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*A Song and
a Prayer*





Psalm 42:8
Job 35:10

*By day the Lord directs
his love,
at night his song
is with me--
a prayer to the God
of my life.*

*. . . God my maker
who gives songs
in the night.*

Waking Up



When you wake up in
the morning
do you have a happy heart
That sings a song down deep inside
to give you a good start?
I think it's kinda' foolish
to let something steal your joy
When God made things so beautiful
that you ought to enjoy.

He didn't clone the animals
and only make a few
But he created thousands
when the world was fresh and new.
I wonder if the animals, and birds
that sing so sweet
Are giving messages to us
when we the morning greet.

The birds will start their day with song,
the animals will stir
And kinda' stretch a little bit,
then gussy up their fur.
It seems they do not have to think,
"What shall I do today?"
They get right busy doing stuff
and then get on their way.

*This is the day that the Lord has made; let us
rejoice and be glad in it. Psalm 118:24*

The Happy Heart

The folks who have a happy heart
are pretty smart, ya' know.
Some whistle, sing, or hum a bit
most everywhere they go;
And if you do that very thing
folks wonder what you've got
That gives you happiness inside--
a thing that they have not.

A lot of good things happen
when you spread your love around--
Some folks who feel down in the dumps
sure need a joyful sound.
So brighten someone's life today
by things you do and say,
Sometimes a smile will let them know
that they are loved today.



*Dear friends, let us love one another,
for love comes from God. 1 John 4:7*



Don't waste your time in arguing,
It's such a waste, you know,
To raise your voice in anger
is just not the way to go.
To say things that should not be said
can hurt a person bad
So keep your cool and shut your mouth
and keep your spirit glad.

The Bible gives advice on this
that's really pretty neat--
It says if folks are full of wrath
keep answers soft and sweet.
It takes two or more to argue
so if you're really smart
You'll not shout out those unkind words,
it could affect your heart.
Though we may live a long, long time
life still goes pretty fast
And happy are the gentle folks
who make the good times last.

A patient man calms a quarrel
Proverbs 15:18

Today's Song



Today my heart will have
a song
for I will grateful be
For all the good things
in my life
that God has given me.
It seems that anywhere I look
I see His love and care,
There is no place where He is not--
He's simply everywhere.

I know some folks don't say too much
and feel depressed and sad,
I wonder if a smile or song
would cheer them up a tad.
I realize a lot of stuff
can kinda' steal our song
And so we've got to careful be
that that won't last too long.

Don't let your heart be troubled, folks,
our God is in control
And He's aware of everything
that irritates your soul.
So put your hand in His big Hand
and hang on real tight
Assured that when He's in control
He'll make things come out right.

*Do not let your heart be troubled.
Trust in God John 14:1*

The Upward Look

When you wake up in the morning
and you're feeling mighty fine
Do your eyes and heart turn upward
and get Heaven "on the line?"
Do you tell Him you are grateful
for your family and your friends
And truly do appreciate
the blessings that He sends?
Do you tell Him that you love Him,
that you're proud to be His son,
And thank Him that His eye's on you
until this life is done?
We would save ourselves some trouble
and some stress along the way
If we'd talk to God in Heaven
and to Him commit our day.

*Commit your way to the
Lord; trust in him
Psalm 37:5*



Just Keepin' In Touch

Dear Lord,

I talked to You a while ago
and I'm already back,
I really like to keep in touch
before I hit the sack.
I kinda' want to thank You
for Your help throughout the day,
I'm glad You're not annoyed with me
because I often pray.

Some days are kinda' tough, You know,
some nights get pretty long
But knowing that You care for me
sure gives my heart a song.
It's great You're not too busy, Lord,
to hear the words I say,
I'm glad I need not stand in line
and wait and wait to pray.

And so I'll say good night
for now
and then when I get up
I'll get in touch with You again
so You can fill my cup.

*Be joyful always;
pray continually;
give thanks in all
circumstances
1 Thessalonians 5:16*



You're In God's Heart

You have a place in God's big heart
and He'd like you to know
That He would like a place in yours
because He loves you so.
If you would fall in love with Christ
and give Him all your soul
Your life would never be the same
because He'd make you whole.

A life that's lived apart from God
can never satisfy
The empty feeling down inside
no matter how you try.
So ask the Lord into your heart,
He'd give your soul a song
And you'd find life is sweeter
when you have the Lord along.



*Here I am! I stand at
the door and knock.
If anyone hears my
voice and opens the door,
I will come in and eat
with him and he with me.
Revelation 3:20*

Songs in the Night

Some folks will take a sleeping pill
to help them sleep at night,
They hope they can drop off and sleep
until the morning light.
But pills don't always work that well
and put a guy to sleep
And so sometimes they just end up
by counting endless sheep.

But that is not too smart, ya' know,
there's better stuff to do
For you can hum a song inside
that means a lot to you.
So don't despair and waste that time
and toss and turn in bed
And ruminates on unkind things
you may have done or said.

Lift up your heart and talk to God,
He has good news for you
And seeing He's awake
all night
He'll know just what to do.

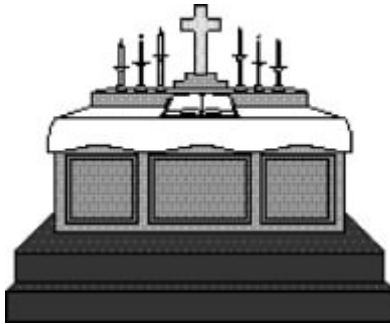
*God my maker
who gives songs
in the night..
Job 35:10*



Not all Altars are in Churches

All altars aren't in churches, friend,
they're where you meet with God;
Sometimes they're by an old highchair
where children sit and nod.
Some folks will find an altar
above their kitchen sink,
Still others are in bed in pain
with lots of time to think.

Some talk to God while shopping
or walking down the street
And God may even help them smile
at people that they meet.
Some talk to God while cleaning floors
and dusting things a bit
For God is listening all the time
and will hear all of it.



We can bow before an altar
in a fancy church or shrine
And hope that God will listen
as we tell Him line by line
About the stuff that bothers us
and how our life is tough
And that we need His grace and love
so we'll have strength enough.

It's nice to go to Church, ya' know,
and hear the people sing
And know that God hears every prayer--
in fact, hears everything.
But lots of prayers aren't said in church--
they're said most anywhere
Where people bow their hearts and minds
and breathe a sincere prayer.



*But God has surely listened and
heard my prayer. Psalm 66:19 and 20*



Tired of Problems

Sometimes I'm tired
of problems, Lord,
that would upset my day
Forgetting that they
come to pass
and do not come to stay.

Forgive me when I fail to see
how richly I am blest
With all the things You've given me
to feather up my nest.

Besides all this I find the things
that I most highly treasure
Are friends You've sent across my path
who bring both love and pleasure.
Without them, Lord, I'd not survive
for life would lose its song
And even more important
is to have You, Lord, along.

So I will keep a happy song
tucked deep within my heart
Assured that things that come my way
won't keep us far apart.
Because I need Your help so much
I know You'll understand
Why I creep up so close to You
until I feel Your Hand.

The Doc's

It seems the Doc's know how to do
a lot of fancy stuff--
They transplant different organs now
and if that's not enough
They replace hips and worn knee joints,
they push and pull with zest,
And always they are trying to do
the treatment that is best.

They order pills they think will help
to cure some bad disease,
And often they prescribe some stuff
to make folks feel at ease.
I don't know how we'd get along
without their help, ya' know,
When parts wear out and pain sets in
and we feel mighty low.

So they take care of flu and gout
and tune us up a bit
Then we find out it isn't long
before we're feeling fit.
But if you have a broken heart
and life is mean and tough
The Doc's advice and
pills you take
just may not be enough.
You may need God to touch
your heart
and make it whole and new
For He's the Great Physician
and He knows just what to do.



*Lift Up Your Voice
and Sing*

Don't live among the shadows, friend,
lift up your voice and sing,
God loves it when we're joyful
and give thanks for every thing.
There is nothing like the sunlight
of God's amazing love
To bathe our heart and cheer our soul
like sunshine from above.

I know some folks have troubles
and find it hard to cope,
It seems they've not discovered
God can give them peace and hope.
But others who believe in God
are on the winning team
For He has made life better--
more than they dared to dream.





Cloudy Skies

Sometimes our skies seem pretty gray
and we start feeling blue
Like we've kinda' hit some speed bumps
so what's a guy to do?
We can either slip into a rut
our anxious thoughts have dug
Or we can sing a song to God
and He'll give us a hug.

Life is kinda' what we make it,
we can sing or we can pout
But if we have a happy heart
it shows from inside out.
So if you find life tough and mean
you need to hum a tune
And if it's from your heart to God
you should feel better soon.

A cheerful heart is good medicine
Proverbs 17:22

Shepherds

I like to see the Christmas cards
that show that Holy Night
When shepherds saw the Christ Child
and stars were shining bright.
But have you noticed they're dressed up
and look so clean and neat?
I doubt if they are barefoot
but have sandals on their feet.

Now when I meditate on this
the thought occurs to me
God chose to send His angels
to some common folks, you see.
The shepherds didn't know that night
they'd hear the angels sing
So they were wearing shepherd's clothes
unaware of anything.

I'd guess they would have tidied up
but with no place to show'r
There wasn't much that they could do
at that near-midnight hour.
But God was looking at their hearts,
not at the clothes they wore
And so He chose some common folks
to worship and adore

His Gift to earth, His only Son,
the very best He had
In hopes there would be peace on earth
and make His followers glad.
And, friend, it is the same today,
God welcomes all who come
And if you give your heart to Him
your soul will sing and hum.



*The shepherds returned, glorifying and
praising God for all the things they had
heard and seen, which were just as they
had been told. Luke 2:20*

What's God Supposed to Do?

Don't treat God like a sickly friend
you visit once a week
For He wants you to keep in touch
and hear the words you speak.
I know it takes some time to pray
and read His Word, you know,
But folks who do this very thing
know it's the way to go.

Somehow they seem to hum a lot
and find God answers prayer
For they have found God listens
and may answer then and there.
Sometimes He answers with a "Yes,"
sometimes He may say "No,"
Sometimes He tells us "Wait a bit,"
but that's okay you know

Because He knows the future
and He sees far, far ahead
And if our God looks after us
we need not live in dread.
So if you're hassled every day
with burdens hard to bear
Just tell the Lord what's in your heart
and then just leave it there.

God has a lot of answers
that He'd like to share with you
But if you seldom talk to Him
what's He supposed to do?
It seems to me if you're stressed out
and really in a bind
You oughta' talk to God a lot
for He gives peace of mind.



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



Perks

I've found there are perks
that you get in this life
If you hang together
as husband and wife
And work toward a goal
that you both want to reach
And do the fun things
so important to each.

I'd just like to mention
a few of the perks
That both can enjoy
in a marriage that works.
You need not be lonely
for someone is there,
It's always more fun
if your heart you can share.

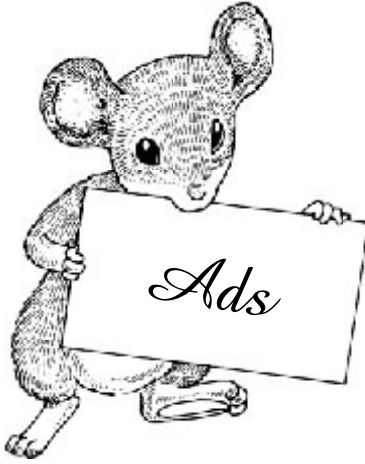
There's someone to care
if you're feeling down low--
They'll do things to help you
to get up and go.

The pains and the aches
get a listening ear,
There's comfort in knowing
another is near.

And then there's the joy
if with children you're blest--
They'll brighten the home
as can no other guest.
The trips that you take
would be lonely and long
If you had no partner
to give it a song.

So folks, hang together,
things sometimes get rough
And if you get thinking
that you've had enough
Hold on to your marriage,
hard times will not last
And 'fore y'all know it
the problems have passed.

The kids will be grateful
to both Mom and Dad
If all hang together
and share the same pad.



Some things that I see advertised
just kinda' tee me off
Because a lot of stuff they claim
won't even cure a cough.
If folks use anti-aging cream
no wrinkle should appear,
And yet I see folks wrinkled up,
why don't they disappear?

And then I see they advertise
a lot of pills and stuff,
It seems if they'd do what they claim
folks should feel up to snuff.
No one would have to lie awake
just counting endless sheep,
They'd take a pill and crawl in bed
then shortly fall asleep.

I know that medicine can cure
a lot of people's ills
But do we really need to take
so many kinds of pills?
I wonder what would happen
if we just ate healthy food--
Would we start feeling better
or would we come unglued?

I wonder if the research folks
would ask the senior group
What really made them live so long--
could it be chicken soup?
Or did they have a song inside
that helped them to relax
And when their heart kept
humming tunes
they lived life to the max?

