

Dear Grace Church,

In preparation for worship this Lord's Day, I encourage you to read Titus chapters 1 and 2 with the chapter outlines. Note the group of adversaries in the church at Crete and what Paul instructs Titus to do with them (1:10-16). Then note the various groups in the church who need teaching and shepherding but whom Paul assumes will receive the teaching about the grace of God in the gospel to live together daily to build Christ's church.

Then read Titus 2:9-15, giving careful consideration to each of us living together to adorn the doctrine of God with the right understanding and use of gospel and law to build Christ's church. Read and re-read Titus 2:11-15 and pray through it with the help of the outline.

Seeking to grow together with you daily in the experience of grace to build Christ's church,

Murray

How to Build the Perfect Church Series, 10
The Covenant of Grace Applied

**“Adorning the Doctrine of God Our Savior Together to Build Christ’s Church:
Or, Using Both Gospel and Law Rightly in the Daily Life of the Church”**
Titus 1:10-2:15, Esp. 2:9-15

Titus 2:9–15 ⁹*Exhort* _____ to be obedient... to be well pleasing in all *things*... that they may adorn the doctrine of God our Savior in all things. ¹¹For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men, ¹²teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age, ¹³looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, ¹⁴who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless deed and purify for Himself *His* own special people, zealous for good works. ¹⁵Speak these things, exhort, and rebuke with all authority. Let no one despise you. (NKJV)

I. The Context of Problems (1:10-16) and Needs (2:1-10) within the Church for which the Right Understanding and Application of Gospel and Law are Necessary (1:10-2:15)

II. The Gospel (11)

A. The nature of the Gospel— “the grace of God” (11a)

B. The work of the Gospel— “bringing salvation” (11b)

C. The free offer of the Gospel— “appearing to all men” (11c)

III. The Designed Effect of the Gospel and the Law Upon All Who Receive It (12-14)

- A. The teaching, molding, nourishing power of the gospel (12)
- B. The Spirit's influence in the Gospel upon the soul (13)
- C. The peculiarity of the Gospel in relation to all other religions (14a)
- D. The purpose of gospel and law to redeem and purify (14b)

IV. Faithful Ministers of the Gospel—

- A. “speak, exhort, and rebuke with all authority” (15a)
- B. “without fear of disapproval and without regard for approval” (15b)

Titus 1:1–16 ¹Paul, a bondservant of God and an apostle of Jesus Christ, according to the faith of God's elect and the acknowledgment of the truth which accords with godliness, ²In hope of eternal life which God, who cannot lie, promised before time began, ³but has in due time manifested His word through preaching, which was committed to me according to the commandment of God our Savior; ⁴To Titus, a true son in *our* common faith: Grace, mercy, *and* peace from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ our Savior. ⁵For this reason I left you in Crete, that you should set in order the things that are lacking, and appoint elders in every city as I commanded you—⁶if a man is blameless, the husband of one wife, having faithful children not accused of dissipation or insubordination. ⁷For a bishop must be blameless, as a steward of God, not self-willed, not quick-tempered, not given to wine, not violent, not greedy for money, ⁸but hospitable, a lover of what is good, sober-minded, just, holy, self-controlled, ⁹holding fast the faithful word as he has been taught, that he may be able, by sound doctrine, both to exhort and convict those who contradict. ¹⁰For there are many insubordinate, both idle talkers and deceivers, especially those of the circumcision, ¹¹whose mouths must be stopped, who subvert whole households, teaching things which they ought not, for the sake of dishonest gain. ¹²One of them, a prophet of their own, said, “Cretans *are* always liars, evil beasts, lazy gluttons.” ¹³This testimony is true. Therefore rebuke them sharply, that they may be sound in the faith, ¹⁴not giving heed to Jewish fables and commandments of men who turn from the truth. ¹⁵To the pure all things are pure, but to those who are defiled and unbelieving nothing is pure; but even their mind and conscience are defiled. ¹⁶They profess to know God, but in works they deny *Him*, being abominable, disobedient, and disqualified for every good work. (NKJV)

I. Greetings (1:1-4)

II. Qualifications of Elders (1:5-9)

III. Characteristics of Enemies of the Local Church and the Duties of Elders to Correct their Church's Enemies (The Church's Enemies: those who won't receive grace, or oppose grace, or misuse grace to serve themselves) (1:10-16)

Titus 2:1–15 ¹But as for you, speak the things which are proper for sound doctrine: ²that the older men be sober, reverent, temperate, sound in faith, in love, in patience; ³the older women likewise, that they be reverent in behavior, not slanderers, not given to much wine, teachers of good things—⁴that they admonish the young women to love their husbands, to love their children, ⁵*to be* discreet, chaste, homemakers, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the word of God may not be blasphemed. ⁶Likewise, exhort the young men to be sober-minded, ⁷in all things showing yourself *to be* a pattern of good works; in doctrine *showing* integrity, reverence, incorruptibility, ⁸sound speech that cannot be condemned, that one who is an opponent may be ashamed, having nothing evil to say of you. ⁹*Exhort* bondservants to be obedient to their own masters, to be well pleasing in all *things*, not answering back, ¹⁰ not pilfering, but showing all good fidelity, that they may adorn the doctrine of God our Savior in all things. ¹¹For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men, ¹²teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age, ¹³looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, ¹⁴who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless deed and purify for Himself *His* own special people, zealous for good works. ¹⁵Speak these things, exhort, and rebuke with all authority. Let no one despise you. (NKJV)

IV. Duties of Elders toward Various Groups of Sound Members of the Local Church and Their Duties towards One Another to Adorn the Doctrine of God (Sound Members: those who receive grace and use grace to build Christ's church in their daily life together) (2:1-10)

V. The Shaping and Nourishing Power of God's Grace to Obey His Will to Adorn the Doctrine of God's Grace to Build His Church (2:11-15)

Grace Welcomes You

February 25, 2024

There is One Gospel

There is one Gospel on which I stand
For all eternity
It is my story, my Father's plan
The Son has rescued me
Oh what a Gospel, Oh what a peace
My highest joy and my deepest need
Now and forever He is my light
I stand in the Gospel of Jesus Christ

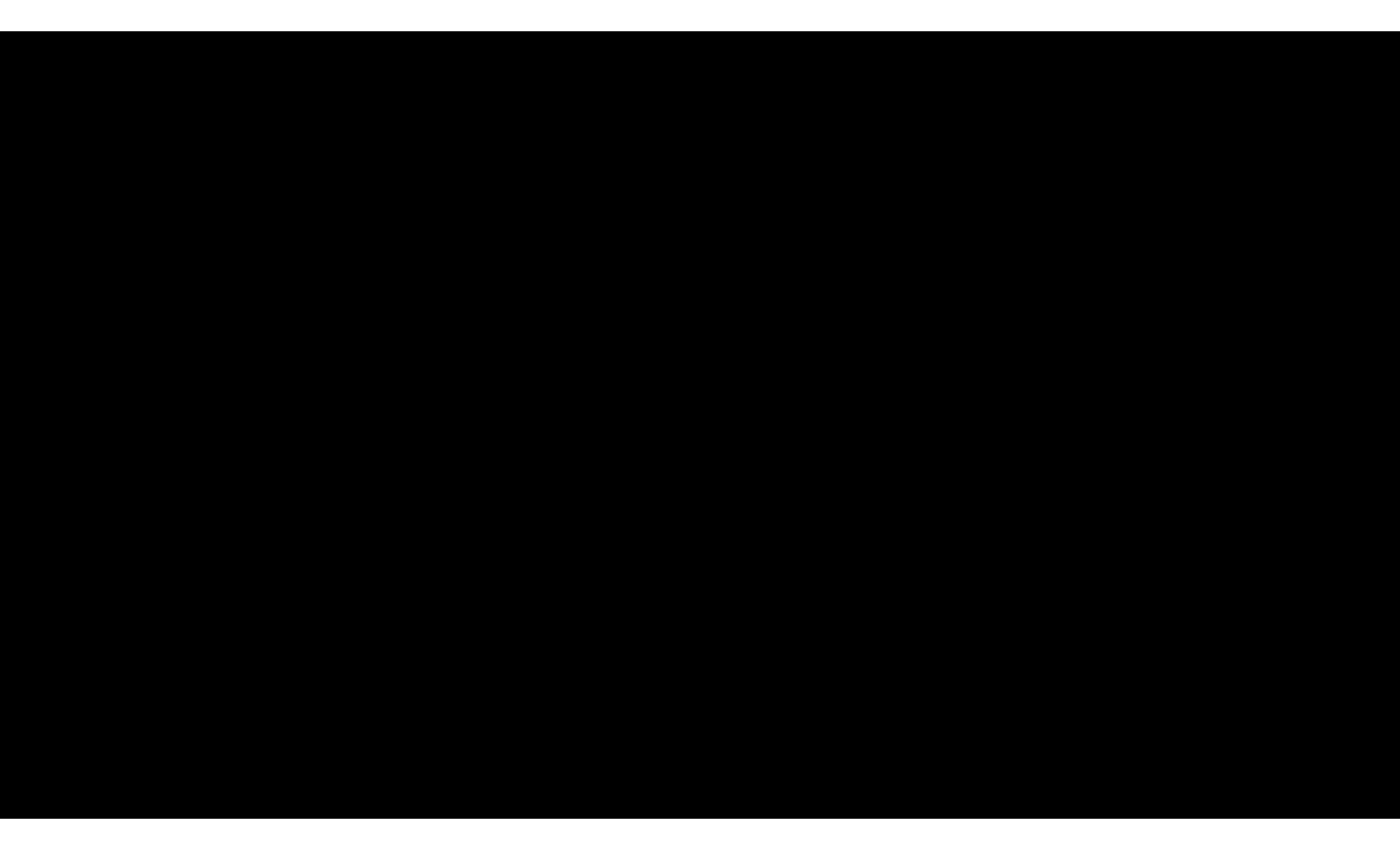
There is one Gospel to which I cling
All else I count as loss
For there, where justice and mercy meet
He saved me on the cross
No more I boast in what I can bring
No more I carry the weight of sin
For He has brought me from death to life
I stand in the Gospel of Jesus Christ

There is one Gospel where hope is found
The empty tomb still speaks
For death could not keep my Saviour down
He lives and I am free
Now on my Saviour, I fix my eyes
My life is His and His hope is mine!
For He has promised I, too, will rise
I stand in the Gospel of Jesus Christ

And in this Gospel the church is one
We do not walk alone
We have His Spirit as we press on
To lead us safely home
And when in glory still I will sing
Of this old story that rescued me
Praise to my Saviour, the King of life
I stand in the Gospel of Jesus Christ

And when in glory still I will sing
Of this old story that rescued me
Praise to my Saviour, the King of life
I stand in the Gospel of Jesus Christ
I stand in the Gospel of Jesus Christ

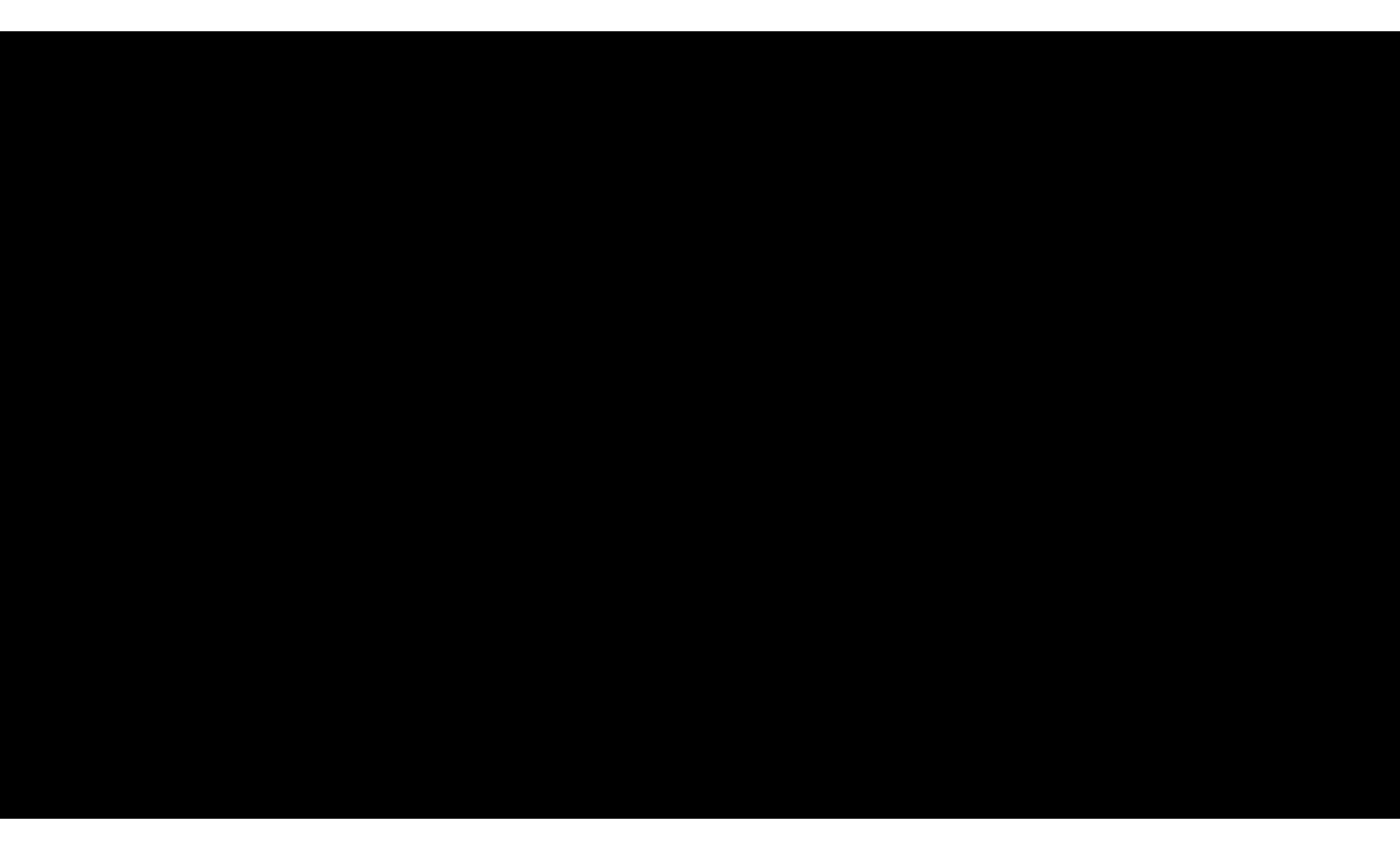
Songwriters: Rich Thompson / Jonny Robinson
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Psalm 67C

O God, show mercy to us,
And bless us with Your grace;
And cause to shine upon us
The brightness of Your face;
So that the whole world over
May truly know Your way,
And so that Your salvation
All nations see displayed.
O God, let peoples praise You;
Let all the peoples praise.
Let nations come rejoicing
And songs of gladness raise.

For You will judge the peoples
With perfect equity;
To nations of the whole earth
A governor You'll be.
O God, let peoples praise You;
Let all the peoples praise.
The earth has brought its bounty
Throughout its harvest days
Since God, our God, will bless us.
Yes, God will blessing send,
That all the earth may fear Him
To its remotest end.



Psalm 40A

I waited for the LORD;
He stooped and heard my cry.
He brought me from a pit,
Out of the dungeon mire,
My feet set on a rock,
My footsteps made secure.
My lips He gave a song,
A song to praise our God.

Many will see with awe,
And so will trust the LORD.
Blessed he who trusts the LORD.
And turns not to false men.
LORD, none compares to You,
Your thoughts and works, my God!
Should I declare each one,
Their number is too great.

You seek no offering,
Desire no sacrifice;
But You have given me
An opened, ready ear.
You seek no off'rings burnt,
Nor sacrifice for sin. I said,
"Behold I come,
As in the book foretold.

To do Your will, O God,
Is surely my delight;
Your law is part of me,
Set deep within my heart."
Good news I have proclaimed,
Declared Your righteousness
In the assembly great;
You know, LORD, I spoke out.

Laden With Guilt and Full of Fears

Laden with guilt and full of fears,
I fly to Thee, my Lord,
And not a glimpse of hope appears,
But in Thy written Word
The volumes of my Father's grace
Does all my griefs assuage
Here I behold my Savior's face
In every page.

This is the field where, hidden, lies
The pearl of price unknown
That merchant is divinely wise
Who makes the pearl his own
Here consecrated water flows
To quench my thirst of sin
Here the fair tree of knowledge grows,
No danger dwells within.

This is the judge that ends the strife,
Where wit and reason fail
My guide to everlasting life
Through all this gloomy vale
Oh may Thy counsels, mighty God,
My roving feet command,
Nor I forsake the happy road
That leads to Thy right hand.

Oh may Thy counsels, mighty God,
My roving feet command,
Nor I forsake the happy road
That leads to Thy right hand.

Words: Isaac Watts. Music: Sandra McCracken ©2001 Same Old Dress Music (ASCAP)

How Deep The Father's Love For Us

How deep the Father's love for us,
How vast beyond all measure,
That He should give His only Son
To make a wretch His treasure.
How great the pain of searing loss -
The Father turns His face away,
As wounds which mar the Chosen One
Bring many sons to glory.

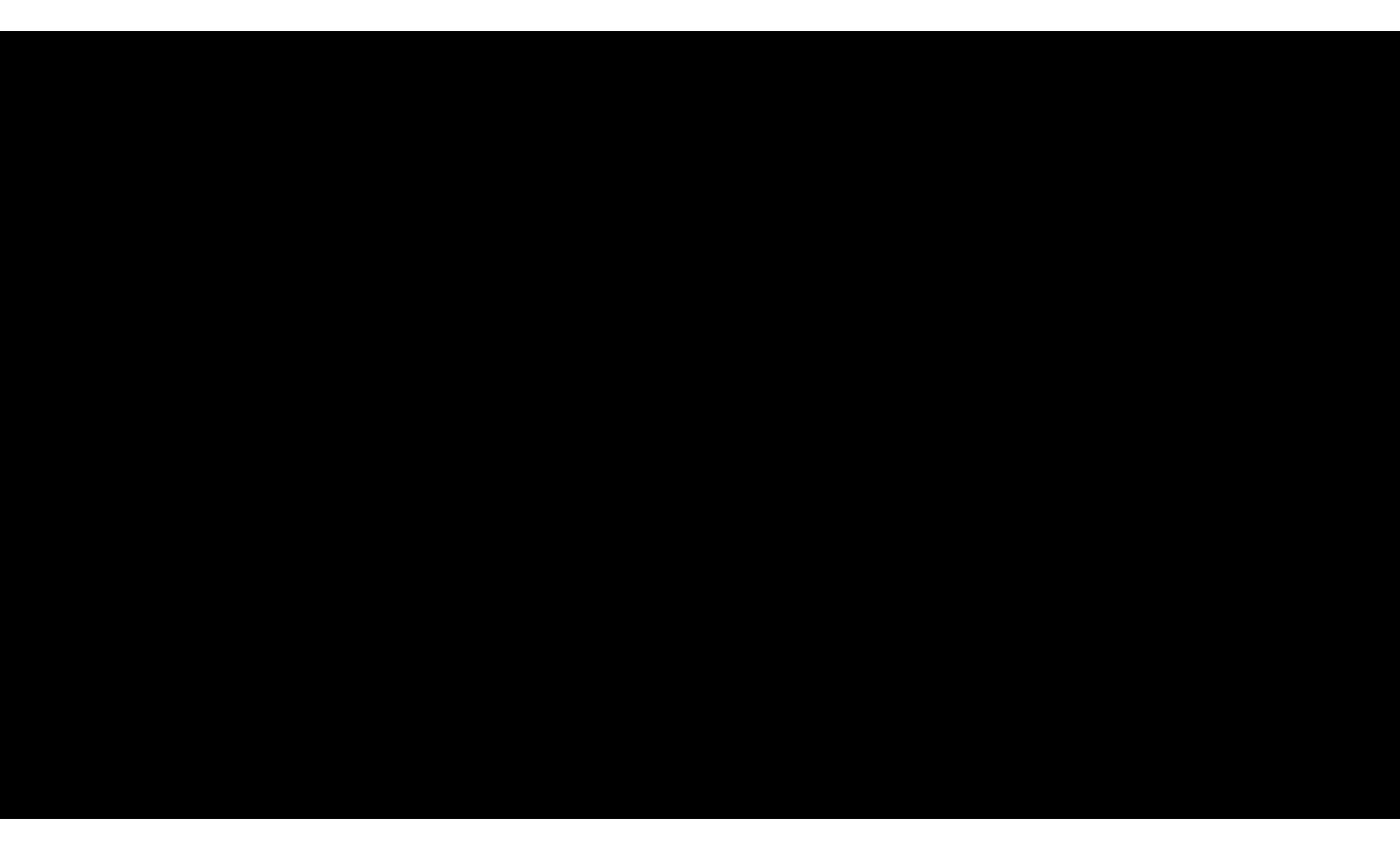
Behold the man upon a cross,
My sin upon His shoulders;
Ashamed, I hear my mocking voice
Call out among the scoffers.
It was my sin that held Him there
Until it was accomplished;
His dying breath has brought me life -
I know that it is finished.

I will not boast in anything,
No gifts, no power, no wisdom;
But I will boast in Jesus Christ,
His death and resurrection.
Why should I gain from His reward?
I cannot give an answer;
But this I know with all my heart -
His wounds have paid my ransom.

Stuart Townend

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Hallowed Be Your Name

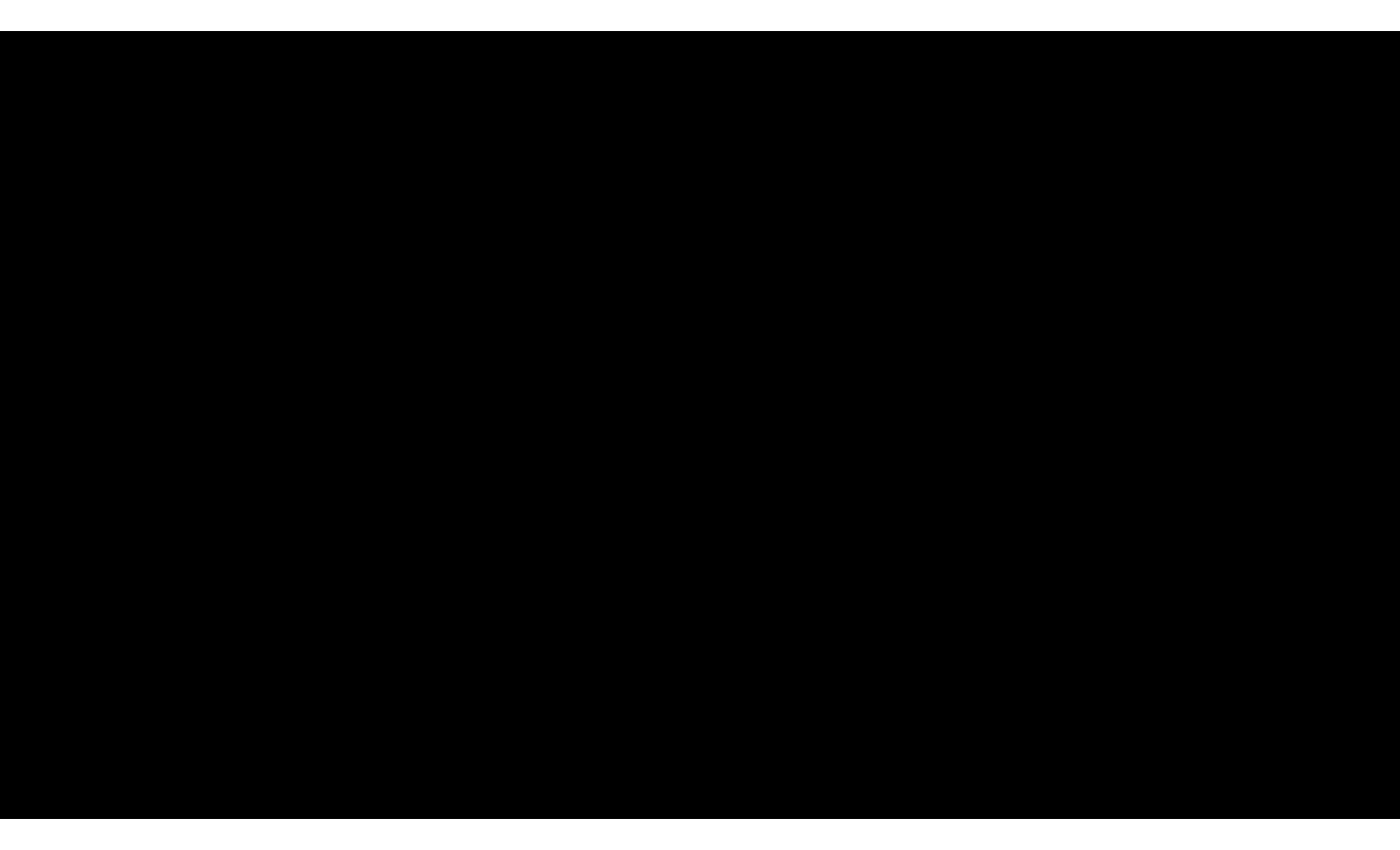
Who is like You, Father, The Source of life and love?
An overflowing fountain, In Spirit and the Son
Abba! Our Father, Hallowed be Your name
Reigning high in heaven, Receive our grateful praise

Who is like You, Jesus, The Son most glorious?
The fullness of the Godhead, Who came in flesh for us
Savior, Lord Jesus, Hallowed be Your name
Risen now in power, The Lamb for sinners slain

Who is like You, Spirit, Our Comfort from above?
You draw us to the Savior, Reveal the Father's love
Spirit, O Spirit, Hallowed be Your name
Fount of living water, Come, fill our hearts again

God, there's no one like You, For who can bear the sight?
Clothed in glorious splendor, In holy, burning light
O God, our God, Who was and is to come
Father, Son, and Spirit, Most holy Three-in-One

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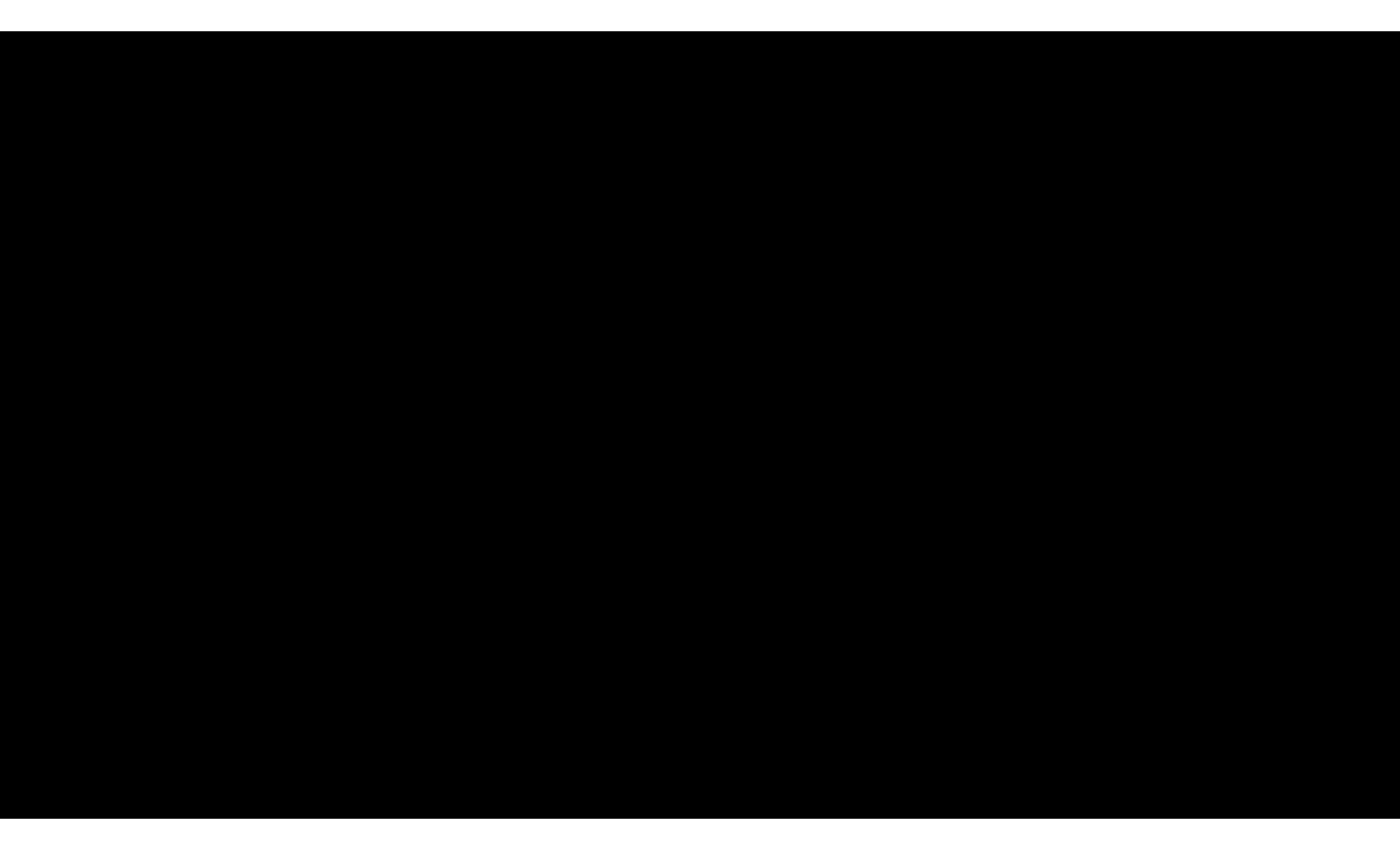


Before The Throne Of God Above

Before the throne of God above
I have a strong and perfect plea
A great High Priest whose name is love
Who ever lives and pleads for me
My name is graven on His hands
My name is written on His heart
I know that while in heav'n He stands
No tongue can bid me thence depart
No tongue can bid me thence depart

When Satan tempts me to despair
And tells me of the guilt within
Upward I look and see Him there
Who made an end of all my sin
Because the sinless Savior died
My sinful soul is counted free
For God the Just is satisfied
To look on Him and pardon me
To look on Him and pardon me

Behold Him there, the risen Lamb
My perfect, spotless Righteousness
The great unchangeable I AM
The King of glory and of grace
One with Himself, I cannot die
My soul is purchased by His blood
My life is hid with Christ on high
With Christ my Savior and my God
With Christ my Savior and my God



Christ Our Hope In Life and Death

What is our hope in life and death?

Christ alone, Christ alone

What is our only confidence?

That our souls to Him belong

Who holds our days within his hand,

What comes apart from his command

And what will keep us to the end,

The love of Christ in which we stand

O Sing Hallelujah, Our hope springs eternal
O Sing Hallelujah, Now and ever we confess
Christ our hope in life and death

What truth can calm the troubled soul,
God is good, God is good
Where is His grace and goodness known,
In our great Redeemer's blood
Who holds our faith when fears arise,
Who stands above the stormy trial
Who sends the waves that bring us nigh,
Unto the shore, the rock of Christ

O Sing Hallelujah, Our hope springs eternal
O Sing Hallelujah, Now and ever we confess
Christ our hope in life and death

Unto the grave, what shall we sing,
Christ He lives Christ, He lives
And what reward will heaven bring,
Everlasting life with him
There we will rise to meet the Lord,
Then sin and death will be destroyed
And we will feast in endless joy,
When Christ is ours forevermore

O Sing Hallelujah, Our hope springs eternal
O Sing Hallelujah, Now and ever we confess
Christ our hope in life and death

O Sing Hallelujah, Our hope springs eternal
O Sing Hallelujah, Now and ever we confess
Christ our hope in life and death
Now and ever we confess
Christ our hope in life and death

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