

715 The Earth Belongs to God Alone



1 The earth be - longs to God a - lone; hard
 2 The fer - tile ground through years of toil has
 3 All life be - longs to God a - lone, in
 4 Till God en - dows the earth once more with



clay, rich soil, fine sand. Give thanks wher - ev - er
 cried for Sab - bath rest— a time of peace for
 wil - der - ness and fields. From fal - low land, or
 E - den's state of grace, may we en - deav - or



food is grown on bor - rowed ho - ly land.
 worn - out soil so land can be re - freshed.
 plowed and sown, God gives the good it yields.
 to re - store all land as sa - cred space.

This text emerged from a study of the attention in Levitical laws to the well-being of the land, especially by calling for fallow periods, or "land sabbaths," to preserve the soil. 2 Chronicles 36:21 even suggests that the Babylonian exile may have resulted from abusing the land.