

LSB 673

Jerusalem, my happy home

TEXT BACKGROUND

In 1553, a book of meditations attributed to St. Augustine, the *Liber meditationum*, was published in Venice. Augustina's authorship is highly suspect, but the collection was popular enough that it became the basis for three poems that serve either as models or sources of this hymn. The first is a 44-stanza poem beginning "O Mother deare Hierusalem," published in *The Glasse of Vaine-Glorie* of W. Prid (1585); the second is the anonymous 19-stanza *Song of Mary the Mother of Christ... with the description of heavenly Jerusalem* (1601); and the third is a 26-stanza song |by F.B.P.," beginning "Hierusalem my happie home," which dates from around 1616.