



Music by
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A STUDENT'S EVENING HYMN

c. 2000 Master Plan Productions

Words by
James Clerk Maxwell
(1831-1879)



1. While the world is grow - ing dim, And the Sun is slow de - scend - ing
 2. Thou that fill'st our wait - ing eyes With the food of con - temp - pla - tion,
 3. Give me wis - dom so to use These brief hours of thought - ful lei - sure,
 4. Through the creatures Thou hast made, Show the bright - ness of Thy glo - ry,
 5. Teach me so Thy works to read That my faith, new strength ac - cru - ing,
 6. Give me love a - right to trace Thine to ev - ery thing cre - a - ted,

Past the far hor - i - zon's rim, Earth's low sky to heav - en ex - tend - ing,
 Set - ting in Thy dark - ened skies, Signs of in - fin - ite cre - a - tion,
 That I may no in - stant lose In mere med - i - ta - tive plea - sure,
 Be E - ter - nal Truth dis - played In their sub - stance tran - si - to - ry,
 May from world to world pro - ceed, Wis - dom's fruit - ful search pur - su - ing
 Preach - ing to a ran - somed race By Thy mer - cy ren - o - va - ted,

Let my fee - ble earth - notes, blend - ing With the songs of cher - u - bim,
 Grant to night - ly med - i - ta - tion What the toil - some day den - ies
 But with strict - est jus - tice mea - sure All the ends my life pur - sues,
 Till green Earth and O - cean hoar - y, Mass - y rock and ten - der blade
 Till, thy truth my mind im - bu - ing, I pro - claim th'E - ter - nal Creed,
 Till with all thy ful - ness sa - ted I be - hold thee face to face

Through the same ex - panse as - cend - ing, Thus re - new my - eve - ning hymn.
 Teach me in this earth - ly sta - tion Heav'n - ly truth to re - a - lize.
 Lies to crush and truths to trea - sure, Wrong to shun and Right to choose.
 Tell the same un - end - ing sto - ry "We are truth in Form ar - rayed."
 Oft the glori - ous theme re - new - ing God our Lord is God in - deed.
 And with Ar - dour un - a - ba - ted Sing the glo - ries of thy grace.

Historical note: Dr. Maxwell wrote this hymn at age 22, when he had already distinguished himself as a scholar at Cambridge. Composing it under intense pressure from studies, he subsequently graduated at the top of his class. He went on to become one of the greatest of all physicists, making fundamental discoveries that ushered in a wealth of inventions for the 20th century. Through it all: his work, his marriage, and even his untimely death from cancer at age 48, these lyrics represented his guiding philosophy of life.