# In the Morning of Joy

#### I. Introduction

A. Consider some principles taught in Scripture that are alluded to in the hymn *In the Morning of Joy*.

Hymns for Worship, Song 528

## II. "When the Trumpet Shall Sound..."

- A. The opening verse of the hymn begins with a clear reference to the Day of Judgment. The words, "when the trumpet shall sound" relate to what Scripture teaches about the moment the Lord returns. **Song 528, verse 1a**; **1 Corinthians 15:51-52**
- B. At that time, "the dead shall arise." All who've ever lived will stand before the great Judge. **Song 528, verse 1b**; **Acts 24:15**
- C. The righteous will then experience a blessed reality in which "Death will be no more." **Song 528, verse 1c**; **Revelation 21:4**
- D. The comfort the righteous can take in the resurrection is further expressed with the words, "the dead shall awaken."
   Song 528, verse 1d; 1 Corinthians 15:53-55

## III. "When the King Shall Appear..."

- A. The second verse of the hymn expands on the glory of the point at which the Lord will return. Our King's appearance is something His faithful citizens should look forward to with eager anticipation. **Song 528, verse 2a**; **Philippians 3:20**
- B. When the King appears "in His beauty on high," He "shall summon His children To the courts of the sky."

  Song 528, verse 2b; 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17
- C. It's key for us to prepare while there is opportunity for this moment by laboring for the "cause of the Lord." If we do so in faithfulness, our souls can be found "spotless" when He returns. Song 528, verse 2c; John 5:28-29; Matthew 25:46

#### IV. "O the Bliss of That Morn..."

A. The final verse expresses the beauty of the Resurrection Day for the righteous. Instead of looking to the Lord's return with dread, the righteous have reason to look forward with eager anticipation to this Day.

## Song 528, verse 3a; 2 Peter 3:12

- B. Part of the beauty of that Day is the uniting of the righteous of all ages, "When the saved ones we meet." Those who spend eternity in heaven will be in a place where there is no sin, with others who've been cleansed from the stain of sin. Song 528, verse 3b; 2 Peter 3:13
- C. The third verse brings to mind the fact that the redeemed will be in the Lord's direct presence in heaven. The song also alludes to the fact that this will be true "Thru eternity's years" (i.e., forever). Song 528, verse 3c;

  1 Thessalonians 4:17b
- D. The final verse concludes by noting how past "sorrows and tears" will be put behind us. Given the value of heaven, any trials we must face in order to spend eternity there are more than worth it. More generally, the hardships associated with all trials we endure cannot be compared with the beauty of the eternal abode of the righteous. **Song 528, verse 3d; Romans 8:18**

#### V. Conclusion

A. Given the beauty of heaven, we have no greater future comfort to *desire* than heaven. Given God's faithfulness, we can *confidently expect* that heaven will one day be a reality for the righteous. The combination of these truths produces hope for the righteous, not only as we sing this hymn, but throughout our lives, as we look forward to that time when our King shall appear. **Titus 1:2**; **Hymns for Worship, Song 528**