

And Is the Time Approaching

Jane Borthwick, 1859.

John Calkin, 1870.

And is the time approaching,  
By prophets long foretold,  
When all shall dwell together,  
One Shepherd and one fold?  
Shall every idol perish,  
To moles and bats be thrown,  
And every prayer be offered  
To God in Christ alone?

Shall Jew and Gentile, meeting  
From many a distant shore,  
Around one altar kneeling,  
One common Lord adore?  
Shall all that now divides us  
Remove, and pass away  
Like shadows of the morning  
Before the blaze of day?

Shall all that now unites us  
More sweet and lasting prove,  
A closer bond of union  
In a blest land of love?  
Shall war be learned no longer,  
Shall strife and tumult cease;  
All earth His blessed kingdom,  
The Lord and Prince of Peace?

O long expected dawning,  
Come with Thy cheering ray;  
When shall the morning brighten,  
The shadows flee away?  
O sweet anticipation!  
It cheers the watchers on  
To pray, and hope, and labor,  
Till the dark night be gone.