

O Sacred Head

Public Domain, Passion Chorale

Text: Anonymous; trans. by Paul Gerhardt and James W. Alexander

Music: Hans L. Hassler, 1564-1612; harm. by J.S. Bach, 1685-1750

Tune: PASSION CHORALE, *Meter:* 76.76 D

F G C
O sacred Head, now wounded,
Am E Am
With grief and shame bow'd down,
F G C
Now scornfully surrounded
Am E7 Am
With thorns, Thine only crown.
Em F C
how pale thou art with anguish,
F A
with sore abuse and scorn!
G D G
How does that visage languish
F G C
which once was bright as morn!

(alternate lines of 1st verse)
O sacred Head, what glory,
What bliss till now was Thine!
Yet, though despised and gory,
I joy to call Thee mine.

What thou, my Lord, has suffered
was all for sinners' gain;
mine, mine was the transgression,
but thine the deadly pain.
Lo, here I fall, my Savior!
'Tis I deserve thy place;
look on me with thy favor,
vouchsafe to me thy grace.

What language shall I borrow
to thank thee, dearest friend,
for this thy dying sorrow,
thy pity without end?
O make me thine forever;
and should I fainting be,
Lord, let me never, never
outlive my love for thee.