

ANGELS FROM THE REALMS OF GLORY

- I. James Montgomery wrote the text of this hymn. He was born in England and at only six years of age, was sent away to boarding school. James' parents were missionaries in the West Indies but were killed at their mission post. After their death, James was left to live in the homes of friends and relatives as they were able to keep him.

By ten years of age he was writing poetry and as a teenager he packed his few belongings and took his poems to London to find a publisher. While no publisher could be found, James did get a job working for a newspaper, *The Sheffield Register*. In just a few years he bought the paper and renamed it *The Sheffield Iris*.

James had many strong views about social and political events of his day. He was soon put in prison for expressing these views, but his many friends bailed him out. Soon, however, he was back in jail for writing in support of the poor workers at a local mill. This time he used his days in prison to write a book entitled *Prison Amusements* which became a best seller. When he left prison, James found that *The Sheffield Iris* was a more popular paper than ever because its owner had been put in prison for speaking out on important matters. James sent a letter thanking the judge who had sentenced him to prison because this had helped him become so famous.

The upbringing of James' missionary parents came back to James and he wrote poetry and articles from a Christian point of view, based on scriptural teachings. By the time he was 45, he was writing hymn texts. "Angels from the Realms of Glory" was written for the Christmas Eve edition of *The Iris* in 1816.

- II. "Angels from the Realms of Glory" mentions several names given to Jesus. Read the appropriate stanza and scripture and fill in the blanks with the correct name.

Stanza 1 (John 4:25): _____

Stanza 2 (Matthew 1:23): Emmanuel means _____

Stanza 2 (John 8:12): _____ of the world

Refrain (Matthew 2:2): _____ of the Jews

- III. Many hymnals contain other hymns by James Montgomery. Look up his name in the Index of Authors and list as many as you can find:
