

Give Me the Bible

I. Introduction

- A. The song *Give Me the Bible* expresses the beauty of God's Word and the spiritual appetite we should have for it. Consider some principles taught in Scripture that are alluded to in this hymn. **Hymns for Worship, Song 500**

II. "Give Me the Bible"

- A. The song expresses the blessedness of God communicating to us through His Word. Our Almighty Creator provides the spiritual nourishment and guidance we need to be all He created us to be. **2 Timothy 3:16-17; Acts 20:32**
- B. We must hunger and thirst for the truth He's given. This, too, is expressed throughout the hymn. **Matthew 5:6**

III. "Star of Gladness Gleaming..."

- A. The opening verse expresses the spiritual "star" God gives us to show us the way to Christ. **Song 500, v. 1a; Matthew 2:2**
- B. The message of God's Word brings great joy, direction, and stability, as the verse alludes to. **Song 500, v. 1b; Luke 2:9-10**
- C. No matter the extent of the spiritual storms we face, God's Word is available to be a lamp to our feet and a light to our path. **Song 500, v. 1c; Psalm 119:105; Song 500, v. 1d; Luke 19:10**

IV. "When My Heart is Broken..."

- A. The second verse begins by alluding to how comforting God's Word is to the brokenhearted. **Song 500, v. 2a; Psalm 34:18**
- B. God's Word gives the answer to overcoming fear associated with both sin and grief. **Song 500, v. 2b; Romans 1:16**
- C. The "precious words by Jesus spoken" are able to lift us up and give us assurance that He is always near His faithful followers. **Song 500, v. 2c; John 14:27; Song 500, v. 2d; 2 Peter 1:3-4**

V. "All My Steps Enlighten..."

- A. The third verse opens by describing the enlightenment the Word gives to us. **Song 500, v. 3a; Ephesians 5:13-15**
- B. One of the ways the Bible enlightens us is by teaching us the dangers we must watch out for as we live in "these realms below." **Song 500, v. 3b; 1 Peter 5:8**
- C. Though there are dangers we must guard against as we walk the earth, the Bible is a lamp that points us to safety. **Song 500, v. 3c; Psalm 23:4**
- D. God's Word provides the pathway to peace, as the end of the verse alludes to. **Song 500, v. 3d; Philippians 4:9**

VI. "Lamp of Life Immortal..."

- A. The final verse of the song begins by referencing the Bible as the "lamp of life immortal." God's Word shines a light that points us to eternal life. **Song 500, v. 4a; John 6:68**
- B. God's Word shows us the "splendor" of the "open grave" Jesus was buried in (i.e., the beauty of our Lord's resurrection). **Song 500, v. 4b; 1 Thessalonians 4:14**
- C. Through the Bible, we can (spiritually) see heaven, and have the hope associated with life beyond our "Jordan." **Song 500, v. 4c; 2 Corinthians 4:17-18; Song 500, v. 4d; Hebrews 6:19**

VII. "Holy Message Shining..."

- A. The chorus brings to mind the guidance the Bible gives that shows us how to be holy and shine bright in the midst of darkness. **Song 500, Chorus (a); Colossians 1:12-13**
- B. This guidance points us down the "narrow way" that leads to life. **Song 500, Chorus (b); Matthew 7:13-14**
- C. The Bible is full of both "precept and promise," as the chorus further notes. **Song 500, Chorus (c); John 15:8-10; Song 500, Chorus (d); 1 Peter 1:25**