



# WORSHIP

REMEMBER | WONDER | ADORE

FOCUS ON GOD

## WORSHIP THE KING!

FOR CHILDREN'S VOICES

(WITH OPTIONAL ADULT VOICES, STRING QUARTET, AND CONGREGATION)

### CREDITS

Text: Robert Grant

Music: Johann Michael Haydn and Edwin M. Willmington

Arranged by Edwin M. Wilmington

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LISTEN NOW!



“BLESS THE LORD, O MY SOUL! O LORD MY GOD, YOU ARE VERY GREAT! YOU ARE CLOTHED WITH SPLENDOR AND MAJESTY, COVERING YOURSELF WITH LIGHT AS WITH A GARMENT, STRETCHING OUT THE HEAVENS LIKE A TENT. HE LAYS THE BEAMS OF HIS CHAMBERS ON THE WATERS; HE MAKES THE CLOUDS HIS CHARIOT; HE RIDES ON THE WINGS OF THE WIND; HE MAKES HIS MESSENGERS WINDS, HIS MINISTERS A FLAMING FIRE.”

PSALM 104:1-4 (ESV)

### SONG CONTEXT

**Worship the King!** is based on the hymn “O Worship the King”. The words of the hymn were written in the 1800s by Robert Grant, a British attorney and government official. Grant was born in India, where his father was a businessman who also did missionary work. His family moved back to the UK for his schooling, and he began his career in government and legal practice. In 1833, after studying the vivid language of Psalm 104, he wrote the poem that became the hymn “O Worship the King”. Later in life, Robert returned to India, where he spent the rest of his life. A medical college was built in his honor, but he is best known for his hymn, “O Worship the King”.

Please read Psalm 104 in its entirety and compare it with the language of the hymn. There are many obvious correlations between the two. In the Psalm, there is reference to God “making the clouds His chariot” (vs. 3) and “laying the foundations of the earth” (vs. 5). There is so much picturesque language in the Psalm that is transferred into the hymn text. As you sing the song, be aware that in Robert Grant’s poetry the entire hymn is intended to express that the “glory of the Lord endures forever” (vs. 31).

For many congregations, this hymn is familiar. This arrangement is designed so that people who know the hymn can join the children’s voices on any or all of verses 1, 2, and 4 without any prior rehearsal. It’s a wonderful opportunity for the children to lead the entire congregation of all ages in singing about the majesty and glory of God. Don’t be afraid to try it! It works!

### PRAYER

Dear Lord, our desire is to worship You well with our voices. This hymn contains so many powerful images of Your greatness and majesty. Help us join our voices with those who have sung this hymn throughout history to truly worship You, the King of all creation. Amen.