

If the Lord our leader be  
Jacob's Ladder  
John Newton, 1779,  
from Olney Hymns, vol. 1, hymn 9

If the Lord our leader be,  
We may follow without fear;  
East or West, by land or sea,  
Home, with him, is everywhere;  
When from Esau Jacob fled,  
Though his pillow was a stone,  
And the ground his humble bed,  
Yet he was not left alone.

2. Kings are often waking kept,  
Racked with cares on beds of state;  
Never king like Jacob slept.  
For he lay at heaven's gate:  
Lo! he saw a ladder reared,  
Reaching to the heav'nly throne;  
At the top the Lord appeared,  
Spake and claimed him for his own.

3. Fear not, Jacob, thou art mine,  
And my presence with thee goes;  
On thy heart my love shall shine,  
And my arm subdue thy foes:  
From my promise comfort take;  
For my help in trouble call;  
Never will I thee forsake,  
'Till I have accomplished all.

4. Well does Jacob's ladder suit  
To the gospel throne of grace;  
We are at the ladder's foot,  
Every hour, in every place  
By affirming flesh and blood,  
Jesus heav'n and earth unites;  
We by faith ascend to God,  
God to dwell with us delights.

5. They who know the Saviour's name,  
Are for all events prepared  
What can changes do to them,  
Who have such a Guide and Guard?  
Should they traverse earth around,  
To the ladder still they come;  
Every spot is holy ground,  
God is there - and he's their home.