

## **Take Up Thy Cross**

**1. "Take up thy Cross," the Savior said,  
"if thou wouldst my disciple be;  
deny thyself, the world forsake,  
and humbly follow after me."**

**2. Take up thy cross, let not its weight  
fill thy weak spirit with alarm;  
his strength shall bear thy spirit up,  
and brace thy heart and nerve thine arm.**

## **Take Up Thy Cross**

**3. Take up thy cross, nor heed the shame,  
nor let thy foolish pride rebel;  
thy Lord for thee the cross endured,  
to save thy soul from death and hell.**

**4. Take up thy cross and follow Christ,  
nor think till death to lay it down;  
for only those who bear the cross  
may hope to wear the glorious crown.**

**Father, you are the Most High God, Almighty and all knowing. It is my desire to be close to you and under your loving protection. You are my refuge and my fortress, not only God of all, but my personal God in whom I trust. Surely you will save from Satan's snare and from the deadly pestilence. You cover us with your feathers and under your wings we are safe. Your faithfulness will be our shield and rampart. I will not fear the terror of night, nor the arrow that flies by day, nor the pestilence that stalks in the darkness, nor the plague that destroys at midday.**

**A thousand may fall at my side, ten thousand at my right hand, but it will not come near me. I will only observe and see with my eyes the punishment of the wicked. It is the desire of my heart Lord to dwell in you, Creator, in whom I find refuge. You protect me from harm. Keep disaster from my home. May your angels guard me in all my ways, even to the point of catching me when I trip up. When beasts and venomous creatures assail me, you are with me. I do love you Lord and I acknowledge your blessedness and holiness.**

**I call on you now Father and I know you will answer. You will be with me in trouble, deliver me, and honor me with your presence. Grant me long life and show me your salvation. Lord, use me till everyone has heard the Good News of Jesus; so that they too may take hold of your mercy, grace, providence, and protection. I pray in Jesus' name. Amen.**

**The Lord's Prayer**

**Alive  
with  
Christ**



## **Ephesians 2:1–10 (NIV84)**

**As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient. All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our sinful nature and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature objects of wrath. But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy,**

**made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved. And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus. For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— not by works, so that no one can boast. For we are God’s workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.**



**Alive  
with  
Christ**



## US TOP 10 CAUSES OF DEATH IN 2017

**#10** Suicides: 129 people per day.

**#9** Kidney Disease: 130/day

**#8** Influenza & Pneumonia: 153/day

**#7** Diabetes: 229/day

**#6** Alzheimer's disease: 333/day

## US TOP 10 CAUSES OF DEATH IN 2017

**#5**      **Stroke & Cerebrovascular diseases: 401/day**

**#4**      **Chronic Lower Respiratory Disease: 439/day**

**#3**      **Unintentional Injuries: 466/day**

**#2**      **Cancer: 1,642/day**

**#1**      **Heart Disease: 1774/day**

**Total: 5,696/day**

# Alive with Christ

- **Bad News**
- **Great News**
- **Response**

## Alive but Dead

- Sins
- Transgressions
- the ways of the world
- the ruler of the kingdom of the air
- the spirit at work in the disobedient



## Alive but Dead

- All of Us
- Gratifying the cravings
- Following what?
- Objects of wrath



# Great News

- God's great love
- Rich in mercy
- Made us ALIVE
- Even though we were dead in our transgressions
- It is by grace you have been saved.



## Great News

- Raised up with Christ
- Seated with Christ Jesus
- In the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus
- The incomparable riches of his grace
- Expressed in kindness in Christ Jesus





# Saved by Grace

## Through Faith

- It is the gift of God

## Not from Yourself

- No one can boast!

# Saved by Grace

## **We are God's workmanship**

- **Created in Christ Jesus**
- **To do Good works**
- **God prepared in advance for us to do.**

**Alive  
with  
Christ**



# Soon and Very Soon

**1 Soon and very soon  
we are goin' to see the King,  
Soon and very soon  
we are goin' to see the King,  
Soon and very soon  
we are goin' to see the King,  
Hallelujah, Hallelujah,  
we're goin' to see the King!**

## Soon and Very Soon

**2 No more cryin' there  
we are goin' to see the King,  
No more cryin' there  
we are goin' to see the King,  
No more cryin' there  
we are goin' to see the King,  
Hallelujah, Hallelujah,  
we're goin' to see the King!**

## Soon and Very Soon

**3 No more dying there  
we are goin' to see the King,  
No more dying there  
we are goin' to see the King,  
No more dying there  
we are goin' to see the King,  
Hallelujah, Hallelujah,  
we're goin' to see the King!**