

**SALVATION ARMY – SOUTHERN TERRITORY
1969 SOUTHERN BIBLE CONFERENCE
SHAMROCK VILLAGE
FORT PIERCE, FLORIDA**

Chorus Story: *Let Me Sing Of Jesus*

Editorial note: This recording is a spliced audio of various sessions and meetings conducted in connection with the week-long Salvation Army Southern Territory Bible Conference held in July, 1969 at the Shamrock Village in Fort Pierce, Florida. Sidney Cox was one of the special invited guests and he led and participated in many of the sessions of the conference with his music and preaching. The sections spliced together were generally the sessions featuring Sidney Cox and other sections of interest.

Sidney Cox composed a different chorus for each night of this conference. He often wrote songs and choruses for particular occasions and this proved to be a very popular practice. The following choruses were written for and introduced at this conference:

*He That Doeth Abideth
Lovest Thou Me More Than These
The Ransomed Shall Return
Life Through His Name
When The Lord Comes Back For His Own*

Following the death in August, 1967 of his beloved wife, Violet, who had been a near invalid for many years, Sidney Cox was once again able to travel. Although he was 81 years of age, he was much in demand as a speaker and teacher, and resumed his extensive travel schedule. One of his first such travels was to attend the Salvation Army's Bible Conference held a year earlier in 1968 in Fort Pierce.

Sidney and Violet Cox voluntarily left the work of The Salvation Army in 1944, and in the summer of 1968, he had been a former officer for over 20 years; yet, he remained extremely close friends with the Southern Salvationists and in popular demand as a speaker, preacher and musician at their meetings. Many of the officers at these conferences had been closely associated with him or had been trained by him at the Army's College for Officers Training during his Salvation Army tenure in Atlanta from 1928 – 1944.

These conferences were emotional reunions for him and the Salvationists in attendance.

My thanks to Tom Walker for this audio recording. Tom is the son of James Walker who was commissioned in Atlanta as a member of the Holdfast Session in the spring of 1940 while Major Sidney Cox was serving as the training college principal.

John Douglas Cox, grandson of Sidney and Violet Cox. July 2011.

UNKNOWN MALE PRESIDING:

I want Uncle Sid to just give us a little background of this song, if he will, he wrote many years ago. After which, I want you to have a word or two. OK?

SIDNEY COX:

Well I think the song Major Whitten(sp?) is going to sing for us, I wrote it in Atlanta a number of years ago. I don't know just when, but I do know where. Most of you, or a good many of you will remember Colonel and Mrs. Lexon. We were visiting in their home one day and I sat down at their piano and wrote this little song, *Let Me Sing To You Of Jesus*.

I read a very interesting thing about it in, I think it was in *The Musician*, where there was a group of young people gathered together, Salvation Army young people, and they were a little difficult and noisy, and a little girl of 11 years old came and stood in front of the platform and sang without any accompaniment in her little thin voice, *Let Me Sing To You Of Jesus*; and there was a hush that came over that place, and I hope there'll be a hush come over this one too when Ernest sings about Jesus.

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Let Me Sing of Jesus

Words and music by Adjutant S. E. Cox

mf

1. Let me sing to you of Je - sus, How He died up - on the tree;
 2. Let me sing to you of Je - sus, How He laid His glo - ry by;
 3. I will al - ways sing of Je - sus, He my theme shall ev - er be;

cresc. *dim.*

How He made the great A - tone-ment, Gave His life for me.
 Came to earth to live and suf - fer, On the cross for me.
 And I'll sing when time is end - ed, Through e - ter - ni - ty.

mf CHORUS

Let me sing to you of Je - sus, Of His com - ing from a - bove;

f *rall. e dim.*

How He saves me, How He keeps me By His love, - by His love.

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This song was written by Sidney Cox circa 1928 – one of his earliest compositions in Atlanta. This is how it appeared when first published in *The War Cry*. In June, 1929, it was published by the Salvation Army Music Department – London in *The Musical Salvationist*

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THEIR LIVES A SYMPHONY

THE SHUFFLING CEASED AS SHE BEGAN TO SING—TWELVE YEARS LATER A CONGREGATION WAS STUNNED TO

SILENCE AGAIN—THE MOVING STORY OF

THE SUNBEAM

IS TOLD IN HIS EXCELLENT SERIES BY NAT CHESTER

IT had been a long evening and, as is sometimes the case with young people's programmes, there had been too many items, not all of a very high standard.

The children in the congregation were tired, and the adults were growing restive when a little girl in Sunbeam uniform stepped forward and began to sing in a clear, piping voice. The shuffling and whispering stopped suddenly, and it was in complete silence that we heard the words:

Let me sing to you of Jesus,
Of His coming from above,
How He saves me, how He keeps me
By His love.

Twelve years later the congregation in that hall was again suddenly silent, shocked by the unexpected news of the promotion to *Glory of a young songster who had been that little Sunbeam.*

In those twelve years much had happened. The little girl had grown into an independent young woman; fun and romance, school and work, all had had a part in that young and active life; but the voice had grown and matured as well, and those twelve years had been spent singing of Jesus. Her singing for Jesus did not stop when she stepped off the platform, but pervaded every part of her life.

NO SAINT

She was no plaster saint—nobody could have been more full of fun and of what is often (not very literally!) called 'devilment'. Her friends, and she made friends wherever she went, would tell you that she was the life and soul of every situation, bubbling with ideas and enthusiasm, irrepressibly gay and vivacious, sometimes exasperating to those in authority but never annoying.

She brought laughter and gaiety to everything that she did, and cheered all those who came into contact with her. It would be hard to find a better advertisement for One who 'went about doing good' but also frequently made His point with parables that had a touch of humour in them. One felt that not only was her heart in tune with God, but her eyes had caught something of the twinkle that must have often been in the Master's.

A SONG

In childhood, she may well have sung like so many of us:

God make my life a little song
That comforteth the sad,
That helpeth others to be strong,
And makes the singer glad.

If so, then the prayer was well and duly answered, for more music came out of those few years than many an octogenarian has managed to produce.

This is the article from *The Musician*, a British Salvation Army publication, that tells the story of the young girl who quieted the congregation by singing, *Let Me Sing Of Jesus*.

You want me to say a word about it now?

I'm so grateful for the privilege of being here. I don't know how to express that, so I'm not going to say anything more about it. I think you know what this means to me, and I'm so grateful for it.

I would like to tell you that it was 60 years ago this very year, and along about this time, that the Lord saved me. I wanted you to be quite sure about that, because you can get a lot of folks who are religious who are not saved at all, and sometimes you can get them on the platform. But I want you to be quite sure that this man was saved 60 years ago and is saved again tonight. Don't forget that.

You were singing my testimony a few minutes ago:

*He lifted sins great burden,
He saw my deep dismay,
And graciously He pardoned me,
On that wonderful, wonderful day.¹*

And don't forget dear, whenever you sing that song, you underscore the word 'He' – that's the big word in the song. He did it. He did it. He did it for me all those years ago and I've been living over again in my heart the precious moment when God saved me in a moment of time. If you ever get into an argument, you come and tell me you don't believe in instantaneous salvation and I'll give you an argument about that, for sure.

[AT THIS POINT, THE AUDIO SKIPS TO ANOTHER SECTION WHICH IS A RECORDING OF THE MEETINGS HELD DURING THE PRIOR YEAR (1968) BIBLE CONFERENCE ALSO HELD AT THE SHAMROCK VILLAGE IN FORT PIERCE, FLORIDA. SEE CD 68-03 AND 68-10 FOR THOSE AUDIO RECORDINGS AND TRANSCRIPTIONS.]

¹ The 2nd verse of Sidney Cox's well-known song, *He Sought Me, O What A Wonderful Day*.