

## July 2010—Hymn of the Month

### *Song*

### *How Deep the Father's Love for Us*

#### *Brief History of Origin and Writer*

**Stuart Townend** is a British Christian worship leader and writer of hymns and contemporary worship music. His songs include "In Christ Alone" (2002, cowritten with Keith Getty, Townend's first collaboration with any other songwriter.) "How Deep The Father's Love For Us", "Beautiful Saviour" and "The King Of Love". In 2005, *Cross Rhythms* magazine described Townend as "one of the most significant songwriters in the whole international Christian music field". The Christian website Crosswalk.com commented that, "the uniqueness of Townend's writing lies partly in its lyrical content. There is both a theological depth and poetic expression that some say is rare in today's worship writing"<sup>1</sup>.

Townend, son of a Church of England vicar in Halifax, West Yorkshire, was the youngest of four children. He studied literature at the University of Sussex<sup>1</sup>. Townend started learning to play the piano at age 7. At the age of 13, he made a Christian commitment, and began songwriting at age 22.



**Stuart Townend**  
**1963 -**

[www.stuarttownend.co.uk](http://www.stuarttownend.co.uk)

#### *Lyrics*

How deep the Father's love for us,  
How vast beyond all measure  
That He should give His only Son  
To make a wretch His treasure

How great the pain of searing loss,  
The Father turns His face away  
As wounds which mar the chosen One,  
Bring many sons to glory

Behold the Man upon a cross,  
My sin upon His shoulders  
Ashamed I hear my mocking voice,  
Call out among the scoffers

It was my sin that held Him there  
Until it was accomplished  
His dying breath has brought me life  
I know that it is finished

I will not boast in anything  
No gifts, no power, no wisdom  
But I will boast in Jesus Christ  
His death and resurrection

Why should I gain from His reward?  
I cannot give an answer  
But this I know with all my heart  
His wounds have paid my ransom

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