

fame; this hymn and many of her other compositions are to be met with in almost every hymnal of every church. Charlotte Elliott, the author, was born in 1789, and only passed away in September, 1871. Yet her life was that of an invalid. She learned in suffering what she taught in song. The story of this particular hymn is of much interest, growing as it did out of her deep personal experience. A gentleman, visiting her father's house for the first time, when talking with Miss Elliott one evening, broached the subject of her personal relationship to Christ. The young lady somewhat resented the enquiry. He did not press the subject, but said he would pray that she might come to Christ. Some little time elapsed, and the seeds of thought thus sown became fruitful. She spoke to him herself, and said that his remarks had troubled her. "But," she added, "I do not know how to find Christ. I want you to help me."

"Come to him *just as you are*," he replied. These were the very words needed to quicken the impulse of faith. From that time life wore a new guise for Charlotte Elliott. She left off the composition of humorous poems, in which she had formerly excelled, and gave utterance to her newly-found faith in hymns and poems, which winged their way in no long time all over the land. Yet most of them were written in the midst of pain and suffering. Every winter was marked by sickness and confinement to her room; while the summers were spent in seeking health at various places, and under different physicians. She wrote over one hundred beautiful hymns, among them, "My God, my Father, while I stray," "O holy Saviour, friend unseen," and "Christian, seek not yet repose."

"My Faith looks up to Thee," was written by Dr. Ray Palmer, about the year 1830. He was a student at the time, preparing for the ministry. His health was very poor, and his worldly prospects clouded. He felt that the world could promise him nothing, and in an hour of despondency, the young student turned, as his only help and resource, to the promises of God. Comforted in spirit by Him "to whom all things are possible," he tells his experience and expresses his hope for the future in these lines.