



Pastor's Comments

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Northampton Assembly of God

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Coming Home

One evening in 1921, Professor William J. Kirkpatrick, who had written the music to *We Have Heard the Joyful Sound*, *Jesus Saves*, *Jesus Saves*, *'Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus*, and many others, told his wife that **a song had been running through his mind all day**, and that he was going to his study to put it on paper before he forgot it. She knew that he often worked late in his study, so she retired for the evening. After midnight she awoke and, seeing the lights in her husband's study still burning, went in to investigate. **She found him at his desk...dead!** The pencil was still clutched in his lifeless hand and spread before him were the lines of **his newly completed hymn:**

*Coming home, coming home,
Never more to roam.
Open wide thine arms of love,
Lord, I'm coming home.*

If you do not know Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior, I urge you to read the story Jesus told of a son's return home (Luke 15:11-24), and then make the first and second stanzas of Kirkpatrick's hymn your sincere prayer:

*I've wandered far away from God,
Now I'm coming home;
The paths of sin too long I've trod,
Lord, I'm coming home.*

*I've wasted many precious years,
Now I'm coming home;
I now repent with bitter tears,
Lord, I'm coming home.*