

I Asked the Lord

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It is good for me that I was afflicted, that I may learn Your statutes. Psalm 119:71

1. I asked the Lord that I might grow in faith, and love,
 2. 'Twas He who taught me thus to pray; and He, I trust,
 3. I hoped that in some fa - vored hour, at once He'd grant

and eve - ry grace; might more of His sal - va - tion
 has an - swered prayer: but it has been in such a
 me my re - quest; and, by His love's con - strain - ing

know, and seek more ear - nest - ly His face.
 way, as al - most drove me to de - spair.
 power, sub - due my sins, and give me rest.

4. Instead of this, He made me feel
 the hidden evils of my heart
 and let the angry powers of hell
 assault my soul in every part.

6. "Lord, why is this?" I trembling cried;
 "Wilt Thou pursue my soul to death?"
 "'Tis in this way," the Lord replied,
 "I answer prayer for grace and faith."

5. Yea more, with His own hand He seemed
 intent to aggravate my woe,
 crossed all the fair designs I schemed,
 humbled my pride, and laid me low.

7. "These inward trials I employ,
 from self and pride to set thee free,
 to break thy schemes of worldly joy,
 that thou may'st seek thy all in Me."