



- 4. Preserve our first love's high perfection In all its warmth and purity; Love banishes all self-affection And sets the heart from evil free. Love is the mark which makes it clear That we are Thy disciples here.
- 5. Lo, where the warmth of love has vanished, True holiness is found no more; For love of self has not been banished And love no faults doth cover o'er, For where the peace of God departs, Frivolity soon chills the hearts.
- 6. Love yearns for a sincere communion And seeks a faithful brother-heart, Love there rejoices in a union Where brothers, from the world apart, Stand heart to heart on common ground, Where Christ's own charity is found.
- 7. This charity is friendly, sparing; It looks for brotherly accord, Is ever patient and forbearing And seeks not honor or reward, Is clothed in sweet humility, From every taint of evil free.
- 8. This charity is soon entreated; Is not insistent on its right. Is never proud or self-conceited But finds enjoyment in the light Of truth, and righteousness, and peace; True charity shall never cease!
- 9. True charity no ill is seeking, Is ready to give others aid; And if the world is vengeance wreaking, It trusts in God all unafraid, Retaining still its confidence That God will be a sure defense.
- 10. True charity is of God's giving And where love is, there God will be; Where'er a man, reborn, is living, There charity is like a sea. Where charity now doth abound, A child of God indeed is found.