

## Just As I Am

**Isaiah 1:18** "Come now, and let us reason together," Says the Lord, "Though your sins are as scarlet, They will be as white as snow; Though they are red like crimson, They will be like wool."

**Isaiah 55:1** Ho! Every one who thirsts, come to the waters; And you who have no money come, buy and eat. Come, buy wine and milk Without money and without cost.

A hymn which indicates a desire to come to the Lord is "Just As I Am"

(#590 Songs of the Church 21<sup>st</sup> Century Edition)

Written by Charlotte Elliot (1789-1871) of London, England

At 30 she was attacked by a serious illness which left her an invalid

At first bitter, she later improved in outlook and decided to devote her life to humanitarian interests

In 1834 while lying awake in great pain and feeling useless, she wrote these words as a poem to sell for a small contribution to benefit a girls' school. However, her sister-in-law, found the paper after returning late that night and sent it to a publisher without her knowledge. It was printed anonymously on a leaflet in 1835. Later that year, when the family doctor came around for a visit, he gave Charlotte a new leaflet which he had purchased to cheer shut-ins. Charlotte immediately recognized her own words, and, in fact, the sale of the leaflet made far more money for the school than did the bazaar. The next year, she went on to publish a whole book of verses called "The Invalid's Handbook," which contained a number of her poems, including this one. The tune (Woodworth) was composed by a well-known American hymn-tune composer of the 19th century, William Batchelder Bradbury (1816-1868). It first appeared in his 1849 collection, the "Third Book of Psalmody."

This song speaks of the submission which we must have as we come to God for salvation.

### Verse 1

*Without one plea, but that Thy blood was shed for me,*

*And that Thou bidd'st me come to Thee,*

Indicates that we must come to Christ

My excuses are not sufficient, I will not plead my case for God's favor - **Titus 3:5**

Rather, our only plea is that Christ's "blood was shed for" us - **Romans 5:8**

Therefore, to be saved we must come to Christ, & He has promised that those who come to Him He will by no means cast out - **John 6:37**

### Verse 2

*And waiting not to rid my soul of one dark blot,*

*To Thee, whose blood can cleanse each spot,*

The means of cleansing is found in Christ

We should not wait but come now - **2Corinthians 6:2**

To rid our souls of the dark spots that sin has caused - **2Peter 3:14**

Of course, the price that has been paid to accomplish this the blood of Jesus - **Matthew 26:28**

### Verse 3

*Tho' tossed about with many a conflict, many a doubt,*

*With fears within, and foes without,*

On our own we will be in constant conflict. In Christ we can overcome

All of us are tossed about from time to time with conflicts and doubts in our souls - **Galatians 5:17**

Fears and foes push us to find a way to overcome. Through Christ we can - **Romans 8:37**

David understood the blessings found in letting God remove His failures - **Psalms 51:1-2**

### Verse 4

*Poor, wretched, blind Sight, riches, healing of the mind,*

*Yea, all I need, in Thee to find,*

Our condition is one of dire need, yet the Lamb supplies all.

We are poor, wretched and blind, without hope on our own  
Sight, riches and healing are what we need - **Revelation 3:17-18**  
In Christ all these things are found in abundance - **Matthew 6:33**

### **Verse 5**

*Thou wilt receive, wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;  
Because thy promise I believe,*

We must truly believe in order to come to Christ

Jesus has promised that He will receive us because He is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of  
the world - **John 1:29**

And the reason that He came to welcome, pardon, cleanse, and relieve is because of the love of  
God - **1John 1:9**

Therefore, we must believe, and Christ has said that those who thus believe in Him will be provided  
for - **John 6:35**

### **Verse 6**

*Thy love unknown has broken every barrier down;  
How to be Thine, yea, Thine alone,*

God's Love has made the way clear and we need to come to Him.

God's love is beyond our understanding - **John 3:16**

Through this expression of love there is nothing to separate us from God - **Hebrews 10:19-22**

We need to give our self completely to Him and Him alone - **James 4:7-8**

### **O Lamb of God, I come! I come!**

**Matthew 11:28-30**

Coming to God requires submitting to His Will

No matter what our station in life, God will accept us if we are willing to submit.

No conflict or need should keep us from God

Jesus has prepared the way, we just need to follow.

Wayne S. Walker