Thee will I love, my strength, my tower

1. Thee will I love, my strength, my tower,
   Thee will I love, my joy, my crown,
   Thee will I love with all my power.

2. Ah, why did I so late Thee know?
   Thee, love-lier than the sons of men!
   Ah, why did I no sooner go to

3. In dark-ness wil-ling-ly I stra-yed,
   I sought Thee, yet from Thee I roved.
   Far wide my wan-dr'ing thoughts were spread;

4. I thank Thee, un-cre-a-ted sun;
   That Thy bright beams on me have shined.
   I thank Thee, who hast o-ver-thrown foes,

5. Up-hold me in the doubt-ful race;
   Nor suf-fer me a gain to stray.
   Strengthen my feet with stea-dy pace;

6. Give to mine eyes re-fresh-ing tears;
   Give to my heart chaste, hallowed fires.
   Give to my soul, with fi-lial fears;

7. Thee will I love, my joy, my crown;
   Thee will I love, my Lord, my God.
   Thee will I love, be-neth Thy frown;

8. (Uh) Thee will I love, my strength, my tower,
   Thee will I love, my joy, my crown,
   (Uh) Thee will I love with all my power.

9. (Uh) Ah, why did I so late Thee know?
   Thee, love-lier than the sons of men!
   (Uh) Ah, why did I no sooner go to

10. (Uh) In dark-ness wil-ling-ly I stra-yed,
    I sought Thee, yet from Thee I roved.
    (Uh) Far wide my wan-dr'ing thoughts were spread;

11. (Uh) I thank Thee, un-cre-a-ted sun;
    That Thy bright beams on me have shined.
    (Uh) I thank Thee, who hast o-ver-thrown foes,

12. (Uh) Up-hold me in the doubt-ful race;
    Nor suf-fer me a gain to stray.
    (Uh) Strengthen my feet with stea-dy pace;

13. (Uh) Give to mine eyes re-fresh-ing tears;
    Give to my heart chaste, hallowed fires.
    (Uh) Give to my soul, with fi-lial fears;

14. (Uh) Thee will I love, my joy, my crown;
    Thee will I love, my Lord, my God.
    (Uh) Thee will I love, be-neth Thy frown;

15. (Uh)
   (Uh) Thee will I love, my joy, my crown.
   (Uh) Thee will I love with all my power.

16. (Uh)
   (Uh) Ah, why did I no sooner go to

17. (Uh)
   (Uh) In dark-ness wil-ling-ly I stra-yed,
   (Uh) I sought Thee, yet from Thee I roved.

18. (Uh)
   (Uh) I thank Thee, un-cre-a-ted sun;
   (Uh) That Thy bright beams on me have shined.

19. (Uh)
   (Uh) Up-hold me in the doubt-ful race;
   (Uh) Nor suf-fer me a gain to stray.

20. (Uh)
   (Uh) Give to mine eyes re-fresh-ing tears;
   (Uh) Give to my heart chaste, hallowed fires.

21. (Uh)
   (Uh) Thee will I love, my joy, my crown;
   (Uh) Thee will I love, my Lord, my God.

Transliteration for German:

1. (Uh) Will ich liebe, mein Stützpunkt, mein Turm,
   Will ich liebe, meine Freude, meinen Kron.
   Will ich liebe mit all meiner Kraft.

2. Ah, warum kam ich so spät zu dir?
   Liebe dich mehr als die Söhne der Männer!
   Warum kam ich so bald nicht zu dir?

3. In der Dunkelheit kam ich zögernd,
   Suchte dich, aber vom Dich ich wegsprang.
   Die entfernten Gedanken waren weit.

4. Ich danke dir, du unerhörtes Sonnenlicht,
   Daß deine leuchtenden Strahlen mich getroffen.
   Die vertriebenen Feinde, die hast du geschlagen.

5. Halte mich in deinem Zweifel,
   Nimm mir das Schmerzen nicht zu sehr zu.
   Stärke meine Füße mit ständiger Pace.

6. Gib mir deinen Augen frischende Tränen,
   Gib meinen Herzen unerhörtene Feuer.
   Gib mir die Seele mit fiélsamem Furcht.

7. Ich will dich liebe, meine Freude, meinen Kron,
   Ich will dich liebe, meinen Herrn, meinen Gott.
   Ich will dich liebe, dein Schicksal zu schützen.

Transliteration for English:

1. Thee will I love, my strength, my tower,
   Thee will I love, my joy, my crown,
   Thee will I love with all my power.

2. Ah, why did I so late Thee know?
   Thee, love-lier than the sons of men!
   Ah, why did I no sooner go to

3. In dark-ness wil-ling-ly I stra-yed,
   I sought Thee, yet from Thee I roved.
   Far wide my wan-dr'ing thoughts were spread;

4. I thank Thee, un-cre-a-ted sun;
   That Thy bright beams on me have shined.
   I thank Thee, who hast o-ver-thrown foes,

5. Up-hold me in the doubt-ful race;
   Nor suf-fer me a gain to stray.
   Strengthen my feet with stea-dy pace;

6. Give to mine eyes re-fresh-ing tears;
   Give to my heart chaste, hallowed fires.
   Give to my soul, with fi-lial fears;

7. Thee will I love, my joy, my crown;
   Thee will I love, my Lord, my God.
   Thee will I love, be-neth Thy frown;


Text: John Wesley 1739
(liegt verändert)
"Ich will Dich lieben, meine Stärke" nach Johann Scheffler 1657
Melodie: Johann Balthasar König 1738
Satz: sdg 2005

Moderne Version
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Thee will I love, my strength, my tower - Seite 2

(Moderne Version)

in all Thy works, and Thee a - lone.
Thee will I love, till the pure fire fill my whole soul with desire.
the on - ly ease in pain!
A-shamed, I sigh, and in - ly mourn, that I so late did turn.
Thy crea-tures more than Thee I loved.
And now if more at length I see, 'tis through Thy light from Thee.
and healed my woun - ded mind.
I thank Thee, whose en-liv' ning voice bids my heart in Thee re - joice.
still to press for - ward in Thy way.
My soul and flesh, o Lord of might, fill, satiate, with Thy heavenly light.
the love that all Heaven's host in - spires.
That all my powers, with all their might, in Thy glo - ry u - nite.
or smile, Thy scep - ter, or Thy rod.
What though my flesh and heart de - cay? Thee shall I love e' vry day!

Thy creas - tures more than I loved.
Soul with desire. Uh uh
and healed my woun - ded mind.
Late did turn. Uh uh
still to press for - ward in Thy way.
Light from Thee. Uh uh
the love that all Heaven's host in - spires.
Thee re - joice. Uh uh
or smile, Thy scep - ter, or Thy rod.
Be u - nite. Uh uh

Soul with desire. Uh uh
Late did turn. Uh uh
Light from Thee. Uh uh
Thy re - joice. Uh uh
Be u - nite. Uh uh
Love e' vry day! Uh uh

Soul with desire. Uh uh
Late did turn. Uh uh
Light from Thee. Uh uh
Thee re - joice. Uh uh
Be u - nite. Uh uh
Love e' vry day! Uh uh

Soul with desire. Uh uh
Late did turn. Uh uh
Light from Thee. Uh uh
Thee re - joice. Uh uh
Be u - nite. Uh uh
Love e' vry day! Uh uh