

Charles Wesley

God, the omnipresent God, our strength and refuge stands Ready to support our load, and bear us in his hands: Readiest when we need him most, when to him distressed we cry, All who on his mercy trust shall find deliverance nigh.

Kept by him we scorn to fear in danger's blackest day, Starting at destruction near, though nature faint away, Though the stormy ocean roar, though the madding billows rise, Rage, and foam, and lash the shore, and mingle earth and skies.

Let earth's inmost center quake, and shattered nature mourn, Let the unwieldy mountains shake, and fall by storms uptorn, Fall with all their trembling load far into the ocean hurled, Lo! We stand secure in God, amidst a ruined world.

From the throne of God there springs a pure and crystal stream, Life, and peace, and joy it brings to his Jerusalem: Rivers of refreshing grace through the sacred city flow, Watering all the hallowed place where God resides below.

God most merciful, most high, doth in his Sion dwell, Kept by him [herⁱ] towers defy the strength of earth and hell; Built on her o'ershadowing Rock, who shall her foundations move, Who her great defender shock, the Almighty God of love,

All that on this Rock are stayed the world assaults in vain, Ever present with his aid he shall his own sustain: Guardian of the chosen race, Jesus doth his church defend, Save them by his timely grace, and save them to the end. Furiously the heathen raged against his church below, Kingdoms all their power engaged Jerusalem t' o'erthrow; Earth from her foundation stirred, yawned to swallow up her prey, Jesus spoke, she owned his word, and quaked, and fled away.

For his people in distress the God of Jacob stands, Keeps us, 'till our troubles cease, in his almighty hands: He for us his power hath shown, he doth still our refuge prove; Loves the Lord of hosts his own, and shall forever love.

Come, behold the Almighty Lord in robes of vengeance clad; By the desolating sword what havoc hath he made! He hath sent his armies forth, states and kingdoms to o'erthrow, Marched in anger through the earth, and ravaged all below.

Lo! Again in tender love he bids their discords cease, Calms their spirit from above, and melts them into peace; Breaks the bow and burns the car, instruments of fatal ill, Quells the horrid din of war, and bids the world be still.

Sons of men, be still, and know that I am God alone, I my saving power will show, and make my goodness known; All shall with my will comply, fear the name to sinners given, Bow before the Lord most high, the Lord of earth and heaven.

For his people in distress the God of Jacob stands, Bears us, 'till our troubles cease, in his almighty hands: He for us his power hath shown, he doth still our refuge prove, Loves the Lord of hosts his own, and shall forever love.