

1

*The Season For
Singing*



*God said . . . let the birds fly
above the earth across
the expanse of the sky.
So God created . . . every winged bird
according to its kind.
And God saw that it was good.
God blessed them . . .
Genesis 1:20-22*

*See! the winter is past;
the rains are over and gone;
Flowers appear on the earth;
the season of singing has come;
the cooing of doves is heard
in the land.
Song of Songs 2:11,12*



*Awake,
My Soul,
and Sing*

Don't let your soul be fast asleep
or covered o'er with dust,
It's just too good to let it die,
then shrink and gather rust.
Awake, my soul, and sing a song,
and keep an upward look,
God wants to mend your hurting heart,
it says so in His Book.

There're lots of things that can be done
to keep it on alert,
You might just see what you can do
to heal another's hurt.
Sometimes I stand in my tent door
and watch the rushing throng,
And kinda' wonder what's the rush.
Is something really wrong?

If folks would help each other out,
then hum and sing awhile
They'd find their soul would come alive
and give to them a smile.

Sing and make music in your heart to the
Lord Jesus Christ, always giving thanks to
God the Father Ephesians 5:19, 20

A Joyful Noise

My heart will make a joyful noise
unto my God and King,
When I count up my blessings, folks,
how can I help but sing?
I'm in His care around the clock,
He doesn't doze or sleep,
And I can know within my heart
my soul He'll always keep.
So sing my heart; give forth a song;
don't worry and don't sigh;
Remember, friend, God says you are
the apple of His Eye.



My help comes from the Lord, the maker
of heaven and earth. Psalm 121:2

Enjoying Small Joys

Some folks will miss a lot of joys
that come to them each day
Because they're searching for some stuff
that may not come their way.
Forget about the markets
and don't trust the lottery
For if you think you'll strike it rich
you'll disappointed be.

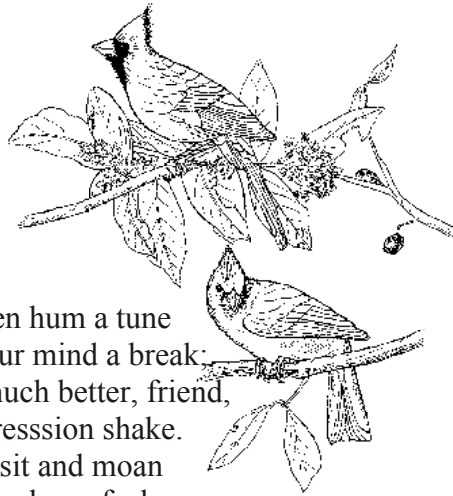
And you may never scale the heights
to money or to fame,
But there is more important stuff
than riches or a name.
To have God's peace within your heart
will fill your soul with joy
And if God's hand is holding yours
no one can this destroy.

God has a lot of different ways
to add a bit of spice—
A hug, a wink, a happy smile
is always pretty nice.
So don't o'erlook these little joys
that often come your way;
Don't waste your life on petty stuff.
Let Jesus make your day.

God, who richly provides us with
everything for our enjoyment.
1 Timothy 6:17b



Try Humming



If you can't sing, then hum a tune
and give your mind a break;
I think you'd feel much better, friend,
it could depression shake.
It does no good to sit and moan
about how bad you feel;
Complaining never helps a bit
and won't your spirit heal.
Some people simply have a knack
of learning how to cope:
They think good thoughts and read good books
that bring them joy and hope.

So if you're feeling mighty low
and want to quit right now,
Try reading in Philippians
for it will tell you how
To get your mind off mundane things
and think on better stuff
That's pure, and honest, just, and true,
these things are quite enough
To chase away depressing thoughts
and make you better soon
So if you aren't a soloist
just hum a merry tune.

Still Up There

Before I lock the door at night
 I look out at the sky
And can't see more than one lone star
 no matter how I try.
Its kinda' bad the sky is full
 of stuff up in the air--
It seems there used to be a bunch
 of shining stars up there.

At times when I was just a kid
 I'd watch the stars so bright,
And sometimes I could even see
 the Milky Way at night.
No longer can I sit and watch
 a falling star go plunk
For they are hidden from my view
 by lots of stuff and junk

I know those stars are still up there
 though they are out of sight,
So I'll imagine how they were
 when I look out tonight.

I know a lot of folks still think
that God is far away,
Because their eyes behold Him not
they may not even pray.

But like the stars He's still up there
observing things down here,
So I'll enjoy the world He made
and let it bring me cheer.
I'm glad that God is in control
though He is out of sight,
And with that knowledge in my heart
I'll go to sleep tonight.



He determines the number of stars
and calls them each by name. Psalms 147:4



There are no ordinary folks,
God sees each one, you know—
Though billions live on planet earth
God knows where'er you go.
Though you may travel far and wide
you're always in His sight
No matter if its daylight hours
or in the darkest night.
Some folks think God is watching them
because He wants to spy
But that is not the case at all
and let me tell you why.
The reason He is watching you
in all you say and do
Is that He loves you very much
so keeps His Eye on you.

Since you are precious and honored in my
sight and because I love you. . . Isaiah 43:4

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

Crosses

We see disabled people
 using walker or a cane
Or riding in a wheelchair
 and seem to be in pain;
We empathize a bit with them
 down deep inside our soul
And we may even pray that God
 would heal and make them whole.

But other folks don't walk around
 with walker or a crutch
And so we kinda' think those folks
 don't worry very much.
But they may have a cross to bear
 not seen by you or me
That's hidden in their heart of hearts
 and heavy as can be.



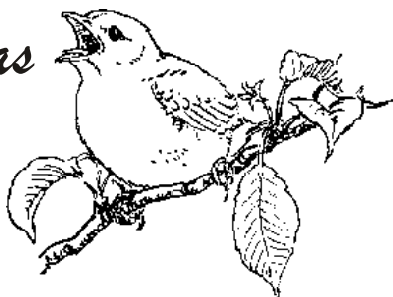
And so we skip along in life
and hum a joyful song
Forgetting some folks cover up
when things in life go wrong.
So don't be quick to judge someone
who seems all tuckered out
Instead suggest he pray to God
Who knows what life's about.

We often get depressed and down
when life is tough and mean
Forgetting Jesus bids us come
and on Him closely lean.
I think He wants to share our load,
in fact He says it best:
"Come unto Me" He says to all,
"And I will give you rest."

Come to me, all who are weary and burdened,
and I will give you rest. Matthew 11:28



*Christmas
in Your
Heart*



If there's no Christmas in your heart
I doubt that you will find
A happy heart on Christmas Day
in stores of any kind.
The malls, of course, will be trimmed up
with lots of pretty stuff
But if you dread this time of year
it could be pretty tough.
Don't let this Christmas pass you by
and leave you feeling blue
For there are things most anywhere
I'm sure that you can do.

If you aren't blest with ready cash
to spend this time of year
Then simply give some of yourself
and be a volunteer.
No one will find much happiness
just sitting home alone,
If you're unable to get out
call someone on the phone
And wish them Merry Christmas,
let them hear your joyful sound;
You'll find you won't be lonely
if you spread your love around.

... for yourselves have been taught by God
to love each other. I Thessalonians 4:9b

The New Year

Now that Christmas time is over
and the tree is put away
Along with lights and manger scenes
for use another day,
It seems folks are more thoughtful
when the holidays are here
And how we wish that peace on earth
would last throughout the year.
And though we hope the New Year
will be better than the last
It's easy to just settle in
like in the days now past.
Too many people don't slow down
enough to just relax--
The folks who always push and shove
don't live life to the max.
When angels come and give their nod
and say "It's time to go"
We hope that folks have taken time
to sing and hum, you know.



The Birds of the air nest by the waters;
they sing among the branches. Psalms 4:12

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.



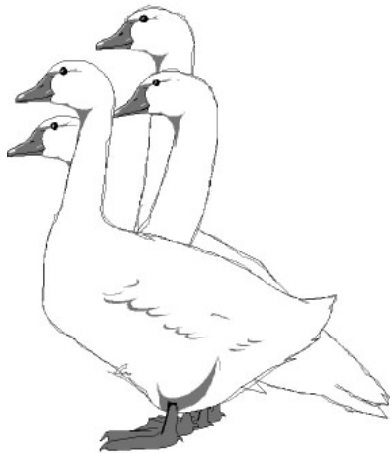
And so we will be with the Lord forever.
, , , encourage each other with these words.

1 Thessalonians 4:17.18

Never Go It Alone

It's easy to get all uptight
and feel you're all alone
Especially when things go wrong
and tired to the bone.
But really, when you think of it
folks always are around
And if you smile and say "hello"
you'll hear a joyful sound.

If you want friends, the Bible says,
then you must friendly be
So keep a twinkle in your eye
for other folks to see.
They may be looking for a friend
because they're lonely, too,
And who's to know they just might find
that friend in Y O U.





What I Like Best

God's given me a lot of things
that I enjoy down here,
Like any other busy Mom
they fill my heart with cheer.
I'm thankful dishes aren't stacked up
inside my kitchen sink,
They're washed so automatically
and quicker than you'd think.
What could have been the Monday blues
with washboard and a tub
Has changed to fancy wash machines
and I don't have to scrub.

Of course there are some other things
to fill my life with ease
Like microwaves, and radios,
computers, and TV's,
Electric lights, and easy chairs,
and even pocket change,
But even with these luxuries
there's something kinda' strange:
No matter how I like these things
and from them I'd not part,
What I enjoy and treasure most
is Jesus in my heart.

that Christ may abide in your heart by faith.
Colossians 3:17

The Best You Have

Its little things that mean so much:
A hug, a wink, a gentle touch,
A card, a smile, a good handshake,
A nod, a call, can help to break
The loneliness in someone's life
Whose heart is filled with stress and strife.

Some folks have won a car or dough
But these can come, and these can go,
And who's to know that after while
The thing you bought is out of style.

There are some things that last and last
Like pleasant memories of the past,
So give the best of what you've got;
A smile or hug can mean a lot.

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



Busy. But Blest

Do you get tired of making beds
and vacuuming the floors,
And pulling little snowsuits on
so kids can play outdoors,
Then cooking meals so all can eat,
then dishes in the sink,
Sometimes you get so all worn out
that you can hardly think?

Not all folks have this problem
for their floor is made of dirt
And one heads for the river bank
to wash a blouse or shirt.
To do the family laundry there
may take a little while
Especially if competing
with a sneaky crocodile.



Complaining is a way of life
for some who have a lot,
Somehow they feel they are deprived
of things that they have not.
'Tis really quite a shame to see
how some will waste their life,
God wants a song inside our heart,
not one that's filled with strife.

It's strange how some folks make the beds
and cook their evening meal
And welcome kids just home from school,
it's not that big a deal.
Because a song is in their heart
they welcome little feet
For love is more important
than a house that's always neat.

So stop complaining, friend of mine,
and give the world a smile
And count the blessings that you have
and make your life worthwhile.

Praise the Lord
O my soul and forget
not all His benefits.
Psalms 103:2



Only One

When God created stars, my friend,
 and flung them out in space,
He made a lot of other things
 and put each in its place--
Like flowers, birds, and elephants,
 plus whales and other fish,
And dogs and rabbits, polar bears—
 more than the heart could wish.

I could go on and on and name
 a lot of other stuff,
But now that you've the picture, folks,
 I think I've said enough.

So if you look at things God made
 and you find peace and calm,
Remember that with all you own
 you've only just one Mom.
No matter where you go on earth,
 no matter what you've done,
You'll find your Mother loves you still
 and thinks you're Number One.



Be An Encourager

Some folks are not encouragers,
they're grumpy all day long;
Somewhere along life's winding road
they've kinda' lost their song.
They've lost the joy they used to have
in days of simpler stuff,
But now that they have older grown
and have more than enough
They've lost the love of life they had
and life seems dull and gray,
The friends they used to have are gone,
they simply walked away.

I think that all of us on earth
feel tempted now and then
To reminisce about the past
and how things might have been.
But it's not smart to keep these thoughts
and give them more than due,
Depression could set in, you know,
and leave you feeling blue.

So change your attitude a bit,
encourage folks you meet;
Your life will be much happier
if you are kind and sweet.

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





Time Zones

Time Zones don't bother God a bit
He knows right where we are
We simply cannot hide from Him
though we may travel far.
We may leave footprints on the sand
as we go to and fro,
But still His Eye is watching us
wherever we may go.

It sure is comforting to me
to know God isn't dead
And that he watches over me
and keeps my soul well fed.
I'm glad God knows right where we are,
and if our hearts are right
We'll hum and sing in daylight hours
and sleep when comes the night.

And some day Christ will come again;
it could be night or noon
And all the folks who follow Him
hope that it will be soon.

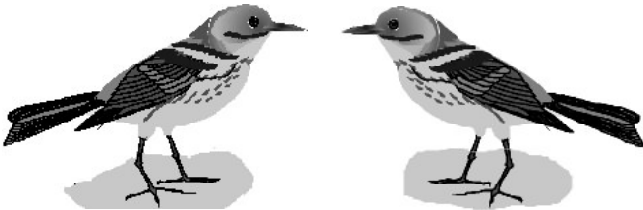
The Window

A housewife needs a window
right above her kitchen sink.
It's there she spends a lot of time,
it's there she's time to think.

A bird bath can enhance the scene
along with crumbs and seed,
It takes our minds off pots and pans
to watch God's creatures feed.
I'm awfully glad that God made birds
to perch and soar about--
It may be birds are teaching us
to trust, and not to doubt.

God's Hand is on our whole wide world,
He feeds the universe,
If He'd withdraw His blessings, folks,
we'd have to call the hearse.
There's nothing that could long exist
without His love and care,
So thank Him while you watch the birds.
His love is everywhere.

... the earth is full of his unfailing love.
Psalms 33:5



2

*Forever
Faithful*



*He will cover you
with His feathers
and under His wings
you will find refuge;
His faithfulness will be
your shield and rampart.
Psalms 91:4*

*Who provides food for the raven
when the young cry out to God
and wander about for lack of food?
Job 38:41*

*Are not five sparrows
sold for two pennies?
Yet not one of them
is forgotten of God.
Luke 12:6a*



On Wings of Eagles

Folks don't always soar like eagles
where the air is fresh and clean,
Some walk around like turkeys
when the world is tough and mean.
Life sometimes overwhelms us
when a bunch of stuff goes wrong
And if our trust is not in God
we're sure to lose our song.

But be assured, my hurting friend,
God knows right where you are,
He'll bear you up on eagle's wings
when things aren't up to par.
He's familiar with the valley,
He knows the mountain peak,
And if your faith in God is strong
your soul He'll always keep.

It is God who arms me with strength
and makes my way perfect. Psalms 18:32

The Untroubled Heart

"Let not your heart be troubled,"
Jesus said so long ago;
He knew there would be problems
so He wanted us to know
That there is help for hurting hearts
who find they cannot cope
And if they put their faith in Him
He offers love and hope.

In this tired world that rushes on
to where they do not know
God's love can fill the heart so full
that it is bound to show.
We need not live our days and hours
depressed and in despair
For if we let God have our heart
He'll handle it with care.

So give to God your broken heart
and give Him every piece
For He knows how to fix and mend
and give you joy and peace.



He will take great
delight in you,
he will quiet you
with his love,
he will rejoice over
you with singing.
Zephaniah 3:17

One Sling . . .
One Stone

Each kid who's gone to Sunday School
 has heard the story read
How David killed Goliath
 with a stone slung to his head.
He'd cursed young David by his gods
 and ridiculed him, too,
But David had a secret
 that Goliath never knew.

He didn't know the living God
 who David knew so well,
He thought he had the upper hand
 till just before he fell.
He had an armor bearer
 to protect him with a shield,
Besides he had a sword and spear
 out on that fighting field.

Young David had his shepherd's bag
 with stones picked from a brook
And though he'd gathered five of them
 it really only took
One stone to kill the giant
 when he hurled it from his sling
And God was watching David
 as he did that very thing.

For years this son of Jesse
 watched his father's flock of sheep;
He'd killed a lion and a bear
 and left them in a heap.
Another thing he learned to do
 while walking through the grass
He'd practice with some stones and sling
 which helped the time to pass.
Young David didn't realize
 that with this simple skill
His God had him in training
 so Goliath he could kill.

Sometimes I wonder if the Lord
 is training us each day
So we can kill the giants
 that we meet along the way.
When life is hard with problems
 and the way is long and rough
If we will slip our hand in God's
 that should be quite enough.

1 Samuel 17:45-50



Thousands and Thousands

Today I read in Matthew
 how the Lord five thousand fed,
And that was only with two fish
 and five small loaves of bread.
A mother must have fixed this food;
 her son would need a lunch;
And this is what Christ Jesus used
 to feed that hungry bunch.

She also didn't realize
 besides five thousand men
The kids and women also ate
 and so there might have been
A lot of thousands more than five,
 it could be ten or twenty
But Jesus knew He'd not run out
 and all folks would have plenty.

In fact they had left over food,
 twelve baskets we are told,
And I would guess that lots of kids
 ate all that they could hold.
Some folks will trust in money
 and lay up a lot of cash,
It doesn't seem to dawn on them
 the market just might crash.

So if you want security
 and someone tried and true
God still is working miracles
 and might work one for you.



The Touch

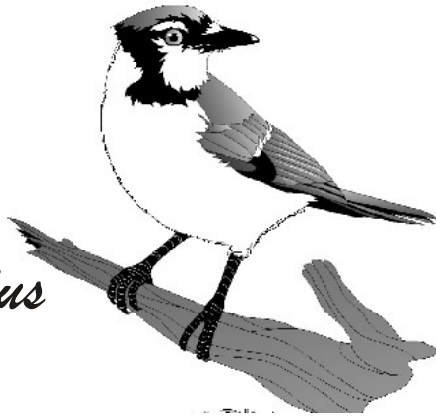


A woman who was sick for years
and doctors could not cure,
One day snuck up where Jesus preached
with faith so strong and sure,
For she had said within herself
if she could only feel
The garment Jesus wore that day
she knew that He could heal.
With trembling hands she stooped and touched
Christ's robe at just the hem,
And then it happened--she was healed
right in the midst of them.

Too often in our up-tight world
with all its sin and stress
If we don't get the help we need
we soon end up a mess.
Some seem to struggle endlessly
to find a way to cope;
They've tried a lot of worldly ways
that seem to bring no hope.
I think we'd be much smarter, folks,
if we would bow in prayer
And touch the garment of our Lord
for He is always there.

Matthew 9:20-22

*The
Exodus*



Have you read the Book of Exodus
that tells of God's great power
To save His folks, the Israelites,
in their most needy hour?

Remember Jacob and his kin
came down long years ago
For there was corn in Egypt
to feed their flocks, you know.
And so this group of seventy
moved down with all their stuff
Because the famine where they lived
made times both lean and tough.

And as time passed the Pharaoh used
these people to make bricks
And he became extremely cruel
so they were in a fix.

God saw their agony and tears
so He devised a plan
For one to lead His children out,
and Moses was the man.

One day he saw a burning bush
when he was tending sheep
And though the bush was burning hard
it still its leaves did keep.
So Moses wondered at the sight
and didn't make a sound
But heard a voice: "Remove your shoes
for this is Holy Ground."

So at the age of eighty
he was called of God to go
To lead those folks from Egypt
but as yet he didn't know
The trials that lay ahead of him
and what he must endure
But if God called him to do this
He'd show him how for sure.

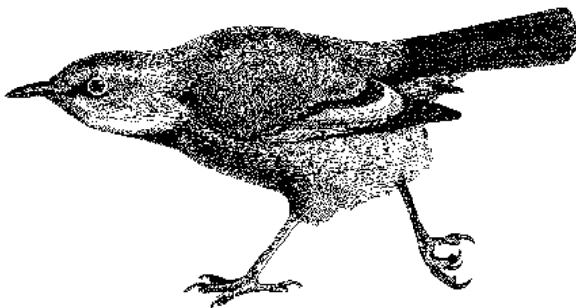
I know you've heard of all the plagues
'way back in Sunday School
How Pharaoh let his heart get hard
and really played the fool

continued

But Moses kept in touch with God
and daily would inquire.
The plagues of water turned to blood,
of thunder, hail and fire,
Of darkness, boils, murrain, and frogs,
of locusts, flies, and lice,
Then finally all firstborn died.
They paid an awful price.

So finally they got to leave
when Pharaoh said, "Get out!
And go and serve your God somewhere
like you have talked about."
And so a million folks or more
left Egypt on the run
And God kept working miracles
until their trek was done.

Exodus chapters 5-15



The Lunch Bunch

Not all believe in miracles,
but I don't have a doubt
That Jesus healed a lot of folks
who would have been left out
To suffer pain for years and years
to hobble here and there,
The common folks
believed in Him,
but others didn't care.



He even fed the multitudes
with just a youngster's lunch,
The hungry thousands Jesus fed
went home a happy bunch.
I wonder how that little boy
looked when his lunch was spread
And Jesus blessed and broke that food
and multitudes were fed.

I'm sure his Mom prepared his lunch
enough for one young boy,
And by his giving what he had
brought lots of people joy.
Sometimes we feel we don't have much
and to it closely cling,
And miss the joy this youngster had
who gave Him everything.

... God loves a cheerful giver
2 Corinthians 9:7

The Answer

I hope you're not so busy
 counting problems every day
That you forget your blessings
 when you bow your head and pray.
Its easy to enumerate
 our troubles and our woes,
And tell the Lord how much we hurt
 from top of head to toes.

Remember patient Job of old
 distressed as he could be;
He badly suffered from his boils
 his friends could plainly see.
And though they told him he had sinned,
 Job knew down in his heart
That what they said was not correct
 and wasn't very smart.



But finally Job realized
 what he should do one day,
And so he humbly bowed his head
 and then began to pray.
His prayer was for those friends of his
 who tried to sympathize--
And this is when things changed for Job
 before their very eyes.

Its easy to complain and moan
 about how bad we feel,
And how the wounds of life are deep
 and awfully slow to heal.
I wonder if we'd pray for friends
 each day when we get up,
We might find things would change for us
 and God would fill our cup.

After Job had prayed for his friends,
the Lord made him prosperous again.
 Job 42:10



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.

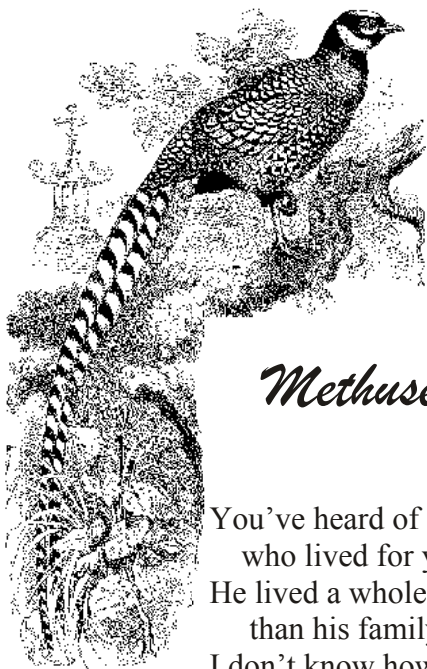
So there were folks who hated Him
 and tried to do Him in
Because their hearts were full of pride,
 hypocrisy, and sin.

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





Methuselah

You've heard of old Methuselah
who lived for years and years
He lived a whole lot longer
than his family or his peers.
I don't know how he managed, folks,
to stay alive so long,
He must have eaten healthy food
to keep him well and strong.

Back then there were no microwaves,
electric stoves or gas;
The fast foods weren't invented yet
like now they are en masse.
No telephones, no TV sets,
so they weren't bothered much
With list'ning to the daily news
with politics and such.

No ads would tell him what to buy,
no people taking polls,
I guess the folks who lived back then
had kinda' different goals.
The Wall Street bunch were still unknown
and very far away
So folks were not stressed out with that
like many are today.

He had no plane or fancy car
to get to places fast;
I wonder if a simple life
caused him to last and last.
To live almost a thousand years
is really quite a feat
E'en with our modern gadgetry
we can't his record beat.

He must have known down through the years
how he should just relax
And knew how to enjoy his life
and live it to the max.

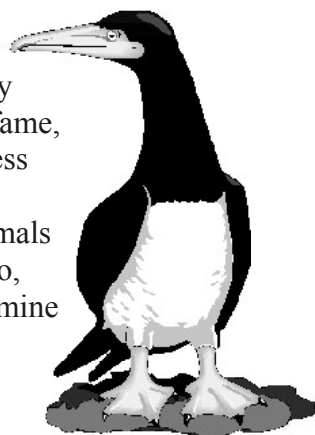
*I have come that they may have life
and have it to the full. John 10:10*

The Really Rich

Are you proud of how you're living?
Do you give it your best shot?
Some folks would answer, "Yes, I am.
Some others, "I am not.
The time we spend on planet earth
is not too long you know,
And many folks equate success
with having lotsa' dough.

They haven't learned that money,
though it buys a lot of stuff,
Can't love you back and give you peace
when life is mean and tough.
The Bible says great gain is ours
if we have godliness
And have a kind, contented heart
that God in love can bless.

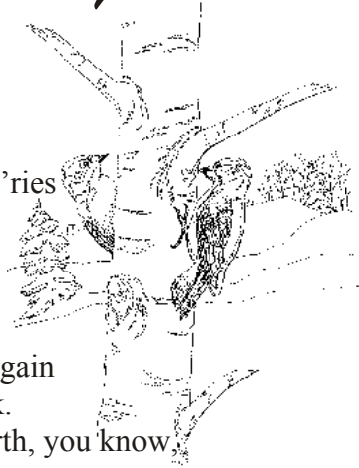
Don't get hung up on money
and don't get hung up on fame,
For megabucks and happiness
are really not the same.
God cares for birds and animals
and clothes the flowers, too,
So be assured, oh friend of mine
that He can care for you.



But godliness with contentment is great gain.
1 Timothy 6:6

After the Holidays

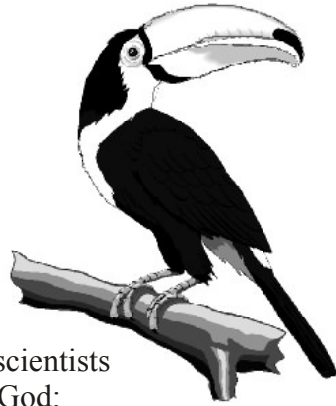
Now the holidays are over
and our tree is put away
We've gathered lots of mem'ries
to think on another day.
The Christmas cards
I have not packed,
I'll take another look
For if one reads them once again
it's like a Christmas book.
We've heard of peace on earth, you know,
and good will unto men,
We hope those words won't fade away
till Christmas comes again.



Some folks make resolutions
they may keep a couple days
But people tend to settle in
and follow their old ways.
But miracles can happen,
God can change folks heart and mind
And make them hum and sing again
above the daily grind.

I hope we'll all let Christmas shine
forever in our heart
And not love folks just once a year
and then from them depart.
When we find what's important
and keep it in constant view
It sure can change a fella's heart
so he'll know what to do

Creation



I've thought about the scientists
 who say there is no God;
I wonder if their theories
 make them think they're pretty mod.
No answers do they give to us
 and leave us much in doubt
Of how creation came to be
 and how stuff came about.

 If sixty million years ago
 a monster came to be
I wonder where it came from,
 and could the creature see?
Did it eat grass or animals?
 If so I wonder where
They found that kind of stuff to eat
 and who had put it there.

The scientists do not explain
 who gave the birds a song
Or even tell where birds came from.
 Folks, something bad is wrong.

In the beginning God created the heavens
and the earth. Genesis 1:1

They give no explanation
how a rose has shades of pink
And also how they smell so good—
what do these people think?
How did the sun get in the sky,
plus that big Milky Way,
How did the earth itself get formed
with rock and sand and clay?

And then the diamonds and the gold
so coveted by man,
How did they get inside the earth
as if there was a plan?
I could go on page after page
and question more and more
The things those folks cannot explain
and never did explore.

If scientists and doubting folks
would read the Bible some
And start right in with Genesi
it tells in Chapter One
That God created everything
and tells how day by day
He made all things that do exi
and still are here today.

So let me sum this up a bit
in words both kind and sw
It gives those folks a job to do
and keeps 'em off the street



God saw all that he had made, and it
was very good. Genesis 1:31

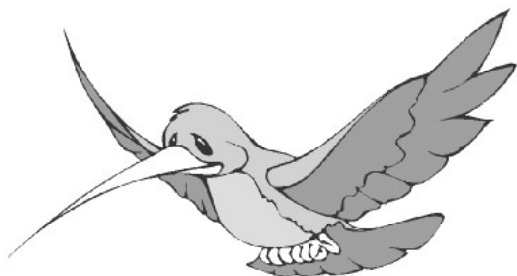
3

*The Foolishness
of Worry*



*Look at the birds of the air:
they do not sow or reap or store away
in the barns, and yet your heavenly
father feeds them. Are you not
much more valuable than they?
Who of you by worrying
can add one single hour to his life?
Matthew 7:27,28*

*Consider the ravens:
they do not sow or reap,
they have no storehouse or barn;
yet God feeds them.
And how much more valuable
you are than birds.
Luke 12:23,24*



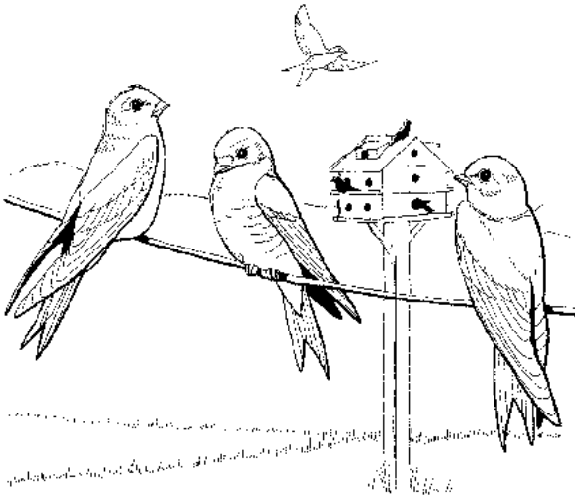
The Worrier

I've heard of global warming
and I'm sure that you have, too.
And then there is the ice age group,
so what's a guy to do?
It's not so good to get too hot,
nor should we get too cold--
It sounds like these are just about
like tales the old wives told.
It seems like folks want scary things
to make their lives complete
So they can talk with cronies
how these things they must defeat.
If they'd accept the weather
and the things that come their way
They might find life is pleasant
and that worry does not pay.

Do not be anxious about anything,
but in everything, by prayer and petition,
with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.
Philippians 4:6

Impressions

I wonder if you've thought of it,
but every time you meet
Or have a conversation
with a person on the street,
You leave a little of yourself
and I think you will find
That you've made an impression
that may linger in their mind.
So think about the words you speak
and in what tone of voice--
A lot of folks could use a lift
so make their heart rejoice.





Now if you want to worry, friend,
and fill your life with dread
Just go ahead and ruminate
until the day you're dead.
There's lots that you can think about
to make your life a mess,
Although most things won't come to pass,
its stuff to do, I guess.

I rather doubt a falling star
will drop upon your tent,
You'll prob'ly always have a home
if you keep up your rent.
You may not ever see a flood
or suffer in a drought,
But other things could happen, friend,
you've heard by word of mouth.

What if a thief would steal your car?
and what if you'd get sick?
You could get bitten by a snake,
or even by a tick.
And what if folks don't like the way
you trim your lawn and grass,
Will this bring worry to your mind
or will you let it pass?

There's surely lots to think about
to drive you up the wall
And you can be unhappy, friend,
it won't be hard at all.
But you don't have to live this way--
you can improve your lot
If you will change the way you think
and give it all you've got.

The Bible says that we should think
on what is good and true,
If we trust Him to care for us
our worries should be few.

Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble,
whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely,
whatever is admirable . . . think about such things.
Philippians 4:8

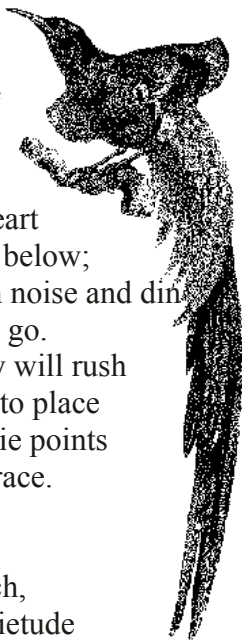
A Quiet Heart

It's hard to have a quiet heart
while we live here below;
Somehow there's so much noise and din
most anywhere we go.
Folks seem to think if they will rush
and go from place to place
They'll get a lot of Brownie points
by winning every race.

With radios and TV sets
and videos and such,
The time they spend in quietude
does not amount to much.
Of course, we're sold a bill of goods
that wealth is true success,
Or if you have your name in print
it's pretty good, I guess.

I'm not too sure they have it made,
it rather seems to me
That folks who have a quiet heart
feel like they are set free.
They're free to sing or hum a tune,
they're free to smell the flow'rs
With God's creation to enjoy
they spend their days and hours.

So envy not the busy folks
who go and go and go,
A quiet heart and peace of mind
is awfully good, you know.



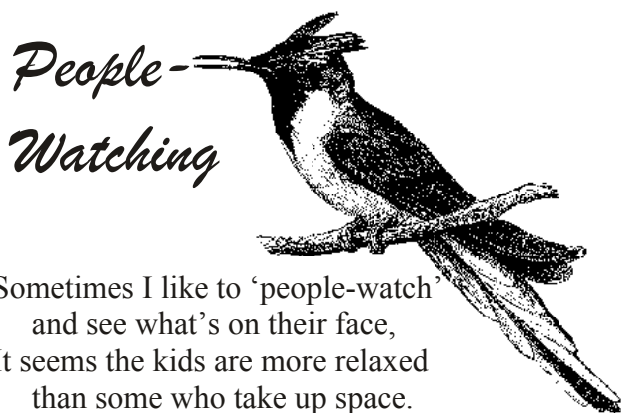


Get Started

Don't wait until tomorrow
to get started on your dreams,
Some folks may think they can't begin
because they have no means.
Though people may have lots of dough
while others are quite poor,
You'll find that wealth is not success,
there's love and so much more.

God put within the heart of man
a yen for peace of mind,
And this cannot be satisfied
until God's peace they find.
The folks who go to bed at night
with joy and peace inside
Have found the answer to their dreams
and take things in their stride.

Don't worry if you are not rich
or fame is not your part,
The best thing you could ever have
is Jesus in your heart.
I can do everything through him who
gives me strength. Pilippians 4:13



People- Watching

Sometimes I like to 'people-watch'
and see what's on their face,
It seems the kids are more relaxed
than some who take up space.
A lot of folks just rush along
ignoring passers-by
And seem depressed and all up-tight.
It makes me wonder why.

God made the earth so beautiful
and we have it on loan
We really should enjoy the place
for we're not left alone.
God said if we would do His Will
and trust Him and obey
We need not get bent out of shape
like some folks are today.

I think God wants us to enjoy
the time we spend down here
So throw away depressive thoughts
that make you live in fear.
So read your Bible faithfully
and gather all the facts
You'll find God wants His best for you
and live life to the max.

God, who richly provides us with everything
for our enjoyment. 1 Timothy 6:17b

Tomorrow

Some folks worry 'bout the future,
 (even lay awake at night),
They count their problems one by one
 until the morning light.

I guess these folks don't realize
 its all a waste of time
For worry will not solve a thing
 though it won't cost a dime.

It surely would be better far
 if they would say a prayer
And leave tomorrow up to God
 for He's already there.

Therefore
do not worry
about
tomorrow
Matthew 6:34





The Best Answer

Some folks will worry day and night
 (and hardly take a break)
About a lot of trifling things
 that keep them wide awake.
They toss and turn from side to side
 and sometimes take a pill,
And hope they'll get a bit of sleep
 while it is dark and still.

When small stuff kinda' gets your goat
 and nags away at you
Just give your problems to the Lord,
 He knows just what to do.
If you need to apologize
 for what you've done or said
Those magic words may give you peace
 and clear things in your head.

I think it's kinda' foolish, too,
 if someone did you wrong
To keep that thing deep in your heart
 and let it steal your song.
It's better far to just forgive
 and get it off your chest,
Then when you go to bed at night
 you'll find both peace and rest.

Forgive as the Lord forgave you. Colossians 3:13c

*Behind
Each Face*



When you see people on the street,
in church, or at a game,
Behind each face, and in each heart,
no matter race or name,
There dwells a soul that's reaching out
for answers in this life,
For many folks don't understand
their turmoil and their strife.

There are some things they'd like to have,
some things they'd like to be,
Just like the folks with lots of clout
whose wealth we plainly see.

I think God has a special love
for simple, common folk,
He's not impressed with what they own,
or even if they're broke.
He meets the need of ANY heart
that will His Word obey
So let God know what's in your heart;
He'll answer when you pray.

Blessed are those that hunger
and thirst after righteousness,
for they shall be filled. Matthew 5:6



What Is Really Important

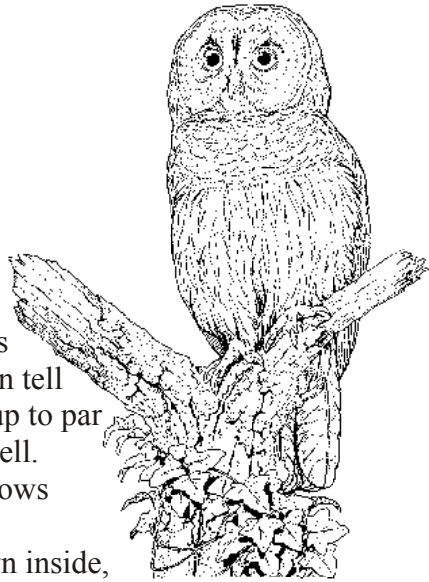
Its not how much you know, my friend,
or what degrees you hold,
It matters not what car you drive
or what you've bought or sold;
It makes no difference where you live
on boulevard or street,
Its not important if your job
is at the County Seat.

Folks aren't impressed with clothes you wear
or where you buy your stuff;
It matters not how big your house
and if its up to snuff.
A lot of things don't matter much
to people everywhere
Until they see within your heart
how much you really care.

Love always protects, always trusts,
always hopes, always perseveres.
Love never fails. 1 Corinthians 13:7,8

Eyes

If you look in a
person's eyes
you pretty well can tell
If they are feeling up to par
or if not feeling well.
It seems those windows
of the soul
reflect what's down inside,
They can show anger, love, or hate,
or loneliness, or pride.



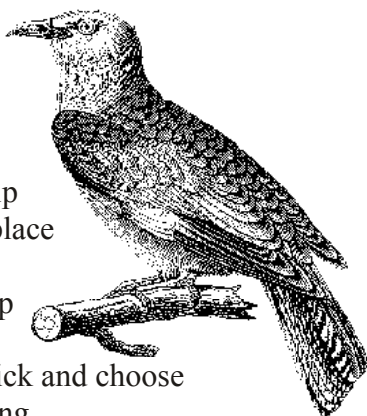
How nice to meet a happy soul
with sparkling eyes and smile;
This can be quite contagious, friend,
and make a life worthwhile.
It's not much fun to chat with folks
who have no smile nor song
And tell you all their problems
and how life for them went wrong.

But things don't need to stay that way;
God has a better plan:
He gave His Son to bridge the gap
between His Heart and man.

Packing

If you are going on a trip
or moving place to place
Sometimes its hard
to pack things up
into a tiny space.

Of course we have to pick and choose
the stuff we take along,
Complaining how we hate to pack
and so may lose our song.



But have you thought about those folks
who have no stuff to pack
And most the things they call their own
they carry on their back?
So when you rummage through your stuff
deciding what to take
Thank God that He has blessed you so,
a difference it will make.

So when you get your luggage out
and pack it to the brim
Just kinda' hum a happy tune
that pickin's are not slim.
An attitude of gratitude
could make your day more bright
And God would love to hear you sing,
so why not do it right?

Come let us sing for joy to the Lord . . .
Psalms 95:1

Molehills or Mountains?

When molehills seem like mountains
it is pretty hard, you know,
To keep yourself on top th' heap
as through the day you go.
Sometimes things seem much bigger
than they really, really are
And if we give them more than due
we won't feel up to par.

Sometimes the road gets long and steep
with seemingly no end,
But don't give up, oh friend of mine,
God wants to be your friend.
He really could change things around
so when the mountains come
They'd only seem like molehills
then you could sing and hum.



If you have faith
as small as a grain
of mustard seed,
you can say to this
mountain, move. . .
and it will move.
Matthew 17:20, 21

It Is Love



A lot of folks don't know it
and may never find it out
That love's the greatest thing on earth
that we can know about.
Some folks think having lots of cash
along with some success
Will solve a lot of problems
and will give them happiness.

Big bucks are not the answer
that will give one peace of mind
And help a fellow sleep at night
and cause him to unwind.
The folks who really love the Lord
and love their neighbors, too,
Are miles ahead of other folks
who don't know this is true.

When Jesus came down to this earth
two thousand years ago
He didn't come so He'd get rich
and have a lot of dough.
He left His riches far behind
where streets are made of gold,
He came because He loved us
is the truth that we are told.

Don't worry if you are not rich
or even come to fame--
There's something that is better, folks,
it's love in Jesus' name.

Look in the Book

It's awfully hard when things go wrong
To hum and sing and keep a song.

Is there a way to help us cope
When we have lost our joy and hope?

When pills don't take away the pain
And friend's advice seem all in vain,

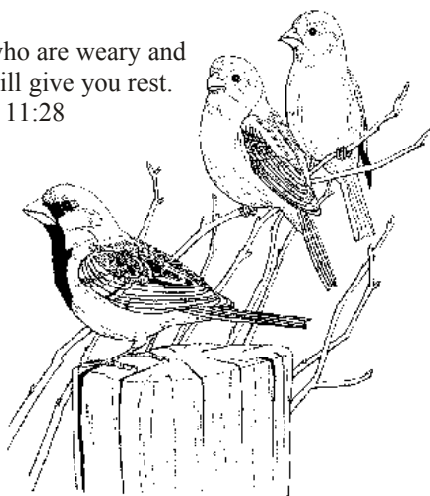
When no one cares and we're alone
And we would like to weep and moan?

Friend, there's a place where we can look,
We'll find the answer in God's Book.

I think the Bible says it best:
"Come unto Me, I'll give you rest."

Come to me, all who are weary and
burdened, and I will give you rest.

Matthew 11:28



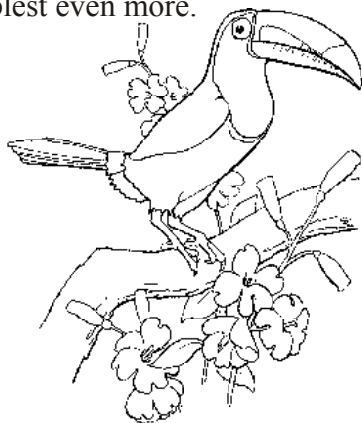
Leftovers

I wonder if you've heard some folks
speak of leftover food,
I've eaten quite a bit of it
and haven't come unglued.
If folks would think on this a bit
it could be they would find
That it's a sign of bounty
when there's food that's left behind.

The very poor and destitute
don't have much on their plate
And eat up every scrap of food
and think that it is great.

So if you hear a person say,
"I will not eat that stuff"
Remind him that a lot of folks
just never have enough
And he should share his bounty
with the weak and with the poor
And if he gives a lot he'll find
he'll be blest even more.

He has scattered
abroad his gifts
to the poor;
his righteousness
endures forever.
2 Corinthians 9:9



Giving

If God gave to us like we give to Him
Would our cup run over, or would life be grim?

God loves all the folks who do cheerfully give
And they have discovered a great way to live.

We all have more blessings than we'll ever count
So give to the Lord a big, generous amount.

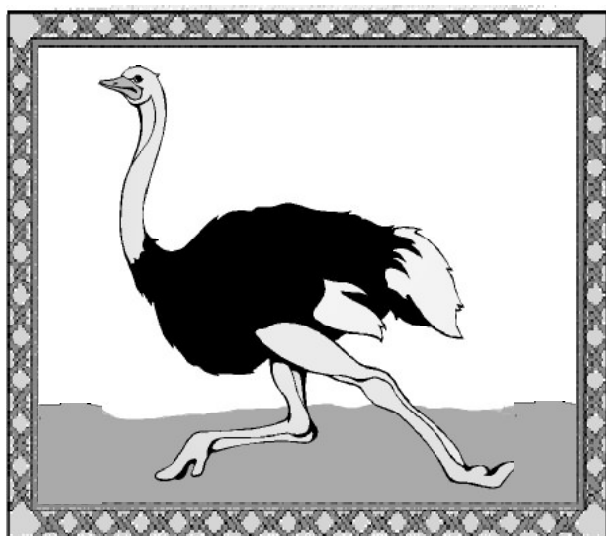
Not only the giver feels blest in his heart
But others are blest when we do our part.



You will be made
rich in every way
so that you can be
generous on every
occasion,
2 Corinthians 9:11

4

*Looking
for the Humor*



*The wings of the ostrich
flap joyfully . . .
when she spreads her feathers
to run,
she laughs
at horse and rider.
Job 13a, 18*

The Dream Machine

I've thought about the stomach
 and the stuff it has to grind,
No doubt if you looked everywhere
 you'd never, never find
A dream machine that does so much
 and takes so little care,
But when you eat a lot of junk
 it gives it wear and tear.

It comes in lots of sizes,
 from the extra large to small,
For every one is tailor made
 not just "one size fits all."
It has no filter, nuts, or bolts
 to keep it in its place,
No oil or grease is needed
 to help it keep its pace.

It takes no Drano once a week
 to wash out sludge and fat,
It has a built in enzyme, folks,
 so it can handle that.
It knows how long to grind the food
 before it lets it go
To that small, long intestine
 that is waiting just below.

It isn't taken out and washed
 then hung out on the line,
And if you treat your stomach right
 it gets along just fine.
You never have to trade it in,
 no up-grade you will need,
It grinds up stuff three times a day
 plus sometimes extra feed.

It isn't made of Corning Ware
 or even stainless steel,
And if you put good stuff in it
 much better you will feel.
No man created this machine
 God had this part all planned
And He has patent rights to it
 and holds it in His Hand.



The Woodpecker



The noisy woodpecker,
I'll have to confess,
I've not figured out
and I only can guess
That he must get headaches
when he pecks away
And rattles his head
as he works through the day.

Does he get a migraine,
or is it up front
That hurts him the most
when he pecks on a trunk?
How can he treat headaches?
Does he have a pill
When he overworks,
and then feels mighty ill?

Does he have some aspirins
all stored in his nest?
Supposing he did,
would that pill work the best?
Just what would he say
with his woodpecker voice
If he knew in his heart
that he did have a choice?

Would he take some Motrin,
Excedrin, or such--
A couple of Advil
just might be too much
For birds aren't addicted
to using much drugs
When they are worn out
from looking for bugs.

And pity the babies,
when they get hatched out;
How can they get sleep
when there's noise all about?
There must be a way
that these birds learn to cope
If they've dulled their bill,
and they just want to mope.

Though not a bird doctor,
I think I can see
They have a solution
without asking me.
The best I can guess
when they ache in their head
They just shut their mouth,
and then crawl into bed.

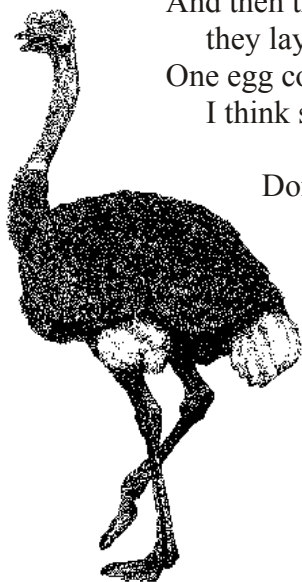
The Ostrich

The ostrich is a mighty bird
that can be eight feet tall,
And it can run like crazy, man,
but really, that's not all.

It has no feathers on its legs,
its head and neck are bare,
But if you try to race with it,
'twill beat you anywhere.

I wonder what an ostrich sees
with those big, shining eyes,
It could be that it sees too much,
so hangs its head and sighs.

And then those eggs so big and white
they lay upon the ground--
One egg could feed a dozen men,
I think some folks have found.



Don't mess with ostriches,
my friend,
for with their two-toed foot
They might give you
a mighty blow
and you could go kaput.

The Caller

I wonder if it gets your goat
when you call on the phone
And want to talk to someone else
but sit there all alone
And hear a voice recorded there
that gives you lots of choice
To push some numbers on your phone
to hear another's voice:

Push one, push two, push three or four,
or maybe even five,
It takes so long to reach someone--
could they still be alive?
Sometimes a person longs a bit
for older, simpler ways
When one could reach the party called
without an endless maze.

But this is progress, so they say,
and so, oh, friend of mine,
You now can build your patience skills
while waiting on the line



Stargazers

When I was a kid
 and looked up in the sky
I'd see the big dipper
 up ever so high,
And other bright stars
 just a'blazing away
When it was all dark
 at the end of the day.

Folks, it was exciting
 to see a star fall
And shift its position
 among large and small.
And do you remember
 the great Milky Way?
It's not often mentioned
 among folks today.

Do you s'pose the reason
 these stars aren't in view
There's just too much trash
 between them and you?
Those stargazing folks
 with a big telescope
Can see lotsa' stars,
 so they're up there, I hope.



When I take a look
 where the stars oughta' be
I may see just one,
 or not much more than three.
I've thought about God,
 up in Heaven somewhere,
How some used to know Him,
 and bask in His care.

But now He seems distant
 and far, far away--
They've gotten too busy
 to hear what He'd say.
Is stuff in between
 that would keep
 Him from view?
Could envy, and jealousy,
 and sin hide Him, too?

It boggles my mind
 that a God Who's so smart
Would love me enough
 that He'd live in my heart.



Guarantees

I have an antique organ
that you pedal with your feet;
It's pretty nice to look at,
and I think it's really neat.
And though it's seen
a lot of years,
what most amazes me
Is that the organ makers
gave a ten year guarantee.

It seems the folks who made
those things
lived in the distant past
And any product they produced
they wanted it to last.

Now if we would compare this with
the stuff thats made today
I'm 'fraid I'd look in vain, my friends,
for something made this way.

The cars for which we pay so much
may last a year or two
Before the thing starts breaking down,
and we want something new.
So what's a fellow s'posed to do
when things don't hold up well?
We prob'ly should return the thing
and also we should tell
The man who sold it to us
to refund our cash, of course,
Because we'll need that money,
for we're going to buy a horse.

Another Blessing

I guess my mind's not fast enough to
process stuff I see
That almost goes at lightning speed
on ads on our TV;
And then they have line after line
of print that is so small
No human eye can read that stuff
and comprehend it all.
Why don't they simply tell the truth
in words both plain and clear?
It sure would be a big relief
on all the things I hear.
But all of this is not a loss
I hurry to confess
For well within my fingers reach
I simply need to press
A button that says "mute" you know
and ads I will not hear
And so I'll count my blessings
that it works year after year.



Asteroids

Today I heard an asteroid
hit our old planet earth,
O'er sixty millions years ago
destroying things of worth
Like dinosaurs and all of life
and left the earth a mess;
I don't know how they know all this,
no doubt its someone's guess.

The night before I watched a film
how some are quite concerned
Another asteroid might hit
and leave our planet burned.
They wondered how to intercept
a thing as big as this;
And wondered if a missile
could be built to make it miss

Our planet earth and all of us
and make it veer off course
This all seems pretty wild to me--
I wonder, what's their source?
I guess if there are worriers
who want to spoil their days
We oughta' let 'em worry some
and not our voices raise.

We common folks who trust in God
know that He made all things,
And daily He knows what to do,
and so the Christian sings.
So do not fret that asteroids
might knock our world apart
Just put your hand in God's big Hand
and praise Him in your heart.





The Traveler

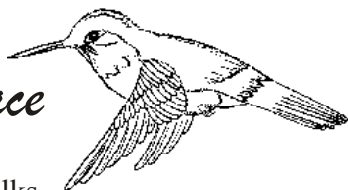
I've never been to Gravel Switch,
to Haw, or Picayune.
I 'spose if I were really smart
I'd try and get there soon.
I'll bet the folks in these small towns
are friendly as can be,
They'd take the time to sit a spell
and chat with folks like me.

I doubt they'd do that in New York
or San Francisco Bay,
They just might be too busy
to give me the time of day.
So I'll seek out the folks who live
a simpler, slower style,
For I might want to chat a bit
then rest a little while.

The Listener

I've never heard a rabbit talk
and tell what's on it's mind
But if it did, with those big ears,
I wonder what I'd find.
It really must hear lots of stuff,
but it is pretty smart,
It doesn't speak one little word--
it keeps it in it's heart.



The Best Place

I wonder if the city folks
can hear the robins sing
And watch them flutter back and forth
as free as anything.
Do they see squirrels in their trees
or are the trees cut down
So they can make a shopping mall
and so enlarge the town?

Can bunny rabbits roam the streets
or would they end up dead?
If they'd go hopping down the street
they'd live in fear and dread.
The constant sound of cars and trucks
(some swearing with their horn)
Must make the faint of heart to cringe
and wonder why they're born.

I think I'll stay in our small town
where there is slower pace,
And let the brave and hardy folks
move to a city place
Where they can live with traffic jams
and seldom hear a bird
And most the people on the street
won't say to them a word.

A small town is the place to live
or even on a farm;
The city folks don't realize
they're missing lots of charm.



The Lucky Ones

Do country mice eat better
than the ones that live in town?
There's lots of food in either place
if they just look around.
But country mice can hustle fast
between a barn and house
And search out goodies all around
that please a hungry mouse.

I'd also guess they're more relaxed
and live with far less stress,
As they're not dodging cars and trucks
and ending up a mess.
I've also heard that country food
is no doubt better far
Than what those city slickers eat
in restaurant or bar.

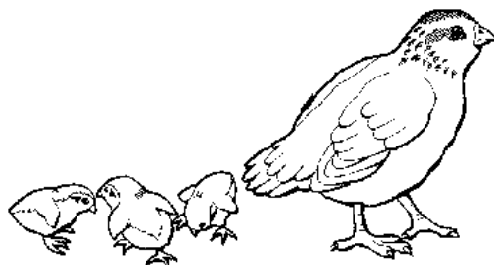
I doubt they run away from home
unless they go next door
In search of better cheese or scraps
they haven't had before.
I guess there's nothing mice can do,
they must live where they are,
But if they have a country home
they're better off by far.

Selective Hearing

It seems to me that kids select
the things they want to hear;
Its kinda' hard to rise and shine
till Dad shouts loud and clear:
"The bus is due to be out front
in ten, or maybe five"--
'Tis when they hear that final call
that out of bed they dive.

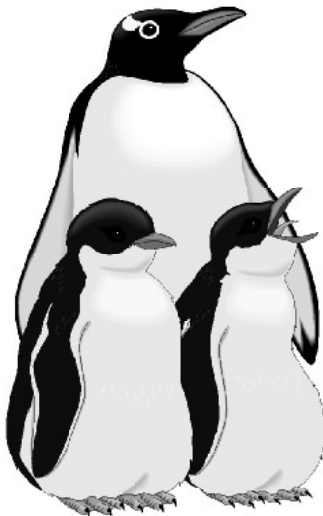
Another time its hard to hear,
and fills a kid with gloom,
Is when Mom shouts, and points upstairs:
"You must clean up your room!"
And other words are hard to hear,
like take the garbage out,
Or feed the dog, these, too, can seem
like foreign words, no doubt.

I know some kids have hearing loss
and don't hear very well,
But they can hear a block away
the ice cream man's small bell.



Stuff

I like the word "stuff" for it covers so much
And puts lots of things in a group,
It may be the things we don't know where to put
Could fit in a file we call "Soup".
There is stuff that we write, and stuff that we mail,
There's stuff in the closet and car,
There's stuff in our purse, and stuff in the fridge,
There's stuff wherever we are.
There's stuff that we love and stuff that we hate,
There's stuff we would like to forget,
There's stuff that we want and there's stuff that we don't,
There is stuff we need to do yet.
I know of no word that will cover so much,
No word that could ever embrace
The odds and the ends of disorganized folk
When there's stuff all over the place.



5

Playing it Smart



*Even the stork in the sky
knows her appointed seasons,
and the doves,
and the swifts and the thrush
observe the time
of their migration.*

*But my people do not know
the requirements of the Lord.
Jeremiah 8:7*

To Remember or To Forget

Some things I should remember
 and some things I should forget
And I confess there are some things
 I haven't sorted yet.
But gradually I'm learning
 I should throw the bad stuff out
Or it will fill my mind and soul
 and cause my heart to doubt.

There are some times
 when I've been hurt
 when folks have done me wrong
And if I harbor stuff like that
 I'll lose my smile and song.
It's not too smart to let folks run
 my life down here below
So I'll forget those times that hurt
 and really let them go.

I have so many blessings
 I enjoy from day to day
I'm foolish if I fill my heart
 with stuff that doesn't pay.

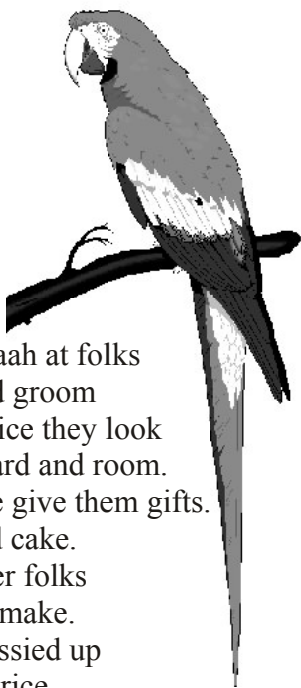
I think if I remember
all the good times I have had
My heart will sing a happy tune
and perk me up a tad.

So if your heart is heavy
and no smile is on your face
There may be stuff you should forget
to feel God's love and grace.
Don't let another spoil your life
by things they've said or done,
Forgive 'em for the whole nine yards.
You may find life is fun.

Forgetting what is behind. . .
Philippians 3:13



*Even
Better*



Sometimes we ooh and aah at folks
who are the bride and groom
And comment on how nice they look
who'll now share board and room.
We wish them well. We give them gifts.
We eat ice cream and cake.
Of course we say to other folks
what a fine pair they make.
We like to see guests gussied up
who'll throw a bit of rice
As bride and groom rush to their car
that's packed and polished nice.

But maybe even better
we should celebrate the folk
Who've lived for years together
and serve cake and Diet Coke.
They've walked life's road for many years
in sun or driving rain,
Somehow they had the strength to cope
if life dished out some pain.
So hats off to the oldsters
who have lived a long, long while,
You may see they are holding hands
while giving folks a smile.

Love never fails. 1 Corinthians 13:8

Dreams

Do you have a dream hidden inside your heart?
It's really down there where your plans get a start.

If you have no inkling what you'd like to be
You may drift about like a cork on the sea.

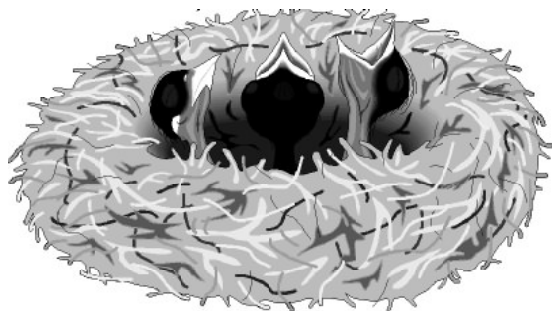
You need to dream big and to work toward a goal
For good things can happen to body and soul.

So don't be a phony, but do your work well,
You may be "discovered," you never can tell.

Someone may be looking at your life today
And like what they're seeing, and like what you say.

This may be the chance you are looking for, friend,
Who knows but some good may be
just 'round the bend.

Everything is possible to him who believes. Mark 9:23



The Happy House

With all the gadgetry we have
to save us time, you know,
Like microwaves and wash machines
and cell phones on the go,
No longer do we chop our wood
to keep the family warm,
We simply turn the thermostat
if there's a winter storm.

We open cans so we can eat,
we don't our veggies grow,
For in our harried, busy life
that just would be too slow.
Computers, too, are speeded up
so they go extra fast
You'd think with all the stuff we have
we shouldn't come in last.

In fact it kinda' seems to me
we should be done by noon
Then take a power nap
and maybe hum a tune.



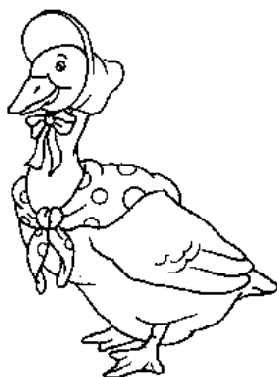
Of course I know we've got to work
and earn a bit of dough
So naps may not be possible
if off to work we go.

I wonder if we slowed a bit
and calmed our pounding heart,
And if we'd love each other more
we'd kinda' play it smart.
We're so obsessed with money
and the stuff that it can buy
We miss the things we should enjoy—
they simply pass us by.

Don't be too busy to enjoy
your children and your spouse
For if you love each other much
you'll have a happy house.

Then you and your household shall
eat there in the presence of the Lord
your God and rejoice.

Deuteronomy 14:26b



*Your
Greatest
Gift*



I wonder if you listen with your head
Or with your heart,
If you just listen with your head
You may not be too smart.

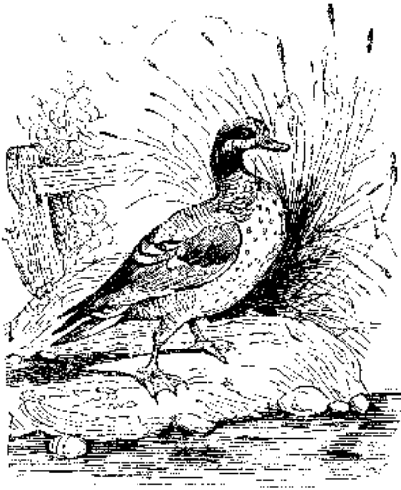
A lot of folks have things to say
They'd like someone to hear
So spend a bit of time with them
And lend a listening ear.

To give some cash or write a check
Can give some folks a lift,
But if you give them of yourself
It is your greatest gift.

Carry each other's burdens, and in this
way you will fulfill the law of Christ.
Galatians 6:2

Hallmark

Most all the stores and factories
 that operate today
 Will have some kind of trademark
 for their product on display:
 Like Sony, Macintosh, Excel,
 or even Ivory Soap,
 They have their trademark registered
 protecting stuff they hope.
 But not just products bear a name,
 some groups of folks do, too,
 The hallmark of the Christian
 is LOVE that just shines through.



By this all men shall know that you are
 my disciples, if you love one another. John 13:35

No Two the Same

I wonder if you've thought about
 how much folks are the same;
We all need food and shelter,
 a family, and a name;
But this amazes me the most:
 of all the folks on earth
No two have ever been alike
 from day one of their birth.
I guess the thing this says to me
 is God is awfully smart
To come up with a plan like this
 that comes right from His Heart.
He gives us talents we can use;
 He gives us minds and voice,
And what we wish to do with them
 is strictly our own choice.



Each one should use whatever gift
he has to serve others, 1 Peter 4:10a

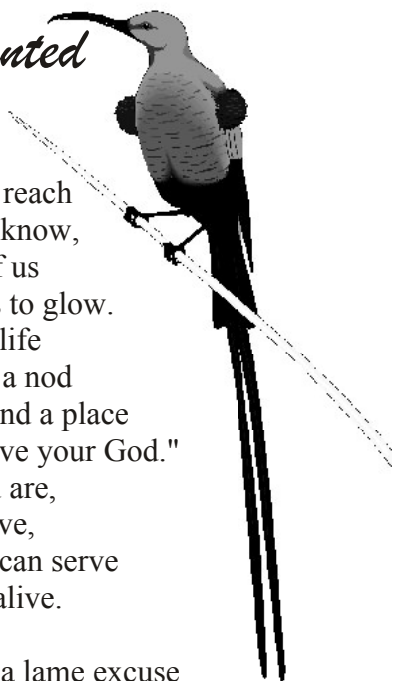
*Yes,
I Believe*



Yes, I believe the Bible, folks,
how else could one explain
How birds could do the things they do
without some kind of brain?
They're really pretty smart, you know,
no calendar have they
That tells them when they should fly south
or how long they should stay.
No map is tucked inside their wings,
they know how high to fly,
They know what kind of nest to build
for babies by and by.
Somehow they know what food to eat;
they're even taught to sing
So if the Lord made birds so smart
He's sure made everything!

By the word of the Lord were the
heavens made, their starry host by the
breath of his mouth Psalm 33:6

Servants Wanted



God doesn't wait until we reach
a certain age, you know,
Before he can make use of us
and make our lives to glow.
There is no magic time in life
when He will give a nod
And say, "I've finally found a place
where you can serve your God."
It matters not how old you are,
if five or ninety-five,
He has a place where you can serve
as long as you're alive.

Don't give to God a lame excuse
like you're too busy now
And when you're old you'll serve Him then
if He will show you how.
It's strange how folks will put stuff off
until another day,
But to those folks who hesitate
He has a lot to say.

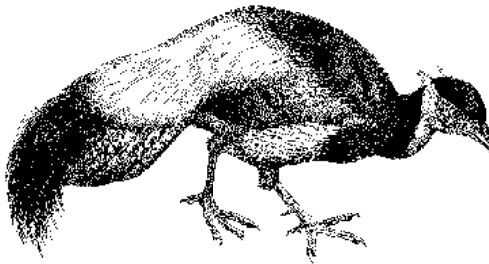
If you want peace of mind and heart
then think on worthy things
And serve the Lord with all your heart
and find the joy it brings.
So now whatever age you are
God has a place for you--
Just simply ask Him when you pray
what He'd like you to do.

It is the Lord Christ you are serving. Colossians 3:24

Decisions

If you're making a decision
that is really pretty small--
Like should you shop at WalMarts
or go to Lakeside Mall,
Or should you buy some stamps today
and stop in at the bank,
Or if your gas is getting low,
should you fill up the tank?
You can decide on things like this
with just your head, you know,
But if you have important stuff
that's not the way to go.

If you've a big decision
that you really need to make
Involving friends or family
and emotions are at stake
You need to think on this a bit
and really play it smart
And make that big decision
from the bottom of your heart.



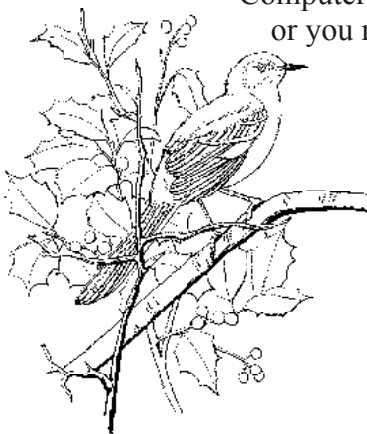
To the man who pleases Him, God gives wisdom,
knowledge and happiness Ecclesiastes 2:26

Slow Down A Tad

I know I'm quite old fashioned—
but it's really not all bad
It seems the world would better be
if folks slowed down a tad.
When I see ads on our TV
that urge you to buy more
And say your credit card is fine
for things throughout the store.

The trouble is folks want more stuff
than they have cash to buy
So they pay interest on their things
until the day they die.
There are so many gadgets now
to lure unwary folk
And stores don't seem to mind a bit
if you're in debt and broke.

Folks seem to want much faster cars,
a microwave that's fast,
Computer upgrades are a must
or you might come in last.



One phone is sometimes not enough
to answer every call,
And Wall Street with its ups and downs
might tumble down and fall.

Yes, living takes a lot of smarts
to make it through this life
And keep the home fires burning bright
with happy kids and wife.
The folks who live within their means
and know when they've enough
Are smart if they slow down a bit
enjoying all their stuff.

Poor are the folks who rush around
and always on the go
And don't find time to smell the flowers
and take a walk, you know.
So if you rush from day to day
with barely time to think
You might find slowing down a tad
will keep you in the pink.





Judging Others

Ignorance is swift to speak
 and say what's on it's mind
And though it uses lots of words
 I think that you will find
That wisdom waits and thinks a while
 and mulls it o'er a bit
And may come closer to the truth
 because they thought on it.

I wonder why we're quick to judge
 another person's deeds
When we don't understand their thoughts,
 their worries, or their needs.
God knows each human mind and soul,
 He also knows their heart,
So if we'd let God be the judge
 we might be pretty smart.

Do not judge, or you too will be judged.
 Matthew 7:1

The Humble Folks

Every time you speak, my friend,
your mind goes on parade
And folks will judge your character
by the remarks you've made.
If you have hatred in your heart
or jealousy or pride
It's bound to slip out through your lips.
It's pretty hard to hide.

Sometimes it's strange to hear folks talk
and tell of what they've done
And if one listens really close
they think they're Number One.
If they would read their Bible
it could be that they would find
Forgiveness, love, and serving God
are clearly underlined.

God smiles upon the humble folks,
I think He loves them best
If they accept Him as their Lord
and He's their special Guest.
So if you plan to go to Heav'n
and live with angels there
You've gotta' do
the things God says
to climb that Golden Stair.



... God opposes the proud but gives
grace to the humble. James 4:6



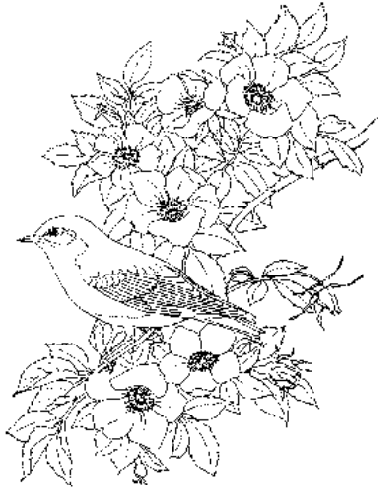
Stuff Out There

Now if you watch TV a lot
and see the ads that say
They've pills to get you up to snuff
so buy, and don't delay.

They've pills for your emotions
plus some stuff for energy,
And if you cannot handle stress
they've pills for that, you see.

So they can help your frazzled nerves
if you'll give them a chance,
And if your self-esteem is low,
that, too, they might enhance.

I'm not too much on pills and herbs
the Doc does not prescribe;
The pills we count out one by one
could possibly not jibe.

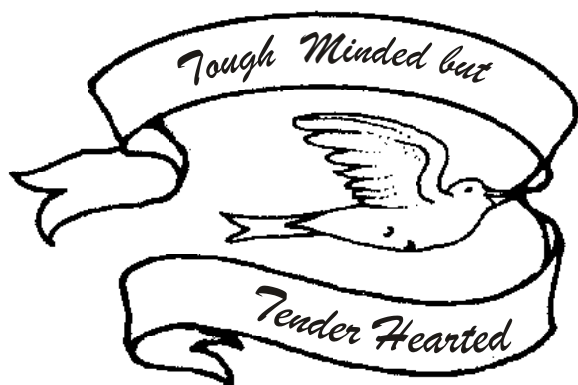


It's not too smart to treat ourselves
and take a bunch of stuff;
It's better far to eat good food
and exercise enough.

I'm just amazed that TV ads
that promise such and such
May harm you more than they can help
and leave you without much.

The things we swallow leave their mark
with side effects galore,
And if we take a lot of drugs
our stomach may get sore.

So see your Doctor now and then;
he'll give you good advice,
And if you do the things he says
your health could turn out nice.



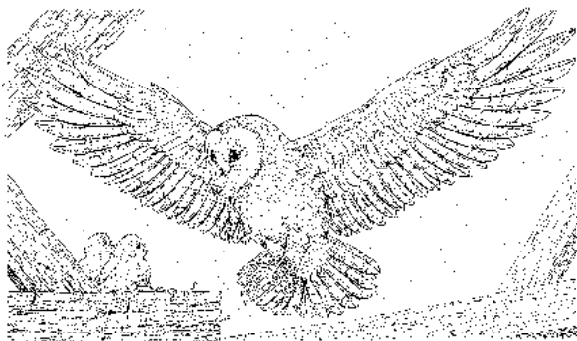
God's looking for tough-minded folks
who know what they believe,
They're not ashamed to live for Christ
because they did receive
The love of God within their hearts
and know whereof they speak;
Although they are tough-minded
they still care about the weak
For God gave them a tender heart
that sees another's need
And so they live for other folks
and not a life of greed.
God has some folks who live this way
and He their lives have blest
And from the peace and joy they have
their choice has been the best.

We who are strong ought to bear with
the failings of the weak. Romans 5:1

Enjoy Your Kids

Don't wait too long to tell your kids
that you think they are great
For praise makes better kids, you know,
than if you them berate.
If you love them and they love you
I think that you will find
There's lots of joy in raising them
if all have peace of mind.

To teach your kids important stuff
like what is right or wrong
Will save them lots of hassles
when temptations come along.
Enjoy your kids. They're God's great gift.
No other thing can bring
Such joy and happiness to you
and make your heart to sing.



All your sons will be taught by the Lord, and
great will be your children's peace. Isaiah 54:13

It Takes Only One

If you take a look at history
I think that you will find
That most worthwhile ideas come
from just one person's mind.

It seems committees and the like
don't think of too much stuff,
But if one person gets inspired
it might be quite enough
To get some changes started
that could help folks where you live,
And you could make a difference, friend,
if of yourself you'll give.

We need folks with a vision
who will start out on their own
And make their town a better place
e'en if they work alone.
It's easy to let life pass by
and watch from your tent door
Ignoring needs of other folks
in need of love and more.

Methinks we ought to stir ourselves
and spread our love around,
For love cannot be bought or sold
or traded by the pound.
Stand up for what you think is right
and every day you live
Put all you have into that day
and love and freely give.

And do not forget to do good and to share
with others, for with such sacrifices God is
well pleased. Hebrews 13:16



6

*When Things
Are Tough*



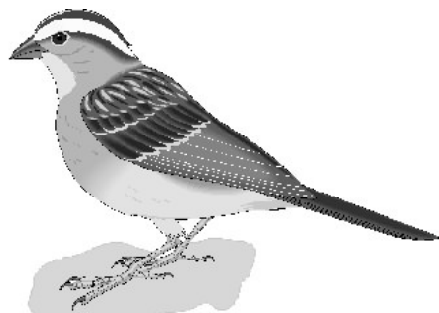
*I said, Oh that I had
the wings of a dove!
I would fly away and be at rest - -
I would flee far away
and stay in the desert;
I would hurry to my place
of shelter
far from the tempest and storm.
Psalm 55:7,8*

Smile a Lot

Smile a lot, friends, smile a lot,
You never know how long you've got
So while you travel planet earth
Keep smiling big for all you're worth.
God doesn't tell how long you'll stay
So live your best from day to day.
If you've no smile upon your face
You might give up and leave this place.

God made a lot of pretty stuff
So you could smile when things get tough.
Don't let your life go down the drain
Though problems come along with pain.
God knows how much your heart can bear
And He'll stand by you anywhere.

Count up the blessings that you've got
Forget the things that you have not.
A smile can heal a bunch of ills
That can't be helped by lots of pills.
So get your heart in tune today
You'll find a smile will make your day.



God In Our Corner

Life can be pretty tough, you know,
When pain sets in and steps are slow.
Sometimes we'd like to run and hide
Until our aches and pains subside.
It often takes a lot of pluck
To hum and sing when we are stuck,
Especially when we have no friend
Who's in our corner and can lend
A helping hand to see us through
When we don't know just what to do,
And no one cares a little bit
As in our rocking chair we sit.

But let me tell you, friend of mind,
God's in our corner and He's kind
And if we've come to our wit's end
He lets us know He is our friend.

If God be for us,
who can be
against us.
Romans 8:31





Happy Campers

If you're not a happy camper
I wonder what went wrong--
Did envy, sin, or jealousy
deprive you of your song?
A lot of folks have problems
with this very sort of thing,
If there is hatred in your heart
it's tough to hum and sing.

Forgiveness is a magic word
that helps to make things right,
Apologizing also works
to make your burden light.
So take a bit of time, my friend,
and sit down in your chair
And check what's in your heart and mind
and see what's brewing there.

No matter if your life is short
or if it's pretty long
A person's mighty foolish
if you live without a song.

Forgive whatever grievances you may have
against one another. Forgive as the Lord
forgave you. Colossians 3:13

When Clouds Hang Low

It's hard to stay on top th' heap
when troubles come our way
And realize they come to pass
and do not come to stay.
No matter how much dough we have
or if we're mighty poor
We'll find some days all we can do
is simply to endure.

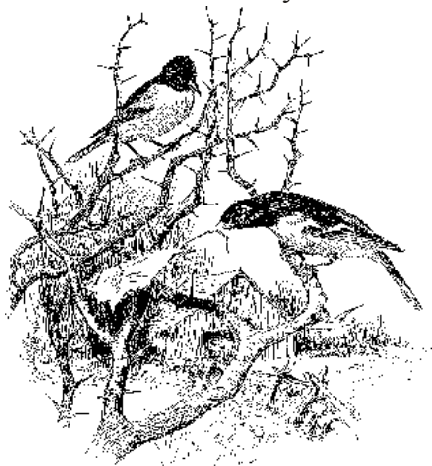
Some days when clouds are hanging low
and darken up our skies
God knows just how we feel inside,
to Him it's no surprise.
But if we talk to Him a bit
and tell Him we can't cope
He just might send an angel down
to bring us joy and hope.

So don't give up, my hurting friend,
and think God's far away
For if we give Him all our heart
He hears each word we say.
God never is a loser; He heads up
the winning team
And if we tell Him we need help
He'll know just what we mean.



Clutter

If you could see inside your heart
I wonder what you'd find--
Is it all cluttered up with junk,
or have you peace of mind?
It might be good to rid your soul
of stuff that doesn't pay,
If you've hard feelings in your heart
it's no good anyway.
It sure can load a fella' down
to harbor all that stuff,
Besides it turns your sky to gray
and leaves you feeling tough.
So rid yourself of clutter
that you've gathered here and there
And ruminate on happy thoughts
while rocking in your chair.
Be careful what you say to folks
and keep your words all sweet
For they will taste much better
if those words you have to eat.





Unraveled

Has your life become unraveled
and living's pretty tough,
Is it hard to do the things you should
to keep life up to snuff?
Sometimes we make mistakes, you know,
and get ourselves fouled up
And days on end we try to live
with just an empty cup.

A lot of folks have gone this route
and feel that life's a bore,
But if they'd give their heart to God
they'd find there's something more.
There is no case too hard for Him,
He knows what things are wrong
And if you do the things He says
He'll give your heart a song.

There's nothing like forgiveness
that can set a person free
And if you've kindness in your heart
I think you will agree
That living can be beautiful
and bring you love and peace,
And if you walk each day with Him
your joy will just increase.

*The
Polished
Stone*



Life has its troubles and its woes
and times can be quite tough,
In fact, some people will declare
that they have had enough;
So they give up before their time
and trials grind them down,
They seldom have a smiling face,
but often have a frown.

Yet many folks with handicaps
and trials hard to bear
Will make the very best of life
e'en though its not too fair.
Instead of bitterness and hate
and blaming things on God
They use the things they still have left,
and laugh, and smile, and nod.

They're not content to be worn down
and feel they're all alone,
Instead they let life's ups and downs
make them a polished stone.

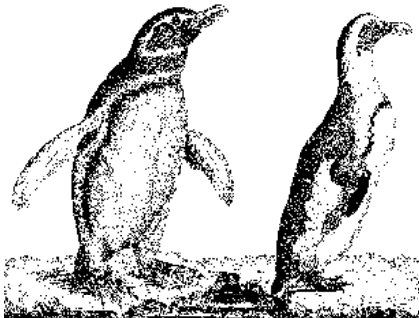
And we know that in all things God works for
the good of those who love Him. Romans 8:28

Making a Hit

When folks get old it's doubly hard
for them to change their ways,
They like to do the way they've done
for many years and days.
It's kinda' comfortable to do
the way they've always done
For they have learned down through the years
how some things oughta' run.

When oldsters see newfangled ways
they know they'll have to change
Or they will be out in the cold
because they're kinda' strange.
When folks get old some parts wear out
but one thing they can do
Is keep a song tucked in their heart
that will their strength renew.

So if you're in that awkward stage
where you've slowed up a bit
If you love folks with all your heart
you're sure to make a hit.



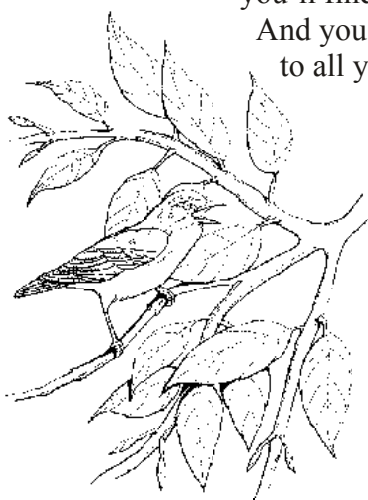
The Complainers

Some folks have lots of blessings
but they do not count 'em much
And they complain because they want
more things to hold and touch.

Somehow they feel they should be served,
but not a servant be,
And so they miss the best in life
for giving is the key.

When Jesus Christ came down to earth
He served from day to day
And gave us an example
so that we could live that way.

Now if the Lord lives in your heart
you'll find you've peace within
And you will stop complaining
to all your friends and kin.



If you live in America
your life is not too tough--
Some folks in foreign countries
never, never have enough.

If you're unhappy take a trip
to some far distant shore
Like Africa or India,
or maybe Singapore.

God likes the folks who sing and hum
and thank Him every day
For all the blessings they enjoy
when they bow down and pray.

So if you are unhappy
and your life has lost it's zest
God's good at fixing hurting hearts
and He can do it best!

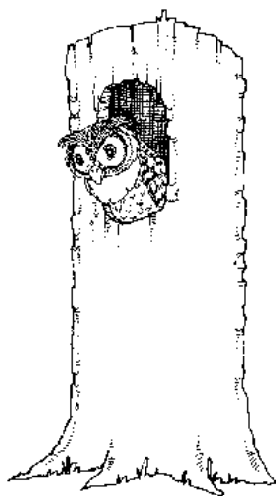
*I have learned
the secret of being
content in
any and every
situation
Philippians 4:11*



I've also seen some castles
that were lived in long ago,
And England has a palace
where the Queen walks to and fro.
An igloo is a home to some--
I'm not sure if they rent;
It really matters little
if your home is hut or tent.

But what I want to say is this:
no matter where you dwell
If there's not love within your home
you won't sleep very well.

Sometimes we find that life is hard
and times may be quite tough,
But somehow we can win and sing
if we have love enough.





*They
Missed
a Lot*

I've seen a lot of years roll by,
I've seen a lot of change,
I'd guess the youngsters of today
think oldsters are quite strange.

No doubt they wonder how the folks
who lived so long ago
Could live without computers
and some other stuff, you know,
Like videos and cell phones,
and a pair of Nike shoes
Along with name-brand shirt and pants
like other fella's choose.

They've never seen a Model T
that started with a crank,
And Cokes and Pepsis cost too much
so these they seldom drank.
A lamp that used just kerosene
they never studied by
And when they think of one-room schools
they shrug and even sigh.

They can't remember when the stores
weren't open day and night
And folks would only get to shop
when it was broad daylight.
They've never seen Fels Naptha soap
on washboard in a tub
When women washed the family's clothes
and they would scrub and scrub.

I know the young folks of today
have missed a lot of stuff
That oldsters had to deal with then
when times were really tough.
But when I reminisce a bit
and think on it awhile
I'm glad I have these memories.
They kinda' make me smile

7

Wings of Prayer



*But those who hope in the Lord
will renew their strength.
They will soar on wings of eagles;
Isaiah 40:11a*

*Even the sparrow
has found a home,
and the swallow a nest
where she may have young - -
a place near the altar.
Psalms 84:3*



Today I will not ask for much,
I mainly want to keep in touch.
I know you'll care for me today
So there's not much I need to say.
I know that if I'm in Your care
Your Hand will guide me anywhere,
But let me say a word or two
To let You know that I love You.
The blessings that You give each day
Sure mean a lot, I'd like to say,
And if Your Hand keeps clasping mine
I'll safely cross the finish line.

Amen

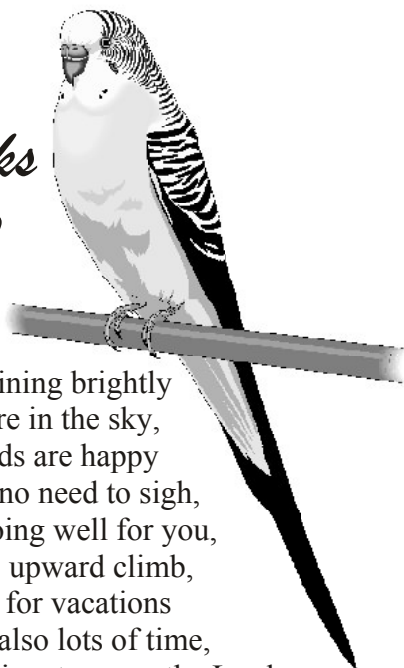


There's telephone and telegraph,
the Hubbel telescope,
The postal service, and air mail
to give us all the dope.
Then e-mail and the Internet
are much, much later stuff,
And still with all these fancy things
it never is enough
To get beyond the stars and moon
and far beyond the sun
To contact God in Heaven
and to talk until we're done.

It kinda' blows my mind a bit
that we can talk with God,
He's always open--day or night
no matter where we trod.
There is no fee we have to pay,
He doesn't call collect,
We never have to wait online;
It's more than you'd expect.
So if you haven't used online
to talk to God above
You really ought to try it soon,
He'll fill your heart with love.

Call to me and I will answer you Jeremiah 33:3

Who Talks to God?



When the sun is shining brightly
and no clouds are in the sky,
Your wife and kids are happy
and you have no need to sigh,
Your work is going well for you,
you're on the upward climb,
You've money for vacations
and you've also lots of time,
Do you take time to serve the Lord
or do you just forget--
And think you'll call some later date--
you just don't need Him yet?
It's easy just to sing along
when things are going well,
There's nothing to complain about,
no morbid tales to tell.
But lots of folks have troubles,
and they live in pain and dread,
Are these the ones who talk to God
until the day they're dead?
If folks like this can keep a smile
and love God in their heart
He must have special love for them
and won't from them depart.

The Lord is near to all who call upon Him Psalm 146:18

Morning Time

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

In the morning,
O Lord, you hear
my voice; in the
morning I lay my
request before you
and wait in
expectation.
Psalm 5:3



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

Asking

I wonder, when we pray to God
and ask for lots of stuff,
Do we tell Him just what to send
so we can have enough?
Do we think God is here to serve
our every wish and whim?
It's really not that way at all.
We should be serving Him.

We might be in bad trouble, folks,
if God would send our way
The many things our selfish hearts
desire from day to day.
I think it's really better far
to make our wishes known
Then let the Lord send what He wants,
and make His will our own.



Instant Access

If I could call the president
and say I'd like to chat,
I doubt I could get hold of him
and would be turned down flat.
I 'spose the folks employed by him
would have to check me out,
And find out if I qualify
to talk to him, no doubt.

Of course, they might give this excuse
that he's not in today,
Or he's with top advisers now
who tell him what to say.
There's not a chance that he would talk
to someone such as I,
For he is such a busy man
I know he wouldn't try.

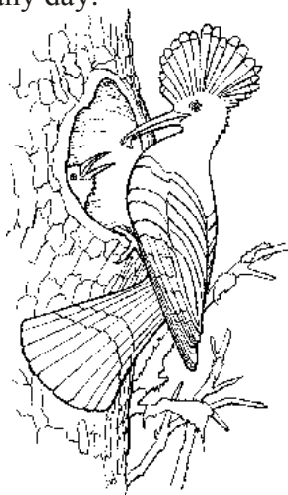


But that is not the way with God;
He has a listening ear;
An angel will not say to you
"My friend, He isn't here."
Nor would they give a lame excuse
and say He's seeing friends,
Or that He's busy counseling,
but His regards He sends.

"This is the day He meets with staff
and won't be through till four
And by that time He's all worn out
and hustles out the door."
They'd offer an appointment then
and give the time and place,
I'd have to wait a month or two,
depending on my case.

I'm awfully glad that God is God
and hears us when we pray,
And we have instant access
any time and any day.

Let us then approach
the throne of grace
with confidence,
so that we may
receive mercy and
find grace to help
us in time of need.
Hebrews 4:16



Words and Ways

I think that God hears lots of words
that come His way each day,
Some folk use fancy wording
in everything they say;
But if those words are not sincere
and truly from the heart
He may not pay attention much
for God is very smart.
He knows what all we think about
and if it is sincere
We certainly can be assured
we'll get a listening ear.
But if our ways don't match our words
it could be we will find
That God will put our words on hold
till we make up our mind.

Delight yourself
in the Lord and
He will give you
the desires of
your heart.
Psalm 37:4

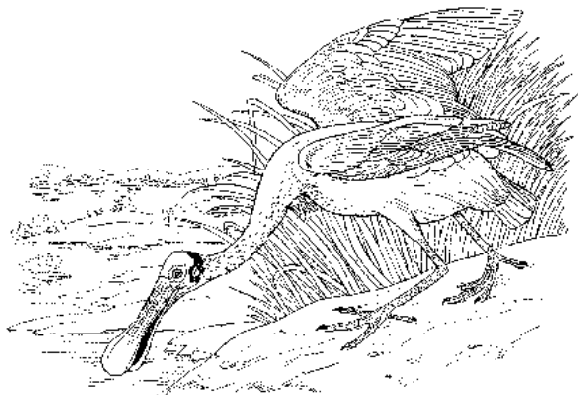


Bigger Than God

Sometimes we get so all wrapped up
in living here below
Our world seems bigger than our God,
and that's not good, you know.
Sometimes we scheme, and plan, and work
with time for nothing more,
And soon we find we've left God out
and softly closed the door.

Not that we planned to keep Him out,
it just comes through neglect,
And if we do not keep in touch
it's what one would expect.
You know we all have relatives
or friends of long ago,
And if we never write or phone
we kinda' let them go.

So if your God seems far away
or maybe very small,
Don't hesitate to call on Him
and make Him Lord of all.



Wait not

Now some folks seem to say to God,
"You needn't call on me,
But if I'm ever in a bind
then I'll call You, You see.
I'll tell you just what You should do,
and how it should be done,
I've heard You're good at helping folks
when life is no more fun.
I know You're busy with Your work
so I'll not bother You
Unless I'm really in a jam
and don't know what to do."
It doesn't seem too smart to wait
to talk to God, my friend.
He wants to help you every day--
not just at your wits' end.



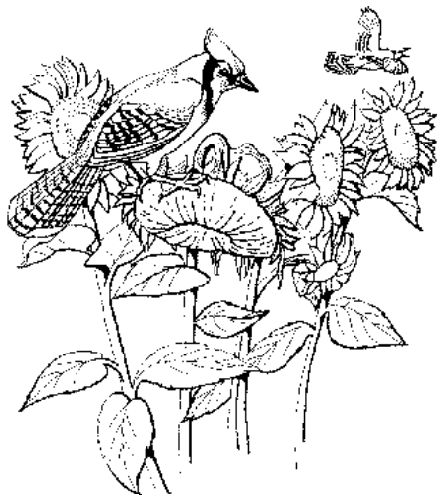
Cast your cares on the Lord
and He will sustain you. Psalm 55:22

The Cue

Don't sit and bemoan
That you've older grown,
For what would the alternate be?
Do you realize
It is really not wise
To pity yourself with "poor me?"

For every long day
When you feel this way
You've wasted some valuable time
To make your life glad
And improve it a tad
So you'll have more strength for the climb.

There're things you can do
If you'll just take the cue
To start every day with a prayer,
Then you'll have a Friend
And your heart He will mend,
And you'll feel His love and His care.



The Voice

I like it when our kids will call
 long distance now and then,
It's so much better than e-mail
 or writing with a pen.

It dawned on me that when they call
 and say a word or two
We know their voice right off the bat
 so we know what to do.

We chin-chat for a little while
 and fill each other in
On things important to us both—
 it's easy to begin.



I kinda' think this is the way
God answers us today
He knows exactly who we are
when we bow down and pray.

He doesn't have to question us
and ask us who we are,
He doesn't check the record book
and hope we're up to par.

He listens to the things we say,
He doesn't sigh nor yawn
And try to get us off His hands
because its nearly dawn.

To think God knows us each by name
and even knows our voice
Should make us happy as a lark
and make our hearts rejoice.

but God has surely
listened and
heard my voice
in prayer.
Psalm 66:19

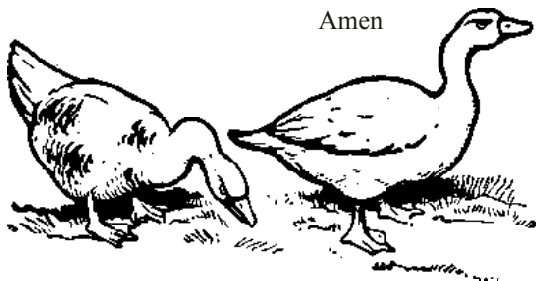


It Is a Noisy World, Lord

The world is not a quiet place,
we've noises all about,
I've wondered if the noise of life
just kinda' shuts God out.
There's traffic on the road near by,
there's TV in the house,
Sometimes it's hard to concentrate
on just our kids and spouse.
Computers, too, use up our time
and may invade our day,
I know these are excuses, Lord,
but what else can I say?

You know we have a lot to do
to keep us all on track,
Sometimes the pressures facing us
seem more than we can hack.
Conveniences we have down here
don't quiet us too much,
We're just too busy getting things
our selfish hands can clutch.
Lord, show us what's important
and our energy renew
And give us strength to live each day
the way You want us to.

Amen



The Problem Solver

What churns in your mind as you go through the day--
Is it pleasant and peaceful, or in disarray?

You could cook up ulcers if you're in a stew--
Or maybe a headache is waiting for you.

Your heart could beat faster and literally pound
If hatred and worry and grudges abound.

The answer is simple if this is your plight,
Tell God all your problems, for He's up all night.

God is our refuge, and strength,
an ever-present help in trouble.
Psalm 46:1



The Hustlers

Sometimes I watch the TV news
and see a bunch of ads,
And if you didn't have good sense
you'd fall for lots of fads.
Folks seem to think that wealth is power
and really go for it,
And if they have a lot of stuff
their ego's up a bit.

And as we watch from our front door
folks rushing by each day,
It seems like it's a waste of time
to spend one's life that way.
I've seen some rather common folks
with little or no clout
That have a lot of peace and joy
that shines from inside out.

I think when all is said and done
we meditate a while,
And see that folks who love the Lord
are those who often smile.
The inside's more important
than the outside any day,
So keep your heart in tune with God.
It's great to live that way.



Do Your Possessions Possess You?

I know folks think they have it made
if they have lots of dough,
Then they can buy a lot of stuff,
and travel, too, you know.
It's really great to live with ease
and have more than enough,
And even have some cash saved up
if life gets really tough.
But if your wealth is piling up
don't love it more than due,
For then you may not love the Lord
the way you used to do.
If you feel self-sufficient
it may be that you will find
Your heart grows cold and empty
when you leave the Lord behind.



But seek first the kingdom and his
righteousness, and all these things will
be given to you as well. Matthew 6:33

8

*Expecting Great
Things*

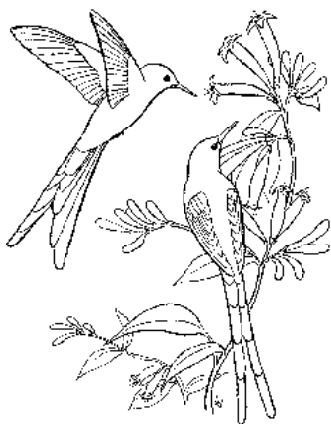


*I carried you
on wings of eagles
and brought you to myself
Exodus 19:4b*

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 we know that
when He shall appear,
we shall be like Him,
for we shall see Him
as He is. 1 John 3:2

What God Gave Us



How great a God we have, my friend,
 when He created man
He made us in His Image
 and according to His plan.
He gave us minds so we could think
 and thus enjoy the earth,
Besides He tucked within our brain
 to do some things of worth.

Some folks write books, and some build boats,
 while others cook and sew,
To some inventing is their thing,
 they're pretty smart, ya' know.
Some choose to practice medicine,
 still others like to plumb,
And there are those who climb the Alps
 'til hands and feet are numb.

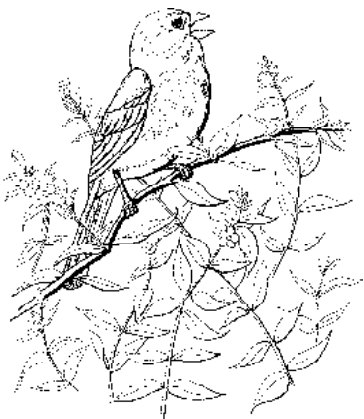
Oh, there are lots and lots of things
 God lets us choose to do,
He didn't make us all alike
 but gave us knowledge, too.
I'm glad when God created man
 He gave us just enough
So we could live upon this earth
 if times were good or tough.
To think God gave us of His Love
 and shared with us His Mind
Is far above all other gods
 that you can ever find.

Every good and perfect gift is from above,
coming down from the father... James 1:7

So Silently

I wonder if you've thought about
how stuff goes on each day
And I'm not talking politics
and things that others say.
But things go on so silently
all through the day and night,
The sun keeps making sunshine
and the stars still shine at night.
The earth keeps trav'ling 'round the sun
as faithful as can be
And trees and flowers as they grow
do it so silently.

Though often we don't hear a sound
of things that grow and grow
Not all things happen silently,
there's noisy stuff, you know.
We hear the thunder, wind, and rain,
the waves upon the shore,
Tornadoes make a lot of noise,
but there is so much more.



The purring of a kitten
or the chirping of a bird,
The laughter of a little child
are things we all have heard.
I'm glad God knew just what to do
when He created stuff
He knew some things should silent be
when there is noise enough.

If everything that God has made
gave forth a lot of noise
We really might be overwhelmed
and lessen earthly joys.
Or if all things were silent
and we never heard a thing
We'd never hear small children laugh
or hear a robin sing.

I marvel and I stand in awe
At what the Lord has done
For He gave earth His special touch
with love for everyone.

For everything
God created
is good...
1 Timothy 4:4



Wind and Trees

Today I sat out on the porch
 and felt the stirring breeze
And watched as leaves moved up and down
 and shook the pretty trees.
When branches sway I look with awe
 and wonder how they stay
So upright and so sturdy
 when they bend from day to day.
No doubt the trees are rooted deep
 and somehow can adjust
When wind and rain beat down on them
 and they don't up and bust.
I guess this tells us something
 as we watch the swaying trees
That when we're plummeted with storms
 we get down on our knees
And if our roots are deep enough
 to hold when life is tough
We find the strength to travel on—
 God's grace is quite enough
To see us through the storms of life
 that make us swing and sway
For God can heal our hurting heart
 and help us through each day.



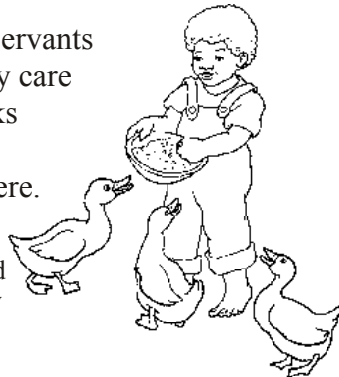
My grace is sufficient for you, 2 Corinthians 12:9

Who You Are Makes A Difference

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.

Carry each other's burdens, and
this way you will fulfill the law
of Christ. Galations 6:2



Who But God?

One day I thought about the earth
and what it gives to man;
They're lots of hidden treasures there
that God put in His plan.
For soil is not a bunch of waste
that isn't worth a hoot,
It grows a lot of useful things
like vegetables and fruit,

And even trees, and flowers, and shrubs,
to beautify our place.
It also feeds the bugs and birds,
besides the human race.
And what is 'way down underground
well hidden from our eye?
An awful lot of fancy things
that cost a lot to buy.





Like platinum, magnesium,
and gold and silver, too,
And emeralds, onyx, tiger eye,
and diamonds not a few.
There's water, granite, slate, and lead,
and different types of soil,
And can you tell me what we'd do
were there no gas and oil?

Plus there is salt, and there is coal,
e'en gemstones in the rough,
Like jasper, opal, dolomite,
and lots of other stuff.
And who, my friend, could make all this
that lies below the sod?
It's obvious there's no one else
except the Living God.

In the beginning God created the
heavens and the earth Genesis 1:1

Just Thinking of Heaven

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 them 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.

continued

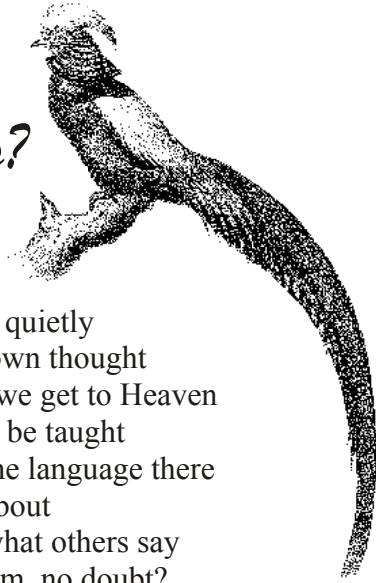


Just look in the New Testament
for Peter, James, and John,
And Matthew, Mark, and Dr. Luke,
the list goes on and on
With Mary who gave birth to Christ,
and Zaccheus in a tree,
The wise men and the shepherds, too,
I'd really like to see.

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.

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.

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 nine
 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.



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?



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.