

I Know Who 2Timothy 1:8-14

An Illustration

Let's take a trip. You will not know the route or the stops. No heads up on food or sleep. You will just have to deal with whatever happens as it happens. Not many would desire such a trip. But what if it was planned and guided by your most trusted travelling buddy. The one who knows more about you and what you need than anyone else. We would be more likely to take the trip in this case

That is the idea behind a song that considers the contrast of life alone and life with God. It could also be called a song of "not, but" statements. It would probably work well as a "cry and response" song.

I Know Whom I have Believed (#350), by Daniel Webster Whittle, reminds us that knowing God and trusting Him is sufficient to overcome all that we may not know.

There are some things that we cannot fully understand

I Don't Know ...

Why I Received Grace & Redemption

Verse 1 - I know not why God's wondrous grace To me He has made known, Nor why unworthy, Christ in love, Redeemed me for his own.

Some say we know God redeemed us because of our sins - **Romans 3:23; 1Corinthians 1:4**

But what caused Him to love sinful man enough to die for us - **John 3:16**

We know wife married because she loved. But why did she love? (We all know we married up!)

I Don't Know

How I Gained Faith & Peace

Stanza 2 - I know not how this saving faith To me He did impart, Nor how believing in His word Wrought peace within my heart. (Not In Our Books, in Sacred Selections)

We have peace due to our saving faith - **Romans 5:1; Ephesians 2:8-9**

Some say we know faith comes through the Word - **Romans 10:17; Philippians 4:6-7**

Develops differently in each one

How does that bring us such peace?

How The Spirit Moves

Stanza 3 - I know not how the Spirit moves, Convincing men of sin, Revealing Jesus through the Word, Creating faith in Him. (Not In Our Books, in Songs of the Church)

We know the Spirit works within us - **John 16:7-13; Romans 8:26-27**

Some object saying we know the Spirit moves through the word - **Ephesians 6:17; Galatians 3:2**

Yet many learned men through the years have failed to satisfactorily explain how this works.

What Life Will Bring

Verse 2 - I know not what of good or ill May be reserved for me, Of weary ways or golden days Before His face I see.

Life excels at throwing us curve balls. We never seem to be able to find certainty in what lies ahead or around the corner

Our great hope is to see the Lord and be with God for eternity - **Matthew 5:8; 1John 3:1-2**

Yet between now and the end we walk warily for lack of vision - **Acts 20:22**

What will happen tomorrow?

How Life Will End

Verse 3 - I know not when my Lord may come At night or noonday fair, Nor if I'll walk the vail with Him or meet Him in the air.

The question I received was concerning having confidence in our salvation, "We should know." This comes from a misapplication of the words of the song

They saw it as indicating that I do not know if I will be saved or lost

To “walk the vail/vale with Him” is the imagery of **Psalm 23:4**

The phrase is noting our ignorance of when the end will come, after my death or while I am living

Paul deals with this in his letter to the Thessalonians and speaks of the living as following the dead to meet Jesus in the air - **1Thessalonians 4:13-18**

Thus this song follows his instruction to ‘comfort one another with these words.’

It is worth noting that some see this verse teaching premillennialism. Their thought is that walking the vale means to walk with Him during His reign on earth at His return

We do not know when, but we can be certain He will return - **Matthew 24:36-37**

But I Know & Trust God!

Chorus - But I know whom I have believed And am persuaded that He is able To keep that which I've committed Unto Him against that day.

There may be some misunderstanding with the verses, but the chorus is clear quoting **2Timothy 1:12**

Philippian letter also echoes these thoughts as Paul speaks of his difficulties and how God's provision gives him strength to "press on." - **Philippians 3:14; 4:10-13**

There are few things certain in this life

It is uncertain. It will end

If I know God I need not worry about what I cannot know

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