

never gavest *me* a kid." The heart of man is selfish to its core, and thinks ever of what shall minister to itself. The heart of God finds in me the prodigal, the sinner, an object upon which to satisfy itself in all its unselfishness. It was meet that we should make merry and be glad."

Ah! sinner! give ear whilst thou art *earnestly besought*, not to be found despising the riches of His goodness and forbearance and long suffering; *be entreated not to let thy hardness and impenitent heart lead thee to treasure up unto thyself wrath against the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God*, but *now, even now this very moment*, if thou wilt but repent and turn to God, (for 'tis the goodness of God that leadeth thee to repentance), God's feast awaits thee, yea, *requires thy presence*, and as thou by His grace art made to partake of it, thou wilt never be done telling, now and throughout eternal ages, all the Father conveyed to thee as He hung upon thy long stubborn neck and covered thee with kisses.

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"This the ransomed sinners' story,

All the Father's heart made known ;

All His grace to me, the sinner

Told by judgment on His Son.

Told by Him from depths of anguish

All the Father's love for me ;

By the curse, the cross, the darkness,

Measuring what that love must be."