

The valley of vision is the place of paradox.

Here, the one who wants to save his life loses it for the sake of Another.

Here, strength is perfected in weakness, and the greatest is the servant of all.

Living in the depths, we see Him in the heights,

Learning that the way down is the way up,

To be low is to be high,

And to bear the cross is to wear the crown. he songs on this CD are inspired by the book The Valley of Vision: A Collection of Puritan Prayers and Devotions, edited by Arthur Bennett.

As 21st century Christians we can easily idolize the limited perspectives and culturally shaped wisdom of our own age. But for almost 2000 years rich. God's people have worshiped him genuinely, seeking to live in a manner worthy of the gospel and responding eagerly to the activity of his Spirit. It honors God—and serves our souls—to emulate their example.

The Puritans are one group from whom we can learn a great deal. These men and women, most of whom lived during the 16th and 17th centuries, devoted themselves to a revival of "pure" religion. Although they've received some bad press over the years, at their best they stood against superficial Christianity and sought to honor God in every aspect of their lives.

Puritans like John Bunyan, Thomas Watson, the exceeding glory of Christ, Richard Baxter, and Isaac Watts often wrote down their prayers, not to be published, but to assess their own spiritual growth and to encourage themselves and others in seasons of spiritual

dryness. Their meditations show how our prayers and worship can be shaped and enriched by God's Word and the truth that flows from it, leading to a humble, passionate relationship with God that is both scripturally grounded and experientially

At Sovereign Grace, reading these prayers in The Valley of Vision over the years has encouraged us to pursue the same level of depth and reality in our own worship of God. So it made sense to try to capture in song some of the thoughts found in these prayers. Here are twelve such songs, many of which are suitable for congregational worship.

Our hope is that these humble offerings will help you pray with the Puritan:

Grant me never to lose sight of the exceeding sinfulness of sin, the exceeding righteousness of salvation, the exceeding beauty of holiness, the exceeding wonder of grace.

(from "Continual Repentance," The Valley of Vision)



# In the Valley

Based on "The Valley of Vision"

## Verse 1

When You lead me to the valley of vision
I can see You in the heights
And though my humbling wouldn't be my decision
It's here Your glory shines so bright
So let me learn that the cross precedes the crown
To be low is to be high
That the valley's where You make me
more like Christ

### Chorus

Let me find Your grace in the valley Let me find Your life in my death Let me find Your joy in my sorrow Your wealth in my need That You're near with every breath In the valley

## Verse 2

In the daytime there are stars in the heavens
But they only shine at night
And the deeper that I go into darkness
The more I see their radiant light
So let me learn that my losses are my gain
To be broken is to heal
That the valley's where Your power is revealed

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# All That I Need

Based on "Fullness"

### Verse 1

In You is strength to sustain me And wisdom enough to guide my hand Mercy enough to forgive me And power to finish what You began

### Chorus

All that I need is in You, Jesus The fountain of grace that overflows All that I need is in You, Jesus You are my only hope You are my only hope

### Verse 2

In You is fullness of gladness And fullness of grace for every need Rest for the ones who are weary And beauty surpassing all that we've seen

# **Bridge**

You satisfy my heart You satisfy my soul You satisfy my heart O help me always know

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# Heavenly Father, Beautiful Son

Based on "The Trinity"

### Verse 1

Father, You loved me Sent Your Son to redeem Jesus, You washed me By Your blood I am clean Spirit, You've opened these blinded eyes And brought me to Christ

### Chorus

Heavenly Father Beautiful Son Spirit of light and truth Thank You for bringing sinners to come to You

### Verse 2

Father, You gave me
To Jesus to keep
And Jesus, You love me
As a shepherd, his sheep
Spirit, You've given me faith in the Son
And made our hearts one

# Verse 3

Father, You're waiting
To hear my requests
Jesus, Your loving
Open hand is outstretched
Spirit, You're in me, You intercede
And help in my need

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# **How Deep**

Based on "Love Lustres at Calvary"

### Verse 1

You were broken that I might be healed You were cast off that I might draw near You were thirsty that I might come drink Cried out in anguish that I might sing

#### Chorus

How deep is Your love How high and how wide is Your mercy How deep is Your grace Our hearts overflow with praise To You

### Verse 2

You knew darkness that I might know light Wept great tears that mine might be dried Stripped of glory that I might be clothed Crushed by Your Father to call me Your own

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# I Come Running

Based on "Need of Jesus"

#### Verse 1

Jesus, I am blind, be my light
Darkened in my mind, be my wisdom
Bend my stubborn will to Your own
Open up my ears to hear Your Spirit
Melt my conscience once again
Help me hate the slightest sin
And when Satan comes to tempt me

#### Chorus

I come running to You, when I fear, when I'm tried I come running to You, to Your blood, to Your side And there my soul finds rest
There my soul finds rest in You

### Verse 2

Shepherd of my soul, lead me on
To the pastures green in Your Scriptures
Make me to lie down by waters still
Fill me with Your peace in the tempest
I take my refuge in Your cross
By Your sacrifice I'm washed
And when Satan comes accusing

## Verse 3

Once I was Your foe, a slave to sin
A stranger to Your love, a hopeless outcast
But You have brought me near, I'm bought with blood
Now I'm Your precious child, an heir with Jesus
You pour heaven into my soul
Your wondrous love, it overflows
And I marvel how You love me

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# **Let Your Kingdom Come**

Based on "God's Cause"

#### Verse 1

Your glorious cause, O God, engages our hearts May Jesus Christ be known wherever we are We ask not for ourselves, but for Your renown The cross has saved us so we pray Your kingdom come

## Chorus

Let Your kingdom come
Let Your will be done
So that everyone might know Your Name
Let Your song be heard everywhere on earth
Till Your sovereign work on earth is done
Let Your kingdom come

#### Verse 2

Give us Your strength, O God, and courage to speak Perform Your wondrous deeds through those who are weak Lord use us as You want, whatever the test

By grace we'll preach Your gospel till Our dying breath

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# O Great God

Based on "Regeneration"

### Verse 1

O great God of highest heaven Occupy my lowly heart Own it all and reign supreme Conquer every rebel power Let no vice or sin remain That resists Your holy war You have loved and purchased me Make me Yours forevermore

#### Verse 2

I was blinded by my sin
Had no ears to hear Your voice
Did not know Your love within
Had no taste for heaven's joys
Then Your Spirit gave me life
Opened up Your Word to me
Through the gospel of Your Son
Gave me endless hope and peace

# Verse 3

Help me now to live a life
That's dependent on Your grace
Keep my heart and guard my soul
From the evils that I face
You are worthy to be praised
With my every thought and deed
O great God of highest heaven
Glorify Your Name through me

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# It Was Your Grace

Based on "Grace in Trials"

#### Verse 1

It was Your grace that drew me to the cross
It was Your grace that gave me faith
It was Your grace that reconciled me to Yourself
Though I had sinned in every way
You disarmed me of everything that I would lean on
So I would lean on You
And You stripped me of everything I would depend on
So I'd depend on You

#### Chorus

In You alone my strength is found In You alone my hope abounds In You alone my strength is found My life is bound up in You

### Verse 2

And in my weakness give me still more grace Grace to cast myself on You In every trial let me find Your peace and joy And grace to humbly walk with You O disarm me of everything that I would lean on You Jesus, strip me of everything I would depend on So I'll depend on You

# Bridge

Give me more grace
Give me more grace
And new mercies every morning
Give me new mercies

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# **Only Jesus**

Based on "The Life Look"

#### Verse 1

Father of grace You've sacrificed Your only Son for us, the crucified Jesus Enlarge our hearts to love Your Son O grant to us the grace to walk with Him always To make Him our great delight Bringing worship with our lives

#### Chorus

Only Jesus! Only Jesus! Give us Jesus, we cry Only Jesus! Only Jesus! The Pearl of greatest price

### Verse 2

Spirit of grace You've shed Your light
Upon our darkened eyes, unveiling Jesus Christ
Come change our hearts, conform our ways
To honor Jesus' Name, His glory our refrain
Let His love compel our own
As we worship at His throne

## **Bridge**

Jesus, our great Savior Lord of heaven, Son of God

Doug Plank © 2005 Sovereign Grace Worship (ASCAP)

# The Precious Blood

Based on "The Precious Blood"

### Verse 1

Before the cross I kneel and see
The measure of my sin
How You became a curse for me
Though You were innocent
The magnitude of Your great love
Was shown in full degree
When righteous blood, the crimson spill
Rained down from Calvary

### Chorus

Oh, the precious blood
That flowed from Mercy's side
Washed away my sin
When Christ my Savior died
Oh, the precious blood
Of Christ the crucified
It speaks for me before Your throne
Where I stand justified

### Verse 2

And who am I that I should know
This treasure of such worth
My Savior's pure atoning blood
Shed for the wrath I'd earned
For sin has stained my every deed
My every word and thought
What wondrous love that makes me one
Your priceless blood has bought

# Bridge

A crown of thorns, pierced hands and feet A body bruised, and Mercy's plea

Peter Gagnon © 2005 Sovereign Grace Worship (ASCAP)

# It Was Love

Based on "Love"

# $\mathbf{Verse}\,\mathbf{1}$

It was love that brought You from above To walk upon the earth And love that caused Your weariness Your hunger and Your thirst It was love that caused You to be tried And tempted by the foe And love that brought the nails and cross And love that bought my soul

# Chorus

How wonderful Your love
The mystery of mysteries
Filling up my heart
More glorious than I know
How wonderful Your love
There's nothing else so sweet to me
I'll never be apart
From the Lover of my soul
From the Lover of my soul

## Verse 2

Your love is filled with holiness
O Spirit, fan this flame
Your love will never cease or cool
Your love will never change
O let me see Your love for me
Around me everywhere
The shining sun, a gentle rain
Remind me of Your care

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# Who Made Me to Know You

Based on "The Mover"

# Verse 1

Who made me to know You, but You When dead in sin You gave me new life Now my heart is filled with love for You, Jesus

## Chorus

Father, thank You for Your Spirit's work in me For opening my eyes to the Christ of Calvary Jesus, You gave Your life in exchange for mine Now I will live for You who died, Jesus

### Verse 2

You placed a crown of grace on my head You covered me in robes of righteousness Forever I will always be Yours, Jesus

Pat Sczebel © 2005 Sovereign Grace Worship (ASCAP)





- \_\_\_\_Produced and Arranged by Sal Oliveri
  \_\_\_\_Executive Producers: Bo Lotinsky and
  Bob Kauflin
- \_\_\_Song Consultants: Mark Altrogge and Steve Cook Theological Consultant: Jeff Purswell
- \_\_\_Recorded by Todd Robbins at OmniSound Recording (Nashville, TN)
- \_\_Vocals and overdubs recorded by Sal Oliveri \_Additional vocal and choir recording by David MacKenzie
- \_\_String quartet recording by Bobby Shin
- $\underline{\hspace{1cm}} \text{Mixed by Todd Robbins at The Workshop (Franklin, TN)}$
- \_\_\_Mastered by John Mayfield at Mayfield Mastering (Nashville, TN)

Lead Vocalists: Mark Altrogge (5), Stephen Altrogge (2), Kyle Davis (3, 6, 8, 9, 11), Shannon Harris (1, 4, 10), Megan Russell (7, 12). Recorded at Sovereign Grace Studio.

- Drums and Percussion: Steve Brewster
- Bass: Mark Hill, Sal Oliveri (10)
- \_\_Acoustic Guitar: Gary Burnette (2, 4, 5, 7, 12), Paul Moak (3, 9, 11), Sal Oliveri (1, 10)
- \_\_Electric Guitar: Gary Burnette (2, 3, 5, 8), Mark
- Baldwin (4, 7, 12), Paul Moak (2, 5, 8, 9)
- National Slide: Phil Madeira (5)
- \_\_\_Piano, Wurlitzer, B3, Orchestral Percussion, and Synth: Sal Oliveri
- B3: Blair Masters (5)
- Strings and Pizz: Sal Oliveri (1, 10)
- \_\_\_Bagpipes, Strings, and Orchestral Percussion: Jim Danaker (6)
- \_\_\_Violin: David Davidson (7, 11, 12), David Angell (7, 11)
- Viola: Monisa Angell (7, 11)
- \_\_\_Cello: John Catchings (1, 4, 7, 9, 11)
- BGVS: Rikk Kittleman (2, 3, 5, 6), Michelle Swift (2, 6, 7, 11), Michael Mellett (1, 10), Calvin Nowell (6)

\_\_First Choir: (6, 9) Michelle Swift, Carissima Joseph, Drea Renee, Lisa Kent, Katie Gustafson, Delores Cox, Shane McConnell, Philip Calder, Tom Lane, Rikk Kittleman, Jaicob Soosemea, Chris Hogue

\_\_Second Choir: (9) Ken Boer (Choir Director), Rhonda Crosby, Lusia Fomuso, Nicole Knowlton, Dara Krolick, Sarah Lillard, Ruth Medler, Millie Obimo, Angela Pau, Danielle Tellier, Amy Yang, Sam Branchaw, Josh Cooper, Alex Goodling, Tom Preston, Kevin Schellhase, Abdoul Thiam

Female Choir: (7) Rhonda Crosby, Lusia Fomuso, Nicole Knowlton, Dara Krolick, Sarah Lillard, Ruth Medler, Millie Obimo, Angela Pau, Danielle Tellier, Amy Yang

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If you lead congregational singing in your church or ministry, you can find insights, resources, and other tools at this blog by Bob Kauflin, Director of Sovereign Grace Music.