A LAMB SLAIN

"Lo, in the midst of the throne... stood a Lamb as it had been slain." <u>Revelation 5:6</u>

Why should our exalted Lord appear in His wounds in glory? The wounds of Jesus are His glories, His jewels, and His sacred ornaments. To the eye of the believer, Jesus is fair and comely; He is "white and ruddy" white with innocence, and ruddy with His own blood. My beloved is white and ruddy, the chiefest among ten thousand! **SS.5:10**.

We see Him as the lily of unequaled purity, and as the rose crimsoned with His own gore. Oh! Surely there never was such a matchless Christ as He that did hang upon the cross. There we behold all His beauties in perfection, all His attributes developed, all His love drawn out, all His character expressed. God Himself has orchestrated our salvation; and when we behold the Son we see our Father.

The wounds of Jesus are far fairer and more precious in our eyes than all the splendor and pomp of <u>all</u> earthly kings.

Christ's thorny crown is more than an imperial diadem. It's true that He not now bears the crown of thorns, but there was a glory in **that** crown that <u>never</u> could be seen from crowns of gold. ...Jesus is the Lion of the Tribe of Judah, the root of David, He has prevailed... **Rev.5:5.** But in the midst of the throne: Jesus wears the appearance of a slain Lamb as His court dress in which He wooed our souls, and redeemed us by His complete atonement.

These are not only the ornaments of Christ: they are the **trophies** of His love and of His victory. He has divided the spoil with the strong. He has redeemed for Himself, a great multitude that no man can number, and the scars to which He bears: his thorn crowned brow, his stripes, his pierced side, his nail scared hands and feet, are the memorials of the fight. The fight **He** fought to bring us back to God. If Christ thus loves to retain the thought of His sufferings for His people, how much more precious should his wounds be to us! That have benefitted thereby.

"Behold how every wound of His A precious balm distils,

Which heals the scars that sin had made, And cures all mortal ills.

"Those wounds are mouths that preach His grace; The ensigns of His love; The seals of our expected bliss In paradise above."

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