

HIGHER GROUND.

11/26/2023 PM

INTRODUCTION:

A. Read the text: **Col. 3:1-2; 2:12.**

B. Regarding the text:

1. Written by John Oatman (1856-1922), a prolific song writer who is said to have written lyrics to more than 5000 gospel songs.
2. This is a song designed to encourage us to keep moving forward toward “higher ground.”

I. VS. 1 – I’M PRESSING ON...

A. *Pressing on*: The idea is to be moving forward (**Phil. 3:12-14**).

B. *Upward way*: **Matt. 7:13-14** – the “upward way” is the way that leads to heaven. **Col. 3:1-2** “set your mind on things above.”

C. *New heights I’m gaining every day*: (**Phil. 3:14; 1 Thess. 4:1; Heb. 6:1; Heb. 12:1-2**).

D. Still praying as I onward bound (**Phil. 4:6-7**).

E. *Lord lead me on to higher ground*: (**Psa. 5:8; Psalm 23:2-3**).

II. VS. 2 – MY HEART HAS NO DESIRE...

A. *To stay* – where is your treasure? (Note **Matt. 6:19-21; Phil. 3:20**).

B. Where doubts arise and fears dismay – living with a confidence beyond this life. Having no doubt (**Heb. 10:23**).

C. *Though some may dwell where these abound*: (**Eph. 2:12**).

D. *My prayer, my aim is higher ground* (**1 Tim. 2:8**).

III. VS. 3 – I WANT TO LIVE ABOVE THE WORLD...

A. Saints live a different life than those in the world (**Phil. 3:18-19**).

B. *Tho Satan’s darts at me are hurled*: (**2 Cor. 2:11; Eph. 11-12; 1 Pet. 5:8**).

C. For faith has caught the joyful sound, The song of saints on higher ground: (**Rev. 14:3**).

IV. VS. 4- I WANT TO SCALE THE UTMOST HEIGHT...

A. *And catch a gleam of glory bright*: (**2 Cor. 4:1-6; Rev. 22:5**).

B. *But still I’ll pray till heaven I’ve found* (**Phil. 1:21-26**).

C. *‘Lord lead me on to higher ground’*: (**Heb. 11:16; 13:14**).

V. THE CHORUS - LORD LIFT ME UP...

A. And let me stand, By faith of heaven’s table land. *A higher plane than I have found; Lord plant my feet on higher ground.*

B. Oh, how much better heaven will be than the meagerness this world has to offer us.

VI. CONCLUSION:

A. As has been said IF you miss heaven, you miss all there is. This song encourages us to seek those things above (**Col. 3:1-2**).

B. If you are not in the body of Christ, let me invite you to make ready now, while you still have opportunity.