A

COLLECTION

OF

H Y M N S

FOR

SOCIAL WORSHIP,

More particularly designed for the Use of the

TABERNACLE and CHAPEL

CONGREGATIONS in LONDON.

By GEORGE WHITEFIELD,

Late of Pembroke College, Oxford.

AND

Chaplain to the Rt Hon. the Countess of Huntingdon.

Sing ye Praises with Understanding. Psalm 47:7.

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PREFACE.

COURTEOUS READER.

F thou art acquainted with the Divine Life, I need not inform thee that altho' all the Acts and Exercises of Devotion are sweet and delightful, yet we never resemble the Blessed Worshippers above more than when we are joining together in public Devotions, and with Hearts and Lips unfeigned, singing Praises to him who sitteth upon the Throne for ever. Consequently, Hymns composed for such a Purpose ought to abound much in Thanksgiving, and to be of such a Nature, that all who attend may join in them without being obliged to sing Lies, or not sing at all.—Upon this Plan the following Collection of Hymns is founded:—They are intended purely for social Worship, and so altered in some Particulars, that I think all may safely concur in using them—They are short, because I think three or four Stanzas, with a Doxology, are sufficient to be sung at one Time. I am no great Friend to long Sermons, long Prayers, or long Hymns. They generally weary instead of edifying, and therefore I think should be avoided by those who preside in any public Worshipping Assembly. Besides, as the Generality of those who receive the Gospel are commonly the Poor of the Flock, I have studied Cheapness, as well as Conciseness. Much in a little is what God gives us in his Word—And the more we imitate such a Method in our public Performances and Devotions, the nearer we come up to the Pattern given us in the Mount.—I think myself justifiable in publishing some Hymns by way of Dialogue for the Use of the Society, because something like it is practised in our Cathedral Churches; but much more so because the Celestial Choir is represented in the Book of the Revelations, answering one another in their heavenly Anthems. That we all may be inspired and warmed with a like divine Fire whilst singing below, and be translated after Death to join with them in singing the Song of Moses and the Lamb above, is the earnest Prayer of, Courteous Reader,

Thy ready Servant, for Christ's Sake,

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A HYMN

To the HOLY GHOST.

Extracted from the Ordination-Office.

OME HOLY GHOST, our Souls inspire, ✓ And lighten with Celestial Fire. Thou the anointing Spirit art, Who dost the sev'nfold Gifts impart. Thy blessed Unction from above Is Comfort, Life, and Fire of Love, Enable with perpetual Light The Dullness of our blinded Sight. Anoint and cheer our soiled Face, With the Abundance of thy Grace. Keep far our Foes, give Peace at Home! Where thou art Guide no Ill can come. Teach us to know the FATHER, SON, And thee, of both to be, but One; That through the Ages all along This, this may be our endless Song;

Praise God, from whom all Blessings flow, Praise Him all Creatures here below; Praise Him above ye heavenly host, Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

HYMNS

FOR

PUBLIC WORSHIP.

HYMN 1.

At the Opening of Worship.

Now may the Spirit's Holy Fire, Descending from above, His waiting family inspire With joy, and peace, and Love

Thee we the Comforter confess: Unless thou'rt present here, Our Songs of Praise are vain Address, We utter heartless Pray'r.

Wake Heav'nly Wind, arise and come, Blow on the drooping Field; Our Spices then shall breathe Perfume, And fragrant Incense yield.

Touch, with a living Coal, the Lip That shall proclaim thy Word, And bid each awful Hearer keep Attention to the Lord.

Hasten the Restitution-Day, Which now Corruption shrouds, New Heav'ns and new Earth display, With Jesus in the Clouds.

HYMN 2.

The Same.

FAR from our Thoughts, vain World be gone, Let our religious Hours alone; O may our Eyes our Saviour see; We wait a Visit, Lord, from thee.

O warm our Hearts with Holy Fire, And kindle there a pure Desire, Come, our dear Jesus, from above, And feed our Souls with heav'nly Love.

Blest Jesus, what delicious Fare! How sweet thy Entertainments are! Never did Angels taste above, Redeeming Grace, and dying Love.

Hail, great Immanuel, all Divine! In thee thy Father's Glories shine: Thou brightest, sweetest, fairest One, That Eyes have seen, or Angel's known

HYMN 3.

PUBLIC WORSHIP

Lord, we come before thee now, At thy Feet we humbly bow; Oh! do not our Suit disdain, Shall we seek thee, Lord, in vain? Lord, on thee our Souls depend; In Compassion now descend; Fill our Hearts with thy rich Grace, Tune our Lips to sing thy Praise.

In thine own appointed Way, Now we seek thee—here we stay; Lord we know not how to go, 'Till a Blessing thou bestow; Send some Message from the Word, That may joy and Peace afford; Let thy Spirit now impart Full Salvation to each Heart.

Comfort those who weep and mourn, Let the Time of Joy return: Those that are cast down, lift up; Make them strong in Faith and Hope; Grant that those who seek may find Thee a God supremely kind: Heal the Sick, the Captive free, Let us all rejoice in thee.

HYMN 4.

The Same.

Come worship at Immanuel's Feet, See in his Face what Wonders meet; Words are too feeble to express His Worth, his Glory, or his Grace.

When shall we climb those higher Skies; Where Storms and Tempests never rise; Where he unveils his lovely Face, And shines and reigns the God of Grace.

Nor Earth, nor Air, nor Sun, nor Stars, Nor Heaven, his full Resemblance bears; His beauties we can never trace 'Till we behold him Face to Face.

HYMN 5.

Invitation.

HATTHER ye Poor, ye Sick, ye Blind, A sin disorder'd trembling Throng; To you the Gospel calls, to you Messiah's Blessings all belong.

Reason's and Virtue's boasting Sons Derive no Blessings from this Tree: For Sinners only Jesus dy'd, Then sure I hear he dy'd for me.

'Twas with our Griefs Messiah groan'd, 'Twas with our Guilt his Soul was try'd; Our Punishment he took, he bore, And Sinners liv'd when Jesus dy'd.

Awake each Heart, arise each Soul, And join the blissful Choirs above: May nothing tune our future Song, But heav'nly Wisdom, heav'nly Love.

HYMN 6.

The Same.

Sinners, obey the Gospel-Word, Haste to the Supper of our Lord; Be wise to know your glorious Day, All Things are ready: come away.

Ready the Father is to own, And kiss his late Returning son; Ready the loving Saviour stands, And spreads for you his bleeding Hands.