Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice

1 Dear Christians, one and all, rejoice, With exultation
2 Fast bound in Satan's chains I lay; Death brood-ed dark-ly
3 My own good works a-vailed me naught, No mer-it they at-
4 But God be-held my wretched state Be-fore the world's foun-

spring-ing, And, with uni-ted heart and voice And ho-ly
o'er me. Sin was my torment night and day; In sin my
tain-ing; My will a-gainst God's judg-ment fought, No hope for
da-tion, And, mind-ful of his mer-cies great, He planned my

rap-ture sing-ing, Pro-claim the won-der God has done, How
moth-er bore me. Yet deep and deep-er still I fell; Life
me re-main-ing. My fears in-creased till sheer de-spair Left
soul's sal-va-tion. A Fa-ther's heart he turned to me, Sought

his right arm the vic-t'ry won. How dear-ly it has cost him!
had be-come a liv-ing hell, So firm-ly sin pos-sessed me.
naught but death to be my share And hell to be my sen-
tence. my re-demp-tion fer-vent-ly; He gave his dear-est trea-

JUSTIFICATION

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5 He spoke to his beloved Son:
   "'Tis time to have compassion.
   Then go, bright Jewel of my crown,
   And bring mankind salvation.
   From sin and sorrow set them free;
   Slay bitter death for them that they
   May live with you forever."

6 The Son obeyed his Father's will,
   Was born of virgin mother,
   And, God's good pleasure to fulfill,
   He came to be my brother.
   No garb of pomp or pow'r he wore;
   A servant's form like mine he bore
   To lead the devil captive.

7 To me he spoke, "Hold fast to me —
   I am your rock and castle.
   Your ransom I myself will be;
   For you I strive and wrestle.
   For I am yours, your friend divine,
   And evermore you shall be mine;
   The foe shall not divide us.

8 "The foe shall shed my precious blood,
   Me of my life bereaving.
   All this I suffer for your good;
   Be steadfast and believing.
   Life shall from death the vict'ry win;
   My innocence shall bear your sin,
   And you are blest forever.

9 "Now to my Father I depart,
   The Holy Spirit sending
   And, heav'nly wisdom to impart,
   My help to you extending.
   He will a source of comfort be,
   Teach you to know and follow me,
   And in all truth will guide you.

10 "What I on earth have lived and taught
    Be all your life and teaching;
    So shall my kingdom's work be wrought
    And honored in your preaching.
    Take care that no one's man-made laws
    Should e'er destroy the gospel's cause.
    This final word I leave you."