

Christian Worship Hymn 349—Jesus, Priceless Treasure

*Jesus, priceless treasure, Fount of purest pleasure, Truest friend to me.
Ah, how long in anguish Shall my spirit languish, Yearning, Lord, for thee?
Thou art mine, O Lamb divine! I will suffer naught to hide thee, Naught I ask beside thee.*

*In thine arms I rest me; Foes who would molest me Cannot reach me here.
Though the earth be shaking, Ev'ry heart be quaking, Jesus calms my fear.
Lightnings flash And thunders crash; Yet tho' sin and hell assail me, Jesus will not fail me.*

*Satan, I defy thee; Death, I now decry thee; Fear, I bid thee cease.
World, thou shalt not harm me Nor thy threats alarm me While I sing of peace.
God's great pow'r Guards ev'ry hour; Earth and all its depths adore him, Silent bow before him.*

*Hence, all earthly treasure! Jesus is my pleasure; Jesus is my choice.
Hence, all empty glory! Naught to me thy story Told with tempting voice.
Pain or loss Or shame or cross Shall not from my Savior move me Since he deigns to love me.*

*Hence, all fear and sadness! For the Lord of gladness, Jesus, enters in.
Those who love the Father, Though the storms may gather, Still have peace within.
Yea, whate'er I here must bear, Thou art still my purest pleasure, Jesus, priceless treasure.*

The hymn for this week is a beautiful one to focus on at any time in the year, but especially during Lent. It forces us to ask ourselves the question, "What is really important in my life?" It brings to mind those Mastercard commercials where they mention the cost of certain things like sodas and hotdogs and tickets to the ball game; but the time you spend with your family, that's priceless. Jesus is priceless! And our hymnwriter tells us why.

Jesus is priceless because he is the source of true and lasting pleasure. Our happiness comes from the knowledge that we are saved because of what our truest friend Jesus did for us on the cross. How long will we yearn for the Savior? How long will we suffer without him? That's the question coming from the guilty, sinful heart. Our sin separates us from our God. But quickly, we are reminded that Jesus is ours. He is the Lamb of God who has taken away the sin of the world. We need nothing to take away our pain except for him.

In Jesus, we find rest. In Jesus, we find protection. Even though the world may be crashing down around us; even though fear floods every heart; I'm not afraid because of Jesus. The lightnings and thunders of our life are around us. Sin and Hell aim to bring us down; but we are not afraid because of God's promised protection, and he never fails.

So I say to the evil triumvirate: Satan, Death, and the World; give me your best shot. Because nothing you can do can separate me from the love of my Savior! God's great power guards me every hour! The world adores him and it heeds his commands.

You can take all that the world has to offer: money, glory, power, prestige; it's all empty. I choose to remain with my Savior, my priceless pleasure. So fear and sadness be gone, Jesus has entered and cheered me! Trouble and trial will come, but I will not fear, I will have peace, because no matter what, Jesus is still here, my priceless treasure. May God fix our eyes and hearts on Jesus as we continue to journey this Lenten Season.