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# *Angels*



## *Angels*

I've wondered about angels,  
do they ever take a nap?  
When they're sent on an errand,  
do they take along a map?

With all the billions on this earth  
that travel to and fro,  
How do they get directions straight  
so they know where to go?

We've read of angels in God's Book,  
it really doesn't tell  
Too much about the lives they live  
and things they do so well.

But then I guess we need not know  
too much about them here;  
We understand they work for God  
and that is their career.

We're certain angels do exist  
and comforting to know  
That when we're in big trouble, folks,  
they know just where to go.



*The angel of the Lord  
encamps around those  
who fear him, and he  
delivers them.*

*Psalm 34:7*

## *Angels--God's Messengers*

I'm glad that God made angels, friends,  
I think they're really neat.  
In pictures that I've seen of them  
they have both hands and feet  
But then they have a pair of wings  
to get to places fast,  
And if they're watching folks down here  
they shouldn't come in last.  
God sends these special messengers  
with news of vital worth  
For singing angels came to tell  
of Jesus' lowly birth.  
And did you notice at that time  
the shepherds heard their song?  
They didn't sing to Pharisees  
whose hearts were proud and wrong.

I wonder if, when angels come  
and visit earth today  
They might appear to humble folks  
who they know would obey.  
Yes, I believe in angels, friend,  
I'm sure they hover 'round  
And though I've never seen one,  
as they may not make a sound,  
I'm sure that they surround us  
and protect us here below;  
How many times they've intervened  
I'm sure I'll never know,  
But in this hectic world of ours  
with wars, and sin, and greed,  
Those angel wings surrounding us  
are all we really need.



## *Daniel, Saved By An Angel*

I know you've heard of Daniel,  
    how he prayed three times each day  
Before his open window,  
    for he had a lot to say.  
Back then, as now, there were some folks  
    who seemed afraid of prayer,  
And they reported to the King  
    what he was doing there.  
This Daniel was an honest man  
    and trusted by a King  
Who made an idol for himself  
    and that spoiled everything.

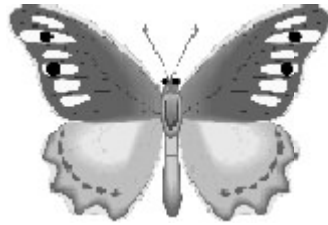
I know you know how Daniel  
    was thrown in the lion's den,  
His enemies seemed oh, so glad,  
    he'd ne'er be seen again.  
The King went home, but could not sleep;  
    all night he tossed in bed,  
He feared the edict that he made  
    caused Daniel to be dead.  
But just in case there was a chance  
    he still might be alive,  
He went to check the lion's den,  
    and early did arrive.

He took the cover off the den  
and called with shaking voice,  
"Oh, Daniel, did that God of yours,  
the One you serve by choice,  
Deliver from the lion's paw  
and keep you safe last night?"  
And Daniel answered from below,  
"Oh, King, I'm quite all right,  
For God has sent His angel  
so these beasts could not attack."  
The King rejoiced his friend was safe,  
and Daniel soon was back.

Some folks today feel they're alone  
when problems come along,  
And troubles have filled up the heart  
where once there was a song.  
Too many things have crowded in,  
and then it's hard to see  
The angel that God sends along  
to help to set us free.  
Yes, I believe in angels, friends,  
I'm sure they're round about.  
And often they protect us here,  
I've not the slightest doubt.



*My God sent his angel  
and he shut the mouths  
of the lions. And they  
have not hurt me  
Daniel 6:22*



## *Hovering Angels*

I like to think of angels—  
how they hover 'round us here  
Comforting God's children  
and bringing hope and cheer.  
I've really never seen one  
but they're never far away  
And if you dial 9-1-1  
they come to save the day.

There're thousands upon thousands  
awaiting God's command  
And He can quickly send them out  
I hope you understand.  
Now if you're sick and suffering  
and are about to die  
God sends a special angel  
to escort you to the sky

Where you'll receive a welcome  
like you've never had before  
And your loved ones there will greet you  
inside Heaven's open door.  
Don't let your heart be troubled  
with the problems of today,  
Things will be better up ahead  
when you've gone Home to stay.



## *Angel Whisper*

I've thought of Peter stuck in jail  
with guards within his cell,  
And even though his chains were on,  
he slept there very well.  
The guards were also fast asleep,  
the angel saw to that,  
But wakened Peter with his touch,  
or just a gentle pat,

Now that woke Peter really fast,  
he sat up with a start;  
The angel whispered, "Grab your coat.  
You're going to depart."  
His chains fell off. The door swung wide.  
The gate creaked open, too.  
The angel left, and Peter ran.  
He knew just what to do.

He went directly to a house where  
prayers were being said,  
And told them he was out of jail  
and that he wasn't dead.  
I've often thought of Peter--  
how he slept within that jail,  
He must have known within  
his heart  
his God would never fail.

Another thing is clear to me:  
the awesome power of prayer.  
So, folks, just when we need Him most,  
our God is always there.

*Acts 12:6-10*

## *I Wonder*



I wonder if you've thought about  
    when Jesus came to earth  
And angels sang to shepherds  
    to tell of Jesus' birth--  
What happened up in Heaven  
    when He left that holy Place  
And took on Him the form of flesh  
    to save the human race?

Did angels weep or get depressed  
    when they gazed down on Him  
And saw that He was born that day  
    inside a stable dim?  
Was there silence up in Heaven  
    or did angels lose their song  
When they saw Jesus come to earth--  
    had something bad gone wrong?

I wonder what was in God's heart  
    the day Christ went away,  
He knew He had a special plan  
    so would return some day.  
I 'spose we'll never comprehend  
    the depths of God's great plan  
When He showed His great love for us  
    to save the soul of man.

*For God so loved the world that he gave his one  
and only Son that whosoever believes in him  
shall not perish but have eternal life.*

*John 3: 16*



*Maybe  
Angels*



When life gets so hard that you're ready to wilt  
And folks would harass you and fill you with guilt,

Do you find a place where you can be all alone  
And pour out your heart to God on the throne?

Back two thousand years when Christ Jesus was here  
He knew we'd have problems, and troubles, and fear.

He told us a way we could handle that stuff,  
No matter what happens when living is tough.

He said if we'd seek Him we'd have peace and rest,  
For He has the answer, whatever the test.

So don't try to carry your burden alone,  
The Lord sure can help when you're tired to the bone.

Sometimes He sends angels to help us a bit  
So we'll keep on trying and not up and quit.

He has special love for the hurting and sad,  
And He'd like to help you and make your heart glad.

## *When Angels Call*

We folk who travel planet earth  
complain an awful lot;  
We feel that we are taxed too much,  
and criminals are not caught.

The price of gas is much too high,  
and food is out of sight,  
The neighbor's kids make too much noise,  
and we don't think its right.

When nap time comes the doorbell rings,  
how can one get his rest?  
The price of stamps keeps going up,  
and this we could have guessed.

We can't get sick—it costs too much,  
so what's a guy to do?  
The old-time Doc's are now passe,  
so now who'll treat our flu?

Our knees and hips and aching back  
remind us of our age,  
If we wrote down how bad we feel  
'twould fill at least a page.



The politicians are corrupt,  
our rent is much too high,  
We know the debt our nation has  
could make us weep and sigh.

It seems that almost every week  
there's something breaking down;  
We wonder if we oughta' move  
and find a better town.

We just don't know how we can cope  
another day or week—  
It kinda' puts us in the dumps  
when of these things we speak.

I guess what really baffles me  
is why we want to stay  
And hassle all the problems that we have  
from day to day.

Yet when we hear the angel wings  
a'swooping mighty low  
We pray to God to leave us here.  
We still don't want to go.



## *Heaven's Windowsill*

I wonder if you've ever thought  
you'd like to take a look  
And see what's inside Heaven  
as recorded in God's Book.  
I like to think there's lots of stuff  
recorded in His Word  
That tells what's in that special Place  
of which we all have heard.

It's kinda' like a windowsill  
where we can gaze awhile  
And when we read the things it says  
it gives our heart a smile.  
For when we stand on our tiptoes  
to see the things inside  
We'll see a lot of happy folks  
all scattered far and wide.



We'll see no beggars on the streets  
we understand are gold;  
We won't see folks with cane or crutch  
and no one will be old.  
No one will have a bunch of keys  
to lock their place up tight  
For there will be no crime nor sin  
in that land of delight.

We're told that many angels  
will be hovering about  
And once a person reaches There  
they never will want out.  
So spend a little time each day  
by Heaven's windowsill  
Not only will it cheer your heart,  
but God your cup will fill.

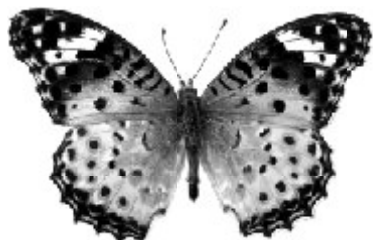
*However, as it has been written:*  
*No eye has seen,*  
*no ear has heard,*  
*no mind conceived*  
*what God has prepared for those*  
*who love him.*  
*But God has revealed it to us through*  
*His Spirit. 1 Corinthians 2:9,10*

## *Millions of Angels*

The last Book of the Bible  
is a favorite of mine,  
Though I don't understand it all  
I read it line by line.  
The Book of Revelation, friends,  
was written by St. John  
When he was exiled for his faith  
and had no friends along.

While on the Isle of Patmos  
on the Lord's day we are told  
He had a vision sent by God  
of things that would unfold.  
If you will turn to Chapter five  
and look at verse elev'n  
You'll thrill to read what you'll find there  
and get a glimpse of Heav'n.

Some folks may think of angels  
in a meager sort of way  
And only on occasion think  
they're busy now today.  
But if they'd read a little bit  
of what St. John wrote there  
They'd find that there are millions  
and that they are everywhere.



“Ten thousand times ten thousand”  
but then he added more  
And tells that there are thousands more  
who worship and adore  
The King of Kings and Lord of Lords  
surrounding His great throne  
Where all is peace and joy and love  
and no one feels alone.

It's fun for me to think on this  
while settled in my chair  
And try to visualize a bit  
on what we'll find up There

*Then I looked and heard the voices of  
many angels, numbering thousands upon  
thousands, and ten thousand times  
ten thousand. Revelation 5:11*



## *Lazarus*

A story in the Bible  
that I really like a lot  
Tells of a man with lots of dough,  
but generous he was not.

He had a feast most every day  
and ate and ate and ate  
But Lazarus was a beggar  
who lay outside his gate.

Poor Lazarus had lots of sores  
a friendly dog would lick  
It seemed to be his only friend  
when he was awful sick.

By eating crumbs that fell down from  
the rich man's loaded table  
He managed to survive a while—  
as long as he was able.

And then one day the beggar died,  
the rich man did so, too,  
And there is a big difference  
what happened to the two.





The angels CARRIED Lazarus  
to Paradise that day  
The rich man was just buried  
is what the Scriptures say.

It really makes a difference  
what you do with all your stuff,  
You oughta' help some hurting folks  
whose lives are mean and tough.

God knows the things you say and do  
so be His hands and feet--  
Do something beautiful for God  
for needy folks you meet.



## *Angel Escort*

Don't get stressed out because you're old—  
Each day you're nearer streets of gold.

If Jesus Christ lives in your heart  
He'll send angels down when you depart.

That's quite a gift, I'd like to say  
To be escorted in that way

And be borne up on angel's wings  
Just 'fore you meet the King of kings!

A thing like this should make you smile  
Knowing it will happen after while.



## *Leaving Time*

When angels say, "It's time to go,"  
Your hand will open wide, you know.

The things you now so tightly hold  
Will stay down here, so I am told.

So while you're on this planet earth  
Give to the poor some things of worth.

You'll find a joy that you've not known  
When you will give some things you own.

And when you reach that Heavenly Shore  
You'll even wish you'd given more.

*Come you who are blessed by my Father,  
take your inheritance . . . I was hungry and  
you gave me something to eat . . . I needed  
clothes and you clothed me,*



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*It's Better  
Up Ahead*



## *Better Up Ahead*

We're not on earth forever, folks,  
    we're only here a while;  
Each day we're nearer Home, you know,  
    and that should make us smile.  
Especially on those tougher days  
    when things go wrong a lot  
We kinda' have to grit our teeth  
    and give it all we've got.

And though we're tired of problems  
    that would try to do us wrong  
We have a God who loves us  
    and can help restore our song.  
If we set our dial on Heaven  
    and listen for awhile  
There are some things that we will hear  
    that bring to us a smile.

Sometimes I like to reminisce  
    and think on Heaven a bit  
And kinda' let my mind run free  
    as in my chair I sit.  
Here's stuff that I've come up with  
    and it gives my point of view  
And whether you agree with me  
    is really up to you.



No one will stop you on the street  
and murmur and complain  
How they could hardly sleep last night  
because of so much pain.  
They won't gripe about the weather  
and how they shoveled snow  
And now their back is killing them  
because it hurts 'em so.

There won't be sirens in the night  
to wake a fella' up,  
Folks won't complain about the food  
when they sit down to sup.  
We won't be mowing lawn up there  
or trimming hedge out back,  
And we won't have to save receipts  
in case we might lose track.

Depression there will be unknown,  
we won't have income tax,  
We won't have news of wars and crime.  
We'll live life to the max.  
I know some folks who think of death  
are filled with fear and dread  
But for the folks who know the Lord  
IT'S BETTER UP AHEAD.

*And God himself  
will be with them and  
be their God. He  
will wipe every tear  
from their eyes.  
Revelation 21:3, 4*



## *The Best is Yet to Come*

Don't let your heart be troubled, friends,  
for God is on His Throne,  
No one can hide away from Him,  
we're never left alone.

Sometimes the future may look bleak  
and we're distressed and blue  
But God is watching from above  
and cares for me and you.

So when you think the world is bad  
with no one in control,

God has His finger on the clock  
and watches every soul.

And some day Jesus will return--  
don't let your heart be numb,

For every heart that knows the Lord  
the best is yet to come.



*But in keeping with his  
promise we are looking  
forward to a new heaven  
and a new earth, the  
home of righteousness.  
2 Peter 3:13*

## *My Future*



When I get to Heaven and enter that Gate  
Some things will be different I'm proud to relate.  
No more will my hands shake when I try to eat--  
Just having 'em steady will sure be a treat.

I won't get a shot every morning and night  
For my diabetes will be out of sight.  
My ear that is noisy and blocks out the sound  
Will not be a hassle when folks are around.

My teeth will be perfect, no cavities there,  
And I'll have no problem eating heavenly fare.  
My back will not ache when I go for a walk,  
My voice won't be shaky when I try to talk.

I think that again I'll be able to sing  
And will sign up for choir where Jesus is King.  
I won't need my glasses to help me to see  
For up There my vision will be good as can be.

Up there I won't fall and break some of my bones  
For I won't trip over some sticks or some stones.  
I won't have to watch every step that I take  
For living up there I won't make that mistake.

My thinking up there will be clear as a bell,  
I hope there'll be time to write poems, as well.

*"Hallelujah" Revelations 19:1*



## *Things I'll Leave*

When Jesus calls my name some day  
I'll take my flight and will not stay.

But there are things I'll leave behind  
And let me tell you, I don't mind.

Things I've collected here below  
Is stuff that I won't take, ya' know,

But really it's okay with me  
Because some other things, you see,

I'll be so glad to leave down here  
Like things that cause a falling tear.

I'll leave behind all stress and strain  
And all the things that cause me pain.

And so till angels give their nod  
I'll live by faith and trust in God.



*And again they shouted  
"Hallelujah"  
Revelation 19:3*

## *The Millennium*

You've heard of the millennium  
when Christ will rule and reign  
And things will be quite different then  
when He comes back again.  
One nice thing that will happen  
is that animals and such  
Won't hassle one another  
and won't be afraid to touch.  
The king of beasts won't eat the lambs  
but will together play,  
And if a child plays with a snake  
it's really quite okay.  
The little creatures on the earth  
won't run from eagle's claws,  
And chickens scattered here and there  
won't fear the fox's jaws.  
And zoos will be so different, too,  
with animals not wild  
A group can be in one big place  
accompanied by a child.  
We'll have to change our thinking  
and to put our fears away  
For when Christ comes to rule the earth  
'twill be a better day.



*The wolf will live with  
the lamb, the leopard will  
lie down with the goat . . .  
and a little child shall  
lead them.*

*Isaiah 11:6*

## *Running For The Gold*

For hundreds of years folks have run for the gold  
To win a fine medal to wear and to hold.

They practice and practice day in and day out.  
There isn't much else they are thinking about.

Committed, determined, they go on their way  
Just hoping and praying they'll make it some day.

It's much like the Christian who runs in life's race:  
Committed, determined, to see that great Place

Where not just a medal of bronze or of gold  
Is handed the winner, but this I've been told:

Rewards will be given to all who arrive  
So send up your treasures while you're still alive.



*I have finished the  
race, I have kept  
the faith. Now  
there is stored up for  
me the crown of  
righteousness.  
1 Timothy 4:7, 8*



## *Moving . . . But No Packing?*

When I go to Heaven I won't have to pack  
and wonder, "What things shall I take?"

'Twill be a relief not to handle those bags  
and not have decisions to make.

'Twould be very hard to select certain clothes,  
for what are they wearing up there?

Now, would I need shoes, if so, just what kind?  
and what should I take for my hair?

Would I need my watch, or does time just stand still?  
and what about bracelets and rings?

With all of the gold and the jewels up there  
I'd really need none of those things.

I'm very much happy I won't have to pack  
and carry my bags to the Gate,

For things that I love and I cherish down here  
up there would be quite out of date.

I think the Lord wants us to come as we are  
when He says it's time to depart.

He'd not be impressed by the stuff that we'd bring,  
but surely He'll look at the heart.

## *Dreading to Leave*

When we get to heaven I bet we will say,  
“Why did we put off this most wonderful day?”

We dreaded so long to leave old planet earth  
And tried to enjoy it for all we were worth.

We did all the things the Doc said we must do  
To keep trim and fit, and took medicine, too.

We cherished our friends, and we sought their advice,  
And tried to think thoughts that were healthy and nice.

And when we had pain and felt full of despair  
We probably wondered if life was quite fair

But still we held out for an extra long life,  
No matter the pain, or the problems, or strife.

But once we're in Heaven and see Jesus' face  
And feel the excitement and joy of that Place,

We'll wonder why death filled our hearts with dismay  
Before angels came and stole us away.



## *Hang In There*

Your body may grow old, ya' know  
and slow down quite a bit,  
And there are days you sometimes think  
you'd really like to quit.  
But other times you feel quite good  
and really want to stay  
And think you'd like to live a while  
so keep on day by day.  
But even though your body's bent  
and life's at slower speed  
Your spirit grows each passing day  
and gives the strength you need.  
Its nice that God planned things that way  
so as we older grow  
That place that we call Heaven, folks,  
means more to us, you know.  
Don't fret and stew when aging comes--  
God has a better place--  
So hang in there the best you can;  
someday you'll see His Face.

*I consider that our present sufferings  
are not worth comparing with the glory  
that will be revealed in us. Romans 8:18*



## *Things We'll Miss*

Sometimes we get discouraged  
and we like to reminisce  
On what will be hereafter  
and things that we will miss.  
Our hearts will not be troubled,  
there will be no stress or strain  
For in that heavenly Place up There  
we'll feel no guilt or pain.  
No backaches, toothaches, headaches,  
no arthritis, and no gout,  
And fractures, shingles, cataracts,  
are things we'll do without.

We'll not dread that day in April  
when Income Tax comes due;  
The daily news will be passe  
that could upset us, too.  
We'll not make up a shopping list  
or fill the car with gas,  
And we won't have the monthly bills  
that seem to come en masse.

We won't have programs on T.V.  
that rankle us a lot,  
And junk mail won't be coming through  
with bargains that are not.  
And credit cards that rob the poor  
but make for ready cash  
Won't be in evidence up there  
but left on earth as trash.



No politics will be in Heav'n  
for God's the CEO.  
His rules are in the Bible  
that was written long ago.  
Police cars or an ambulance  
with sirens screaming loud  
Won't rush to pick a person up  
if injured in a crowd  
For there will be no accidents,  
no fighting and no crime  
For former things have passed away  
like when we lived in Time.

We'll miss the problems that we have  
down here where humans dwell  
And we'll be glad to leave behind  
some other stuff as well.  
We'll not look for a hole down here  
the day we're called to die  
But rather we will look and find  
a hole up in the sky.

*a faith and knowledge resting in the hope  
of eternal life, which God, who does not lie,  
promised before the beginning of time.  
Titus 1:2*



## *The Common Folks*

When Jesus lived down on this earth  
two thousand years ago  
He healed a lot of hurting folks  
and tried to let them know  
How they should live, what they should do,  
to gain eternal life  
And if they'd do the things He said  
they need not live in strife.

The Pharisees and Sadducees,  
the scribes and elders, too,  
Felt threatened by the things He said  
for they'd a different view.  
They were religious leaders  
and they thought they were quite smart  
And they did not want Jesus  
to upset their apple cart.

So there were folks who hated Him  
and tried to do Him in  
Because their hearts were full of pride,  
hypocrisy, and sin.



But there were other folks around  
who loved the Lord a lot  
And they would follow Him for miles  
and listened as He taught.  
But these were common people,  
not the CEO's and such,  
Who had great faith and confidence  
and loved Him very much.

Today is not much different  
than in days of long ago,  
Some big shots in the world down here  
have their own gods, you know.  
They think they have things figured out  
and feel they are quite smart  
But if they want to go to Heav'n  
Christ must be in their heart.

*Christ in you, the hope of glory*  
*Colossians 1:27*



*Forgetting  
Our  
Problems*



I really like the old-time hymns  
that we have sung for years,  
They tell us of a better place  
where we will shed no tears.  
I doubt when we arrive up There  
we'll ask the reason why  
We've has so many speed bumps  
that made us want to sigh.

When I take time to think on this,  
I wonder could it be  
That we'll forget our problems  
when Jesus face we see?  
We won't ask for explanations  
why we suffered lots of pain  
For we will be distracted  
by the things we're going to gain.

To hear the angels singing  
and to walk on streets of gold,  
And it will finally dawn on us  
we never will grow old,  
So when you feel down in the dumps  
and life is filled with dread  
Remember Jesus told us  
that it's better up ahead.

## *Dear God,*

Sometimes we get discouraged  
And we feel that life is tough;  
At times we have to ask you, Lord,  
To give us grace enough  
To handle pain and struggles  
That just seem to come our way  
And ask You if tomorrow  
Could be better than today.

And Lord, You seem so far away  
If we don't keep in touch,  
We find that other things in life  
Do not amount to much.  
So take our hands again, dear Lord,  
And overflow our cup,  
We'll thank you for the strength You give  
To keep us looking up.  
We'll do our best to smile a bit  
And even sing and hum;  
We know full well You told us  
That the BEST is yet to come.

*Amen*



## *Change*

A lot of folks who've lived for years  
have seen a lot of change  
And most of it is really nice  
but some is kinda' strange.  
The horse and buggy days are gone,  
so now we drive a car  
To get us where we wanna' go  
though it is near or far.

The clothes we wear don't look the same,  
a lot are wash and wear;  
Some folks take medicines galore  
to help with wear and tear.  
Of course fast foods are popular  
so folks don't have to cook,  
They'd rather watch a movie  
or curl up with a good book.

Computers make folks change a lot,  
now we don't need a stamp  
For e-mails are so fast to write  
we don't get writer's cramp.  
Our air conditioned rooms are great,  
our frozen foods are nice,  
When we microwave leftover food  
we eat for half the price.



Oh, there are lots of changes  
that will come our way each year  
And though sometimes we shift our gears,  
one thing is very clear  
We serve a God who changes not,  
His Word's the same today--  
We know the Ten Commandments  
are forever here to stay.

So don't be fooled by trifling stuff  
that wants to make you mod,  
It's better far to keep your faith  
till you're at Home with God.

*Jesus Christ is the same yesterday  
and today and forever. Hebrews 13:8*



*A  
New  
Body*



We know that when we go to Heav'n  
our bodies will be changed,  
We realize with sickness gone  
things will be rearranged.  
No one will wear a hearing aid  
or walk with cane or crutch  
Trifocals will be out of date,  
no sleeping pills we'll clutch.

Folks will not tell how bad they feel,  
how lonely or depressed,  
For all things will be different there  
with living at its best.  
So oft we wonder how we'll look  
when we're on that fair shore;  
The Bible gives us just a hint,  
but really not much more.

It talks about a grain of wheat  
when planted in the ground  
Must die before it comes to life  
with changes quite profound.  
And what about the acorn  
that will some day be a tree?  
Until it dies it can't become  
what it was meant to be.

And so I wonder, friend of mine,  
    when Jesus calls our name  
And we'll be raised in different form  
    and won't look quite the same,  
But like the acorn makes a tree  
    or grain of corn a stalk  
Our bodies will be glorified  
    as well our walk and talk.  
We really don't know more than this,  
    we'll have to wait and see  
But God has something great in mind  
    for His big family tree.

*And just as we have borne the likeness  
of the earthly man, so shall we bear the  
likeness of the man from heaven.*

*Hebrews 15:49*





3

*God Is Still  
God Tomorrow*



*God Is  
Still God  
Tomorrow*



I know we tend to worry  
over lots of little stuff--  
We can get bent all out of shape  
if we've not faith enough  
To realize that God is God  
and still will be tomorrow  
And He knows what the future holds  
of blessings or of sorrow.

Sometimes we hear the TV news  
that shakes us up a bit,  
It's easy to feel down and out  
if you watch much of it.  
But if the Lord lives in our heart  
it's nice for us to know  
That God is God forever  
and it ever will be so.

If our eyes are fixed on Heaven  
and we know God's in control  
We know we ought to thankful be  
that He sees every soul  
And nothing e'er surprises Him,  
He's never caught off-guard  
So put your future in His hands  
and trust Him real hard.

*O the Lord do not change. Malachi 3:6*

## *God Is Busy*



Our God stays awfully busy, folks,  
He has a lot to do:  
He has to keep the sun in place,  
the earth a' whirling, too.  
He's gotta' keep the stars up there  
so they'll stay in their place  
Or they might fall on planet earth  
and kill the human race.

Besides all this there are the flow'rs  
that need the morning dew  
And birds that want a bite to eat  
and trees to live in, too.  
How would the tigers and the bears  
survive were there no food?  
If God weren't looking after things  
the world would come unglued.

God does not sit around all day  
and wonder what to do,  
For He's in charge of Heaven, folks,  
that keeps Him busy, too.  
Don't minimize how big God is;  
no thing escapes His Eye,  
He helps His children on this earth  
until the day they die.

Be glad, my friend, that God is God,  
don't let your god be small,  
For He's in charge of everything  
and watches over all.

## *God Did It*

I know some folks are atheists  
and don't believe in God;  
I wonder where they think they'll go  
when angels give their nod.

When we see birds both big and small  
just cruising through the air  
I'd think those folks would have a clue  
that God has put them there.

And flowers with their splash of paint,  
e'en some with perfume rare,  
They oughta' know God made 'em all  
and did it with great care.

No matter how those folks would try  
they couldn't make a star  
Nor could they paint a rainbow  
no matter where they are.

Some folks believe their ancestors  
descended from some apes  
And swung themselves from tree to tree  
while munching nuts and grapes.



I wish those folks who don't believe  
in much of anything  
Would open up their Bible—  
it explains most everything.

The folks who read their Bible  
and they think on it a bit  
Can tell you that God made the world  
and everything in it.

And that includes all folks on earth  
and no two are alike  
And it would surely take a God  
to make that come out right.

I wonder how the atheists  
can live life to the max  
If they've not made their peace with God  
and try hard to relax.

When I can see the things God made—  
the whole, not just a part,  
I stand amazed He's small enough  
to live within my heart.

*Many, O Lord my God are the wonders  
you have done. The things you planned for  
us no one can recount to you. Psalm 40:5*



## *Where God Lives*

God has two places where He lives—  
one's up in Heaven above,

The other place is here on earth  
where hearts are filled with love.

I'm sure that keeps Him busy  
watching over Heaven and all

But He is such an awesome God  
He still hears when we call.

I know folks worship money  
and the things that it can buy

But money will not love them back  
when life has gone awry.

There's nothing like the touch of God  
to help a fella' then

For He knows what has happened  
no matter where or when.

So put your hand in God's big hand,  
He has good news for you.

And if you're on a long detour  
He'll help you safely through.

He knows where all the speed bumps are  
and knows what lies ahead

And He can give you peace and joy  
just like the Bible said.



*I live in a high and holy  
place, but also with him  
who is contrite and lowly  
in spirit to revive the spirit  
of the lowly. Isaiah 57:15*



## *The Fiery Furnace*

The fiery furnace was no threat  
for three young Hebrew men,  
For they'd not bow to other gods  
no matter who or when.  
They really had their minds made up;  
they would not bow the knee,  
If God delivered them, okay--  
if not, they'd wait and see.

And when the king said, "Throw 'em in,"  
it didn't singe a hair,  
It only burned off all their ropes,  
no smell of smoke was there.  
But when the king, to his dismay,  
saw still another face,  
It scared him that he saw God's Son  
was also in that place.

I'm glad I serve a God like that  
for when we're in the fire  
He's right there close beside us  
to give help and to inspire.  
If you don't have a God, my friend,  
to help when things go wrong  
I'd recommend you serve the Lord,  
He'd give your heart a song.

*Daniel 3:1-30*

## *The Psalms*

I kinda' like to read the Psalms,  
they have good news to share,  
They tell us we should praise the Lord  
for all His love and care.  
They also give the future  
written out in black and white  
Of what will happen to the good  
and those who don't do right.

Of course we know of David  
with his trusty little sling  
And how he killed Goliath  
and great victory did win.  
Not only was he famous  
for the great things that he did  
But he loved God with all his heart  
when he was just a kid.

And David also played a harp  
and wrote a lot of songs,  
He also made some bad mistakes  
but repented of his wrongs.  
So God loved him an awful lot  
because he was sincere  
And David found forgiveness  
which filled his soul with cheer.





If you will read the Psalms again  
they might bring peace of mind  
And if we think on 'em a bit  
a lot of stuff we'll find  
That gives us strength for dreary days  
when we feel tired and weak,  
God knows we have some days like that  
and knows whereof we speak.

I guess some verses I like best  
is where it says to me  
That we should always praise the Lord  
until His Face we see.  
And if He lives within our heart  
He'll lead us safely o'er  
The banks of Jordan's River  
and reach Heaven's golden shore.

*I praise the Lord all my life, I will  
sing to my God as long as I live.  
Psalm 146:2*



## *God is Awesome*

I've really traveled quite a bit;  
I've seen a lot of stuff  
That is the handiwork of God  
that's really up to snuff.  
The canyons and the mountains  
and the sparkling rivers, too,  
Are really just a small amount  
of what our God can do.

He made the stars, the sun and moon,  
the darkness and the light,  
When He created people  
He really did it right  
For we are marvelously made  
with heart and mind and soul  
With the capacity to love  
and feel that we are whole.

And when He made the flowers  
He splashed on colors rare  
So they'd have lots of beauty  
for people everywhere.  
And how we love to watch the birds  
and hear the songs they sing--  
It seems they're singing praise to God  
with thanks for everything.

If you've been on safari  
you've seen animals galore  
And marveled as you've watched 'em run—  
by hundreds, maybe more.

There's really lots of pretty stuff  
down here on planet earth--  
God doesn't do just half a job,  
but He does things of worth.

I know that God made everything  
in earth and sky and sea  
But as I read my Bible,  
I'm amazed as I can be:  
When I read First Corinthians,  
verse nine in Chapter two  
It tells what Heaven will be like  
and what He's been up to.

It says that eyes have never seen,  
and ears have never heard,  
Nor have imagined in our heart,  
according to God's Word,  
The things that He's prepared for those  
who really love Him here,  
So that will be exciting  
when Christ Jesus will appear.

I don't know how God thought of things  
when He created earth  
And still provided for our needs  
and gives us joy and mirth,  
But if He made our world so grand  
and Heav'n surpasses this  
It sounds like it's the Place to go  
and will not want to miss.



*1 Corinthians 2:9*

## *Peter*

There's something about Peter  
when you read about his life  
That makes you kinda' like him  
though he had some toil and strife.  
He really was outspoken  
and he loved the Lord a lot,  
If he was asked what he believed  
he'd answer on the spot.

He had enthusiasm  
and he had a lot of zest  
And often spoke out for the Lord  
when he was at his best.  
Sometimes he also made mistakes  
when he would speak too fast  
But then he would apologize  
so didn't come in last.

I like the way he followed Christ  
when he was called to serve--  
He simply left his boat behind  
which took a lot of nerve.  
He knew Christ was the Son of God  
and said it loud and clear--  
He was the first to voice this fact  
to others standing near.



King Herod didn't like him  
so he had him thrown in jail,  
His praying friends were not allowed  
to even pay his bail.  
The night before King Herod  
would call for him next day  
We find that handcuffed Peter  
between two soldiers lay.

The story we are told in Acts  
says Peter was asleep,  
He must have trusted God a lot  
that He his soul would keep.  
And then to think an angel came  
and shook him wide awake  
And told him to put on his clothes  
and led him out the gate.

Yes, Peter was a special man  
who dared to give his all  
And was not disappointed  
that the Lord gave him a call.  
He left his nets and fishing boat  
to follow Christ the King  
And folks who do the same today  
find it's worth everything.



*Acts 12: 5-19*



## *Some See God Everywhere*

I know some folks do not believe  
that God made all the earth  
And yet the theories that they give  
are really of no worth.  
It kinda' seems a little strange  
these folks see God no where  
And yet a lot of other folks  
will see Him everywhere.

They see Him in the flowers,  
in butterflies, in trees,  
They see Him in the sun and moon  
and feel Him in the breeze.  
They see Him in the flakes of snow  
and in the birds that fly,  
They see Him in the sunset  
and the rainbow in the sky.

They see Him in the mountains  
and in the rushing brook,  
In fact they see God every place  
where human eyes can look.  
I'm glad that I believe in God  
and that He cares for me  
And knowing this within my heart  
I'm happy as can be.

## *Permanent Scars?*

It's kinda' nice to think of Heav'n  
and how things are up There.  
From what the Bible says to those  
who'll walk that golden stair  
Is life will be much different  
than it is down here below  
For folks up There will have no more  
a tale of pain and woe.

No one will be disfigured  
and no one will have a scar  
For God will take them all away,  
He knows right where they are.  
But when I think of Jesus Christ  
this thought occurred to me:  
Will nail-scarred hands and wounded side  
last through eternity?

*Look at my hands and at my feet. It is I  
myself. Touch me and see. Acts 24:39*



## *A Perfect Body*

God knew what he was doing, folks,  
when he gave man a soul,  
He didn't want to take to heaven  
our bodies as a whole.  
He knew there'd be diseases  
such as AIDS and leprosy,  
And backaches, gout, and cancer,  
that afflict both you and me.  
And in his wisdom he made man  
so he would leave behind  
His mortal body when he died  
then get a different kind.  
He didn't want to litter up  
the Place with germs and such,  
He only wanted folks around  
who loved him very much.  
I doubt it would be Heaven, folks,  
if some were sick up there  
And had to stay in bed for weeks  
and use a special chair.  
And so God put a soul in man  
that would return some day  
And worship him with perfect love  
and to him homage pay.





## *Choosing the Best*



I know God made things beautiful,  
we see it all around  
And we've collected lots of stuff  
from places we have found.

We love the flowers God has made,  
the shells upon the shore  
And even diamonds set in gold  
tell of His love and more.

It would be hard to take a pen  
and kinda' make a list  
Of all the good things that we have,  
there's lots that we would miss.

I really like my treasures, folks,  
if you know what I mean,  
But what I really like the most  
are things that are unseen.

We can't see God or angels  
and we can't see peace of mind,  
We can't see love or Heaven  
or things like that I find.

So when you pick and choose in life  
and gather lots of stuff  
If all you have is what you see  
it may not be enough.

## *God's Handiwork*

I've done a lot of traveling,  
I've seen a lot of stuff  
That's here and there on planet earth  
and really up to snuff.  
I've seen the Eiffel Tower,  
I've walked on China's Wall  
I've seen Red Square in Russia  
and I've seen the Taj Mahal.

I've also seen a lot of things  
that God produced, you know,  
And if you'll think on it a bit  
It's everywhere you go.  
The canyons, oceans, water falls,  
the giant mountain peaks  
Along with birds and flowers and gems,  
which of His greatness speaks.

The thing I'm trying hard to say  
is you should look and see  
How many things there are on earth  
for folks like you and me.



But when I read my Bible, folks,  
it almost blows my mind  
That there it says in black and white  
up there we will not find  
A thing that looks like planet earth,  
all things will be brand new  
And folks cannot imagine  
what the Lord's prepared for you.

So keep your heart in touch with God  
so when the angels call  
You'll find that leaving planet earth  
is not hard after all.



## *Good as It Can Get*

Let the love of God shine through you  
everywhere you go today  
So when this day is over  
and you bow your head and pray  
You will feel no tinge of sadness  
nor have feelings of regret,  
And if you've peace within your heart  
it's good as it can get.

Don't ruminate on little things  
that rob you of your sleep,  
Instead rejoice and praise the Lord  
that He your soul will keep.  
God never goes to sleep at night  
nor does He take a nap,  
E'en when He sends His angels out  
they never need a map;

So let God hold you in His Hand  
and let His light shine through,  
For He likes folks who show His love  
in everything they do.



*No  
Problem  
For Me*



I wish those folks who don't believe  
That God created man  
Would give an explanation  
Of how the world began.  
Sometimes we hear them say stuff  
Like a million years ago—  
But if they weren't there at that time  
I wonder how they'd know.

Somehow they've made some folks believe  
Some pretty untrue stuff,  
For we know God created earth  
And made it up to snuff.  
I wonder where those folks will go  
who don't believe in God  
When they will kick the bucket  
And the angels give their nod.

To know there truly is a God  
Is no problem, folks, for me  
For anywhere my eyes can look  
God's creation I can see.  
The sun, the moon, the stars at night,  
The sunrise day by day  
Speak volumes that there is a God.  
And that He's here to stay.

*But When We Get  
to Heaven . . .*

When oldsters gather in a group  
and kinda' chew the fat  
They'll sit and spin their yarns, ya' know,  
that covers this and that.  
But one thing seems to head the list—  
they're going to see the Doc  
So he can tune 'em up a bit  
and kinda' wind their clock.

The weather is another thing  
they'll find to talk about  
For if a storm is on its way  
they'll have more aches, no doubt.  
The price of gas may be discussed,  
they think its much too high,  
Their pensions are not adequate  
for things they'd like to buy.

They'll talk about their grandkids  
and just how smart they are,  
And even say some church folks  
are not living up to par.  
A lot of stuff will be discussed  
by members of the group  
But they'll keep chatting on and on  
while eating chicken soup.

But when we get to Heaven, folks,  
this stuff will be forgot  
And we'll not talk of aches and pains  
and stuff that we have not.  
No one will be complaining  
on that happy golden Shore  
Where all things will be perfect  
and we'll live forevermore



4

*Thinkin'  
Of Home*







## *Thinkin' of Home*

I like to think of Heaven  
and the things we'll find up there;  
It's kinda' fun to dream a bit  
while rocking in my chair.  
Of course the Bible doesn't tell  
too much of what we'll find,  
And we can't comprehend it  
for we have too small a mind.

But there are gates of pearl, you know,  
and there are streets of gold;  
The walls of that great City  
will have jewels I am told.  
There won't be slums or homeless folks  
asleep on any street  
For all will be at Home up There  
and that is pretty neat.

It's hard to comprehend a place  
where lies are never said  
And neighbors love each other  
and where prejudice is dead.  
No one will say they're feeling tough  
and have to see the Doc  
So he can tune 'em up a bit  
and kinda' wind their clock.

The Book of Revelation tells  
some stuff we'll see up there  
And who they are who'll make it through  
those pearly gates so fair.  
I've read in the Old Testament  
of Jonah and the whale--  
He'll have a lot to tell about  
his under-water sail.

And Moses, that great friend of God,  
took that complaining bunch  
Across the burning desert  
and where God provided lunch:  
He gave them manna day by day  
and quail for them to eat,  
And to get them out of Egypt  
was really quite a feat.

I could name lots of other folk  
like good old patient Job  
And Abraham and David  
and some others on this globe,  
But if we live forever  
on that great celestial shore  
I'm sure there'll be new folks to meet  
and they can tell us more.



(over)

Just look in the New Testament  
for Peter, James, and John,  
And Matthew, Mark, and Dr. Luke,  
the list goes on and on,  
And Mary who gave birth to Christ,  
and Zaccheus in a tree,  
The wise men and the shepherds, too,  
I'd really like to see.

Of course we've heard of mansions  
and a lot of super stuff  
And God will not run out of things,  
there'll always be enough.  
Just think of all the angels  
that will fly around up There,  
I sure don't want to miss them  
when I walk that golden stair.

Of course I've left the best till last  
for no one can compare  
With seeing Jesus Christ the Lord  
and meeting Him up there  
And thank Him that He died for me  
and all the human race  
And feel the nail-prints in His Hand  
and see His lovely face.



*Now we see but a poor  
reflection as in a mirror,  
then we shall see face  
to face. 1 Corinthians 13:12*

## *At the Gate*



When we get up to Heaven  
And St. Peter meets us There  
He won't ask how far we've traveled  
Before we walked the "stair."  
He may not be too interested  
In travelogues we give  
Or ask about our house and car  
And what we did to live.

I think what sparks his interest  
Is the content of our heart  
And what we did to help folks out  
And if we did our part.  
Forgiveness, faith, and love for God  
Are music to his ears  
Along with kindness, honesty,  
And other things he hears.

He won't care if we are wealthy  
Or have somehow come to fame  
But he may check the Record Book  
And search there for our name.  
And if he finds we know the Lord  
He'll open wide the Gate  
And we'll see Jesus waiting there—  
the Greatest of the great.

*For it is by grace you have been saved,  
through faith . . . it is a gift of God.  
Ephesians 2:8*

## *Heaven-- Better Than You Can Imagine*

I like to think of Heaven, folks  
and what it's gonna' be,  
I know we don't know much about  
the things that we will see.

We love songs concerning Heaven  
and how it will be great  
We know for sure if God's involved  
He has a big estate.

Today I read about that Place  
in God's most Holy Book  
And it's in First Corinthians  
in case you want to look,

Then find verse nine of Chapter two—  
it's there in black and white  
And sure enough you'll get a glimpse  
of what Heav'n might be like.



It says that Eye has never seen,  
nor Ear has ever heard,  
Nor could man ever visualize,  
according to God's Word,

The things that He's prepared for those  
who've made Him Lord and King  
And if you do that very thing  
your heart will hum and sing.

The Lord has made a special Place  
for folks whose hearts are clean  
And it's worth everything you've got  
to make that heavenly scene.

So if you want to see that Place  
that God has all fixed up  
You've got to give Him all your heart  
and let Him fill your cup.

*Let us therefore make every effort  
to enter into that rest. Hebrews 4:11*



## *Just Passing Through*

Some years ago there was a song  
that I still like a lot  
That says this world is not our home  
(and really it is not).  
It says that we're just passing through,  
and if you think it through  
I think you will agree with me  
because, my friend, it's true.  
God makes us all to live down here  
a little while you know  
But that is not the end of us,  
there's some place else to go.

And as I watch the rushing throng  
I wonder can it be  
They're only living for today  
and not eternity?  
It seems they work and work to buy  
an awful lot of stuff,  
No matter how much dough they have  
it never seems enough.  
I kinda' think the common folk  
who serve both God and man  
Live happy lives because they live  
according to His plan.

This world is not their final home  
so while they're passing through  
They help the folks who need a lift  
like Jesus told them to.  
It's great to have a caring heart  
that loves and can forgive  
And there's no doubt about it  
it's the only way to live.  
And then when Jesus calls their name  
they will no longer roam  
Because they've just been passing through  
to their eternal Home.

*The Lord is my shepherd. . . Surely  
goodness and love will follow me  
all the days of my life, and I will dwell  
in the house of the Lord forever.*

*Psalm 23:1,6*





## *Nearer Home*

Sometimes it seems when we get old  
our parts don't work too good,  
Our molehills seem like mountains,  
so much bigger than they should.  
E'en though the Doc has tuned us up  
and listened to our chest  
And talked with us and held our hand  
and did his level best

To calm our nerves and ordered pills  
to take away our pain  
We find we can't convince ourselves  
that we are young again.  
And so we have to hunker down  
in God's great love and care  
And tell Him all our problems  
and then just leave 'em there.

It's kinda' strange how we react  
when old age settles in--  
Some folks will get bent oughta' shape,  
some take it on the chin.  
But if you've made your peace with God  
you need not stew nor fret  
For every day we're nearer Home  
and that's the best news yet!



*resting on the hope of eternal  
life which God, who does  
not lie, promised before the  
beginning of time. Titus 1:2*

## *Things I'll Take*

I wonder if you've thought about  
the stuff you'll leave behind  
When you leave planet Earth down here--  
what will your family find?  
You cannot take stuff with you  
is as true as it can be  
But there are things that you can take  
that other folks don't see.

You won't leave love and peace behind  
and joy will go with you,  
And if you're happy in your heart  
you're sure to take that, too.  
So when you enter Heaven's Gate  
you're sure to fit right in  
And keep the good things going  
that you have deep within.

The world is like a dressing room  
where people everywhere  
Can pick the path they wish to choose,  
and also can prepare  
To live with God eternally  
and get a start down here  
By loving, giving, helping folks  
and spreading lots of cheer.



## *The Place to Go*

I've mused quite a bit on what Heaven will be;  
Some things will be missing I plainly can see.

No doctors or nurses will hang out a sign  
For all the folks there will be feeling just fine.

No cancer, no shingles, arthritis, or cold,  
Can make people sickly, no matter how old.

Attacks of angina will be done away,  
And all types of illness will there be passe.

No wheelchairs, or crutches, or even a cane  
Will thump on the streets for none there are in pain.

I've traveled around this old world quite a bit  
And as of right now I'm not planning to quit.

But when I'm through travelin' I want you to know  
That this is exactly where I want to go.



*We have this hope as  
an anchor for the soul,  
firm and secure.  
Hebrews 6:19*

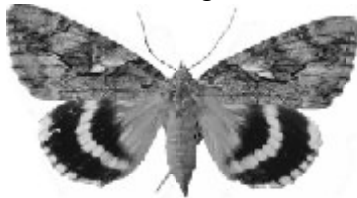
## *Heaven's Extras*

Now if there were no bills to pay,  
no dreaded income tax,  
And if our stuff would not break down  
and we could just relax,  
We just might think that we had died  
and Heaven let us in  
And we had joined the ranks up There  
with all our kids and kin.

It sure would seem like Heaven  
just to have no pain or stress  
And things on earth would be passe--  
like Paradise, no less.  
But let me tell you, friend of mine,  
though the above is true  
There are lots of things awaiting us  
when Heaven we will view.

We hear of angels, mansions bright,  
and also streets of gold,  
And gates of pearl, and precious stones,  
at least that's what I'm told.  
It seems that God must love us much  
to add these extra things,  
But best of all He'll give to us  
a heart that hums and sings.

*Sing to the Lord  
for he has done  
glorious things;  
Isaiah 12:5*



## *Thinkin' About Our Heavenly Home*

Sometimes I kinda' muse about  
    what I think Heav'n will be;  
I know I cannot picture it  
    as you will plainly see.  
But things will be so different there  
    (and I am glad they will),  
A lot of things we have down here  
    up there will just be nil.

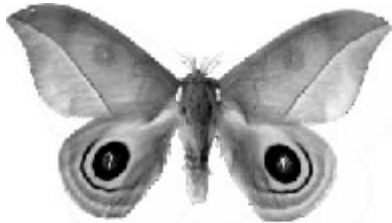
I'm sure we won't need plumbers there  
    for what would those folks do?  
The things God makes won't need repairs,  
    they'll always look brand new.  
The doctors and the nurses, too,  
    will not a patient find,  
For all the folks who live up there  
    are well, and none are blind.

Psychiatrists and counselors  
    will have no work to do,  
For no one there will be depressed  
    and no one will be blue.  
Mechanics will be out of work  
    for cars are there passe,  
We won't need travel visas  
    for we're in that place to stay.

No global warming will take place,  
No floods or famine there,  
The streets of gold will ne'er erode  
and be in disrepair.  
No TV ads will rankle us,  
no junk mail in our box,  
And as there'll be no crime or sin  
we'll have no need of locks.

No congress will convene up there,  
for God will be in charge  
And He knows how to run the Place  
although it's super large.  
Another thing I think is neat,  
there'll be no monthly rent,  
Nor will we have to pay a bill  
AT&T has sent.

No self-help books are on the shelf;  
No cash will needed be--  
There'll be no need of earthly stuff,  
we'll be completely free.  
And this I often think about--  
what will we do up there  
For nothing will be breaking down  
in need of quick repair.



(over)

Do you suppose we'll use our time  
in fellowship and praise  
And maybe even join a choir  
and joyful voices raise?  
It seems to me we'll have the time  
to talk with friends we've known  
And arm and arm stroll down a path  
where flowers have been sown.

The Bible says we folks down here  
don't know what Heav'n will be,  
So we will have to bide our time  
Till Jesus' face we see.  
But one thing sure when I am done  
with living here below  
I'll trust in God with all my heart  
so that's where I will go.

*He will wipe every tear from their eyes.  
There will be no more death or mourning  
or crying or pain, for the old order of  
things have passed away. Revelation 21:4*



## Graduation Day

Some day you're going to "graduate"  
from this old planet earth  
So make sure it is with honors  
and with lots of joy and mirth.  
God likes us to be happy folks  
and has a place prepared  
Where everything is up to snuff  
and won't need to be repaired.

If there are gondolas or cars  
with which to move about  
To see the sights of Heaven  
and see what it's all about  
They ne'er will be inside a shop  
for a tune-up or a flat  
For everything will be ship-shape—  
and are we glad of that!

We'll need no keys to lock our place  
for criminals won't be there  
And there are things we'll want to see  
when we walk that golden stair.  
So while you're living on this earth  
stand tall and live for God  
So you'll be ready for that Place  
when angels give their nod.

*I have fought a good fight, I have finished  
the race, I have kept the faith. Now there  
is in store for me the crown of righteousness.  
2 Timothy 4:7, 8*



*A  
New  
Tongue*



When we get to Heaven I'm sure we will find  
Our talk will be changed to a far different kind.

We won't say our usual, "How are you today?"  
For when you feel good, there is much less to say.

You won't tell your neighbor you had a bad night,  
Your back hurt so badly and you felt up tight.

The meds that you took didn't help you one bit,  
You vowed then and there all that stuff you would quit.

And then you would tell how your car wouldn't start  
When you finished shopping at Sears and Wal-Mart.

You might add a note that the weather's so hot  
It saps all your strength--what little you've got.

The payments you have on your house and your car  
Leaves little left over, and won't go too far.

Complaints, and the problems we have everyday  
When we get to Heaven will there be passe.

So when you are There and are taking a walk,  
You will not hear grumbling when you sit and talk.

We'll find a big change when we get to that Place  
Where all are content with a smile on their face.

*Could  
It Be?*



The Bible doesn't tell us much  
What Heaven will be like—  
But what it does say here and there  
It sounds like pure delight.  
It's nothing like our planet earth  
Where we spend all our days  
For in Heaven we'll not worry  
In countless, endless ways.

My husband wondered, "Could it be  
Why not too much is said  
Is folks might hate to live down here--  
Preferring to be dead?"  
I hadn't thought of that before,  
But I can plainly see  
If life is tough and mean down here  
We'd like to be set free.

But many folks who live long lives  
Enjoy each passing day  
And doing things for God and man  
Fulfil their lives some way.  
I really think God had in mind  
That we live here awhile  
Then when the angels come for us  
We'll greet 'em with a smile.

## *Looking For A City*

I'm sure you know of Abraham  
    who lived in days of old;  
He owned a lot of livestock,  
    plus much silver and much gold.  
But one day God spoke to this man  
    that he should move and go  
To somewhere God had planned for him,  
    but where, he didn't know.

But Abraham had faith in God,  
    this news he took in stride  
And if God said to pull up stakes  
    he wouldn't run and hide.  
He didn't sell his house, you know,  
    for he lived in a tent;  
They'd simply have to pack it up  
    and take it where they went.

I'm sure it took a long, long time  
    to pack up all his things—  
His servants helped to move the stuff  
    that being wealthy brings.  
So it was quite a caravan  
    on that old dusty road  
Where all his beasts of burden  
    walked beneath their heavy load.



Now Abraham, the friend of God,  
    had something on his mind,  
The Book of Hebrews says it best:  
    he hoped that he could find  
A city with foundations  
    that were sure and very strong  
And with God the Master Builder  
    he knew nothing would be wrong.

And I am sure this sounded great  
    for him to trade his tent  
For something that his God prepared  
    when he was old and spent.  
God told him He would bless him  
    and would make a nation strong—  
They'd be as many as the stars  
    that shine the whole night long.

God knew the plans He had for him  
    and gave to him a son  
Who would head up the Israelites  
    before his work was done.  
So by one man's obedience  
    the Israelites came to be,  
And Mary, who gave birth to Christ,  
    was from that family tree.



*they were longing for a  
better country-- a heavenly  
one . . . for he has prepared  
a city for them.  
Hebrews 11:15, 16*

## *Brighter Days*

If your heart is apprehensive  
about the days ahead  
It could spoil a lot of livin'  
and fill your mind with dread.  
God has a remedy for this,  
the Bible says it best:  
Christ said if we would come to Him  
He'd give us peace and rest.

So if your future's in His hands  
the best thing you can do  
Is take the time to live each day  
like He would want you to.  
It's not too smart to let a day  
go by without a song  
For days are so much brighter  
if you have the Lord along.

*Peace I leave with you;  
my peace I give unto you.  
John 14:27*



## *Really Far Away?*

I know that God seems far, far off  
to many folks today,  
And even when they say a prayer  
He still seems far away.  
It could be that the trouble is  
they seldom keep in touch--  
I wonder if the reason is  
they don't love Him too much.  
Or they could be too busy  
with the things they have to do  
And only in emergencies  
would hope their "call" got through.  
They have not learned the secret yet  
that God is on their side,  
And cares what happens every day  
and wants to be their Guide.  
If they'd just trust their lives to Him  
and talk to Him a lot,  
They'd find they'd have more peace of mind--  
more than they ever thought.



*Come near to God and He will  
come near to you James 4:8*

5

*Jesus Came  
And Is  
Coming Again*



## *Christmas*

“How much farther is it, Joseph,  
until we reach the Inn?  
I’m kinda’ anxious to lay down  
and get some rest again.”  
And Joseph reassures her  
that the Inn’s not far away  
And they can get some good hot food  
and then call it a day.

And so the donkey travels on  
with Joseph by its side  
And finally they reach the Inn  
where doors are open wide.  
A lot of folks were traveling  
to pay their tax, ya’ know,  
“The Inn is full,” the boss told him,  
and this was quite a blow.

So Joseph said to Mary,  
who was on the donkey’s back,  
“We can stay in the stable  
and it’s there we can unpack.”  
So Mary, who was great with child,  
gave birth that holy night  
Among the animals and flies  
and also lantern light.



I like it that some angels sang  
to shepherds tending sheep  
For they responded right away  
when wakened from their sleep.  
The angels clearly told them  
that Jesus Christ was born  
And where they'd surely find the place  
on that most special morn.

I wonder what God's angels thought  
when Jesus came to earth  
And took on Him the form of flesh  
with such a lowly birth.  
God must have loved the folks down here  
to give His only Son  
And kept in touch with Him a lot  
until His work was done.

Folks, Christmas is not ornaments  
and tinsel on a tree  
And shopping carts all full of stuff.  
I think you will agree  
That Jesus Christ would like a gift,  
not from a shopping cart  
But He'd think it was special  
if you gave to Him your heart.



*Every good and perfect  
gift is from above,  
coming down from the  
Father of the heavenly  
lights James 1:17*

## *Christmas Where?*

I know Christmas is a busy time  
for folks who live down here  
For people do a lot of stuff  
to spread some Christmas cheer.  
The pageants and the caroling,  
the shopping and the rest  
Will kinda' stir some people up  
so they will do their best.

And as I dwelt on this a tad  
the thought occurred to me—  
What happens up in Heaven  
when we gather 'round OUR tree?  
Will they have a celebration  
and give gifts to Christ the King  
While a choir of angels gather 'round  
and praises to Him sing?

It's kinda' fun to ruminate  
and wonder what's up There  
Where things will be so different  
when we walk that Golden Stair  
And enter through those pearly Gates  
where Jesus is the King,  
It's then we'll thank Him He came down  
and that's worth everything!



*Thanks be to God  
for his indescribable  
gift. 2 Corinthians 9:15*

## *The Real Christmas*

Maybe some folks look for Christmas  
inside a shopping mall  
Where there are lots of things to buy  
for both the large and small.  
The merchants have their merchandise  
all gussied up a bit  
In hopes you'll buy a lot of stuff  
before you up and quit.  
You could look through a hundred stores  
in search of special stuff  
And have your shopping bags so full  
it makes you huff and puff.

E'en though you've seen the ornaments  
and tinsel strewn around  
And thought you saw old Santa Claus  
about to leave the ground  
And get his reindeer and his sled  
away up in the sky  
It still would not be Christmas,  
and I'll just tell you why:  
You can't buy Christmas anywhere  
though you check every mart--  
The real Christmas comes to those  
who have Christ in their heart.



*Jesus Came . . .  
and Will Come Again*

For many years the Israelites  
looked forward to Christ's birth,  
The prophets told long years ago  
that He would come to earth.  
Some may have thought they'd figured out  
quite how he would arrive  
But when He came they knew Him not  
though He was quite alive.

It didn't happen as they thought  
and so their hearts were dim  
But angels told some shepherds  
to make haste and worship Him.  
So after angels sang their song  
and took their upward flight  
Those shepherds took off on the run  
on that most Holy Night.

The angels told them where to go  
to find that tiny Babe:  
A stable with a manger  
was where Jesus Christ was laid.

The common folks and well-to-do  
had filled up every space,  
And so the Keeper of the Inn  
gave them this humble Place.  
I'm sure the folks who filled the Inn  
and roamed about that night  
Knew not the King of kings was born  
by simple lantern light.

And who'd have thought this little Babe  
would so important be  
That He would change folks by His love  
and really set them free.  
Sometimes I think on this a bit—  
how God pulled a surprise  
Of how and where Christ would be born  
'midst animals and flies.

Friends, Jesus Christ in coming back,  
it could be night or noon  
And many folks who love the Lord  
hope that it will be soon.  
It seems some folks have figured out  
how they think this will be  
But I would guess they'll be surprised  
when Jesus' face they see.

I know the Bible gives some clues  
of what will come to pass  
Before He calls all Christians Home  
and they will leave en masse.  
But if our Lord comes differently  
than some folks think He might  
We'll find no matter how He comes  
He'll really do it right.



*When Christ, who is  
your life appears,  
then you also will  
appear with him  
in glory.  
Colossians 3:4*

## *What If?*

If Jesus Christ had not been born  
two thousand years ago  
Our lives would be much different,  
knowing not which way to go.  
We wouldn't have a Christmas time  
that comes around each year  
Reminding us God gave His Son  
to live with folks down here.

We wouldn't know that angels sang  
to shepherds watching sheep  
And told them where they'd find the Babe  
which woke them from their sleep.  
I wonder if they ran so fast  
they hardly touched the ground  
To find the manger where Christ lay—  
with animals around.

To be the first to see the Babe  
by angel's invitation  
Would make a shepherd's heart to sing  
in joyful jubilation.  
They had no gifts to offer Him  
but they were very smart;  
They gave to Him the best they had.  
They gave to Him their heart.

Then when the shepherds left that place  
and went back to their flock  
It's not hard to imagine  
that excitedly they'd talk.  
The angels, and the singing,  
and the trip to Bethlehem,  
And then to see the lovely Babe,  
was all so new to them.

One thing the shepherds knew for sure  
as they did homeward plod  
Was that they'd never be the same—  
for they'd been touched by God.

*Luke 2:8-20*



## *The King Is Coming*

The King is coming, Christian friend,  
it could well be today;  
And folks all over planet earth  
won't want to longer stay.  
They'll hear the trumpet when it sounds  
and rise right out of sight  
And meet the Lord up in the air--  
it could be day or night.

But this will be a special group  
who'll hear that trumpet sound,  
Its for the folks who know the Lord  
whose feet will leave the ground.  
They could be yellow, black, or red,  
or even brown or white  
Who'll be in that great company  
that takes its final flight.

We needn't send our home address  
to tell God where we are;  
He has His eye on Snowbirds, too,  
though they have traveled far.  
So keep your heart in readiness;  
your eye upon the sky,  
King Jesus may soon come for us  
to live with Him on High.

*And so we will be with the Lord forever.  
, , , encourage each other with these words.  
1 Thessalonians 4:17, 18*



## *Resurrection Morning*

I've been thinking about Easter  
and the joy it brings us here  
When millions celebrate the fact  
of Easter time each year.  
But have you thought about  
that Resurrection morn  
When Christ went back to Heaven--  
did Gabriel blow his horn?

Were angels all alerted when  
Christ Jesus would be back?  
Was there someone in Heaven  
who was scheduled to keep track  
Of when He would return again  
so they could celebrate  
And give a royal welcome when He  
walked in through the gate?

I'm sure Heaven rang with praises  
on that holy day and grand,  
But wonder if some shed a tear  
when they felt His nail pierced hands?



## *The Trumpet Sound*

I'm lookin' for the Lord, ya' know,  
to come just any day  
And when I hear the trumpet sound  
I'm sure not gonna' stay.  
I won't take time to gather stuff  
that means a lot down here  
For when I get to Heaven, folks,  
it will be very clear

All needs will be provided,  
we will walk on streets of gold,  
And since we'll live eternally  
we never will grow old.  
I wonder why we folks on earth  
will hoard a lot of stuff  
As if we'd take a U-Haul  
so in Heav'n we'd have enough.



Our finite minds can't comprehend  
    how awesome is our God--  
We'll have to wait till Jesus comes  
    or angels give their nod.  
So when I muse on this a bit  
    and kinda' think it through  
It seems to me that if we're smart  
    we'd know what we should do.

Instead of hoarding bags of gold,  
    C.D.'s, and other stuff  
Why not give joy to other folks  
    whose lives are mean and tough?  
The happiest people on this globe  
    will spread their love around  
And they'll not fear when Gabriel blows  
    that final trumpet sound.

*He will not forget your work  
and the love you have shown him  
as you help his people and continue  
to help them Hebrews 6:10*



## *Only God*



No one but God could make a plan  
like for our Savior's birth  
And have it orchestrated right  
when He came down to earth.  
The governor imposed a tax  
that everyone must pay  
So people were all hurrying  
to get well on their way.

And Joseph led a donkey,  
a lowly beast, ya' know,  
To an Inn where they could spend the night  
and then get up and go.  
And Mary, who was great with child,  
was anxious to lie down  
And kinda' get a breather  
in that sleepy little town.

To think the Inn was full that night  
and with no place to go  
They were allowed to spend the night  
in a stable down below.  
Of course you know the story well  
that Christ was born that day  
And Joseph filled a manger  
with some nearby straw and hay.

No one who stayed inside the Inn  
had offered them their room,  
It seems they were too busy  
with their own stuff, I presume.

I really like that shepherds  
were the first to make it there  
Because a choir of angels sang  
and told them when and where  
They'd find the place where Jesus Christ,  
the Son of God, was born,  
And sure enough they found the place  
on that first Christmas morn.

God didn't send his Son, you know,  
to folks who reeked with fame,  
He sent Him to the common folks  
who'd be so glad He came.  
So if you're rich or if you're poor,  
and have an empty cup  
Just give your heart to Jesus Christ.  
He'd love to fill it up.



*And there were  
shepherds living out in  
the field nearby, keeping  
watch over their flocks  
by night, an angel of the  
Lord appeared to them.  
Luke 2:8, 9*

## *Moving Day*

No doubt you've moved from place to place  
and found it's pretty tough  
To get packed up with all your gear  
and your important stuff.  
You've got to care for lots of things,  
the phone, the bank, the mail,  
Plus lots of other odds and ends  
and maybe a yard sale.

Sometimes it's easy to sit down  
and get depressed a bit  
And wonder when you'll finish up  
and then be through with it.  
Of course the folks with lots of dough  
and lots of treasures, too,  
May simply call the moving van  
and they will bring their crew.



But when we think on this we'll find  
the greatest move of all  
Was when Jesus Christ came down to earth.  
His first home was a stall.  
So when you think you're overworked  
as you move place to place  
Remember that Christ Jesus moved  
and left a lovely Place

Where He was King and Lord of Lords,  
and then became a man  
To show how much we're really loved  
according to God's Plan.  
We folks down here on planet earth  
don't really sacrifice  
When moving day has come for us.  
We have it pretty nice.

*And she gave birth to her firstborn,  
a son. She wrapped him in cloths  
and placed him in a manger.  
Luke 2:6, 7*



## *He's Coming Back as He Said*

If you knew Christ would come again  
at 2:00 p.m. today  
Would you start mending fences,  
or would you say "okay?"  
He told us when He left this world  
that He would come on back,  
Some folks have read that in God's Book  
but others have lost track.

But for the folks who know the Lord  
their heart may skip a beat  
For they have waited for the time  
when Jesus they would meet.  
I know it's hard to visualize  
the greatness of that Day  
When there will be no problems  
and all tears are wiped away.

So if your heart's not ready  
for Christ's imminent return  
It might be smart to clean it up  
and quickly to Him turn.  
No other day on planet earth  
will exceed that glorious day  
When Christian's feet will leave the ground  
and be with Christ to stay.



## *The Return*



The news that Jesus will return  
just like He said He would,  
Brings joy to every Christian's heart  
and makes him feel so good.  
Then things we've tried so hard to get  
and stow away like cash  
Will be so unimportant then  
as if its only trash.

For if you're with the King of kings  
where there is no more pain  
And everything is light and good  
a man would be insane  
To choose to stay on planet earth  
where greed and crime abound,  
And not ascend with Christ on high  
and hear a joyful sound.

No wonder Christians scan the sky  
and often sing and hum  
For just as Jesus went away  
some day He's sure to come.

*while we wait for the blessed hope. . .  
the glorious appearing of our great  
God and Savior Jesus Christ.  
Titus 2:13*

## *Wings*



I've thought about pilots and what they go through  
To get silver wings to fly through the blue.

The study, the tests, and the practice it takes  
To fly over mountains, and valleys and lakes,

And then smoothly land on an airstrip somewhere  
Takes a lot of practice, precision, and care.

But then when at last he is given his wings  
He knows the great joy that accomplishment brings.

It's kind of like people who live on this earth  
Who hustle and strive for all they are worth

To make something good of the life they are given--  
Improving each day for as long as they're livin'

And trusting in God that when this life is past  
They'll make their last move up to Heaven at last.

They'll try to be faithful 'til that special day  
When they'll get their wings and then just fly away.

## *The Forgetters*

I'm sure some people wonder why  
some oldsters oft forget  
A lot of unimportant things  
and stuff they oughta' get.  
I guess they do not realize  
the brain inside their head  
Has saved up lots of memories  
and really is not dead.

I wonder, does it matter  
if there's stuff they can't recall?  
If they've lived eighty years or more  
their brain can't hold it all.  
The really most important thing  
is memories they've saved up  
And if they have a lot of love  
and God has filled their cup.

So if they need to think a bit  
on things they'd like to say  
And though sometimes they goof things up  
and might be in the way,  
Remember, friend, they need your love,  
encouragement, and more  
For every day they watch and wait  
for Heaven's open door.



*And when the Chief  
Shepherd appears,  
you will receive the  
crown of glory that  
will not fade away.  
1 Peter 5:4*

## *Your Cup*

When your cup is runnin' over  
You can smile and you can sing  
And thank the Lord for all you've got  
With thanks for everything.  
God really likes those: "Thank You" prayers  
Ascending to the sky  
And when I think on it a bit  
I know the reason why.

God gets a lot of messages  
When folks call 911  
These frantic calls from folks down here  
Keep angels on the run.  
So when God hears a loving heart  
Not asking for some things  
My guess is that He listens hard  
And maybe even sings.

God made us in His Image  
So He has feelings, too,  
So talk to Him as your best Friend.  
He'll love it if you do.



## *Memories*

Sometimes I've wondered about the soul,  
is that where memories are?  
And when we leave this planet Earth  
will they be up to par?  
Now if you take your thoughts with you  
do they need sorting out?  
I kinda' think that ugly thoughts  
should be thrown out, no doubt.  
Some folks will harbor so much stuff  
they've saved for years and years  
And if they'd empty out that trash  
it might save them some tears.  
So keep the windows of your soul  
washed free from sin and shame,  
Then you'll be ready when you hear  
the angels call your name.

*Everyone who has this hope in him  
purifies himself just as he is pure.*

*1 John 3:3*



6

*I Go To  
Prepare A  
Place For You*



## *I Go To Prepare a Place for You*

When Jesus left and went to Heaven  
He said He would prepare  
A special Place for Christians  
Who do God's will with care  
And let the love of God shine through  
Their lives from day to day--  
It sure must be a super Place  
For He's still gone away.

And if it takes two thousand years,  
Or maybe even more  
To get the Place all up to par  
With things He has in store  
Like diamonds, sapphires, rubies, too,  
Along with streets of gold,  
Our minds cannot imagine  
All the beauty we'll behold.

God made the earth so beautiful  
We wonder, can it be  
That Heaven will surpass all this?  
We'll have to wait and see.  
To have no problems plaguing us,  
No pain or sorrow there,  
It's truly out of this old world  
And filled with heavenly fare.

We'll see the folks we've read about  
Like David with his sling  
And Daniel in the lions den.  
We'll hear angels when they sing.  
Methuselah and Abraham  
I'd really like to greet  
And when we'll always be up There  
I think we'll surely meet.

Remember Jesus told us  
He'd prepare for us a Place  
And when we do arrive up There  
We'll see His lovely Face  
And that will be the best of all  
Of anything that's There  
So get your heart in readiness  
To walk that Golden Stair.



*I will come back and  
take you to be with me  
that you also may be  
where I am.  
John 14:3*



## *Your Room is all Prepared*

When you hear the sound of angel's wings  
You really need not fear  
For if you've made your peace with God  
They'll give you words of cheer.  
"Someone is waiting up for you,  
Your room is all prepared,  
You'll even find the light is on  
So you need not be scared.  
You are expected any day,  
Your welcome home is planned  
And when God throws a party  
It is beautiful and grand."  
So do not fear when angels come  
And Jesus calls your name  
When you see what's in store for you  
You'll be so glad you came.



*I am going there to  
prepare a place for  
you. John 14:2*

## *Looking Ahead*

God made the earth so beautiful  
with trees, and birds, and such,  
Creating not just earth and sun,  
but things we love to touch.  
And, He gave folks a lot of smarts  
to make things while they're here,  
And so we have just lots and lots  
to put us in high gear:  
Like cars, computers, radios,  
TV's, and other stuff,  
The Internet, and E-mail, too,  
makes living not too tough.  
The cell phone also makes it nice  
so folks are not alone;  
It matters not where you're on earth  
you always have the phone.  
So we enjoy a lot of things  
our parents never had  
And people keep inventing things  
to upgrade just a tad.  
And though we think our life down here  
is good as it can get,  
St. Peter just may say to us,  
"You ain't seen nuthin' yet."

*What we shall be has not  
yet been made known.  
But we know that when  
he appears we shall be  
like him. 1 John 3:2*



## *Streets of Gold . . . and More*

We often hear of streets of gold  
on Heaven's golden shore,  
But I would guess beyond the Gates  
there's really much, much more.

With people free from aches and pains  
and troubles of this earth  
There has to be a lot of joy,  
and love, and peace, and mirth.

There must be flowers, trees and shrubs  
that fill a special space  
With butterflies that drift about  
as birds fly place to place.

The eyes of folks that once were dim  
will 20/20 be,  
All things will be in focus there  
so everyone can see.

And hearing in that lovely Place  
will be both loud and clear  
Where folks need not repeat themselves  
so friends up there can hear.



There'll also be fine music  
by a great celestial band;  
The singing will be praising God  
in that great Promised Land.

I like to think about the things  
that we might see up there,  
It's easy just to ruminate  
from my reclining chair.

No doubt it is a waste of time  
for we can never tell  
The Place that Jesus has prepared  
for those who know Him well.

The Bible says our minds down here  
can't even comprehend  
The things He has prepared for those  
who serve Him to the end.

*The twelve gates were twelve pearls,  
each gate was made of a single pearl.  
The great street of the City was of  
pure gold like transparent glass.*

*Revelation 21:21*



*Heaven--Where  
All Are Special*

When folks get to Heaven I doubt they will find  
A corner for white folk with wealth, and refined,  
Another large section for folks who are black,  
A still different courtyard for poor (out in back).

A place for Jews only (no Gentiles in sight),  
Another for prophets, for kings and the like,  
A place for the Baptists (no others allowed),  
There just won't be room for more of a crowd).

The old-fashioned Quakers won't have their  
own spot,  
And no special groups will be found on a lot,  
But every believer in Jesus will be  
Eternally loved and eternally free.

Divisions and factions will be out of place  
For all who are There have been saved by  
His grace.  
Their garments are spotless-in fact, white as snow,  
They'll know their Redeemer, and each face  
will glow.

And all will be one in that beautiful Place  
No matter their status, religion, or race.  
One God will be worshiped, just one God alone;  
We'll worship with angels the One on the Throne.

## *Forever and Ever*

Forever is a long, long time—  
It never ends, you know,  
That's why we should prepare for it  
And not just let it go.  
The Psalmist wrote long years ago  
That those who trust the Lord  
Would live with Him forever  
And receive a sure reward.

Of course we'll be rewarded  
For the works that we have done,  
It's plain to see rewards won't be  
The same for everyone.  
And maybe this should tell us  
That we oughta' think this through  
And help a lot of needy folks  
Like Jesus told us to.

*Surely goodness and mercy will follow  
me all the days of my life, and I will  
dwell in the house of the Lord forever.*

*Psalm 23:6*



## *I Love Your Word, Oh Lord*

I love to read Your Word, Oh Lord,  
it means a lot to me  
For there's wisdom in it's pages  
that can set a person free.  
It tells us how we ought to live  
for living at it's best  
And if we do the things it says  
we'll have both peace and rest.

It tells us of the patriarchs  
who lived in days of old  
And though we heard of them as kids  
today they still are told  
Like Daniel in the lion's den,  
and David and his sling,  
Of course when Samson's hair was cut  
it sure spoiled everything.

There's Moses and the burning bush,  
there's Jonah and the whale,  
And these and many more are told  
of God who did not fail.  
And then in the New Testament  
some lived when times were bad,  
Some Christians got hard beatings  
which took all the grace they had.

But there were also happy times  
    when Jesus healed the blind  
And even brought folks back to life,  
    for he was super kind.  
He gave the Sermon on the Mount  
    and taught us how to pray,  
The things he taught aren't out of date  
    but still are used today.

Besides the heroes in God's Book,  
    it gives in great detail  
How Christians can prepare for heav'n  
    and make it without fail.  
So when you knock on Heaven's Gate  
    and walk that golden stair  
Please be assured inside your heart  
    King Jesus will be there.

*Your word is a lamp to my feet,  
and a light for my path.*  
    *Psalm 119:105*





## *Moving*



Folks, when you leave this planet earth  
its not like moving here,  
You won't pack up your stocks and bonds  
and things that you hold dear.  
You won't load stuff into a box  
you'd like to take with you  
And jam it full of earthly things  
be they a lot or few.  
You won't go to the postal clerk  
so he can forward mail,  
In fact, the things you've left down here  
may be put up for sale.  
I guess the thing this says to us  
is that folks oughta' live  
And not get too attached to stuff  
but give, and give, and give,  
So when St. Peter ope's the Gate  
for you to go on through  
You needn't hang your head in shame  
when he calls out to you,  
But you can greet him with a smile  
and say you did your best  
And if you've made your peace with God  
He'll care for all the rest.

## *Walkers*



I have a sturdy walker  
that goes everywhere with me  
For if I didn't use it  
I might fall and break my knee.  
Although it slows me down a bit  
my heart will not complain  
Because if I fell down again  
I'd have a lot of pain.

So I will count my blessings  
for I have a lot to count  
And every day that I'm alive  
God gives the right amount.  
The Good Book says that Christians  
are the apple of God's eye  
And that's as good as it can get  
no matter how you try.

So thank God for your walker, folks,  
though it may slow you up  
It may be while you walk along  
the Lord will fill your cup.  
Remember when the angels call  
to walk that Golden Stair  
You'll leave your walker far behind--  
it won't be needed There.

## *Story Time*

I had a thought the other day  
that I'd not had before,  
About the things we'll do in Heaven  
where time will be no more.  
One thing I'd like to do up There  
is listen to a bunch  
Who sat down on a hillside there  
where Jesus gave them lunch,

And hear them tell of how they felt  
when Jesus broke the bread,  
And thousands ate till they were filled,  
and hear what people said.  
Another thing I'd like to do  
is sit at David's feet,  
And hear just how Goliath looked  
when he fell in defeat.



I think that Moses, too, could tell  
some things while on the go;  
Those forty years in desert sand  
were pretty hard, ya' know.  
To think their clothes did not wear out,  
nor did their ankles swell,  
Those folks who wandered all those years  
must have a lot to tell.

And there are other stories, too,  
like Jonah and the whale,  
I'll bet he'd have a lot to say  
on under-water sail.  
I know I could add to the list  
of folks I hope to see,  
I'd also guess a lot of folks  
would listen There with me.

*We are surrounded by such a great  
cloud of witnesses. Hebrews 12:1*



## *Finally Home*

Have you noticed in the book of Psalms  
A very special verse  
That gives the Christian lots of hope  
Although it's kinda' terse?  
It says that when folks die on earth  
It's precious in God's sight,  
We might have known if God's involved  
He'd really do it right.

We know that when our kids come home  
To spend a week or so  
We get our house prepared for them  
With things they like, you know.  
We welcome them with open arms  
And try to do our best  
So they'll know they are loved a lot  
And are our special guest.



On earth it's difficult to give  
A tearful last goodbye  
But if we think on it a bit  
We maybe shouldn't sigh  
Because God has a place prepared,  
The Welcome sign is clear  
And He keeps waiting for the time  
His children will appear.

So while we struggle here on earth  
To let a loved one go  
The ones who are in Heaven  
Are rejoicing for they know  
Another child has made it Home  
And they will always stay  
Where there is happiness and love  
Forever and a day.



*Meanwhile we groan longing to  
be clothed with our heavenly dwelling.  
2 Corinthians 5:2*

## *No Tears*



Sometimes we think that by and by  
when we get up to Heav'n  
We'll want to ask some questions  
'bout some trials we've been given,  
It may be on our heart to ask  
why we have suffered so  
And why living wasn't easy  
with its aches and pains, ya' know.

But I have thought on this a tad  
and wondered, could it be  
That we'll forget all that bad stuff  
when Jesus' face we see?  
Our souls will be excited  
when we reach that Golden Shore  
And things that used to irk us here  
will bother us no more.

The Bible plainly tells us  
God will wipe away all tears  
And He can do that very fast—  
it won't take months or years.  
So just be glad and thank the Lord  
when angels give their nod  
That you'll leave troubles far behind  
and be at Home with God.

*Revelation 21:4*

## *Classes?*

When I was sitting quietly  
absorbed in my own thought  
I wondered, when we get to Heaven  
will classes there be taught  
So we will know the language there  
so when we go about  
We'll understand what others say  
and chat with them, no doubt?  
With all the many languages  
and dialects down here,  
Its hard to guess what God might choose  
so everyone can hear.

I reckon its a waste of time  
to speculate too much  
On what the language is up there  
and if its such and such.  
But this we know without a doubt  
God has the language planned,  
And when it comes straight from His heart  
all folks will understand.





## *Waiting at the Gate*

Now when you go to heaven, friend,  
and reach that Pearly Gate,  
St Peter will not say to you,  
“Now please sit down and wait,  
I have some forms you must fill out  
before you enter in,  
I’ll get a pen and pencil now,  
and then you can begin.

We’ll need to know your race and age,  
your education, too.  
What was your yearly income, friend,  
on earth, what did you do?  
I hope you thought to bring along  
your forms of income tax,  
We’ll need to know if you were poor  
or lived life to the max.



Then write a page about yourself  
explaining in detail  
Why you feel you are eligible--  
our rules, you know, prevail.  
Please fill in all the empty blanks--  
It's really not that hard,  
And when you're finished with those forms  
you'll get your entrance card."

I'm glad that when we leave this earth  
and knock on Heaven's Gate  
We won't be asked to fill out forms  
and wait, and wait, and wait.  
For Jesus came and gave His life  
that we might ransomed be,  
And if we've made our peace with God  
Heaven welcomes you and me.

*We have peace with God through our  
Lord Jesus Christ . . . and we rejoice in  
the hope of the glory of God.  
Romans 5:1, 3*



## *God Loves Color*

We see a lot of pretty stuff  
like flowers, birds, and trees,  
And if a person takes a walk  
he lots of beauty sees.  
It must be God loves color  
for He used it everywhere;  
It could be He had extra paint,  
and so with some to spare  
He even painted lots of shells  
all hidden in the sea  
And made them very beautiful,  
I know you will agree.

But shells are not the only things  
all hidden from our view  
For way down deep inside the earth  
are lots of jewels, too.  
The rubies and the diamonds  
do not grow on trees, you know,  
And gold and other precious things  
are hidden down below.



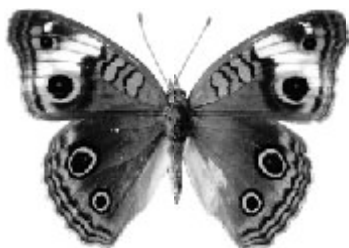
When I see earth so beautiful  
for our enjoyment here  
It makes me wonder what's in Heaven  
and how it will appear.  
We know it must be beautiful  
and we cannot compare  
The things that we have seen down here  
with what will be up there.

Some folk believe they've lots of smarts  
and know a lot of stuff  
But when it comes to Heaven, folks,  
our minds aren't big enough  
To visualize the things we'll see  
and how it looks up there  
When we are finished with this life  
and walk that Golden Stair.

*“No eye has seen,  
no ear has heard,  
no mind has conceived  
what God has prepared for  
those who love him”*

*but God has revealed it  
to us by his Spirit.  
1 Corinthians 2:9*

## *What Color?*



I had a thought the other day  
and dwelt on it awhile,  
The more I thought about it, folks,  
the more I had to smile.  
And this is what I wondered  
as I let my mind run free,  
What color is a person's soul  
that lives in you and me?

Now when we die and go to Heav'n  
and get a body new  
Will there be different colors there  
and will you look like you?  
Do you think God is color blind  
when He looks at our skin?  
I kind of think His interest lies  
on what we have within.

Some folks down here just seem to feel  
a cut above the rest,  
But when we get to Heaven, folks,  
there'll be no second best.  
We will not care if folks are black,  
or yellow, brown, or red,  
For Jesus died for ALL the world  
just as the Bible said.

*I pray . . . that they may be one as  
we are one. John 17:20, 22*

## *Books*



There is a Book of Life, we're told,  
that's kept right up to date,  
And if I had to guess I'd say  
it's somewhere near the Gate.  
It lists the names of all the folks  
who've made their peace with God,  
And they can leave with confidence  
when angels give their nod.

On earth there are a lot of folks  
with names so all can see  
In Guinness Book of Records,  
or of folks of high degree.  
There also are the Who's Who books  
in heavy volumes, too,  
And these will tell of lots of things  
important people do.

We may not see our names down here  
in some big famous book,  
It may be we've not made our mark  
so folks would take a look;  
But there's one place you want your name,  
come early or come late,  
It's in God's Book of Life, you know,  
that's just inside the Gate.

7

*Until Then . .*



## *Share That Load*

Some folks may have a heavy load  
stacked high upon their heads,  
While others hold within their hands  
what feels to them like lead.  
And some folks use a shoulder,  
or the middle of their back.  
And I s'pose some use other ways--  
I've really not kept track.

But these are not the only loads  
that mortals lug around,  
Some people's hearts have heavy loads,  
too often I have found.  
So listen well to what you hear  
and keep a watchful eye;  
It may be you can share that load,  
At least, it's worth a try.

*Carry each others burdens and in this  
you will fulfill the law of Christ.  
Galatians 6:2*





## Meet God In The Morning

If you meet God in the morning  
when the day is at its best  
And put your hand in His big Hand  
you'll find your life is blest.  
The problems that may irk you now  
and seem so tough to bear,  
Could be resolved, or cut in half  
if God is there to share.

Because He sees the future  
and knows well what lies ahead,  
If you'll but cast your cares on Him  
when you crawl out of bed  
You'll find your heart is lighter  
you may even hum and sing,  
If you meet God in the morning  
He'll help care for everything.

*Very early in the morning while it was  
still dark, Jesus got up, left the house  
and went off to a solitary place, where  
he prayed. Mark 1:35*



## *Forgiveness*



If you're pushed beyond your limits  
and you've kinda' lost your song  
Do you steal away to Jesus  
and ask Him what is wrong?  
He's good at solving problems  
if you open up your heart;  
To hide your troubles deep inside  
is really not too smart  
For some day they'll catch up with you  
in many different ways--  
You'll find you're living in the pits  
and not a life of praise.  
Forgiveness can work miracles,  
it kinda' set you free;  
Forgive the folks who've done you wrong.  
I know it worked for me.  
So keep in touch with Jesus,  
He'll have something to suggest  
And if you do the things He says  
He'll give you peace and rest.

*If you hold anything against anyone,  
forgive him, so that your father in heaven  
may forgive you your sins. Mark 11:25*

## *Rejoice and Sing*

Don't let your heart be troubled, folks,  
God still is on His Throne;  
No matter where you are on earth  
you never are alone.  
He knows what you are doing  
and He sees the falling tear,  
Though you may think He's far away  
please know that He is near.

Christ told us when He left this earth  
that He'd be back some day  
And folks who look for His return  
don't think it's far away.  
So let your heart be cheerful,  
Rejoice and sing a song,  
And keep your heart in readiness  
in case it isn't long.



*I will praise God's  
name in song and  
glorify him with  
thanksgiving.  
Psalm 69:30*

## *Love*



Love is the greatest force on earth,  
the Bible tells us so;  
If folks don't have it in their heart  
it's really gonna' show.  
The ones who harbor bitterness  
and hatred in their heart  
Will never live life to the full,  
which isn't very smart.

Love has a language all it's own,  
it's good just anywhere  
For folks can understand a smile  
no matter here or there.  
The Chinese smile, the Russians smile,  
the Indians do, too,  
The Eskimos will smile the same  
as folks in Timbuktu.

So if you find you have no smile  
you better check it out  
And find out what the trouble is  
and how it came about.  
You don't need words to show your love,  
but folks, you oughts' smile  
For it's the language of the heart  
and makes your life worthwhile.

*And now these three remain: faith, hope  
and love. But the greatest of these is love.  
1 Corinthians 13:13*

## *Rewards*

It seems some folks will drop the names  
of well-known folks, ya' know,  
I guess it helps their ego  
if they mention so and so.  
It's kinda' fun to run around  
with folk of famous name,  
But spending time with commoners  
is truly not the same.

I wonder if you've noticed that  
when Jesus came to earth  
He didn't come to famous folk,  
but had a lowly birth.  
And when He grew to be a man  
his time was largely spent  
In healing sick and crippled folks  
and asked folks to repent.  
The Sadducees and Pharisees,  
the big shots of the day,  
Were jealous of the things He did  
and things that He would say.  
But common folks, the Bible says,  
were glad to hear Him speak,  
He did a lot of miracles  
for the helpless and the weak.

I wonder if we'd feel more blest  
if we would help the poor  
And maybe give a handout  
if some come to our back door.  
A cup of just cold water  
if it's giv'n in Jesus' name  
Will some day be rewarded,  
and we'll never be the same.

## *The Encourager*

If you don't have much for talent  
    (At least that's what you think),  
Your doctor may confirm it  
    if you've gone to see a shrink.  
You cannot paint, you cannot draw,  
    Nor can you give a speech,  
And writing things is not for you,  
    you certainly can't teach.  
It seems that when you first arrived  
    on good old planet earth,  
No talents were passed out that day,  
    at least no ones of worth.

And so you kind of lean 'way back  
    and watch the other folk  
Who seem to do so many things  
    while you are tired and broke.  
But really, none are born this way  
    who cannot do a thing;  
There're lots of folk like you and me  
    who cannot preach or sing.  
But there's one thing we all can do  
    and do it every day,  
We can encourage other folks  
    by the kind words we say.



*Therefore encourage  
one another and build  
each other up  
1 Thessalonians 5:11*

## *No Deposit . . No Return*

Life is kinda' what we make it,  
we can win or we can lose  
Depending on the thoughts we think  
and things we pick and choose.  
Some folks complain an awful lot  
that things aren't up to par  
And so instead of digging in  
they stay right where they are.

If you make "No Deposit"  
you will sure get "No Return"  
And life will lack excitement  
unless your way you earn.  
The folks who have a happy heart  
count blessings every day  
And kinda' pass their love around  
in a special sort of way.

A wink, a hug, a word or two  
might bring a bit of cheer  
And someone who feels down and out  
would like the words they hear.  
It seems that if we get involved  
in helping others out  
We'll feel that we are standing tall  
with big returns, no doubt.

*For God loves a  
cheerful giver  
2 Corinthians 9:7*



## *Pre-approved*

We get a lot of envelopes  
that come through U.S. mail,  
A lot of it is useless  
as it tells of stuff for sale.

Among the offers in our box  
come words that sound like this:  
"You're pre-approved for Visa,  
with our interest you can't miss."

But if you get your glasses out  
and read the print so small  
That's printed on the back, you know,  
you won't give them a call.

But let me tell you, friend of mine,  
an offer you can trust  
And it's found in the Bible  
by a God who's true and just.





You're pre-approved for Heaven  
if you give to Him your heart,  
But just like any credit card  
you have to do your part.

God doesn't print the details  
in small letters you can't read,  
It's written there in black and white  
to tell you what you need.

The reason you are pre-approved  
is that God gave His Son  
And by His death upon the Cross  
He turns away not one.

So talk to God, He'll change your heart  
and make it new and clean,  
And thank Him that your're pre-approved--  
He'll know just what you mean.

*In love he predestined us to be adopted  
as his sons through Jesus Christ  
Ephesians 1:4, 5*



## *Listening For the Trumpet*

I wonder what you listen to  
as you go through the day--  
So many voices beckon us  
to hear what they've to say.  
We get bombarded every day  
and may not pause to think  
Above the level of the pans  
that line the kitchen sink.  
If you've no time to meditate  
and think about good stuff,  
Your brain could get an overload  
and life might then be tough.

Christ Jesus, when He left this earth  
two thousand years ago  
Left word with His disciples  
He was coming back, ya' know  
He didn't give the day nor hour  
when He'd return down here  
But listen for that trumpet sound,  
His coming my be near.



*This same Jesus, who  
has been taken from you  
into heaven, will come  
back in the way you have  
seen him go into heaven.  
Acts 1:11*

## *Makes A Difference Who You Are*

Sometimes we live for years and years  
and try to find our place,  
We really want our life to count,  
not merely take up space.  
Sometimes we do a bit of that,  
sometimes a bit of this,  
At times we're treading water  
and our goal we seem to miss.

But one thing we should realize  
is every day on earth  
We're piling up experience  
that's bound to be of worth.  
So don't despair, oh friend of mine  
strive on from day to day  
You'll find that in life's detours  
you'll help folks along the way

And if you've been a blessing  
to a fellow trav'ler here  
God smiled when you helped others  
and dried a falling tear.  
God's looking for some servants  
who will love and really care  
For that's the kind of folks He takes  
to live with Him up There.



## *Watchin' and Waitin'*

If you listen to the evening news  
and find its mostly bad  
Do you turn the noisy TV off  
because it makes you sad?  
Some folks might say, "Please stop the world,"  
and then they add a line  
That says, "if you will let me off  
I'll get along just fine."

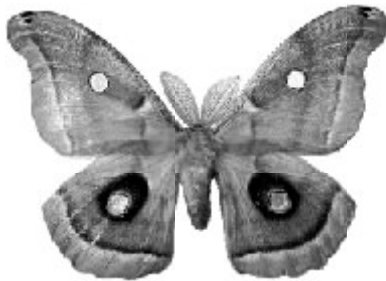
I know some folks live in the pits  
and feel depressed and blue  
When tough times kinda' gets their goat  
and don't know what to do.  
But when I think on this a tad  
the thought occurs to me  
That maybe folks should pray to God  
and He will set them free.



The Lord is coming back someday  
just like He promised us  
So we should watch and wait for Him  
without a lot of fuss.  
Important things like Christ's return  
should help us to look up  
Because we know He checks to see  
if we've an empty cup.

I've found that counting blessings  
surely helps my heart a bunch  
Another thing I think would help  
(at least I have a hunch)  
Is to help someone who's hurting bad  
and brighten up his day  
For that's a sure 'nough cure-all  
that will chase the blues away.

*Therefore keep watch because you do not  
know on what day your Lord will come.  
Matthew 24:42*



## *God's Family Tree*

I know the Lord loves all of us  
who travel here below,  
It matters not if you're a kid,  
or in your teens, you know;  
The middle aged are in His sight  
and so are blind and lame,  
The rich, the poor, the common folks,  
e'en those who've come to fame.

I know He loves us all a lot,  
but wonder, could it be  
That old folks have a special place  
in God's big Family Tree?  
The oldsters aren't as pushed and rushed  
and dashing to and fro  
As younger ones with lots to do  
and always on the go.



The older ones have time to think,  
to read God's Word and pray,  
They've found out what's important  
and they try to live that way.  
They hold beliefs they've had for years;  
they know quite how to cope,  
For God has put within their heart  
His love, and joy, and hope.

They kinda' let the world rush by  
when steps are slowed a bit,  
Enjoying birds and flowers and trees  
as on their porch they sit.  
They've known the Lord a long, long time  
and trust Him as their friend,  
And know within their heart of hearts  
He'll keep them to the end.

*You are a chosen people. . .  
a people belonging to God  
1 Peter 2;9*



## *Safety Deposit Boxes*

A lot of folks down here on earth  
Will rent a metal box  
Where they can store their special stuff  
Like bonds, CD's, and stocks.

Do you suppose they've thought about  
The safest place of all?  
Why, Heaven is the very place  
To store your stuff, y'all.

Up there it never will burn up,  
Be stolen, or get lost.  
There are no hidden charges there  
To add more to the cost.

So play it smart, send things ahead  
To God's deposit box,  
You'll find the interest paid in gold  
For all your bonds and stocks.

*But store up for yourselves  
treasures in heaven.*

*Matthew 6:20*





## Release

The folk who go to Heaven  
Having never suffered pain,  
And life has been all sunshine  
With no clouds or driving rain,

Will walk right through those pearly gates  
Without a cane or crutch  
May have a different feeling than  
The ones who've suffered much.

It seems like those who've had much pain  
And then find sweet release  
Will have more joy when they get There  
With health and perfect peace.

*I consider that our present sufferings  
are not worth comparing with the glory  
that will be revealed in us. Romans 8:18*



## *One We Can Trust*



It seems the TV news we hear  
are mostly pretty bad;  
Sometimes we need some happy stuff  
to cheer us up a tad.  
With crime and lying so rampant,  
who can a fella' trust?  
It seems a person sees too much  
of things that are unjust.

But one thing we are sure about  
is God is fair and true  
And all His books are up to date—  
He knows us through and through.  
So when we leave this world down here  
and stand at Heaven's Gate  
If Jesus is our Lord and King  
we won't have long to wait.

Though times down here are sometimes mean  
and maybe even tough  
We'll find that God's unchanging love  
is really quite enough  
To see us through each day and hour  
and help us make the climb  
To see our Savior face to face  
when we are through with time.

*I trust in God's unfailing love  
for ever and ever. Psalm 52:8*

## “I’m Home”

I can recall long years ago  
when school had been let out,  
I’d hear our door swing open wide,  
“I’m home!” I’d hear Bob shout.

I’ve often thought about the time  
when I’ll no longer roam,  
And I’ve walked through those Gates of Pearl  
I’ll also shout, “I’m home!”

Up there I’ll never have to move,  
which makes my heart to sing,  
For I will be forever HOME  
and that’s worth everything.

*But our citizenship is in heaven.  
And we eagerly await a savior  
from there, the Lord Jesus Christ.  
Philippians 3:20*





## *Not a Millionaire?*

I'm really not a millionaire,  
But I sure feel like one  
Because God's watching over me,  
And things that He has done.  
But I would like to let you know,  
By naming just a few  
Some blessings that I like a lot  
Though they are old, but true.

My husband means a lot to me,  
He's gentle and he's kind,  
And having kids who love me, too,  
Gives me a happy mind.  
I also have a lot of friends  
I've gotten here and there  
Although I have a lot of them  
There're none I'd like to spare.

And though I'm blest with lots of things  
To feather up my nest  
Some things are extra special  
And I rate among the best.  
To have God's love inside my heart  
Along with peace of mind  
Tops off my pile of blessings,  
But still more things do I find.

When Jesus calls my name down here  
I need not moan and groan  
Because I know within my heart  
I need not go alone.  
God's Presence will be with me  
When I walk that Golden Stair--  
It's then I will discover  
That I AM a millionaire!

*For we know that if the earthly tent that  
we live in is destroyed, we have a building  
from God, an eternal house in heaven not  
built with hands. 2 Corinthians 5:1*

