I will sing of my REDEEMER



LINDSAY PARKS

Philip Bliss was born in rural Pennsylvania. His father was a godly man, and Philip remarked that the only book he ever saw his father read was the Bible. He trusted his father's Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ, when he was a young boy.

He was held spellbound when at the age of 10, he first heard a piano. This began a love of music in him that lasted his life. He taught piano and organ after he had learned them, and taught music to students in the evenings after his school-teaching job.

He began to write hymns, and they were some of the best of his day. They were sung in huge tents, auditoriums in evangelistic crusades, and in many churches across America. His hymns had Scriptural simplicity, were faithful to the gospel, and are still sung from many hymnals worldwide. *"Almost Persuaded"* has been sung thousands of times to conclude a gospel meeting. *"Man of Sorrows"* is one of the most touching of hymns, describing the sufferings of the Lord Jesus, as He died in the place of guilty sinners, on the cross at Calvary.

When he was 38, he and his wife boarded a train from Pennsylvania to Chicago, to help the great evangelist D.L. Moody in a gospel crusade. On the 30th of December 1876, as the train was crossing a bridge in Ohio in a terrible snowstorm, the bridge collapsed. The train plunged into a deep ravine and caught fire. Bliss was thrown free, but to his horror, his wife was still on board. He returned to the fiery wreckage to save her, but they both ended up losing their lives.

In his recovered luggage trunk was a song he had just written and had not yet been put to music. To this day, it has become a lasting favourite.

I will sing of my Redeemer,
and His wondrous love to me;
On the cruel cross He suffered, from the curse, to set me free.

I will tell the wondrous story,
how my lost estate to save,
In His boundless love and mercy, He the ransom freely gave.

Where would YOUR precious soul be, if tonight was your last breath? Would you have the assurance that you'd be in Heaven? It IS possible to know for sure. The God against Whom we have all sinned, has provided a way. It is not through religion or good works. But it IS through a cross. THIS is why Jesus died – to be our Redeemer, and to pay back to God the price for our sins. **"For there is one God and one Mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus"** (1 TIMOTHY 2:5 NKJV), **"who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us"** (TITUS 2:14 NKJV). Accept Him today as YOUR Saviour, and you will be assured of Heaven when you die.

Brody Thibodeau
Call or Text 902 206 1453
Email bwthib@gmail.com

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