

Just As I Am/ I Come Broken

Often we feel that if only we were in different circumstances or had some special talent, we could be better servants for God and serve Him more effectively. This beautiful hymn was written by a bedridden invalid who felt useless to do anything except express her feelings of devotion to God, yet this simply worded text has influenced more people than any hymn ever written.

Just as I am, without one plea but that Thy blood was shed for me, and that Thou bidd'st me come to Thee, O Lamb of God, I come! I come!

Just as I am, tho tossed about with many a conflict, many a doubt, fightings and fears within, without, O Lamb of God, I come! I come!

Just as I am, Thou wilt receive, wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve; because Thy promise I believe, O Lamb of God, I come! I come!

Lately, there's been a hymn people have been singing along with this that really ties the thoughts together on how we come to God and to our Savior.

I come broken to be mended, I come wounded to be healed. I come desperate to be rescued, I come empty to be filled. I come guilty to be pardoned by the blood of Christ the Lamb. And I'm welcomed with open arms, praise God, just as I am.

These beautiful hymns together tell how we come to Him ... we desperately need Him and without Him, we cannot be saved, but by coming to Him, He expects us to change. In Psalm 51, after David had committed adultery with Bathsheba and had her husband killed, a prophet came to him and showed him what he had done. The psalm gives a plea of forgiveness (1-6); a plea for cleansing (7-12); a praise to God for his forgiveness (13-17); and, how God wants us to have a broken and contrite heart (16-17). David knew better, and we know better when we sin. The question is what do we do after we slip? Do we act like it's no big deal or do we act like David? We know in John 3:16 the love that God had for each and every one of us. Do we show Him that we love Him (John 14:15)? We were brought near to God by the blood of Christ (Ephesians 2:13) and He asks so little of us in return. How do you explain and describe a love that goes from east to west and runs as deep as it is wide? You truly can't. Let's use the words we know to tell Him what an awesome God He truly is, but words are not enough — we need action. Are you ready to abound every day (1 Corinthians 15:58)? Are you ready to be the shining light for all to see (Matthew 5:13:16)? Let's show God how much we need Him and love Him today.

Joseph Lachausse