

# just as i am without one plea lyrics and chords

**just as i am without one plea lyrics and chords** is a timeless hymn that has resonated with believers for generations. This article provides a comprehensive look at the lyrics and chords of "Just As I Am," a classic Christian song known for its powerful message of acceptance and grace. Whether you are a musician, worship leader, or someone interested in hymnody, understanding the structure and meaning of the hymn enhances both performance and appreciation. The lyrics and chords will be laid out clearly, along with explanations of the song's origins and its impact on contemporary worship.

This guide also explores how to play "Just As I Am" on guitar or piano, making it accessible for beginners and experienced players alike. The hymn's straightforward chord progression is perfect for those seeking to incorporate meaningful worship music into their repertoire. Additionally, tips on interpreting the song and suggestions for vocal delivery will be discussed to help bring out the hymn's emotional depth.

Below is the table of contents outlining the main sections covered in this article.

- Background and History of "Just As I Am"
- Full Lyrics of "Just As I Am"
- Chords and Musical Structure
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## Background and History of "Just As I Am"

"Just As I Am" is a well-known Christian hymn written by Charlotte Elliott in 1835. The hymn was originally penned as a reflection of Elliott's personal struggle with faith and her ultimate acceptance of God's grace without pretense. It is often associated with altar calls and moments of personal commitment in Christian worship services. The hymn's message emphasizes coming to God without reservations, acknowledging one's flaws while seeking acceptance and forgiveness.

Over the years, "Just As I Am" has been translated into multiple languages and adapted into various musical arrangements, maintaining its relevance in modern worship settings. Its simple yet profound lyrics continue to inspire and comfort believers worldwide.

## Full Lyrics of "Just As I Am"

The lyrics of "Just As I Am" are straightforward and deeply meaningful, expressing themes of

surrender and grace. Below is the complete set of lyrics commonly used in worship.

- Just as I am, without one plea,
- But that Thy blood was shed for me,
- And that Thou bidst me come to Thee,
- O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
- Just as I am, and waiting not
- To rid my soul of one dark blot,
- To Thee, whose blood can cleanse each spot,
- O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
- Just as I am, though tossed about
- With many a conflict, many a doubt,
- Fightings and fears within, without,
- O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
- Just as I am, Thou wilt receive,
- Wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;
- Because Thy promise I believe,
- O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
- Just as I am, Thy love unknown
- Has broken every barrier down;
- Now to be Thine, yea, Thine alone,
- O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
- Just as I am, of that free love
- The breadth, length, depth, and height to prove,
- Here for a season, then above,
- O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

# Chords and Musical Structure

The musical arrangement of "Just As I Am" is typically simple, making it accessible for musicians of all skill levels. The hymn is often played in the key of G major, which is comfortable for many vocalists. The chord progression follows a traditional pattern suitable for congregational singing.

Common chords used in the hymn include G, C, D, and Em, which provide a harmonious and soothing accompaniment to the lyrics. The tempo is usually moderate, allowing the message to be conveyed with emotional clarity.

## Basic Chord Progression

The basic chord structure for the verse of "Just As I Am" generally follows this pattern:

1. G - Just as I am, without one plea
2. C - But that Thy blood was shed for me
3. G - And that Thou bidst me come to Thee
4. D - O Lamb of God, I come, I come
5. G - I come

This progression repeats for each stanza, with slight variations possible depending on the arrangement.

## How to Play "Just As I Am" on Guitar

Playing "Just As I Am" on guitar requires basic chord knowledge and the ability to maintain a steady rhythm. The song's straightforward chord sequence makes it ideal for beginners who want to learn a meaningful hymn quickly.

## Essential Chords for Guitar

The following chords are essential to playing "Just As I Am" on guitar:

- G major (G)
- C major (C)
- D major (D)
- E minor (Em)

## Strumming Pattern

A simple down-up strumming pattern in 4/4 time works well for this hymn. The moderate tempo allows players to focus on smooth chord transitions and vocal accompaniment.

## Step-by-Step Guide

1. Start with the G chord as you sing "Just as I am."
2. Switch to C on "But that Thy blood."
3. Return to G on "And that Thou bidst me."
4. Move to D on "O Lamb of God."
5. Resolve back to G on "I come."

Practice this sequence slowly, ensuring clean chord changes and consistent rhythm.

## Tips for Singing and Interpretation

Interpreting "Just As I Am" vocally involves conveying the sincerity and depth of the hymn's message. The lyrics invite a personal and heartfelt delivery, which can be enhanced by thoughtful vocal dynamics and phrasing.

## Vocal Delivery Suggestions

- **Expressiveness:** Emphasize key phrases such as "without one plea" and "O Lamb of God" to highlight the hymn's theme of grace.
- **Tempo:** Maintain a moderate tempo to allow for emotional resonance without rushing.
- **Dynamics:** Use softer dynamics during reflective lines and gradually build volume to emphasize commitment.
- **Breath Control:** Take strategic breaths to sustain longer phrases smoothly.

## Incorporating the Hymn in Worship

"Just As I Am" is often used during altar calls or moments of invitation in church services. Its powerful message encourages congregants to come forward with openness and humility. When leading this hymn, consider introducing it with a brief explanation of its significance to enhance congregation

engagement.

## **Frequently Asked Questions**

### **What are the lyrics to 'Just As I Am' without the phrase 'one plea'?**

The lyrics of 'Just As I Am' without the phrase 'one plea' maintain the hymn's core message of coming to Christ as you are, emphasizing acceptance and grace without specifically using the words 'without one plea.' The verses focus on surrender and faith.

### **Where can I find the chords for 'Just As I Am' to play along with the lyrics?**

Chords for 'Just As I Am' are widely available on music websites like Ultimate Guitar, Worship Together, and Hymnary.org. The song typically uses simple chords such as G, C, D, and Em, making it accessible for beginners.

### **How do the chords of 'Just As I Am' complement the emotional tone of the lyrics?**

The chords of 'Just As I Am' are generally gentle and flowing, supporting the hymn's themes of humility, surrender, and grace. The progression often uses major chords that convey warmth and acceptance, enhancing the lyrical message.

### **Can I find a version of 'Just As I Am' that omits the phrase 'without one plea' for personal or performance use?**

Yes, some adaptations or arrangements of 'Just As I Am' modify or omit certain phrases like 'without one plea' to suit different denominational preferences or performance contexts. These versions can sometimes be found in hymnals or online forums.

### **What is the historical significance of the phrase 'without one plea' in the hymn 'Just As I Am'?**

The phrase 'without one plea' in 'Just As I Am' emphasizes approaching Christ without any argument or condition, highlighting pure faith and acceptance. Historically, it reflects the 19th-century evangelical emphasis on personal surrender and grace.

### **How can I learn to play 'Just As I Am' on guitar using the chords and lyrics together?**

To learn 'Just As I Am' on guitar, start by familiarizing yourself with the basic chords (G, C, D, Em). Practice changing between these chords smoothly while singing the lyrics. Online tutorials and chord

charts can guide you through the strumming patterns and timing to match the hymn's rhythm.

## Additional Resources

### 1. *Just As I Am: The Life of Billy Graham*

This biography explores the life and legacy of Billy Graham, the famed evangelist who popularized the hymn "Just As I Am." The book delves into his impactful ministry, personal struggles, and lasting influence on modern Christianity. Readers gain insight into the man behind the message of grace and acceptance.

### 2. *Hymns of Faith: The Stories Behind the Songs*

A collection that uncovers the origins and meanings of beloved Christian hymns, including "Just As I Am." Each chapter provides historical context, lyrical analysis, and the impact these songs have had on worship practices. This book is perfect for music lovers and church musicians alike.

### 3. *The Power of Grace: Understanding "Just As I Am"*

Focusing on the theme of grace, this book explores the theological significance of the hymn "Just As I Am." It offers reflections on accepting God's love without conditions and how this message resonates in contemporary faith life. Readers are encouraged to embrace grace in their spiritual journey.

### 4. *Sing! A Guide to Playing and Singing Christian Hymns*

Designed for musicians and worship leaders, this guide includes lyrics, chords, and arrangements for classic hymns such as "Just As I Am." It provides practical advice on accompaniment, vocal techniques, and creating meaningful worship experiences. The book supports both beginners and experienced players.

### 5. *Voices of Worship: Hymns That Changed the Church*

This book examines several influential hymns that have shaped Christian worship traditions, highlighting "Just As I Am" among them. It offers biographical sketches of hymn writers and explores how their works addressed spiritual needs of their times. Readers learn about the cultural and religious impact of these songs.

### 6. *The Heart of Worship: Embracing Humble Praise*

Centered on the attitude expressed in "Just As I Am," this devotional book encourages readers to approach God with sincerity and humility. It includes daily reflections, scripture readings, and prayers inspired by the hymn's message. The book aims to deepen personal worship and faith.

### 7. *Music and Ministry: Hymns as Tools for Evangelism*

Exploring how hymns like "Just As I Am" have been used in evangelistic outreach, this book discusses the role of music in spreading the Christian gospel. It provides case studies, historical examples, and tips for integrating music into ministry efforts. The book is a resource for pastors, missionaries, and worship leaders.

### 8. *Classic Hymns for Guitar: Chords and Lyrics*

A practical songbook featuring popular hymns including "Just As I Am," arranged specifically for guitar players. It offers chord charts, strumming patterns, and performance notes to help musicians lead worship confidently. Ideal for personal practice or group settings.

### 9. *Faith in Song: The Enduring Legacy of "Just As I Am"*

This reflective work explores why "Just As I Am" remains a powerful hymn across generations and

denominations. It includes testimonies, historical background, and theological insights that highlight the song's enduring appeal. The book invites readers to consider the hymn's relevance in today's faith communities.

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