

You are, You reign

By Gavin Milnthorpe

VERSE 1

Bb **Gm7**
Jesus, my hope and my comfort
Dm7 **Eb**
Gentle father, calling me son
F
And we'll sing halleluiah

Bb **Gm7**
Jesus, my friend and companion
Dm7 **Eb**
Blessed Saviour, Anointed One
F **Eb** **F** **Eb** **F**
And we'll sing halleluiah, and we'll sing halleluiah, and we'll sing halleluiah

CHORUS

Bb **F** **Eb**
You are, You reign, forever
Bb **F** **Eb**
You are, You reign, forever
Bb **F** **Eb** **Gm7** **F** **Eb** **Bb**
You are, You reign, forever my King, forever my King

VERSE 2

Bb **Gm7**
Jesus, my Lord and redeemer
Dm7 **Eb**
Kiss the Son and love His name
F
And we'll sing halleluiah

Bb **Gm7**
Jesus, my strength and foundation
Dm7 **Eb**
Rock rejected, now cornerstone
F **Eb** **F** **Eb** **F**
And we'll sing halleluiah, and we'll sing halleluiah, and we'll sing halleluiah

The story behind the song “You are, You reign”

If you’ve ever preached a sermon about Jesus perhaps you’ve felt the same frustration as I have; that it’s impossible in half an hour to even scratch the surface of who Jesus is. The best you can hope for is to pick one facet of Christ and try to provide a moment of illumination to the congregation. And then the following week, you pick a separate characteristic of our Lord and focus on that. The congregation then have to go away and formulate a picture of who Christ is. The individual Christian has to reconcile the Christ who is fully God and is fully man. The individual Christian has to try to formulate a picture of the man who raised people from the dead, the man who commanded demons to throw themselves into the sea, the man who spent many years working humbly as a carpenter and the man who changed the course of human history in just three and a half years of ministry.

It’s impossible to ever fully understand Christ. In fact, I don’t think we’ll know just how little we understood of Christ until we reach heaven.

In the same way, quite often a song or a hymn will focus on one attribute of Christ and emphasise it. Christ the King. Christ the Redeemer. Christ the Son of God.

This song is slightly different. Using Psalm 2 as an inspiration and cross referring with various Old Testament and New Testament passages, this song is a “list” song. It lists the names and attributes of Christ. He is my hope. He is my comfort. He is my strength. He is the rock.

The song is an overview of who Christ is and, I hope, should turn your mind to just how complex and majestic and Godly our Saviour is.

But even then, if the attributes are too complex to the worshipping mind, the chorus focuses on a simple, universal, unavoidable truth. Christ simply is. Christ reigns. He is our King. Forever. In effect, for any Christian – that’s all we need to know.