

I Need Thee Every Hour

I. Introduction

- A. Consider some principles taught in Scripture that are alluded to in the hymn *I Need Thee Every Hour*.
Hymns for Worship, Song 63

II. “I Need Thee Every Hour”

- A. The title of the song and opening words of each verse express how much we depend on God. **Psalm 86:1**
- B. Recognizing our need for God is connected to the first of Jesus’ “beatitudes” in His sermon on the mount. This beatitude alludes to our spiritually destitute condition without God. **Matthew 5:3**
- C. While we must each work out our own salvation, such does not demean how dependent we are on God. It’s *His* strength that allows us to be truly “well off.” **Ephesians 6:10-11**

III. “Most Gracious Lord”

- A. The opening verse of the song alludes to God’s graciousness, which gives us the *opportunity* to be saved and assures God’s *desire* for us to be saved. **Song 63, verse 1a; Psalm 86:15**
- B. The song continues by alluding to the peace that comes through trusting and obeying what our gracious Lord has told us.
Song 63, verse 1b; John 5:25; Philippians 4:4-7

IV. “Stay Thou Near By”

- A. The second verse expresses the desire we should have for the help God provides that we desperately need.
Song 63, verse 2a
- B. Because He is a gracious Lord, God assures that He will draw near to us if we draw near to Him. Moreover, He promises to never leave us nor forsake us. **James 4:8; Hebrews 13:5-6**
- C. God provides all that we need to be able to stand against the wiles of the devil and avoid yielding to temptation.
Song 63, verse 2b; James 4:7; Ephesians 6:11

V. “In Joy or Pain”

- A. The third verse of the song begins by noting how much we need God no matter our earthly circumstances.
Song 63, verse 3a; Philippians 4:12
- B. The second half of the verse alludes to the vanity of life if we do not abide in God and He in us. **Song 63, verse 3b; John 15:5; Ecclesiastes 1:2 (12:13)**

VI. “Most Holy One”

- A. The final verse alludes to the Lord’s role as the “Most Holy One.” **Song 63, verse 4a; Acts 3:14**
- B. It also expresses the desire we should each have to belong to Christ, who died so that we *can* belong to Him as His purchased possession. **Song 63, verse 4b; Titus 2:14**