

O God, to Know That Thou Art Just  
Arthur Mason, 1889.  
John Stainer, 1875.

O God, to know that Thou art just  
Gives hope and peace within;  
We could not in a mercy trust  
Which takes no count of sin.

I fain would open to Thy sight  
My utmost wickedness;  
Set, Lord, in Thy most searching light  
What I have done amiss.

No stern and needless law was Thine  
Hard to be understood  
But plainly read in every line,  
Holy, and just, and good.

Though basely weak my fallen race,  
And masterful my foes,  
I had th'omnipotence of grace  
To conquer, if I chose.

Well did I know the tender Heart  
I outraged by my sin,  
Yet with the world I would not part,  
Nor reign my passions in.

My fault it was, O Lord, most high,  
And not my fate alone:  
Thou canst not suffer sin, nor I  
In any way atone.

Yet there's a plea that I may trust  
Christ died that I might live!  
Cleanse me, my God, for Thou art just;  
Be faithful, and forgive.