

12.11.23 pm

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Date: 12 November 2023

Preacher: Reverend David MacLeod

[0 : 00] Good evening and warm welcome to the service this evening. We're going to begin this time of worship. We'll sing to God's praise and we'll sing from Psalm 115, the first two stanzas. I think it's verses 1 to 3 as they're marked in the text. Not unto us, Lord, not unto us, but do thy glory take unto thy name even for thy truth and for thy mercy's sake. O wherefore should the heathens say, where is their God now gone? But our God in the heavens is what pleased him he hath done.

These two verses of Psalm 115, we sing to God's praise. We sing in Gaelic and remain seated. And then after we've sung Angus M, we'll come and lead us in prayer in Gaelic, please.

We sing in Gaelic.

We sing in Gaelic.

We sing in Gaelic. We sing in Gaelic.

[2 : 24] Thank you.

Thank you.

Thank you.

Thank you. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you.

Thank you. Thank you.

[6 : 02] Thank you. Thank you.

Thank you. Thank you.

Thank you. Thank you. Thank you. the Heat of a and You are talking to my parents you call to your family, I'm notlet from ■.

Northwestern over Jeung teen cultures, Lucerne, and beautiful and beautiful traditions in sports like I attend many so many people any English spend bread, my taxes, I o The hypotenuse of versus reproduction and representation in age qualidade.

That's not what you, I absolutely,... If you, I'd like to■ yoururity in existence.

[9 : 54] He brought us a whole new life for our life. To entice the distance from the space by the only children are we? And of course Mr. long and thin things that knit each other. So I'm a hazy Bride.

I have our daughter's wife and I want togt walk into this new home. But now to pretend and JOE BUDOCH are we?

And what happens when our own whispers cm2 we are? While we are futuro■■■■in' for ourREOK loss is on demand. One day I was just 13 and 24.

totally fall Look at the Keeper.

This man was a fastball day.

[11 : 36] or Innovative Marian allora anywhere effettors■ In this case, you might have rememberedokes and some people said, There he's nothing for me, there is no difference between the Afro community, First and tomorrow, the peopleieve in evils, First, you and them B ■■■ cadeau phenomenal.

They really love us. Thank you all. oh policy key here the character can Amen.

Amen. We're going to sing again now to God's praise. We sing from Mission Praise 109.

Mission Praise 109. That old hymn, crown him with many crowns, the Lamb upon his throne. And the reason my mind went to this hymn is that it has a line in it, I think, where it talks about God as the potentate of time.

Although I'm scanning down through the version of Mission Praise and I'm not sure if it's here. So we'll sing the hymn anyway to God's praise. Mission Praise 109.

[14 : 35] Mission Praise 109.

Mission Praise 109. Who every leaf hath known, that brings a human rest.
And takes and bears them for his own, that all in him may rest.

Crown him the Lord of life, who triumphed for the grave. And rose victorious in the strength for
those he gave to save.

His glories now we sing, who died and rose on high. Who died eternal life to bring, and lives and
deaths may die.

[16 : 09] Crown him the Lord of hand, enthralled in worlds above. Crown him the King to whom is
given the wondrous name of love.

All hail, Redeemer, hail, for thou hast died for me. Thy praise shall never, never fail throughout
eternity.

If you could turn now please in your Bibles to Ecclesiastes chapter 3.
Ecclesiastes chapter 3.

A passage which highlights the word time over and over again. I'm going to read out a verse for you
that was in my mind that Mission Praise have obviously decided to delete over the course of the
generations.

[17 : 36] It's the last verse that was in this hymn that was traditionally sung. Crown him the Lord of
years, the potentate of time, the one who's over all of time.

Creator of the rolling spheres, ineffably sublime. All hail, Redeemer, hail, for thou hast died for me.
Thy praise shall never, never fail throughout eternity.

I had to lift that one in. Ecclesiastes chapter 3 and we will read from verse 1 to verse 15.

This is God's word. There is a time for everything and a season for every activity under heaven. A
time to be born and a time to die.

A time to plant and a time to uproot. A time to kill and a time to heal. A time to tear down and a time
to build. A time to weep and a time to laugh.

[18 : 43] A time to mourn and a time to dance. A time to scatter stones and a time to gather them.
A time to embrace and a time to refrain.

A time to search and a time to give up. A time to keep and a time to throw away. A time to tear and
a time to mend.

A time to be silent and a time to speak. A time to love and a time to hate. A time for war and a time
for peace.

What does the worker gain from his toil? I have seen the burden God has laid on men. He has
made everything beautiful in its time.

He has also set eternity in the hearts of men. Yet they cannot fathom what God has done from
beginning to end. I know that there is nothing better for men than to be happy and to do good while
they live.

[19 : 49] That everyone may eat and drink and find satisfaction in all his toil. This is the gift of God.
I know that everything God does will endure forever.

Nothing can be added to it and nothing taken from it. God does it so that men will revere him.
Whatever is has already been.

And whatever will be has been before. And God will call the past to account. Amen. And may God
bless that reading of his word to us.

We'll sing again now to God's praise. Another hymn that reminds us of the fact that God is the
ancient of days. The one who is over all of time.

Though the nations rage, kingdoms rise and fall. There is still one king reigning over all. So I will not
fear for this truth remains. That my God is the ancient of days.

[20 : 49] We'll sing the whole of this sermon to God's praise. Ancient of Is. That is just the last
book of God'slehemMI ■■■■ dezADE If the nations rage, kingdoms rise and fall.

There is still one being Breeding over all So I will not fear For this truth remains That my God is the
Ancient of Days None above Him, nor before Him Long time in His hands For this truth shall remain
And ever stop All the power, all the glory I will trust in His name For my God is the Ancient of Days
Though the dread of night Overwhelms my soul He is here with me I am not alone

Oh, His love is sure And He knows my name For my God is the Ancient of Days None above Him,
nor before Him All the time in His hands For His throne is shall remain And ever stand All the
power, all the glory I will trust in His name For my God is the Ancient of Days Though I may not see
What the future is I will watch and wait For the Saviour King Then my joy complete Standing face to

face

In the presence of the Ancient of Days None above Him, nor before Him None above Him, nor before Him None above Him, nor before Him All of time in His hands For His throne is shall remain And ever stand All the power, all the glory Glory, I will trust in His name For my God is the Ancient of Days For my God is the Ancient of Days Let's pray as we come back to God's Word Our Heavenly Father again we thank you for this passage we thank you for this familiar passage one that we hear read often at state occasions at funeral services we have heard these words being read and we pray that the familiarity that we may have with them wouldn't cause us to miss anything of the truth that you want to reveal to us we thank you that you are the Ancient of Days we thank you that you are the God who is over all of time we thank you that you have the days of our lives numbered in your book and we thank you for the patience that you show to us you have given us time you have placed us in this world you have set eternity in our hearts and you have called us in the Gospel to trust you we thank you that although we were born into sin ever since the fall of Adam although we were born in a state of enmity where we are separated from God we thank you that Jesus came into this world to take our sin away we thank you that he laid down his life we thank you for that greater love that we read of this morning we thank you that because of all that he did we when we believe in him are called friends of God we are those who are promised that we are saved that we have eternal life and that we have purpose for all the days that we are given in this world so help us we pray not to waste the days not to waste the years but to redeem the time help us to glorify you in all of our days and all of the tasks that you put before us help us to work and to do all things as unto the Lord and above all Lord we pray that each one of us would make our calling and election sure that we wouldn't get to the end of time and find ourselves outside of Christ we pray that each one of us whilst there is still time whilst we have today that we wouldn't harden our hearts but that we would trust the Lord Jesus and know that we are safe eternally we pray for those in our families we pray for those who are our friends those that we work with those that we pass day by day who are still strangers to God those who may either be disinterested in the things of God or may be resistant against the things of God we know that our words have very little traction when we seek to speak to them but it's not by might

and it's not by power it's by your spirit that there is change so we pray that you would be working in the power of the Holy Spirit to open the eyes of those that we pray for that they may see Jesus in their need of Jesus and that there may be those that we see even in the days ahead even in this week as we pray for them and as we reach out to them we pray that we would see souls saved those who we pray for convicted of their sin and converted to faith in Christ pray for those who may be your children but who are far away just now those who may have drifted for whatever reason those who may not be sure where they are before you just now like the prodigal in a far off land and as we think of them Lord we pray for them also that they would return to you we thank you that when we have a close walk with God even though we go through hard times even though there are struggles even though there is suffering in this broken world we thank you that when we are walking close with you there is peace in the storm there is joy even in the sorrow and there is that assurance of your presence with us in every situation so we pray Lord for those who have lost that sense of your presence who have lost their hold on you we pray Lord that you would have your hand upon them and we thank you for the promise in your word that when you save

[29 : 00] Lord Jesus no one can snatch those that you have saved out of your hand yes they may wander for a season but we pray that you would draw them back so hear our prayers and help us now as we study your word to hear your voice and to respond in faith and we pray all this in Jesus name Amen Ecclesiastes chapter 3 if you could have that open in front of you you'll find that helpful when you were reading the passage for some of you your minds may have gone back to 1965 my mind's not quite as old as that but it's not too far off it but in 1965 there was a band called the Birds B-Y-R-D-S and they sang a paraphrase it was a hit song and it was a paraphrase of

Ecclesiastes chapter 3 and I was just searching up the lyrics they sang about a time to be born a time to die a time to plant a time to reap a time to kill a time to heal a time to laugh a time to weep a time to build up a time to break down a time to dance a time to mourn a time to cast away stones a time to gather stones together a time of love a time of hate a time of war a time of peace a time you may embrace a time to refrain from embracing and so the song goes on it's actually quite close to the text that we read but for those of that era I wonder can anybody remember actually the name of the song sorry somebody say it turn yeah E and A you're older than you Luke the title of the song

that I hadn't realised is actually turn exclamation mark three times turn turn turn and I don't know why the birds chose that title but I think

Solomon would have liked it because that's what he's wanting us to do as we work through this book of Ecclesiastes he's wanting us to turn to God to turn to the God of all time so three points in the time that we have this evening hopefully hopefully I'll get past point one this evening the first point is the time of our lives the times of our lives and that takes us from verse one down to verse eight and the second point is the thought of eternity and that takes us through from verse nine into verse eleven and then the last section as we finish with that focus on the trustworthy God the God who calls us to to live trusting him and close to him so first of all we have in the first eight verses the times of our lives and it's fairly obvious we can see this in the verses before us in verses one to eight it's like a slideshow of our lives some people use an app on their phones just now and it's an app called one second a day and it does what you would expect it does every day in a year you're supposed to film just one second and you upload it into this app you might be out for dinner with friends you might be out for a walk in some beautiful place you might be at a concert you might be at work and just at some point in the day you just take a one second film and then at the end of the year with all these one seconds day after day after day that you've uploaded you have this 365 second film and it takes you on a journey through the year so your mind goes to all these places and situations that you were traveling through in the course of a year and what

Solomon does here is he takes us on a journey through our lives we see the whole of our lives we see just that snapshot of all the different times in our lives verse 1 there is a time for everything and a season for every activity under the sun every activity under heaven in the bible we know that numbers have significance and 7 is a number of completeness and we have verse 1 that kind of almost gives the introduction there is a time for everything a season for every activity under heaven and then in the next seven verses each verse has a positive and a negative statement and we are given this picture and it gives us a picture of our whole lives so verse 2 that there is a time to be born we have a birthday it is a time when we came into this world we can go back to that time when we can tell people of that day and there is a time to die there is a time where we will depart from this world and we don't know what day what time that will be but we know that for every one of us there is a time to be born there is a time to die there is a time to plant there is a time to invest it might not be just planting potatoes in the soil but there is a time to plant in terms of labour and then there is a time to uproot there is a time to gather up and enjoy the yield of what we have planted there is a time to kill even this morning we are remembering that there is a time when there is a necessity for us to go out into the battlefields for there to be defence for there to be war there is a time to kill and there is a time to heal there is a time to tear down and a time to build there is a time to weep times when we are full of sorrow and when things happen in our lives and we feel that sense of grief grief and there is a time to laugh a time to mourn and a time to dance it is doll and ruth's one year anniversary today a time for rejoicing it is a time for dancing not in the church but maybe tomorrow there is a time verse five to scatter stones and there is a time to gather them which is a bit of a cryptic statement for us when we think about scattering stones

I think what this refers to is actually connected in some way to war when a nation wanted to sabotage the food supply of another nation what they would do is they would scatter stones all over a fertile field so that the fields couldn't be used there is a time to scatter stones there is a time to gather them it connects with war and peace there is a time to embrace there is a time to refrain there is a time to search and a time to give up a time to keep and a time to throw away there is a time to tear and a time to mend again that probably goes back to ancient days when tailors when those who made clothes when one was growing out of their clothes they would rip them up and when the waist line was starting to be too small they would tear it and then they would sew other bits of fabric into the waistline or into the chest line in order to accommodate the fuller figure and that's what they would do there is a time to tear and a time to mend there is a time to be silent and a time to speak there is great balance there some of us are almost always silent we should be speaking up more some never stop talking and we have to say to them just can you just give us a second to think there is a time to love and a time to hate there is a time for war and a time for peace peace and Solomon essentially says to us these are the times of our lives and because we're all different and because we've all had different experiences our minds will go to different places we will be kind of drawing on different memories as we read through this list but we can identify with the things in this list we can identify with these seasons even the young ones at the back there you can read through that list can't you and you can see that there's parts of your lives that identify with us

there's highs there's lows there's positives there's negatives and so we can see we can identify with these different seasons and we might be able to pinpoint even just now as we go through this list where we are in terms of these verses even as we think about our lives there's a time to be born and there's a time to die and I used to think of myself as being much more back in the being born stage but as the years go past what am I now approaching 50 we're over the hill we're moving in the direction of the other end of the verses so we can think through this and we can think about where we are in these different points we see the times of our lives and I suppose the question that we have to ask is why do we have this passage what is the purpose behind this literature what is the purpose behind what is very poetic language here what is it that we are being told what is [40 : 13] Solomon trying to say what is God trying to say to us through Solomon as we step through this list well I think in part what we are being told here is that God knows about our lives God sees our lives and God is aware and he is with us in all these seasons in all these times of life sometimes we have that strong sense of God's presence as we pass through certain situations sometimes we wonder where he is sometimes we feel like he's far from us sometimes we want to say have you forsaken me the Psalms are full of that but what we are given here is an assurance that God sees us that God knows us that God is with us in all the seasons in all the circumstances in all the times of our lives and that's not just a supposition that's an assurance if we go beyond

Ecclesiastes as we think through different parts of the Bible just take two texts as a follow on from that Deuteronomy 31 verse 6 God says to his people be strong and courageous do not be afraid or terrified maybe we're in a situation tonight and we're thinking about something that's up ahead and it's making us afraid we feel terrified and we feel isolated we feel like we're alone in the middle of something we don't know which way to go with it and God says to us be strong and courageous do not be afraid or terrified because of them or whatever it is that's in your mind that's terrifying you and then the reason is given to us why for the Lord your God goes with you he will never leave you he will never leave you nor forsake you and think about the disciples as Jesus physically is going to ascend into heaven and they're going to be left on their own in that sense they don't have the physical

Jesus with them and they're wondering about this task that they've been given to go out into all the world with the message of the gospel and they know the hostility and they know the opposition and they know the danger that's associated with all that and yet Jesus says to them and surely I am with you always to the very end of the age to the very end of time so that's a simple point perhaps in application but it's a necessary point for you and I to take hold of that God is with us and when you go out into the office tomorrow into school tomorrow tomorrow or whatever and you and I are thinking about how difficult it is to tell people about Jesus that's our job remember what Jesus said to the disciples back then is still for us surely he says I am with you always to the very end of the age so we see here that the times of our lives the different seasons the different circumstances times of our lives point number one point number two much more briefly the thought of eternity the thought of eternity the awareness you could say of eternity now when we look around us in this world we see we see people but we don't just see people we share planet earth with many different species we we share planet earth with with an animal kingdom and they experience all the times and the seasons in the same way that we do so there are certain species and they come over here for one season of the year and then they're off you can set your watch by them and they're off to some far off place they know the seasons they can read the seasons they can identify with us in a sense in the changing times and seasons in life the animal kingdom these creepy crawlies and things that we see they are busy

Solomon Proverbs chapter six and verse six he says consider the ant look at the ant and the ant is an example of a creature that works it works furiously it toils relentlessly but the ant never asks the question what's the point in all this you never see a cluster of ants standing around separated from the hard working ants and having a conversation saying what's the point in all this stuff that we're carrying from here to there and it doesn't happen whereas man woman boys girls we ask that question all the time why all this homework what's the point in it all why have I got to wash all these dishes in the hotel I'll have to be doing all the same thing tomorrow night it's only however many pounds an hour what's the point in the whole thing and in verse 9 it says there what does the worker gain from his toil and so Solomon asks the question that so many were asking and so many still today are continuing to ask what is the worker what do I gain from all my toil and there's numerous songs that have been written to express the the frustration and the futility of working

tirelessly for something that actually has very short term worth

[47 : 06] Dolly Parton don't know the words of much of the song but I know enough to quote working nine to five what a way to earn a living a more modern song from the 90s Oasis there's a line in one of the songs that says is it worth the aggravation of finding yourself a job when there's nothing worth working for and Solomon is speaking into that and Solomon is acknowledging the burden that people feel as they're under the toil of work the pressure of work he says in verse 10 I have seen the burden that God has laid on men and so the question that we have to ask is why does the ant not have a confidence to discuss that the merits are working so hard when we're forever talking about this why do we never see sheep and

DJ's cows gathered in a field just burdened with the pressures of life and wondering about the big questions of what happens after they die why is there that difference between the animal kingdom and us what is God built into man that he hasn't built into the animals and the answer is the thought the awareness of eternity verse 11 he has made everything beautiful in his time he has also set eternity in the hearts of men yet they cannot fathom what God has done from beginning to end and that's that's true we spend much of our days not being able to fathom what God is doing and allowing to happen in certain situations there is much about the character and the nature of God that we cannot fathom because he is

God and we are not he is infinite and we are finite so how could we fathom but one thing that we can fathom one thing that God has revealed to us one thing that he has set in our hearts as a deep instinct is the awareness that beyond time however many years you and I have beyond time there is eternity and Solomon is writing in order to get us to think about eternity God is using Solomon to challenge us and call us to get ready for eternity eternity and so we can look back over point one we can think back about the times of our lives we can see that we have been through many seasons of life we have experienced many of the things that Solomon has written off as the hymn writer says we will sing at the end the sands of time are sinking and as the sands of time sink there is a growing urgency that falls upon us to be ready for eternity so how can we be ready for eternity and how can our friends and our classmates and the people that we care for who aren't in church who don't read the bible who perhaps don't know much about any of this how can they be ready for eternity what can they what can we do to meet our maker what do we need to do well if we fast forward from ecclesiastes to the gospel we learn that it's not so much what we have to do it's what God has already done so what has he done well the God of eternity Jesus the eternal son has stepped into time that's what we'll remember over the month of December that awesome truth that the God of eternity stepped into time and he lived for us and he died for us and he rose from the dead and he promises that if we believe in him we can spend eternity at peace knowing rest and experiencing joy and working purposefully and enjoying fellowship with God and with all who have trusted God and have gone on ahead of us to that place that Jesus has prepared Paul reflects on that in Romans 5 and at verse 6 he says you see at just the right time at just the right time when we were still powerless

Christ died for the ungodly very rarely will anyone die for a righteous person though for a good person someone might possibly dare to die but God demonstrates his own love for us in this while we were still sinners Christ died for us since we have now been justified by his blood how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath through him for if while we were God's enemies we were reconciled to him through the death of his son how much more having been reconciled shall we be saved through his life so if you and I want to be ready prepared assured that we will be in an eternity that is bliss that is peace that is life and that we will avoid an eternity of outer darkness of torment of death death then what are we to do we are to believe in Jesus we are to trust the God of eternity who stepped into time to save us so trust

[53 : 58] Jesus and tell your friends to trust Jesus that is why we are here we might be sitting here tonight saying I trusted Jesus 40 years ago praise the Lord if you did but you and I have friends and family and colleagues and they are not trusting Jesus and they don't know about Jesus and they are not thinking about eternity and the instinct that awareness of eternity that God has put in their hearts they are suppressing it and the world will push it down deep but God wants his people to reach out to those who are around them so that we will tell them and show them that Jesus loves them and that he came for them and that he wants them to trust him so that eternity will be a place of safety and not a place of darkness and lostness the times of our lives

God is with us in them all the thought of eternity and the need to be prepared for eternity and the last thing just two minutes the trustworthy God and if you just scan verses 12 to verse 15 essentially what Solomon is doing here is he is showing us how we're to live if we are trusting God there's two things that should mark our lives if we're trusting God there's two things that people should see in our lives if we are Christians and one is that we are contented and secondly we are composed first of all we're contented just look at verses 12 and 13 I know there's nothing better for men than to be happy and to do good while they live that everyone may eat and drink and find satisfaction in all his toil this is the gift of

God it's very straightforward it's very simple but the message is when we are trusting God there's satisfaction there's purpose in your work in the school in the gym in the distillery whatever it is you're doing whatever it is you're given to do day by day when we're trusting God there is satisfaction there is purpose in our work we're working for the glory of God and there's happiness even in the normal basic things and the reason that we're happy the reason that we have that joy is that it's because we know God is with us and what we have whether it's work whether it's resources whether it's food on our table we're content with because God has given it to us he's measured out the portion he's allocated the task and so if we are

Christians if we are trusting God that should be seen in our contentment and also it should be seen in our composure verse 14 I know that everything God does will endure forever nothing can be added to it nothing taken from it God does it so that men will revere him whatever is has already been and what has been before and God will call the past to account and I suppose the simplest way to put that is when we're trusting God when we are Christians we know God is in control and we know that God is at work always and we know that the work that God does lasts it endures so we can be at peace our stress our fretting will not make any real difference to the things that are going on in this world but as

Christians we know that our calling is not to be saviors our calling is to trust the saviour and our calling is not to be charging around trying to save everybody around us our calling is to be composed doing what we can yes but to have that composure of knowing that God is on the throne the almighty God is still in control so we don't have to stress and a life that's lived like that a life that is contented and composed is like light in a dark world it's its salt in a world that lacks flavour a life where we are trusting

[59 : 49] God and that's seen in contentment and composure is a life that stands out and causes people to ask the question why are you the way you are it's different about you and that opens the door for us to tell people about Jesus to tell people about the God who is in control to tell people the meaning of life the reality of eternity and the way to be prepared to get there let's pray heavenly heavenly father we thank you for your word we thank you that you know us we thank you that you're with us throughout all the seasons of life every day that we have in time we thank you that you've promised that you won't forsake us but we thank you that we're not limited in our experience to just this world this world is just like a mist

James says in his book it's just like a vapor and then there is eternity and Lord we know that you have warned us that there is the danger of a lost eternity a place where we are separated from God a place where we pay for our sin a place where there is suffering that does not end and the thought of that is more than we can bear we thank you Lord that we have been told in your word that Jesus came to prepare us to go to heaven not to hell we thank you that Jesus is our rescuer we thank you that Jesus is the one who stepped into time to be the saviour of our sins we thank you that he paid the price of our sin on the cross and we thank you that if we're believing in him we have been promised that there is a place of joy and peace and eternal rest and satisfaction a place called heaven that he has promised that he has prepared for us if we trust him so help us we pray each one of us to be trusting in Jesus and to be taking every opportunity that you give us to tell other people about Jesus so that they too when they come to the end of their days may have the assurance that they are going to an eternity of peace and not an eternity where there is lostness give us that acute awareness of eternity give us that urgency to tell people about

Jesus help us we pray to reach out in a world where there is an awareness that this is not all there is where there is deep dissatisfaction help us to tell them give us the courage to tell them about Jesus the satisfier the one who gives rest to our souls and we pray this in Jesus name and for his sake amen 694 in the hymn book to end the sands of time are sinking the dawn of heaven breaks the summer morn of cypher the fair sweet morn awakes and it's a hymn that as it goes on speaks of

Emmanuel's land so we'll stand to sing to God's praise the sands of time are sinking the dawn of heaven breaks the summer morn by sight for the fair sweet morn awakes dark dark has been the midnight but day spring is at hand and glory glory dwelleth in
Emmanuel's land o Christ he is the fountain the deep sweet well of love the streams on earth like his more deep but drink above there too an ocean coldness his mercy does expand and glory glory dwelleth in Emmanuel's land with with mercy and with judgment my web of time he hold and yea the Jews of sorrow were lost by his love
I'll bless the hand that guided death I'll bless the heart that glad when thrown where glory dwelleth in Emmanuel's land I've rested on towards heaven against storm and wind and tide I'll like the weary trouble that leans on his sky I'll let the shakes of evening while saints like sling inside I'll hear the glory dawning in Emmanuel's land and
[66 : 16] I may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ the love of God the Father and the fellowship of God the Holy Spirit be with us all now and forever more Amen