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## “ARE YE ABLE?” SAID THE MASTER

Earl Marlatt, 1892-1976

“Can you drink the cup I am going to drink?” (Matthew 20:22)

**A Christian is a person who, when getting to the end of his/her rope, ties a knot and determines to hang on, realizing that human extremity now becomes God’s opportunity.**  
`Unknown

**The mission for each Christian is to proclaim and live the good news of the gospel and to urge individuals everywhere to be converted – to experience a personal reconciliation and relationship with God. This persuasion must always be done with openness and honesty. In our desire to have people make a decision for Christ, we must always be forthright with them. We cannot conceal the cost of discipleship involved in receiving God’s provision of salvation. And we must tell them of the importance of giving Jesus Christ His rightful place in every area of life and of becoming an active member of the believing community.**

**Earl Marlatt, a professor of religion at Boston University and later at Southern Methodist University, wrote this text in 1925 for a consecration service at the Boston University School of Religious Education. It was based on Christ’s pointed question to His disciples in Matthew 20:22: “Can you drink the cup I am going to drink?” “We can,” they answered. The hymn was originally titled “Challenge.” And still today, as generations past, “heroic spirits answer, ‘Lord, we are able.’”**

- ♪ **“Are ye able,” said the Master, “to be crucified with Me?” “Yea,” the sturdy dreamers answered, “To the death we follow Thee.”**
- ♪ **“Are ye able” to remember, when a thief lifts up his eyes, that his pardoned soul is worthy of a place in paradise?**
- ♪ **“Are ye able?” still the Master whispers down eternity, and heroic spirits answer now as then in Galilee.**
- ♪ **Chorus: “Lord, we are able”-our spirits are Thine, remold them – make us like Thee, divine: Thy guiding radiance above us shall be a beacon to God, to love and loyalty.**

~Amazing Grace – 366 Devotional Hymn  
by Kenneth W. Osbeck

*“And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.” Matthew 28:18 – 20*

