

## Fairness

"Or are you envious because I am generous?" Matthew 20: 16B

I heard a statement long ago  
Concerning the word "fair;"  
A way to think I did not know  
And now I'll gladly share.\*

For what is fair and what is right  
We use to justify  
What we deserve in our own sight,  
While others we decry.

God's grace is really our receiving  
What we do NOT deserve,  
But yet, because we are believing,  
God's gift is still reserved.

The mercy that God gives to us  
Is quite the opposite.  
For when we sin, we still can trust  
God's mercy will acquit.

In mercy's case we do not get  
The punishment we've earned;  
Let us remember, not forget  
Our judgment overturned.

How then do we deny all others  
The same love we've been given?  
All God's people - sisters, brothers -  
Opening doors to Heaven.

Who has worked longer, better, best?  
Sounds petty, childish, too;  
For we have been so richly blessed,  
Why limit to a few?

Love cannot be constrained or measured  
By any earthy tool.  
God's grace and mercy, free and treasured:  
True fairness is the rule.



\*Grace: Receiving what we don't deserve (forgiveness, love)

Mercy: Not receiving what we do deserve (punishment)

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