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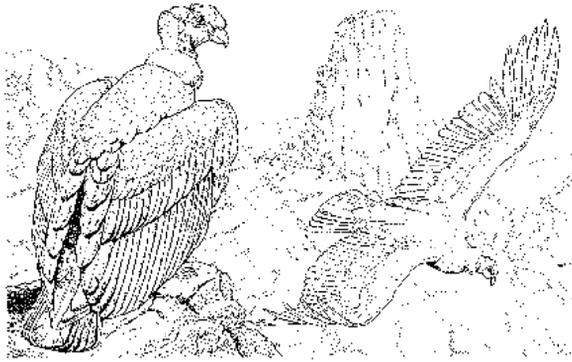
*Forever
Faithful*



*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

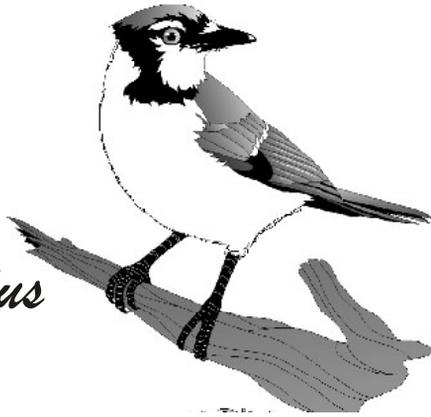


A woman who was sick for years
and doctors could not cure,
One day snuck up where Jesus preached
with faith so strong and sure,
For she had said within herself
if she could only feel
The garment Jesus wore that day
she knew that He could heal.
With trembling hands she stooped and touched
Christ's robe 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.

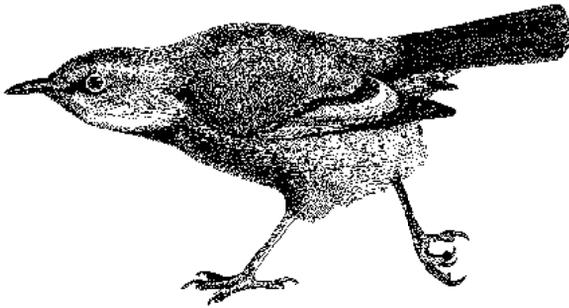
I know you've heard of all the plagues
'way back in Sunday School
How Pharaoh let his heart get hard
and really played the fool

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.

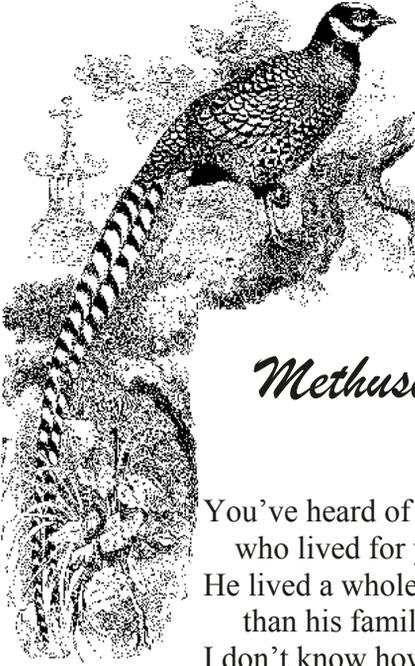
So there were folks who hated Him
and tried to do Him in
Because their hearts were full of pride,
hypocrisy, and sin.

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.

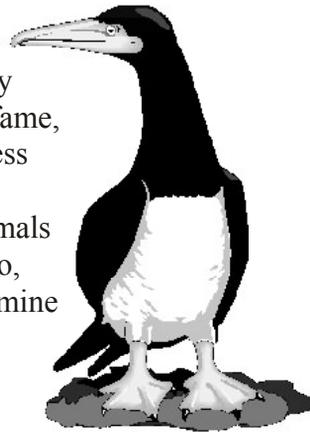
*I have come that they may have life
and have it to the full. John 10:10*

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

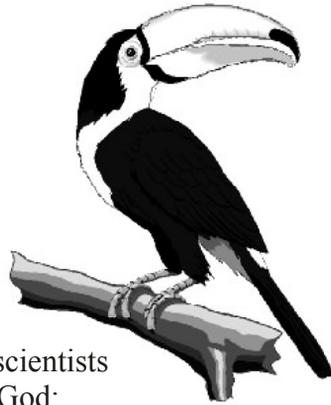
Now the holidays are over
 and our tree is put away
 We've gathered lots of mem'ries
 to think on another day.
 The Christmas cards
 I have not packed,
 I'll take another look
 For if one reads them once again
 it's like a Christmas book.
 We've heard of peace on earth, you know,
 and good will unto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