

I Know
Who Holds
Tomorrow



Background

- Main Theme: Because Jesus holds tomorrow, we can walk through today with peace, confidence & hope.
- The song was written by Ira Stanphill, a well-known gospel songwriter & evangelist whose music encouraged millions during the mid-20th century.
- Stanphill wrote the song during a painful season of personal loss & uncertainty, when he was struggling with deep grief & unanswered questions about his future.

Background

- The lyrics were born out of prayer, as Stanphill sought God's comfort & found peace in the truth that even when life feels confusing, God still holds tomorrow.
- The song is a favorite among believers walking through hardship, illness, or major life transitions.
- Its message of trust, hope & God's is especially meaningful to seniors who have experienced many seasons of life & seen God's faithfulness firsthand.

I Know Who Holds Tomorrow

*I don't know about tomorrow,
I just live from day to day.
I don't borrow from its sunshine,
For the skies may turn to gray.
And I don't worry o'er the future,
For I know what Jesus said,
And today I'll walk beside Him,
For He knows what lies ahead.*

I Know Who Holds Tomorrow

*Every step is getting brighter,
As the golden stairs I climb;
Every burden's getting lighter;
And every cloud is silver lined.
There the sun is always shining,
There no tear will dim the eye,
At the ending of the rainbow,
Where the mountains touch the sky.*

I Know Who Holds Tomorrow

*Many things about tomorrow,
I don't seem to understand;
But I know who holds tomorrow,
And I know who holds my hand.*

A close-up photograph of two hands, palms up, holding a small, torn piece of white paper. The word "PEACE" is printed in a bold, black, serif font on the paper. The hands are light-skinned, and the background is a soft, out-of-focus grey. The entire image is framed by a thick black border.

PEACE

Jesus can give you Peace

Jesus Gives Us Peace

- Jesus invites us to live one day at a time, trusting Him for daily strength.

34 “Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.” (Matthew 6:34 ESV)

Jesus Gives Us Peace

- Jesus promises His presence in every step in life, even when the future feels uncertain.

20 “teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.” (Matthew 28:20 ESV)

Jesus Gives Us Peace

- We are not meant to carry tomorrow's burdens today, because He carries them for us.

*22 Cast your burden on the Lord, and he will sustain you;
he will never permit the righteous to be moved.*

(Psalm 55:22 ESV)

Jesus Gives Us Peace

- Jesus' words give stability, even when our circumstances shift.

27 “Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.” (John 14:27 ESV)

Jesus Gives Us Peace

- Walking with Jesus today prepares us for whatever lies ahead, because He leads, not us.

1 The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. 2 He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters. 3 He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake. (Psalm 23:1–3 ESV)

GOD HOLDS THE FUTURE IN HIS HANDS



God Holds the Future in His Hands

- Uncertainty is part of earthly life, but God sees our whole path clearly.

*9 “remember the former things of old; for I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like me, 10 declaring the end from the beginning and from ancient times things not yet done, saying, ‘My counsel shall stand, and I will accomplish all my purpose,’ “
(Isaiah 46:9–10 ESV)*

God Holds the Future in His Hands

- Our future is secure because it rests in God's hands, not in our abilities.

11 For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope. (Jeremiah 29:11 ESV)

God Holds the Future in His Hands

- God's wisdom is far greater than our understanding, especially in seasons of aging or loss.

5 Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. 6 In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

(Proverbs 3:5–6 ESV)

God Holds the Future in His Hands

- Even when life feels confusing, God is working for our good.

28 And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. (Romans 8:28 ESV)

God Holds the Future in His Hands

- We can face the unknown with confidence, because the One who loves us is already there.

8 “It is the Lord who goes before you. He will be with you; he will not leave you or forsake you. Do not fear or be dismayed.” (Deuteronomy 31:8 ESV)

The background of the image is a deep blue night sky filled with numerous small, white stars. A single, much larger and brighter star is positioned at the top center, with a vertical beam of light extending downwards from it. At the bottom of the image, there are dark blue, silhouetted hills or mountains. The entire scene is framed by a white border.

God Promised

HOPE

God Promised Hope

- Heaven is a place of increasing joy, where burdens grow lighter & glory grows brighter.

16 So we do not lose heart. Though our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day. 17 For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison, 18 as we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen. For the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal.
(2 Corinthians 4:16–18 ESV)

God Promised Hope

- God promises a future with no tears, pain, or sorrow, a hope especially precious in later years.

4 “He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.” (Revelation 21:4 ESV)

God Promised Hope

- Our earthly journey leads upward, toward the presence of Jesus.

20 But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, 21 who will transform our lowly body to be like his glorious body, by the power that enables him even to subject all things to himself.

(Philippians 3:20–21 ESV)

God Promised Hope

- Every trial here is temporary, but God's promises are eternal.

3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, 4 to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, (1 Peter 1:3–4 ESV)

God Promised Hope

- The Lord Jesus Himself will guide us safely home, just as He has guided us all our lives.

23 Nevertheless, I am continually with you; you hold my right hand. 24 You guide me with your counsel, and afterward you will receive me to glory.

(Psalm 73:23–24 ESV)

Practical Applications

- Begin each morning with a simple prayer: “Lord, walk with me today.”
- Release tomorrow’s worries by naming them to God & entrusting them to Him.
- Recall God’s past faithfulness, especially moments when He carried you through difficulty.
- Encourage another resident with a word of hope or a Scripture that has helped you.

Discussion Questions

- What helps you trust God with the parts of the future you cannot control?
- How have you experienced God “holding your hand” in past seasons of uncertainty?
- What promise of heaven brings you the most comfort today?
- How can we encourage one another to walk with Jesus “day by day” in this community

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