

Scripture and the Church

'His Robes For Mine'

By Dr. Paul M. Elliott

A recent hymn, *His Robes For Mine*, emphatically proclaims two great but neglected Bible doctrines.

I often lament the lack of new Bible-based, doctrinally-sound hymns in the present day, but am blessed by the occasional shining exception. I want to commend one to you that is particularly significant, I believe, because it emphatically proclaims the truth of two great but neglected doctrines on which Satan is sowing many seeds of confusion in the church today. The first is justification by grace alone, through faith alone, in Christ alone; the second is the doctrine of double imputation, the great exchange of our sins which were imputed to the innocent Christ at Calvary, and His perfect righteousness which is imputed to the undeserving sinner at conversion.

The hymn is titled *His Robes For Mine*. The words were written by a pastor from Ohio, and the music composed by another pastor who ministers in Indiana. The first time I heard *His Robes For Mine* was in a Sunday morning service at a church in North Carolina a couple of years ago. The congregation sang it right before I preached. My message was the first of five sermons on the types and symbols of Christ's salvation that we find in the Old Testament tabernacle. After singing the moving words of this hymn, so appropriate to the subject at hand, it was not easy for me to go into the pulpit and speak!

I trust that the words, and the great truths they proclaim, will be a blessing and encouragement to you. Also embedded below is a video of this hymn being sung in a Bible conference at Bob Jones University, which is the *alma mater* of both hymn writers, and a link to printable sheet music in Adobe format.

For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him. (2 Corinthians 5:21)

His Robes for Mine

Words: Chris Anderson Music: Greg Habegger

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*His robes for mine: O wonderful exchange!
Clothed in my sin, Christ suffered 'neath God's rage.
Draped in His righteousness, I'm justified.
In Christ I live, for in my place He died.*

Chorus:

*I cling to Christ, and marvel at the cost:
Jesus forsaken, God estranged from God.
Bought by such love, my life is not my own.
My praise - my all - shall be for Christ alone.*

*His robes for mine: what cause have I for dread?
God's daunting Law Christ mastered in my stead.
Faultless I stand with righteous works not mine,
Saved by my Lord's vicarious death and life.*

*His robes for mine: God's justice is appeased.
Jesus is crushed, and thus the Father's pleased.
Christ drank God's wrath on sin, then cried "'Tis done!"
Sin's wage is paid; propitiation won.*

*His robes for mine: such anguish none can know.
Christ, God's beloved, condemned as though His foe.
He, as though I, accursed and left alone;
I, as though He, embraced and welcomed home!*

Video Link: http://www.youtube.com/embed/zSxqn_oSQow

Sheet music: http://g.virbcdn.com/_f2/files/68/FileItem-276637-hisrobesformine.pdf

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