

## “O Darkest Woe”

by Johann von Rist, 1607-1667

From:

*The Lutheran Hymnal*

(St. Louis: Concordia Publishing House,  
1941)

1. O darkest woe!  
Ye tears, forth flow!  
Has earth so sad a wonder?  
God the Father's only Son  
Now is buried yonder.
  
2. O sorrow dread!  
God's Son is dead!  
But by His expiation  
Of our guilt upon the cross  
Gained for us salvation.
  
3. O sinful man!  
It was the ban  
Of death on thee that brought Him  
Down to suffer for thy sins  
And such woe hath wrought Him.
  
4. Lo, stained with blood,  
The Lamb of God,  
The Bridegroom, lies before thee,  
Pouring out His life that He  
May to life restore thee.
  
5. O Ground of faith,  
Laid low in death.  
Sweet lips. now silent sleeping!  
Surely all that live must mourn  
Here with bitter weeping.
  
6. Oh. blest shall be  
Eternally  
Who oft in faith will ponder  
Why the glorious Prince of Life  
Should be buried yonder.

7. O Jesus blest,  
My Help and Rest  
With tears I now entreat Thee:  
Make me love Thee to the last,  
Till in heaven I greet Thee!

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Notes:

Hymn #167 from *Handbook to the Lutheran Hymnal*

Text: Acts 3:15

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Author: Johann Rist, 1641, ab, Stanzas 2-7

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