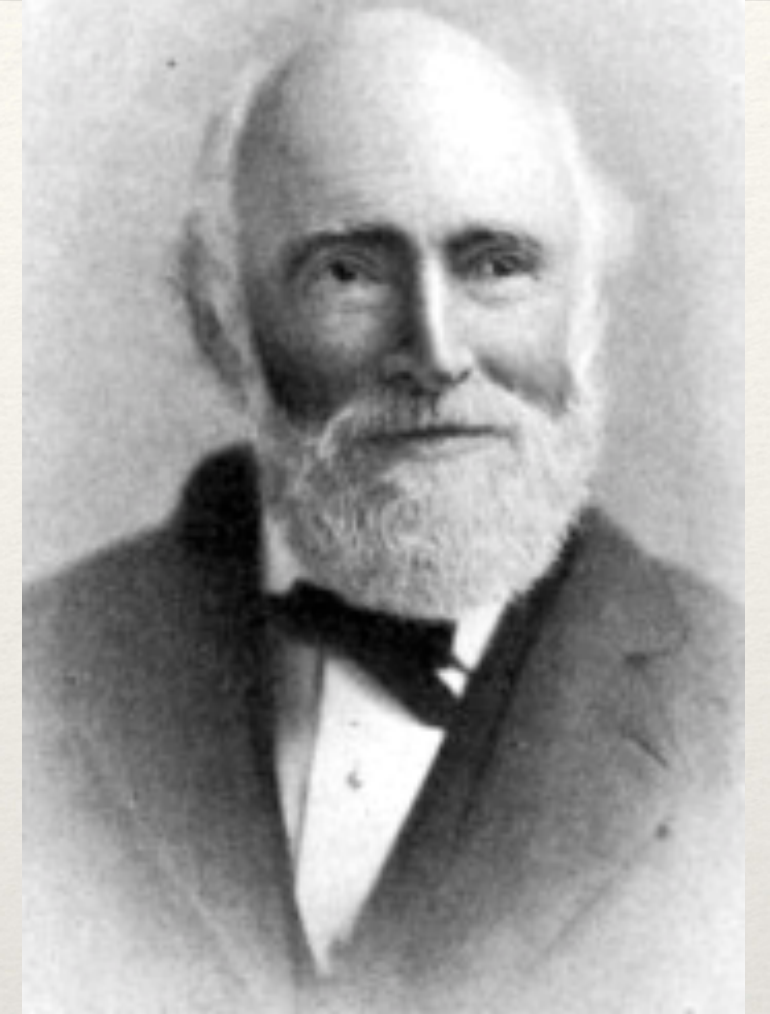


Christmas Carols

O Holy Night

- “O Holy Night” was originally composed in French as “Cantique de Noël.”
- It was translated into English by John Sullivan Dwight.
- It was first performed in 1847.
- “O holy night! The stars are brightly shining. It is the night of the dear Savior's birth. Long lay the world in sin and error pining, Till He appeared and the soul felt its worth.”
- The coming of Christ makes us feel valuable, and makes us feel loved.



O Holy Night

- Perhaps the most quoted verse in the Bible is John 3:16.
- It tells us that Jesus came because “God so loved the world.”
- He came so that our souls would feel their worth to God.
- 1 Peter 1 reminds us that God actually purchased us out of slavery to sin.
- He did this not with something perishable (like gold and silver), but with the precious blood of Christ (1 Peter 1:18-19).

O Holy Night

- “The King of kings lay thus in lowly manger, In all our trials born to be our Friend. He knows our need, to our weakness is no stranger. Behold your King, before Him lowly bend.”
- The King of kings was born as a human infant and placed in a manger.
- Christ was born in a stable and lived a life of poverty.
- He also experienced temptation and persecution. He died a horrible death on the cross abandoned by his friends.
- He can relate to our experiences.

O Holy Night

- “Truly He taught us to love one another; His law is love and His gospel is peace. Chains shall He break, for the slave is our brother, And in His name all oppression shall cease.”
- We no longer have slavery in this country, but many people are still enslaved to various forms of sin and need Jesus as their Savior.
- We as believers are to model the humility that Jesus demonstrated when He stepped out of eternity into time and gave up His rights as God.
- Paul admonishes us to model humility in our walk (Philippians 2:3-4).

Mary Did You Know?

- This is a Christmas song addressing Mary, mother of Jesus.
- The lyrics were written by Mark Lowry in 1984.
- The music was written by Buddy Greene in 1991.
- It was originally recorded by Michael English on his 1991 solo album.
- At the time, English and Lowry were members of the Gaither Vocal Band, and Greene was touring with them.



Mary Did You Know?

- None of the questions are answered in the song.
- The lyrics poetically invite the listener to contemplate the relationship between Mary and her newborn divine son.
- It implies that she may not have understood what would unfold.
- That is possible since Jesus humbled Himself to live as we do (Hebrews 4:15).
- The Bible tells us that Jesus “emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant, and being made in the likeness of men” (Philippians 2:5-7).

Mary Did You Know?

- The first stanza begins with these questions?
 - Mary did you know, that your baby boy will one day walk on water?
 - Mary did you know, that your baby boy will save our sons and daughters?
 - Did you know, that your baby boy has come to make you new?
 - This child that you've delivered, will soon deliver you?

Mary Did You Know?

- The last stanza ends with these questions?
 - Mary did you know, that your baby boy is Lord of all creation?
 - Mary did you know, that your baby boy will one day rule the nations?
 - Did you know, that your baby boy is heaven's perfect Lamb?
 - This sleeping child you're holding, is the Great I Am?