

Three Songs by a Faithful Preacher: W. D. Jeffcoat

Introduction:

1. William Dawson Jeffcoat was born in Black Oak, Arkansas on October 17, 1929.
2. Both his father and grandfather were Gospel preachers.
3. On June 26, 1948, Jeffcoat married Betty Wheeler of Fulton, Mississippi.
4. He was a preacher and teacher of the Gospel for over 50 years until his death on August 2, 2014, in Murray, Kentucky. (*He is buried in the Itawamba Memorial Gardens in Fulton, Mississippi.*)
5. As a preacher, he labored in many ways to spread the Gospel of Christ.
 - a. He preached from pulpits and was a frequent speaker on brotherhood lectureships.
 - b. He did extensive work preaching on the radio.
 - c. He authored several books and numerous articles for brotherhood publications.
 - d. Perhaps his best-known book is *The Bible and "Social" Drinking*, published in 1987.
 - e. He often travelled around the country teaching seminars on the subject of Alcohol and the Bible.
6. Brother Jeffcoat also had a great interest in and talent for sacred music.
7. In his lifetime, he penned the words or music to over 500 songs for the church.
8. In 2007, he compiled, edited, and published "Sacred Songs of the Church" – a hymnal containing 946 songs, including over 120 of his own compositions.
 - a. Among his works are songs honoring the Memphis School of Preaching (of which he was an honorary graduate) and the Metro Manila School of Preaching, located in the Philippine Islands.
 - b. He also wrote tributes to Gus Nichols, B. C. Goodpasture, Paul D. Murphy, Ira Y. Rice, Jr., and Guy N. Woods.
9. One of the themes of his hymns was the joy of singing praise to God now and in eternity.
- I. "Praise And Adoration"

Praise and adoration, Lord we sing to Thee,
 Oh, Thou blest Redeemer, Lamb of Calvary;
 Merciful and mighty Son of Purity;
 Glory, laud, and honor, Lord, we sing to Thee.

Lord of our salvation, prophet, priest, and king,
 In Thy promise trusting, faithfully we cling;
 With a hope of heaven, unto Thee we bring;
 Hymns of our devotion praising Thee, our king.

Unto Thee, our Savior, joyfully we sing;
 Unto Thee, our Comfort, thankful hearts we bring;
 Unto Thee, our Master, bow we and adore;
 As we live rejoicing, now and evermore.

- A. This song was based upon the statement of David: "So will I sing praise unto thy name forever, that I may daily perform my vows" (Psalm 61:8).
- B. The descriptions of Jesus indicate why He is worthy of man's praise (John 20:28; Job 19:25-26; John 1:29; Mark 10:47; 1 Peter 1:3; Luke 24:19; 1 John 3:2-3; Luke 2:11; Mark 10:49; John 14:18; Matthew 23:10).
- C. Thus, the Christian should praise Him "now and evermore."

II. "When My Name Is Called"

Some wonderful day when my name is called,
 From the roll of life, for Heaven above,
 I then shall go there, to that home on high,
 To dwell with my Lord, and nevermore die.

When my name is called from the roll of life,
 I then shall go home, and be free from strife,
 Where I'll praise the Lamb, and the great I Am,
 When my name is called from the roll of life.

- A. The disciple's praise of the Lord will continue into Heaven!
- B. One's name will be read from the book of life (Revelation 20:12; 21:27).
- C. Then, in Heaven, eternal praise for the Lamb will ensue (Revelation 5:6-14).

III. "There Are Great Mansions"

When life is over and we cross o'er the tide,
 We do not fear with Jesus near to our side;
 With His firm hand to bear us thru the dark way,
 We'll meet around His throne, and praise Him for aye.

There are great mansions filled with beauty untold,
 Marvelous mansions in that City of gold;
 When life is over and our Savior shall come,
 We'll ever live with Him in heaven's fair home.

- A. In Heaven, the Christian will live in God's "great mansion" (John 14:1-4).
- B. Gathered around His throne, praise that began on Earth will continue into eternity (Philippians 2:9-11; Romans 14:10-12).