My God, I Love Thee

1. My God, I love thee, not because I

2. Thou, O my Jesus, thou didst me up-

3. Then why, O blessed Jesus Christ, should

4. Not with the hope of gaining aught, not

5. So would I love thee, dearest Lord, and

hope for heaven thereby, nor yet because, if
on the cross embrace; for me didst bear the
I not love thee well? Not for the sake of
seeking a reward, but as thy self hast
in thy praise will sing; because thou art my

I love not, I must for ever die.
nails and spear and manifold disgrace.
winning heaven, nor of escaping hell.
loved me, O everlast ing Lord.
loving God and my eternal King.

Text: Latin, 17th cent.;
trans. Edward Caswall, 1849
Tune: Est's Whole Booke of Psalms, 1592;
harm. from Hymns Ancient and Modern, 1861

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