



THE
HOLY BIBLE
Containing the Old and New Testaments
Translated into English by the
Authorized Version
As by His Majesty's Command

PREACHMENTS OF CHARLES

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Text and hymns written by A. Charles.
Completed as a gift for His Saviour,
on the occasion of his 10th birthday.

A music album accompanies this book,
made with the help of his family.

INTRODUCTION

This book would not have been possible if it had not been for my benevolent mother.

If the Apostle Paul, who wrote a large part of the New Testament, could write it all out, dipping his pen in ink for every sentence, (while enduring what he speaks of as a thorn to be taken out of his body—some sort of troublesome element to struggle with) yet I am not disabled in any way, whereby should I not write of the Good News of our Saviour?

So should all good Christians write and preach as the Apostle Paul or Peter, or any other Apostle they may like to imitate.

This volume being not a novel, nor a life-story account, contains preachments, such as it is named. I, being not a Methodist, nor an Anglican, being not a Catholic, nor a Lutheran, or of any title save that of being a genuine believer, am free to pen the truth as I have seen it through my spiritual eyes.

Many have said, “I am a Christian”, but yet have not led one soul to Christianity. I will enclose only the truth that I have seen, and my hope is that through this book, I may encourage others to feel free to write other parables and preachments, likewise.

The Trinity—that is the tri-unity of the Godhead, has had mercy on me and let me live on the Earth, but only one chance will I have. So I believe I shall make the most of it.

The Saviour being crucified, and risen again, around 2000 years ago, has given me the chance to live forever, and all the sins I have done have been forgiven.

This book that I started in February 2017,
and finished in June 2017,
is dedicated to my mother.

WEEK I

If only every man, woman, and child on the face of the Earth knew how much Jesus Himself, the King of the Earth and the heavens (all the sheep and cattle and everything--but sin) loved each one of them, and if love and humility were restored into the lives of those we are living with, the fact does make me wonder if the world would be in the state it is presently in.

For to truly know the love of Christ has the power to change even the basest of characters on Earth.

To parabolise the love of Christ for mankind, it would be most easily explained as an emperor sending the highest messenger of the kingdom,

so all who lived outside the palace would know that a feast would take place in the court of the ruler, and they were to be invited.

However, the rulers of the people outside of the palace listened not, and warned the messenger to not speak of the feast.

But yet, some of the peasants did listen and told others of the lower class, of the same news.

At last chariots came to the houses of those who believed, and took them hastily to the royal court of the palace, where the feast would be enjoyed.

The messenger in this parable would be in the place of Christ, and the peasants as Christians, who told

others about the same news they heard about Christ. Good Christians do tell the world of Christ's great love and salvation through Christ's gift on Calvary.

In God's grace, Amen.

HYMN #1

Christ our Lord came down from His Glory,
Oh, good Christians, please do tell the story!
As He hung upon a cross that day,
To His Father humbly did He pray,
And to death did He obey,
Gloriously He rose again!
That all who believe may live in Heaven.

Christ our Lord who made the Earth and Heaven
For our sins His Holy life was given,
In a manger lay, when He was born,
To save the willing; and yet suffer scorn.
His wounds which were made on Calvary
Show His love for you and me,
For by His stripes we are set free.

Christ our Lord bids us fulfil His vision,
Let us go obey His great commission,
Tell the news to those who have not heard,
Share in love the everlasting Word.
All the weights I lay aside
To run the race for Christ who died,
Still do I run here at His side.

WEEK II

This article was written when I was at a younger age, but will share it with you now, for it has good meaning in our Christian lives.

As this parable tells it: God sent His Son, which is Christ the Messiah, to the Earth—which is depicted as a field of corn, in this parable.

It was as if Christ was sent to sow a huge field of corn—the corn representing the believers. Then God required of Him His life, during those days He ministered to the sinners in Purgatory. Then He rose up and returned to Heaven when it was time. But the corn was left to grow through the years.

When it was ripe, reapers were sent from God to harvest the corn. While harvesting the corn, it was not blissfully easy at all times. Satan sent down his own demons to try to stop the harvesters, so he could destroy the corn.

A storm was setting in on the horizon. Day-by-day it was moving closer to the fields. Satan's demons demanded of the harvesters an awfully strange object called "money", it was just like paper with pictures of men on it, and such.

God was not happy at all with Satan and his demons. Satan sent some more demons to attempt to make the storm progress faster. God saw this plan and sent messengers to ask

His harvesters, pleadingly, if they could stay harvesting at a good, fast speed.

Unfortunately, some of the harvesters were already under the storm before the storm had become wide-spread, and they had yet to harvest their portion of the cornfield. So God sent angelic beings to hold back the storm from them that truly loved and served Him.

At last the storm struck in full strength, and the workers finished up the remaining portions of the field. God sent a bolt of lightning to bring them to His palace: Heaven—which represents Christ's return to gather up His own from off of the world, to live with Him.

When the harvesters were finally nearing the gates, the angels stood before them to see how much corn each of them had gathered. A lot of the people went smiling ear-to-ear with huge bundles of corn that they had gathered. The angel beamed at them with an angelic smile.

When the line of harvesters was almost finished bringing their sheaves, some of the shifty-eyed characters had to finally stand before the angel.

All they had to show was that funny old paper (money). The angel gave a slight frown when they showed him their little pieces of paper—and no corn.

So God put them back to work, working hard in His corn field. They then tried to grow as much corn as they could.

They brought their harvested corn after a long time, and God was pleased, and at last let them enter into their Heavenly rewards. They had learned a very good lesson. And from then on they lived happily ever after.

In God's grace, Amen.

HYMN #2

Christ the Creator of Heaven and Earth,
Came down and had a humble birth,
This sacrifice was of very great worth,
For all the people of the Earth.

They shall yet see Him, in the by-and-by
They shall yet see Him coming in the sky

Afterwards He was raised so high,
But still to me He does draw nigh,
He hears my prayers and my sorrowful cry,
I love the Lord God of Heaven most High.

I shall yet seen Him, in the by-and-by
I shall yet see Him , coming in the sky

WEEK III

Faith is as a little child being carried over the rapids by his father.

The child cannot stand on his own in the rapids, but his father can, and he knows that his father will not drop him into the rapids, nor will his father make him have to stand alone.

We are like the little child. For Jesus said, “Ye must become as a little child.” And the father is Jesus.

Another example of faith is a man dying of thirst in the desert and then seeing a water pump beside a small shack, and a jug of water beside the pump.

Imagine there is a sign written saying that this water is just enough

to prime the pump, but not enough if he took a drink of this jug. The sign also said that the traveller, when finished drinking, was to refill the jug with water and leave it there for the next traveller.

It would take a step of faith to believe the words written, and use up the water in order to get the pump to work to get more water to drink, and have as much as he needed.

When we have faith in God's Words and what He promises, and follow His instructions, we will find them to be true and we will have what we need.

In God's grace, Amen.

HYMN #3

O faith, O faith, as a little child
We can't stand alone for a very long while,
Yet, God, with Thy strong arms around us,
Since Thine Son so lovingly found us,
Forever we are secure.

I trust Thee evermore, O Lord,
Though raging rivers I must ford.
For Thou hast given us Thy Word,
For Thy power I humbly implore,
I'll trust Thee evermore.

WEEK IV

A good illustration of a Christian is like a man walking on a bridge that has no railings. All around him is the sea. People are swimming in the sea. The bridge is not high up, so people can get onto the bridge from the sea.

Climbing onto the bridge is like Salvation. Now this bridge is the bridge of life, because Christ is life and gives life; and the sea is the sea of sins.

The bridge has no railings, nothing that would hinder the swimmers from climbing up onto it. The further a swimmer goes away from the bridge of Christ, the harder it is for him, as he struggles in the water.

It is possible for Christ to forgive the person, as far as he is out at sea, and to welcome him onto the bridge. But the person must desire it and make the effort to climb up. That is like us.

We all used to be sinners lost at sea, until Jesus laid down His life to give us Salvation. Those of us who have found Jesus and have climbed up in faith on the bridge of Salvation, are saved and can make our way across as we walk forward in our life for Christ, and see how He leads us to the Heavenly haven at the other side.

However, there are other bridges, but they never completely cross the sea of sins. They stop short leaving a large gap between the end of it and getting into Heaven. Some leave a

larger gap than others. These bridges are like other beliefs and religions.

Some of them are easier to get on to; some even so low they are partly in the water, and you can easily step on to them, but they never reach Heaven. Satan and his demons have built these mock “bridges” as traps, and have misled others to keep adding more bridges in hopes that eventually the right designed bridge will save them from the troubled waters.

These bridges are wide, but the bridge of Christ is narrower, and leads straight to Heaven. In other words, other religions and beliefs have a wider range of their “god’s” will, and permit a wider range of

allowances. Take Islam for instance. Muslims are allowed to live peacefully, or make wars; live humbly or proudly; be kind or rough.

Whereas Christianity has a narrower range of allowances within God's will. Jesus says to live peacefully, humbly, and be kind. The right bridge—Jesus Christ—will take us to our desired destination, and help us stay out of the cold and murky, sickening and dangerous waters of the world's sins and ways.

In God's grace, Amen

HYMN #4

Christ thou art my bridge
You raise me above sin,
Saving me and watching me,
In my life thou art within.

Thy bridge is high above
The sinful sea and waves,
From deep waters, with Thy love
You lift me, for naught else saves.

WEEK V

Have you heard stories about **soldiers**? Well, you probably have. Soldiers are almost exactly the opposite of a missionary. Soldiers give death, but missionaries give life.

Yet, there are some similarities:

They both have someone leading them in their mission.

They both have laws to abide by.

They both have to work together with their team to get the job done.

They both leave their home and often their relatives, when they are asked to go and do a job. Yet, God does not give us a time limit of when Christians are to leave to commence

their job on a mission field or with mission work for Him.

Armies have lots of leaders, not just one, yet we Christians have one great leader: God. He is much more powerful than the leaders of armies, yet He doesn't boss us around and force us to do things—although He has unlimited power.

He talks to us kindly, and doesn't shout His orders, and sometimes He speaks very softly to those who love and serve Him.

Our army—God's army—is much different than the armies of this world. We do not use weapons and force; instead we win people's hearts with God's love.

The armies of this world cause death, destruction, harm, fear, hate, confusion, and sorrow.

God's army brings life, restoration, healing, faith, love, peace and order, and joy.

In God's grace, Amen.

HYMN #5

I am in an army marching for the Lord.
I am in an army, but I carry not a sword.

I am in an army,
But I use not force or fear,
I fight not a worldly war
That brings remorse and tears.

I am in God's army,
For Christ who died for me,
Bringing God's own glory,
To set the captives free.

WEEK VI

A good example of finding refuge in Christ, is a fortress, surrounded by an enemy army. The enemies hope to seize everyone of that nation.

The fortress only has one small door, so the enemy army cannot find a way to get in. The wall is so high that the enemy cannot climb over; and the wall is so strong that the enemy cannot break through. The door is so low you have to duck down to fit in it.

Those who are part of the enemy army are so proud that they don't want to duck down low enough to get in that fortress. Their armour—their own way self-protection and

salvation—is so broad, that they cannot fit through that small doorway.

The only way to take refuge is by ducking down by the door of the fortress, taking off all their outer encumbering protective gear and garments, and slipping into the door.

Though the fortress is so large, it only has one small door. Some people on the other side of the fortress, where the door is not, do not believe there is a door to the fortress.

The door was opened by a man who had to go on a long journey to get the key to open the door. It was a long and dangerous journey, and many times He just escaped the

enemy. But He knew as soon as He unlocked the door, the enemy would seize Him.

But on the other hand, He knew how many people would like to go into the fortress. Before He was seized, He sent out messengers to go out and tell people everywhere that the door was unlocked, and they could come into it to be safe.

After He was seized, His Father came to His rescue and brought Him back into the fortress.

The messengers continued to spread the word about the man who had unlocked the door, and how to find the way to it, and through it, and to find refuge.

A lot of people believed, but others didn't, but just ignored the message. Finally, the enemy got mad that so many people knew there was a door to the fortress, and they took away some of the messengers. The enemy had been giving the messengers quite a hard time, and they didn't know what to do.

The messengers told as many people as they could about the door, but now, most of the people that the messengers wished to tell about the door, had joined with the enemy, to help the enemy seize even more people than they had before.

Finally, one day, the Father told the Son—the one who had opened the door with the key—it was time for

Him and the people who went into the fortress to leave the fortress and bind the entire enemy army.

With the blow of a trumpet, they came out victoriously, and everyone saw them, as they went about binding all the enemy soldiers. After they were finished, and the enemy was taken away, the land was peaceful again. And it would be this way for one thousand years.

This is a parable. Heaven is the fortress. Jesus the man who opened the door. He is the only way into the fortress where you are safe from the power of the enemy (Satan and his evil crew).

The people outside the fortress are the people in the world now, who

need to be told the way to and through the door of the fortress--receiving Jesus Christ.

His messengers are the apostles, preachers, missionaries, evangelists, and all those spreading the good news.

In God's grace, Amen.

HYMN #6:

A safe stronghold, art Thou, O Lord,
For thy sovereign's help have I implored
My strong fortress, art Thou eternally,
Send out messengers spreading joyfully,
The Good News of Thy Son's Victory.

My only refuge, O Lord, Thou art,
Keeping safe my tender heart,
Surround me with impenetrable care,
Omnipotent, omniscient, divinely everywhere
By my side forever Thou art there.

WEEK VII

Understanding God's love is as an ant that has never seen the ocean, trying to calculate how much water the ocean contains.

Imagine a deer that every day goes to a river to drink. The deer wonders if the river will ever run out of water. No matter how much it drinks, as long as the source keeps supplying water, he will always have more than enough to drink.

We are like that deer, and Christ is like the river, and God is the source. Without Christ, we would not have any of God's love, but when Christ came, He channelled God's love to us,

through giving His life and being crucified as a criminal, yet having done no sin. But that was the only way to get God's love to us. He wanted us to have God's love so much, that He gave His life for us.

Going back to the example of the deer: the deer does not know how much water there was, and is, and will be. That is like us trying to understand God's love. There is more of it that we can ever calculate, and it will keep flowing eternally.

In God's grace, Amen.

HYMN #7:

Thy love will never fail,
It always will prevail,
It goes and flows and no one knows
How much there be
In the heart of Thee.

Thy love makes me revive,
For by it I survive,
My thirst You slake as I partake
Of what You give
It makes me live.

WEEK VIII

A muddy path, flowing with mud, is easy for a man to slide down, but when he gets to the bottom he will be more filthy than ever. Yet, a hard rocky steep mountain path leading upwards may not get him to his goal quicker, but at least he stays cleaner.

Though God's servants on Earth may not get the easiest route, and the route that gets the most use, they might get to Heaven cleaner and better looking.

The ways of this present world are easy to slip into, and will bring you down quickly; but the ways of the present world will soil your heart.

However, God's path will bring you up high. Sometimes the climb is rough, but in doing so, it strengthens you.

According to the laws of gravity, the muddy path would have a mud pit at the bottom. So it is with this world, it leads you down into a mud pit, which is like sin.

The ways of the world are similar to the slippery mud. You get soiled and filthy, and the mud pit is very hard to get out of, and climb up and away.

God's way is the opposite. It is hard going up, but at the summit you can see a beautiful view of the surrounding mountains. It is cleaner up there than down in the mud pit.

The brisk wind on the mountain might feel a bit cold, but it is clean air that invigorates you. You might feel lonesome at times, as not too many people rush to go up God's mountain path, but you feel clean and happy, and right with God.

In God's grace, Amen.

HYMN #8:

“Create in me a clean heart,
Renew a right spirit within.
Wash me from my iniquity,
And cleanse me from my sin.”

These words rang from the Psalmist’s lips.

3000 years ago

“Purge me. Wash me thoroughly
And I shall be whiter than snow.”

O God, cleanse me too,
Heart and mind and soul.
Revive and renew,
Refresh and make me whole.

WEEK IX

A good way to find **God's will for your life** is to walk in the footsteps of the Son of Him that sustains you and upholds you.

This Son is none other than Jesus Christ Himself, and His footsteps were humility and sacrifice. On those two things should you base your life, your choices, and your nature. If your plan for your life has none of these, then it is probably not God's will for you.

For God's will for you—just as His will for His Son on Earth, will always lead in ways that require humility and sacrifice. But though it may not seem glorious now, He will duly reward you when your life's course is complete.

The ways of this world, at the present, beckon footsteps to lead in the ways of pride and greed, yet these are the two opposites of God's ways: Humility and Sacrifice (that is, giving to the utmost for the good of others).

Though His way seems hard to live now, in the life to come He will reward those who bravely stood the test, and they will be enrapture with God's opposites to these hard things.

God's humble servants will then be glorified and honoured, and granted full joy and satisfaction, and abundantly blessed.

In God's grace, Amen.

HYMN #9

Bravely bearing the cross of Him
That died on Calvary,
Later I may wear a crown;
But now I don humility.
I may not be exalted,
And may not have glory,
But I'll give my all to proclaim Salvation's story

To the ways of greed I will not heed,
Under cloaks of pride I will not hide,
If only God I glorify
Then I know my soul He will satisfy.

WEEK X

Every person on Earth is as a candle, but not all of them are lit. Jesus Christ lit the first 12 candles (His first disciples), who lit other candles; and those lit yet other candles, and so on.

Some of the candles are covered in filth, so they cannot be lit at once. Another candle must be beside it until all the grime melts and burns away, then this candle can also shine.

Lit candles can start lighting other candles as soon as they are lit. So it is with the Christian faith. As soon as we become believers, we can tell others.

A candle does not only produce light, but warmth and a flame with the ability to bring fire to others; also a Christian does not only produce light to see the other unenlightened souls around, but a Christian can and should also give of its light to others—the light God has given it.

There are so many in spiritual darkness in this world, and it may seem like a rather large task to bring the light of the Gospel to them all.

However, if one candle-Christian just started lighting but a few other unlit candles (the lost souls in the world), and encouraged each of those to do the same—to bring light to even just a few others, and they in turn to do the same to a few more. Before too

long the whole world would be filled
with the light of Christ.

Will you, too, share the light of Christ
with a darkened soul today?

In God's grace, Amen.

HYMN #10

Let the candles burn,
Let the heathen learn,
Of Christ's loving sacrifice.

Spread our Lord's great light,
Sing with all your might,
And declare His glorious fame!

Cover not the flame,
But declare His Name,
Until the world is all aglow.

WEEK XI

One of the faith-fortifiers of a Christian's life can be the attendance of Church. Choosing the right church or "fellowship of believers" can be quite a task. Not all Churches are good. Some have beliefs that even contradict with the Bible. These Churches should not be chosen.

However, if a Church does not contradict with the Bible and goes along with the Bible, it should be a good Church. Most Christians in Christian countries try to attend Church regularly, but in non-Christian countries, doing so is impossible.

A Church does not necessarily mean a building. It means a congregation of believers.

It is good to enjoy the fellowship of likeminded believers. A fellowship of believers could meet anywhere—from a house to a park to a Church building, or even meeting over the internet.

Not everyone has the blessing of being able to go to Church. Christians in countries that there are no Churches would appreciate Church attendance. We should not take going to Church as a duty of the Christian life, but as a blessing from God.

And while we enjoy the blessing of Christian fellowship and Bible reading, let us remember this: Church attendance is not our service for God, but our way of strengthening the

faith of fellow believers. Our service is when each one, with faith strengthened, can then go out from there to serve the Lord and spread the Gospel news near and far.

In God's grace, Amen.

HYMN #11

The cross we must carry is heavy,
Alone it is too much to bear,
But together we lift it in unity
And take His Word everywhere.

Now come, let us meet,
Let's not fall for deceit,
The foe we'll defeat
As we sit at Christ's feet
With communion so sweet,
Together we are complete.

The road we must travel is rugged,
Our destination is far,
But together in Heavenly fellowship
United in spirit we are.

WEEK XII

God always finishes what He plans to do. You are a creation of God. He will continue to work with you and make of you what He planned.

It may not happen completely in your life-time while on Earth, but He is an eternal Being, and He has eternity to live, and can make you also live forever.

Many great men and women of the past, though they put great effort and time into their life's projects and endeavours, still, when they breathed their last earthly breath, there were many unfinished works they had to leave behind.

However, when Christ came to Earth to work His most important work—that of bringing Salvation to all mankind; He left nothing undone or unfinished. All scriptural prophecies were fulfilled.

As He took his last Earth-body breath, He declared: “It is finished.” His work was complete; and that is where our work for Him began.

Christ will enable us to bring this news of His gift of Eternal life to many. But we need not despair if we too, must leave our Earthly surroundings before all that we wish to accomplish for Christ has been completed.

Many great men and women of God have seemed to leave a work

unfinished, while others stepped in to take up the work they had set out fervently to do.

God will indeed finish the task of bringing each one on Earth, and in the realms beyond, to surrender to His sovereignty, and accept Christ Jesus as their Lord and King. God's creative plan for the world to enjoy beauty and peace, with abundant life springing forth, will also be completed, when the time is right.

In God's grace, Amen.

HYMN #12

“It is finished,” the words rang out from our Saviour’s parched lips.

His task was done, the victory won by God’s only Son.

He’s the author and finisher of all, oh praise His glorious name

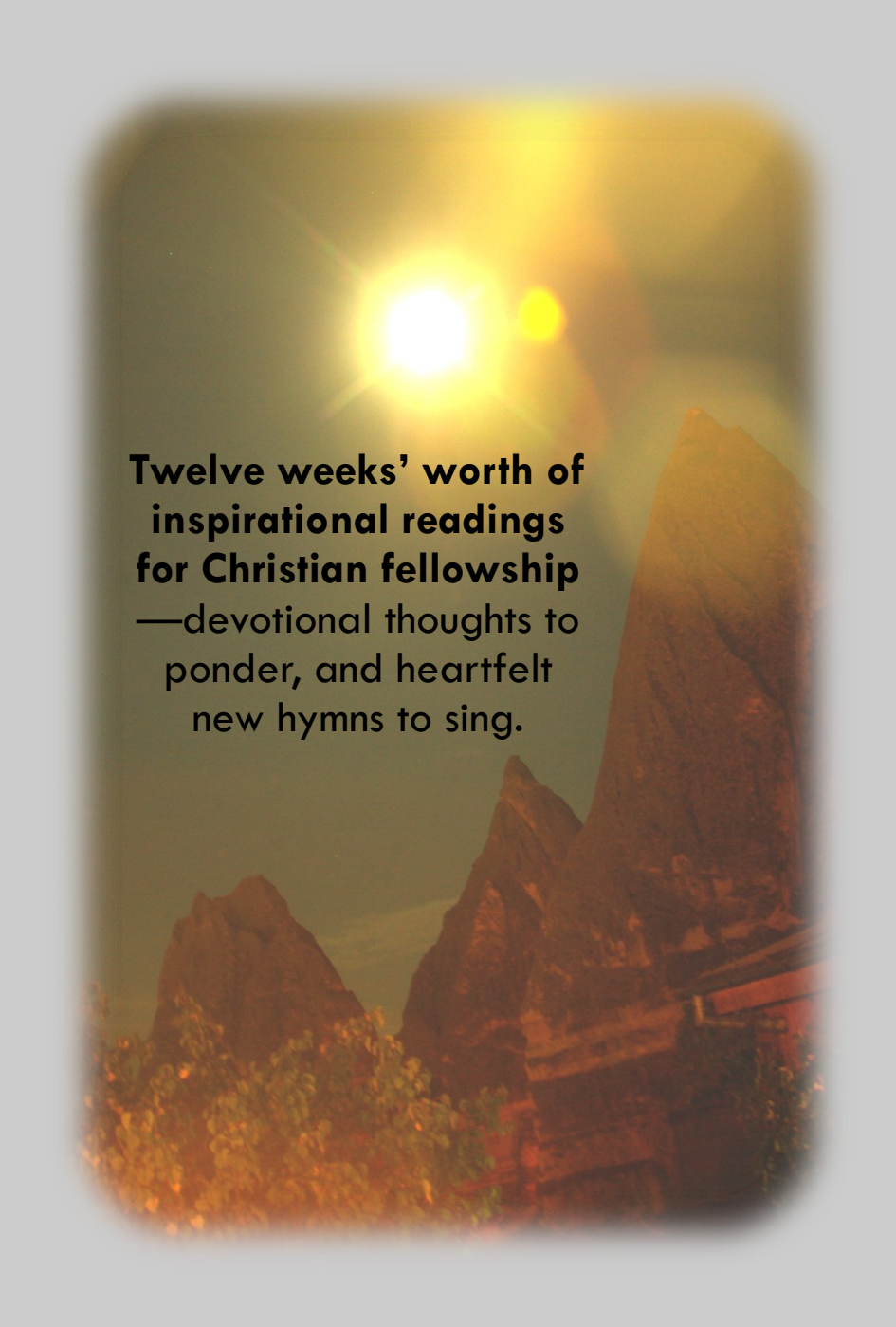
Christ was brave, His life He gave, so all mankind He could save.

When I too reach the end of my Earthly life, and carried my cross,

Will I say...

“I have done my best, and passed the test, then I’ll trust God for the rest.”

It is finished.

A scenic view of a mountain range at sunrise or sunset. The sun is bright and low in the sky, casting a warm glow over the scene. The mountains are silhouetted against the light sky. In the foreground, there is a wooden fence and some foliage.

**Twelve weeks' worth of
inspirational readings
for Christian fellowship**
—devotional thoughts to
ponder, and heartfelt
new hymns to sing.