

Fanny Crosby
1820-1915

My Jewels

Shall I hold them back--my jewels?

Time has travelled many a day

Since I laid them by for ever,

Safely locking them away;

And I thought them yielded wholly.

When I dared no longer wear

Gems contrasting, oh, so sadly!

With the adorning I would bear.

Shall I keep them still--my jewels?

Shall I, can I yet withhold

From that living, loving Saviour

Aught of silver or of gold?

Gold so needed, that His gospel

May resound from sea to sea;

Can I know Christ's service lacketh,

Yet forget His "unto Me"!

No; I lay them down--my jewels,

Truly on the altar now.

Stay! I see a vision passing

Of a gem-encircled brow:

Heavenly treasure worn by Jesus,

Souls won through my gift outpoured;

Freely, gladly I will offer

Jewels thus to crown my Lord!

--From _Woman's Work._

PSALM 31:24 Be of good courage, and He shall strengthen your heart, all ye that hope in the Lord.

PSALM 37:3-5 Trust in the Lord, and do good; so shalt thou dwell in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed. Delight thyself also in the Lord; and He shall give thee the desires of thine heart. Commit thy way unto the Lord; trust also in Him; and He shall bring it to pass.

PROVERBS 16:20b Whoso trusteth in the Lord, happy is he.

PROVERBS 30:5b He is a shield unto them that put their trust in Him.

Fanny Crosby

*“Beautiful Saviour, You are to me,
All I could ever want you to be.”*

I like to sing that song, for it shows my heart and what I feel about the King, the One who has given me everything and so much more than I could ever have imagined. He chose me, just a little one who could not see, to do a special work for Him that has influenced the lives of so many others.

As handicapped as I was, there was much I could do, and knew I should do, to let others know about Jesus. And He gave me the gifts that enabled me to do it—the gift of an amazing memory, for example.

When did it all start? By being taught God’s Word as a child. I was taught it, and I memorised it too. You have a great ability for learning and remembering things. Your minds are fresh and quick and it’s easy to learn. If you do as I did, and learn from God’s Word, this will even increase your mental capacities. You will be sharper thinkers and fast to come up with good solutions.

But if your mind and thoughts are used on things of lesser value, then you get weaker and weaker until you can’t even get one worthwhile thought coming into your brain.

Don’t let that happen to you. Keep sharp and quick in mind by applying daily doses of God’s Word to it. And always commit as much of it to memory as you can. This will make you have a super mind—because you will be linked up through it to the Master’s mind. You won’t be in danger of just letting your own, feeble earthling thoughts lead you astray and down the path in the wrong direction—a path you’ll have to eventually walk all the slippery way up again.

Stay up where the sun is shining—where the Son of God is reigning. Let His Word turn you this way and that way.

Stay on hooked up like a good team of horses, ready to pull the load of God, led by the reigns of the One who is King.

I loved the Bible stories, and love to tell them. In fact I liked all stories that told others about wonderful things Jesus can do and did. Songs and stories is what I loved to use to bring others to Jesus. When these two methods of preaching and teaching are used, they can be a powerful combination. Stories people seldom forget, and a song can ring in their mind for a long time.

Songs that tell stories have often been used throughout world history to help people remember the past, so they can teach it to the future generation. So just like I wasn’t able to read books with my eyes—like tribes who used story songs to remember things—I too used the same: songs and stories.

With every gift comes a handicap, and with every handicap come a gift. So if you are gifted in something, don’t be surprised if there is something else that is hard for you, or that you can’t do, or that you feel makes you less able to enjoy life as others might be seeming to enjoy it; that they are enjoying it more fully. That’s to keep you humble in heart and desperate for the Lord’s help.

If others seem to have something that you don’t, they also have other things that they can’t do—and might feel you have a fuller ability to enjoy things than they!

And if there is something you can’t do well, and feel handicapped in some way by it—though you are not in any way actually handicapped, and for this you can and should praise God always—you can know that for everything you feel you lack or are missing out on, there are other gifts of consolation that take its place and that will empower you to do what God created you to do.

Would you like me to tell you the words to a special new song I wrote for you? Maybe you can put it to a tune you like, and sing it for children, some day. If you want to change the words around a bit, sure! Jesus loves our songs of praise—even if one person’s song is a bit different than another’s. If it comes from our heart full of love for Him, He loves it just as much.

The Saviour is my Shepherd dear,
With Him I will abide.
He leads me through the pastures green,
I stay close to His side.

Oh, rock of my eternal Salvation,
I tremble not though tribulation
Breaks forth on every side,
Safely in You, I will abide.

A cloud or two may drop its dew,
I feel the grey cover the blue.
The sun may hide its cheer eye,
But with me, I know, You ever are nigh.

I’ll take the next step up this mountain track,
I’ll go where you lead me, I’ll never turn back,
Until at last I reach Heaven’s door,
What a wonder I see there—all that is in store!

“Keep near to Me,” I hear you say,
And quickly do I, for I love to obey.
Then you reward and give Me gift,
A sight, a word, that gives me a lift
Up from the struggles and troubles below,
Then onward with You Lord, in love I do go.

There is nothing Your love can’t amend
With the healing Word that You send.
I’ll take it as my balm,
Find relief, and sing this psalm,

The Saviour is my Shepherd dear,
With Him I will abide.
He leads me through the pastures green,
I stay close to His side.

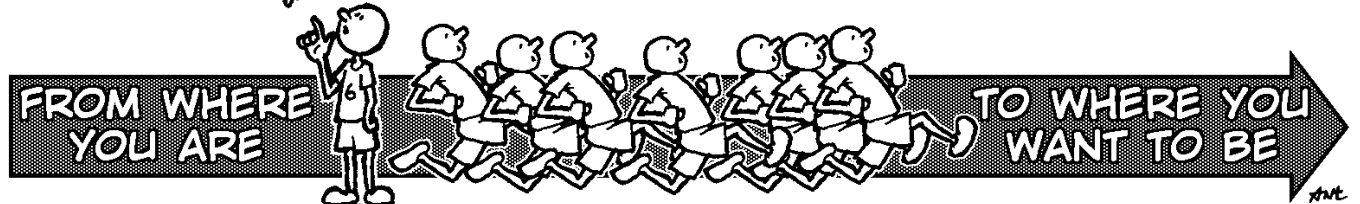
PRAISE

Please help me not to get distracted with the cares of this life and forget about You. Help me to always remember Your great love, even if I don’t always feel it, see it or understand it. Help me to take time to love You regardless of circumstances or conditions, just as You always love me and have time for me.

Jesus, I feel overwhelmed and enveloped in Your love. When my body is weary, when my spirit is tired, Your love is refreshing, Your Spirit is regenerating.



TO TAKE ^{yourself} YOURSELF



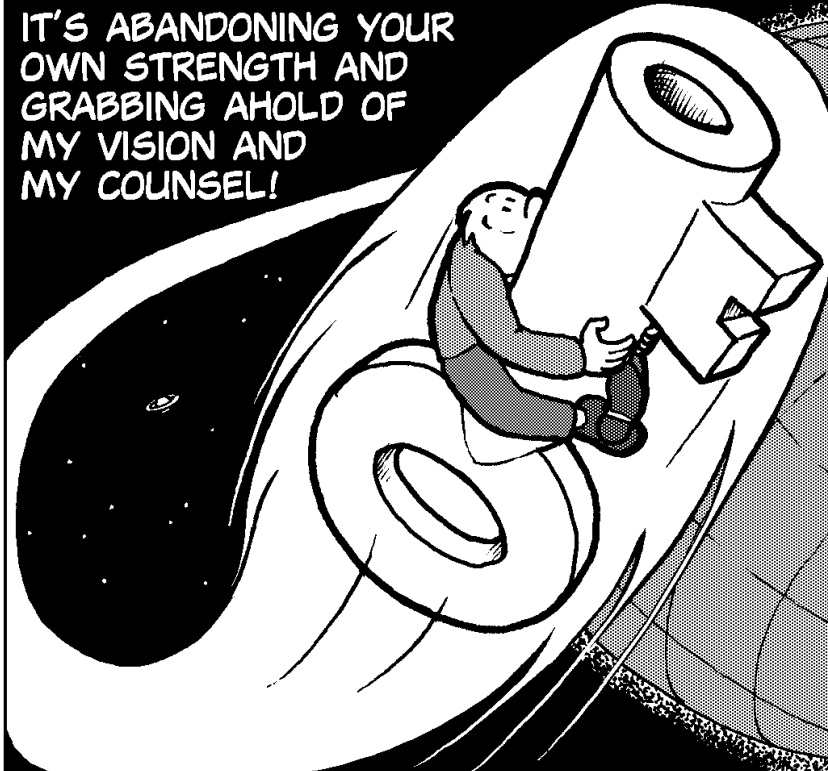
IS INCOMPATIBLE WITH ALSO HAVING LOTS OF FREE HOURS TO BURN AS YOU WILL.



DWELLING IN THE SPIRIT IS NOT A WORK OF THE FLESH;

IT'S RIDING THE KEYS OF THE KINGDOM --THE PROMISES OF GOD-- TO VICTORY EVERY STEP OF THE WAY!

IT'S ABANDONING YOUR OWN STRENGTH AND GRABBING AHOLD OF MY VISION AND MY COUNSEL!



From Jesus With Love

The feelings and emotions you experience are a direct result of the choices you make, the thoughts you choose to think, the times you choose to be unselfish, the times you put yourself in another person's place and allow your heart to be broken and moved with compassion and love.

Feelings of love, unity and happiness are My rewards. They are given to you according to your choices and your decisions--how you have determined by your own free will to act and give and respond and understand.

Master's Arts

Prophecy and Direct revelation— Communication and Guidance from God

The Master says:

Did you know that more people have dreams these days telling them about how real I am then at any other time in world history? It's one of the special ways I can get through to people and it can change their whole mindset. It's not the fact that your eyes were shut that made you able to know something new that I wanted you to learn about—like when you sleep, or are praying, or closing your eyes to think about Me.

What brought the vision was the vacuum; your heart calling and hungry. And like a phone being answered, so do I “show up” in this way and show you a thing or two. I love to see your mind being opened and new ideas or revelations dawning on you. Like when a child learns some neat fact or bit of information for the first time, and it's fun for the parent to teach them, so it is with you and I. I love showing you and teaching you new things.

Pray and call out to Me to “show you great and mighty things” that you didn't know, and are glad to suddenly realise! If you hunger for the wrong things, you'll get all the wrong signals and pictures and images. So you need to “hunger after righteousness” and then guess what? –You'll be filled!

LAMBIBITS

(Lessons, anecdotes, messages, Bible-based beliefs, inspirational talks, and sayings.)

I guess you're just going to have to trust the Lord: It's come to that! As the lady asked during the storm, "Oh, Captain, what are we going to do?" He said, "I guess we'll just have to trust the Lord." She said, "Oh my God! Has it come to that?" Well, hallelujah! Maybe it has now come to that!--You're just going to have to trust the Lord!

We're looking at conditions instead of God.--That's what's the matter. You've got to keep your eyes on God. You've got to look at God. You've got to see God. He's the only way you'll ever survive, and the only way you'll ever be able to heave that sigh of relief and say, "Well, thank God I don't have to solve it! Thank God I don't have to know what to do! When the time comes, God will do it."

Stop worrying about tomorrow! It's today that you have to have faith for! It's today that God has provided the strength and the provision for and the protection for and the problems for, and today is all you have to worry about! You don't even have to worry about tomorrow, much less next week, or next month. You certainly don't have to worry about next year!

That's not my concern, that's not my worry, that's none of my business! That's God's business! So silly, worrying about that far into the future! It's so ridiculous even to worry about next month! God will take care of things when the time comes. It's foolish even to worry about next week!

You just plan the best you can, do the preparation as far as God has showed you, and when the day comes God will provide.

--Pastor David (1919-1994)

Inspiring True Stories from History: God Has Power

And they came to Jericho: and as he went out of Jericho with his disciples and a great number of people, blind Bartimaeus, the son of Timaeus, sat by the highway side begging. And when he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to cry out, and say, Jesus, thou son of David, have mercy on me. And many charged him that he should hold his peace: but he cried the more a great deal, Thou son of David, have mercy on me. And Jesus stood still, and commanded him to be called. And they call the blind man, saying unto him, Be of good comfort, rise; he calleth thee. And he, casting away his garment, rose, and came to Jesus. And Jesus answered and said unto him, What wilt thou that I should do unto thee? The blind man said unto him, Lord, that I might receive my sight. And Jesus said unto him, Go thy way; thy faith hath made thee whole. And immediately he received his sight, and followed Jesus in the way. (Mark 10:46-52)

(From Anecdotes from Dwight L. Moody)

I may relate a little experience. In Philadelphia, at one of our meetings, a drunken man rose up. Till that time I had no faith that a drunken man could be converted. When any one approached he was generally taken out. This man got up and shouted, "I want to be prayed for." The friends who were with him tried to draw him away, but he shouted only louder, and for three times he repeated the request. His call was attended to and he was converted. God has power to convert a man even if he is drunk.

Neither give place to the devil. (Ephesians 4:27)

(For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;) Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ. (2 Corinthians 10:4-5)

And the Lord shall deliver me from every evil work, and will preserve me unto his heavenly kingdom: to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen. (2 Timothy 4:18)

(True story from "Under His Wings", Autobiography by Harold. A. Baker; Missionary to Tibet, China, and Formosa)

Mrs. Ren got to her sisters' family. She took with her a Bible, some gospels, and some gospel tracts. These she placed on the ancestor and idol shelf. This shelf, which extends almost across the front of the main sitting room, is used for the ancestor carved wooden tablets, incense urns, small idols, and heathen ornaments. On the wall back of this shelf is a big written poster before which incense is burned. As I have said, it was on this ancestor and idol-worshipping shelf that Mrs. Ren placed her Bible and gospels and tracts.

The next morning when she appeared she said, "I had a strange dream last night. I saw a lot of devils running away from here. In the scramble to get away the big devils ran over the little devils, knocking them down in one pell mell rush. These devils said, 'Let's get out of here. We can't stand it there with those abominable gospel things on our shelf. Run.' They surely were running."

Just after Mrs. Ren had finished telling her dream the son appeared. "I had the strangest dream last night," he said. "I saw a crowd of devils running away from here in a wild rush in which the larger devils knocked down and ran over the smaller. I heard them saying, 'Let's get out of here. Those awful books and gospel stuff on our shelf are too dangerous and terrible for us to endure.'"

These were more than dreams. They were visions of realities. That whole family at once believing in Jesus, every idol and bit of heathen stuff was at once smashed up or burned. Devils no longer had any place there. Furthermore, still other devils had to go, for Mrs. Ren had along with her someone bigger than all devils, someone Whom devils hated and feared — Jesus.

And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover. (Mark 16:17-18)

And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers. (Acts 2:42)

And fear came upon every soul: and many wonders and signs were done by the apostles. (Acts 2:43)

There came also a multitude out of the cities round about unto Jerusalem, bringing sick folks, and them which were vexed with unclean spirits: and they were healed every one. (Acts 5:16)

(True story from "Under His Wings", Autobiography by Harold. A. Baker; Missionary to Tibet, China, and Formosa)

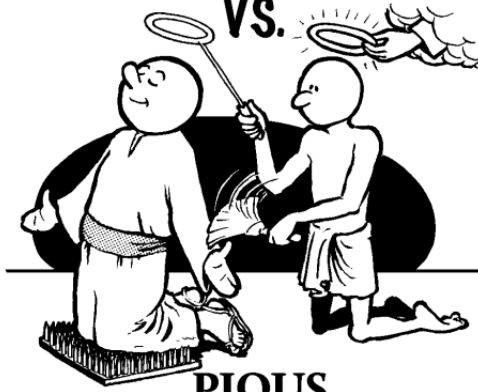
Where she went Jesus went with her. He went with her from place to place, helping her as He promised to do when He had said, "These signs shall follow them that believe; in my name shall they cast out devils; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover."

(Mark 16:17,18) In accord with this Mrs. Ren, who *believed*, laid her hands on a woman who had been bed-fast for twelve years. The woman got up and walked. A dying child, with hands and feet already cold, was cured. A man who had had malaria for twenty years was set free, while his son who had been sick for eight years was also made perfectly well. Another man who had been afflicted with palsy for many years was entirely delivered. Others were healed of various diseases of the body and thus led to the Healer who also saved their souls.

This untalented, peculiar woman had brought something new to these people who had for centuries sat there in the wilds. Mrs. Ren hobbled to fourteen villages. The news of what she was saying and doing spreading rapidly, almost before she knew it she had a big crowd gathering on Sunday. Although Mrs. Ren was entirely uneducated and naturally could not have preached at all, she had a mighty anointing from God that helped and that impelled her to tell who Jesus is and what He can do to heal the sick and to save sinners.

HONEST HUMILITY

VS.



PIOUS PERFECTION

IF YOU'RE TRUSTING SO MUCH IN YOUR OWN RIGHTEOUSNESS, YOUR OWN PERFECTION,...

...IT BECOMES ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE TO CONFESS YOUR OWN MISTAKES AND SHORTCOMINGS,...

THIS TAKES HUMILITY OF THE KIND THAT ONLY GOD CAN GIVE, BECAUSE MAN'S NATURE IS NOT WILLING TO DO THESE THINGS!

IT LIKES TO THINK OF ITSELF AS ALL-POWERFUL, ALL-KNOWING, ALL-SEEING, ETC.

IT'S ALWAYS VINDICATING ITSELF, PROTECTING ITSELF, JUSTIFYING ITSELF, AND TRYING TO PROVE THAT IT NEEDS NO HELP!



IT'S JUST THE INBORN SINFUL NATURE OF MAN TO WANT GLORY AND TO NOT WANT TO ADMIT WEAKNESS OR GUILT.

CONTRARY TO WHAT SOME PEOPLE THINK, AN ADMISSION OF ERROR IS A SIGN OF INNER-STRENGTH RATHER THAN A SIGN OF WEAKNESS! BEING UNABLE TO ADMIT THE TRUTH, IS A TRULY SERIOUS WEAKNESS, EVEN THOUGH IT MAY BE MAN'S NATURAL TENDENCY!

OVERCOMING NEGATIVE, NATURAL TENDENCIES CAN BE VERY DIFFICULT, BUT IT'S A LOT EASIER WITH POSITIVE, SUPER-NATURAL HELP! THE GOOD NEWS IS THAT JESUS IS READY AND WILLING TO GIVE THAT HELP TO ANYONE WHO ASKS FOR IT! ALL IT TAKES IS A SIMPLE, SINCERE PRAYER LIKE THIS :

"JESUS, THANK YOU FOR LOVING ME ENOUGH TO DIE FOR MY SINS THAT I MIGHT BE SAVED. I ACCEPT YOUR FREE GIFT OF ETERNAL LIFE. HELP ME TO GET RID OF THE MASKS OF PRIDE AND FALSE FRONTS THAT HINDER ME FROM GIVING AND RECEIVING LOVE. I WANT THAT LOVE IN MY LIFE, AND I ASK FOR YOUR HELP AND GUIDANCE. THANK YOU!"

...BECAUSE IT ALMOST DESTROYS YOUR OWN SELF-CONFIDENCE...

DADDY!

...AND IT NEARLY SHATTERS YOUR SELF-RELIANCE, BECAUSE IT PROVES THAT YOU ARE NOT PERFECT--

...E'M... NOT... PER... FECT...

--BUT YOU HATE TO ADMIT IT EVEN TO YOURSELF!

THE HARDEST ONE TO CONFESS OUR FAULTS TO IS OURSELF! BECAUSE IT'S SO DISCOURAGING, HUMBLING AND HUMILIATING!

SO WE TRY TO EXCUSE OURSELVES...

...DEFEND OURSELVES...

...EXONERATE AND ABSOLVE OURSELVES

...SO WE CAN STAND TO FACE OURSELVES!

BUT THAT ONLY TENDS TO MAKE MATTERS WORSE, BECAUSE WHEN WE CANNOT BE HONEST WITH OURSELVES WE CANNOT BE HONEST WITH GOD OR OTHERS! AND THE RESULT IS ONE AWFUL MESS!

YOU'LL MAKE A MESS OF YOUR OWN LIFE, HURT ALL THOSE ASSOCIATED WITH YOU, AND HURT GOD MOST OF ALL! YOU'LL ALSO HINDER YOUR REPUTATION AND TESTIMONY TO OTHERS!

BUT CONFESSING THAT YOU'RE A SINNER REMINDS YOU THAT YOU'RE NO PICTURE OF PURITY AND INNOCENCE!

AND ALTHOUGH YOU NO LONGER FEEL QUITE AS ANGELIC, YOU'RE A WHOLE LOT MORE SAINTLY ACCORDING TO GOD'S IDEA OF SAINTLINESS:

GOD'S IDEA OF SAINTLINESS: --THE PERSON WHO KNOWS HE'S A SINNER AND THEREFORE GIVES GOD ALL THE GLORY FOR ANYTHING GOOD HE'S DONE!

Thoughts and True Stories

It's not so much how busy you are--but WHY you are busy. The bee is praised. The mosquito is swatted.

On the pathway of life out where you are,
May hope fill your heart as you reach for a star,
And may you discover as each day goes by,
No dream is too lofty, no goal is too high,
If you'll trust in the Lord, take time to be still,
To hear His soft voice & yield to His Will!

Anecdotes from Dwight L. Moody

Little Johnny and his sister were one day going through a long, narrow railroad tunnel. The railroad company had built small clefts here and there through the tunnel, so that if any one got caught in the tunnel when the train was passing, they could save themselves. After this little boy and girl had gone some distance in the tunnel they heard a train coming. They were frightened at first, but the sister just put her little brother in one cleft and she hurried and hid in another.

The train came thundering along, and as it passed, the sister cried out: "Johnny, cling close to the rock! Johnny, cling close to the rock!" and they were safe. The "Rock of Ages" may be beaten by the storms and waves of adversity, but "cling close to the rock, Christians, and all will be well." The waves don't touch the Christian; he is sheltered by the Rock "that is higher than I," by the One who is the strong arm, and the Saviour who is mighty and willing to save.

Not long ago there lived an old bed-ridden saint, and a Christian lady who visited her found her always very cheerful. This visitor had a lady friend of wealth who constantly looked on the dark side of things, and was always cast down although she was a professed Christian. She thought it would do this lady good to see the bed-ridden saint, so she took her down to the house.

She lived up in the garret, five stories up, and when they had got to the first story the lady drew up her dress and said, "How dark and filthy it is!"

"It's better higher up," said her friend. They got to the next story, and it was no better; the lady complained again, but her friend replied, "It's better higher up," At the third floor it seemed still worse, and the lady kept complaining, but her friend kept saying, "It's better higher up."

At last they got to the fifth story, and when they went into the sick-room, there was a nice carpet on the floor, there were flowering plants in the window, and little birds singing. And there they found this bedridden saint--one of those saints whom God is polishing for his own temple--just beaming with joy. The lady said to her, "It must be very hard for you to lie here." She smiled, and said, "It's better higher up." Yes! And if things go against us, my friends, let us remember that "it's better higher up."

