

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

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Isaac Watts, 1707; alt.

Gal. 6:14; Phil. 3:7-8

1 When I sur - vey the won - drous cross,
 2 For - bid it, then, that I should boast,
 3 From sa - cred head, from hands, and feet,
 4 Were the whole realm of na - ture mine,

on which the Christ of glo - ry died,
 save in the death of Christ, my God;
 sor - row and love flow min - gled down!
 that were a pres - ent far too small;

My rich - est gain I count but loss,
 All the vain things that charm me most
 Did e'er such love and sor - row meet,
 Love so a - maz - ing, so di - vine,

and pour con - tempt on all my pride.
 I sac - ri - fice them to Christ's blood.
 or thorns com - pose so rich a crown?
 de - mands my soul, my life, my all.

Originally titled "Crucifixion to the World by the Cross of Christ," this hymn has been acclaimed as one of the finest in the English language. Isaac Watts' hymnody grew out of his dissatisfaction with the restraints of the metrical psalters.

Tune: HAMBURG L.M.
 Lowell Mason, 1825