

I Asked the Lord That I Might Grow

1. I asked the Lord that I might grow In faith and love and ev - 'ry grace;
2. 'Twas He who taught me thus to pray, And He, I trust, has answered pray'r,
3. *I hoped that in some fa - vored hour He'd quick - ly an - swer my re - quest,*
4. In - stead of this He made me feel The hid - den e - vils of my heart,
5. *Yet more, with His own hand He seemed In - tent to ag - gra - vate my woe,*
6. "Lord, why is this?" I, trembling, cried; "Wilt Thou pur - sue this worm to death?"
7. "These in - ward tri - als I em - ploy From self and pride to set thee free,

8
Might more of His sal - va - tion know, And seek more ear - nest - ly His face.
But it has been in such a way As al - most drove me to de - spair.
And by His love's con - strain - ing pow'r Sub - due my sins and give me rest.
And let the an - gry pow'rs of hell As - sault my soul in ev - 'ry part.
Crossed all the fair de - signs I schemed, Hum - bled my soul, and laid me low.
" 'Tis in this way," the Lord re - plied, "I an - swer pray'r for grace and faith.
And break thy schemes of earth - ly joy That thou might seek thy all in Me."

Music: John Church, 1722
Text: John Newton (1725-1807)

COMMANDMENTS (Church)
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