

Be Thou My Vision

C. 8th Century

Translated by: Mary E. Byrne in 1905
 Versified by: Eleanor H. Hull in 1912

"Where there is no vision, the people perish; but he that keepeth the law, happy is he."

Proverbs 29:18 KJV

The tune for this old song is a traditional Irish melody. This tune suits the theme and poem extremely well. Our vision toward life is critical to success and happiness. The Christian looks to Christ in all His fullness and power. As this' song states: Christ is "Lord of my heart, my best thought by day or by night, thy presence my life, high King of Heaven, my treasure Thou art." When God is first, "man's empty praises" no longer have a pull on us. Let us not neglect the great old songs. It is the most ancient hymn in the most common hymnbooks used today. Many' churches use "Be Thou My Vision" across Ireland as the opening or call to worship song.

Prayer Focus: *Lord be my vision and thought by day and by night.*

Above information taken from 'A Hymn a Day' by Graham McKay. Page 10.

Be Thou My Vision

1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
 2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word;
 3 Rich - es I heed not, nor vain, emp - ty praise,
 4 Light of my soul, af - ter vic - to - ry won,

naught be all else to me, save that thou art:
 I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord.
 thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways:
 may I reach heav - en's joys, O heav - en's Sun!

thou my best thought . . . by day and by night,
 Thou my soul's shel - ter, thou my high tower,
 thou, and thou on - ly, first in my heart,
 Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,

wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.
 raise thou me heav'n - ward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.
 great God of heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.
 still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.