

# **Poems From The Still Of The Night**

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## INTRODUCTION

*For in a visitation of the night  
You inspected my heart  
and refined my soul in fire  
until nothing vile was found in me  
I will not sin with my words.*

Psalm 17:3 (TPT)

*This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth,  
but you shall meditate in it day and night, that you may observe to  
do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your  
way prosperous, and then you will have good success.*

Joshua 1:8 (NIV)

Put aside all pretense and make it your goal to be authentic. Taking time to ponder will foster authenticity. A manufactured, false image will only foster incorrect, meaningless, pressure-filled connections with others. If you want meaningful, genuine relationships, you need to be authentic. So, what does the path to authenticity look like in this crazy, fast-paced, noisy world? Only in silence and solitude will you find authenticity. It is in solitude that isolation will

make you stronger. Without silence and solitude, you will be a faint reflection of those around you, not thinking or believing for yourself, a finger puppet of the masses.

Solitude is taking time in a specific place with a deliberate purpose and plan. It is time to ponder and ask questions; it is a place we set aside, discover what we believe and stand for, and develop a plan that is not pressured or forced.

The goal of this time of solitude is to become more authentic. God only made one of you, and you possess unique qualities and purposes. It would be a shame to neglect your uniqueness as you are working to gather appreciation from others, others who do not care.

This solitude is a time of separation from the thoughts, actions, words, and opinions of others. It is time to honestly and humbly evaluate and reevaluate. Take a moral inventory by asking yourself some of the following questions. What are your core beliefs? What do you stand for? Who are you?

Time spent in solitude is not a race; take your time, remain focused but unpressured, and you will find, with God's guidance, that slowly, your resilience, creativity, and authenticity will grow.

David had witnessed God's love, forgiveness, and strength many times in his life by the time he wrote Psalm 139 in his later years. He saw a giant fall with the impact of one small stone, armies defeated, and the wealth of a nation grow. In Psalm 139, David stated how he is aware of God's expansive knowledge and presence. He acknowledged how God had formed us in ways that are beyond our ability to comprehend. Knowing all David knew and experienced from God, he requests just one thing towards the end of his life. He asks that God help him see if he is walking in any path of pain. David asks God for assistance with taking an accurate inventory. *"God, I invite your searching gaze into my heart. Examine me through and through; find out everything that may be hidden within me. Put me to the test and sift through all my anxious*

*cares. See if there is any path of pain I'm walking on, and lead me back to your glorious, everlasting ways - the path that brings me back to you."* Psalms 139:23-24 (TPT) This should be our prayer as we place our heads on our pillow every night. God, show me the path of pain I am walking and the way back to you.

We should be watching over our hearts and taking moral inventory because this will determine our life's direction and outcome. We only get one life; spend it wisely.

*Proverbs 4:23-27 (AMP) "Watch over your heart with all diligence, For from it flow the springs of life. Put away from you a deceitful (lying, misleading) mouth, And put devious lips far from you. Let your eyes look directly ahead [toward the path of moral courage] And let your gaze be fixed straight in front of you [toward the path of integrity]. Consider well and watch carefully the path of your feet, And all your ways will be steadfast and sure. Do not turn away to the right nor to the left [where evil may lurk]; Turn your foot from [the path of] evil."*

This book is the product of this kind of meditative solitude. Most of the verses came to me at night after spending time meditating on the scriptures that appear before each poem.

*Don't be fooled  
by those who speak their empty words  
and deceptive teachings  
telling you otherwise.  
This is what brings God's anger  
upon the rebellious!*

Ephesians 5:6

## **Age of Deception**

When the days are dark with deception  
You will know the end is near,  
Listen to the Master  
His words are "Do Not Fear!"

Institutions that once were trusted  
No longer are the same,  
They lost their moral compass  
Abandoned guilt and shame.

There is counterfeit salvation  
Costly but offered for free,  
And all that is required  
Is to cast your vote for me.

Follow all my teachings  
Watch me on TV,  
It will make you very wealthy  
For only a little fee.

Confusion and deception  
Are both tools that you know,  
Used to feed their greed  
And to empty your hungry soul.

Remember His words of promise  
"Child, Do not fear,"  
Bathe daily in His Word  
He promised to be near.

*Leave all your cares and anxieties  
at the feet of the Lord,  
and measureless grace  
will strengthen you.*

Psalm 55:22

## **Baggage**

The baggage that I carry  
Has started to weigh me down,  
Once I had a smile  
Now I have a frown.

The baggage that I carry  
Gets heavier by the day,  
I think I'll need a rest  
As I wander on my way.

When the bags began to open  
What was it I did see,  
But a whole lot of anguish  
Looking back at me.

I see the heartaches that I've carried  
For much, much too long,  
And a satchel of resentment  
When others did me wrong.

But, Lord You spoke with kindness  
That Your burden would be light,  
So, why does all this baggage  
Keep me troubled all the night.

Thank you, Lord, for lifting  
The baggage off of me,  
You bore the weight completely  
Hanging on that tree.

*My old identity has been co-crucified with Christ  
And no longer lives.  
And now the essence of this new life is no longer mine,  
For the Anointed One lives His life through me,  
We live in union as one!  
My new life is empowered by the faith of the Son of God  
Who loves me so much that He gave himself for me,  
Dispensing His life into mine!*

Galatians 2:20



## **Belief that Changes You**

Faith is a belief that changes you  
Transforms you from within,  
A work of the Holy Spirit  
If you invite Him in.

To believe that God is loving  
Merciful and kind,  
Frees you from offences  
To leave the past behind.

To believe that God is just  
And He fights for you,  
Should give you peace and comfort  
Knowing the enemy isn't through.

To believe that God is righteous  
And has a plan for you,  
Should make you want to seek Him  
Before this day is through.

To believe that God is Almighty  
Worthy of worship and praise,  
Should destroy all pride and pretense  
Wiping away self-centered haze.

If faith is a belief that changes you  
What is the change you see?  
When the Holy Spirit is working  
You should see more of Him and less of me.

*Lay aside bitter words,  
temper tantrums,  
revenge, profanity, and insults.*

Ephesians 4:31

## **Bitterness**

Bitterness is subtle  
You oft don't know it's there,  
Until that flame is raging  
Licking at your hair.

Let go of all the bitterness  
There is nothing you are owed,  
That will destroy you more quickly  
Than caring that load.

When bitterness exhales  
It's best to hold your breath,  
Let go of what you're holding  
Look to Him for peace and rest.

My pride can do more damage  
Than you can wound my pride,  
Especially when offended  
Or burning up inside.

Guard your words more closely  
Bite firmly on your tongue,  
Let go of all the churning  
There's a new song to be sung.

*Protect me from harm,  
keep an eye on me  
as You would a child who is reflected  
in the twinkling of Your eye.  
Yes, hide me within the shelter of Your embrace,  
under Your outstretched wings.*

Psalm 17:8

## **Blurred Vision**

I ask you Lord, in earnest  
Remove the scales from my eyes,  
Help me see more clearly  
Through deception and cruel lies.

Fear and worry confuse me  
Making it hard to see,  
The dangers all around me  
And to know when I should flee.

I feel like I am running  
With a target on my back,  
But I know You go before me  
Supplying where I lack.

Outside the storms are raging  
Inside I'm tasting fear,  
How can I move forward  
When my vision is not clear?

I know there are many places  
In my heart that are not right,  
Remove the self-deception  
Equip me for the fight.

Help me see the log of pride  
That blinds me to Your will,  
Wash me daily with Your Word  
Your purpose to fulfill.

*And what is sown among thorns  
represents those who hear the message,  
but they allow the cares of this life and the seduction of wealth  
and the desire for other things  
to crowd out and choke the message  
so that it produces nothing.*

Mark 4:18-19

## **Deceitful Riches**

The sweet melody of riches  
Is another weed I see,  
It gives pleasure for a moment  
But no security.

It feeds a hungry passion  
Always wanting more,  
And when I have enough  
There is no room on my floor.

So then I must get busy  
Build a much, much bigger house,  
To store those precious treasures  
And chase out every mouse.

But as I sit there quiet  
In the midst of all this stuff,  
There is a deep and haunting feeling  
That there'll never be enough.

The pleasures that are fleeting  
Have now just flit away,  
And I am left here grieving  
With only bills to pay.

The answer is in resting  
In the protection of Your hold,  
To know that You love me  
Is worth more than all the gold.

*But the one whose heart is open,  
let him listen carefully to what the Spirit  
is presently saying to all the churches.  
To everyone who is victorious  
I will let him feast on the hidden manna  
and give him a shining white stone.  
And written upon the white stone is inscribed his new name,  
known only to the one who receives it.*

Revelation 2:17



## **Do You Know Your Name?**

Do you know your name?  
Not the one used by your mother,  
But the one that existed earlier  
Declared by your heavenly Father.

This name is not a label  
But the essence of your being,  
A name describing purpose  
A name with eternal meaning.

This name is very special  
It applies just to you,  
You better pause to find it  
Before this day is through.

To live a life that is fulfilling  
For the purpose you were made,  
Live the name that He has given  
And struggles will start to fade.

To find the name He gave you  
While He knit you in the womb,  
Will fill your life with purpose  
And free you from the tomb.

Lean into the Master  
Praise Him for He is kind,  
And your name He will whisper  
And your purpose you will find.

*I, even I, am the Lord,  
and besides Me there is no savior.  
I have declared and saved,  
I have proclaimed,  
and there was no foreign god among you;  
therefore you are My witnesses,  
says the Lord,  
that I am God.*

Isaiah 43:11-12

## **EI Eloah – God the Mighty and Prominent**

How can I know You as EI Eloah  
God who is prominent,  
When all the while I'm living  
To promote my own ascent.

My striving for self-importance  
Pushes You away,  
I feel like I am drowning  
Help me, Lord, today.

I know You as creator  
I know Your love is real,  
Yet, still with my thoughts and actions  
Your place of prominence I try to steal.

I know that all my striving  
Has only caused me pain,  
And to see You in Your glory  
Will only bring me gain.

To know You as the Almighty  
Not constrained by time or space,  
The only One worthy of prominence  
Will put me in my place.

To know You as EI Eloah the mighty  
I know what I must do,  
Seek Your presence daily  
Until my life is through.

*God's splendor is a tale that is told,  
written in the stars.  
Space itself speaks His story  
through the marvels of the heavens.  
His truth is on tour in the starry vault of the sky,  
showing His skill in creation's craftsmanship.*

Psalm 19:1

## **Eloah – God the Prominent**

We have a glimpse of Your prominence  
In all that You have made,  
The splendor of a sunset  
As the light begins to fade.

When I look up to the heavens  
Where the moon and stars reside,  
I am filled with awe and wonder  
That You are by my side.

You are God the Prominent  
The creator of the world,  
And as the sun is rising  
Beauty is unfurled.

Forgive me Lord, I pray  
For making You so small,  
I cannot capture Your majesty  
With just a plaque on the wall.

But to see You in Your prominence  
That you reign supreme,  
Is to see You as much more  
Than just the captain of my team.

Worthy of praise and worship  
Just for who You are,  
Eloah the prominent  
Who does not dwell afar.

*Look! God's tabernacle is with human beings.  
And from now on He will tabernacle with them as their God.  
Now God himself will have His home with them—  
    'God-with-them' will be their God!  
He will wipe away every tear from their eyes  
    and eliminate death entirely.  
No one will mourn or weep any longer.  
The pain of wounds will no longer exist,  
    for the old order has ceased.*

Revelation 21:3-4

## **Eternal Perspective**

A thousand years into eternity  
I'll glance back at today,  
And wonder why I worried  
Or was tempted to go astray.

Afflictions and achievements  
That fired up my core,  
Have vanished like a vapor  
I'm no longer keeping score.

We'll have wisdom without agony  
Walking with the Lord,  
In the cool of the evening  
Never being bored.

We will arise in glory  
On that joyful day,  
Sin's curse has been defeated  
And on His new earth, we will stay.

When your life on this earth is over  
What will become of you?  
A question you should ponder  
Before this day is through.

*Do not yield to fear,  
for I am always near.  
Never turn your gaze from Me,  
for I am your faithful God.  
I will infuse you with My strength  
and help you in every situation.  
I will hold you firmly  
with my victorious right hand.*

*Isaiah 41:10*



## **Fear**

Fear is a bass drum  
With a constant robust beat,  
It drives me to seek knowledge  
Where to safely plant my feet.

But in a world of endless knowing  
What knowledge will help me,  
Move safely and securely  
Without feeling, I have to flee.

So how can I move forward?  
Facing all this fear,  
When the news is so depressing  
And science is unclear.

It's the knowledge that You love me  
That brings quiet to my soul,  
To rest in that assurance  
Is all I need to know.

To know that You love me Lord  
When nothing's making sense,  
Is to trust in Your protection  
Quiet and at rest.

*But hold your hope firmly to the end  
and you will experience  
life and deliverance.*

Matthew 24:13

## **Finish Strong**

Do not be deceived  
Do not be lead astray,  
Do not become distracted  
No matter what others say.

The days are getting darker  
Fear is in the air,  
Uncertainty is rising  
Nothing seems to be fair.

The earth has started shaking  
No solid place to stand,  
Reach for the loving Master  
He will take you by the hand.

With trust and respect gone missing  
It is hard for love to flow,  
Abandon selfish ambition  
If you want that love to grow.

Run towards the Savior  
Bathe daily in His Word,  
Praise Him in the moment  
Your prayers to Him are heard.

In weakness this journey started  
But now you must finish strong,  
The Master is returning  
And it won't be very long.

*Put your heart and soul  
into every activity you do,  
as though you are doing it for the Lord Himself.  
and not merely for others.*

Colossians 3:23

## **Fire**

I feel the fire within me grow  
The flames are getting higher,  
I want to serve the Lord my God  
His will is my desire,  
Whatever you have for me is best  
Just put more coals on the fire,  
For Lord this day, I want to see  
The fire spread because of me.

*My heart burned with a fire within me,  
and my thoughts eventually boiled over until  
they finally came rolling out of my mouth.  
“Lord, help me to know how fleeting my time on earth is.  
Help me to know how limited is my life  
and that I’m only here but for a moment more.*

Psalm 39:3-4

## **Flaming Indignation**

Flaming indignation  
I thought you were a friend,  
Standing strong together  
Fighting to the end.

Flaming indignation  
Oh, I felt so strong,  
Standing up to evil  
Fighting all day long.

A stalwart guard of justice  
Of this, I took some pride,  
Alerted to deception  
Ready to collide.

Flaming indignation  
Now it's gotten hold of me,  
I've lost my sense of purpose  
No sense of being free.

Indignation is never righteous  
It can eat your very soul,  
Stand up for what is right  
Don't make the fight your goal.

Forgiveness is important  
As You have forgiven me,  
Lord, give me strength and courage  
I need to be set free.

*Join me, everyone!  
Let's praise the Lord together.  
Let's make Him famous!  
Let's make His name glorious to all.  
Listen to my testimony.  
I cried to God in my distress,  
and He answered me.  
He freed me from all my fears.  
Gaze upon Him, join your life with His,  
and joy will come.  
Your faces will glisten with glory.  
You'll never wear that shame face again.*

Psalm 34:3-5



## **Focus on the Master**

Don't become distracted  
By the troubles of the day,  
Thank the Lord you're breathing  
Humble yourself and pray.

The devil wants your focus  
On things you cannot change,  
On the fears, the cares, the worries  
That are all within his range.

God's Word tells us very clearly  
Many, many times,  
That we are not to fear  
Even when turmoil climbs.

He is our rock and shield  
He will keep your fears at bay,  
You only have to trust Him  
And in His arms, you'll stay.

*Human beings are frail and temporary,  
like grass,  
and the glory of man fleeting.*

*1 Peter 1:24*

## Frailty

Grounded by our frailty  
A vapor in the wind,  
A lonely shadow dancing  
A song that has an end.

I reach to grab the moment  
Just to see it slip away,  
Tomorrow I'll try harder  
There goes another day.

Each day does have a number  
They are quickly marching by,  
The pace seems to be increasing  
No matter how I try.

I'm a shadow that is rushing  
Building what won't last,  
The ship is disappearing  
It is sinking very fast.

The things that I have gathered  
Quickly turn to ash,  
As the flames of time keep burning  
All of this is grass.

So now I sit in silence  
Renew me Lord I pray,  
Even if my days are numbered  
Don't let them slip away.

Hear me, Lord, I'm calling  
To You and You alone,  
Lift me for Your purpose  
Don't let me turn to stone.

Exhausted by my trying  
I'll leave it all to You,  
Surrender all my doing  
Resting just in You.

*Yahweh, who dares to dwell with You?  
Who presumes the privilege of being close to You,  
living next to you in Your shining place of glory?*

Psalm 15:1

## **Full of Yourself**

When you are full of yourself  
The truth you will hide,  
It's not your feelings that hurt  
It's a matter of pride.

When you are full of yourself  
You see others with disdain,  
You will use their fears and faults  
To elevate your name.

When you are full of yourself  
There is no room for God,  
If you claim, He is with you  
You are only a fraud.

When you are full of yourself  
You will feel alone,  
Compassion will fade  
As your heart turns to stone.

When you are full of yourself  
There is no place for trust,  
With selfish ambition  
That is fueled by greed and lust.

So, empty yourself  
Make room for the Lord,  
Dwell in His presence  
Place value on His Word.

*So above all,  
constantly seek God's kingdom  
and His righteousness,  
then all these less important things  
will be given to you abundantly.*

Matthew 6:33

## **Get Out Of The Way!**

If you want the Lord to use you  
Each and every day,  
It actually is quite simple  
Just stop, and get out of the way.

Your ego is a monster  
Demanding to be fed,  
It will only become satisfied  
When you are cold and dead.

Surrender to the Master  
Set yourself aside,  
Wash daily in His Word  
Let Him be your Guide.

*Worship Yahweh with gladness.  
Sing your way into His presence  
with joy!*

Psalm 100:2



## **Gladness**

Serve the Lord with gladness  
Come before Him with a song,  
Lift your hands to heaven  
In His presence, you belong.

Gladness is a service  
A sign of living faith,  
An outward act of worship  
Being thankful for this place.

Sacrifice with resentment  
Does not please the Lord,  
It is an act of self-promotion  
Being busy instead of bored.

Do you know whom you are serving  
How much do you believe,  
That His gift for you this morning  
Is the very breath you breathe.

That in times of real danger  
He is watching out for you,  
To walk you through the trouble  
Or be there to pull you through.

*The rarest treasures of life are found in His truth.  
That's why God's Word is prized  
like others prize the finest gold.  
Sweeter also than honey are His living words.  
Sweet words dripping from the honeycomb!*

Psalm 19:10

## **God's Word**

His Word is perfect  
In every way,  
It will revive your soul  
And brighten your day.

His Word is sure  
It cuts like a knife,  
Exposing the places  
That will destroy your life.

If you want to be wise  
It is found in His Word,  
And if you are quiet  
His voice will be heard.

Hidden flaws that will harm you  
His Word will reveal,  
To shelter your soul  
That the enemy would steal.

His Word is a light  
That will guide your way,  
It will keep you safe  
When storms fill the day.

His Word was written  
For people to see,  
The source of their burdens  
The path to be free.

*We laughed and laughed and overflowed with gladness.  
We were left shouting for joy and singing Your praise.  
All the nations saw it and joined in, saying,  
“The Lord has done great miracles for them!”*

Psalm 126:2

## Happiness

Happiness is a choice  
A choice you get to make,  
And if you do not choose it  
You are making a big mistake.

Happiness is a virtue  
You owe to all you meet,  
From those who are in your home  
To those who are in the street.

Do not seek for happiness  
From those who could make you sad,  
Or in the pursuit of riches  
You will only end up mad.

Your path may be rough and twisted  
Full of fear and dread,  
So, choose to spread some gladness  
Before you go to bed.

Do not stay downtrodden  
Look upon the cross,  
Lift your eyes to heaven  
Don't let sadness be your boss.

To love and serve the Savior  
Is the path you want to take,  
For His happiness to find you  
And for your sadness to escape.

*Little children,  
let us not love in word or talk  
but in deed and in truth.*

1 John 3:18

## **His Hands and Feet**

My life it flashed before me  
What was it I did see,  
A lot of wasted moments  
Serving only me.

Take some time to ponder  
The plight of those you meet,  
At times you'll see it clearly  
Oft, it's more discrete.

Now truly serving others  
Is following His lead,  
Not picking up their pieces  
Or meeting every need.

Do you ever listen  
For that sweat and still small voice,  
Prompting a direction  
That does not seem your choice.

Life can be exciting  
If it's Him we seek to serve,  
Not bent on our direction  
Following the curve.

Embrace each passing moment  
As a part of a greater plan,  
Don't become impatient  
Trust Him all you can.

*Then the Lord put out His hand and touched my mouth.  
And the Lord said to me,  
“Behold, I have put My words in your mouth.”*

Jeremiah 1:9



## **His Mouth and Ears**

You make a small impression  
But leave a memory,  
The way you care for others  
Will be your legacy.

If others seem downtrodden  
Worried or alone,  
See their fear and not their anger  
Don't pick up a stone.

It's time to be the master  
Of all the words you speak,  
Not wasting time retrieving  
Those that weren't discrete.

Take time to chew them fully  
Your thoughts before they flow,  
From a mouth with no restraint  
Who knows where they will go?

Don't charge ahead with purpose  
That you figured out last night,  
He will give you guidance  
If you're walking in His light.

So don't take off a running  
Down the path you think is best,  
Take time to pray and surrender  
And in Him, you will find rest.

*Keep me safe, O mighty God.  
I run to You, my safe place.*

Psalm 16:1

## Home

Have you found your way?  
Are you now at home?  
Or wandering and restless  
Continuing to pace and roam.

Oh, weary restless soul  
When will you find your home,  
A place to rest your head  
Besides the Master's throne.

A home is not a house  
With a fence and fancy yard,  
It's a place of peace and quiet  
Even when life is hard.

Home is a place of safety  
Tranquility and peace,  
In the presence of the Almighty  
A place of full release.

It's a place that's found by seeking  
The One who knows you best,  
Abandoning life's clutter  
A place of calm and rest.

*For the Word of God  
is living and powerful,  
and sharper than any two-edged sword,  
piercing even to the division of soul and spirit,  
and of joints and marrow,  
and is a discerner of the  
thoughts and intents of the heart.*

Hebrews 4:12

## **I Can't Fix It!**

To know that what I've broken  
I am powerless to fix,  
Regardless of my power  
Or silly little tricks.

For I'm really good at fixing  
The stuff that's barely broke,  
Like sorting out my closet  
Or buying a brand-new coat.

But with the things that matter  
Like issues of the heart,  
I trip and fall and stumble  
A disaster from the start.

It is time to stop pretending  
That everything's okay,  
And pause for just a moment  
Each and every day.

Dear Lord, I sit before You  
I need You in my life,  
Do Your work of healing  
With Your sharp and steady knife.

For our days on earth are numbered  
Our time is very short,  
I need Your help and guidance  
As my first and last resort.

*He Himself carried our sins in His body on the cross  
so that we would be dead to sin  
and live for righteousness.  
Our instant healing flowed from His wounding.*

*2 Peter 2:24*

## **In the Shadow of the Tree**

The grace that has full meaning  
You'll find up on that hill,  
In the shadow of the cross  
The price was paid in full.

He bore my pain and burden  
Stretched out on that tree,  
So I can live with purpose  
Strong and fully free.

For the grace that He has given  
Gives strength when I am weak,  
Courage when I am fearful  
And the words that I should speak.

Your voice I hear it calling  
"Child you are mine,  
I bore your pain and sorrow  
You have comfort for this time."

For it's only in that shadow  
That grace does freely flow,  
Not dependent on my efforts  
My goodness or my goal.

So stay true to the savior  
Aware that He loves thee,  
Never straying from that shadow  
Connected to the tree.

*It takes a grinding wheel to sharpen a blade,  
and so one person sharpens the character of another.*

Proverbs 27:17



## **Iron Sharpens Iron**

Iron sharpens iron  
So, the scriptures say,  
The grinding is essential  
For you to grow today.

As iron sharpens iron  
Don't be frightened by the noise,  
Don't go into hiding  
Like timid girls and boys.

Iron sharpens iron  
We all have separate parts,  
When iron sharpens iron  
Expect to see some sparks.

As iron sharpens iron  
Don't burst into flames,  
By thinking you're the better  
Or making selfish claims.

God has given you a purpose  
And sharp you have to be,  
But before it is rewarding  
You will want to flee.

Cling firmly to the Master  
His path for you is true,  
Stay humble as you walk  
He is perfecting you.

*And God said to Moses,  
"I AM WHO I AM."  
And He said,  
"Thus you shall say to the children of Israel,  
I AM has sent me to you.  
Moreover God said to Moses,  
"Thus you shall say to the children of Israel;  
The Lord God of your fathers,  
The God of Abraham,  
The God of Isaac,  
And the God of Jacob,  
Has sent me to you.  
This is My name forever,  
And this is My memorial to all generations.*

Exodus 3:14-15

## **Jehovah – God the Infinite**

Compressed inside a capsule  
That we define as time,  
No matter how you fight it  
Outside it you can't climb.

With Jehovah, there is no beginning  
And no temporal end,  
Think on that a while  
And your mind will start to bend.

My mind begins to fail me  
When I try to comprehend,  
The essence of Your Being  
With no beginning and no end.

Caught between two forces  
Time and eternity,  
I need Your loving guidance  
And righteous priority.

Lord, help me keep that flame a burning  
Of eternity in my heart,  
And count each day as precious  
With You, a brand-new start.

*Keep cleansing me, God,  
and keep me from my secret, selfish sins,  
may they never rule over me!  
For only then will I be free from fault  
and remain innocent of rebellion.*

Psalm 19:13

## **Just a Glove**

I am just a glove  
Made from a piece of clay,  
Needing to be filled  
Only the Master's way.

A glove that He has made  
Just to fit His hand,  
And not to be filled  
With what I have planned.

I've stored inside each finger  
What I think I need,  
Habits, beliefs, and attitudes  
Selfishness and greed.

But if this humble glove  
Remains this shameful way,  
The stuff I've left inside  
Will only cause decay.

This glove must be emptied  
Of all this selfish stuff,  
For the Master's hand  
Is more than enough.

Inhabited by His presence  
The glove will finally see,  
Its purpose and its meaning  
What it was designed to be.

*Let everything that has breath  
Praise the Lord.  
Praise the Lord.*

Psalm 150:6

## **Keep Praising Him**

I am thankful for Your mercies  
It shows me who I am,  
It plucks me from the fire  
Puts me back into the pan.

It teaches me some patience  
When what I want to do is run,  
In You alone is healing  
By the power of Your Son.

Grant me grace and mercy  
As I walk this path today,  
Not seeking selfish interests  
But close to You I pray.

*For everyone who knows Your wonderful name  
keeps putting their trust in You.  
They can count on You for help no matter what.  
O Lord, You will never, no never,  
neglect those who come to You.*

Psalm 9:10



## **Know His Name**

More than just a label  
On a ledger or a tag,  
A name denotes an essence  
A unique and colorful flag.

Your name is Lord Jehovah  
The giver of all life,  
The keeper of Your promises  
A comforter amidst all strife.

To know You is to trust You  
Keeper of my soul,  
A place of peace and refuge  
When troubles take their toll.

So now, for just a moment  
I'll pause to seek Your name,  
And embrace Your holy presence  
And ponder on Your fame.

*God, I invite Your searching gaze into my heart.  
Examine me through and through;  
find out everything that may be hidden within me.  
Put me to the test  
and sift through all my anxious cares.  
See if there is any path of pain I'm walking on,  
and lead me back to Your glorious,  
everlasting way,  
the path that brings me back to You.*

Psalm 139:23-24

## **Lead Me Back To You**

As I pause to look behind me  
I see a crooked path,  
And the many times I stumbled  
Where I was guided by Your staff.

At times Your rod was needed  
To get me back on track,  
When rebellion was my master  
Or my faith began to slack.

I want to be Your vessel  
Please shine Your light within,  
Exposing what is hidden  
The deep and secret sin.

Help me see the path  
That will only cause me harm,  
And lead me back to You, Lord  
Take me by the arm.

Keep me on the path  
That leads me back to You,  
To grow, to love, to serve  
As my days on earth are few.

*Now, because of you, Lord,  
I will lie down in peace  
and sleep comes at once,  
for no matter what happens,  
I will live unafraid.*

Psalm 4:8

## **Lord, I need You!**

Covered by a blanket  
Weighted down with shame,  
There, alone in misery  
Embracing all the pain.

On a pillow of self-pity  
I will lay my weary head,  
But first a cup of worry  
Then I'm off to bed.

The burdens that I carry  
Are just too much to bear,  
Help me Lord, I'm calling  
Hear my spoken prayer.

Turn Your gaze towards me  
Tell me what You see,  
The path that I have chosen  
Has become my enemy.

The load that I've been under  
I give it back to You,  
I'm tired and exhausted  
Lord, please pull me through.

My heart it has been hardened  
By inadequacy and shame,  
I need a holy transplant  
Heal me, in Jesus' name.

*Yahweh's Word is perfect in every way;  
how it revives our souls!*

Psalm 19:7

## **More Than a Glimpse**

The Master's skill  
Is on display,  
Just look at the stars  
On a cloudless day.

Catch a glimpse of His might  
In a fierce summer storm,  
Or a glimpse of His mercy  
In the sun's rays that warm.

The glimpses are many  
They are all around,  
And if you look  
They are easily found.

For more than a glimpse  
Look to His Word,  
It was spoken to you  
And needs to be heard.

If you want your spirit  
To awaken and shine,  
Embrace His Word  
Give Him some time.

If you are looking for treasure  
It's found in His truth,  
If you seek Him in earnest  
He will give you the proof.

*Nothing makes sense!  
Everything is nonsense.  
I have seen it all - nothing makes sense!  
What is there to show  
for all of our hard work here on this earth?  
People come, and people go,  
but still the world never changes.*

Ecclesiastes 1:2-4



## **None of this makes Sense**

When I awoke this morning  
Much to my dismay,  
The world was off its axis  
Spinning the other way.

Gender's not determined  
By the package in your pants,  
For with a skillful surgeon  
Nothing's left to chance.

A family's not defined  
By a shared genetic code,  
But a patch sewn on your back  
As you drive on down the road.

A fetus of inconvenience  
I'd never want to be,  
You say your puppy's precious  
But what will you do with me?

So if race no longer matters  
And gender's obsolete,  
Why must I check those boxes?  
For this form to be complete.

Dear God, please give us wisdom  
Before all hope is lost,  
We are here to serve You  
No matter what the cost.

*Because of you, I know the path of life,  
as I taste the fullness of joy in Your presence.  
At Your right side I experience  
divine pleasures forevermore!*

Psalm 16:11

## **Pause in His Presence**

In the quiet of the morning  
Before the songbirds sing,  
I bring my life before You  
To give You everything.

Made for just one purpose  
To worship at Your feet,  
And to bathe in Your glory  
Will make my life complete.

To pause in His presence  
And whisper a prayer of praise,  
To speak words of heartfelt gratitude  
Will give strength for troubled days.

*Let everyone everywhere join in the crescendo  
of ecstatic praise to Yahweh!  
Hallelujah! Praise the Lord!*

*Psalm 150:6*

## **Praise Him**

Awaking full of worry  
Lying on my bed,  
I turn to You for comfort  
No need for fear or dread.

I'm thankful that You placed me  
In this place and at this time,  
To see Your many wonders  
And to know that You are mine.

To praise You is an honor  
To call You by Your name,  
To know that You are loving  
And righteous just the same.

I need You now to guide me  
I want to know Your way,  
Please guide me with Your Word  
Each and every day.

*Confess and acknowledge how you have  
offended one another and then  
pray for one another to be instantly healed,  
for tremendous power is released  
through the passionate, heartfelt prayer  
of a godly believer.*

James 5:16

## Praying for Others

Why should we pray for others?  
When their life is such a mess,  
They are the ones responsible  
For ending up with less.

God gave you the shoes you are wearing  
To walk this path of life,  
A path that is uncertain  
Filled with anguish and with strife.

But if your only focus  
Is on the pebble in your shoe,  
You will miss the plan and purpose  
That He has just for you.

To be part of His earthly kingdom  
One thing is a must,  
Consider the plight of others  
And from your heart remove the crust.

God wants you in their shoes  
Just for a little while,  
To show that your role in His kingdom  
Is not a burden or a trial.

So, pause and pray for others  
Spend some time each day,  
Consider their joys and struggles  
He will guide you in His way.

*Be still,  
and know that I am God,  
I will be exalted among the nations,  
I will be exalted in the earth!*

*Psalm 46:10*



## **Press Pause!**

As I pause to ponder  
The noise inside me grows,  
From things I've left unfinished  
To nursing all my woes.

It's an effort to be quiet  
And sit before the Lord,  
With all this noisy clatter  
Inside me, I've kept stored.

How will I regain order?  
In this growing, noisy mess,  
But to spend each waking moment  
Never pausing for a rest.

But still, it takes an effort  
To keep that noise at bay,  
For it screams from every corner  
As I wander through the day.

But no matter what's accomplished  
By these hands this very day,  
It's His voice I need to follow  
And in His rest, I need to stay.

*Great sorrow awaits you, religious scholars  
and you Pharisees  
such frauds and pretenders!  
You do all you can to keep people from  
experiencing the reality of heaven's kingdom realm.  
Not only do you refuse to enter in,  
you also forbid anyone else from entering in!*

Matthew 23:13

## **Pretense**

Pretense is a cymbal  
That clangs inside my head,  
For to be seen as unworthy  
This, I fear and dread.

I sacrifice the quiet  
Embrace the noise instead,  
To project a glowing image  
To avoid that awful dread.

But the image isn't perfect  
It's full of many holes,  
This drives me to work harder  
Bragging, buying, primping, clothes.

But I know that the acceptance  
I long for, and I seek,  
Is only found in you Lord  
Given freely to the meek.

So let's pull this weed of pretense  
Let meekness grow instead,  
And then Your rest and quiet  
Will chase out all that dread.

*For He has given us this command:  
whoever loves God must also  
demonstrate love to others*

1 John 4:21

## **Relational Consistency**

We think that we are different  
In how we come across,  
To God, ourselves, and others  
We think we are the boss.

But we really are consistent  
It is not a deceitful game,  
Whether God, ourselves, or others  
We treat them all the same.

If you're angry or you're bitter  
You probably hate yourself,  
Believe God is on vacation  
And left you on a shelf.

If you're arrogant and boastful  
You're most likely insecure,  
God cannot be trusted  
As you live your life in fear.

Don't get caught up in the moment  
Consumed by misery and pain,  
Focus on God and others  
And you will never be the same.

Our self-evaluation  
Does not sit on separate shelves,  
For we really do love others  
The way we love ourselves.

*But other seed fell on good ground  
and yielded a crop that sprang up,  
increased and produced:  
some thirty fold,  
some sixty,  
and some a hundred.*

Mark 4:8

## Seeds

I know the thorns are many  
Growing in my heart,  
Dear Lord it's time for clearing  
So Your Word can get a start.

Guide me as I ponder  
Your precious Holy Word,  
May the seeds You are dispersing  
Be more than loosely heard.

May they have a chance for growing  
Deep within my heart,  
Not pulled out by their roots  
Before they get a start.

May they grow as they are nurtured  
By the Sower and His Son,  
To bring a fruitful harvest  
Instead of having none.

I'm thankful for the blessing  
Of each seed You've thrown my way,  
Let's keep this garden weeded  
So the seeds can grow and stay.

Teach me to be patient  
To let Your seedlings grow,  
And produce a great big harvest  
For Your purpose and Your goal.

*So above all,  
constantly seek God's kingdom and His righteousness,  
then all these less important things  
will be given to you abundantly.*

Matthew 6:33



## Seek Ye First

As I look back on my life  
Of nearly seventy years,  
I see moments of elation  
And spells of bitter tears.

Goals and desires were the drivers  
Of what I did each day,  
Giving me direction  
And what I would have to pay.

With immaturity and selfishness  
Pleasures did I seek,  
New cars, a house, a cabin  
But contentment did not peak.

So, I sought out affirmation  
Rewards for a job well done,  
Or a simple pat on the head  
For being a faithful son.

Affirmation's charms are fleeting  
It keeps you working hard,  
No time for joy or silence  
Playing that A-type card.

So, now that I am older  
One desire grips my soul,  
To know my Lord and Savior  
Can be my only goal.

Pleasures last a moment  
Affirmations fade away,  
The only thing worth seeking  
Is His face this very day.

*So now I live with the confidence that  
there is nothing in the universe  
with the power to separate us from God's love.  
I'm convinced that His love will triumph  
over death, life's troubles, fallen angels,  
or dark rulers in the heavens.  
There is nothing in our present or future circumstances  
that can weaken His love.  
There is no power above us or beneath us  
no power that could ever be found in the universe  
that can distance us from God's passionate love,  
which is lavished upon us through  
our Lord Jesus, the Anointed One.*

Romans 8:38-39

## Separated From God's Love

What can separate us from God's love?

There is one thing that can,  
The simple act of believing  
That you are the great "I AM."

You may have built a fortress  
Protecting you from pain,  
You think you are invisible  
Never taking any blame.

It must be very lonely  
Living on your tower,  
No one is your equal  
No one shares your power.

But when it starts to crumble  
As it will for sure,  
With charm and favor depleted  
You will never find a cure.

Wake up and take notice  
It is not too late today,  
To set aside your ego  
To humble yourself and pray.

*Abandon every display of selfishness.  
Possess a greater concern  
for what matters to others  
instead of your own interests.*

*Philippians 2:4*

## **Serving Others**

Life would be much fuller  
If we took the time to see,  
What is going on with others  
Not just inside of me.

What do you see inside you?  
When you close your eyes,  
Is it fear that keeps you moving  
Discouragement and lies?

Rest that gives direction  
Life instead of loss,  
Purpose, and fulfillment  
Starting at the cross.

Love like there is no tomorrow  
Be generous today,  
Don't leave kindness in your pocket  
Give it all away.

It's not the speed your going  
But the path that you are on,  
And the path is always changing  
Conforming to His song.

Live a life extended  
Beyond your ego's walls,  
Take time to think of others  
Before your curtain falls.

*But if there is bitter jealousy or competition hiding in your heart,  
then don't deny it and try to compensate for it  
by boasting and being phony.*

James 3:14

## **Shameless Self-service**

Thank you loving Father  
For giving me a glimpse,  
Of my path of dark destruction  
And saving me in a pinch.

For if I remain focused  
On serving only me,  
My vision will be clouded  
No beauty will I see.

To serve You is why I'm breathing  
Not focused on myself,  
For in that is rest and purpose  
Not sitting on a shelf.

For the shelf of self-service  
Lonely it may be,  
Will consume every moment  
And all your energy.

It's time to take that step  
Stop crying like your three,  
Live a life of serving Jesus  
In light of eternity.

*But instead be kind and affectionate toward one another.  
Has God graciously forgiven you?  
Then graciously forgive one another  
in the depths of Christ's love.*

Ephesians 4:32



## **Shards of Glass**

There are shards of glass  
In my stew,  
I know they are there  
I've bit a few.

Anger and jealousy  
To name just two,  
Are the shards of glass  
In my stew.

I want to be  
A friend to you,  
So why create  
A harmful stew?

Jesus taught us  
To forgive,  
And to love like Him  
To really live.

So, I will eat this stew  
And feel free,  
Trusting Him  
To care for me.

*Be still, and know that I am God;  
I will be exalted among the nations,  
I will be exalted in the earth!*

Psalm 46:10

## **Silent Before the Lord**

I know the Lord will call me home  
Before my tasks are through,  
And so I wait upon Him now  
To see what I should do.

In silence and in solitude  
Down on bended knee,  
Is where you hear Him whisper  
“Child, you are free.”

Free from condemnation  
The pressure to perform,  
To live as He intended  
Quiet in the storm.

*A new song for a new day rises up in me  
every time I think about how He breaks through for me!  
Ecstatic praise pours out of my mouth until  
everyone hears how God has set me free.  
Many will see His miracles;  
they'll stand in awe of God and fall in love with Him!*

*Psalm 40:3*

## **Songs in the Quiet**

These are my simple sonnets  
Sung in monotone,  
The words that You have given  
When quiet and alone.

They wake me in the morning  
With darkness all around,  
They call out from the quiet  
Simple yet profound.

Your words they give me comfort  
Strength and security,  
For it is Your words that matter  
If there is any hope for me.

So Lord I'll keep on pressing  
To get to know You more,  
To walk with You more closely  
To hear your voice in every chore.

Thank you for these moments  
With clarity of thought,  
To consider all that matters  
And what is easily forgot.

That in Your loving presence  
In Your kingdom I will see,  
To spread Your love and kindness  
More like You I want to be.

*Then Jesus came close to them and said,  
“All authority of the universe has been given to Me.  
Now wherever you go, make disciples of all nations,  
baptizing them in the name of the Father,  
the Son, and the Holy Spirit.  
And teach them to faithfully follow  
all that I have commanded you.  
And never forget that I am with you every day,  
even to the completion of this age.”*

Matthew 28:18-20

## **Tell Them About Me**

Awash with pain and trouble  
Drowning in despair,  
Hope is lost or fading  
No one seems to care.

This world is getting heavy  
Distrust is everywhere,  
Where should we turn for answers  
Does anyone really care?

God's message to His people  
It is time for you to share,  
Tell the world around you  
That I am present and I care.

Tell them of My mercy  
Tell them of My power,  
Tell them of My peace  
Available this hour.

Tell them of My love  
And how I gave My Son,  
To save them from themselves  
Each and every one.

So, as you live your life  
And hurting ones you see,  
Be oh so very mindful  
To tell them about Me.

*Let joy be your continual feast.  
Make your life a prayer.  
And in the midst of everything  
Be always giving thanks,  
For this is God's perfect plan for you in Christ Jesus.*

*1 Thessalonians 5:16-18*



## **Thanksgiving**

As I start each new morning,  
May thanksgiving rule my heart,  
May Your peace, Your joy, Your blessing,  
Be my comfort as I start.

May Your rest be there to guide me,  
As I wander through my day,  
To return in the evening,  
Thankful for today.

*I know all that you do,  
and I know that you are neither frozen in apathy  
nor fervent with passion.  
How I wish you were either one or the other!  
But because you are neither cold nor hot,  
but lukewarm,  
I am about to spit you from my mouth.*

Revelation 3:15-16

## **The Christian Atheist**

Are you a part of the Christian club?  
Present for the social hour,  
Claiming to serve the Master  
Yet denying His essence and power.

Your words claim that you know Him  
But your life speaks another truth,  
Your words have little meaning  
It's your life that's the living proof.

I don't mean to cause you trouble  
Or mock you in any way,  
So, pause for just a moment  
Is this where you want to stay?

Do you love your neighbor?  
Or the one who has done you wrong,  
If you knew the Master  
He would give you a loving song.

Faith that is truly real  
Will change your very soul,  
The Master will form and mold you  
And give you a brand-new goal.

Tell Him you want to know Him  
That you want to see His face,  
His desire is to love and guide you  
He will show you grace.

*For the message of the cross  
is foolishness to those  
who are perishing,  
but to us who are being saved  
it is the power of God.*

1 Corinthians 1:18

## **The Cross**

In weakness and in trouble  
Down on bended knee,  
I look up on that cross  
To see He's there for me.

Not tied to my image  
So others will only see,  
The good I have accomplished  
But Him instead of me.

When the storms of life are raging  
And confusion is all around,  
May I pause in the darkness  
To hear that quiet sound.

Of Your voice as it is calling  
"Child, you are mine,  
I bore your pain and sorrow  
And have comfort for this time."

So even if His shadow  
Is lost because of fear,  
His Spirit it will guide you  
To bring you closely near.

So stay in His shadow  
Connected to the tree,  
His grace is all-sufficient  
Available for free.

*For the mystery of lawlessness is already active,  
but the one who prevails  
will do so until  
he is separated from out of the midst.*

Thessalonians 2:7

## **The Mystery of Lawlessness**

Subtle as a serpent  
Sliding through the grass,  
An appealing sip of water  
From a clean crystal glass.

The path looks right and holy  
To all who pause to heed,  
But underneath the surface  
Is self-reliance and greed.

Lawlessness is a mystery  
Because it looks sincere,  
A path that many follow  
Believing its motives are pure.

Self-centeredness clothed in religion  
Is evil to the core,  
It may soothe you for a while  
But will leave you wanting more.

Help me loving Father  
Rip the scales from my eyes,  
I need Your Holy Spirit  
To save me from the lies.

For in You is life eternal  
Not in following a creed,  
I need You more than ever  
In my heart please plant Your seed.

*“These people honor Me with their lips,  
but their hearts are far from Me.”*

Matthew 15:8



## **The Perils of Religion**

Religion is a system  
Of tightly held belief,  
In what can make you righteous  
And where to find relief.

With an ascribed code of conduct  
Each member knows their place,  
Some deserve great honor  
Others a slap on the face.

Religion's secret power  
Is the pressure to conform,  
Walk lockstep with your brothers  
Don't go challenging the norm.

Some groups meet to worship  
Others meet to plan,  
Their political agenda  
Working as hard as they can.

God is a loving Father  
Who wants to dwell with you,  
Not because of your performance  
Or because you're sitting in a pew.

So, bow humbly before the Lord  
Set religion aside,  
Give Him your shattered heart  
And with Him you will abide.

*And His fullness fills you,  
even though you were once like corpses,  
dead in your sins and offenses.  
It wasn't that long ago that you lived in the religion, customs,  
and values of this world,  
obeying the dark ruler of the earthly realm  
who fills the atmosphere with his authority, and works  
diligently in the hearts of those who are  
disobedient to the truth of God.  
The corruption that was in us from birth  
was expressed through the deeds and desires of our self-life.  
We lived by whatever natural cravings and thoughts our minds  
dictated, living as rebellious children  
subject to God's wrath like everyone else.*

Ephesians 2:1-3

## **The Power of Sin**

Sin is more than action  
It comes from deep within,  
The delusion of self-centeredness  
Is the rebellion behind all sin.

You may be smart and pretty  
Exuding grace and charm,  
But to live up on a pedestal  
Will only bring you harm.

Confident and comfortable  
In your knowledge and your power,  
No one is your equal  
Living in your tower.

Believing you are that worthy  
Is giving God a shove,  
Proclaiming you are the better  
Rejecting His gift of love.

Be silent for the moment  
Don't get in the way,  
Set aside your ego  
Humble yourself and pray.

Praise Him for His mercy  
Seek His loving face,  
Your life can have new purpose  
Living in His grace.

*I'm not telling you this because I'm in need,  
for I have learned to be satisfied in any circumstance.  
I know what it means to lack,  
and I know what it means to experience overwhelming  
abundance.  
For I'm trained in the secret of overcoming all things,  
whether in fullness  
or in hunger.  
And I find that the strength of Christ's explosive power  
infuses me to conquer every difficulty.*

Philippians 4:11-13

## **The Swirl Cone of Life**

A sad/glad swirl cone  
The memories of my life,  
God knitting something special  
From triumph and from strife.

Some times were oh so bitter  
Other times were sweet,  
No matter what the flavor  
The only option was to eat.

Often it was messy  
Especially when things got hot,  
But God continued knitting  
Even when I forgot.

With hands sticky and dirty  
I would take another bite,  
Move ahead with courage  
Or be restless all the night.

Through bitter or sweet You showed me  
The path that I should trod,  
Though sometimes I faltered  
You remained the faithful God.

Now I pause to worship  
You oh Lord, alone,  
Trusting in Your goodness  
Even when I groan.

*Yahweh now reigns as King!  
Let everyone rejoice!  
His rule extends everywhere,  
even to distant lands,  
and the islands of the sea,  
let them all be glad.  
Clouds both dark and mysterious now surround Him.  
His throne of glory rests upon  
a foundation of righteousness and justice.*

Psalm 97:1-2

## **The Throne of the Almighty**

The throne of the Almighty  
Is in all that you can see,  
And in all that is invisible  
Before time till eternity.

To believe that you are worthy  
Is to claim the Master's throne,  
Placing yourself above Him  
Stealing what you don't own.

Don't let demands and urgencies  
Crowd out the presence of the King,  
Seek Him first in everything  
If you want your heart to sing.

We are all selfish sheep  
Who have wandered off away,  
And with pride and pretense  
Have turned to our own way.

Our sinful nature cries out  
"You must put me first,  
If something is above me  
I think my heart will burst."

But remember lowly pilgrim  
With Christ, you are crucified,  
To live a life abundant  
And your nature be defied.

*Let everyone be devoted to fulfill the work  
God has given them to do with excellence,  
and their joy will be in doing what's right and being themselves,  
and not in being affirmed by others.  
Every believer is ultimately responsible  
for his or her own conscience.*

Galatians 6:4-5



## **The World of Should**

The world of should  
Is where we're at,  
You should eat that cake  
And not get fat.

You should take that drug  
Feel good for a while,  
And awake in the morning  
With a great big smile.

We should have lots of candles  
On our birthday cake,  
And get up from the chair  
Without an ache.

We should drive the car  
That we want to drive,  
As fast as we want  
And still survive.

If you live this way  
You will surely die,  
For what you believe  
Is a dangerous lie.

Lord, please rescue us now  
From our selfish thought,  
Put us back on the path  
That Your sacrifice bought.

*Don't be pulled in different directions  
or worried about a thing.  
Be saturated in prayer throughout each day,  
offering your faith-filled requests before God  
with overflowing gratitude.  
Tell Him every detail of your life,  
then God's wonderful peace  
that transcends human understanding,  
will guard your heart and mind through Jesus Christ.  
Keep your thoughts continually fixed on  
all that is authentic and real, honorable and admirable,  
beautiful and respectful, pure and holy, merciful and kind.  
And fasten your thoughts on every glorious work of God,  
praising Him always.*

Philippians 4:6-8

## **This World is Insane**

When I awoke this morning  
Much to my dismay,  
The world was off its axis  
Spinning the other way.

Disrespect is now a virtue  
Learned in all our schools,  
No respect for parents  
They're just older fools.

Experience that once mattered  
Now it's left to rot,  
Elders placed in small rooms  
Single chair and tiny cot.

Take away their power  
Evaporate their will,  
Feed them daily meals  
Exchange their purpose for a pill.

You can make a lot of money  
If you can throw a ball,  
Make even more  
If you're pretty or you're tall.

But if you're there to save me  
From disaster or a crime,  
Prepare to work a lifetime  
Just to save a dime.

Dear God, please give us wisdom  
Before all hope is lost,  
We are here to serve You  
No matter what the cost.

*But you need to be aware  
that in the final days of the culture of society  
will become extremely fierce.  
People will be self-centered lovers of themselves  
and obsessed with money.  
They will boast of great things  
as they strut around in their arrogant pride  
and mock all that is right.  
They will ignore their own families.  
They will be ungrateful and ungodly.*

2 Timothy 3:1-2

## Treachery

The days are ripe with treachery  
I thought you were a friend,  
Standing close together  
Brothers to the end.

Evil's heat is rising  
Love is growing cold,  
It is hard to show compassion  
When the truth is rarely told.

Boundaries have been shattered  
We have done away with law,  
Facts no longer valued  
Doesn't matter what you saw.

The end is getting closer  
When no longer will be bear,  
The insults and the fury  
Of those who do not care.

Hold fast to the Savior  
Do not drift away,  
He will fuel your passion  
If in His arms you stay.

*What can the righteous accomplish  
when truth's pillars are destroyed  
and law and order collapse?*

Psalm 11:3

## **Truth's Pillars Destroyed**

Truth's pillars have eroded  
Some have been blown apart,  
Progress is not possible  
When blocked at the very start.

Don't be caught in the cellar  
As the building starts to fall,  
Cry out to the Savior  
He will hear your call.

They say there's no creator  
We got here with a bang,  
A cleverly crafted deception  
Promoted by Satan's gang.

Peace is only found  
When you follow His command,  
Do justly and love mercy  
Humbly hang on to His hand.

You will know the Lord is with you  
When it's dark and cold outside,  
But in you, there's a warmth  
And a light you cannot hide.

*And everything I've taught you is so that  
the peace which is in Me  
will be in you and will give you  
great confidence as you  
rest in Me.*

*For in this unbelieving world  
you will experience trouble and sorrows,  
but you must be courageous,  
for I have conquered the world!*

*John 16:33*



## **It's Upside Down**

When I awoke this morning  
Much to my dismay,  
The world was off its axis  
Spinning the other way.

Things were topsy-turvy  
Nothing making sense,  
Reason showed up missing  
Everything was tense.

It's upside down I tell you  
The world we are in,  
Right and wrong inverted  
The abolishment of sin.

It's upside down I tell you  
The values we hold dear,  
No compassion shown to others  
Just uncertainty and fear.

It's upside down I tell you  
And the noise is getting loud,  
So reach for what is true  
Don't get swallowed by the crowd.

Dear God please give us wisdom  
Before all hope is lost,  
We are here to serve You  
No matter what the cost.

*Recognize the value of every person  
and continually show love to every believer.  
Live your lives with great reverence  
and in holy awe of God.  
Honor your rulers.*

1 Peter 2:17

## **We Need Help!**

When I awoke this morning  
Much to my dismay,  
The world was off its axis  
Spinning the other way.

Respect is out the window  
Now tolerance is king,  
Be oh so very careful  
Or you'll feel it's bitter sting.

Political correctness  
Is not correct at all,  
A costume disguising bitterness  
So offense can have a ball.

To be offended so easily  
Is a way of hiding shame,  
A covering for rebellion  
Giving sin another name.

Honor's been abandoned  
It disappeared with shame,  
Both have left the building  
No longer in the game.

It's upside down I tell you  
But before all is lost,  
Let's get this ship a turning  
No matter what the cost.

Dear God, please give us wisdom  
Before all hope is lost,  
We are here to serve You  
No matter what the cost.

*Their wicked words are nothing but lies.  
Wisdom is far from them.  
Goodness is both forgotten and forsaken.*

Psalm 36:3

## **What Happened?**

When I awoke this morning  
Much to my dismay,  
The world was off its axis  
Spinning the other way.

Deception is now expected  
From those who are in power,  
The truth is getting twisted  
More confusing by the hour.

And if you point a finger  
Expecting to see shame,  
You'll become a target  
Devoured by their game.

It's upside down I tell you  
I don't know which way to go,  
Swim against the current  
Or get swept up by the flow.

For what you leave your children  
Your true legacy,  
Is not counted out in dollars  
But in the character they see.

Dear God, please give us wisdom  
Before all hope is lost,  
We are here to serve You  
No matter what the cost.

*And because lawlessness  
will abound,  
the love of many  
will grow cold.*

Matthew 24:12

## **When Love Grows Cold**

Love grows cold  
When trust is broken,  
And deceit is rampant  
When lies are spoken.

Love grows cold  
When bitterness rules,  
An offense is nursed  
And the wise become fools.

Love grows cold  
When it's do or die,  
But still, you fail  
No matter how hard you try.

Love grows cold  
When you are tired and worn,  
Running on empty  
With muscles torn.

My love grows cold  
When I live to serve me,  
Oblivious to others  
Abandoning family.

Holy Spirit breathe  
Within this weary heart,  
Remove the chilling coldness  
To give Your love a start.

*They will become addicted to hateful and malicious slander.  
Slaves to their desires,  
they will be ferocious, belligerent haters  
of what is good and right.  
With brutal treachery, they will act without restraint,  
bigoted and wrapped in clouds of their conceit.  
They will find their delight  
in the pleasures of this world  
more than the pleasures of the loving God.*

2 Timothy 3:3-4



## **When Natural Affection is Lost**

When natural affection is lost  
It is a sign of societal decay,  
Self-centeredness on steroids  
Each and every day.

Feed the children to the wolves  
Torment them just for sport,  
Starve the weak and elderly  
No one will report.

Society is crumbling  
That is plain to see,  
With no affection for the weakest  
There will be no family tree.

For how you treat the infants  
And their eldest kin,  
Is how you will be remembered  
Defined by your relational sin.

Natural affection you see  
Is needed to survive,  
God made you in His image  
To love, to grow, to thrive.

*And everyone who hears these words of mine  
and does not do them  
will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand.*

Matthew 7:26

## **Where Did Reason Go?**

Where did all the reason go?  
It left with common sense,  
They wandered off together  
Practicing their defense.

A message delivered with passion  
They know where to begin,  
Confusing all who hear them  
By accusing others of their sin.

Actions have reactions  
They're called a consequence,  
To think you can avoid it  
You must be very dense.

The arrogant and boastful  
Put on a grand display,  
Convincing many others  
To follow in their way.

In a sea of endless knowledge  
How do we find our way?  
Good intentions without wisdom  
Will only cause decay.

The wisdom that we long for  
It is not hard to find,  
It is present in Your Word, Lord  
A faithful, trusted guide.

*Help, Lord!*

*Save us!*

*For godly ones are disappearing.*

*Where are the dependable, principled ones?*

*Everyone lies, everyone flatters, and everyone deceives.*

*Nothing but empty talk, smooth talk, and double-talk.*

Psalm 12:1-2

## **Where have the godly gone?**

Where have the godly gone?  
The ones who point to You,  
Are they shopping at the market?  
Or sitting in a pew?

Where have the godly gone?  
The ones that hear Your voice,  
Have they left their godly calling?  
To follow another choice.

Where have the godly gone?  
The ones who humbly walk,  
Not seeking self-promotion  
With pretentious idle talk.

Where have the godly gone?  
The ones who are sincere,  
Their words and actions matching  
With a message that is clear.

Where have the godly gone?  
The ones whose compass is true,  
Have they wandered off to heaven?  
Why are there just a few?

Where have the godly gone?  
The ones who really care,  
The ones who act with kindness  
Whose judgements are right and fair.

Am I a godly one?  
Where do I stand with You?  
It's time for some reflection  
Before this day is through.

*“Great sorrow awaits you religious scholars and Pharisees,  
frauds and imposters!  
You are nothing more than tombs  
painted over with white paint,  
tombs that look shining and beautiful on the outside  
but filled with rotting corpses on the inside.  
Outwardly you masquerade as righteous people,  
but inside your hearts  
you are full of hypocrisy and lawlessness.”*

Matthew 23:27-28

## Whitewashed Pots

Pretense is a pattern  
You learn it when your young,  
Put your best foot forward  
If you want to be my son.

Pretense will get you noticed  
In a crowd that is all the same,  
Slightly altered stories  
Will bring a sense of fame.

When pretense is an art form  
The congregation will be wowed,  
“He truly must be godly  
Not part of the common crowd.”

Pretense and deception  
They are the very same,  
One takes you to jail  
The other brings you fame.

But pretense is a burden  
A very heavy load,  
I want to appear more prince-like  
But know I’m just a toad.

But I know that the acceptance  
I long for, and I seek,  
Is only found in you Lord  
Given freely to the meek.

*I thank You, God,  
for making me so mysteriously complex!  
Everything You do is marvelously breathtaking.  
It simply amazes me to think about it!  
How thoroughly You know me, Lord!*

Psalm 139:14



## **Wonderfully Made**

He painted me a picture  
When he was only three,  
And because of his love  
He gave it to me.

The look in his eye  
His dimples and smile,  
It made me pause  
And think for a while.

God's love is much greater  
Then I will ever know,  
So, why should I scorn  
His work here below.

God painted the picture  
You see in the mirror,  
Painted it with love  
So, there is no need to fear.

He knit you together  
In His perfect way,  
A reflection of His glory  
As you live here today.

*You have built a stronghold by the songs of children.  
Strength rises up with the chorus of infants.  
This kind of praise has power to shut Satan's mouth.  
Childlike worship will silence  
the madness of those who oppose you.*

Psalm 8:2

## **Worship as a Child**

We must worship as a child  
In this dark oppressive world,  
Rejoicing in our Creator  
As His splendor is unfurled.

From coos of deep contentment  
To cries expressing need,  
In a language that's universal  
The intent not hard to read.

The delightful little giggle  
When playing peak-a-boo,  
Is how I feel this moment  
As I catch a glimpse of You.

The words may not have meaning  
But the message still is clear,  
Worship is in their music  
Knowing You are near.

*But you are God's chosen treasure,  
priests who are kings,  
a spiritual "nation" set apart as God's devoted ones.  
He called you out of darkness  
to experience His marvelous light,  
and now He claims you as His very own.  
He did this so that you would  
broadcast His glorious wonders throughout the world.*

1 Peter 2:9

## **Your Unique Voice**

Woven by the Master  
Into your DNA,  
A silver thread of promise  
For you to use today.

The promise He has given  
To every willing soul,  
Is a plan, a voice, a purpose  
An awareness you are whole.

So, how do you find  
The voice unique to you?  
By being close to your Creator  
Not just sitting in a pew.

A life of joy and purpose  
A life of peace and rest,  
Is only found in knowing  
The One who knows you best.



## **CONCLUSION**

In this fast-paced, noisy world, it can be challenging to slow down and quiet your mind, but it will be rewarding. Put the painful sensation of boredom into profitable use and think. Learn to wait and be patient. Ask God to search your heart. Be open to change and new insights. Learn to set aside distractions and focus your thoughts. You are on your own; no one is listening or watching, so strive to be honest and humble. Always remain grateful and avoid guilt, bitterness, anger, and fear. Life is short, and life is precious. Spend the time and energy you have wisely. Determine your solitude time and place, grab a pen and paper and ponder.





## **Books by this Author**

***Dismantling Destructive Strongholds***

***God's Armor For Today's Battles***

***Our Fractured Image***

***Godly Grit***  
Prepared to Stand

***Deadly Roots***  
The Subtle Destructive Power of Bitterness

***The Frantic Cry for Comfort***  
A Christian doctor's look at addiction.

***Fodder for Ponder***  
Poems on pondering.

***Stress Undressed***  
A look at five major causes of stress.

***Now I've Gotcha!***  
A brief overview of the substances causing addiction.