

**DIVINE AND MORAL
SONGS FOR THE
USE OF CHILDREN**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649442164

Divine and Moral Songs for the Use of Children by Isaac Watts

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

ISAAC WATTS

**DIVINE AND MORAL
SONGS FOR THE
USE OF CHILDREN**

DIVINE AND MORAL
SONGS
FOR
THE USE OF CHILDREN.

BY
ISAAC WATTS, D.D.

WITH THIRTY ILLUSTRATIONS
DRAWN ON THE WOOD BY C. W. COPE, A.R.A.,
AND
ENGRAVED BY JOHN THOMPSON.



LONDON:
JOHN VAN VOORST, PATERNOSTER ROW.
MDCCLXVIII.

PREFACE.

TO ALL THAT ARE CONCERNED IN THE EDUCATION OF
CHILDREN.

MY FRIENDS,

It is an awful and important charge that is committed to you. The wisdom and welfare of the succeeding generation are intrusted with you beforehand, and depend much on your conduct. The seeds of misery or happiness in this world, and that to come, are oftentimes sown very early; and, therefore, whatever may conduce to give the minds of children a relish for virtue and religion ought, in the first place, to be proposed to you.

Verse was at first designed for the service of God, though it hath been wretchedly abused since. The ancients among the Jews and the Heathens taught their children and disciples the precepts of morality and worship in verse. The children of Israel were commanded to learn the words of the song of Moses,

Deut. xxxi. 19, 30; and we are directed in the New Testament, not only to sing "with grace in the heart," but to "teach and admonish one another by hymns and songs," Ephes. v. 19. And there are these four advantages in it:

1. There is a great delight in the very learning of truths and duties this way. There is something so amusing and entertaining in rhymes and metre that will incline children to make this part of their business a diversion. And you may turn their very duty into a reward, by giving them the privilege of learning one of these songs every week, if they fulfil the business of the week well, and promising them the book itself, when they have learned ten or twenty songs out of it.

2. What is learned in verse is longer retained in memory, and sooner recollected. The like sounds and the like number of syllables exceedingly assist the remembrance. And it may often happen that the end of a song, running in the mind, may be an effectual means to keep off some temptations, or to incline to some duty, when a word of scripture is not upon their thoughts.

3. This will be a constant furniture for the minds of children, that they may have something to think upon when alone, and sing over to themselves. This may sometimes give their thoughts a divine turn, and raise a young meditation. Thus they will not be forced to seek relief for an emptiness of mind out of the loose and dangerous sonnets of the age.

4. These Divine Songs may be a pleasant and proper matter for their daily or weekly worship, to sing one in the family at such time as the parents or governors shall appoint; and therefore I have confined the verse to the most usual psalm tunes.

The greatest part of this little book was composed several years ago, at the request of a friend who has been long engaged in the work of catechising a very great number of children of all kinds, and with abundant skill and success. So that you will find here nothing that savours of a party: the children of high and low degree, of the Church of England or Dissenters, baptized in infancy or not, may all join together in these songs. And as I have endeavoured to sink the language to the level of a child's understanding, and yet to keep it, if possible,

above contempt, so I have designed to profit all, if possible, and offend none. I hope the more general the sense is, these composures may be of the more universal use and service.

I have added at the end some attempts of sonnets on moral subjects, for children, with an air of pleasantry, to provoke some fitter pen to write a little book of them.

May the Almighty God make you faithful in this important work of education: may he succeed your cares with his abundant grace; that the rising generation of Great Britain may be a glory among the nations, a pattern to the Christian world, and a blessing to the earth!

I. W.

CONTENTS.

DIVINE SONGS.

SONG	PAGE
I. A GENERAL SONG OF PRAISE TO GOD	3
II. PRAISE FOR CREATION AND PROVIDENCE	6
III. PRAISE TO GOD FOR OUR REDEMPTION	8
IV. PRAISE FOR MERCIES, SPIRITUAL AND TEMPORAL	11
V. PRAISE FOR BIRTH AND EDUCATION IN A CHRISTIAN LAND	14
VI. PRAISE FOR THE GOSPEL	16
VII. THE EXCELLENCY OF THE BIBLE	18
VIII. PRAISE TO GOD FOR LEARNING TO READ	20
IX. THE ALL-SEEING GOD	23
X. SOLEMN THOUGHTS ON GOD AND DEATH	25
XI. HEAVEN AND HELL	27
XII. THE ADVANTAGES OF EARLY RELIGION	29
XIII. THE DANGER OF DELAY	31
XIV. EXAMPLES OF EARLY PIETY	33
XV. AGAINST LYING	36
XVI. AGAINST QUARRELLING AND FIGHTING	39
XVII. LOVE BETWEEN BROTHERS AND SISTERS	41
XVIII. AGAINST SCOFFING AND CALLING NAMES	44
XIX. AGAINST CURSING, SWEARING, AND TAKING GOD'S NAME IN VAIN	47
XX. AGAINST IDLENESS AND MISCHIEF	49
XXI. AGAINST EVIL COMPANY	51

SONG	PAGE
XXII. AGAINST PRIDE IN CLOTHES	53
XXIII. OBEDIENCE TO PARENTS	54
XXIV. THE CHILD'S COMPLAINT	58
XXV. A MORNING SONG	60
XXVI. AN EVENING SONG	62
XXVII. FOR THE LORD'S-DAY MORNING	64
XXVIII. FOR THE LORD'S-DAY EVENING	66
THE TEN COMMANDMENTS	68
THE SUM OF THE COMMANDMENTS	68
OUR SAVIOUR'S GOLDEN RULE	69
DUTY TO GOD AND OUR NEIGHBOUR	69
THE HOSANNA: OR SALVATION ASCRIBED TO CHRIST	70
GLORY TO THE FATHER, AND TO THE SON, ETC.	72

MORAL SONGS.

I. THE SLUGGARD	77
II. INNOCENT PLAY	79
III. THE ROSE	80
IV. THE THIEF	81
V. THE ANT, OR EMMET	83
VI. GOOD RESOLUTIONS	86
VII. SUMMER'S EVENING	93
VIII. CRADLE HYMN	88