

6

*Forgiven
and Happy*





Psalm 103:1,11,12

*Praise the Lord,
O my soul . . .
For as high as the heavens
are above the earth,
so great is his love
for those who fear him,
as far as the east is
from the west
so far has he removed
our transgressions
from us.*

The Psalms

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

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

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



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

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



*Blessed (happy) is he whose transgressions
are forgiven, whose sins are covered.*

Psalm 32:1



To think that I'm a child of God
just almost blows my mind,
But if you read the Scriptures, friend,
this concept you will find.

The folks who choose to follow Christ
are in God's family tree
And that's as good as it can get
for folks like you and me.

Some people try a lot of stuff
to make their lives complete
But if you have no peace of mind
God's love is hard to beat.

Don't try to make your way alone
when life is mean and tough,
Techniques that you have tried for years
just may not be enough.

So trust in God, hold to His Hand
and give to Him your heart,
You'll wonder why you took so long
to make this kind of start.

The folks who really love the Lord
have 'something up their sleeve'
That's given them a happy heart
and helped them to believe.

So think on this a little bit
and don't too long delay--
It's great to be a child of God
and share His love each day.

*to those who believe
in his name, he gave
the right to become
children of God
John 1:12*





It must please God an awful lot
when people smile and sing
And have a heart that's full of love
with thanks for everything.
They don't request a lot of stuff
they really do not need
Nor do they write a big long list
to hand to God to read.

It's really kinda' strange, you know,
how some folks stew and fret
And worry over lots of things
they really should forget.
How happy are the trusting folks
who really give to God
Their present and their future, too,
till angels give their nod.

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'll know 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 get a good night's rest.



*... if you hold
anything against
anyone, forgive
him Mark 11:25*

Laughter



Have you a good sense
of humor
as you live from day to day
Or do you find it's hard to laugh
no matter what folks say?
If you can't snicker now and then
and even laugh out loud
You may not be invited much
to join a happy crowd.

Laughter is good medicine,
it makes your mind relax--
I wonder if it might prevent
some future heart attacks.
To laugh a lot relaxes you
and helps your blood flow free,
It's good for body, mind, and soul
and doctors will agree.

But if you want to live uptight
and hassle stress and strain
The chances are you'll feel depressed
and often will complain.
Why not try laughing every day
and smile at folks you meet?
It might bring joy into your life
and that is hard to beat.

Try Forgiveness

I guess I'll always be amazed--
 when Christ was crucified
By people He had fed and healed,
 then just before He died
He asked God to forgive them
 “for they know not what they do,”
No one but Jesus would do that,
 then He forgave them, too.

We know that Jesus died for all
 who will His Word obey
And though it made folks happy then
 it's still the same today.
There's nothing like forgiveness
 that can set your spirit free
And fill your cup with happiness
 the way it oughta' be.

So next time you are angry
 and folks rankle you a bit
Forgive 'em for the whole nine yards
 and then be through with it.





*What
Would
Happen
If . . . ?*

If everyone was happy
would it put folks out of work?
What would they do with all the pills
that one buys from a clerk?
Would Ely Lilly, Merck, and Squibb
who make those tons of meds
Lay people off because they'd find
the sick aren't in their beds?

If no one had a headache
or no stress of any kind
Psychologists and therapists
some other work would find.
The Doc's who treat folk's ulcers
and the ever-beating heart
Could also have much less to do--
would their job fall apart?

This might affect the lawyers, too,
their work load would decrease
For happy families don't divorce--
they live in love and peace.
They also wouldn't bring a suit
against their fellowman,
They'd reconcile their differences
and do the best they can.

The folks who make the booze and drugs
would also give pink slips
For if you're happy you don't need
that stuff to touch your lips.
Police would find much less to do,
the jailer could relax;
If everyone was happy, folks,
we'd live life to the max.



School

I know you've heard of schools of fish,
I wonder, does that mean
No other creatures God has made
has any classroom seen?
Who teaches little birds to sing
or kittens how to purr,
Or koala bears to sit on limbs
while holding mother's fur?
The elephants and kangaroos
all know what they should do
And none of them have gone to school
but they are right smart, too.
I've thought about this for a while
and this is what I guess
God introduced home-schooling
and made it a success.





I like the common people
for they make good sense to me;
They really know what life's about
this you can plainly see.
They promise things and keep their word;
they look you in the eye,
For most of them are first class folks--
not those who cheat and lie.
They have a view that's pretty smart
on issues of the day,
On politics and woman's lib
they've quite a bit to say.
They seem to know what works in life
and what is bound to fail,
They don't waste time on worrying
and seldom are in jail.
They much prefer to spend their time
on things that count a lot;
They teach their kids important stuff
so they won't go to pot.
They also teach them how to pray
and how to trust in God,
And when their kids are doing well
they smile and give a nod.
If you can pick your parents
you are mighty smart to choose
A common man and woman
who are upright in their views.



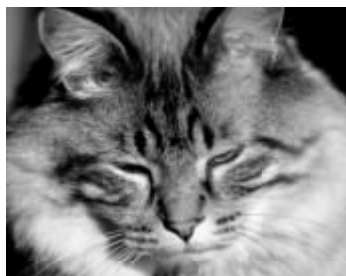
Tough Days

Sometimes our days are kinda' tough,
we feel depressed and blue,
We're really not on top th' heap
so what's a guy to do?
It's not too smart to sit and cry
and wallow in our plight,
There must be something we can do
to make things turn out right.

Now when I wonder what to do
and think on it a while
It seems the best thing we can do
is give the world a smile.
And if we're smiling through and through
our attitude will change
And we'll start counting blessings
which really isn't strange

For when one has a happy heart
and counts his blessings, too,
He's bound to rise above the storm
and feel his strength renew.
So don't succumb to lousy days,
get up and do your part,
God wants to fill your cup and then
you'll have a joyful heart.

Sleep



When I was just a little kid
I heard of young Boy Blue
Who wasn't too ambitious
when there was work to do.
The story goes that when he should
have tended to the sheep
He just hid beneath a haystack
and lay there "fast asleep."

Does this mean that he dropped right off
as soon as eyes were closed
And had no dreams or nightmares
as he lay there fast and dozed?
I've never heard of "slow sleep"
although that well may be
The way a lot of folks drop off
perhaps like you and me.

And if a guy is "sound asleep"
does he not make a sound?
Or does it mean he snores and talks
to get himself unwound?
Perhaps I'll never figure out
the if's and and's of sleep,
It just might be I'd have less stress
if I'd just count some sheep.

The Seniors

By the time folks get near eighty
they have learned a lot of stuff
And yet in our fast-moving world
sometimes it's not enough
To keep us up on top th' heap
with things we oughta' know,
But it could be we struggle some
because our steps are slow.

And I would guess another thing
that slows us down a bit
Is that we've figured some things out
as in our chair we sit.
We see success for what it is,
we watch folks at the top
And find that those who always rush
just may not want to stop.

It's hard to smell the flowers
if you're always on the run
And folks who are too busy
well may miss the setting sun.
The oldsters who have lived a while
may have it figured out
Why God put us on planet earth
and why we're here no doubt.

So don't ignore the older folks
and think they are not smart
For they have learned a lot of things
that they keep in their heart.
It just might be when life is tough
and you've a rainy day
You'll find they have a list'ning ear
and like the things they say.



*It's hard to smell the flowers
if you're always on the run.*

*The
Vet*



A doctor who treats animals
must really be quite smart
For animals can't tell the Doc
if it's it's head or heart
That makes it feel down in the dumps
with head a' hangin' low,
And if their tail is dragging, too,
they're pretty sick, you know.

The Vet can't understand meows,
a whinny, or a bark,
I've never heard a ferret talk
when it hides in the dark.
It must upset the Doc a bit
when he just has to guess
About the medicine he gives--
should it be more or less?

When treatment is a guessing game
for those that cannot speak
And if the Vet says, "Open wide
so I can take a peek"
The animal may eye the Vet
and wonder what he said
And even give a wistful look
with heart that's full of dread.

I know I could not be a Vet,
I know I'd sorry be
When cats, or dogs, or horses
would look wistfully at me.
No doubt I'd have to specialize
on those that can be heard
And only treat just parrots
and the talking myna bird.



Granny-proof

I find some stuff is Granny-proof
I try to break into,
When stuff is wrapped up very tight
what should we oldsters do?
If we take paring knife in hand
or get our scissors out
We still will hassle quite a while
to open stuff, no doubt.

The plastic that we have now days
is really pretty tough;
When Granny's try to open things
it makes 'em huff and puff.
But if we had no plastic wrap,
no plastic bags, and such
It sure would foul our living up
for we use them so much.
So I will worry not a whit,
I'll use that plastic stuff
Because in my retirement
I sure have time enough.





Some folks like home cooking and get in their car
And travel the highway--no matter how far

To find a cafe that has good stuff to eat
That tastes like home cooking and that's
hard to beat.

When dinner is finished they're stuffed to the gills
And out comes the wallet to pay all the bills.

Of course they're expected to tip ten percent
Or maybe fifteen, it depends where they went.

But I've often wondered if we want good food
Why not stay at home and feed all the brood

And make it a special whole family affair
That's really home-cooked by everyone there?