

Hymn: The Call

by John Nelson Darby

God's call is a powerful and sweet invitation from an unseen world that draws the believer to a deeper relationship with Him and ultimately leads to eternal rest and fellowship with God.

Scripture: Psalm 16:11, Isaiah 40:31, Matthew 11:28-30, John 10:27, Romans 8:18, 2 Corinthians 5:1, Philippians 3:20-21, 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17, Hebrews 4:9-11, Revelation 21:4

Topics: "Divine Calling", "Eternal Hope"

Description

John Nelson Darby emphasizes the powerful and loving call of God that draws believers away from earthly concerns towards a deeper relationship with Him. He reflects on the soothing yet solemn nature of this divine voice, which offers peace and hope amidst life's struggles. The sermon highlights the joy of knowing God and the anticipation of eternal life with Him, encouraging believers to serve faithfully while awaiting His return. Darby expresses a longing for the fulfillment of God's promises and the ultimate rest found in His presence. The message is a reminder of the grace that binds the heart to God and the eternal joy that awaits those who follow His call.

Transcript

WHAT powerful, mighty Voice, so near, Calls me from earth apart - Reaches, with tones so still, so clear,
From th'unseen world, my heart? 'Tis solemn, yet it draws with power And sweetness yet unknown; It
speaks the language of an hour When earth's for ever gone. It soothes, yet solemnizes all; What yet of
nature is Lies silent, through the heavenly call; No earthly voice like this! 'Tis His. Yes, yes; no other sound
Could move my heart like this; The voice of Him that earlier bound Through grace that heart to His - In
other accents now, 'tis true, Than once my spirit woke, To life and peace, through which it grew Under His
gracious yoke.

Blest Lord, Thou speak'st! 'Twas erst Thy voice That led my heart to Thee; That drew me to that better
choice Where grace has set me free. Then would'st Thou that I should rejoice, And walk by faith below;
Enough, that I had heard Thy voice, And learnt Thy love's deep woe - Thy glory, Lord. This living waste
Thenceforth no rest could give; My path was on with earnest haste, Lord, in Thy rest to live. Yes, then
'twas faith - Thy word; but now Thyself my soul draw'st nigh, My soul with nearer thoughts to bow Of
brighter worlds on high.

And oh! how all that eye can see To others now belongs! The eternal home's so nigh to me - My soul's
eternal songs. For Thou art near; Thou call'st me now In love I long have known, While waiting on Thy will

below, Till Thou my hopes should'st crown. And Thou would'st have me soon with Thee; Thou, Lord, my portion art; Thou hast revealed Thyself to me - Thy nature to my heart. My happiness, O Lord, with Thee is long laid up in store, For that bless'd day when Thee I'd see, And conflict all be o'er.

Yes, love divine - in Thee I know; The Father's glories soon Shall burst upon my ravished view - Thyself my eternal crown! Thou mak'st me brighter hopes to prove, Because Thou nearer art; With secrets of eternal love Thou fill'st my longing heart. How shall I leave Thee, Lord? This joy is from Thyself; it is My brightest hope without alloy, My pure, eternal bliss. With Thee, O Lord, I all things have - Unclouded joy divine In Thee, who first these "all things" gave For ever to be mine.

Yet I will wait, in labour still In Thy blest service here; What Thou hast given me to fulfil - Thy will - to me is dear. "It is my meat to do the will of Him I serve; and I am glad to know it, because it is His - glad He has deigned to communicate it to me - glad to have it perfect as He gives it." J. N. D. I well can wait! Thou waitest yet The word of that dread hour, Which shall Thy foes for ever set As footstool of Thy power. Yet, Lord, were once Thy will fulfilled, How better far with Thee, With Thee, my joy, my strength, my shield, In cloudless light to be.

O endless joy! how shall my heart Thy riches all unfold, Or tell the grace that gave me part In bliss no tongue hath told? Lord, let me wait for Thee alone; My life be only this - To serve Thee here on earth, unknown; Then share Thy heavenly bliss. Lord, be it soon! Thou know'st our heart, In this sad world, no rest Can find nor wish but where Thou art - That rest itself possessed! Soon shall we see Thee as Thou art, O hope for ever blessed! Thou'lt call us, in our heavenly part - The Father's house - to rest.

O rest ineffable, divine, The rest of God above, Where Thou for ever shalt be mine; My joy, eternal love! His counsels, all, fulfilled in Thee; His work of love complete; And heavenly hosts shall rest, to see Earth blest beneath Thy feet!

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