

## I Asked the Lord That I Might Grow

1. I asked the Lord that I might grow In faith and love and ev - 'ry grace;  
 2. 'Twas He who taught me thus to pray, And He, I trust, has answered pray'r,  
 3. *I hoped that in some fa-vored hour He'd quick-ly an-swer my re-quest,*  
 4. In - stead of this He made me feel The hid-den e - vils of my heart,  
 5. *Yet more, with His own hand He seemed In - tent to ag - gra - vate my woe,*  
 6. "Lord, why is this?" I, trembling, cried; "Wilt Thou pur-sue this worm to death?"  
 7. "These in - ward tri - als I em - ploy From self and pride to set thee free,

Might more of His sal - va - tion know, And seek more ear - nest - ly His face.  
 But it has been in such a way As al - most drove me to de - spair.  
*And by His love's con - strain - ing pow'r Sub - due my sins and give me rest.*  
 And let the an - gry pow'rs of hell As - sault my soul in ev - 'ry part.  
*Crossed all the fair de - signs I schemed, Hum - bled my soul, and laid me low.*  
 "'Tis in this way," the Lord re - plied, "I an - swer pray'r for grace and faith.  
 And break thy schemes of earth - ly joy That thou might seek thy all in Me."

Music: John Church, 1722

Text: John Newton (1725–1807)

COMMANDMENTS (Church)

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