

What Are We For

Anonymous.

Sydney Harkey, 1885.

Why have we lips, if not to sing  
The praises of our heav'nly king?  
Why have we hearts, if not to love,  
Our Father and our friend above?

Refrain

What are we for? What are we for?  
What are we for?  
What are we for, but to serve the Lord,  
With every deed, and thought and word?

Why were our curious bodies made,  
And every part in order laid?  
Why, but that each of us might stand  
A living wonder from His hand?

Refrain

Why have we souls, if not to know  
The God from whom our mercies flow?  
Sure this can never be our lot,  
Like senseless brutes, to know Him not!

Refrain

Why have we life? If not to gain  
Immortal life, 'tis worse than vain;  
This is the end for which 'twas giv'n  
We live on earth, to live in Heav'n.

Refrain

Why did the Savior leave the sky,  
Hang on a cross, and bleed and die?  
And why are kind persuasions sent  
To call and win us to repent?

Refrain

Surely it is that robed in white  
And made well-pleasing in His sight,  
Our souls may join the happy throng,  
And sing the everlasting song.

Refrain