

Fanny Crosby – Blind Hymnist & America’s Queen of Gospel Songs

- Lost her sight from a bad medical treatment at 6 weeks old
- Her father died when she was 1 year old
- Memorized the first 5 books of the Bible, the 4 Gospels, most of Psalms & Proverbs, and many other passages of scripture with the help of her mother, grandmother and landlord
- Played piano, harp and guitar
- Entered the New York Institute for the Blind at age 15
- Published her first book of poems at age 24
- Became a teacher at the New York institute for the Blind at the age of 27
- Had great success as a secular poet and song writer prior to writing hymns
- Came to full assurance in Christ at the age of 31
- Wrote her first hymn at age 43
- Wrote over 8000 hymns
- Married to Mr. Alexander Van Alstyne, a blind music teacher at the New York Institute for the Blind
- Bore sadness of the death of their only child who was still an infant
- First lady to address a joint session of Congress
- Friend to Presidents and Congress (knew all presidents during her lifetime except George Washington)
- Frequent volunteer at New York’s Bowery Mission
- Frequent speaker at YMCA’s, missions and gatherings
- Died at the age of 94