

VAIN the toiling of the builder  
Where a home knows not the Lord;  
Vain the watching over loved ones  
Where there is no help from God.

- 2 Vain are all the years of labour,  
Times of trial and distress,  
And, without God's love and favour,  
Vain the talents we possess.
- 3 Vainer still the hopes of Heaven  
That on human strength rely;  
But to them shall help be given  
Who in humble faith apply.
- 4 Let us seek the Lord's Anointed,  
And His pardon, life and peace;  
Souls are never disappointed  
Who, through Christ, their prayer address.
- 5 May our lives bring light and blessing  
And redemption to the young;  
May they, Jesus' love confessing,  
Swell the everlasting song.

*Harriet Auber, 1773-1862*