

Come to Calvary's Holy Mountain



Text: LSB 435 and NAS 1995

Introduction: Dear friends: This sermon focuses on a popular Lenten hymn: **Come to Calvary's Holy Mountain**

As we move through this season of Lent, we are drawing closer to our annual remembrance of Jesus' †crucifixion, †agony, and †death. It's horrible what He willingly endured, *but He followed His Father's plan and won our salvation – Thanks be to God!!!*

The title of each hymn stanza is a summary statement of that stanza. Let's try to better understand ▶the hymn and ▶Jesus' monumental work to redeem us!

1. **From Calvary Is Flowing Ongoing Forgiveness:** We all desperately need forgiveness, *so God has made it available to everyone alive – until Jesus' returns*. Since no one knows ▶when he will die or ▶when Jesus will return, *it is vital to receive God's eternal gift today!*
 - a. **Come to Calvary's holy mountain, Sinners, ruined by the fall;** // God's creation was "very good" (Gen. 1:31), *but the fall into sin ruined everyone: Romans 5:12* "...just as through one man sin entered into the

world, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men, because all sinned..." // **1 Cor. 15:22** "...as in Adam all die, so also in Christ all will be made alive."

- b. **Here a pure and healing fountain, Flows for you, for me, for all,** // Zechariah wrote about Jesus, whose ✦sinless living and ✦sacrificial dying opened an amazing healing fountain for everyone: **Zechariah 13:1** "In that day a fountain will be opened for the house of David and for the inhabitants of Jerusalem, for sin and for impurity." John wrote: "...the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin" (1 John 1:7).
- c. **In a full, perpetual tide, Opened when our Savior died.** // Jesus announced from His cross: "It is **finished!**" – *It is fulfilled, It is paid in full* – "And He bowed His head and gave up His spirit" (Jn. 19:30). // On the day of the fall, the LORD promised that a seed of the woman would bruise the head of Satan (**Gen. 3:15**), then – about 4,000 years later – Jesus fulfilled that promise on Good Friday!

2. **The Eternal Benefits of Christ are for Everyone:**

- a. **Come in poverty and meanness, Come defiled, without, within;** // Remember the old saying: "If I went to church, the roof would fall down." Some people have the idea that they must clean themselves up BEFORE they can come to God, *but that is impossible*: "...all our righteous deeds are like a filthy garment" (**Isa. 64:6**). Therefore, if you are ✦poor—come, ✦cruel—come, ✦ruined—come!
- b. **From infection and uncleanness, From the leprosy of sin,** // When someone is ill, we keep our distance, but not Jesus: "a leper came to Him and bowed down

before Him, and said, 'Lord, if You are willing, You can make me clean.' Jesus stretched out His hand and touched him, saying, 'I am willing; be cleansed.' And immediately his leprosy was cleansed" (Matt. 8:2-3).

Jesus healed **all** diseases **and** cleanses **every** repentant person "from **all** unrighteousness" (1Jn. 1:9).

- c. **Wash your robes and make them white; Ye shall walk with God in light.** // John was shown a vision of people in heaven wearing white robes, *then this explanation was given:* "These are the ones [coming] [present participle] out of the great tribulation, and they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb" (Rev. 7:14).

3. **The Eternal Benefits of Christ are Free and Lasting:**

- a. **Come in sorrow and contrition, Wounded, impotent, and blind;** // Who is welcome to receive the benefits of Christ? Everyone: "**WHOEVER WILL CALL ON THE NAME OF THE LORD WILL BE SAVED**" (Rom. 10:13). Do you have Spirit-worked sorrow in your heart regarding your sins? Come! Do you have a physical deficiency? Come!
- b. **Here the guilty, free remission, Here the troubled, peace may find.** // **Guilt** can be horrible; *it led Judas to end his life (Mt. 27:5)!* People who face death without Jesus can be **troubled** *and should be terrified (Heb. 10:31)*. In both cases, **FREE** forgiveness and **FREE** peace are available through Jesus. *Don't miss out!* A great invitation to all: "The Spirit and the bride say, 'Come.' And let the one who hears say, 'Come.' And let the one who is thirsty come; let the one who wishes take the water of life without cost" (Rev. 22:17).

- c. **Health this fountain will restore; They that drink shall thirst no more.** // No matter how far gone a person is, *he can be fully restored through Jesus!* As we – *by the Spirit* – continue in Christ, *our thirst for forgiveness continues to be quenched!*

4. **The Eternal Benefits of Christ are Eternal and Certain:**

- a. **They that drink shall live forever; 'Tis a soul-renewing flood.** // By grace through faith we drink the eternal benefits of Jesus' saving work. Let us not be like “those who shrink back and are destroyed, but of those believe and are saved” (Heb. 10:39 NIV).
- b. **God is faithful; God will never, Break His covenant of blood,** // “...when Christ appeared as a high priest of the good things to come, He entered through the greater and more perfect tabernacle... and not through the blood of goats and calves, but through His own blood, He entered the holy place once for all, having obtained eternal redemption” (Heb. 9:11-12).
- c. **Signed when our Redeemer died, Sealed when He was glorified. Amen.** // Signed: “It is finished” (Jn. 19:30). Sealed: “The angel said to the women, ‘Do not be afraid; for I know that you are looking for Jesus who has been crucified. He is not here, for He has risen...’” (Matt. 28:5-6).

Let Us Pray: Dear Jesus, Calvary was so **horrible for You** and **wonderful for us!** Help us to keep 😊receiving the benefits of Your work and 😊telling others what You did for them!

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