O God, My Faithful God

1 O God, my faith-ful God, true foun-tain ev-er flow-ing,
   without whom noth-ing is, all per-fect gifts be-stow-ing:
   give me a health-y frame, and may I have with-in
   a con-science free from blame, a soul un-stained by sin.

2 Give me the strength to do with read-y heart and will-ing:
   what-ev-er you com mand, my call-ing here ful-fill-ing.
   Help me do what I should in all that comes my way;
   I know that you are good, you bless those who o-bey.

3 Keep me from say-ing words that lat-er need re-call-ing:
   guard me lest i-dle speech may from my lips be fall-ing;
   but when with-in my place I must and ought to speak,
   then to my words give grace lest I of-fend the weak.

4 When dan-gers gath-er round, O keep me calm and fear-less;
   help me to bear the cross when life seems dark and cheer-less.
   Help me, as you have taught, to love both great and small,
   and by your Spir-it's might to live at peace with all.

Text: Johann Heermann, 1630; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1863, alt.
Tune: Ahasuerus Fritsch, 1679; harm. Johann S. Bach, 1685-1750, in Cantata 45

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