

#### HE LEADETH ME

1. He leadeth me, O blessèd thought!
O words with heav'nly comfort fraught!
Whate'er I do, where'er I be
Still 'tis God's hand that leadeth me.

## Refrain

He leadeth me, He leadeth me, By His own hand He leadeth me; His faithful follower I would be, For by His hand He leadeth me.

2. Sometimes mid scenes of deepest gloom, Sometimes where Eden's bowers bloom, By waters still, over troubled sea, Still 'tis His hand that leadeth me.

## Refrain

3. Lord, I would place my hand in Thine, Nor ever murmur nor repine; Content, whatever lot I see, Since 'tis my God that leadeth me.

## Refrain

4. And when my task on earth is done, When by Thy grace the vict'ry's won, E'en death's cold wave I will not flee, Since God through Jordan leadeth me.

## Refrain



# "Finding Grace Under His Wings"

Ruth 2:8-16

April 17, 2016

- 8 Then Boaz said to Ruth, "Listen carefully, my daughter. Do not go to glean in another field; furthermore, do not go on from this one, but stay here with my maids.
- 9 "Let your eyes be on the field which they reap, and go after them. Indeed, I have commanded the servants not to touch you. When you are thirsty, go to the water jars and drink from what the servants draw."
- 10 Then she fell on her face, bowing to the ground and said to him, "Why have I found favor in your sight that you should take notice of me, since I am a foreigner?"
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- 12 "May the Lord reward your work, and your wages be full from the Lord, the God of Israel, under whose wings you have come to seek refuge."
- 13 Then she said, "I have found favor in your sight, my lord, for you have comforted me and indeed have spoken kindly to your maidservant, though I am not like one of your maidservants."
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- 16 "Also you shall purposely pull out for her some grain from the bundles and leave it that she may glean, and do not rebuke her."

# Boaz offers grace:

1. Special Protection. The fields in those days had no fences or hedges dividing them and it would have been easy for Ruth to wander off of Boaz's land without knowing. In so doing she might find herself among strangers who in turn might not protect her and she may be harmed.

## Deut 22:25-27

- 25 "But if in the field the man finds the girl who is engaged, and the man forces her and lies with her, then only the man who lies with her shall die.
- 26 "But you shall do nothing to the girl; there is no sin in the girl worthy of death, for just as a man rises against his neighbor and murders him, so is this case.
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9 "Let your eyes be on the field which they reap, and go after them. Indeed, I have commanded the servants not to touch you. When you are thirsty, go to the water jars and drink from what the servants draw."

# 1 Cor 7:1

7 Now concerning the things about which you wrote, it is good for a man not to touch a woman.

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# 2. Accessible Water Supply.

### John 4:7-15

- 7 There came a woman of Samaria to draw water. Jesus said to her, "Give Me a drink."
- 8 For His disciples had gone away into the city to buy food.
- 9 Therefore the Samaritan woman said to Him, "How is it that You, being a Jew, ask me for a drink since I am a Samaritan woman?" (For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans.)
- 10 Jesus answered and said to her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is who says to you, 'Give Me a drink,' you would have asked Him, and He would have given you living water."
- 11 She said to Him, "Sir, You have nothing to draw with and the well is deep; where then do You get that living water?
- 12 "You are not greater than our father Jacob, are You, who gave us the well, and drank of it himself and his sons and his cattle?"
- 13 Jesus answered and said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will thirst again;
- 14 but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him shall never thirst; but the water that I will give him will become in him a well of water springing up to eternal life."
- 15 The woman said to Him, "Sir, give me this water, so I will not be thirsty nor come all the way here to draw."

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- 12 "May the Lord reward your work, and your wages be full from the Lord, the God of Israel, under whose wings you have come to seek refuge."
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# Humility

## **Prov 18:12**

12 Before destruction the heart of man is haughty, But humility goes before honor.

### **James 4:10**

10 Humble yourselves in the presence of the Lord, and He will exalt you.

## 1 Peter 5:5-6

- 5 for GOD IS OPPOSED TO THE PROUD, BUT GIVES GRACE TO THE HUMBLE.
- 6 Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you at the proper time,

### Col 3:12

12 So, as those who have been chosen of God, holy and beloved, put on a heart of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience;

## Phil 2:10-11

- 10 so that at the name of Jesus EVERY KNEE WILL BOW, of those who are in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
- 11 and that every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

# Luke 18:10-14

- 10 "Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector.
- 11 "The Pharisee stood and was praying this to himself: 'God, I thank You that I am not like other people: swindlers, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector.
- 12 'I fast twice a week; I pay tithes of all that I get.'
- 13 "But the tax collector, standing some distance away, was even unwilling to lift up his eyes to heaven, but was beating his breast, saying, 'God, be merciful to me, the sinner!'
- 14 "I tell you, this man went to his house justified rather than the other; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but he who humbles himself will be exalted."

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# 4 "good works " that Ruth has done:

- 1. Cared and provided for Naomi.
- 2. Left her father and mother.
- 3. Left the land of her birth.
- 4. Moved to Israel, a foreign land.

- 8 Then Boaz said to Ruth, "Listen carefully, my daughter. Do not go to glean in another field; furthermore, do not go on from this one, but stay here with my maids.
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# Ps 58:11

"Surely there is a reward for the righteous;

# Luke 6:35

35 "But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return; and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High;

# **Rev 22:12**

12 "Behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward is with Me, to render to every man according to what he has done.

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# What purposes do the wings serve?

- 1. Protection.
- 2. Security.
- 3. Comfort.
- 4. Warmth.
- 5. Bonding.

# Ps 17:8

8 Keep me as the apple of the eye;

Hide me in the shadow of Your wings

## Ps 36:7

7 How precious is Your lovingkindness, O God!

And the children of men take refuge in the shadow of Your wings.

## Ps 57:1

57 Be gracious to me, O God, be gracious to me,

For my soul takes refuge in You;

And in the shadow of Your wings I will take refuge;

### Ps 61:4

4 Let me dwell in Your tent forever;

Let me take refuge in the shelter of Your wings. Selah.

## Ps 63:7

7 For You have been my help,

And in the shadow of Your wings I sing for joy.

## Ps 91:4

4 He will cover you with His pinions,

And under His wings you may seek refuge;

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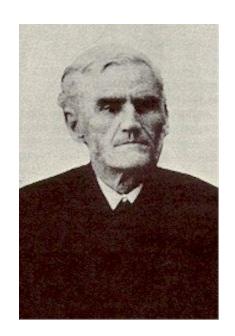
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- 3. Abundant Food.
- 4. Elevated Position.

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- 5. Choicest Place in the Field for a Gleaner.
- 16 "Also you shall purposely pull out for her some grain from the bundles and leave it that she may glean, and do not rebuke her."
- 6. Easiest Way to Obtain Grain.
- 7. Don't insult or rebuke her for her work.



William O. Cushing (1823-1902)

William Cushing was born in Hingham, Massachusetts on this date, December 31, 1823. His parents raised him as a Universalist, but by reading the <u>Bible</u> for himself as a teenager, he became a believer. At eighteen he was convinced the Lord wanted him to become a minister and he trained for it.

His first pastorate was at Searsburg, New York. There he met and married Rena Proper in 1854 (which was also the year he wrote "When He Cometh"). After that he served in Auburn, Brooklyn, Buffalo and Sparta, New York. With the decline of his wife's health, William returned with her to Searsburg where she died in 1870.

If \$100,000 was your whole life savings, would you give every penny of it to someone in need? William O. Cushing did something like that. In the nineteenth century, when \$1,000 was a lot of money, he gave his entire life savings to pay for the education of a blind girl.

After that, "creeping paralysis" stole his voice and prevented him from preaching any longer. He pleaded with the Lord to allow him to continue to serve in some capacity.

His prayer was granted. He wrote over 300 hymns. Cushing died in 1902 but his songs live on.

## **UNDER HIS WINGS**

1. Under His wings I am safely abiding, Though the night deepens and tempests are wild, Still I can trust Him; I know He will keep me, He has redeemed me, and I am His child.

# Refrain

Under His wings, under His wings, Who from His love can sever?
Under His wings my soul shall abide, Safely abide forever.

2. Under His wings, what a refuge in sorrow! How the heart yearningly turns to His rest! Often when earth has no balm for my healing, There I find comfort, and there I am blessed.

# Refrain

3. Under His wings, oh, what precious enjoyment! There will I hide till life's trials are o'er; Sheltered, protected, no evil can harm me, Resting in Jesus, I'm safe evermore.

# Refrain

# **Application**

- 1. The discovery by a person that He is truly the object of *Grace* should produce utmost humility.
- 2. God is not looking for unbelievers to come to work for Him, but for those who will come to find refuge under His wings.
- 3. Grace is not intended to replace meekness with pride. It's intended to replace sorrow with joy.
- 4. God is asking us, like He did Boaz, to be an instrument of His grace towards others.
- 5. If you pray for others to be blessed by God, do not be surprised if God asks you, as He did Boaz, to give of yourself and your substance to provide the blessing for others.