For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth on him should not perish, but have eternal life. John 3:16 (ASV)

> When we were utterly helpless, Christ came at just the right time and died for us sinners. Romans 5:6 (NLT)

Sometimes the inspiration for a song comes from the simplest thought, an idea, a word, or a phrase. With the following song, I had heard a phrase that deeply touched me...

It goes:

I asked Jesus "How much do You love me?" "This much," He answered. Then He stretched out His arms and died.

It is rare that so few words can say and mean so much.

I hope that the song these words inspired me to write, captures some of the power I feel when reading them.

He Spread His Arms

by Jeffrey Robert Smith

VERSE 1: He spread His arms over all His Father's kingdom, For the people of His Earth, both far and wide, He spread His arms to show how much He loves us.... He spread His arms upon a cross, and then He died.

VERSE 2: He gave his words so all would know His teachings; For those who came to follow and be brave. He gave His life for all His Father's people; He gave His life on Earth so all might still be saved.

REFRAIN: How much more could He have done Than give it all for you? How much more could anyone Want our Lord to do? He spread His arms for you.

VERSE 3: He shared His words with all who would receive them; He shared His truth and all the love He holds inside. He spread His arms to show He cares about us.... He spread His arms upon a cross, and then He died.

VERSE 4: He showed the way for all who choose to follow; He showed the truth to all who would receive. He showed the way to all His Father's people; He gave His life for us so all could now believe.

REFRAIN: How much more could He have done Than give it all for you? How much more could anyone Want our Lord to do? He spread His arms for you.

VERSE 5: He spread His arms over all of God's creation, Over all who dwell within, both far and wide, He spread His arms to show how much He loves us.... He spread His arms upon a cross, and then He died. Yes, He showed how much He loves us -when He died.

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