Rock of Ages, cleft for me,
Let me hide myself in Thee;
Let the water and the blood,
From Thy riven side which flowed,
Be of sin the double cure;
Cleanse me from its guilt and power.

Not the labours of my hands
Can fulfil the law’s demands;
Could my zeal no respite know,
Could my tears for ever flow,
All for sin could not atone;
Thou must save, and Thou alone.

Nothing in my hand I bring;
Simply to Thy cross I cling;
Naked, come to Thee for dress;
Helpless, look to Thee for grace;
Foul, I to the fountain fly;
Wash me, Saviour, or I die.

While I draw this fleeting breath,
When my eye-strings break in death,
When I soar through tracts unknown,
See Thee on Thy judgment throne;
Rock of ages, cleft for me,
Let me hide myself in Thee.

REFERENCES:


1 In many hymn books, it reads ‘Thy law’s demands’ instead of ‘the law’s demands’ of the original in verse 2 line 2.
2 In verse 4 line 1, the original starts with ‘Whilst’ instead of ‘While’ altered since 1776 in the hymn book Psalms and Hymns.
3 Verse 4 line 2 is commonly altered to ‘When mine eyes shall close in death,’ and ‘When my eyelids close in death,’ in many hymn books.
4 Verse 4 line 3 was altered to ‘When I soar to worlds unknown’ in the hymn book Psalms and Hymns published in 1776. The alteration is adopted in some hymn books.


