

LYRICS TO LIFT YOUR LIFE

The words of Songs and Hymns from "Singing the Word" © 2015 by Hugh G Wetmore

8h MARY IN THE GARDEN OF THE OPEN TOMB - m -

I come to the garden alone
while the dew is still on the roses;
and the voice I hear, falling on my ear,
the Son of God discloses.

*And He walks with me, and He talks with me,
and He tells me I am His own,
and the joy we share as we tarry there
none other has ever known.*

He speaks, and the sound of His voice
is so sweet the birds hush their singing,
and the melody that He gave to me
within my heart is ringing.

And He walks with me ...

I'd stay in the garden with Him,
but my risen Lord is sending,
for He bids me go so that all may know
and share His life unending.

*And He'll walk with us and He'll talk with us,
and He'll tell us we are His own,
and the joy we'll share as we go from there,
none other has ever known.*

Words: Austen Miles (1868-1946) © Public Domain
Metre: 8.9.10.7 10.8.10.7
Tune: I come to the garden alone (C.A.Miles)

The Author wrote "One day in March 1912 I opened my Bible at my favourite chapter, John 20. That meeting of Jesus and Mary had lost none of its power and charm. As I read it that day, I seemed to be part of the scene. I became a silent witness to that dramatic moment in Mary's life, when she knelt before her Lord and cried, "Rabboni!" Under the inspiration of that vision I wrote, as quickly as the words could be formed, the poem exactly as it has since appeared. That same evening I wrote the music."

(From Hymn Stories, by the Billy Graham team © 1967 Hope Publishing).

However John 20:1,11 contrasting with v 19, places Mary Magdalene's meeting with the risen Jesus in the morning, not when "night around me be falling" as Miles wrote in stanza 3. And Jesus did not bid her with "a voice of woe", and this was not "His voice calling" but rather His voice sending her to tell "my brothers" that He was alive and would ascend back to His Father (v17). Hence my amendment of the 3rd stanza to express the actual end of the story in vv17,18. The final chorus joins Mary with the disciples and with us the singers in the fellowship of joy which we have in serving the risen Lord.

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