HYMNS

FOR THE

YEAR 1756.

PARTICULARLY FOR THE

FAST-DAY,

FEBRUARY 6.

BRISTOL:

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HYMNS

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HYMN I.

1 MERCIFUL God, almighty King,
   To Thee with trembling Hearts we turn,
   To Thee our last Distress we bring,
   And prostrate at thy Footstool mourn:

2 Our own, our Nation's Sins confess,
   Which justly all thy Plagues demand,
   The Weight of publick Wickedness,
   That sinks to Hell our guilty Land.

A 2 Yet
3 Yet hath thy kind Compassion spar'd
   The Objects of thy righteous Ire,
   While all thy threatened Woes we dar'd,
   And mock'd that everlastling Fire;

4 While more obdurate still, thy Word
   Of proffer'd Mercy we withstood,
   Denied our all redeeming Lord,
   And trampled on our bleeding God.

5 Ev'n then Thou didst our Guardian stand,
   Our Help in Danger's blackest Hour,
   Nor let the Sword go thro' our Land,
   Nor let the yawning Earth devour.

6 By Heavenly Indignation struck,
   The conscious Earth began to reel,
   Beneath our Load of Guilt it shook;
   Again it trembled; and was still.

7 The Earthquake turn'd its fatal Course,
   Thro' distant Realms the Judgment spread,
   And arm'd with Heaven's relentless force
   In ruinous Heaps whole Cities laid.

8 O might we by their Downfall rise,
   Thy sudden Chastisements t' avert,
   Present thy grateful Sacrifice,
   The broken, poor, obedient Heart.

9 O might we all our Sins forswake,
   The imminent Destruction shun,
   Before thy heaviest Judgments shake
   Our Land, and turn it up side down:

10 Before Thou all thy Wrath reveal,
    With Sodom and Gomorrah's Hire
    Reward, and leave thy Foes to feel
    'The Vengeance of eternal Fire.'
H Y M N I I.

1 In our most precarious State,
   In this dark vindicative Hour,
   Shuddering on the Brink of Fate,
   Left the greedy Pit devour,
   From the Wrath of Earth and Sky
   Where shall we for Refuge fly?

2 Lo! our All at Stake we see,
   All we prize or love below,
   Peace, and Life, and Liberty,
   Trifles to our forest Woe,
   Still we bear an heavier Load
   Trembling for the Ark of God.

3 Trembling for Religion's Cause,
   Left it share the common Doom,
   (Pure and undestil'd it was,
   Purg'd from all the Dregs of Rome)
   Left the genuine Gospel fail,
   Left the Gates of Hell prevail.

4 Bow'd beneath the deepest Sense
   Of our State, we fain wou'd pray,
   O might general Penitence
   Now prevent the evil Day,
   All these lowring Storms divert,
   Heaven engage to take our Part!

5 Sovereign Majesty of Heaven,
   God most merciful, most high,
   Who thy fav'rite Son haft given
   For a rebel World to die,
   Pity on thy Rebels take,
   Spare our Land for Jesus's sake.

A 3
6 If Thou must in Wrath reprove,
    Father, make not a full End,
Visit us in pard’ning Love,
    Then thy pardon’d Church defend,
Then let Israel’s God arise
Scattering all his Enemies.

7 Far away the Aliens chase,
    Save the Land belov’d by Thee,
Bles us, as in antient Days;
    Peace, and true Prosperity,
Gospel-Righteousness restore,
Faith, and Life for evermore.

H Y M N III.

1 B E I N G benign, whose Name is L o v e,
    Whose Nature, always to forgive,
Thine Anger with our Sins remove,
    And bid thy humbled Rebels live.

2 Thy lifted Hand, restrain’d by Prayer,
    Hath often wav’d the threatened Blow:
Still thy unnat’ral Act forbear,
    And all thy antient Mercies shew.

3 When most displeas’d Thou shak’st the Rod,
    And absolute thy Threat’nings found,
A kind Reserve is understood,
    A secret Clause for Mercy found.

4 Yet forty Days, thy Justice cries,
    And Nineveh shall be o’erthrown,
Except (thy whispering Grace replies)
    They turn, before the Wrath comes down.

      How
5 How often hath thy Goodness tried
   A People hardned from thy Fear,
   And turn'd th'impending Plague aside,
   And spare'd our Land from Year to Year?

6 Ev'n now Thou dost the Stroke suspend,
   Thy pitiful Reluctance shew,
   And Watchmen thro' our Israel send,
   To warn us of the falling Blow.

7 What canst Thou more for Sinners do?
   And if we farther still rebel,
   If still our sinful Lusts pursue,
   We court the hottest Flames of Hell.

8 The Men of Nineveh shall rise
   Our Judges in that vengeful Day,
   Unless we quit the Paths of Vice,
   And cast our loathsome Sins away.

9 Less dreadful will the Punishment
   Of Sodom and Gomorrah prove,
   Then Ours, if scorning to repent,
   We still despise thy bleeding Love.

HYMN IV.

EZEKIEL IX.

PART I.

1 Great God, whose Wrath in antient Times
   'O'reflow'd thy sinful People's Crimes;
   Whose angry Voice again I hear,
   Which thunder'd in Ezekiel's Ear;
   Stir up thy Mercy with thy Power,
   And arm us for the fiery Hour.

2 If
If now the dreadful Charge is given
To the fierce Ministers of Heaven,
If ready now the Aliens stand,
Their Slaughter-weapons in their Hand,
To deal the Chastisements of God,
And make our Land a Field of Blood:

Come with them, O Thou Man in white,
Who dost in gracious Acts delight,
Before the dire Destroyers come,
In Love prevent the general Doom;
Nor make thy Wrath on Sinners known,
'Till Mercy hath secur'd thine own.

Our sad devoted Land go thro',
Distinguishing the mournful Few,
Whose Spirits vex'd with pious Pain,
Lament our Sins of deepest Stain,
And groan the Public Guilt to bear,
And agonize in secret Prayer.

The Men, who daily sigh and grieve,
The Lots that in our Sodom live,
A Difference in their Favour make,
Into thy kind Protection take,
And claim the pensive Souls for thine,
And mark them with the crimson Sign.

The Sign which Men and Demons flee,
Let Us ev'n now receive from Thee,
Inscribe us, O Thou pard'ning God,
Write our Protection in thy Blood,
(That Blood which every Ill averts)
And stamp thine Image on our Hearts.
H Y M N V.

P A R T II.

1 Tremendous God of Israel, hear,
Before the slaughtering Troops draw near,
Before they at thy House begin;
To smite the hoary Slaves of Sin;
Revoke the Charge, the Wicked spare,
And give them to thy People's Prayer.

2 With timely Sorrow we confess
Our Land's abounding Wickedness,
Our Sins that to a Deluge rise,
And dare the Vengeance of the Skies,
Where Sinners fancy Thee to reign,
Regardless of the Works of Men.

3 "The Earth He hath long since forsaken,
"Nor deigns on Worms to cast a Look;
"Left to ourselves (they madly cry)
"We joy or grieve, we live or die,
"And Floods may rise, and Cities fall,
"For Chance, and Nature governs all."

4 Canst Thou forgive the impious Crowd,
Whose Actions say, There is no God?
Or must Thou all thy Fury pour,
And let the Sword thy Foes devour,
The Plague destroy, the Dearth consume,
Or gaping Earth at once intomb?

5 We know not, Lord, thy dread Decree,
For secret Things belong to Thee,
Whether Thou wilt again reprieve,
Or now the final Sentence give;

But
H Y M N S for the Y E A R 1 7 5 6.

But till thy Counsel Thou display,
We still for Mercy, Mercy pray.

6 Call in the ruthless Sons of Rome,
Nor let the threaten’d Earthquake come:
We hear the Rod, we mourn and sigh,
We with the weeping Remnant cry
“ Revoke the Charge, the Wicked spare,
“ And give them to thy People’s Prayer.”

H Y M N VI.

P A R T III.

1 S T A Y, Thou departing Spirit stay,
Nor take thy Presence quite away!
Tho’ now our languid Hearts bemoan
Thy Glory to the Threshold gone,
Yet do not, Lord, withdraw thy Light,
Or leave us to eternal Night.

2 Arise into thy Resting-Place,
As in those wondrous antient Days,
When God appear’d to dwell with Men,
Betwixt the mystic Cherubs seen,
Worship’d by all the Angel-Quire,
And symboliz’d by living Fire.

3 Now to thy drooping Church return,
Thou Comforter of all that mourn,
Thy Suppliants in thy Temple meet,
And blest us from thy Mercy-Seat,
And still in our Assemblies shine,
The dazling Shechinah Divine.

4 The Tokens of thy Presence shew,
And guard us from th’ invading Fee:

Thy
Thy Glory be our sure Defence,
Our Buckler, thy Omnipotence,
Nor ever from thine House remove,
When fill'd with all the Life of Love.

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H Y M N VII.

The Fourth Chapter of Jeremiah.

PART I.

1 O Israel, hear the warning Word,
Accept the Power to weep and mourn,
Return to thy inviting Lord,
If yet Thou wilt, He faith, Return.

2 By timely Grief the Woe prevent,
Nor weary out my patient Love,
If now thou wilt at last repent,
Thou never, never shalt remove.

3 Stablish'd in Truth and Righteousness
The Lord Thou for thine own shalt claim:
The Nations too themselves shall bless
In Him, and boast of Jesus's Name.

4 For thus the Lord vouchsafes to speak,
Sinners, my latest Call obey,
Break up your fallow Ground, and seek,
My Face, and cast your Sins away.

5 Choak not the Seed of heavenly Love,
From worldly Cares and Pleasures free,
The Foreskin of your Hearts remove,
And give up all your Souls to me.

Repent,
6 Repent, before my vengeful Ire
   For all your evil Deeds ye feel,
   Before my Wrath break out as Fire,
   And burn with Flames unquenchable.

H Y M N VIII.

PART II.

1 Throughout Jerusalem declare,
   In Judah’s Land proclaim the Woe,
   Sound an Alarm of instant War,
   And point them to th’ invading Foe.

2 Blow ye the Trumpet’s loudest Blast,
   Let all the Crowd with Horror cry,
   “ Fly to the Forts, with trembling Hasteth,
   “ Before the swift Pursuer fly.

3 The Standard Sion-ward set up,
   Ye People all in Time retreat,
   Fly from the Sword, nor dare to stop,
   Where War hath fixt its bloody Seat.

4 For I the just, the jealous God,
   Will call an Evil from the North,
   Scatter my dreadful Plagues abroad,
   And send the swift Destruction forth.

5 The Lion from his Brake is come,
   The Waiter fierce is on his Way,
   The Powers of percieuting Rome
   Are all gone forth to kill and slay.

6 Th’ Invader comes with furious Haste,
   The Scourge of Heaven’s avenging Lord,
   To lay thy Land, and Cities waste,
   And plant his Faith with Fire and Sword.
HYMNS for the YEAR 1756.

7 For this ye Sinners howl and cry,
    Your broken Hearts and Voices join,
With Sackcloth girt, in Ashes lie,
    And groan to bear the Wrath Divine.

8 The Wrath Divine doth fiercely burn,
    Doth still on all our Souls abide,
Nor will He from his Anger turn,
    Nor will our God be pacified.

9 Horror shall every Heart assail,
    And sore Distress, and huge Dismay,
Prophets and Priests and Kings shall fail
    Astonished in that dreadful Day.

H Y M N IX.

PART III.

1 O God, Thou hast deceiv’d our Hope,
    Our surest Hope of lasting Peace,
Haft given thy wretched People up,
    And scourg’d us for our Wickedness;
Abandon’d to the slaughtering Sword,
    We bear the Fury of the Lord.

2 My furious Wrath they still shall know:
    And lo! a mighty scattering Wind
Shall from the barren Mountains blow,
    And sweep to Hell the faithless Kind,
Their Lives I will no more reprieve,
    But now the final Sentence give.

3 The Spoiler as a Cloud shall rise,
    The whole devoted Land o’erspread;
His Chariot as a Whirlwind flies,
    His Horses match the Eagle’s speed;
         B   Alas
Alas for us! shall Sion say,
To all our Foes an helpless Prey!

4 O Sion, wash thy Heart from Sin,
So shalt Thou my Salvation see:
How long shall Evil lodge within
The Temple that belongs to me?
Thy vain Designs and Thoughts remove,
T' admit the God of pard'ning Love.

5 For lo! a Voice with awful Sound
Declares the Scourge and Judgment near,
Go, call the hostile Nations round,
Before Jerusalem t' appear,
Summon from far th' embattled Powers,
To shout against her trembling Towers.

6 Her watchful Foe shall keep her in,
And close besiege on every Side,
Chastise the Rebels for their Sin:
Because thou haft my Wrath defi'd,
Refus'd to tremble at my Frown,
And forc'd my ling'ring Judgments down.

7 Thy Doings have procur'd the Woe,
And pull'd it on thy guilty Head:
The fatal Cause with Horror know,
Thy Sin in thy Chastisement read,
Feel in the bitter, penal Smart
The Evil of the Life and Heart.

H Y M N X.

P A R T I V.

My Bowels yearn with deep Distress,
My Heart is pain'd, and mourns within,
My Soul laments, and cannot cease,
Alarm'd by War's perpetual Din,
H Y M N S for the Year 1756.

My Soul foretells the general Wound,
And dies to hear the Trumpet's Sound.

2 Destruction is the dreadful Cry!
Destruction from the Lord is come!
The Land is spoil'd, the People fly,
And flying meet their sudden Doom,
My Tents are spoil'd, my Curtains torn,
And I my Country's Ruin mourn.

3 How long shall I the Standard see,
And hear the Trumpet's martial Blast?
'Till Israel hear, and turn to me,
The Lord hath said, my Wrath shall last,
The whole devoted Land devour;
And all its Storms of Vengeance pour.

4 For O! my People have not known,
My Ways they have not understood,
Averie from me, to Evil prone,
Expert in Sin, but rude in Good,
Foolish and foolish Children they,
Who will not learn their God t' obey.

H Y M N XI.

P A R T V.

1 I saw the Earth by Sin destroy'd,
And lo! it lay wrapt up in Night,
A Chaos without Form, and void,
And robb'd of all its heavenly Light.

2 I saw, and lo! the Mountains shook,
The Hills mov'd lightly to and fro,
The Birds had all the Sky forsook,
Nor Man, nor Beast appear'd below.

B 2 I saw,
3 I saw, and lo! the fruitful Place
   Was to a ghastly Desart turn'd,
Beneath Jehovah's frowning Face
   The ghastly Desart droop'd, and mourn'd.

4 The Nation suddenly overthrown
   I saw before the Wafer's Sword:
   The Cities all were broken down
   In Presence of their angry Lord.

5 For thus their angry Lord hath spoke,
   The Land shall soon be all laid waste:
   Yet will I to the Remnant look,
   And spare the weeping Few at last.

6 I will not utterly consume,
   Or make a full destructive End,
   But change my des'reate People's Doom,
   And every humbled Soul befriend.

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**HYMN XII.**

**PART VI.**

1 YET first the stricken Earth shall mourn,
   And deepest Night obscure the Skies,
I will not from my Purpose turn,
   Resolv'd my Rebels to chastise.

2 My Rebels shall with pannic Dread
   Before the furious Horsemen fly,
Climb the steep Rocks with desperate speed,
   Or panting in the Thickets lie.

3 The Cities shall be all forsook:
   Ah! Sion, whither wilt Thou go,
To whom for Help or Rescue look,
   When ravag'd by th' invading Foe?
4 Adorn thee with thy richest Dress,
   With Gems and Gold their Hearts to gain,
   Colour with nicest Art thy Face,
   And strive to please, but all in vain.

5 Thy Beauty cannot take their Eyes,
   Or turn thy Lovers Wrath away;
   Thy Lovers shall thy Charms despise,
   And seek, whom they abhor, to slay.

6 For I have heard a Voice of Woes,
   And shrill Complaints that pierce the Skies,
   Loud as a Woman in her Throes,
   Sion's afflicted Daughter cries.

7 Weary to Death, she spreads her Hands,
   And wails her Lofs, and speaks her Pain,
   "Ah! woe is me, the Russian Bands
   "Have all my hapless Children slain!"

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H Y M N X III.

1 Almighty Lord of Hosts,
   On whose protecting Grace,
   Thy quiet Flock securely trusts
   In troublous evil Days;
   Who hear'st the faithful Prayer,
   Incline thine Ear to ours,
   And guard us from the coming Snare
   With all thy heavenly Powers.

2 For Us thy guardian Hand
   Hath oft extended been,
   When Babel's Sons approach'd the Land;
   Thy Mercy stept between;
   Thy Mercy caught us up
   As from our instant Doom,
   And frustrated the surest Hope
   Of Antichristian Rome.  Thou;
3 Thou, Lord, against our foes
Didst for thy people fight,
Their dark conspiracies disclose,
And blast their open might,
Their consecrated hosts,
Their fleets invincible,
And battle the triumphant boasts,
And subtlest plots of hell.

4 Ev'n now thy piercing eye
The close design surveys,
Of men, who Israel's God defy,
A false pernicious race,
Who treacherously contend
Our country to o'ertrow,
And watch the dreadful news to send
In the destructive blow.

5 With furious error blind,
With wild ambition's lust,
They reign, corruptors of mankind,
And murthers of the just,
Drunk with the martyrs' blood,
They all thy laws disdain,
And boldly cry "There is no God,
"Or none who died for man."

6 Such is the nation, Lord,
Who on our necks would tread!
Ah! do not use them as thy sword,
Nor let their plots succeed:
But cast the wicked down,
Confound their angry pride,
And make the scattered aliens own,
That God is on our side.
H Y M N XIV.

1 Ye Servants of God,
    Acknowledge Him near;
Who bought you with Blood,
    Shall quickly appear:
In Love's latest Season,
    Ye Sinners awake,
For Jesus is risen
    The Kingdoms to shake.

2 His Justice or Grace
    Ye shortly shall prove,
For these be the Days
    Of Vengeance—and Love.
The great Tribulation
    Ev'n now is begun:
The Hour of Temptation,
    And Rescue is One.

3 Redemption is come,
    Jehovah descends,
His Haters to doom,
    And honour his Friends.
The World He is waking
    From sinful Repose:
In Battles of shaking
    He fights with his Foes.

4 Fire, Vapour, and Storm
    Accomplish his Word,
And Earthquakes perform
    The Charge of their Lord:
The Pride of the Nations
    He terribly spurns,
Earth's stedfast Foundations,
    And Cities o'erturns.

Out-
3 Outstretched his Hand
   O'er Mountains and Seas,
He shakes the dry Land,
   And watry Abyss!
A marvellous Motion
   Thro' Nature is spread,
And peaceable Ocean
   Starts out of his Bed!

6 Like Thunder confin'd
   In Caverns, he roars,
And rais'd without Wind
   Looks down on the Shores,
Hangs horribly over
   The Children of Woe,
Expanded to cover
   Their Cities below.

7 But Jesus's Throne
   Immovable stands,
The Elements own
   Almighty Commands;
The Ruin of Nature
   Doth awfully bring,
Her Second Creator,
   Her absolute King:

8 Come Saviour array'd
   With Glory and Power,
The World Thou hast made,
   Destroy, and restore,
That all the New Heaven
   And Earth may proclaim,
"The Kingdom is given
   To Jesus the Lamb."
H Y M N X V.

1 Righteous God, whose vengeful Vials
   All our Fears and Thoughts exceed,
Big with Woes and fiery Trials,
   Hanging, bursting o'er our Head:
While Thou visitest the Nations,
   Thy selected People spare,
Arm our caution'd Souls with Patience,
   Fill our humbled Hearts with Prayer.

2 If thy dreadful Controversy
   With all Flesh is now begun,
In thy Wrath remember Mercy,
   Mercy first and last be shewn:
Plead thy Cause with Sword and Fire,
   Shake us, 'till the Curse remove,
'Till Thou com'st the World's Desire,
   Conquering all with Sovereign Love.

3 By the Signals of thy Coming
   Soon, we know, thou wilt appear,
Evil with thy Breath consuming,
   Setting up thy Kingdom here:
Thy last heavenly Revelation
   These tremendous Plagues fore-run,
Judgment ushers in Salvation,
   Seats Thee on thy glorious Throne.

4 Earth unring'd as from her Pasis,
   Owns her great Relorer nigh:
Plung'd in complicate Distresses
   Poor distraught Sinners cry:
Men their instant Doom deploring,
   Faint beneath their fearful Load;
Ocean working, rising, roaring,
   Claps his Hands, to meet his God.
H Y M N S for the Year 1756.

5 Every fresh alarming Token
More confirms thy faithful Word,
Nature (for its Lord hath spoken)
Must be suddenly restor'd:
From this National Confusion,
From this ruin'd Earth and Skies,
See the Times of Restitution,
See the new Creation rise!

6 Vanish then the World of Shadows,
Pails the former Things away,
Lord, appear, appear to glad us
With the Dawn of endless Day:
O conclude this mortal Story,
Throw this Universe aside,
Come, eternal King of glory,
Now descend, and take thy Bride.

H Y M N XVI.

1 Stand th' Omnipotent Decree,
Jehovah's Will be done!
Nature's End we wait to see,
And hear her final Groan:
Let this Earth dissolve, and blend
In Death the Wicked and the Just,
Let those ponderous Orbs descend,
And grind us into Dust.

2 Rests secure the righteous Man,
At his Redeemer's Beck
Sure t'emerge, and rise again
And mount above the Wreck.
Lo! the heavenly Spirit towers,
Like Flames, o'er Nature's funeral Pyre,
Triumphs in immortal Powers,
And claps his Wings of Fire.

Nothing
3 Nothing hath the Just to lose
   By Worlds on Worlds destroy'd:
   Far beneath his Feet he views
   With Smiles the flaming Void:
   Sees this Universe renew'd,
The grand millennial Reign begun,
   Shouts with all the Sons of God
   Around th' Eternal Throne.

4 Resting in this glorious Hope
   To be at last restor'd,
   Yield we now our Bodies up
   To Earthquake, Plague, or Sword;
   Lift'ning for the call Divine,
The latest Trumpet of the Seven,
   Soon our Soul and Dust shall join,
   And both fly up to Heaven.

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H Y M N XVII.

1 HOW happy are the little Flock,
   Who safe beneath their Guardian Rock
   In all Commotions rest!
When Wars and Tumult's Waves run high,
   Unmov'd above the Storm they lie,
   They lodge in Jesus's Breast.

2 Such Happiness, O Lord, have we,
   By Mercy gather'd into Thee,
   Before the Floods descend:
And while the bursting Cloud comes down,
   We mark the vengeful Day begun,
   And calmly wait the End.

3 The Plague, and Dearth, and D'in of War
   Our Saviour's swift approach declare,
   And
And bid our Hearts arise:
Earth's Basis hooke confirms our Hope,
Its Cities fall but lifts us up,
To meet Thee in the Skies.

Thy Tokens we with Joy confess,
The War proclaims the Prince of Peace,
The Earthquake speaks thy Power,
The Famine all thy Fulness brings,
The Plague presents thy healing Wings,
And Nature's final Hour.

Whatever ill the World befall,
A Pledge of endless Good we call,
A Sign of Jesus near:
His Chariot will not long delay:
We hear the rumbling Wheels, and pray
Triumphant Lord, appear.

Appear with Clouds on Sion's Hill,
Thy Word and Mystery to fulfil,
'Thy Confessors t' approve,
Thy Members on thy Throne to place,
And stamp thy Name on every Face
In glorious heavenly Love.