

7/3/20



## HANDS TO WORK - - - - - HEARTS TO GOD

'Tis the gift to be simple, 'tis the gift to be free,  
'Tis the gift to come down where we ought to be...  
And when we find ourselves in the place just right  
'Twill be in the valley of love and delight !

When true simplicity is gained, to bow and to bend  
we shan't be ashamed

To turn, turn will be our delight,

'Til by turning, turning, we come round right.

I have always loved these words ... don't we all yearn to  
find ourselves in the place "just right?"

They come to us from the Shakers ... a religious sect with  
only a couple of Believers still alive today in the last  
Shaker settlement in Sabbathday Lake, Maine.

Although the thriving communities of the 1800's are a  
thing of the past, their legacy  
lingers in their vision of life's meaning: GOD is LOVE ...  
and it is the calling of every person to show forth that  
love in the world in every way possible!!

The song, SIMPLE GIFTS, written by Elder Joseph  
Brackett in 1848 has become one of the most celebrated  
songs EVER! It was composed as a Shaker dancing song,  
so

"turning" actually refers to dance instructions – as well  
as being symbolic of turning our lives in the right direction – toward God ...  
Fulfillment in life is not attained through power and wealth, but through the gift of  
humility and simplicity – leading us into the "just right" place of joy and love and  
delight!

Here is a link to listen to the music – which is a delight in itself .... ENJOY!!

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dM1\\_i-xMB7U](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dM1_i-xMB7U)

