

Pastor D's Letter January 2, 2022

Last week I introduced you to William Walsham How. Here is a bit more about How, and another hymn he wrote, "For All the Saints".

One day in the 1890's, How who was the Bishop in Wakefield, England came to speak to the inmates of a workhouse. Like people who line a street to view a parade, the inmates crowded around the window to see their Bishop. They were excited. But when How arrived, the inmates were a bit disappointed. They expected How to arrive in a magnificent coach with a team of horses and liveried footmen. But How pulled up alone, in a pony cart. The tender-hearted Bishop William Walsham How had avoided a magnificent display, thinking it would rub the noses of the poor in their poverty.

Prior to becoming Bishop of Wakefield, England, How was the assistant Bishop in poverty stricken East London. How worked with others to improve life in East London and through these (Mission) partnerships the spiritual and physical condition of East London improved. How's love for common people won him the title "The Poor Man's Bishop." He knew how to couch his teaching in terms his audience could understand. This was also true of his dealings with youngsters, and he earned a second nickname—"The Children's Bishop" because of his ease with them. He told with delight of one little girl who examined him intently for a few minutes before remarking to her mother with disgust, "Why, he's just a man!"

Eventually a new bishop came to oversee the diocese and brought new expectations. Unable to carry on work in the manner he found most effective, How accepted an offer to become Bishop of Wakefield in 1888. He served there to the end of his life, nine years later.

How wrote many hymns, including: "The Word of God Incarnate," "We Give Thee but Thine Own," and "For All the Saints." The first two verses of, "For All the Saints" are:

- 1 For all the saints who from their labors rest,
who thee by faith before the world confessed,
thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
- 2 Thou wast their rock, their fortress, and their might;
thou, Lord, their captain in the well-fought fight;
thou, in the darkness dread, their one true light.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

This New Year, may Jesus be, your Rock, your Fortress and your Light in the darkness. And may, "thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest. Alleluia! Alleluia!"

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

And now, may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him,
So that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.
(Romans 15:13)

Dr. D

If you want to know more about How and others in Christian History go to <https://christianhistoryinstitute.org/>.

NEWS UPDATES

- **STARTING JANUARY 16, 2022, SUNDAY SCHOOL IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL – SECOND HOUR FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY. COLD CASE CHRISTIANITY! DETAILS NEXT WEEK IN PASTOR D’S LETTER!**
- Join us for **Fellowship after church** in the Fellowship Hall.
- **No WVN Bible Study this Wednesday.**
- **MASKS ARE OPTIONAL** IN WORSHIP! Be considerate of those who choose to wear masks and maintain social distance.
- If you cannot come in person, we continue to broadcast our **SERVICE LIVE** every Sunday at 9 a.m. on <https://www.facebook.com/SierraVistaPresbyterianChurch/>. Our account is public. **YOU DO NOT NEED A FACEBOOK ACCOUNT TO WATCH.** If you come to worship in person or watch at home, **invite a friend to join you.**
- If you watch on Facebook, **Worship sheets** are available on our website at <https://www.sierravistayuma.com/> under the NEWS Tab.
- If you wish to receive the monthly **newsletter** or know someone who wants to receive **Pastor D’s Letter**, contact the church office with your email information.
- **THANK YOU for your CONTINUED FINANCIAL SUPPORT** of the church by giving in person, mailing a check, or giving ONLINE.