

Zinzendorf's "I Believe. . . ."

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Translation by C. Daniel Crews, September 2005

I believe that my Savior, my King, bears His name with honor and glory.

I believe His eternal divinity.

I believe His real humanity.

I believe that I am one of His household.

I believe that I was lost. I have known my sentence of death. But I believe most certainly that I have been ransomed and absolved.

I believe that I am the just reward of all His labor, of all His pains and sweat.

I believe that He has won and gained me by His own sword and bow.

I believe that I am no longer compelled to sin.

I believe that I will not die.

I believe that I have mastery over the Devil.

I believe that I am redeemed not through word or work, or miracle or arbitrary decree of God, or through a new creation or through any other means than through the punishment of death which the Son of God suffered for me. I believe that I now belong to no one but to Him who has earned me.

I believe that He has the Kingdom over all.

I believe that I live under Him, where I am under His protection, under His peace, under His rule.

I am certain that I have the unalterable right, which all my fellow citizens have, to be as unchangeably holy as they, and that I am as constantly happy as they all are.

But I also believe that I am nothing without Him, and that I live only because He lives. As long as He lives, I will live also.

And I know all this as certainly as I know that my head is on my shoulders.