

HE reigns, the Lord, the Saviour reigns!
Praise Him in earnest, noblest strains,
Let the whole earth in songs rejoice,
And distant islands join their voice.

- 2 In robes of righteousness He comes,
Shakes the wide earth, and cleaves the tombs,
Before Him burns devouring fire,
The mountains melt, the seas retire.
- 3 The Lord is come, the heavens proclaim
His birth; the nations learn His name,
And the bright armies of the skies
Worship where Christ the Saviour lies.
- 4 Come all that love His holy name,
Hate every work of sin and shame;
He guards the souls of all His friends,
And from the snares of hell defends.
- 5 Immortal light and joys unknown
Are for the saints in darkness sown,
Those glorious seeds shall spring and rise,
And their bright harvest bless our eyes.
- 6 Rejoice, ye righteous, and record
The sacred honours of the Lord;
None but the soul that feels His grace,
Can triumph in His holiness.

Isaac Watts, 1674-1748