

The Stories of 5 Great Hymns

Amazing Grace

Notes While Watching the DVD

As you watch the video, fill in this chronology of John Newton's life:

Year	Age	Event
1725	--	Birth to John, Sr. and Elizabeth Newton
1731	6	_____
1743	18	Conscripted to the British Royal Navy
1745	20	_____
1748	23	_____
1750	25	_____
1764	39	_____
1779	54	The <i>Olney Hymns</i> printed containing "Amazing Grace"
1807	82	Death of John Newton, Jr.

For Reflection

Who was the most important influence in John Newton's life? How?

How was Newton's mother an eighteenth century English version of Hannah, mother of Samuel?

Think of John Newton later in life. He is saved; he has faith in Jesus as his Savior. How do you imagine his former way was a continual problem for him? How was it a blessing for him?

Other reflections you have?

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Amazing Grace

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1. Amazing grace - how sweet the sound -
That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost but now am found,
Was blind but now I see.
2. The Lord has promised good to me;
His Word my hope secures.
He will my shield and portion be
As long as life endures.
3. Through many dangers, toils and snares
I have already come;
'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far,
And grace will lead me home.
4. When we've been there ten thousand years,
Bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's
praise
Than when we'd first begun.

verse 1 – Where does this hymn begin?

Agree/Disagree: The word “wretch” in line 2 is a hyperbole—or else really only applicable to someone with a terrible past like John Newton.

What is the emphasis of this first verse?

verse 2 – In God’s timing John Newton was brought into a new relationship with God. At the beginning of that new life, what were Newton’s expectations of God, or at least what are they in this verse?

When John Newton wrote about grace, in what areas of his life was “grace” concerned? Only the religious side?

verse 3 – In an interview, what are some of the places that people give credit for their success?

Where did John Newton give credit?

Where would you give credit if interviewed about your success?

verse 4 – “When we’ve been there...” Where is “there”?

In your personal opinion, what makes verse 4 so beautiful?

Define what Amazing Grace (the concept, not the hymn) is in every day words: