

“O Let Me Only Jesus See”

“O Let Me Only Jesus See” is a prayer to the Holy Spirit asking Him to show me only God’s beloved Son who became man and humbled Himself (Phil. 2:8).

The hymn is inspired by Matthew 17:8, a verse which comes at the end of the Transfiguration account: “And when they lifted up their eyes, they saw no one but Jesus only.”

“Jesus only.” What does that mean? It means not only that there were no more Moses and Elijah, cloud and voice. It means, most of all, that Jesus went back to being a Lord you could look at. Only Jesus.

“Only Jesus” is God’s eternal Son bright-shining as the sun, but who comes and conceals all of that in order to draw near to poor sinners to comfort them.

The day is coming when I will be able to behold Him in His glory forever. But for now, in this life and death, O let me only Jesus see—a vision that becomes complete in gazing at Him on the cross. (And could not the cross be the true Transfiguration and the true glory of God?)

“Fill my eyes” (st. 2) means no room for anything else—only Jesus crucified for me.

“My Lord” (st. 1) and “my God” (st. 2) borrows from the confession of Thomas in John 20:28.