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“Igniting Hearts — Quenching Thirsty Souls”



Sha’alu Shalom Yerushalayim

Pray for the Peace of Jerusalem (Psalm 122:6)

From the Hymnal

“Jesus Paid It All” by Elvina M. Hall

“Jesus paid it all, All to Him I owe; Sin had left a crimson stain—He washed it white as snow.”

This hymn speaks to the basic truth of the Gospels that Jesus did ALL that was necessary to save us to the uttermost. Mrs. Elvina Hall wrote these words one Sunday morning while seated in the choir loft of the Monument Street Methodist Church in Baltimore,

Maryland, while listening to the sermon by her pastor, the Rev. George Shrick. The pastor recalled that the church organist, John Grape, had just given him a copy of a new tune that he had composed, which he titled “all to Christ I owe.” To everyone’s amazement, John’s tune fit Elvina’s scribbled words perfectly.

John Grape, composer of the tune, was a successful coal merchant in Baltimore who dabbled in music for amusement. The hymn first appeared in Philip Bliss’s *Gospel Song Book Collection* in 1874. It has enjoyed wide use in evangelical churches ever since. Jesus’ working in our lives is so amazing. Consider this — an obscure woman scribbles a poem on the flyleaf of her hymnal, and an amateur church musician unknowingly creates a matching tune, an unknown pastor provides encouragement and a hymn is born which ministers spiritual challenge and blessing to countless numbers of people for more than a century.

“Come now, let us reason together,” says the Lord, “Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; through they are red as crimson, they shall be like wool.” (Isaiah 1:18)



January 2024, Volume 24, No. 1

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For details on upcoming meetings please see page 6.

If you have prayer requests, please contact Rivers in the Desert Ministries at: raydelea@verizon.net