

In Evil Long I Took Delight

Words by John Newton (1725 -1807)

Hymn No. 57 Book II - The Olney Hymnal of 1779

Music by Kathleen Shea Vick © 2009

TUNE: MYSTERY OF GRACE

John Newton did not ascribe a Scripture text to this sacred poem.

*Rather, he posted the heading, "**Looking At The Cross**".*

*These words give us a glimpse into the personal testimony of John Newton,
who here describes his own encounter with The LORD Jesus Christ,
in all His saving fullness.*

1.

In evil long I took delight, unawed by shame or fear,
'til a new object struck my sight and stopped my wild career.
I saw One hanging on a tree in agonies and blood;
Who fixed His languid eyes on me, as near His cross I stood.

2.

Sure, never 'til my latest breath, can I forget that look.
It seemed to charge me with His death, though not a word He spoke.
My conscience felt and owned the guilt, and plunged me in despair.
I saw my sins His blood had spilt, and helped to nail Him there.

3.

Alas! I knew not what I did, but now my tears are vain.
Where shall my trembling soul be hid? For I, the LORD have slain!
A second look He gave, which said, "**I freely all forgive!**
This blood is for thy ransom paid! I die that thou may'st live!"

4.

Thus, while His death, my sin displays in all its blackest hue;
such is the mystery of grace. It seals my pardon, too.
With pleasing grief and mournful joy, my spirit now is filled;
that I should such a life destroy, yet live by Him I killed.

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You have my permission to copy, distribute and sing this music,
BUT IT MUST NOT BE SOLD.

LORD, Bring Revival!

WORDS
John Newton

In Evil Long I Took Delight

MUSIC
Kathleen Shea Vick

1. In e - vil long I took de - light, un - awed by shame or___
2. Sure, nev - er 'til my la - test breath, can I for - get that___
3. A - las! I knew not what I did, but now my tears are___
4. Thus, while His death, my sin dis - plays in all its black - est___

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fear,___ 'til a new ob - ject struck my sight and stopped my___ wild ca -
look,___ It seemed to charge me with His death, though not a___ word He
vain,___ Where shall my trem - bling soul be hid? For I, the___ LORD have
hue,___ such is the mys - ter - y of grace. It seals my___ par - don,

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reer,___ I saw One hang - ing on a___ tree in a - gon - ies and___
spoke,___ My con - science felt and owned the___ guilt, and plunged me in des -
slain!___ A sec - ond look He gave, which___ said, "I free - ly all for -
too,___ With plea - sing grief and mourn - ful___ joy, my spir - it now is___

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blood; Who fixed His___ lan - guid eyes on me, as near His cross___ I stood. ___
pair. I saw my___ sins His blood had spilt, and helped to nail___ Him there. ___
give! This blood is___ for thy ran - som paid! I die that thou_may'st live!"___
filled; that I should___ such a life de - stroy, yet live by Him___ I killed. ___

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