

The Wish of the Queen

Frederic William Farrar (1831 – 1903), often known as Dean Farrar, was a theological writer. Born in Bombay, India, he was educated at King William's College on the Isle of Man, King's College London and Trinity College, Cambridge, and it was there he won the Chancellor's Gold Medal for poetry in 1852.

Farrar became successively Canon of Westminster and Rector of St. Margaret's, Archdeacon of Westminster and Dean of Canterbury. He was an eloquent preacher and a voluminous author. His daughter, Maud, was the mother of World War II British Field Marshal Bernard Montgomery.

Farrar was a privileged personal friend of Queen Victoria, although he seldom referred to their relationship and never tried to capitalize on it. However, during a service held in Canterbury Cathedral to commemorate the first anniversary of the accession of Edward VII to the throne of England, Farrar told of one experience he had with Queen Victoria.

He recalled an occasion during which the queen had heard one of her chaplains preach at Windsor. His topic was the second coming of Christ. Afterward, she spoke to Farrar about it and said, "Oh, how I wish that the Lord would come during my lifetime."

"Why does Your Majesty feel this very earnest desire?" the preacher asked her.



At that, he recalled, her countenance lit up with deep emotion. She replied, "Because I should so love to lay my crown at His feet."

That, of course, was the Queen of England speaking.

But her thought should cause some serious reflection for us.

Anything we may accomplish or attain in this life is worthy of only one thing: to be credited to God's goodness and to be surrendered to the Lord for His purposes.

As the Lord's Prayer teaches us: "Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever."

– Beecher Hunter