

Lead Me to Calvary

Words: Jennie E. Hussey, published 1921.
Melody: William J. Kirkpatrick, published 1921.

Communion is to REMEMBER His death until He comes for us.

I Corinthians 11:

24 And when he had given thanks, he brake *it*, and said, Take, eat: this is my body, which is broken for you: **this do in remembrance of me.**

25 After the same manner also *he took* the cup, when he had supped, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood: this do ye, as oft as ye drink *it*, **in remembrance of me.**

26 For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, **ye do shew the Lord's death till he come.**

Three sermons were preached in May 2011, *Never Forget*, for we are prone to forget God and His works.

But the most important Person and work we cannot forget is our Lord Jesus Christ's work for eternal life.

"I will make thy name to be remembered in all generations: therefore shall the people praise thee for ever and ever" (Ps 45:17).

"Therefore we ought to give the more earnest heed to the things which we have heard, lest at any time we should let them slip" (Heb 2:1).



Jane Evelyn Hussey was born February 8, 1874 in Henniker, N.H. She began writing verse as a child, and her first one was published when she was thirteen. At sixteen she began to write stories, articles and designs for crochet needlework for magazines. In 1898 her first hymns were published. She was a fifth-generation Quaker. She suffered from severe arthritis and spent most of her life on the family farm caring for an invalid sister. Later in life she asked the pastor of the First Baptist Church in Concord, NH to baptize her, "I've spent much of my life hidden away in the country, and I'd like to have the opportunity, before God takes me home, to tell everybody, 'I love Jesus.'"

One day when her suffering was particularly severe, she prayed, "Please, Lord, make me willing to bear my cross daily, without complaining, because You bore Yours for me." This is verse 4 of her song. In the next few days she added what are now verses 2 and 3. Only later, after these verses of humble submission, did Jennie add the triumphant opening verse of personal commitment. The first 13 words should excite any saved person. She is credited with about 150 hymn texts in her life.

Observe the song's emphasis on the danger of forgetting four things.

Lest I forget ... **thy thorn-crowned brow.**

Lest I forget ... **Gethsemane.**

Lest I forget ... **thine agony.**

Lest I forget ... **thy love for me.**

What is the cure for the danger and risk of forgetting these four things (I John 5:6-8)?

Gospels like John
Baptist baptism
Communion

The first verse can be sung first and last, since we go to Calvary and come from Calvary with that effect.

Who is King? Jesus Christ of Nazareth, the glorious Son of God.
Whose life? Your life; the one God gave you; the one thing He wants.
What life? Every part of your existence, accomplishments, aspirations.
Who crowns? You must do so yourself; no one else's choice matters.
What crown? You actively make Jesus Christ the Lord of your life.
When? Now, your moment of truth, not in a convenient season.
Why? For the glory of Jesus Christ Himself, never your own.

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1. King of my life, I crown Thee now,
Thine shall the glory be;
Lest I forget Thy thorn-crowned brow,
Lead me to Calvary.

Refrain:

*Lest I forget Gethsemane,
Lest I forget Thine agony;
Lest I forget Thy love for me,
Lead me to Calvary.*

2. Show me the tomb where Thou wast laid,
Tenderly mourned and wept;
Angels in robes of light arrayed
Guarded Thee whilst Thou slept.

3. Let me like Mary, through the gloom,
Come with a gift to Thee;
Show to me now the empty tomb,
Lead me to Calvary.

4. May I be willing, Lord, to bear
Daily my cross for Thee;
Even Thy cup of grief to share,
Thou hast borne all for me.

Only a few hymnals have this fifth verse.

5. Fill me, O Lord, with Thy desire,
For all that know not Thee;
Then touch my lips with holy fire,
To speak of Calvary.

Linked performances (not in any order):

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9fCwzmnSRzg>
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FFzvVVQg97E>
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ewKugGDO6JM>
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JcPzkNGp_oo
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