

## Isaiah 43: 16-21

<sup>6</sup> This is what the LORD says—  
he who made a way through the sea,  
a path through the mighty waters,  
<sup>17</sup> who drew out the chariots and horses,  
the army and reinforcements together,  
and they lay there, never to rise again,  
extinguished, snuffed out like a wick:  
<sup>18</sup> “Forget the former things;  
do not dwell on the past.  
<sup>19</sup> See, I am doing a new thing!  
Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?  
I am making a way in the wilderness  
and streams in the wasteland.  
<sup>20</sup> The wild animals honor me,  
the jackals and the owls,  
because I provide water in the wilderness  
and streams in the wasteland,  
to give drink to my people, my chosen,  
<sup>21</sup> the people I formed for myself  
that they may proclaim my praise.

## Philippians 3: 4b-14

<sup>4</sup> though I myself have reasons for such  
confidence. If someone else thinks they  
have reasons to put confidence in the  
flesh, I have more:  
<sup>5</sup> circumcised on the eighth day, of  
the people of Israel, of the tribe of  
Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; in  
regard to the law, a Pharisee;  
<sup>6</sup> as for zeal, persecuting the church; as  
for righteousness based on the  
law, faultless.  
<sup>7</sup> But whatever were gains to me I now  
consider loss for the sake of Christ.  
<sup>8</sup> What is more, I consider everything a  
loss because of the surpassing worth of  
knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose  
sake I have lost all things. I consider  
them garbage, that I may gain Christ.  
<sup>9</sup> and be found in him, not having a right-  
eousness of my own that comes from the  
law, but that which is through faith in  
[\[a\]](#) Christ—the righteousness that comes  
from God on the basis of faith.  
<sup>10</sup> I want to know Christ—yes, to know  
the power of his resurrection and partic-  
ipation in his sufferings, becoming like  
him in his death,  
<sup>11</sup> and so, somehow, attaining to the res-  
urrection from the dead.

## Philippians 3: 4b-14 continues..

<sup>12</sup> Not that I have already obtained all this, or  
have already arrived at my goal, but I press on  
to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took  
hold of me.

<sup>13</sup> Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself  
yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do:  
Forgetting what is behind and straining toward  
what is ahead,

<sup>14</sup> I press on toward the goal to win the prize  
for which God has called me heavenward in  
Christ Jesus.

## John 12: 1-8 Jesus Anointed at Bethany

**12** Six days before the Passover, Jesus came to  
Bethany, where Lazarus lived, whom Jesus had  
raised from the dead. <sup>2</sup> Here a dinner was given in  
Jesus’ honor. Martha served, while Lazarus was  
among those reclining at the table with  
him. <sup>3</sup> Then Mary took about a pint<sup>[a]</sup> of pure nard,  
an expensive perfume; she poured it on Jesus’ feet  
and wiped his feet with her hair. And the house  
was filled with the fragrance of the perfume.

<sup>4</sup> But one of his disciples, Judas Iscariot, who was  
later to betray him, objected, <sup>5</sup> “Why wasn’t this  
perfume sold and the money given to the poor? It  
was worth a year’s wages.<sup>[b]</sup>” <sup>6</sup> He did not say this  
because he cared about the poor but because he  
was a thief; as keeper of the money bag, he used to  
help himself to what was put into it.

<sup>7</sup> “Leave her alone,” Jesus replied. “It was intended  
that she should save this perfume for the day of  
my burial. <sup>8</sup> You will always have the poor among  
you,<sup>[c]</sup> but you will not always have me.”

# 463 How Firm a Foundation

1 How firm a foun - da - tion, ye saints of the Lord,  
 2 "Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dis-mayed,  
 3 "When through the deep wa - ters I call thee to go,  
 4 "When through fi - ery tri - als thy path - way shall lie,  
 5 "The soul that on Je - sus hath leaned for re - pose,  
 is laid for your faith in God's ex - cel - lent Word!  
 for I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;  
 the riv - ers of sor - row shall not o - ver - flow;  
 my grace, all suf - fi - cient, shall be thy sup - ply;  
 I will not, I will not de - sert to its foes;  
 What more can be said than to you God hath said,  
 I'll strength - en thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,  
 for I will be near thee, thy trou - bles to bless,  
 the flame shall not hurt thee; I on - ly de - sign  
 that soul, though all hell should en - deav - or to shake,  
 to you who for ref - uge to Je - sus have fled?  
 up - held by my righ - teous, om - nip - o - tent hand.  
 and sanc - ti - fy to thee thy deep - est dis - tress.  
 thy dross to con - sume, and thy gold to re - fine.  
 I'll nev - er, no, nev - er, no, nev - er for - sake."

It seems odd now to think of singing this text to ADESTE FIDELES, but mainline churches did so well into the 20th century because of a cultural bias against shape note music. The vigor of the present tune seems especially right for the final line's reference to Hebrews 13:5.

TEXT: "K" in John Rippon's *A Selection of Hymns*, 1787, alt.  
 MUSIC: American folk melody; Funk's *Genuine Church Music*, 1832, alt.

# 201 A Prophet-Woman Broke a Jar

1 A proph-et-wom - an broke a jar, by Love's di - vine ap -  
 2 A faith - ful wom - an left a tomb by Love's di - vine com -  
 3 Though wom - an - wis - dom, wom - an - truth, for cen - tu - ries were  
 4 The Spir - it knows; the Spir - it calls, by Love's di - vine or -  
 point - ing. With rare per - fume she filled the room, pre -  
 mis - sion. She saw; she heard; she preached the Word, a -  
 hid - den, un - sung, un - writ - ten, and un - heard, de -  
 dain - ing, the friends we need, to serve and lead, their  
 sid - ing and a - noint - ing. A proph - et - wom - an broke a jar,  
 ris - ing from sub - mis - sion. A faith - ful wom - an left a tomb,  
 rid - ed and for - bid - den, the Spir - it's breath, the Spir - it's fire,  
 powers and gifts un - chain - ing. The Spir - it knows; the Spir - it calls,  
 the sneers of scorn de - fy - ing. With rare per - fume she  
 with res - ur - rec - tion gos - pel. She saw; she heard; she  
 on free and slave de - scend - ing, can tum - ble our di -  
 from wom - en, men, and chil - dren, the friends we need, to  
 filled the room, pre - par - ing Christ for dy - ing.  
 preached the Word, a - pos - tle to a - pos - tles.  
 vid - ing walls, our shame and sad - ness mend - ing.  
 serve and lead. Re - joice, and make them wel - come!

DEDICATION AND STEWARDSHIP

# God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending 716

Capo 3: (D) (Bm) (G)  
 F Dm Bb  
 1 God, whose giv - ing knows no end - ing, from your rich and  
 2 Skills and time are ours for press - ing toward the goals of  
 3 Trea - sure, too, you have en - trust - ed, gain through powers your  
 end - less store, na - ture's won - der, Je - sus' wis - dom, cost - ly  
 Christ, your Son: all at peace in health and free - dom, rac - es  
 grace con - ferred: ours to use for home and kin - dred, and to  
 cross, grave's shat - tered door: gift - ed by you, we turn  
 joined, the church made one. Now di - rect our dai - ly  
 spread the gos - pel word. O - pen wide our hands in  
 to you, of - fer - ing up our - selves in praise; thank - ful song shall  
 la - bor, lest we strive for self a - lone. Born with tal - ents,  
 shar - ing, as we heed Christ's age - less call, heal - ing, teach - ing,  
 rise for - ev - er, gra - cious do - nor of our days.  
 make us ser - vants fit to an - swer at your throne.  
 and re - claim - ing, serv - ing you by lov - ing all.

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

This text on stewardship was one of about 450 submissions in a search for such hymns conducted by the Hymn Society of America in 1961. These words are well grounded by their musical setting, an early American shape note tune named for a Baptist church in Harris County, Georgia.

TEXT: Robert L. Edwards, 1961, alt.  
 MUSIC: *The Sacred Harp*, 1844; harm. James H. Wood, 1958  
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 Music Harm. © 1958, ren. 1986 Broadman Press (admin. Music Services, Brentwood, TN)