**A long time I wandered in darkness**

**A long time I wandered
in darkness and sin,
And wondered if ever
the light would shine in;
I heard Christian friends speak
of raptures divine,
And I wishedhow I wished
that their Savior were mine.**

**I heard the glad gospel
of "good will to men";
I read "whosoever"
again and again;
I said to my soul,
"Can that promise be thine?"
And then began hoping
that Jesus was mine.**

**Oh, mercy surprising!
He saves even me!
"Thy portion forever,"
He says, "will I be";
On His Word I am resting
assurance divine:
I am "hoping" no longer,
I know He is mine.**

**Meter:11 11 11 11 with refrain
Author:Philip Paul Bliss
1838 - 1876
Bible Refs:Song 2:16
SSS number: 846
Music:I KNOW HE IS MINE
Meter:11 11 11 11 with refrain
Author:Ira David Sankey
1840 - 1908**