

May 20th, 2018



# CALL TO WORSHIP

Harpeth Baptist Church

*The Old Testament, an overview*

## Ecclesiastes

*Is life worth living?*

Text: The Book of Ecclesiastes

Responsive Reading: Psalm 144

### 8:30 service

267 The Light of the World is Jesus

308 Nothing But the Blood

16 Glorify Thy Name

574 God Be With You

### 11:00 Service

167 In His Time

383 The Solid Rock

All I Have Is Christ

474 I'd Rather Have Jesus

## This week's special music

[All I Have Is Christ](#)—click to listen

[Click here to read an interview with the songwriters](#)

## Hymn History - The Solid Rock

The personal life of this hymn's author is most interesting. Edward Mote was born on January 21, 1797, of very poor, ungodly parents, in London, England. His parents were keepers of an inn or public house in London. In writing of his youth, Mote said, "My Sundays were spent in the streets. So ignorant was I that I did not know that there was a God." He further states that the school he attended did not even allow a Bible to be seen, much less taught. As a youth, Mote was apprenticed to a cabinetmaker and eventually became known as a successful craftsman of that trade. At the age of sixteen, he was taken by his master to hear the esteemed preacher, John Hyatt, of the Tottenham Court Chapel. Here young Edward was genuinely converted to Christ. He later settled at Southwark, a suburb of London, where he became known as a successful cabinetmaker and a devoted churchman.

At the age of fifty-five, Edward Mote realized a life-long dream. Largely through his personal efforts, a building for a Baptist congregation was built in the village of Horsham, Sussex, England. The church members, out of gratitude to Mote, offered him the deed to the property. He refused their offer, saying: "I do not want the chapel; I only want the pulpit, and when I cease to preach Christ, then turn me out of that."

Here Mote ministered faithfully for the next twenty-one years until forced to resign because of poor health, one year before he died. Just prior to his death, he said: "The truths I have been preaching, I am now living upon, and they do very well to die upon." Edward Mote lies buried in the churchyard of the Horsham church. Near the pulpit in the church is a tablet with this inscription:

"In loving memory of Mr. Edward Mote, who fell asleep in Jesus November 13th, 1874, aged 77 years. For 26 years the beloved pastor of this church, preaching Christ and Him crucified, as all the sinner can need, and all the saint desire."

Edward Mote wrote more than one hundred hymn texts throughout his life. The "Solid Rock" text was written in 1834, and Mote titled it, "The Gracious Experience of a Christian." The completed hymn text originally consisted of six stanzas.

In his Hymns of Praise collection of 1836, Edward Mote included this hymn with the title, "The Immutable Basis of a Sinner's Hope."