

Open Heavens HYMN 63: O FOR A THOUSAND TONGUES TO SING

Description

This is **hymn 63 of the Open Heavens** daily devotion written by Pastor E. A. Adeboye, General Overseer of the Redeemed Christian Church of God (RCCG).

HYMN 63: O FOR A THOUSAND TONGUES TO SING

1. O for a thousand tongues to sing
My great Redeemerâ??s praise,
The glories of my God and King,
The triumphs of his grace!

2. My gracious Master and my God,
Assist me to proclaim,
To spread throâ?? all the earth abroad
The honours of your name.

3. Jesus! the name that charms ourfears,
that bids our sorrows cease,
â??Tis music in the sinnerâ??s ears,
â??Tis life and health and peace.

4. He breaks the power of cancelled sin,
He sets the prisoner free;
His blood can make the foulest clean;
His blood availed for me.

5. Hear Him, ye dear, His praise, ye dumb,
Your loosened tongues employ
Ye blind behold your Saviour come;
And leap, ye lame, for joy.



O FOR A THOUSAND TONGUES TO SING HYMN COMMENTARY

Beloved in Christ, this magnificent hymn, born from a heart transformed by Godâ??s grace, begins with a confession of insufficiency. â??O For a Thousand Tonguesâ?• is an outburst of holy frustrationâ??the

frustration of a soul so overwhelmed by the majesty of Christâ??s redemption that one human tongue feels utterly inadequate to express it. It is a hymn that marries deep personal gratitude with a global missionary vision, all centered on the powerful name and finished work of Jesus.

Why Sing This Hymn

We sing this hymn to express the boundless nature of Christâ??s worth, to pray for empowerment to proclaim Him to the world, and to celebrate the specific, powerful effects of His grace in our lives. It is a hymn of personal testimony that demands to be shared, moving from private wonder to public proclamation.

1. It is a Hymn of Exuberant Insufficiency (Verse 1)
The opening line is not hyperbole, but heartfelt longing. The singer feels the poverty of a single tongue to capture the **â??gloriesâ?•** of God and the **â??triumphs of his grace.â?•** The desire for **â??a thousand tonguesâ?•** is a poetic way of saying that all creation should join the chorus (Psalm 96:1). Our praise is always a response to His prior actionâ??the triumphs are *His*, the grace is *His*. We sing because He has first sung the song of redemption over us.

2. It is a Hymn of Dependent Proclamation (Verse 2)
This longing naturally turns into prayer. We do not merely wish for more tongues; we ask our **â??gracious Master andâ?¦ Godâ?•** to **â??assist me to proclaim.â?•** We recognize that even our proclamation is empowered by His grace. The goal is not private enjoyment but global declaration: **â??To spread throâ?? all the earth abroad the honours of your name.â?•** True adoration always has an evangelistic impulse. We cannot truly honor His name without desiring all nations to know it.

3. It is a Hymn of the All-Sufficient Name (Verse 3)
The hymn narrows its focus to the core: the name of **â??Jesus!â?•** This name is presented as the solution to humanityâ??s deepest needs:

- **For the fearful:** It **â??charms our fears.â?•**
- **For the sorrowful:** It **â??bids our sorrows cease.â?•**
- **For the sinner:** It is **â??music,â?•** offering hope instead of condemnation.
- **For the broken:** It is **â??life and health and peace.â?•**
  The name is a comprehensive remedy, proving its worth not in theory, but in its transformative power in the human soul.

4. It is a Hymn of Emancipating Power (Verse 4)
Here is the theological heart of the hymn. Grace does not just forgive; it liberates. **â??He breaks the power of cancelled sin.â?•** At the cross, sinâ??s *penalty* was cancelled. In our daily lives, its *power* is broken by the risen Christ. He **â??sets the prisoner free.â?•** The verse then proclaims the limitless scope of the blood: it **â??can make the foulest clean.â?•** No one is beyond its reach. The testimony becomes personal and triumphant: **â??His blood availed for me.â?•** What is true for all is claimed for one.

5. It is a Hymn of Universal Invitation (Verse 5)
The final verse is a call to all creation to experience this grace. It is directed to the **â??deafâ?•** to hear, the **â??dumbâ?•** to sing, the **â??blindâ?•** to see, and the **â??lameâ?•** to leap. This is both a physical

and spiritual reality, echoing the miracles of Jesusâ?? ministry and the greater miracle of salvation. The gospel is for every kind of human need and bondage. The proper response to encountering this Savior is uncontainable joy and released praise.

A Word for Your Spirit Today

Does your praise feel routine? Does the wonder of your salvation feel dim? This hymn calls you to remember.

Let the desire for â??a thousand tonguesâ?• reawaken your awe. Consider the triumphs of grace in your own lifeâ??how He charmed your fears, broke sinâ??s power, and made you clean. Let that memory be the fuel for your one tongue today.

Then, pray the prayer of verse two. Ask your Master to assist you in proclaiming His honors, however He may lead. And look around you at the â??deafâ?• and â??lameâ?• in spiritâ??those bound by fear, sin, and sorrow. Point them to the name that is music, life, health, and peace. For the song that begins with a longing for a thousand tongues must end with inviting the whole world to sing along.

O for a thousand tongues to sing my great Redeemerâ??s praise!

In the all-sufficient name of Jesus, Amen.