

*Hymns on God's Everlasting Love (1741)*¹

[Baker list, #46]

Editorial Introduction:

As the early Methodist revival spread, John and Charles Wesley found their commitment to God's universal offer of saving grace increasingly challenged by Calvinist participants in the movement. Their initial response was John's sermon *Free Grace*, to which Charles appended a hymn—see "Universal Redemption" (1739). This only intensified the debate. Charles's *MS Journal* reveals him becoming quite frustrated with the "poison of Calvin" in the final months of 1740. He gave vent to this frustration in this volume, which contains some of his most pungent satirical verse.

While the volume was published anonymously, various evidences make clear that Charles was the author of all the hymns included and the main force behind its publication. In addition to sixteen new hymns, Charles brought into this collection two earlier items from *HSP* (1740).

The textual history of this volume is a bit convoluted. Charles left an initial set of verse with the printer in Bristol in late 1740, as he headed back to guide the work in London. This initial set was put in proofs with the simple title of "A Collection of Hymns," but before it was actually printed the title page was changed to "Hymns on God's Everlasting Love." Unfortunately, not all the drop titles were corrected, and the first printing in March 1741 includes some copies with the original shorter drop title. Charles returned to Bristol in April 1741 and helped supervise a corrected printing, with a lengthened title to highlight two of the hymns, and with four new verses added to the fourteenth hymn. What appears below is this longer printing, as the definitive first edition of this work.

This first edition was listed in catalogues of the Wesley brothers publications from 1742–54. Either there was a large initial run, or it did not sell as well as other items since its polemical nature limited its use in worship. It did not go into a new edition until 1756, at which time it was combined with a second volume of the same title that Charles published in 1742—see *Hymns on God's Everlasting Love* (1742). This combined collection went through 3 editions prior to Charles's death.

In 1778, when John Wesley began publishing the *Arminian Magazine* as another instrument for defending God's universal offer of salvation, he chose six hymns from this volume to place among the poetry offerings in the inaugural year.

Editions:

[Charles Wesley.] *Hymns on God's Everlasting Love; To Which is Added the Cry of a Reprobate and the Horrible Decree*. Bristol: Farley, 1741.

2nd London, 1756. [combined with *Hymns on God's Everlasting Love* (1742)]

3rd Bristol: Pine, 1770. [combined with *Hymns on God's Everlasting Love* (1742)]

4th London: Hawes, 1779. [combined with *Hymns on God's Everlasting Love* (1742)]

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Table of Contents

[I]	3–5
[II]	5–6
[III]	7–8
[IV]	8–10
[V] [On God’s Everlasting Love]	10–11
[VI]	12–13
[VII]	13–17
[VIII]	17–18
[IX]	18–20
[X]	20–23
[XI.] The Cry of a “Reprobate”	24–27
[XII]	27–28
[XIII] [On Universal Redemption]	28–29
[XIV.] God’s Sovereign, Everlasting Love	29–31
[XV] [1 John 2:1–2] HSP (1740), 123	31–32
[XVI] [Universal Redemption] HSP (1740), 132–33	32
[XVII]	33
[XVIII.] The Horrible Decree	33–36

**HYMNS
ON
GOD'S EVERLASTING LOVE.**

[L.]²

- [1] Father, whose *everlasting love*
Thy only Son for sinners gave,
Whose grace *to all did freely move*,
And sent him down a *world to save*;
- [2] Help us thy mercy to extol,
Immense, unfathom'd, unconfin'd;
To praise the Lamb who *died for all*,
The *general Saviour of mankind*.
- [3] Thy *undistinguishing* regard
Was cast on Adam's fallen race:
For all thou hast in Christ prepar'd
Sufficient, sovereign, saving grace.
- [4] Jesus hath said, we *all* shall hope;
Preventing grace for all is free:
"And I, if I be lifted up,
I will *draw all men* unto me."
- [5] What soul those drawings never knew?
With whom hath not thy Spirit strove?
We all *must* own that God is true;
We all *may* feel, that God is love.

²Reprinted with title "On God's Everlasting Love," in *Arminian Magazine* 1 (1778): 430–32.

- [6] O, *all ye ends of earth* behold
The bleeding, all-atoning Lamb!
Look unto him for sinners sold,
Look and *be sav'd thro'* Jesu's name.
- [7] Behold the Lamb of God, who takes
The sins of all the world away!
His pity no exception makes;
But all that *will* receive him, *may*.
- [8] A *world* he suffer'd to redeem;
For *all* he hath th' atonement³ made:
For⁴ those that *will not come* to him
The ransom of his life was paid.
- [9] Their Lord unto *his own* he came;
His own were who *receiv'd him not*,
Denied and trampled on his name,
And blood, by which themselves were bought.
- [10] Who underfoot their Saviour trod,
Expos'd *afresh* and *crucified*,
Who trampled on the Son of God,
For them, for them, their Saviour died.
- [11] For those who at the judgment day
On him they pierc'd shall look with pain;
The Lamb for every *castaway*,
For *every soul of man* was slain.
- [12] Why then, thou universal love,
Should any of thy grace despair?
To all, to all, thy bowels move,
But straiten'd⁵ in our own we are.
- [13] 'Tis we, the wretched objects we,
Our sin and death⁶ on thee translate:
We think that fury is in thee,
Horribly think, that God is hate.

³Ori., "atonement"; corrected in 2nd edn. (1756) and following.

⁴Ori., "Nor"; a misprint, corrected in 2nd edn. (1756) and following.

⁵Ori., "straitned"; changed in 4th edn. (1779).

⁶"Sin and death" changed to "blasphemies" in 2nd edn. (1756) and following.

- [14] “Thou hast compell’d the lost to die;
Hast *reprobated* from thy face;
Hast others sav’d, but them *past by*;
Or mock’d with only *damning* grace.” *⁷
- [15] How long, thou jealous God, how long
Shall impious worms thy word disprove?
Thy justice stain, thy mercy wrong,
Deny thy faithfulness and love.
- [16] Still shall the HELLISH DOCTRINE stand?
And thee for its dire author claim?
No—let it sink at thy command
Down to the pit from whence it came.
- [17] Arise, O God, maintain thy cause!
The fulness of the Gentiles call:
Lift up the standard of thy cross,
And all shall own thou died’st for all.

[II.]

- [1] Lord, not unto me,
(The whole I disclaim)
All glory to thee
Thro’ Jesus’s⁸ name!
Thy gifts, and thy graces
Pour’d down from above,
Demand all our praises,
Our thanks and our love?
- [2] Thy faithfulness, Lord,
Each moment we find,
So true to thy word.
So loving, and kind;
Thy mercy so tender
To all the lost race,

* More usually call’d *common* grace.

⁷The asterisk is omitted in the first edition, though the note is given at the bottom of the page.

⁸Ori., “Jesu’s”; corrected to form used throughout this work in 2nd edn. (1756) and following.

The foulest offender
May turn, and find grace.

[3] The mercy I feel
To others I shew,
I set to my seal
That Jesus is true;
Ye all may find favour,
Who come at his call:
O! Come to my Saviour,
His grace is for all.

[4] To save what was lost,
From heaven he came:
Come sinners, and trust
In Jesus's name;
He offers you pardon,
He bids you "Be free!
If sin is your burden,⁹
O! Come unto me!"

[5] O let me commend
My Saviour to you,
The publican's friend,
And¹⁰ advocate too;
For you he is pleading
His merits and death,
With God interceding
For sinners beneath.

[6] Then let us submit
His grace to receive,
Fall down at his feet,
And gladly believe:
We all are forgiven
For Jesus's sake,
Our title to heaven
His merits we take.

⁹Ori., "burthen"; changed in 2nd edn. (1756) and following.

¹⁰Ori., "An"; a misprint, corrected in 2nd edn. (1756) and following.

[III.]

- [1] O all that pass by
 To Jesus draw near!
He utters a cry,
 Ye sinners give ear;
From hell to retrieve you,
 He spreads out his hands,
Now, now to receive you
 He graciously stands.
- [2] “If any man thirst,
 And happy would be,
The vilest and worst
 May come unto me,
May drink of my Spirit,
 (Excepted is none)
Lay claim to my merit,
 And take for his own.”
- [3] Whoever receives
 The life-giving word,
In Jesus believes
 His God and his Lord;
In him a pure river
 Of life shall arise,
Shall in the believer
 Spring up to the skies.
- [4] My God and my Lord;
 Thy call I obey,
My soul on thy word
 Of promise I stay;
Thy kind invitation
 I gladly embrace,
Athirst for salvation,
 Salvation by grace.
- [5] O hasten the hour,
 Send down from above

The Spirit of power,
Of health and of love,
Of filial fear,
Of knowledge and grace,
Of wisdom of prayer,
Of joy and of praise.

- [6] The Spirit of faith,
Of faith in thy blood,
Which saves us from wrath,
And brings us to God;
Removes the huge mountain
Of indwelling sin,
And opens a fountain
That washes us clean.

[IV.]

- [1] O *Saviour of all*
In Adam that fell,
Attend to our call
And set to thy seal:
Our thankful rehearsal
If thou dost approve,
Of grace universal,
And infinite love?
- [2] For whom did'st thou die,
Thou meek Lamb of God?
With all men may I
Lay claim to thy blood?
Me, me thou redeemest,
Who *for the unjust*
Hast *suffer'd*, and *camest*
To save what was lost,
- [3] If *all men were dead*,
And fell in the fall,

Of Adam our head,
The type of us all;
Our Adam from heaven
The loss doth retrieve:
For all thou wast given,
That all might believe.

[4] If all men have stray'd,
Of *every one*
The sins God *hath laid*
On thee, his dear Son:
And all may find pardon
For pardon who call:
Thou beared'st the burden¹¹,
The guilt of us all.

[5] In Adam we died,
In thee we may live;
Thy merits applied
We all may receive:
The common salvation
To all doth belong;
To *every nation*
And people and tongue.

[6] Our faith is not vain,
But *death thou did'st taste*
For every man:
'Tis finish'd: 'tis past!
The world is forgiven,
For Jesus's sake;
The kingdom of heaven
By force we may take.

[7] O bowels of love!
O infinite grace!
So *freely* to move
To all the lost race!
O wond'rous compassion!
O mercy divine!

¹¹Ori., “burthen”; changed in 2nd edn. (1756) and following.

Eternal salvation,
Thro' Jesus, is mine.

[8] Dear Saviour of all,
Attend while we sing;
On thee do we call
Thy witness to bring;
Whose arms were extended
A world to embrace,
Whose love never ended
Would save the whole race.

[9] Great witness of God
To thee we appeal!
His love shed abroad
His counsel reveal:
If *all* may find favour,
Pure love if thou art,
Speak inwardly Saviour,
Amen to my heart.

[V.]¹²

[1] To the meek and gentle Lamb
I pour out my complaint,
Will not hide from thee my shame,
But tell thee what I want:
I am full of self and pride,
I am all unclean, unclean,
Till thy Spirit here abide,
I cannot cease from sin.

[2] Clearly do I see the way,
My foot is on the path;
Now, this instant, *now* I may
Draw near by simple faith:
Thou art not a distant God,
Thou art still to sinners near,
Every moment, if I would,
My heart might feel thee near.

¹²Reprinted in *Arminian Magazine* 1 (1778): 139–40, under the title “On God’s Everlasting Love.”

- [3] Free as air thy mercy streams,
Thy universal grace
Shines with undistinguish'd beams
On all the fallen race:
All from thee a power receive
To reject, or hear thy call,
All *may* chuse to die or live;
Thy grace is free for all.
- [4] All the hindrance is in me,
Thou ready art to save;
But I *will not* come to thee
That I thy life may have:
Stubborn and rebellious still,
From thy arms of love I fly,
Yes, I *will* be lost, I *will*,
In spite¹³ of mercy die.
- [5] Holy, meek, and gentle Lamb,
With me what can'st thou do?
Tho' thou leav'st me as I am,
I own thee good and true.
Thou would'st have me life embrace,
Thou for me, and all, wast slain:
Thou hast offer'd me thy grace;
'Twas I that made it vain.
- [6] O that I might yield at last,
By dying love subdu'd!
Lord, on thee my soul is cast,
The purchase of thy blood:
If thou wilt the sinner have,
Thou can'st work to will in me;
When, and as thou pleasest save:
I leave it all to thee.

¹³Ori., "spight"; changed in 2nd edn. (1756) and following.

[VI.]¹⁴

- [1] Glorious Saviour of my soul,
 I lift it up to thee;
 Thou hast made the sinner whole;
 Hast set the captive free.
 Thou my debt of death hast paid;
 Thou hast rais'd me from my fall:
 Thou¹⁵ hast an atonement made;
 My Saviour dy'd for ALL.
- [2] What could my Redeemer move
 To leave his Father's breast?
 Pity drew him from above,
 And would not let him rest.
 Swift to succour sinking man,
 Sinking into endless woe,
 Jesus to our rescue ran,
 And God appear'd below.
- [3] God in this dark vale of tears,
 A man of griefs was seen,
 Here for three-and-thirty years
 He dwelt with sinful men.
 Did they know the deity?
 Did they own him who he was?
 See, the friend of sinners, see!
 He hangs on yonder cross!
- [4] Who hath done the direful deed,
 Hath¹⁶ crucified my God?
 Curses on his guilty head
 Who¹⁷ spilt that precious blood:
 Worthy is the wretch to die.—
 Self-condemn'd, alas! Is he!
 I have sold my Saviour, I
 Have nail'd him on¹⁸ the tree.
- [5] Yet thy wrath I cannot fear,
 Thou gentle bleeding Lamb;

¹⁴Reprinted in *Arminian Magazine* 1 (1778): 47–48, under the title “Hymn on Universal Redemption.”

¹⁵Ori., “Thon”; a misprint, corrected in 2nd edn. (1756) and following.

¹⁶“Hath” changed to “And” in 2nd edn. (1756) and following.

¹⁷“Who” changed to “That” in 2nd edn. (1756) and following.

¹⁸“On” changed to “to” in 2nd edn. (1756) and following.

By thy judgment I am clear,
Heal'd by thy stripes I am:
Thou for me a curse wast made,
That I might in thee be blest:
Thou hast my full ransom paid,
And in thy wounds I rest.

[6] How shall I commend the grace
Which all with me may prove
Magnify thy mercy's praise,
Thy all-redeeming love!
O 'tis more than tongue can tell:
Who the mystery shall explain?
Angels that in strength excell,
Would search it out in vain.

[7] Far above their noblest songs,
Thy glorious mercies rise;
Praise sits silent on their tongues,
And wonder lulls the skies!
O might I with them be one,
Lost in speechless rapture fall,
Cast my crown before thy throne,
Thou Lamb that diedst for all!

[VII.]

[1] Jesu, hear! In bitterness
Of spirit hear me cry!
See me in my last distress,
And at the point to die!
Save me, or I perish, Lord!
I sink into the gulph beneath:
To the tempted help afford,
And snatch my soul from death.

[2] Compass'd with an host of foes,
Defenceless, and alone,
I have neither strength t' oppose,
Nor swiftness to out run:

Or could I their rage evade,
I cannot 'scape the foe within,
Sold to evil, and betray'd,
By my own bosom sin.

[3] Lord, as with my latest breath,
I ask, what shall I do?
Only ruin, sin and death,
And hell are in my view.
No way to escape I see
From the infernal fowler's snare,
Everlasting misery,
And blackness of despair.

[4] See me looking for my doom,
When sin shall claim its prey:
When the next temptation come,
And I am cast away.
I have neither will nor power,
Temptation to resist or fly:
Jesu! Save me from¹⁹ this hour!
O save me, or I die!

[5] Once thou didst my doom revoke,
And set my spirit free:
Free from sin's Egyptian yoke,
I liv'd awhile to thee.
But alas I did not stand;
To thee I did not faithful prove
Basely slighted thy command,
And left my former love.

[6] I am into bondage brought;
Again entangled, I
Yield to sin in every thought,
And cannot but comply.
Trembling I expect the time,
Which shall my full damnation seal

¹⁹“From” changed to “in” in 2nd edn. (1756) and following.

When some horrid, horrid crime
Shall shut me up in hell.

- [7] Yet, O Lord, I still believe
Thou *canst* my soul restore:
Thou art ready to forgive,
And bid me sin no more:
Still salvation *might* be found,
If I would on my Saviour call:
Grace doth more than sin abound,
Thy grace is free for all.
- [8] Thou art willing to forgive;
But, O my cursed heart
Cannot, will not, yet believe,
Nor with its idols part.
No, I would not, tho' I might,
Accept of perfect liberty:
Darkness rather than the light
I love, and sin than thee.
- [9] Yet I *may* be sav'd I know,
I feel thy Spirit strive:
Whether I repent, or no,
I *may* repent and live.
I have choice of death, or life,
They both on *instant now* depend:
Who shalt²⁰ tell me, if the strife
In heaven or hell shall end?
- [10] Whether I shall ever yield,
Only to God is known:
If I fall, 'tis uncompell'd,
The deed is all my own:
All the blame be on my head,
The Saviour from my blood is pure;
I, and only I, have made
My own damnation sure.

²⁰“Shalt” changed to “shall” in 2nd edn. (1756) and following.

- [11] No decree of his consign'd
My unborn soul to hell:
God was merciful and kind,
But I would still rebel.
Still self-harden'd I remain'd,
Would not receive salvation's cup,
Griev'd his Spirit, and constrain'd
At last to give me up.
- [12] God forbid that I should dare
To charge my death on thee:
No, thy truth and mercy tear
The HORRIBLE DECREE!
Tho' the devil's doom I meet,
The devil's doctrine, I disclaim:
Let it sink into the pit
Of hell from whence it came.
- [13] I this record leave behind,
Tho' damn'd, I was forgiven:
Every soul may mercy find,
Believe, and enter heaven.
All the heavenly drawings prove,
And all alike are free t' embrace
Special, sovereign, saving love,
And *all-sufficient* grace.
- [14] Sinners, hear my dying call,
Ye all are bought with blood!
Take ye warning by my fall,
Nor trample on your God.
Life to all his death imparts,
Receive what he doth freely give:
Harden, not like me, your hearts,
But turn, O turn and live.
- [15] God, the good, the just, I clear:
He did not die in vain:
Grace hath brought salvation near
To every soul of man.

I would not be sav'd from death;
And self-destroyed I justly fall,
Publishing with my last breath
The Saviour died for all.

[VIII.]

- [1] Father of Jesus Christ the just,
My friend and advocate with thee,
If I have sinn'd, in him I trust
Who ever lives to pray for me:
Behold the Lamb! For me he bleeds,
For me his great attonement pleads!
- [2] For all the sins of all mankind
He once a perfect offering made,
For all his precious life resign'd,
For all a bleeding ransom paid:
He bow'd his head upon the tree:
'Tis finish'd! He hath died for me!
- [3] This last, and every sin of mine,
Did he not in his body bear?
Was it not purg'd with blood divine?
Behold the bond hangs cancell'd there!
'Tis nail'd to the accursed wood,
'Tis blotted out with Jesu's blood.
- [4] The sin on him which was not laid,
For which he hath not satisfied,
Punish it, Father, on my head,
Here let it with thy wrath abide:
But if he paid my utmost pain,
Thou canst not ask the debt again.
- [5] Lo! In the gap my surety stands,
To turn away thy vengeful ire!
Am I not written on his hands?
What can thy justice more require?

No other sacrifice I seek;
Thou hear'st the blood of sprinkling speak.

[6] It speaks me justified from all
 My sins in thought, or word, or deed:
It speaks my soul redeem'd from thrall,
 From sin and Satan's prison freed;
It speaks into my heart a power,
Which makes me more than conqueror.

[7] Father, behold thy favourite Son,
 And hear him for his murderer pray:
The face of thine anointed one,
 I know, thou canst not turn away:
I leave my²¹ cause to him, and thee,
Give me the thing he asks for me!

[IX.]²²

[1] O 'tis enough, my God my God,
 Here let me give my wand'rings o're:
No longer trample on thy blood,
 And grieve thy gentleness no more;
No more thy lingering anger move,
Or sin against thy light, and love.

[2] I loath myself in my own sight,
 Adjudge my guilty soul to hell;
How could I do thee such despight,
 So long against thy love rebel;
Despise the riches of thy grace,
And dare provoke thee to thy face!

[3] But O! If mercy is with thee,
 Now let it all on me be shewn,²³
On me, the chief of sinners, me
 Who humbly for thy mercy groan:
Me to thy Father's grace restore,
Nor let me ever grieve thee more.

²¹“My” changed to “the” in 2nd edn. (1756) and following.

²²Stanzas 1–9 reprinted in *Arminian Magazine* 1 (1778): 45–46, under the title “Salvation Depends Not on Absolute Decrees.”

²³This line revised to “Now let it upon all be shewn” in 2nd edn. (1756).

- [4] Fountain of unexhausted love,
Of infinite compassion, hear;
My Saviour, and my Prince above,
Once more in my behalf appear:
Repentance, faith, and pardon give;
O let me turn again, and live.
- [5] But if my gracious day is past,
And I am banish'd from thy sight,
When into utter²⁴ darkness cast,
My judge I'll own hath done me right,
Adore the hand whose stroke I feel,
Nor murmur when I sink to hell.
- [6] No dire decree of thine is here
That pre-ordain'd my damn'd estate;
Jesus the merciful I clear;
Jesus the just I vindicate:
He swore he would not have me die,
Why sinner wilt thou perish, why?
- [7] Because I would not come to him,
That I his proffer'd life might have:
Jesus was willing to redeem,
I would not suffer him to save.
I now his truth and justice prove,
I now am damn'd, but God is love.
- [8] O God, if thou art love indeed,
Let it once more be prov'd in me,
That I thy mercy's praise may spread
For every child of Adam free:
O let me now the gift embrace,
O let me now be sav'd by grace.
- [9] If all long-suffering thou hast shewn
On me, that others may believe;
Now make thy loving-kindness known;
Now the all conquering Spirit give,

²⁴“Utter” changed to “outer” in 2nd edn. (1756) and following.

Spirit of victory and power,
That I may never grieve thee more.

[10] Grant my importunate request,
It is not my desire, but thine;
Since thou wouldst have the sinner blest,
Now let me in thine image shine;
Nor ever from thy footsteps move,
But more than conquer in thy love.

[11] Be it according to thy will;
Set my imprison'd spirit free,
The counsel of thy grace fulfil:
Into the glorious liberty
My spirit, soul, and flesh restore,
And I shall never grieve thee more.

[X.]

Jesus Christ, the Saviour of All Men.²⁵

[1] See, sinners, in the gospel-glass,
The friend, and Saviour of mankind!
Not one of all th' apostate race,
But may in him salvation find.
His thoughts, and words, and actions prove
His life, and death—that God is love!

[2] Behold the Lamb of God, who bears
The sins of all the world away!
A servant's form he meekly wears,
He sojourns in an house of clay;
His glory is no longer seen,
But God with God is man with men.

[3] See where the God incarnate stands,
And calls his wand'ring creatures home!
He all day long spreads out his hands,
“Come, weary souls, to Jesus come!

²⁵Reprinted in *Arminian Magazine* 1 (1778): 92–95.

“Ye all may hide you in my breast,
Believe, and I will give you rest.

- [4] “Ah! Do not of my goodness doubt,
My saving grace for all is free;
I will in no wise cast him out
Who comes, a sinner, unto me,
I can to none myself deny:
Why, sinners, *will ye* perish, why?”
- [5] (The mournful cause let Jesus tell)
“They *will* not come to me, and live:
I did not force them to rebel,
Or call, when I had nought to give,
Invite them to believe a lie,
Or any soul of man *pass by*.”
- [6] Sinners, believe the gospel-word,
Jesus is come, your souls to save!
Jesus is come, your common Lord!
Pardon ye all in him may have;
May now be saved, whoever will:
This man receiveth sinners still.
- [7] See where the lame, the halt, the blind,
The deaf, the dumb, the sick, the poor
Flock to the friend of humankind,
And freely all accept their cure:
To whom doth he his help deny?
Whom in his days of flesh *pass by*?
- [8] Did not his word, the fiends expel?
The lepers cleanse, and raise the dead?
Did he not all their sickness heal,
And satisfy their every need?
Did he reject his helpless clay,
Or send them sorrowful away?

- [9] Nay, but his bowels yearn'd to see
The people hungry, scatter'd, faint:
Nay, but he utter'd over thee
Jerusalem, a true complaint:
Jerusalem, who shed'st his blood,
That, with his tears, for thee hath flow'd.
- [10] How oft for thy hardheartedness
Did Jesus in his spirit groan!
The things belonging to thy peace,
Hadst thou, O bloody city, known,
Thee, turning in thy gracious day,
He never would have cast away.
- [11] He wept, because thou *wouldst* not see
The grace which sure salvation brings:
How oft would he have gather'd thee,
And cherish'd underneath his wings;
But thou *wouldst not*—unhappy thou!
And justly art thou harden'd now.
- [12] Would Jesus have the sinner die?
Why hangs he then on yonder tree?
What means that strange expiring cry?
(Sinners he prays for you and me)
“Forgive them, Father, O forgive,
They know not that by me they live!”
- [13] He prays for those that shed his blood:
And who from Jesus's blood is pure?
Who hath not crucify'd his God?
Whose sins did not his death procure?
If all have sinn'd thro' Adam's fall,
Our second Adam died for all.
- [14] Adam descended from above
Our loss of Eden to retrieve,
Great God of universal love,
If all the world in thee *may* live,

In us a quick'ning Spirit be,
And witness, thou hast died for me!

- [15] Extend to me the cleansing tide
Which freely flow'd for all mankind,
Open the fountain of thy side,
In thee may I redemption find,
Give *me* redemption in thy blood:
For me, and all mankind it flow'd.
- [16] Dear, loving, all-attoning Lamb,
Thee by thy painful agony,
Thy bloody-sweat, thy grief and shame,
Thy cross and passion on the tree,
Thy precious death, and life, I pray
Take all, take all my sins away!
- [17] O let me kiss thy bleeding feet,
And bathe,²⁶ and wash them with my tears,
The story of thy love repeat
In every drooping sinner's ears,
That all may hear the quick'ning sound,
If I, ev'n I have mercy found!
- [18] O let thy love my heart constrain,
Thy love for every sinner free,
That every fallen soul of man
May taste the grace that found out me,
That all mankind with me may prove
Thy sovereign everlasting love.

²⁶Ori., "bath"; corrected in 2nd edn. (1756) and following.

[XI.]
The Cry of a “Reprobate.”

- [1] Go wretched soul to meet thy doom,
Thou neither canst escape, nor fly:
The day, the fatal day is come,
And thou with all thy hopes must die.
- [2] The dire occasion of my fall
Is present to my closest view,
Shorn of my strength, I give up all,
And bid the world of grace adieu!
- [3] The Philistines at last have found
The way t’ afflict their baffled foe,
By my own sin betray’d and bound,
A sheep I to the slaughter go.
- [4] I saw my death with stony eye,
While I the way of life could find,
But would not then from ruin fly,
And now my harden’d heart is blind.
- [5] I cannot from destruction turn,
Nor wish it might from me depart,
Down the swift stream of nature borne,²⁷
I sin with all my wretchless heart.
- [6] My greedy soul knows no remorse
(While conscience sear’d no longer cries)
Impetuous, as the headlong horse
Rushes into the fight, and dies.
- [7] I hasten where the deepest hell
Is mov’d to meet me from beneath,
Where damn’d apostate spirits yell,
And gnaw their tongues, and gnash their teeth.

²⁷Ori., “born”; a misprint, corrected in 2nd edn. (1756) and following.

- [8] Tophet is for the king prepar'd,
But I must have the hottest place:
I claim it as my just reward,
For such an endless waste of grace.
- [9] Dives, and I, and Judas there
With gauling chains of darkness bound;
Shall howl in blasphemous despair,
And fiends return the doleful sound.
- [10] A real fiery sulph'rous hell
Shall prey upon our outward frame;
But sorer pangs the soul shall feel
Tormented in a fiercer flame.
- [11] The dreadful sin-consuming fire
God shall into our spirits breathe
A brimstone stream of vengeful ire,
And slay them with a living death.
- [12] Conscience, the worm that never dies,
Shall gnaw and tear us day and night,
Forever banish'd from the skies
And cast out of the Saviour's sight.
- [13] Back to the presence of the Lord,
O're the vast gulph we cannot pass;
We cannot, cannot be restor'd
To see the glories of his face.
- [14] Horror of horrors! Hell of hell!
This makes the cup of wrath run o'er,²⁸
Far from my Lord with fiends to dwell,
And never, never see him more.
- [15] O death! This is thy sting! O grave
Of souls, this is thy victory!
The Saviour can no longer save,
A gulph is fix'd 'twixt him and me.

²⁸Ori., "o're"; a misprint, corrected in 2nd edn. (1756) and following.

- [16] No ray of light, no gleam of hope
The dismal regions can allow;
'Tis here I must my eyes lift up,
The pains of hell surround me now.
- [17] Hopeless my damn'd estate I mourn,
God's wrath is dropt into my soul;
His fiery wrath in me shall burn,
Long as eternal ages roll.
- [18] Hear sinners, hear an human fiend,
And shudder at my horrid tale,
Consign'd to woes that never end
Before my time, I weep, and wail.
- [19] As Dives, would his brethren warn,
Lest they should share his dreadful doom,
Sinners (I cry) to Jesus turn,
Nor to my place of torment come.
- [20] Hear an incarnate devil preach,
Nor throw like me your souls away,
While heavenly bliss is in your reach,
And God prolongs your gracious day.
- [21] Whom I reject, do you receive,
The Saviour of mankind embrace:
He tasted death for all, believe,
Believe, and ye are sav'd by grace.
- [22] Ye are, and I was once forgiven;
Jesus's doom did mine repeal;
I might with you have come to heaven,
Sav'd by the grace from which I fell.
- [23] A ransom for my soul was paid;
For mine, and every soul of man
The Lamb a full atonement made,
The Lamb for me, and Judas slain.

- [24] Before I at his bar appear,
 Thence into outer-darkness thrust,
The judge of all the earth I clear
 Jesus, the merciful, and just.
- [25] By my own hands, not his, I fall,
 The hellish doctrine I disprove;
Sinners, his grace is free for all;
 Tho' I am damn'd, yet God is love!

[XII.]

- [1] Saviour, and friend of sinners, see
 The most rebellious of thy foes,
If grace, unbounded grace, from thee
 In streams of endless pity flows,
O let it now my soul embrace,
Ore'whelm me now with pard'ning grace.
- [2] Hear, Jesu, hear my dying call,
 Me in a way of mercy meet:
Self-loathing, self-condemn'd I fall
 A sinner at my Saviour's feet,
Unless thou cast a pitying eye,
The sinner at thy feet must die.
- [3] I own my punishment is just,
 If now thou drive me from thy face,
Down into outer-darkness thrust,
 And quite exclude me from thy grace,
And leave me to my fearful doom:
I now am ripe for wrath to come.
- [4] I know my soul is foul as hell,
 The hottest hell my deeds require,
There only am I fit to dwell
 With fiends in everlasting fire:
But why, Redeemer, didst thou die?
O let thy bowels answer why!

- [5] Was it to save, or to condemn
The world that nail'd thee to the tree?
Say didst thou only die for them,
Thy murd'ers, Lord, and pass by me?
But hast thou for thy murd'ers died?
Then I my God have crucified!
- [6] Wherefore my God hath tasted death
For me, and every soul of man,
To pluck us from the lion's teeth,
To save us from infernal pain,
That every soul from sin set free
Might witness, God hath died for me!

[XIII.]²⁹

- [1] My dear Redeemer, and my God,
I stake my soul on thy free grace,
Take back my interest in thy blood,
Unless it stream'd for all the race:
I stake my soul on this alone,
THY BLOOD DID ONCE FOR ALL ATONE.
- [2] Gracious, and true, set to³⁰ thy seal,
Preach the glad tidings to my heart,
Now let my new-born spirit feel
Pure universal love thou art,
In mine, in all our bosoms move,
And testify, that God is love.
- [3] Enlarge my heart to all mankind,
The purchase of thy dying groans,
O let me by this token find
They all are thy redeemed ones;
For if I lov'd, whom God abhor'd,
The servant were above his Lord.
- [4] Thus let me thy free mercy prove
To all, who thy pure truths oppose,

²⁹Reprinted in *Arminian Magazine* 1 (1778), 487–88, under the title “On Universal Redemption.”

³⁰Ori., “too”; a misprint, corrected in 3rd edn. (1770) and following.

If I my fiercest foes can love,
If I, to save my fiercest foes,
To die myself, would not deny,
For whom could³¹ thou refuse to die?

[5] Dear dying Lord, thy Spirit breathe,³²
Kindle in us the living fire,
Jesu, conform us to thy death,
The fulness of thy life inspire,
O manifest in us thy mind
Benevolent to all mankind.

[6] Now, Lord, into our souls bring in
Thine everlasting righteousness,
A period make of guilt and sin,
And call us forth thy witnesses,
That all mankind with us may prove
Thy infinite, and perfect love.

[XIV.]

God's Sovereign, Everlasting Love.

[1] O all redeeming Lord,
Thy kindness I record,
Me thy kindness hath allur'd,
Call'd, and drawn me from above,
Sweetly am I thus assur'd,
Of thy everlasting love.

[2] But is thy grace less free
For others, than for me?
Lord, I have not learnt thee so:
Good to every man thou art,
Free as air thy mercies flow;
So I feel it in my heart.

[3] Thee every soul may find
Loving to all mankind,

³¹“Could” changed to “couldst” in 2nd edn. (1756) and following.

³²Ori., “breath”; corrected in 2nd edn. (1756) and following.

All have once thy drawings prov'd,
Every soul may say with me,
Me, the friend of sinners lov'd,
Lov'd from all eternity.

[4] Before his name I knew,
Me to himself he drew,
My unconscious heart inclin'd
To pursue some good unknown,
Happiness I long'd to find,
Happiness is God alone.

[5] God is the thing I sought,
But then I knew it not,
Who shall shew me any good?
(With the many still I cried)
Rest was only in thy blood,
Who for me, for all hadst³³ died.

[6] The world's desire, and hope,
For this was lifted up,
Lord, thou didst hereby engage,
To draw all men unto thee,
All in every place and age:
Grace for all mankind is free!

[7] The Spirit of thy love
With every soul hath strove,
Every fallen soul of man,
May recover from his fall,
See the Lamb for sinners slain,
Feel that he hath died for all.

[8] Thou dost not mock our race
With insufficient grace;
Thou hast reprobated none,
Thou from Pharaoh's blood art free,
Thou didst once for all atone,
Judas, Esau, Cain, and me.

³³“Hadst” changed to “hath” in 2nd edn. (1756); and to “hast” in 3rd edn. (1770) and following.

- [9]³⁴ How did thy pity grieve
 For those that *would* not live!
 O Jerusalem confess
 Thou hadst once thy gracious day,
 If thou could not have found grace
 Let the tears of Jesus say.
- [10] Sinners, how oft would he
 Have gather'd you, and me!
 He was willing, we were not,
 Would not sleep beneath his wings:
 Grace to all, salvation brought,
 Grace to all, salvation brings.
- [11] Now, even now we may
 Be sav'd in this our day,
 All may hear th' effectual call,
 He would all the world receive,
 Lo! He spreads his arms for all,
 All may come to him, and live.
- [12] Hosanna to the Son
 Of David on his throne!
 On his throne of love, and grace,
 Grace, which all with us may prove,
 Love to all the fallen race,
 Sovereign, everlasting love!

[XV.]³⁵

- [1] Father, if I have sinn'd, with thee
 An advocate I have:
 Jesus the just shall plead for me,
 The sinner Christ shall save.
- [2] Pardon and peace in him I find;
 But not for me alone
 The Lamb was slain; for all mankind
 His blood did once atone.
- [3] My soul is on thy promise cast,
 And lo! I claim my part:
 The universal pardon's past;
 O seal it on my heart.

³⁴Stanzas 9–12 are omitted in 2nd edn. (1756) and following (likely because the printer used one of the early forms of the first edition, before these lines were added).

³⁵First appeared in *HSP* (1740), 123.

[4] Thou canst not now thy grace deny;
Thou canst not but forgive:
Lord, if thy justice asks me why—
In Jesus I believe!

[XVI.]³⁶

[1] Saviour of all, by God design'd
Our loss of Eden to retrieve,
Mighty restorer of mankind,
In whom we all, tho' dead, may live.

[2] In rapture lost, on thee I gaze,
Thy universal goodness prove,
Adore the riches of thy grace,
And triumph in thy boundless love.

[3] Rest to my soul I now have found,
My interest in thy blood I see;
On this my confidence I ground,
Who died for all, hath died for *me*.

[4] For *me*, for *me* the Saviour died!
Surely thy grace for all is free:
I feel it now by faith *applied*:
Who died for all, hath died for *me*!

[5] No dire decree obtain'd thy seal,
Or fix'd th' unalterable doom,
Consign'd my unborn soul to hell,
Or damn'd me from my mother's womb.

[6] Who that beholds thy lovely face,
Can doubt, if all thy grace may share:
So strong the lines of *general* grace—
Grace, grace is *all* that's written there.

[7] Loving to *every* man thou art!
Sinners, ye all his grace may prove;
He bears you all upon his heart:
God is not HATE, but God is LOVE.

³⁶First appeared as "Universal Redemption," *HSP* (1740), 132–33.

[XVII.]³⁷

- [1] Break forth into joy, your Comforter sing,
Ye sinners employ your all for your King.
Rejoice ye waste places, your Saviour proclaim,
Bestow all your praises, and lives on his name.
- [2] For Jesus the Lord hath comforted man,
The sinner restor'd, nor suffer'd in vain:
To bring us to heaven when rais'd from our fall
His life he hath given a ransom for all.
- [3] His arm he hath bare'd, his mercy and grace
Hath pardon prepar'd for all the lost race:
His uttermost merit display'd in our sight
We all may inherit, and claim as our right.
- [4] The Gentiles shall hear the life-giving call,
His grace shall appear, and visit them all:
The common salvation to all doth belong,
To every nation, and people, and tongue.

[XVIII.]

The Horrible Decree.

- [1] Ah! Gentle, gracious Dove,
And art thou griev'd in me,
That sinners should restrain thy love,
And say, "It is not free:
It is not free for *all*:
The *most*, thou *passest by*,
And mockest with a fruitless call
Whom thou hast doom'd to die."
- [2] They think thee *not sincere*
In giving each his day,
*"Thou only draw'st the sinner near
To cast him quite away,
To aggravate his sin,
His sure damnation seal:
Thou shew'st him heaven, and say'st, go in
And thrusts him into hell."*³⁸
- [3] O HORRIBLE DECREE
Worthy of whence it came!

³⁷This hymn was incorporated into "The 52nd Chapter of Isaiah," *HSP* (1742), 113. While it remains in the 2nd edn. (1756), it is deleted from the 3rd edn. (1779) and following.

³⁸This section is placed in quotes and italics in the original. Subsequent quotations are indicated by use of italic font (as typical of the time).

Forgive their hellish blasphemy
Who charge it on the Lamb:
Whose pity him inclin'd
To leave his throne above,
The friend, and Saviour of mankind,
The God of grace, and love.

[4] O gracious, loving Lord,
I feel thy bowels yearn;
For those who slight the gospel word
I share in thy concern:
How art thou grieved to be
By ransom'd worms withstood!
How dost thou bleed afresh to see
Them trample on thy blood!

[5] To limit thee they dare,
BlaspHEME thee to thy face,
Deny their fellow-worms a share
In thy redeeming grace:
All for their own they take,
Thy righteousness engross,
Of none effect to *most* they make
The merits of thy cross.

[6] Sinners, abhor the fiend:
His *other* gospel hear—
“The God of truth did not intend
The thing his words declare,
He offers grace to all,
Which *most* cannot embrace,
Mock'd with an ineffectual call
And insufficient grace.

[7] “The righteous God consign'd
Them over to their doom,
And sent the Saviour of mankind
To damn them from the womb;
To damn for falling short,

“Of what they could not do,
For not believing the report
Of that which was not true.

[8] “The God of love *pass’d* by
The most of those that fell,
Ordain’d poor reprobates to die,
And forced them into hell.”
“He did not do the deed”
(Some have more mildly rav’d)
“He did not *damn* them—but decreed
They never should be saved.

[9] “He did not them bereave
Of life, or stop their breath,
His grace he only would not give,
And starv’ed their souls to death.”
Satanic sophistry!
But still, all-gracious God,
They charge the sinner’s death on thee,
Who bought’st him with thy blood.

[10] They think with shrieks and cries
To please the Lord of hosts,
And offer thee, in sacrifice
Millions of slaughter’d ghosts:
With new-born babes they fill
The dire infernal shade,
“For such,” they say, “was thy great will,
Before the world was made.”

[11] How long, O God, how long
Shall Satan’s rage proceed!
Wilt thou not soon avenge the wrong,
And crush the serpent’s head?
Surely thou shalt at last
Bruise him beneath our feet:
The devil and his doctrine cast
Into the burning pit.

- [12] Arise, O God, arise,
Thy glorious truth maintain,
Hold forth the bloody sacrifice,
For every sinner slain!
Defend thy mercy's cause,
Thy grace divinely free,
Lift up the standard of thy cross,
Draw all men unto thee.
- [13] O vindicate thy grace,
Which every soul may prove,
Us in thy arms of love embrace,
Of everlasting love.
Give the pure gospel word,
Thy preachers multiply,
Let all confess their common Lord,
And dare for him to die.
- [14] My life I here present,
My heart's last drop of blood,
O let it all be freely spent
In proof that thou art good,
Art good to all that breathe,
Who all may pardon have:
Thou willest not the sinner's death,
But all the world *wouldst* save.
- [15] O take me at my word,
But arm me with thy power,
Then call me forth to suffer, Lord,
To meet the fiery hour:
In death will I proclaim
That all *may* hear thy call,
And clap my hands amidst the flame,
And shout,—HE DIED FOR ALL.