

Songs of the Cross: "Down at the Cross"

1 Corinthians 1: 1-9, 18-31

TRUTH: The Essential Teaching of Christianity is this:

Jesus Died and Rose Again so that our Sins Could be
Forgiven and All who Believe can Become Witnesses of
this Truth in Word and Deed.

1. Down at the Cross, Jesus will _____ your _____ and _____
you _____ if you will _____ out to Him for _____.

1) When did you ask Jesus into your heart? _____

2) Why did you invite Him in? _____

How burdened are you about your own sin on a daily basis?

2. Down at the cross, Jesus takes you in and brings a sweet
_____ and _____ to you when He _____.

1) How often do you sense joy and peace in your soul? _____

2) In what ways do you live with a deep awareness of
Jesus' presence? _____

How well do others know that Jesus "abides within"?

3. Down at the cross, Jesus _____ you as well as _____
you by giving you His _____ and _____.

**Are you relying on Jesus' mercy and grace or
your own strength and ingenuity?**

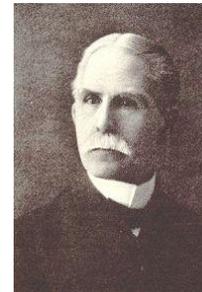
4. Down at the cross, Jesus _____ for _____ to believe
and receive Him! Will you _____ them?

1) Do others know you as an "ambassador" of King Jesus?

2) Who have you invited to Jesus and/or His Church in
the last 10 weeks (or 70 days/1,680 hours)?

"Glory to His Name/Down at the Cross"

Background by Elizabeth Macomber



This hymn is also known as 'Down at the Cross.' Elisha Hoffman was born on May 7, 1839, in Pennsylvania. His father was a minister, and Elisha followed Christ at a young age. His education was in the public school system in his younger years. Later he attended and graduated from the Union Seminary located in New Berlin, Pennsylvania. Hoffman was ordained to the gospel ministry in 1868 and served as publisher for the Evangelical

Association in Cleveland, Ohio for eleven years. He pastored in Cleveland and Grafton, Ohio, in the late 1800s. He also pastored in Michigan and Illinois. Then, following the death of his young wife, he returned to Pennsylvania and devoted 33 years to pastoring Benton Harbor Presbyterian Church. In his lifetime, he edited fifty songbooks and wrote over two thousand Gospel songs. *It is said that he was reading some of the Scripture passages about Jesus' crucifixion and pondered how He died for the sins of the world and that these words overwhelmed his soul and flowed from his pen.* Some of the hymns he wrote are the following:

"I Must Tell Jesus" "Are You Washed in the Blood?"
"What A Wonderful Savior" "Is Your All On The Altar?"
"Leaning on the Everlasting Arms"

John Hart Stockton, the composer of this hymn, was born in New Hope, PA, on April 19, 1813. He was born a Presbyterian, but was converted to Methodism in the summer of 1832 at the age of 19. He was ordained as a Methodist minister, and made a full member of the New Jersey Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church in 1857. In 1874, because of poor health, he retired from the active ministry, but continued an active interest in evangelical work. He assisted in the Moody-Sankey meetings in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. John Hart Stockton died on March 25th, 1877.

Some of the hymns he wrote and composed are these:

"Take Me As I Am" "The Great Physician"
"Only Trust Him"

Sources: Forrest M. McCann, *Hymns and History*. ACU Press: Abilene, TX, 1997, pp. 426, 524 and Morgan, Robert J. *On This Day*. Electronic ed., Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 2000, (c.1997). May 7.