

Doxology

Introduction:

1. An expression of praise to God, often associated with a short hymn sung during worship.
2. Literally, it means “the study of praise.”
3. These lyrics were written by Thomas Ken (July 1637 – March 19, 1711) in 1674.
4. At this time, there were no English hymns – only the Psalms were sung in worship.
 - a. Ken was serving as chaplain for Winchester College.
 - b. He authored a short book to encourage the students in their devotion to the Lord.
 - c. Included were three hymns – one for morning, one for evening, and one for midnight if sleep would not come.
 - d. Each of these songs ended with the stanza that is now sung as Doxology.

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
 Praise Him, all creatures here below;
 Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;
 Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost!
 Amen.

5. Because of this, Thomas Ken has been called “England’s first hymnist.”
 6. The melody most commonly sung with these lyrics is often referred to as “OLD HUNDREDTH.”
 - a. It first appeared in 1551 in the Genevan Psalter.
 - b. It is usually attributed to Louis Bourgeois.
 7. It was the melody sung to a version of Psalm 100 penned by William Kethe.
 8. Thus, it became known as “OLD HUNDREDTH.”
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- I. Job 42:1-6
 - A. Honored God’s power
 - B. Honored God’s knowledge
 - C. Result: Acknowledged his sins and weakness
 - D. Service: Intercession for others (vs. 8)
 - II. Isaiah 6:1-8
 - A. Honored God’s majesty
 - B. Honored God’s holiness
 - C. Result: Acknowledged his sin and uncleanness
 - D. Service: Go and teach others
 - III. Daniel 4:34-37
 - A. Honored God’s dominion
 - B. Honored God’s sovereignty
 - C. Result: Acknowledged the God of Heaven
 - D. Service: Lead and rule under God’s authority

- IV. 1 Chronicles 29:10-15
 - A. Honored God's greatness
 - B. Honored God's power
 - C. Result: Acknowledged their inferiority
 - D. Service: Praise and build the Temple

- V. Ephesians 3:20-21
 - A. Honored God's power
 - B. Honored God's provision
 - C. Result: Acknowledged the church
 - D. Service: Endeavor to keep unity (4:1-6)

- VI. Romans 11:33-36
 - A. Honored God's wisdom
 - B. Honored God's sufficiency
 - C. Result: Acknowledged the Gospel
 - D. Service: Transformed life (12:1-2)