Samuel Hooser's Hymn



I often heard of Shakers while in my native land That they were a deluded a blind bewitched band Such awful news was spreading, too horrid to relate How wicked they were acting in the Ohio State.

At length I went amongst them to see how they went on I quickly was convinced that those reports were wrong. I found they were a people such as I'd never seen So bright so pure so holy so much opposed to sin. I often heard of Zion but now I've found the place The City that's adorned with truth and love and grace My heart was struck with wonder to find such glory there Where all was peace and glory without a single jar.

I found I'd got to Zion where saints and angels dwelt Such piercing streams of glory my heart had never felt This is no place of darkness but one eternal day Here doubts and fears are banish'd and satan cannot stay.

I cried adieu to pleasure of every other kind I'll give up all my Idols and leave the world behind. I found the blessed people with whom I'll bear the cross And count all earthly glory but vanity and dross.

Here is the holy fire that burns all sin and shame The guilty sons of babel cannot endure the flame I'll shout eternal praises to Jacobs awful King That I have found such glory as saves the soul from sin.

O why was I so stupid to stay away so long And labor in confusion with babel's mixed throng But since I've found the city where God in glory reigns I'll bid adieu to Sodom and all its dismal pains.

Salvation here is flowing from sin and dross refign'd I'm willing here to tarry and leave my lust behind I feel my soul united to this despised flock Let death and hell [oppose] us we are safe upon the rock.

Though persecution rages we'll boldly shout and sing We shall be safely guarded by Salem's conquering King, Amidst all tribulation we feel our love increase Altho' the world doth hate us in Zion we have peace.

Sweet union here is rolling all thro' this happy place Here flows the crystal fountain and God unveils his face Fair lillies here are growing that never fade or die No other ground produces such fruits of peace and joy. How blessed are the people who are admitted in And dwell secure in Zion delivered from all sin Their joys are still increasing their songs are always new They love their great Creator and all their brethren too.