



Come, Thou Precious Ransom, Come 350

1 Come, Thou pre - cious Ran - som, come, On - ly hope for  
 2 En - ter now my wait - ing heart, Glo - rious King and  
 3 My ho - san - nas and my palms Gra - cious - ly re -  
 4 Hail! Ho - san - na, Da - vid's Son! Je - sus, hear our

sin - ful mor - tals! Come, O Sav - ior of the world!  
 Lord most ho - ly. Dwell in me and ne'er de - part,  
 ceive, I pray Thee; Ev - er - more, as best I can,  
 sup - pli - ca - tion! Let Thy king - dom, scep - ter, crown,

O - pen are to Thee all por - tals. Come, Thy beau - ty  
 Though I am but poor and low - ly. Ah, what rich - es  
 Sav - ior, I will hom - age pay Thee, And in faith I  
 Bring us bless - ing and sal - va - tion, That for - ev - er

let us see; Anx - ious - ly we wait for Thee.  
 will be mine When Thou art my guest di - vine!  
 will em - brace, Lord, Thy mer - it through Thy grace.  
 we may sing: Hail! Ho - san - na to our King.

Text and tune: Public domain

“Come, Thou Precious Ransom, Come”

The key to this hymn is found in the opening phrase. It speaks of Jesus as the “precious Ransom.” Matthew 20:28 says that Jesus came “to give his life as a ransom for many.” The Greek word for *ransom* was used most commonly for the price paid to redeem a slave.

A ransom frees or releases something or someone that was previously held in bondage. The one who is greatest in the kingdom, the Son of Man, God incarnate, makes the ultimate sacrifice to atone for the sins of his people. Because Jesus has laid claim to our lives by paying His own life in exchange for our freedom, his claim changes the way that we relate to one another as disciples. To be sure, the call to servanthood and to reflect Christ’s strange “reverse greatness” will also characterize our relationship with those who are not yet disciples as well.

After the opening phrase, our hymn points out that Christ’s ransom is the “only hope for sinful mortals.” That is why the coming of Jesus and his ministry is so vital to our hope for eternity. The great news is that he came for everyone of all times.

Verse 2 speaks of the heart. The heart was thought to be the center of thought, understanding, decision making, emotion, will, and conscience. It is a symbol of the life of the whole body. During this Advent season, it is most important to prepare our hearts so they can focus fully on the coming Savior.

Verses 3 and 4 call for praise and rejoicing at what this Ransom Savior has done for us. Verse 3 is reminiscent of Jesus’ glorious entry into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday. When our hearts are cleared of all distractions, we can lustily praise our Ransom King.

**Prayer:** Dear Lord, thank you for becoming a servant and sacrificing yourself to pay the ransom for our many sins. Help us to clear our hearts of all interruptions and distractions so that we may be totally immersed in praise for you. Amen.