that if we live for ourselves, our lives will be wasted, but if we live for others, our lives will be invested.

Further, those who compromise in this manner will lose their rewards. Because they are born again, they will go to Heaven, but they will go without rewards. *If any man’s work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire* (1 Cor. 3:15). Think about it. We who are saved cannot afford to compromise.



## There Is a Reason

*And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose* (Rom. 8:28).

For every pain that we must bear,  
For every sorrow, every care,  
There’s a reason.  
For every falsehood that is said,  
For every teardrop that is shed,  
There’s a reason.  
For grief, for every trial,  
For every weary lonely mile,  
There’s a reason.  
But if we trust Him as we should,  
All will work out for our good.  
God knows the reason.

—Selected

## STORY OF GOSPEL HYMNS

(Continued From Page 2)

and sang it through, and determined to have it appear in "Gospel Hymns." As the composer of the music was my friend C. C. Converse, I withdrew from the collection one of his compositions and substituted for it, "What a friend we have in Jesus." Thus the last hymn that went into the book became one of the first in favor.

As published in the small Richmond hymnal, the authorship of the words was erroneously attributed to the great Scotch preacher and hymn-writer, Dr. Horatius Bonar. We were in error, also, in assigning the words to him. Some years afterward Dr. Bonar informed us that he was not the author, and that he did not know who wrote it. It was not until six or eight years after the hymn first appeared in our collection that we learned who the author really was.

### *What a Friend We Have In Jesus*

*What a friend we have in Jesus,  
All our sins and griefs to bear!  
What a privilege to carry  
Everything to God in prayer!  
O what peace we often forfeit,  
O what needless pain we bear,  
All because we do not carry  
Everything to God in prayer!*

*Have we trials and temptations?  
Is there trouble anywhere?  
We should never be discouraged,  
Take it to the Lord in prayer.  
Can we find a friend so faithful  
Who will all our sorrows share?  
Jesus knows our every weakness,  
Take it to the Lord in prayer.*

*Are we weak and heavy laden,  
Cumbered with a load of care?—  
Precious Saviour, still our refuge,—  
Take it to the Lord in prayer.  
Do thy friends despise, forsake thee?  
Take it to the Lord in prayer;  
In His arms He'll take and shield  
thee,  
Thou wilt find a solace there.*

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## Think Awhile!

Sinners do not need a "new leaf," but a "new life!"

A test of spirituality: Would you give as much to the Lord's work if you could not deduct it on your tax report?

God makes no mistakes! If you think He does, then you are mistaken!

You can't carve your way to success with cutting remarks.

—Selected

## In His Care

By Louis Arnold

When others fear,  
And face their fears alone,  
I'm in God's care,  
He never leaves His own.  
Though all the way  
Is like a starless night,  
To me its day  
He is my light.

When many tears  
Flow down upon the ground,  
There's One who cares,  
He'll never let me down.  
Though life be like  
A rainy, winter day,  
God is my light,  
He leads the way.

If I know pain,  
If many burdens press,  
He'll bear the strain,  
My heart will not distress.  
If all my cares  
Pile up like grains of sand,  
My Saviour shares,  
He holds my hand.

### Chorus

I'm in His care.  
He is the Greatest one.  
He cares for me,  
The Holy Blessed Son.  
Let come what will,  
I shall not fear,  
I'll trust Him still,  
I'm in His care.



## Comments We Love

At camp meeting we were told the following about the host Pastor. "My Dad was reading **Lucinda of Perryville**. He was at the point where —, and I asked, 'Do you want me to tell you what happens?' He said, 'No, I don't! I want to read it for myself'" Pastor's Daughter, Smithfield, Kentucky.

A lady remarked concerning Dr. Arnold preaching, "I could listen to him preach all day" Lady, at Camp meeting in Smithfield, Kentucky.

"I better sign up for that paper, **The Arnold Report**" Lady, Glasgow, Kentucky.

"I was saved in a revival you held in Lancaster, Kentucky several years ago" Lady, Lancaster, Kentucky.

The following quote was phoned in by my friend, Jim Renfro. "True joy is rooted in the soil of thankfulness."



# Abe Two Sez

“Getting my hooves trimmed is one of the aggravations of my life. I wish I had easy to trim nails like humans have, but I guess I couldn’t walk on them if I had them.”



## JUST TALKIN’

(Continued From Page 1)

was from a grate that burned the side you turned toward it and let the other side freeze.

I’m old-fashioned all right, and when I go to church I like old-fashioned services. I like the old-time singing and the old-time preaching we hear at The Old-Fashioned Preachers Fellowship. I like the old-time songs that put a light in the face and a joy in the heart. I like the old-time Bible that my mother read to me when I was a boy. I do not like the dozen or more modern Bibles that do not sound like a Bible when read aloud. You never know where the passage being read is coming from or where it is going. Give me the Old-Time Religion. I have a feeling that most of our readers also like old-time singing and old-time preaching when they go to church.

**The Arnold Report** has an old-time message each month. I hope you enjoy it. By the way, we put **The Arnold Report** on our web site each month. In fact we put it there before it is printed. Read it without cost and make copies of it if you wish. Type [www.louisarnoldministries.org](http://www.louisarnoldministries.org) to reach our web site.

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## SELECTED QUOTES

Keep not ill company lest you increase the number.

—George Herbert

DIFFICULTIES are God’s errands; and when we are sent upon them, we should esteem it a proof of God’s confidence.

—Beecher

They were certainly experiencing all of that, but they were not distressed. The archaic meaning of distress was “To constrain or to overcome by harassment. They were certainly constrained and

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## LOUIS ARNOLD SAYINGS

Don’t let it be your fault if somebody is derailed on the railroad of life.

The worst enemy the devil has today is the Christian who is winning souls to Christ.

If you were to die tonight, where would you spent eternity?

## CRY OF A MISSIONARY

Shall we who know the blessed truth  
To them the Bread of Life deny?  
And knowing of their piteous state,  
Still turn a deaf ear to their cry?

—Geo. R. Witte



## WHEN THINGS GO WRONG

(Continued From Page 1)

everything that was happening was downbeat?

The meaning of the word distress is “To cause strain, anxiety, or suffering.”

harassed, but they were not distressed. That means that they had victory. We too can have victory when things go wrong. Faith is our victory.

During the fourth century, Chrysostom was summoned before the Emperor, Arcadius and threatened with banishment.

He is reported to have replied: “Thou canst not banish me, for the world is my Father’s house.”

“Then I will slay thee,” the emperor threatened.

“Nay, but thou canst not, for my life is hid with Christ in God.”

“Your treasures will be confiscated,” was the next threat.

“Sire, that cannot be. My treasures are in Heaven, as my heart is there.”

“But I will drive thee from men, and thou shalt have no friends left.”

“That you cannot do either, sire. I have a friend in Heaven who has said, ‘I will never leave thee nor forsake thee.’”

Chrysostom had victory through faith. We too can have victory through faith no matter how great our trials.

—Selected “Day Starters”