

To God be the Glory

Text written by Fanny Crosby; Tune written by William Howard Doane.
(It is believed to date to around 1875.)

To God be the glory, great things He has done;
So loved He the world that He gave us His Son,
Who yielded His life an atonement for sin,
And opened the life gate that all may go in.

Refrain

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, Let the earth hear His voice!
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, Let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father, through Jesus the Son,
And give Him the glory, great things He has done.

O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood,
To every believer the promise of God;
The vilest offender who truly believes,
That moment from Jesus a pardon receives.

Refrain

Great things He has taught us, great things He has done,
And great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;
But purer, and higher, and greater will be
Our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see.

Refrain

"You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive **glory** and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they were created and have their being." Revelation 4:11 NIV

Frances (Fanny) Jane Crosby ranks among the Church's greatest writers of hymns and spiritual songs. Over the course of her more than 90 years of life, she composed more than 8,000 texts, many of which have been set to music and are today our favorite hymns of the faith. These include "Praise Him! Praise Him!," "Tell Me the Story of Jesus," "I Am Thine, O Lord," "Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross," "Blessed Assurance, Jesus is Mine," "All the Way My Savior Leads Me," and "Jesus is Tenderly Calling."

Fanny Crosby was born into a family of strong Puritan ancestry on March 24, 1820 in New York state. As a baby, she had an eye infection that was not treated correctly. The infection did clear up, but the result was that scars formed on the eyes, and then Fanny became blind for life. Even though she was totally blind from six months of age; she praised the Creator and Light of the World for more than 80 years without actually seeing the work of His hands.

"To God Be the Glory" is well recognized as a wonderful hymn of praise and adoration of God. Written and first published in 1875 in Britain, it was practically unknown in North America; until it was first used by Cliff Barrows in a Billy Graham Crusade in Nashville in 1954. Since that time, it has become one of the most well known and loved of songs.

This song is not only a hymn of praise, but also as a hymn of grace. As is evident here, as well as in her other hymns, Fanny Crosby was a great woman of God who clearly understood the importance of God's marvelous grace in salvation.

The tune to which this hymn is set was composed by William H. Doane (1832-1915), a frequent collaborator with Ms. Crosby in the production of spiritual songs. In his lifetime Doane composed more than 2,000 tunes, many of which are still in common use today, including the tunes to such hymns as "Rescue the Perishing," "Near the Cross," "I Am Thine, O Lord," and "More Love to Thee."

The act of love on the cross, which made this possible, is truly reason to "Praise the Lord..." Let us indeed rejoice in our salvation provided so freely by Christ Jesus!

<http://www.faithalone.org/journal/1996i/Ward.html>

"The LORD has done great things for us, and we are **filled with joy.**"
Psalm 126:3 NIV

~Devotional by Christine Lancaster, September 2011