



DIAKONIA Prayer Letter May 2018

The following verses are from a poem by the American John Greenleaf Whittier. They are recognizable because they were adapted into a hymn.

John Greenleaf Whittier was a 19th century American writer. He practiced the Quaker religion who supported the abolition of slavery. The verses cited below are from a longer poem titled *The Brewing of Soma*

A Prayer for Peace and Calm

*Dear Lord and Father of humankind,
Forgive our foolish ways;
Reclothe us in our rightful mind,
In purer lives Thy service find,
In deeper reverence, praise.*

*Drop Thy still dews of quietness,
Till all our strivings cease;
Take from our souls the strain and stress,
And let our ordered lives confess
The beauty of Thy peace.*

*Breathe through the heats of our desire
Thy coolness and Thy balm;
Let sense be dumb, let flesh retire;
Speak through the earthquake, wind, and fire,
O still, small voice of calm.*

- John Greenleaf Whittier

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