



# Old Time Gospel Hymns Bible Study

Gethsemane Lutheran  
Church  
3/8/2021

**Welcome**

# Trivia: A Biblical “Who Said It?”

**“Man does not live on bread alone, but on every Word that proceeds out of the mouth of God.”**

Jesus, quoting Moses (Matthew 4:4; Deuteronomy 8:3)

# Trivia: A Biblical “Who Said It?”

“How can a man be born when he is old? He cannot enter a second time into his mother’s womb and be born, can he?”

Nicodemus, struggling to understand Christ’s teaching that “unless one is born again, he cannot see the Kingdom of God”; John 3:4

# Trivia: A Biblical “Who Said It?”

“And now these three remain: faith, hope, and love. But the greatest of these is love.”

Paul, in a letter to the church at Corinth; 1 Corinthians 13:13

# Trivia: A Biblical “Who Said It?”

“Please, let a double portion of your spirit be upon me.”

Elisha, speaking to Elijah shortly before Elijah was to be taken in a whirlwind to Heaven; 2 Kings 2:9

# Trivia: A Biblical “Who Said It?”

“If it is disagreeable in your sight to serve the Lord, choose for yourselves today whom you will serve: whether the gods which your fathers served which were beyond the river, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.”

Joshua, speaking to the Israelites at Shechem; Joshua 24:15

# Spotlight Hymn: In The Garden





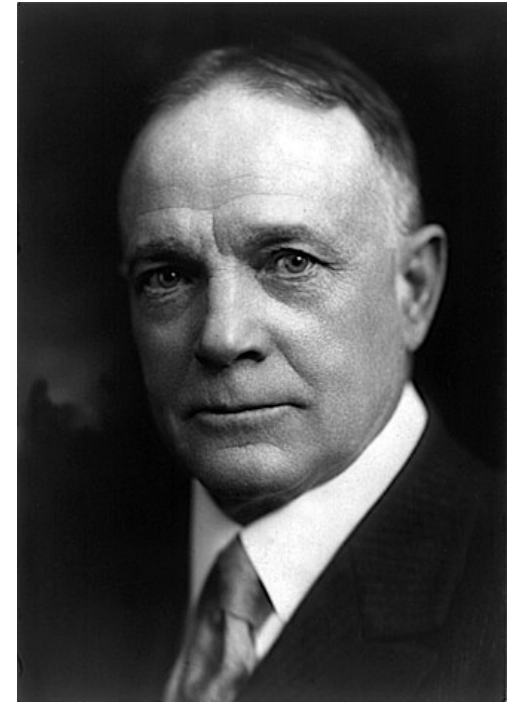
# In The Garden: Authorship

- Written by American songwriter C. Austin Miles (1868-1946) in 1912
- Trained as a pharmacist, Miles ceased practicing this trade in 1892 (at the age of 24) and went to work for the Hall-Mack Company (a publishing company, particularly of hymns, songbooks, and religious materials)
- Miles would work as an editor and manager at Hall-Mack for 37 years



# In The Garden: Authorship

- Miles wrote at least 398 hymns during his career, with In The Garden being far and away the most well-known
- In The Garden was published in 1912, the year it was penned, and was popularized during the Billy Sunday evangelistic campaigns of the early 20<sup>th</sup> century



# In The Garden: The Text

62 In The Garden

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C. A. M. C. Arthur Melen

1. I come to the gar-den a - lone, While the dew is still on the  
2. He speaks, and the sound of His voice is so sweet the birds hush their  
3. I'd stay in the gar-den with Him Tho' the night a - round me be

not - on, And the voice I hear, Fall - ing on my ear, The  
sing - ing, And the mel - o - dy That He gave to me, With -  
fall - ing, But He tells me go; Tho' the voice of was His

*Chorus*  
Son of God dis - closes,  
In my heart in - ring - ing, And He walks with me, and He  
voice to me is call - ing,

talks with me, And He tells me I am His own; And the  
joy we share as we tar - ry there, None oth - er has ev - er known.

## Verse 1

I come to the garden alone  
While the dew is still on the roses  
And the voice I hear falling on my ear  
The Son of God discloses.

And He walks with me, and He talks with me,  
And He tells me I am His own;  
And the joy we share as we tarry there,  
None other has ever known.

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*Chorus*  
Son of God dis - cuss - on,  
In my heart is ring - ing. And He walks with me, and He  
voice to me is call - ing.

talks with me, And He tells me I am His own; And the  
joy we share as we tar - ry there, None oth - er has ev - er known.

## Verse 2

**He speaks, and the sound of His voice,  
Is so sweet the birds hush their singing,  
And the melody that He gave to me  
Within my heart is ringing.**

**And He walks with me, and He talks with me,  
And He tells me I am His own;  
And the joy we share as we tarry there,  
None other has ever known.**

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*Chorus*  
Son of God dis - cuss -  
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talks with me, And He tells me I am His own; And the  
joy we share as we tar - ry there, None oth - er has ev - er known.

## Verse 3

I'd stay in the garden with Him  
Though the night around me be falling,  
But He bids me go; through the voice of woe  
His voice to me is calling.

And He walks with me, and He talks with me,  
And He tells me I am His own;  
And the joy we share as we tarry there,  
None other has ever known.

# In The Garden: The Inspiration

- At first glance, In the Garden strikes one as more poetic and abstract than the more straightforward theology that we saw in A Mighty Fortress Is Our God and How Great Thou Art. But if you had to speculate on what scripture may have inspired Miles to write this hymn, what section of scripture comes to mind?
- *“And the Lord God planted a garden in Eden, in the east, and there He put the man whom He had formed.”* Genesis 2:8
- *“The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it.”* Genesis 2:15
- *“And they heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day...”* Genesis 3:8a
- This has to be it, right?
- Miles tells us he had an entirely different scripture in his mind while he composed this classic hymn.

# In The Garden: The Inspiration

- According to Miles' great-granddaughter, the hymn was written "in a cold, dreary and leaky basement in Pitman, New Jersey that didn't even have a window in it, let alone a view of a garden".
- In just a moment, we'll read Miles' words recounting his experience in that basement, reflecting on an entirely different garden scene...the Garden Tomb.
  - *"Now in the place where He was crucified there was a garden, and in the garden a new tomb in which no one had yet been laid. Therefore because of the Jewish day of preparation, since the tomb was nearby, they laid Jesus there."* John 19:41-42

# In The Garden: The Inspiration

“One day in April 1912, I was seated in the dark room where I kept my photographic equipment, and also my organ. I drew my Bible toward me and it opened at my favorite book and chapter, John chapter 20. I don’t know if this was by chance or by the work of the Holy Spirit. I will let you the reader decide. That story of Jesus and Mary in John 20 had lost none of its power and charm.

It was though I was in a trance, as I read it that day, I seemed to be part of the scene. I became a silent witness to that dramatic moment in Mary’s life (Mary Magdalene) when she knelt before her Lord and cried, “Rabboni”. I rested my hands on the open Bible, as I stared at the light blue wall.

As the light faded, I seemed to be standing at the entrance of a garden, looking down a gently winding path, shaded by olive branches. A woman in white, with head, bowed, hand clasping her throat, as if to choke back her sobs, walked slowly into the shadows. It was Mary. As she came unto the tomb, upon which she placed her hand, she bent over to look in and ran away.

John, in a flowing robe, appeared looking at the tomb. Then came Peter, who entered the tomb, followed slowly by John. As they departed, Mary reappeared leaning her head upon her arm at the tomb, she wept. Turning herself, she saw Jesus standing there, so did I. I knew it was He. She knelt before Him, with arms outstretched, and looking into His face cried, “Rabboni”.

I awakened in sunlight, gripping my Bible with my muscles tense, and nerves vibrating, under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit. I wrote as quickly as the words could be formed the lyrics exactly as it is sung today. That same evening, I wrote the tune. It is sung today as it was written in 1912.”



# In The Garden: The Scripture

- *Now on the first day of the week Mary Magdalene came early to the tomb, while it was still dark, and saw the stone already taken away from the tomb.” John 20:1*
- Why was Mary going to the tomb of her crucified Teacher?
- Mark and Luke record the purpose was to anoint His body with spices and perfumes.
- Mary had followed Him from Galilee and to the Cross.
  - *“Many women were there looking on from a distance, who had followed Jesus from Galilee while ministering to Him. Among them was Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James and Joseph, and the mother of the sons of Zebedee.” Matthew 27:55-56*
- Mary purposely watched to find what would become of His body.
  - *“Joseph (of Arimathea) bought a linen cloth, took Him down, wrapped Him in the linen cloth and laid Him in a tomb which had been hewn out in the rock; and he rolled a stone against the entrance of the tomb. Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Joseph were looking on to see where He was laid.” Mark 15:46-47*
- And now, on the first day of the week, as soon as the Sabbath was over, Mary came as early as she could to the tomb of Christ...to pay Him as much respect as she was able...to be near Him.
- I come to the garden alone, while the dew is still on the roses...





# In The Garden: The Scripture

- *“So she ran and came to Simon Peter and to the other disciple whom Jesus loved, and said to them, “They have taken away the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid Him.” So Peter and the other disciple went forth, and they were going to the tomb. The two were running together; and the other disciple ran ahead faster than Peter and came to the tomb first; and stooping and looking in, he saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. And so Simon Peter also came, following him, and entered the tomb; and he saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the face-cloth which had been on His head, not lying with the linen wrappings, but rolled up in a place by itself.” John 20:2-7*



# In The Garden: The Scripture

- *“So the other disciple who had first come to the tomb then also entered, and he saw and believed. For as yet, they did not understand the Scripture, that He must rise again from the dead. So the disciples went away again to their own homes.” John 20:8-10*
- *“But Mary was standing outside the tomb weeping; and so, as she wept, she stooped and looked into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white sitting, one at the head and one at the feet where the body of Jesus had been lying. And they said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping?” She said to them, “Because they have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid Him.” John 20:11-13*

# In The Garden: The Scripture

- *“When she had said this, she turned around saw Jesus standing there, and did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you seeking?” Supposing Him to be the gardener, she said to Him, “Sir, if you have carried Him away, tell me where you have laid Him, and I will take Him away.”* John 20:14-15
- *“Jesus said to her, “Mary!” She turned and said to Him in Hebrew, “Rabboni!” (which means Teacher).”* John 20:16
- And the voice I hear falling on my ear, the Son of God discloses...
- In His resurrected state, Mary did not immediately recognize Him by His appearance. She did not recognize His voice initially, but when He spoke her name...essentially when He called her His own, He disclosed his identity to her.
- He speaks, and the sound of His voice, is so sweet the birds hush their singing. And the melody that He gave to me, within my heart is ringing.
- How Mary's heart rang with joy when she realized her Lord and Teacher was risen and calling her by name!

# In The Garden: The Scripture

- *“Jesus said to her, “Stop clinging to Me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father; but go to My brethren and say to them, “I ascend to My Father and your Father, and My God and Your God.” Mary Magdalene came, announcing to the disciples, “I have seen the Lord,” and that He had said these things to her.”* John 20:17-18
- I'd stay in the garden with Him, though the night around me be falling, but He bids me go...
- Certainly a poetic stretch of time here by Miles, as it was still morning in the garden.
- Why did Christ bid Mary to go?
- He needed to ascend to the Father. Perhaps in Heaven more will be revealed to us about that beautiful scene when Christ ascends to His Father after the glorious completion of His work on the Cross and conquering of death.
- Christ gave Mary a mission. Mary Magdalene, the woman whom had once been possessed by seven demons (Luke 8:2)...the Gospel of John records her as the first person entrusted to carry to others the glorious news of Christ's resurrection.

# In The Garden: The Scripture

- Christ has given us that same message and mission.
- *“But the eleven disciples proceeded to Galilee, to the mountain which Jesus designated. When they saw Him, they worshipped Him, but some were doubtful. And Jesus came up and spoke to them saying, “All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” Matthew 28:16-20*
- He is with us always, even to the end of the age.
- And He walks with me, and He talks with me, and He tells me I am His own. And the joy we share as we tarry there, none other has ever known.

# In The Garden: The Scripture

- What about “the voice of woe”? (He bids me go, through the voice of woe)
- Following Christ and sharing His message will not be easy.
  - *“In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.”* John 16:33b
  - *“If the world hates you, understand that it hated Me first.”* John 15:18
  - *“Then Jesus told His disciples, “If anyone would come after Me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me.”* Matthew 16:24
- Christ still bids us to go and share the good news that He has died and rose again to pay the penalty for our sins, so that we can have eternal life with Him. And He will be with us always, to the very end of the age.

# In The Garden: Reflection

What is it about In The Garden that has elevated it to the beloved status it holds today?

Why do you love it?





## The Music

# Final Thoughts/Comments

