

To God Be the Glory

1. To God be the glo - ry, great things He hath done,
 2. O per - fect re - demp - tion, the pur - chase of blood,
 3. Great things He hath taught us, great things He hath done,

so loved He the world that He gave us His Son,
 to ev - ery be - liev - er the prom - ise of God;
 and great our re - joic - ing through Je - sus the Son;

who yield - ed His life an a - tone - ment for sin,
 the vil - est of - fend - er who tru - ly be - lieves,
 but pur - er, and high - er and great - er will be

and o - pened the life - gate that all may go in.
 that mo - ment from Je - sus a par - don re - ceives.
 our won - der, our trans - port, when Je - sus we see.

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the earth hear His voice!
 Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the peo - ple re - joice!

O come to the Fa - ther through Je - sus the Son,
 and give Him the glo - ry, great things He hath done.

To God Be the Glory is one of the most well-known of Fanny Crosby's more than eight thousand hymns.

As mentioned before (*"Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross"* - August 2024), Crosby was made permanently blind because of a doctor's costly mistake when she was six weeks old. For one to suffer such a life-altering tragedy, she was marked by persevering joy and faith. Her grandmother was faithful to disciple her as a child, helping her to "see" the truth through a strengthened memory and mind. (She had memorized all four Gospels and Genesis-Numbers by age 10!) Crosby continued walking in rich, personal, saving faith in Jesus throughout her life.

"To God Be the Glory" gained prominence first in England in use during D.L. Moody's evangelistic crusades, but when Billy Graham discovered it at his own 1952 London crusade, he helped bring it to prominence in the States. Since then, millions of Christians have sung it over the decades in praise to God.

Unlike many other such praise psalms and hymns, its focus is singularly on the salvation we have received in Christ. Not only that, but it has a unique turn in the end of each refrain: *"O come to the Father through Jesus the Son, and give Him the glory, great things He hath done."* These lyrics ensure that believers' praise is not only edifying for the church but evangelistic to the listening world.

Crosby is quoting as saying that she was content to have been made blind "because, when I get to heaven, the first face that shall ever gladden my sight will be that of my Savior." It should come as no surprise, then, her favorite verse was 1 John 3:2—*"Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is."* As we sing this hymn, may we likewise find great comfort in knowing that no matter what we face, we may truly sing "to God be the glory" because of our salvation in Christ, now and forever with Him one day.

Scripture to consider:

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|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Exodus 15:1-21 | Psalm 115 | Galatians 1:3-5 |
| Psalm 29 | Jonah 2 | 1 John 3 |
| Psalm 42 | 1 Cor. 10:23-33 | Revelation 5 |

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