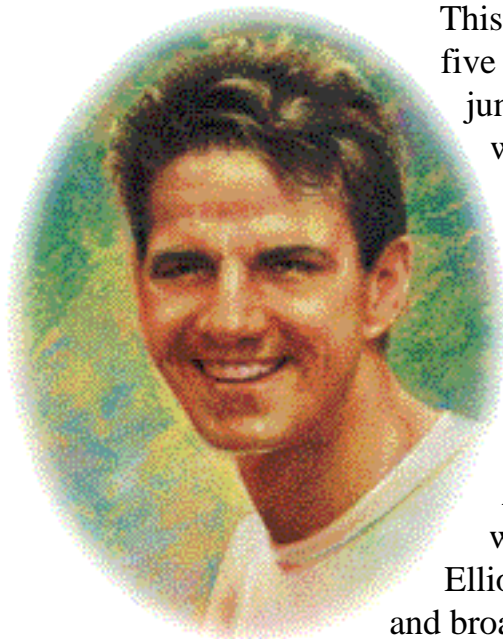


## “Be Still My Soul”, or “Finlandia”

Words: Edith Gilling Cherry, circa 1895.

Music: “Finlandia,” Jean Sibelius, 1899



This hymn has a sad story associated with it. In January 1956, five missionaries sang this hymn before entering the Ecuadorian jungle to bring the Gospel to the Auca Indians. Their names were Nate Saint, Ed McCully, Jim Elliott, Roger Yoderian, and Peter Fleming. After the men reached the Aucas, the Indians murdered them on the Curaray River. However, the story has a happy ending. Years later, contact with the Aucas was re-established, and many came to Christ, including the killers, which is how first hand details of the missionaries’ deaths came to light.

One of the best known of the five martyrs was Jim Elliot. A number of his sayings are still quoted (e.g., “He is no fool who gives what he cannot keep, to gain what he cannot lose”). Elliot’s wife Elisabeth went on to considerable fame as an author and broadcaster. Her book *Through the Gates of Splendor* describes the encounter with the Aucas; its title comes from a line in this hymn.

*“He is no  
fool who  
gives what he  
cannot keep  
to gain what  
he cannot  
lose.”*

*Jim Elliot.*

1. We rest on Thee, our Shield and our Defender!  
We go not forth alone against the foe;  
Strong in Thy strength, safe in Thy keeping tender,  
We rest on Thee, and in Thy Name we go.  
Strong in Thy strength, safe in Thy keeping tender,  
We rest on Thee, and in Thy Name we go.
2. Yes, in Thy Name, O Captain of salvation!  
In Thy dear Name, all other names above;  
Jesus our Righteousness, our sure Foundation,  
Our Prince of glory and our King of love.  
Jesus our Righteousness, our sure Foundation,  
Our Prince of glory and our King of love.
3. We go in faith, our own great weakness feeling,  
And needing more each day Thy grace to know:  
Yet from our hearts a song of triumph pealing,  
“We rest on Thee, and in Thy Name we go.”  
Yet from our hearts a song of triumph pealing,  
“We rest on Thee, and in Thy Name we go.”
4. We rest on Thee, our Shield and our Defender!  
Thine is the battle, Thine shall be the praise;  
When passing through the gates of pearly splendor,  
Victors, we rest with Thee, through endless days.  
When passing through the gates of pearly splendor,  
Victors, we rest with Thee, through endless days.