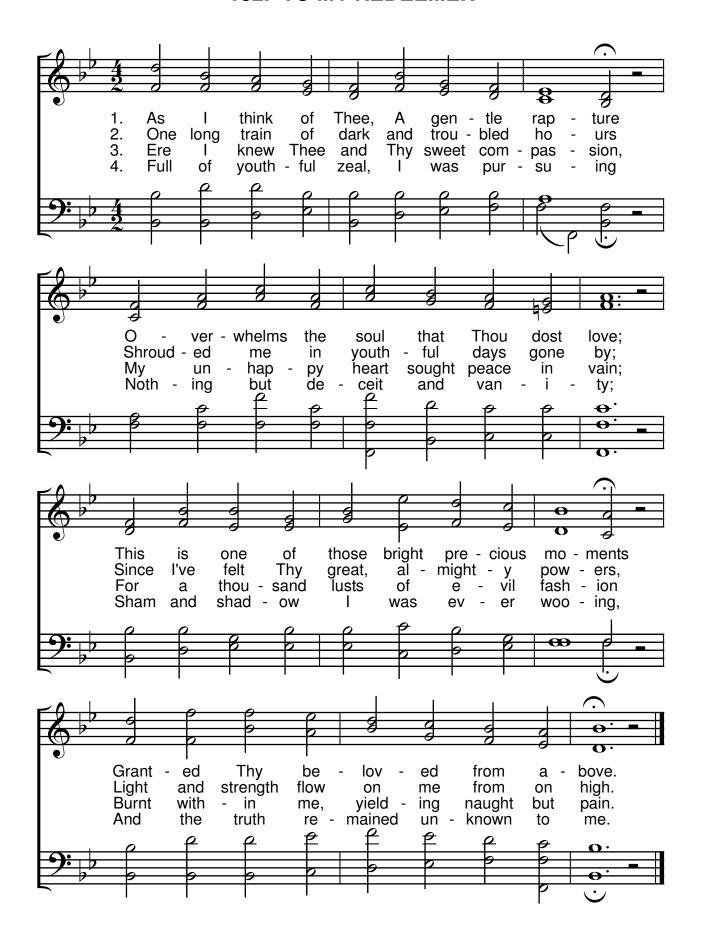
182. TO MY REDEEMER



- Filled with false ambition, pride, and cunning, Wanting meekness, sense of right, and light, Into error's mazes I was running, Oft unwilling, slave to sin's dread might.
- 6. Were I loved and honored, thus I fancied All this longing would be satisfied; And these came to me in ample measure, Yet I felt that vacant, unfilled void.
- Shepherdless in heathers dry and barren, As a lost and famished sheep I strayed, Finding naught to satisfy my hunger, Naught whereby my thirst could be allayed.
- 8. O, in misery I would have perished, Crushed by great affliction and distress, Had I not by Thee been found and cherished, Had I not by Thy grace been refreshed.
- 9. What a wretched life had been my portion; Torn by doubt, remorse and fear was I, Till at last my faith in Thee was anchored And Thou heard'st my pleading and my cry!
- 10. Long a downcast spirit did depress me; Now Thou cheerest both my heart and mind; Only peace and happiness possess me Since my blessed lot in Thee I find.
- 11. Since those sacred days of heav'nly blessing, I can conquer over passions strong, Over discontent and dark depression; Heav'nly pleasure fills my breast with song.
- 12. Nor will there be dreary clouds above me That will overcast my heaven's blue, If I evermore, O Lord, will love Thee Without discontent, to Thee be true.
- 13. Woe unto the world, such love despising, That such joy in Jesus casts away; For its value never realizing, It is led by vanity astray!
- 14. O, forsake me not, Thou ever faithful, Though to try me Thou Thy face dost hide; Till I bear Thy likeness and impression, Purge me as the gold is purified!
- 15. When my earthly life at last is finished And in faith and love my race is run, I shall praise Thee, Saviour, for Thy suff'rings Which for me eternal rest has won.