

A scenic view of a beach with waves, a white cross, and birds in the sky. The background shows a sandy beach with gentle waves lapping at the shore. In the foreground, there are some green and brown plants. A large white cross is superimposed on the left side of the image. The sky is blue with a few birds flying. The text "Senior Bible Study Ministry" is written in bold black font across the top right.

# Senior Bible Study Ministry

<https://www.seniorbiblestudies.org/>

# Be Thou My Vision



## Be Thou My Vision

- This is a traditional Irish hymn often attributed to the 6th-century Irish poet and saint, Dallán Forgaill
- The English translation of the hymn was created by Eleanor Hull in 1912
- Dallán Forgaill is said to have been blind later in life, hence the deep personal connection with the theme of spiritual vision
- This hymn reflects the desire for God's guidance, wisdom, & light in every aspect of life.

## Be Thou My Vision

*Be Thou my vision, O Lord of my heart  
Naught be all else to me save that Thou art  
Thou my best thought by day or by night  
Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light*





MARK 12:28-34

**LORD OF MY HEART**

## Lord of My Heart

- God's presence & guidance are essential to see life clearly  
*105 Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.  
(Psalm 119:105 ESV)*
- God should be at the center of all our thoughts & actions  
*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)*

## Lord of My Heart

- The focus of our heart & vision should solely be on God  
*2 Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. (Colossians 3:2 ESV)*

- God's presence guides & instructs us even at night & His constant presence gives us stability

*7 I bless the Lord who gives me counsel; in the night also my heart instructs me. 8 I have set the Lord always before me; because he is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken.  
(Psalm 16:7-8 ESV)*

## Lord of My Heart

- Whoever follows Jesus will not walk in darkness but will have the light of life

*12 Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.” (John 8:12 ESV)*



## Be Thou My Vision

*Be Thou my wisdom, and Thou my true word  
I ever with Thee and Thou with me, Lord  
Thou my great Father and I Thy true son  
Thou in me dwelling and I with Thee one*

# WISDOM AND TRUTH

## Wisdom & Truth

- Our source of true wisdom is found in Jesus alone
- If anyone lacks wisdom, they should ask God, who gives it generously

*5 If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him. (James 1:5 ESV)*

## Wisdom & Truth

- God's Word is a firm foundation of wisdom & guidance

*17 Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth.  
(John 17:17 ESV)*

- As believers, we are adopted children of God & have a deep personal connection with Him

*15 For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, “Abba! Father!”  
(Romans 8:15 ESV)*

## Wisdom & Truth

- As believers, we are temples of God's Spirit who dwells within us, guiding & uniting us with Himself

*16 Do you not know that you are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in you? (1 Corinthians 3:16 ESV)*



## Wisdom & Truth

- Just like a branch of a vine we are connected to Jesus in a close relationship with Him

*4 Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. 5 I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing.  
(John 15:4-5 ESV)*

## Be Thou My Vision

*Riches I heed not nor man's empty praise  
Thou mine inheritance through all my days  
Thou and Thou only the first in my heart  
High King of heaven, my treasure Thou art*

ETERNAL

Treasures

## Eternal Treasures

- Our focus should be on eternal things, not temporary wealth

*19 “Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, 20 but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. 21 For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also (Matthew 6:19-21 ESV)*

## Eternal Treasures

- God alone satisfies our deepest needs

*5 The Lord is my chosen portion and my cup; you hold my lot. 6 The lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; indeed, I have a beautiful inheritance.*

*(Psalm 16:5-6 ESV)*



## Eternal Treasures

- We are not to seek the approval of people but to serve Christ, as His opinion matters most

*10 For am I now seeking the approval of man, or of God?  
Or am I trying to please man? If I were still trying to  
please man, I would not be a servant[a] of Christ.  
(Galatians 1:10 ESV)*

## Eternal Treasures

- We are called to place God above all else

*5 You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and  
with all your soul and with all your might.*

*(Deuteronomy 6:5 ESV)*

## Eternal Treasures

- Jesus is far more valuable than anything else

*8 Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ  
(Philippians 3:8 ESV)*

## Be Thou My Vision

*High King of heaven, my victory won  
May I reach heaven's joy's, O bright heaven's sun  
Heart of my own heart whatever befall  
Still be my vision, O Ruler of all*



# HIGH KING OF HEAVEN

Revelation 15:3-4



## High King of Heaven

- Jesus has won the ultimate victory over sin & death

*57 But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. (1 Corinthians 15:57 ESV)*

- Heaven is a place of eternal peace & joy

*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)*

## High King of Heaven

- “The sun of righteousness” symbolizes Jesus’ glory

*2 But for you who fear my name, the sun of righteousness shall rise with healing in its wings. You shall go out leaping like calves from the stall. (Malachi 4:2 ESV)*

- God is the supreme authority over heaven and earth

*16 On his robe and on his thigh he has a name written, King of kings and Lord of lords. (Revelation 19:16 ESV)*

## High King of Heaven

- We have the assurance that God is our strength as we face all of life's challenges

*26 My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength[a] of my heart and my portion forever.  
(Psalm 73:26 ESV)*

## Discussion Questions

- How can we make God the focus of our lives?
- How can we trust in God's wisdom rather than our own understanding, especially in challenging situations?
- What are some ways that the world's riches and praise compete with God's place in your heart?
- What does it look like for Christ to dwell in your heart daily?

# Be Thou My Vision





A scenic view of a beach with waves, a white cross, and birds in the sky. The background shows a blue ocean with white-capped waves breaking onto a sandy beach. In the foreground, there are various coastal plants, including tall grasses and low-lying shrubs. A large white cross is superimposed on the left side of the image. The sky is light blue with several birds flying. The overall atmosphere is peaceful and serene.

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