

# HYMN 12

Formerly Hymn 8

The Song of Moses  
Deuteronomy 32:1-43

<sup>k</sup> Geloof in God

Enige Gezangen, 1933

1. Give ear, O heav-ens! Earth, hear my ad-dress!  
Like gen-tle rain be all my teach-ing;  
like morn-ing dew up-on the grass,  
like spring-time show-ers be my preach-ing.  
I will de-clare the LORD's great name;  
O praise our God and spread His fame.  
He is the Rock of our sal-va-tion;  
His ways are truth and eq-ui-ty.  
Pro-claim His glo-ry with e-la-tion.  
How right-eous and how just is He!

## Hymn 12

2. They did not act as chil-dren of the LORD,  
that twist-ed, crook-ed gen-er-a-tion.  
Is this how you es-teem His word?  
You are a sense-less, fool-ish na-tion.  
As Fa-ther He es-tab-lished you,  
and did not He cre-ate you too?  
Think back on by-gone times: re-mem-ber  
His gra-cious deeds in days of old.  
Your fa-ther can re-veal their num-ber;  
all this your eld-ers will un-fold.

3. When God Most High did parcel out the lands,  
dispersing all mankind as nations,  
He fixed their boundaries by His hand  
to give all tribes their place and station.  
His chosen people formed His share;  
He Jacob as His own declared.  
The LORD in barren deserts found him;  
in howling wastelands He drew nigh  
and with His care did He surround him,  
just as the apple of His eye.
  
4. Lo, as an eagle, hovering o'er its young  
when it has thrust them from its eyrie,  
will catch them, bearing them along  
on outspread wings that never weary,  
so was the LORD then Jacob's guide:  
no foreign god was at his side.  
He made him ride on lofty mountains,  
fed him on harvests of the field.  
From crags flowed honey as from fountains;  
the flinty rock its oil did yield.
  
5. The rams and goats of Bashan, rich with fat,  
the curds and milk by flocks presented,  
the blood of grapes in brimming vats,  
the finest wheat to him He granted.  
But Jeshurun grow fat, and kicked –  
how fat you've grown, how sleek and thick!  
Then he forsook the God who made him;  
salvation's constant Rock he spurned.  
With foreign idols he betrayed Him:  
God's jealous anger fiercely burned.

## Hymn 12

6. On strange new gods or de-mons did they call;  
with sac-ri-fic-es they re-vered them  
al-though they were not gods at all;  
in-deed, your fa-thers nev-er feared them.  
Your Rock and Sav-iour you ig-nored,  
for-got your Mak-er and your LORD.  
He saw His off-spring's prov-o-ca-tion  
and, spurn-ing them, said, "I will see  
what end a-waits this gen-er-a-tion,  
these chil-dren of in-iq-ui-ty.

7. “With worthless gods have they offended Me,  
provoking Me to indignation.  
Since they have roused My jealousy,  
I will requite their provocation:  
I’ll make them jealous and embrace  
instead of them some foolish race.  
A blaze is kindled by My fury;  
down into deep Sheol it spreads,  
consumes the earth, and will most surely  
make mountain roots glow fiery red.
  
8. “To ruin and disaster are they doomed,  
for I will pierce them with My arrows.  
By dreadful plagues they’ll be consumed,  
by fever and by famine harrowed,  
by fangs of beasts and deadly stings  
of swarms of loathsome crawling things.  
The sword shall in the streets bereave them  
of stalwart youth and maiden mild,  
and in their dwellings they shall grieve then  
for grey old man and newborn child.
  
9. “I would have blotted out their name and fame  
and scattered them in all directions  
had I not feared their foes would claim  
that their strong hand wrought this destruction.  
‘We are the victors,’ they would scoff;  
‘not God but we have cut them off.’”  
For they are fools, themselves deceiving,  
and nothing do they understand.  
If they were not so unperceiving,  
they would discern their latter end!

## Hymn 12

10. How could but one pur-sue a thou-sand men  
and two dis-pel ten times that num-ber,  
un-less their Rock a-ban-doned them,  
the LORD them no more would re-mem-ber?  
Our en-e-mies them-selves con-fess  
that they no rock like ours pos-sess.  
Their vine comes from the vine of So-dom  
and of Go-mor-rah's ter-rac-es.  
Their on-ly grapes are grapes of poi-son;  
their clus-ters, filled with bit-ter-ness.

11. The poison of the serpent is their wine,  
the cobra's venom is their potion.  
"It's in My storehouse kept confined  
until the day of retribution.  
Mine is the vengeance. At My call  
their foot will slip; they soon will fall."  
The LORD will come with vindication;  
He'll pity those who are His own  
when, seeing their extermination,  
He knows that all their strength is gone.
  
12. He'll say, "Where are the gods you now await,  
the rock in which you sought salvation,  
those who your sacrifices ate,  
who drank the wine of your libation?  
Let them your help and refuge be!  
See now that I, yes I, am He,  
the only God: there is none other.  
With life and death at My command,  
I wound and heal, disperse and gather,  
and none can rescue from My hand.
  
13. "My hand to heaven uplifted, I, the LORD,  
now swear that, as I live forever,  
I'll whet My great and glittering sword  
to bring to nought the foe's endeavour;  
My hand on judgment shall take hold,  
and I'll requite the proud and bold.  
Then drunk with blood shall be My arrows;  
then shall My sword their flesh devour.  
Their long-haired princes I will harrow,  
revealing My victorious power."

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14. O come and with His peo-ple now re-joice;  
shout forth your prais-es, all you na-tions!  
To thank the LORD lift up your voice  
and sing your songs of ju-bi-la-tion.  
The LORD is good, His mer-cy great:  
His ser-vants He will vin-di-cate,  
wreak ven-geance on His ad-ver-sar-ies.  
His cho-sen peo-ple He has shown  
the cove-nant love that nev-er var-ies  
and for their land will He a-tone.