

O Thou Who Camest From Above: Charles Wesley (1762)¹

Visualisation: Theodirectional 2 devotional (consecrational)

Analysis: It has several archaisms (*thou/camest/thy/thee/till*). I mark down. It ranges from the incarnation to each singer's death, in terms of joyful sacrifice: Christ for us; us to source.

It seeks to express a desire for deeper spirituality, but expresses it badly, even to Jesus. I downgrade for misdirection. Directionally, it is fairly easy to redirect to the father (stanzas 1&3), though others issues exist. IMO, for all Christians the flame of sacred love has been kindled (Rm.5:5): why should we ask to be done, what already has been done? Basic recognition of conversion. Charles was on firmer ground, both in seeking maturing holiness (level 2), and in appreciating its source. I think it likely that we have more than one desire in our hearts, so would word this as a specific *this desire*, rather than as a solitary *my desire*. The expression of thinking for someone else tends nowadays, I think, to connote thinking *instead* of them. I think Charles meant channelling actions through God, perhaps better put now as *through/via*, instead of *for*. *Your gift* is worded like 2 Tm.1:6, which in John Wesley's commentary was taken to mean every *spiritual* gift: some think it means the gift of calling ratified by Paul at Timothy's ordination. Whatever, in the song's context, it should be narrowed to embrace all believers' conversion fire.

Suggestions: Replace *thy/thee*, **by your**, *O thou who camest from above*, **by thanks to the lord**, and *heavenly dove*, *the pure celestial fire to*, **by they did**, *your heavenly fire*, *Kindle a flame*, **by they kindled a flame**, *Upon the mean*, **by on the mean**, *Jesus*, *confirm my*, **by Father**, *confirm this*, *think for*, **by think through**, *still let me guard*, **by and help me guard**, and *still stir up thy gift in me*, **by and to stir up this gift anew**, *your gift*, **by this gift**, *till death thy endless mercies seal*, and *make*, **by until death endless mercies seals**, and *makes*.

BAG	A	B	C	D	E	F	G ^{1,2}	H ^{1,2}	I	J ^{1,2,3}	K	L	M	Total	Grade
	-	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	12	-	-	-	-	80	B

Thanks to the lord, and heavenly dove / they did, your heavenly fire impart / they kindled a flame of sacred love / on the mean altar of my heart. // There let it for your glory burn / with inextinguishable blaze / and trembling to its source return / in humble prayer and fervent praise. // Father, confirm this heart's desire / to work, and speak, and think through you; / and help me guard the holy fire / And to stir up this gift anew. // Ready for all your perfect will / my acts of faith and love repeat / until death endless mercies seals / and makes my sacrifice complete.

¹ www.hymntime.com/tch/htm/t/w/h/twhocame.htm

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A = Mixed Themes (-4); B = Incompletism (-4); C = Archaism (-8);

D = Blessing God (-4); E = Buddy or Boyfriend (-4); F = Polytheism (-8); G = Voxdeism: Soft (-24), Hard (-48);

H = Unitarianism: Soft (-60), Hard (-72); I = Misdirection (-12); J = Misvisualisation: Soft (-12), Mid (-24),

Hard (-36); K = Boasting (-8); L = Decontextualising (-8); M = Hermit Harakiri (-12)