

A Worship Minute.....

-from the One-Year Book of Hymns

Julia Ward Howe wrote the lyrics to “Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory” (the Battle Hymn of the Republic) in the heart of the Civil War. She sent the words to the Atlantic Monthly magazine and received an honorarium of five dollars.

The text is filled with biblical allusions. The expression “grapes of wrath” refers to Revelation 14:19; the sounding trumpet is probably from Revelation 8. For the Christian, the message of this song is that God’s truth is eternal. Although circumstances may appear overwhelmingly difficult, God will still accomplish His purposes, and His truth will endure.

It can be dangerous to identify political causes or even national patriotism with God’s truth. Nations may rise and fall, but God’s truth remains forever. “His truth is marching on.”

After that the end will come when He will turn the Kingdom over to God the Father, having put down all enemies of every kind. For Christ will be King until He has defeated all His enemies, including the last enemy – death. This too must be defeated and ended. For the rule and authority over all things has been given to Christ by his Father. 1 Corinthians 15:24-27