

Behind the Hymn: I Love You, Jesus, Savior, Lord

Edward Caswall (1814-1878) was an Anglican clergyman who converted to Catholicism and became a priest. He wrote a number of hymns that have enjoyed usage over the years, including "My God, I Love Thee". Jane Marshall adapted his text and used it for her classic anthem, "My Eternal King".

But I wanted his sincere expression of love for God to continue to speak its truth to current congregations. So on April 25-29, 1994, I kept Caswall's ideas but completely rewrote his text. The hymn says simply that despite God's boundless wealth and lavish blessings, we don't love Him because of His gifts, nor out of fear of His punishment. We are moved to love Him and are drawn to serve Him because of His boundless love for us so undeniably expressed on the cross.

Father, as Your witnesses, remind us of this truth. People will be drawn to You and bound to You, not by fear of hell nor by promises of heaven, but by Your love. Help us to tell people and show people how much You love them.

--Ken Bible

Hymn: [I Love You, Jesus, Savior, Lord](#)