

## FAIREST LORD JESUS

- (1) Fairest Lord Jesus! Ruler of all nature!  
O Thou of God and man the Son!  
Thee will I cherish, Thee will I honor,  
Thou my soul's glory, joy and crown!
- (2) Fair are the meadows,  
Fairer still the woodlands,  
Robed in the blooming garb of spring;  
Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer,  
Who makes the woeful heart to sing.
- (3) Fair is the sunshine,  
Fairer still the moonlight,  
And all the twinkling starry host;  
Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer,  
Than all the angels heaven can boast.
- (4) Beautiful Savior! Lord of the nations!  
Son of God and Son of Man!  
Glory and honor, Praise, adoration,  
Now and forever more be Thine!

## BREAK FORTH INTO JOY

Break forth into joy, O my soul.  
Break forth into joy, O my soul.  
In the presence of the Lord there is joy forevermore;  
Break forth, break forth into joy, O my soul.

## THIS IS HOLY GROUND

- (1) This is holy ground  
We're standing on holy ground  
For the Lord is present  
And where He is is holy  
This is holy ground  
We're standing on holy ground  
For the Lord is present  
And where He is is holy
- (2) These are holy hands  
He's given us holy hands  
He works through these hands  
And so these hands are holy  
These are holy hands  
He's given us holy hands  
He works through these hands  
And so these hands are holy

## RESPONSIVE READING

### A Call to Worship

Psalm 34:3; 66:1-4' 67:3-5

LEADER: O magnify the Lord with me, and let us  
exalt His name together.

PEOPLE: Make a joyful noise unto God, all ye lands

LEADER: Sing forth the honor of His name; make  
His praises glorious.

PEOPLE: Say unto God, How terrible art thou in Thy  
works! Through the greatness of Thy  
power shall thine enemies submit  
themselves unto Thee.

LEADER: All the earth shall worship Thee, and shall  
sing unto Thee; they shall sing to Thy  
name.

PEOPLE: Let the people praise Thee, O God; let all  
the people praise Thee.

LEADER: O let the nations be glad and sing for joy;  
For Thou shalt judge the people  
righteously and govern the nations upon  
earth.

PEOPLE: Let the people praise Thee, O God; let all  
the people praise Thee.

### IT PAYS TO SERVE JESUS

(1) The service of Jesus true pleasure affords. In Him there is joy  
without an alloy; 'Tis heaven to trust Him and rest on His words;  
It pays to serve Jesus each day.

(chorus) It pays to serve Jesus, it pays every day, It pays every step of  
the way; tho' the pathway to glory may sometimes be drear,  
You'll be happy each step of the way.

(2) It pays to serve Jesus whatever may betide, It pays to be true  
whatever you may do; 'Tis riches of mercy in Him to abide;  
It pays to serve Jesus each day.

(3) Tho' sometimes the shadows may hang o'er the way, And sorrows  
may come to beckon us home, Our precious Redeemer each toil will  
repay; It pays to serve Jesus each day.

### I AM THINE, O LORD – DRAW ME NEARER

(1) I am thine, O Lord – I have heard Thy voice; And it told Thy  
love to me; But I long to rise in the arms of faith and be closer  
drawn to Thee.

(chorus) Draw me nearer, nearer, nearer, blessed Lord, To the  
cross where Thou hast died; Draw me nearer, nearer,  
nearer, blessed Lord, to Thy precious, bleeding side.

(2) Consecrate me now to Thy service Lord, by the power of  
grace divine; Let my soul look up with a steadfast hope  
and my will be lost in Thee.

(3) O the pure delight of a single hour that before Thy throne  
I spend, when I kneel in prayer and with Thee, my God,  
I commune as friend with friend.

(4) There are depths of love that I cannot know till I cross the  
narrow sea; there are heights of joy that I may not reach  
till I rest in peace with Thee.

A Study of the Spiritual Discipline of Fasting

## I. General Information

### A. Definition of Fasting

### B. 3 Types of Fasting

1. normal
2. absolute
3. partial

## II. Biblical References to Fasting

### A. Old Testament

### B. New Testament

1. Pharisees
2. Jesus' teaching
3. Early church

### C. Church History

## III. Why Do We Fast – 7 reasons

1. For Cleansing
2. Deeper Communion with God
3. Direction for God's Will

### 4. Gain Strength over Temptation

### 5. Intercession for Others

### 6. To Express Sorrow in Grief

### 7. For Health Reasons

## IV. Proper Motivation for Fasting

### A. Negative

1. to be seen by men
2. for spiritual pride
3. to bargain with God

### B. Positive

1. obedience
2. spiritual discipline
3. desire for spiritual growth

## V. Guidelines for Fasting

1. decide ahead of time your spiritual objectives
2. there are no rigid Biblical rules
3. begin on a day when activities are light
4. make sure there are no physical issues to be aware of
5. be prepared for some reactions (spiritual warfare)
6. break the fast carefully