

MS Preachers 1786 (drafts)¹

Charles Wesley drew on an earlier draft in producing MS Preachers 1786. Most of that earlier draft has survived, though it is scattered in the holding of the Methodist Archive and Research Centre. The largest portion is accession number MA 1977/583/32, item #9; this contains numbered pages 1–4, 16–18, 20–22, and 26–30 of the draft collection. The missing pages 7–15 are accession number MA 1977/583/11. Pages 22–25 are catalogued as DDWes 1/46. Pages 5–6 and 18–19 have been lost, though their probable content is clear. Combined, the draft manuscript contained the first fourteen items found in MS Preachers 1786.

The transcription below of the surviving portions of MS Preachers 1786 (drafts) is provided with permission of the Librarian and Director, The John Rylands Library, The University of Manchester.

¹This document was produced by the Duke Center for Studies in the Wesleyan Tradition under editorial direction of Randy L. Maddox, with the diligent assistance of Aileen F. Maddox, and Dr. Timothy Underhill consulting on the shorthand. Last updated: August 24, 2010.

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I.
The People's Prayer
for the Methodist Preachers.²

- [1.] Lord of the harvest, hear
Our supplicating cry,
And every gospel-messenger
With labouring strength supply,
With well-instructed zeal
To make thy mercy known,
Their ministerial work fulfil,
And live for Thee alone.
2. To show forth all thy praise,
Let them, thy servants, live,
Of every virtue, every grace
A bright example give;
Let Each by sinking rise,
By self-abasing fear,
And poor, and mean in his own eyes,
And least of all appear.
3. Still may thy little ones
Thy little ones remain,
Nor e'er despise the Prophets Sons,*
Or wish, like them to reign:
Out of their hearts expel
The plague of selfish pride,

*The Clergy.

²MARC, MA 1977/583/32, item #9. Appears also in MS Preachers 1786, 22–23. Published posthumously in *Unpublished Poetry*, 3:58–59.

And in thy secret place conceal,
And by³ thy presence hide.

4. Be this their single aim
Thy glorious truth to spread,
As simple men without a name,
Who hang on Thee for bread;
Who never seek their own;
In blest obscurity
Content to live, and die unknown,
Or known to none but Thee.
5. In answer to our prayer
Thy mind in Them reveal,
That every humbled messenger
May his own vileness feel,
That to the faithful race
They all thro' life may prove
Patterns of purity and grace,
Of meek and lowly love.

II.

A Methodist Preacher's prayer.⁴

- [1.] Help, Lord, the weakest instrument
Thy sovereign Grace hath ever sent
To publish and proclaim

³Ori., "in."

⁴MARC, MA 1977/583/32, item #9. Appears also in MS Preachers 1786, 9–10. Published posthumously in *Poetical Works*, 13:261–62; and *Unpublished Poetry*, 3:48–49.

The Reigning power and peace of God,
General redemption in thy blood,
And pardon thro' thy Name.

2. While preaching gospel to the poor,
My soul impoverish, and secure
By deep humility;
Safe in thy wounds a novice hide;
Then shall I preach the Crucified,
And nothing know but Thee.
3. T' exalt myself, I woud not speak,
Or proud of my own talents, seek
The praise which comes from man,
But serve Thee with a single eye,
And, while thy name I magnify
Thy approbation gain.
4. With pride that I may never swell,
Or my suppos'd importance feel,
Vouchsafe me, Lord, the grace
To loath myself in my own eyes,
Myself deny, renounce, despise,
And take the lowest place.
5. Here may I covet no reward,
Nor trifles temporal regard,
Or reckon earth my home,

But things invisible desire,
And wait my undeserved hire⁵
Till⁶ the great Shepherd come.

6. A life of poverty and toil,
A thousand lives one gracious smile
Of thine will overpay,
If Thou receive me with *Well done*,
And for thy faithful Servant own
In that triumphant day.

III.

An Old Methodist Preacher's prayer.⁷

- [1.] Jesus, my hope, my life, my Lord,
A mean dispenser of thy word
Wilt Thou not still defend?
Who hast thro' life my refuge been
Preserve from the Satanic sin,
And save me to the end.
2. The foe hath thrust at me full sore,
That I may fall, and rise no more,
But rescued⁸ by thy aid
He could not drag me to the pit,
He could not sift a soul like wheat
For whom my Saviour pray'd.⁹

⁵Ori., "And wait for my ~~unminted~~ hire" changed to "And wait my undeserved hire."

⁶Ori., "~~In that~~ Till."

⁷MARC, MA 1977/583/32, item #9. Appears also in MS Preachers 1786, 10–13. Published posthumously in *Unpublished Poetry*, 3:50–51.

⁸"Rescued" has "strengthen'd" written in the margin as an alternative.

⁹The remainder of this hymn, as found in MS Preachers 1786, would have appeared on pp. 5–6 of this manuscript, which are missing.

IV.

The prayer of an old Methodist Preacher.¹⁰

- [1.] God of unbounded patience, hear
An humble Penitent sincere
 Who at thy footstool fall,
My sins of ignorance confess
Since first I tasted of thy grace,
 And offer'd it to All.
2. A Novice full of youthful fire,
I call'd them to the World's Desire
 Who woud not One reject,
I preach'd his love to all mankind,
But mine alas, was still confin'd
 To my own narrow Sect.
3. Elate with self-sufficient pride,
To janglings vain I tum'd aside
 And mercy show'd to none,
I did my fellow-servants smite
In publishing their faults delight
 But overlook'd my own.
4. Then, Lord, I had not learnt of Thee
To melt at man's infirmity
 To share the mourner's sigh,

¹⁰MARC, MA 1977/583/11. Appears also in MS Preachers 1786, 13–16. Published posthumously in *Unpublished Poetry*, 3:52–54.

To pity those that went astray,
And could not find the perfect way,
Or know so much as I.

5.¹¹ Gainst every Sect I fiercely fought,
Unless with me they spake and thought,¹²
Myself infallible
I scrupled not the Sons of Rome
As Satan's synagogue to doom
And send them all to hell.

6. The day of feeble¹³ things, the Wise
To fear their Lord, I dared despise,
The servants of my God
With Satan's desperate slaves I join'd,
As those who could no blessing find
Before they felt thy blood.

7. Their virtues, alms, accepted prayers,
Their well-meant deeds, and pious cares,
As splendid¹⁴ sins I deem'd,
As filth their partial righteousness
The work of thy initial grace
I impiously blasphem'd.

8. My strong partition-walls within,
I mock'd, as Advocates for sin
Who saw not with my eyes,

¹¹Ori., "4."

¹²Ori., "fought."

¹³"Feeble" has "smallish" written above it as an alternative.

¹⁴Ori., "spendid"; an error.

As all but who my plan allow'd,
Were, with the unbelieving croud,
Shut out of paradise.

9. But O, the depth of pardning love!
Thou dost the middle walls remove
Detect the Serpent's art,
Dost end the dark, Satanic hour,
And by th' Uniting Spirits power
Inlarge my wondring heart.
10. Inlighten'd by thy grace I see
The different Sects in one agree
Essentially the same,
Who love, or long to love, their Lord,
And hope, believing in thy word,
Salvation thro' thy Name.
11. The men, whoever hold the Head,
And woud be by thy Spirit led,
And freely saved by grace,
To their own forms, and modes I leave
But them with open arms receive,
And cordially embrace.

12. With Those that do thy Father's will
A closer fellowship I feel
Than nature's dearest tie,
Whom neither¹⁵ life nor death can part
I have, I have them in my heart
With Them to live, and die.

¹⁵Ori., "never."

V.
For the Preachers.¹⁶

- [1.] O Thou, who didst out of the dust
 An abject beggar raise,
And to so poor a creature trust
 The gospel of thy grace;
I own with grief, and guilty shame,
 I have betray'd thy cause,
"And stole the honors of thy name
 ^[“To build my own applause.”]
2. Thy work alas, too often I
 Deceitfully have done,
My own desires to gratify¹⁷
 And not thy will alone:
I hid my heart, and woud not know
 Its secret vanity,
And while I spake, my gifts to show
 I preach'd myself not Thee.
3. But the effects I cannot hide
 Of my unfaithfulness,
My peace is forfeited by pride
 And eager thirst of praise:

¹⁶MARC, MA 1977/583/11. Also appears in MS Preachers 1786, 5–6. Published posthumously in *Unpublished Poetry*, 3:46–47. Title ori., “~~The Second Hymn~~ For the Preachers.”

¹⁷Ori., “satisfy.”

Shaken my hill that stood so fast,¹⁸
And never could remove,
The salt has lost its savoury taste,
And I my former love.

4. What can I do but humbly call
Upon the sinner's Friend
Whose mercies rich are over all
Whose mercies never end?
Enter not into judgment, Lord,
In deep distress I pray,
Nor take out of my mouth thy word,
Nor cast me quite away.

5. O be not rigorously extreme
(While at thy feet I lie,)
A sinner¹⁹ who myself condemn
But freely justify:
Yet if Thou wilt not save, before
Thou dost my soul dismiss,
My faith at the last hour restore
And let me die in peace.

¹⁸Ori., "strong."

¹⁹Ori., "To judge me" changed to "A sinner."

VI.
[For the] Preacher's.²⁰

- [1.] Great God, who never dost pass by,
Or sin in thy own people spare
Regard our penitential cry,
And let thy Spirit swell the prayer:
If tempted by the subtle sin,
We all²¹ to pride have given place,
If every soul hath tainted been
Bow every soul by humbling grace.
2. The godly jealousy inspire,
The deep, divine humility,
That every preacher may inquire
Stopt is thy work? and stopt by me?
Have I and my companion dear
With unperceiv'd presumption vain,
Usurp'd the sacred character
Or sought the praise that comes from Men?
3. Surely at first our hearts were right,
When strangely call'd to preach thy word
Little and mean in our own sight
We only lived to please our Lord:
Forth without scrip or purse we went
And Israel's wandring sheep pursued,
With food and raiment well²² content,
With raiment coarse and scanty food.

²⁰MARC, MA 1977/583/11. Also appears in MS Preachers 1786, 1–4. Published posthumously in *Unpublished Poetry*, 3:43–45.

²¹Ori., “are.”

²²Ori., “then.”

4. Simple we then remain'd, and poor,
But safe in our simplicity
Unknown,²³ illiterate, and obscure
And ignorant of all but Thee
We never join'd the slaves of fame
In search of pleasure, wealth, or power
Jesus was all our hope and aim
Possess of Thee we ask'd no more.
5. But now²⁴ the love of earthly things
Hath imperceptibly stole in,
And pride, whereof contention springs
Revives, our old besetting sin:
Fulness of bread, (not sloth & ease)
Hath us for more delights prepar'd:
And unforeseen temptations seize,
While jealous fear is off its guard.
- 6.²⁵ Gentility we now affect,
Fond to adorn the outward man,
Nice in our dress, we court respect,
And female observation gain
As men of elegance and taste
We slight, and overlook the poor,
But in the Rich with cringing haste
Contend to make our Interest sure.
7. With indiscriminating zeal
To brand our Rivals we presume
We who so much in gifts excel
Those Priests of Babylonish Rome,²⁶
We vent our insolent disdain,
As blind Idolators condemn,²⁷
"They stand in need of us, tis plain,
"We scorn to stand in need of Them."

²³"Unknown" has "Nameless" written in the right margin as an alternative, but then struck out. "Vulgar" is suggested as an alternative in the left margin, in shorthand.

²⁴Ori., "ah!"

²⁵Stanza 6 is drafted at the bottom of the page in shorthand, with a marker to insert here. This shorthand is struck through, because Wesley subsequently wrote out a slightly revised version of this and an additional stanza in longhand on (unnumbered) page 15b, designating them as stanzas 6 and 7. For continuity, we have inserted the two longhand stanzas here, renumbered the stanzas that follow, and shifting the renumbered stanza 8 to the next page.

²⁶Ori., "~~And preach, without a call from Rome.~~" The alternative text given above is supplied by Wesley in the margin, in shorthand.

²⁷Ori., "~~Who to ourselves as pillars seem.~~" The alternative text is given above is supplied by Wesley in the margin, in shorthand—then written in the hand of his daughter at the bottom of the page.

- [8.] Proud of our numbers and success,
 We are the men (we boldly cry)
We are the men—of gifts and grace!
 Wisdom and faith with us shall die!
To greater things we now aspire,
 And studious of our own renown,
Deny, but secretly desire,
 The honors of the envied *Gown*!
- [9.] Ambition in our bosom strives,
 Inflam'd²⁸ by the historic page,
Our portraits and illustrious lives
 Delivering²⁹ down from age to age:
But while our hopes the land devour,
 And each anticipates his lot,
Thou wilt or'eturn our lofty Tower,
 And make us know—Thou needst us not!
- [10.] Those hireling Priests whom we despise,
 Thou canst by miracle convert,
Render them Stewards good and wise,
 And pastors after thy own heart.
A multitude *shall* feel thy word,
 And to the faith obedient prove,
And witnessing their dying Lord
 Experience, and proclaim thy love.
- [11.] We then our righteous doom shall meet
 As useless vessels cast aside,³⁰
Trodden under foot, for nothing fit,³¹
 Broken by sin, and marr'd by pride:
Becoming last we then shall see,
 Thy kingdom, Lord, to Others given,
Worthy to be shut³² out by Thee,
 Tho' once our Names were wrote in heaven.

²⁸Ori., "Cherish'd."

²⁹Ori., "Delivered."

³⁰Wesley originally had stanza 11, lines 1 and 2 reversed, but numbered them in the margin to follow the order shown above.

³¹Ori., "meet."

³²Ori., "cast."

VII.³³

- [1.] O Thou, who dost vouchsafe to chuse
The feeble to confound the strong,
And fit, as vessels for thy use
The least, and meanest of the throng,
That none may rob thee of thy right,
Or glory in Jehovah's sight;
2. Me Thou hast sent, a thing of nought,
Thy truth and mercy to proclaim,
To tell the world, so dearly bought,
Of sure Salvation thro' thy Name,
To wonder at thy Sovereign Will
Which blesses, and employs me still.
3. Or'whelm'd with gratitude and fear,³⁴
I thy mysterious counsels own,
Meanest in my own eyes appear,
And give the praise to God alone,
And prostrate in the dust confess
My own extreme unworthiness.
4. Master, thy greatness wants not me
Thy cause and kingdom to maintain,

³³MARC, MA 1977/583/32, item #9. Also appears in MS Preachers 1786, 7–8. Published posthumously in *Unpublished Poetry*, 3:47–48.

³⁴Ori., "love."

Who dost in glorious majesty
At God's right-hand for ever reign,
Who out of stones canst children raise,
And preachers of thy pardning grace.

5. Thou art not to one Sect confin'd,
Tho' every Sect woud have it so:
Blows as he lists the Spirit's Wind,
And ceases, as He lists, to blow:
The Pledge, the Witness, and the Seal
He calls, and sends by whom He will.
6. If swell'd with self-important pride
I seek to build my own renown,
Canst Thou not set me quite aside,
A sacrilegious worm cast down,
Revoke my ministerial grace
And justly drive me from thy face?
7. Thou canst, Thou wilt abase the proud,
Reduc'd to their own nothingness,
Confound before the listning croud,
Their testimony *vain* suppress,
Withdraw their gifts, and *boasted* power
And trust them with thy word no more.
- 8.³⁵ But if I always humbly fear,
Nor in myself but Thee confide,
Indued with strength to persevere
Thou wilt thy trembling Servant guide,
And keep me, who on Thee depend
Faithful, and useful to the end.

³⁵This stanza appears on the facing (unnumbered) page 17b.

II.³⁷

- [1.] But O, my God, shall all be lost,
 And the proud Foe his victory boast
 O're every messenger?
 Surely Thou hast a remnant still
 Of Servants who their weakness feel,
 And always humbly fear.
2. The depths of hell they have not known
 They do not vaunt, or seek their own,
 Or lose their poverty;
 The Salt its savour doth retain,
 Nor honor they desire, nor gain,
 Nor any good but Thee.
3. They woud not take the Tempter's part;
 Thou hearst the language of their heart
 When boded ill is nigh;
 The best suspects himself the worst,
 "Shall I forsake my calling? first
 "Shall I my Lord deny?"³⁸
4. A difference in their favor make
 And now into thy bosom take
 The simple and sincere:
 Tell them, they shall not die, but live,
 And to each trembling Servant give
 The grace to persevere.
5. The chaff shall fly, Thou sayst it shall,
 But not one grain of wheat shall fall
 In the wide-scattering day,

³⁶Pages 18–19 are missing from the packet. They almost certainly contained the hymn titled "The People's Prayer for the Methodist Preachers" in MS Preachers 1786, 17–19.

³⁷MARC, MA 1977/583/32, item #9. Appears also in MS Preachers 1786, 19–22. Published posthumously in *Unpublished Poetry*, 3:56–57.

³⁸Ori., "betray."

Thou shalt their work and partners show
To men who woud thy counsel know
And all thy will obey.

6. The weak, the simple, and the poor
Within thy mercy's arms secure
With confidence we leave:
But O, the strong, the rich, the wise,
(While their last spark of goodness dies)
Revisit, and forgive.
7. Help us for them in faith to pray,
Blind guides who have mistook their way
And wandred far from thine:
To them again their calling show,
Rais'd up, to carry on below
Thy mercy's³⁹ chief Design.
8. To the lost Sheep of England's fold
First be the joyful tidings told,
(Thus their⁴⁰ Commission ran)
Then every Sect and party press
To know the power of godliness,
And every child of man.
9. When fixt⁴¹ their calling to pursue
Do Thou the⁴² preacher's strength renew
With double grace inspire
Their work with tenfold blessings crown
To turn the kingdoms upside down
And set the world on fire.

³⁹Ori., "~~grand and~~" changed to "mercy's."

⁴⁰Ori., "~~our~~."

⁴¹Ori., "~~Confirm~~" changed to "When fixt."

⁴²Ori., "~~And every~~" changed to "Do Thou the."

10. Then let the spreading fire⁴³ of love
By Thee rekindled from above
In every bosom burn,
Till⁴⁴ those that hear, or preach thy word,
See in the clouds their flaming Lord,
And all to heaven return.⁴⁵

⁴³Ori., "flame."

⁴⁴Ori., "White."

⁴⁵There is an initial draft of stanza 10 in shorthand, at the bottom of the page. The most significant variant in this initial version is in line 5, which appears to read "United to their common Lord."

**The Call of the First
Sound Methodist Preachers.**⁴⁶

- [1.] Who would to Christ devoted live,*
 Branded by an opprobrious Name,
The scandal calmly we receive
 Th'impos'd Appellative disclaim:
The world may either curse, or bless,⁴⁷
Names cannot make us more or less.⁴⁸
2. Not the wild Authors of a Sect,
 Not Ringleaders, ourselves we call,
But Messengers of God elect,
 Raised up for preaching Christ to all,
To Christians not in heart but name,
With heathens in the lives the same.
3. Not as distinguish'd from the rest
 In a new Party's bounds confin'd
But sent we run, in spirit prest
 To do the work by God design'd,
Primeval piety revive,
And *show* how *real* Christians live.

* Godly in Christ resolv'd to live,⁴⁹

⁴⁶MARC, DDWes 1/46. Appears also in MS Preachers 1786, 24–26. Published posthumously in *Unpublished Poetry*, 3:59–60.

⁴⁷Ori., “~~bless or curse.~~”

⁴⁸Ori., “Names cannot ~~mind, or make us worse~~” changed to “Names cannot make us more or less.”

⁴⁹This is a suggested substitute for the first line of stanza 1.

4. Born and bred up within the Pale
Of England's Church, to her we owe
Our first regard; and cannot fail
Our filial gratitude to show,
And gladly in her service join
Affection natural and divine.
5. We for our dearest Country feel
A warmth which words cannot express,
An inextinguishable zeal
Which worldly men in vain profess;
Nor can we from our Church remove
Whom more than life we prize and love.
6. By civil and religious ties
United to our brethren here,
Them we respect who us despise,
Who neither God nor man revere,
But in the deadly darkness dwell
And riot on the verge of hell.
7. While⁵⁰ plung'd in wickedness and vice
Our wretched Countrymen we see,
We see them with the Saviour's eyes,
We feel his yearning sympathy,

⁵⁰Ori., "When."

Who wept the bloody City's doom.
Sad Prophet of their woes to come

8. We put his tender bowels on
Who did his murderers redeem,
Our lives made willing to lay down,
To spend, and to be spent for Them
Our brethren, countrymen;—and friends
When hatred in conversion ends.

II.⁵¹

- [1.] But chiefly Those in Moses' seat⁵²
The Sons of Levi, we revere,
To all their just commands submit
Honor their sacred Character
Their heavenly Office magnify
Servants and Priests of the Most-high.
2. Their Apostolic claim we own,
Their Right by Providence divine
From age to age deliver'd down
The Covenants of God to sign,
Watchmen of Israel's house confest,
To guard and govern all the rest.
3. Of these if some their charge betray,
And careless, or ungodly live,
Must they not answer in that day
When call'd a strict account to give?
And should they not our pity move,
Demand our prayers, and tenderest love?

⁵¹MARC, DDWes 1/46. Appears also in MS Preachers 1786, 26–28. Published posthumously in *Unpublished Poetry*, 3:61–62.

⁵²Ori., “~~chair~~.”

- [4.]⁵³ Whoe'er the fiery spirit feel,
Or good and bad alike decry,⁵⁴
We dare not rail with bitter zeal,
Or the whole Order vilify,
Or e'er expose a father's shame,
And share the curse of impious Ham.
- [5.] The men who as Gamaliel wise,
Stand still our *whole* design to see
Let them our actions scrutinize,
Till conquering their neutrality
Over their doubts our lives prevail
And truth weighs down the hovering scale.
- [6.] If fiercely some the truth deny,
Shall we, incens'd, our patience lose,
Or with invectives keen reply,
Angry contempt, and foul abuse?
The wrath of man let God suppress;
It worketh not his righteousness.
- [7.] Humble, dispassionate, and meek,
As sheep before the shearers dumb,
Learn we to turn the other cheek
Till evil we with Good ore'come
Their furious enmity remove,
And turn their hatred into love.
- [8.] But those that labour in the word
Worthy we count of double praise,
As abler servants of their Lord,
Distinguish'd Ministers of grace
Their faithful lives the mean Allies
We trace their footsteps to the skies.
- [9.] O might we gain that heavenly Rest
Meanest of all the Prophet's Sons,
Behold our Guides supremely blest,
Exalted to superior thrones,
With joy our elder brethren meet,
And shout triumphant⁵⁵ at their feet!

⁵³Ori., "3"; so this and the next five stanzas have been corrected to 4–9.

⁵⁴Sally Wesley Jr. placed a † here and wrote at the bottom of the page an alternative line, likely at her father's request: "Or call for vengeance from the sky."

⁵⁵"Triumphant" has "forever" written as an alternative.

III.⁵⁶

- [1.] Head of thy Church, attend our cry
 For those Thou hast redeem'd of old,
 Regard with a propitious eye
 The lambs and sheep of Englands fold,
 For whom unceasingly we pray
 And glad thy dear command obey.
2. Thy promise to the Church at large
 For Our Particular we plead:
 O make her thy peculiar Charge,
 Her children satisfy with bread,
 Bless with a thousand fold increase
 And fill them with eternal peace.
3. Thou hast in our degenerate years
 Reviv'd thine ancient work of grace,
 A Cloud of Witnesses appears
 Who know thy name, and spread thy praise
 Redeem'd, and of thy Spirit born
 With songs to Sion they return.
4. Thou hast ten thousand tokens given
 That Englands Church is still thy Care,
 The Holy Ghost sent down from heaven
 Thy truth and mercy doth declare,
 Thine everlasting gospel seals
 And pardon in our hearts reveals.

⁵⁶MARC, MA 1977/583/32, item #9. Appears also in MS Preachers 1786, 28–30. Published posthumously in *Unpublished Poetry*, 3:62–63.

5. While Thee remembering in thy ways
 Thou dost thy favour'd people meet,
In all the channels of thy grace
 We hold with Thee communion sweet,
The Cloud on our Assemblies rests,
And glory swells our ravish'd breasts.

6. Thee present in thy house⁵⁷ we find
 Thee present at thy table know,
And while we call thy death to mind
 Thyself Thou to our hearts dost show,
And nourish'd with immortal food,
We eat thy flesh and drink thy blood.

7. Then let us still delight to wait⁵⁸
 Where our dear Lord is pleas'd t' appear
Bethel is the Celestial gate
 And faithful Souls perceive Thee here:
And all who here with Thee remain
The Crown of endless life shall gain.⁵⁹

⁵⁷“House” has “Courts” written above it as an alternative.

⁵⁸Ori., “~~Here~~ Then let us ~~here~~ delight to wait” changed to “Then let us still delight to wait.”

⁵⁹Some shorthand material, partly crossed through, occurs at the bottom of the page. this seems to represent incomplete drafting of at least two lines which Wesley did not decide to include in the main body text. There are some similar draft notes appear at the bottom of page 28.

II.⁶⁰

- [1.] Why shoud we now⁶¹ a Church forsake
 Which Thou, our Lord, hast not forsook,
 Which Thou thy residence⁶² dost make,
 And hast into thy bosom took:
 And kept by the good Shepherd's care,
 The lambs and sheep are happy there!
2. To silent streams his flock he leads⁶³
 And while on Him our souls recline
 In pastures green our souls he feeds⁶⁴
 With angels⁶⁵ bread of life divine
 With hidden manna from above
 The joy of hope, the heaven of love.
3. Our souls in holiness restor'd
 He marks with his new name unknown
 Found in the image of our Lord
 From faith to faith he leads us on
 In pleasant paths of perfect peace
 And everlasting righteousness.
4. While walking thro' the mortal Vale
 We cannot fear with Christ our Guide
 No evil shall⁶⁶ our souls assail
 While Jordan's stricken waves divide,
 And stay'd by thine Almighty hand
 With shouts we gain the heavenly land.
5. Till then, Thou dost a table spread
 For us, in presence of our foes
 With sacred oyl anoint our head,
 And fill'd by Thee our cup o'reflows,
 Our days are all with mercy crown'd,
 Our lives with Thee⁶⁷ for ever found.

⁶⁰MARC, MA 1977/583/32, item #9. Appears also in MS Preachers 1786, 30–31. Published posthumously in *Unpublished Poetry*, 3:64–65.

⁶¹Ori., “then.”

⁶²“Sanctuary” is written in the margin, most likely as an alternative to “residence.”

⁶³Ori., “~~Us to the~~ silent streams he leads” changed to “To silent streams his flock he leads.”

⁶⁴Ori., “In pastures green ~~our souls he~~ feeds.” Next changed to “In pastures green ~~he kindly~~ feeds,” and finally changed back to his original.

⁶⁵Ori., “~~Our souls with.~~” Next changed to “With ~~heavenly,~~” and finally changed to “With angels.” Wesley has also written “His flock” in shorthand in the left margin, though it is unclear how he intended this to be used.

⁶⁶Ori., “ever.”

⁶⁷“Thee” has “God” written below it as an alternative.

6. Here then, while sojourning below,
 We in thy house resolve to dwell,
And to that heavenly Sion go
 Eternal extacies to feel:
And all who here their Mother love
Shall join with us the Church above.

III.⁶⁸

“O Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: They shall prosper that love her, &c.”—Ps. 122:6ff.⁶⁹

- [1.] Jesus, our true and faithful Lord
 Sole Author of assur'd Success,
Thou knowst if we can trust thy word
 The lovers of thy Church to bless
Thy promise of Prosperity
Thou knowst if it belongs to me.
2. To us commission'd in thy Name
 To preach glad tidings to the poor?
May we not confidently claim
 The word to pious children sure,
Who dutiful affection show
The Church to which their birth they owe?
3. All-wise, omniscient as Thou art
 Thou dost our secret passions see,
The drop which now o'reflows my heart
 The tenderness of piety
From the pure heavenly fountain flow'd
The grace Thou hast Thyself bestow'd.
4. Thy word Thou hast to us fulfill'd
 Least of our Church's duteous Sons
Our ministerial labours seal'd
 On multitudes of quicken'd Stones,
Hast prosper'd the⁷⁰ weak things of nought
Above whate'er we ask'd or thought.

⁶⁸MARC, MA 1977/583/32, item #9. Appears also in MS Preachers 1786, 32–33. Published posthumously in *Unpublished Poetry*, 3:65–66.

⁶⁹The text of the verse, but not the reference, is inserted in shorthand.

⁷⁰“Us” is written in the margin, most likely as an alternative to “the.”

5. But bless us, Lord, and prosper still
Who in the good old ship abide,
Nor fear who can the body kill
With God, and m[artyrs] on our side⁷¹
Who⁷² still our fervent love declare
In all the fervency of prayer.
6. Peace be within her walls and grace
Plenty be in her temples found,
Let all the fruits of righteousness
In our Jerusalem abound,
That faith may from the least proceed
And knowledge to the greatest spread.
- 7.⁷³ For other Sects and Churches sake
We seek to do our Sion good,
That They her blessings may partake,
Plenteous redemption in thy⁷⁴ blood,
That the pure life her children find
May reach, and quicken all mankind.

⁷¹Wesley drafted the first four lines of this stanza in shorthand (shown above). He then wrote a longhand version of lines 3–6, but struck out lines 3–4 of this expansion:

~~Abide, according to thy will
God, and the martyrs on our side.~~

⁷²Ori., “And.”

⁷³Ori., “6”; an error.

⁷⁴Ori., “his.”