

Jim Reeves

"Trouble In The Amen Corner"

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It was a stylish congregation, you could see they'd
been around
And they had the biggest pipe organ of any church in
town
But over in the Amen Corner of that church sat Brother
Ayer
And he insisted every Sunday on singing in the choir

His voice was cracked, and broken age had touched
his vocal chords
And nearly every Sunday he'd get behind and miss the
words
Well, the choir got so flustered, the church was told in
fine
That Brother Ayer must stop his singing or the choir
was going to resign

So the pastor appointed a committee, I think it was
three or four
And they got in their big fine cars and drove up to
Ayer's door
They find the choir's great trouble sittin' there in an old
arm chair
And the summer's golden sunbeams lay upon his snow
white hair

Said, "York, we're here dear Brother with the vestries
approbation
To discuss a little matter that affects the congregation
Now, it seems that your voice has interfered with the
choir
So, if you'll just lay out, are you listening Brother Ayer?"

The old man raised his head a sign that he had hear
And on his cheek the three men caught the glitter of a
tear
His feeble hands pushed back the locks as white as
silky snow
And he answered the committee in a voice both soft
and low

"I wonder if beyond the tide that's breaking at my feet

In that far off heavenly temple where my Master and I
shall meet
Yes, I wonder if, when I try to sing the song of God up
higher
I wonder if they'll kick me out of there for singing in
heaven's choir

A silence filled the little room and the old man bowed
his head
The committee went on back to town but Brother Ayer
was dead
The choir missed him for awhile but he was soon
forgotten
A few church goers watched the door but the old man
entered not

Far away his voice is sweet and he sings his heart
desire
Where are there no church committees and no
fashionable choirs
Let me hide myself in Thee

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