

## **IN THE CROSS OF CHRIST .I GLORY**

Tradition has it that John Bowring-linguist, author, and British governor of Hong Kong-was inspired to write this hymn by the sight of a huge cross on the ruins of a cathedral at Macao on the south Chinese coast. Apparently, the cathedral, built by Portuguese colonists, had been leveled by a typhoon, but the wall with this bronze cross remained standing. The story is unverified, but the image is a strong one- the cross "towering o'er the wrecks of time" above the shore at Macao.

## **IN THE CROSS OF CHRIST .I GLORY**

In the cross of Christ I glory,  
Towering o'er the wrecks of time;  
All the light of sacred story  
Gathers round its head sublime.

When the woes of life o'ertake me,  
Hopes deceive, and fears annoy,  
Never shall the cross forsake me;  
Lo! it glows with peace and joy.

When the sun of bliss is beaming  
Light and love upon my way,  
From the Cross the radiance streaming  
Adds more luster to the day.

Bane and blessing, pain and pleasure,  
By the Cross are sanctified;  
Peace is there, that knows no measure,  
Joys that through all time abide.

In the cross of Christ I glory,  
Towering o'er the wrecks of time;  
All the Light of sacred story  
Gathers round its head sublime.

John Bowring (1792-1872)  
Hymn #295