



# **COVENANT'S PROMISE**

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# COVENANT'S PROMISE

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**JOEL DAVID KILGORE**

JOEL DAVID KILGORE  
2024

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## Dedication

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The contents of this book are dedicated to:

Every recipient of the gift itself. God granted this gift of poetry for His purpose. Mine is just to write unconditionally and not impede the spirit.

To God for trusting me with gift of poetry that calls unto his spirit and binds itself into the lives of the readers.



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## Acknowledgements

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God has bestowed a gift of poetry upon me. This is certainly not a brag, it is not a burden, it is a passion. I am passionate about the gift. The gift, however, is not for me. It is literally for everyone else.

## About the Author

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Joel David Kilgore has been writing poetry for over four decades. What started as a prayer of faith blossomed to a spiritual burden to carry out and complete. However, writing poetry of this kind is never complete because in his understanding, it derives from God's spirit which is never-ending. Many of the poems in the book were personally handed to recipients through greeting cards, in a signed book, or in an email as a word of encouragement.

At the early age of 16 years old Joel prayed for the gift of poetry. At the same age Joel was called to the front of a church service he was attending under H Richard Hall and ordained as a Pentecostal Holiness minister. The ordination spurred a spiritual fire within Joel that fed a flame within him to minister. However, Joel took a different course in life and served in the US Air Force as a Telecommunications Technician for 22 years. The desire to minister never diminished, but instead, re-emerged within the gift of poetry. Within these texts, the passion for ministry combined with the spiritual gift of poetry, springs life within the verses that praises, encourages, inspires, and transcends God's essence to the reader. Although Joel feels he cannot take any credit for the poetry due to it being a gift from God, he acknowledges being obedient to the gift.

Joel has often said that it is difficult, at times, to write if he isn't around people. This claim, in his understanding, is that God's spirit within people dictate the poem. If there is no one in spiritual need, then he does not often feel a burden to write poetry. And yet he feels every soul is burdened to a point of seeking delivery, even his own. In The Holy Bible, Romans 3:23 "For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;" In Joel's view, no one except Jesus Christ can ever be perfect. All else are imperfect in

their own way. To this end, all imperfections are made perfect through God's spirit. The poetry he writes, if deemed perfect by any reader, is only perfect through the spirit of God. If there is one impression that he can leave by publishing poetry, it is for the reader to pick up their bible, read, and pray.





## Preface

---

At an early age of 16 years old I prayed in faith to Christ for the ability to write poetry. Not just any poetry, but a gift that would bind hearts back to God and explain God's mysteries. I never wanted to receive credit for any of the writings, but rather wanted to acknowledge that the gift was from God, and he only should receive any recognition for any poem received. God answered the prayer, and I began to write. When writing begins, I feel an inward draw to document the poem. It is as if the poem is being born and is alive, but also has always existed. The draw, or rather God's spirit's call "pulls" at my spirit, and I generally hear only the first few words as I begin to write. What follows is the rest of the poem, word-by-word, and line-by-line. I cannot change the writings nor forcibly try to write. With that reasoning, I do not feel that I am the true author for any of the poems within this book. God is the true author, and I am merely the vessel of delivery for these texts.

I thank God for His spirit, I thank God for His presence, and I thank God for His gifts.



## Introduction

---

This is the third book of poetry in association with “The Spirit’s Call”. Although most poems are written in a first-person singular fashion, they were in fact written for specific individuals in what I can only label as their spirit’s voice. If the poem indicates the writer to be a specific gender, keep in mind that the poem was written as I heard God’s spirit speak.

If any of the readers of this small book can find a word of encouragement, then it is very worth all the effort in compiling and publishing. The gifts from God are not driven or owned by the recipients, but rather a charge to acknowledge and let them manifest and minister in the spirit of the gift. God allowed me a gift of poetry, and I pray to always keep in mind and heart that the gift is not for my benefit, but for and to those of whom the spirit of God touches.

This book contains poems written to or for individuals, in prayer or praise to God, or just in general. The poems in this book were written for various occasions and a variety of subjects. All poems are listed by title, in alphabetical order.

. There are a few poems that spell out the title or a message by reading the first letter or word of every line. God has allowed some creativity, but not so much as to detract from the poem’s message.

## COVENANT'S PROMISE

JOEL DAVID KILGORE

COVENANT'S PROMISE

---



The Art of Life

What life is to art  
Art is to life,  
Life without art  
Is life full of strife,

Yet life in its art  
Is purest in form,  
It raises and lifts  
And escapes all the norms,

Life's full of love  
Life's full of light,  
Life has its depths  
Life has its heights,

Life has a life  
A life of its own,  
Which started of faith  
And comes from God's throne,

Life as we know  
Will give us great joy,  
If we embrace  
With love to deploy,

In all life we breathe  
In all life we see,  
In all life we hear  
It's must to believe,

That life as we know  
Is from God's own heart,  
And from just one word  
All life did start,

In the beginning  
God spoke his plan,  
Which spurred all of life  
For woman and man,

And God with his spirit  
And God through his might,  
Started it all  
With "Let there be light..."



The Care

Watching every aspect  
Of what I find to do,  
Trusting in my training  
To carry the task true,

The patients that I care for  
Trust and know my name,  
And know that I will aid them  
With little or no pain,

Every patient cared for  
Leaves in best of care,  
For this is my life's mission  
When they sit in my chair.

## The Color of Freedom

I thought I saw a color  
Of red, of white, of blue,  
I thought I heard of freedom  
Which frees both me and you,

I thought I heard a war cry  
It cried out loud and long,  
It cried throughout the battle  
At the end was freedom's song,

I looked at all the bravery  
I looked and saw the blood,  
It was then I realized  
I looked at freedom's flood,

For every soul in battle  
That stands for freedom's throws,  
The gift of their life's essence  
It's how every battle goes,

At the end of war cries  
And all the battles won,  
There is left a color  
That glimpses in the sun,

That is freedom's color  
Its hues will never fade,  
It triumphs all the battles  
And then just peace remains.

The Deeper Truth

Truth at times evades us  
Yet sometimes will persuade us,  
Truth is all around us  
And often thrives inside us,

Truth is more than knowing  
Of what was done or said,  
It has a deeper meaning  
Of what is heard or read,

It's more than that of action  
In pureness as it seems,  
It has a bond within us  
And of our soul it gleans,

The truth of knowing truthfulness  
Lays within God's power,  
And when we finally see it  
We'll rejoice in that hour,

In the truth of spirit  
Is how to worship God,  
When we know this meaning  
God gives his spirit's nod,

We can learn this lesson  
When we kneel to pray,  
And pray to God believing  
And do this every day,

God knows our hearts' intentions  
He knows the mind we keep,  
He knows of what we're tempted  
He knows our thoughts in sleep,

He knows if we will see Him  
In our heart and mind,  
He knows if we will hear Him  
Each and every time,

There is in verse a lesson  
That we have heard from youth,  
The only way to worship  
Is in spirit and in truth,

So, open up your bible  
And read the words so true,  
Then you'll know the meaning  
Of the deeper truth.

From Earth to God

Lord, I prayed a prayer today  
I asked if you were there,  
And I'm among your children  
So, I asked how much you care,

Here on earth are troubles so  
Many I have seen,  
They are in many types and forms  
Some from those so mean,

But in the restless of my prayer  
I hoped you would respond,  
And tell me true that you are there  
So I can carry on,

You and angels I can't see  
And yet I hope it's true,  
That you are there, and they are sent  
As messengers from you,

In despair I pray again  
For just a word to hear,  
Then feel you in my heart and soul  
To really know you're near,

So this time when I pray dear lord  
Tell me of your love,  
That I will feel it in my heart  
And honor you above.

From God to Earth

I am vast in every way  
But few do look and see,  
All that lives, that moves, that breathes  
Reside inside of me,

On earth I've placed a prize of mine  
To make my family,  
If they look and call to me  
I'll set their spirits free,

All of my creations vast  
In the vast of universe,  
Are of my will by my design  
The celestials rehearse,

All time and all dimensions  
Are brought to me and rest,  
For there I am also  
And will be through time's test,

Every prayer you pray to me  
Does not go unheard,  
And every thought you speak or think  
I hear every word,

Never am I far from you  
For in me do you live,  
So speak to me believing so  
Of me, I will give.

The Great "I Am"

Of all the time I've had on earth  
To live within God's realm,  
I've learned of faith years ago  
And asked he take the helm,

I know he is the king of kings  
The savior of mankind,  
He is the prince of peace you see  
Within my heart and mind,

My love for God is stronger than  
Anything I know,  
His love for me is stronger yet  
And through that faith, I grow,

All of me is all of him  
Our spirits are combined,  
I in him and him in me  
We are intertwined,

Faith in God is knowing him  
That he will always be,  
And he is loving dear to us  
His spirit sets us free,

A simple prayer he will hear  
As in him we live,  
If we ask in faithfulness  
He will always give,

His love is great, his spirit just  
His judgement is so pure,  
That all we do and all we are  
Are of his spirit's cure,

As I live this life of life's  
And wonder what I am,  
I'll always know that where I go  
I'm in the great "I Am".



The Hands of Time

I hear a tick  
I hear a tock,  
As three hands  
Go round the clock,

I see the sun  
I see the moon,  
I see midnight  
I see high noon,

I hear of birth  
I hear of death,  
And shall each day  
Until I rest,

Each day I find  
More things to do,  
And such is life  
Until it's through,

The hands of time  
Keep ticking on,  
From day to day  
Of them I'm fond

I need all time  
That comes my way,  
For things I do  
I see, I say.

## The Heart's Wait

I see your picture from afar  
I know that you are there,  
You have become my heartfelt star  
And a solitude I bear,

I hear your voice within my head  
I hold it in my heart,  
I read and hear of what you've said  
From it I do not part,

Although we are both far away  
The distance is but nil,  
For time and space can't break away  
From that we in heart feel,

To find and know each other's way  
Is where we present be,  
To learn the life of each our path  
And of each other see,

As we long from day to day  
To see each other clear,  
We both hold dear to what we say  
Until the day we're near,

Then the joy that comes with love  
That flows from heaven's gate,  
When each we hold so fast in heart  
Until that time - - the heart's wait.

The Hereafter

In all of eternity  
There is a rhythm's beat,  
That links our hearts & spirits  
To God's kingdom's seat,

The master of creation  
That made all that we see,  
Has given us His grace  
To be in His spirit free,

In this life we lived in  
Were cares and awful woes,  
But in His great hereafter  
No sadness e'er does toll,

Our lives there are in heaven  
Yet on new earth to be,  
And from all earthly worries  
Our lives from it are free,

All that we have worries  
All that we have feared,  
Aren't in the hereafter  
With never ending years.

*In Memory of  
James Eugene Newman  
April 8, 1944 to Jan 1, 2024*

I Praise the Lord

I praise the Lord in morning time  
I hear his spirit true,  
I know his love divine and pure  
He leads in all I do,

I see him in my nighttime prayer  
As to his grace I call,  
To know the love he has for me  
And give to him my all,

As days pass by and years move on  
I keep him in my sight,  
His love is deep, his spirit's true  
I worship day and night,

God has given life to me  
What to him can I give?  
Just to hold his spirit dear  
And keep my heart so near,

With all the praise my heart can sing  
With worship of my soul,  
God will lead me to his realm  
And there I shall be whole.

Joyful Life

There is a place in life to be  
With every day I'm living,  
To keep my mood and make my ways  
And keeps me happily giving,

I have a pet, a dog you see  
He is my other self,  
We play, we stay we laugh and cuddle  
Him, I'll never shelf,

Then there's mom so dear to me  
She is no longer here,  
But now in heaven, as she should be  
Someday, I'll see her there,

All of life is good you see  
I enjoy each day,  
Regardless of the rain or shine  
My joy is here to stay.

## The Mended Soul

I grasp, I reach, I ponder  
At what I could have been,  
At times my soul will wander  
Of what I know as sin,

In oft I am not happy  
With life as it will be,  
In that I know in true form  
It isn't as I see,

Sometimes my eyes see dimly  
Of that which God does bring,  
The joy and happy merit  
My heart does fail to sing,

There is a happy moment  
If I could only grasp,  
And hold it with endearment  
To which would be life's task,

There is a great blue yonder  
With skies of shining gold,  
And streets that shine of Glory  
In heaven I am told,

But with this life of merit  
I may not always see,  
The beauty and the glory  
Of what God has for me,

## COVENANT'S PROMISE

Some tell me that he loves me  
But this I do not know,  
Until I finally meet him  
And with him I will go,

Yet sometimes from a stranger  
That knows the God I seek,  
Can carry me a message  
So humbly and so meek,

To tell me of a savior  
Who died and rose again,  
He died for sins to pardon  
So life would never end,

And then perhaps this stranger  
Should tell me I should seek,  
This savior in a simple prayer  
When e'er I'm feeling weak,

Then tell me of the glory  
Within a simple prayer,  
Which asks of God to meet me  
And he will meet me there,

For though I think it daunting  
It isn't really so,  
For Jesus is the savior  
Who knows all heaven's flow,

So, if I choose to meet him  
In a little prayer,  
He'll be there beside me  
For he is always there.

## Miracle of Birth

The birth of newborn-mothered child  
Brings wellness to the soul,  
It sparks great joys in gladness  
It makes the family whole,

The sight of caring mothers  
With tender child in arms,  
Her gestures swiftly tell you  
She'll keep the child from harms,

This tender-caring mother  
Knows her baby's cries,  
Of hunger or of other  
In heart, her baby lies,

The miracle of newborns  
Is more than just a birth,  
But gives such greater meaning  
Of why we're all on earth.



The Misread

With you have we laughed  
With you have we sang,  
With you have we spake  
Each phone we often rang,

Today I feel the sorrow  
A voice no longer heard,  
A voice I will be missing  
A voice that says no word,

Yet in my deepest sorrow  
In that you've gone away,  
Your soul is in God's bosom  
And that is there to stay,

And though I know your comfort  
In that God has your soul,  
I will greatly miss you  
And this, I believe you know.

To Mom

I think of you when you were there  
And in my heart, I carry,  
Just to know you're with the Lord  
My soul does long and tarry,

You may not be at my side  
But in my heart, you're there,  
I see you in my mind's eye  
For you, I'll always care,

If I could have a single wish  
That in this life it'd be,  
It'd be to see you once again  
And know your soul is free,

My love for you, it will not fade  
Nor ever go away,  
I'll keep you close to my heart  
Till my end of days.

Mom's Birthday

It's been awhile since I last wrote  
I'm sending you this little note,  
To tell you that I love you so  
And sometimes I do not let you know,

I love you dearly from my heart  
You hold a special place,  
I think from birth did this love start  
No one can invade that space,

I hold you high in my esteem  
You are more than just a mother,  
You've been a friend to me in need  
And helped me like no other,

You want for me to be myself  
To grow as all I can,  
I want for you much happiness  
More than you can stand,

I rejoice the day that you were born  
A gift God gave to me,  
For you to be just as you are  
Caring so lovingly.

## Mom's Special Day

On this special birthday  
As all yours surely are,  
I take this opportunity  
To wish you well from far,

I thank God for His mercies  
His faith so tried and true,  
I thank God for His blessings  
I thank my God for you,

More than just a birthday  
Does this day mean to me,  
But this day I do celebrate  
Without it there would not be me,

I ask God for his blessings  
His hand upon your life,  
His smile unto your very heart  
That you find no sorrowed strife,

Every moment tells me  
What fortunes I've received,  
The life of God surrounds me  
From the moment I believed,

My heart cannot find sorrow  
In this world of woe and care,  
As I look to each tomorrow  
And see you standing there,

## COVENANT'S PROMISE

With every fleeting second  
My heart beats yet anew,  
When I think of you my mother  
of all you've said, you do,

I thank the Lord for living  
This life and all its due,  
As far as who I am though mom  
For that I must thank you.

## More Than Mom

When times of past I think about  
Of when you were always there,  
I felt the hope without doubt  
Of how deep you always cared,

When I felt hurt, or I felt pain  
Your comfort was so pure,  
If I were sick or went without  
You always found the cure,

In troubled times I never knew  
That you had known my way,  
Yet silence kept until I asked  
Then you had the words to say,

Today we always celebrate,  
The day of your young birth,  
With joy of heart, song in spirit  
We celebrate with mirth,

More than Mom you've always been  
But close to know my soul,  
As with my siblings to that end  
Which seemed to be your goal.

The Mother of Generations

A year less than a century  
This woman born to man,  
Grew rich and kind thru the years  
Kept family close at hand,

She raised her kids with warmth and love  
She kept them from harm's way,  
She loved them dearly every one  
She helped them learn and play,

As they grew, they carried on  
And found their own true mates,  
With love and kindness, they would raise  
Children to their age,

As years came and years passed by  
The children grew, matured,  
The mother of her own and grand  
Through the years endured,

In her lifetime, life she gave  
To children small and grand,  
In generation's time she was  
A mom to child and man,

Though she's gone she remains  
In our thoughts our hearts,  
The life she lived and life she gave  
Will not from time, to part,

We hold her high in memory  
Of all that she was fond,  
And hold her till our journey's end  
Her memory carries on.



Mother's Care

Every child upon this earth  
Needs a mother's love,  
And every mother to be found  
Needs wisdom from above,

At times a child will try you  
To test your every wit,  
At times a child will give you love  
In everything that's fit,

Now mothers are quite dear in heart  
To raise a child to grow,  
With love, warmth, and patient care  
A seed in them they'll sow,

How great its it to be the one  
Who reaches to the heart,  
To mold and shape a character  
Then from it never part.

## The Mother's Touch

Her voice is soft and simple  
Soothing to the heart,  
Her touch is warmth of caress  
You feel her calm impart,

She listens to your story  
She hears and understands,  
Herself, she seeks no glory  
She serves both God and man,

Her life is filled with 'What Ifs'  
From patients, family, friends,  
She answers all with soft lips  
And then impatience ends,

In life she is a mother  
With children of her own,  
In spirit she's a daughter  
Spurned from God's own throne,

She'll listen to your troubles  
Then lead to resolute,  
And take you from the 'What Ifs'  
To the solid truths,

In all of her surroundings  
With each God given day,  
She renders such a mother's touch  
Cause that is just her way.

The Mother's Mentor

Helping others once to see  
The things new life needs, to be,  
How to cope, how to breathe  
How to make one's worry ease,

How to change from stress to calm  
How to make a heartfelt balm,  
How to hold and not to scold  
How to deal with dreary yawn,

A mentor to the mothers be  
This person that they go to see,  
Who'll teach them from her living years  
Of what she's learned and what she's feared,

To open up the new frontier  
Of babies born and babies reared,  
How to hold and sweet caress  
How to calmly clean the mess,

When the teaching's said and done  
New prospective mothers won,  
To find the treasure in each day  
While raising child, through work, and play.

## Mount Hope

Nestled in the hills  
Under West Virginia skies,  
Is a little sleepy town  
It is where Mount Hope lies,

It's not suburban busy  
Few traffic lights at all,  
And most the people there  
Can stand inside Town Hall,

The hustle and the bustle  
Is only Sunday morn,  
When people wear their Sunday best  
As it is still there worn,

Our streets will light at Christmas  
To show the Christmas theme,  
With frozen icy overtones  
With ice that seems to gleam,

Our town will never scurry  
Make haste to end the day,  
But rather we enjoy it  
We'd rather live this way,

It may seem to you sleepy  
Our little town Mount Hope,  
But to us it's comfort home  
We do not jest or poke,

## COVENANT'S PROMISE

From sunrise till the sundown  
Our moments pass with glee,  
Our lives are filled with blessings  
With friends and family,

If ever you would travel  
To find a place serene,  
Come visit us in Mount Hope  
And enjoy nature's scene.

## My Birthday

I mark the day of happy  
Of which my life began,  
It marks my day of dawning  
The day of who I am,

I find the day a pleasure  
To see another year,  
Has flown by me a passing  
I celebrate and cheer,

In all my days a living  
I find this day so true,  
It sometimes will define me,  
In all I say and do,

When these days are on me  
I'm more than I would be,  
With all the days a passing  
In all the days I see,

This day I speak, is Birthday  
It's a day so fine,  
I'm glad to know it's passing  
Comes one year at a time.

My Dearest Son

My son and my dearest  
Left this life we live,  
His life was with some hardship  
Although his soul did give,

He gave to nation's service  
To keep us all so safe,  
He loved to serve this nation  
In his serving place,

Dark clouds came to gather  
And then they took their toll,  
I lost my son to darkness  
He never shall grow old,

But now his soul's in heaven  
Where clouds will never be,  
And though he is not near me  
His spirit I do see,

I shall always know him  
For me, he's still my son,  
It makes my soul so happy  
That eternity he's won!

## My Dream of Life

Wandering through life  
With every special moment,  
Touching the highlights  
And of myself, to own it,

Each day I see is new  
In ever changing dreams,  
My worries far and few  
Within this life of schemes,

I wake to every day  
And think it will be great,  
Not fearing if I fail  
I stay in steady state,

My life is more than me  
But friends and family too,  
Of loved ones that I hold  
I know them to be true,

Each night that I dream  
I dream of living life,  
And of this life I dream  
I dream it with no strife,

With every waking day  
And every dreaming night,  
I wake up to my dream  
And keep it in my sight.



My Golden Years

One then two then three then four  
I count my daily chores,  
Sometimes I miss a count or two  
Sometimes I miss more,

It didn't use to be that way  
I'd never miss a beat,  
But failing health took a toll  
Its future I will greet,

In my youth I stood so tall  
My strength was all of me,  
Now that I'm old and lingered on  
Sometimes I fail to see,

In my mind I'm still quite young  
Though years have crept on past,  
I ask myself on daily turns  
How long will this life last?

In slips and slides and walks and strides  
I find some movements slow,  
In my daily walk you see  
I fear I have grown old,

I have memories of the past  
At times I think them now,  
It looks to me their presence be  
With me as time allows,

In my golden time of life  
I would there be no fears,  
So, if you ask me what I ail  
It's just my Golden Years.

## My Health

In morning and in evening  
I think about my day,  
Of what I will e'er listen  
Of what will come my way,

Perhaps I shall see sorrow?  
Perhaps great joy within?  
Perhaps rain or sunshine?  
Perhaps a goal to win?

There is always something  
That keeps my mind so keen,  
Of thoughts I often ponder  
Of what my mind has seen,

The people that I talk to  
The messages I've read,  
The news in breaking moments  
The words I would have said,

But in my darkest hours  
Or when I'm in despair,  
I find I turn to Jesus  
And meet him in a prayer,

IN morning and the evening  
I choose to be myself,  
In life there is no other  
To look out for my health.

My Life

Upon a recognition  
Of things close to my life,  
My family comes first  
Then it is my life,

I find a revelation  
In what I am to be,  
When I look more closely  
So understandingly,

All of life's not certain  
But certain is my choice,  
Of what I choose to live for  
And what I choose to voice,

My children are important  
My health will carry through,  
My life is here to live for  
The things I choose to do.

My Little Image

I have a little image  
She is sweet as can be,  
She looks to me for guidance  
She looks o me for me,

She sounds much like I used to  
She thinks she is so grown,  
I see myself within her  
I know she is my own,

She is my little precious  
I see her every day,  
I look each day to raise her  
In every loving way,

If you ever see her  
You'll know just what I mean,  
She is a little image  
Of what I used to be.

My Prayer

In love of life and listful things  
I find myself in prayer,  
Not for glory nor for gain  
But of the things I care,

I pray for all my family  
I pray for all my friends,  
I pray for patience's countenance  
I pray God meet me there,

I pray about the anger hold  
Of which I would deny,  
To be of my God's countenance  
Is my spirit's cry,

I pray for love and laughter  
I pray for things unknown,  
I pray at times in dead of night  
I pray unto God's throne,

In my prayers to the king  
I pray to be less me,  
And of the things his spirit brings  
In all that I can be.

## My Precious Bundle

This life I hold is precious  
She means a world to me,  
I hold and feel her heartbeat  
In her eyes, life I see,

She's little and yet mighty  
She has a lion's roar,  
And if you ever hear her  
You would think that for sure,

She is my precious angel  
She's changed my way of life,  
It's no longer me and Mrs.  
It's me, my child, and wife,

Every waking moment  
In which, of her I hold,  
I find those moments dearest  
More rich, than all world's gold,

She is my little sweetheart  
With all her smiles and cries,  
She's filled my life with laughter  
And my heart with binding ties.

My Son

With open eyes I see him  
Watch everything, he does,  
I see myself within him  
He's everything I was,

Daily I will watch him  
As he learns and grows,  
Every moment precious  
I'm amazed at what he knows,

I see him in the future  
Of what I think he'll be,  
A scholar and a gentleman  
With a spirit true and free,

He is a life fulfilling  
To hold him in my care,  
And help him be who he would be  
I'm always to be there,

A life to me is family  
A mother to her child,  
The meaning of is very clear  
Yet tender and so mild,

The moments we endure in life  
Are weighed with just our heart,  
The love our family brings to us  
We never wish it part.

## My Son Ryan

The days of all my memberance  
I think upon my son,  
In all his life there is a trait  
In which this world is won,

Not from impropriety  
Not from gold nor gain,  
But vast within his spirit clear  
This world will live and gain,

When this life is living clear  
And all has come to pass,  
I know my son will lead in truth  
And give unto the last,

God has given true to me  
A thing I've come to know,  
That truth will be in his life  
The more he gains and grows,

With every meditation clear  
In which are in y thoughts,  
I thank my God for what he's done  
And what's in Ryan wrought,

To God I give a thankfulness  
Because it's come quite clear,  
He has a work for him to do  
Aside from faithless fear.



My Soul's Silence

In the time I have on earth  
I live among such men,  
That try the patience that I have  
Of which I don't know when,

But when I'm tried I think of love  
And what it means to me,  
Then my patience carries on  
And anger from me flees,

As such I say to all that asks  
Of why I am this way,  
It's how I choose to carry self  
And will in all my days,

Control of self is utmost best  
When toils and troubles cast,  
To keep one's own self-respect  
When adverse tries to last,

To all who ask just how to be  
When troubles come their way,  
Just look to God above  
Be silent, then just pray.

## My Soul's Yearn

I love my Lord he calls to me  
He calls me by my name,  
His spirit reaches out to me  
I reach to him the same,

He holds my heart of dedication  
My mind with strength of word,  
My spirit armed with his love  
My soul yearns that I've heard,

He gives me guidance through the day  
In all I say and do,  
He leads me to his perfect way  
His love will carry through,

His presence makes me kneel and pray  
To him I give my all,  
I ask him 'Lord please show the way'  
He will not let me fall,

I am his daughter in all truth  
His love has drawn my soul,  
I give him all, my age, my youth  
And take on heaven's goal.

My Story, My Thoughts

I thought that I should grab a pen  
And write my feelings down,  
I did not know just how it'd go  
Be it smile or frown,

With pen in hand and paper blank  
I began to write,  
I'd write of inner feelings  
Of things I'd see with sight,

I'd write of tears a falling  
I'd write of joyous glee,  
I'd write of spirits calling  
I'd write of you and me,

I'd write till poem was written  
Or of a story told,  
I'd write of love once smitten  
Or of streets of gold,

I find in all my writing  
That stories always grow,  
Their meaning never ending  
And never are they old,

If you write keep writing  
And let all others read,  
The meaning of your stories  
And of their message heed.

## My Walk

Boldly I approach the throne  
I kneel unto my God,  
I sing Him praises, sing His psalms  
Of His spirit I applaud,

His grace He gives abundantly  
His love is to my soul,  
His statutes true do make me free  
His spirit makes me whole,

He tells me truth with soft rebuke  
If I should wave or err,  
He has a burden light and soft  
Of that which I must bear,

His words of love do whisk my soul  
Towards His place of rest,  
His angels, they surround me so  
When I am put to test,

My love for Him is of my life  
He's all there is to me,  
He guards me with His spirit true  
As in Him I am free,

The more I seek, I want to pray  
And praise Him ever more,  
My soul can't wait to see His face  
On His celestial shore,

## COVENANT'S PROMISE

I in Him and Him in me  
I feel this every day,  
I feel Him close, His warmth, His love  
When I kneel down to pray,

If you ask why I believe  
That God is good to me,  
Find the time to pray to Him  
Then you'll surely see,

I tell you this cause every day  
I feel my God so near,  
His loving spirit comforts me  
And keeps me from all fear,

Of this I choose not to talk  
But simply let you see,  
That in my faith I walk the walk  
And let all others be.

## My World

Days and weeks and years pass by  
As I live, I grow,  
In this world of highs and lows  
As through this life I go,

The world as I have seen so far  
Is splendid to my soul,  
I love its taste, its smell, the touch  
Of what I may behold,

As life is lived and will pass by  
I learn each day I live,  
I learn to love, I learn to give  
Within each day I live,

All in all this world is mine  
To live in as I grow,  
And reap the riches of this life  
And of this world to know.

Myra's Song

In light I see no darkness  
In darkness I seek light,  
In weakness I seek great strength  
In sorrow I seek might,

There are such tools in living  
That take me through the day,  
One stems from my prayer room  
That takes my soul away,

My faith in God believing  
Will keep my heart in check,  
When people all around me  
Will put my soul to test,

My strength is from my weakness  
Of which I've conquered on,  
My life is full of meekness  
Of Which my soul is fond,

My battles are now blissful  
In which I've won them all,  
Because I know the master  
The strength of battled fall,

In courage I do wander  
Through the throws of life,  
Keeping my heart fond of  
Things that are not strife,

To all who read, this wisdom  
Is in these words I say,  
In meaning, if you'll follow  
Will guide you through your day.



The Nest

The time of season's hatching  
Of small and simple eggs,  
Leads to violent chirping  
As nature's purest begs,

These little flocks of fledglings  
Need for one to care,  
To keep them safe and healthy  
They always need be there,

They cannot for a moment  
Leave the chicks alone,  
Due to outer dangers  
Until these chicks have grown,

When the time is nearing  
For chicks to leave this nest,  
The mother ever watches  
To let them do their best,

In all of nature's creatures  
In which we see such care,  
Few do have this courage  
And wisdom for to share,

The mother of the bird's nest  
Will see her chicks can fly,  
Before she lets them e'er part  
Or she knows they will die,

She looks to them and carries  
Their lives as if her own,  
And makes sure they will make it  
When from the nest have flown,

In life we see this story  
In lives of mortal man,  
When children we have leave us  
Seems more than we can stand,

But if we view the bird's nest  
And learn from nature's own,  
We'll know that we have raised them  
To make it on their own,

The beauty of this rearing  
Is that we plainly see,  
When we deal with such children  
It's cause it's meant to be!

The New Frontier

The time comes to retire  
To lay all work aside,  
My life shall be my spouse and me  
To with each other hide,

Shall we have forever?  
Shall we have a day?  
Shall we see each other  
In yet a different way?

Will there be a reason  
We hold each other tight?  
Or will it be a season  
To see each other's might?

Each day we are together  
Will we yet draw close?  
Of our life together  
Will we make it most?

Perhaps there'll be a sideline  
That pulls to different shores,  
Where distance makes us fonder  
To see each other more,

Yet in all my worry  
Of how that life will be,  
We'll not be more closer  
From me, or him to me,

Our lives to each is separate  
Our hearts though they be joined,  
Our outlooks are just different  
Of what is thought employed,

As in every marriage  
All interests aren't the same,  
We hold our love in balance  
Just to play the game,

Retirement is simple  
If we just understand,  
It will not make us closer  
But hold each other's hand

Keep each other guessing  
Is what we ought to do,  
To make the marriage stronger  
And make our love anew.

The Next Step

The next step I take  
Is new in direction,  
Whichever the way,  
It's a step in perfection,

Perfect for me  
And all of my kin,  
For this step for me  
Is where I will win,

Directions I take  
In my future plan,  
Is my choice to make  
It shows who I am,

Whichever the course  
Of this step I take,  
It's of my own will  
It's my step to take.

Nights & Days

Times, times, and times again  
My days turn into nights,  
I have this little girl of mine  
And must keep her from freights,

She is my darling I adore  
With each smile and cry,  
I love her dearly, yes, I do  
And will until I die,

As a mother new and true  
Some things weren't so clear,  
Of how I'd bond with this child  
And how I'd feel so near,

She is the very breath I breathe  
She is my pride and joy,  
I give her all my essence be  
All I can employ,

I thank God for her to be  
Safely in my arms,  
And as all mothers are to be  
I'll keep her safe from harms,

To all mothers want to be  
Just have this to say,  
When your child is in your arms  
Your nights will turn to day.

The Nugget of Gold in Our Years

Seasons of signs and signs of seasons  
For every known sigh there is a real reason,  
Four seasons in all and each has its merits  
Each season is full with all who will bear it,

In all of our seasons and all of our lives  
Is wine, mirth and glee of which we can't hide,  
Of sadness we tear and hide it away  
In hopes it won't rise in some future day,

We build our lives strong, we live our lives fast  
In hopes that our future our building has cast,  
In all of our essence and all of our dreams  
We hold to tomorrow to make it our theme,

In shadow and light, in midnight and dawn  
We look for the days our lives will move on,  
Not looking for power nor our lives to see  
Just looking for love and who we can be,

In all of our days from birth to this moment  
We handle regrets with gracious atonement,  
We look to the master whom sprang all life forth  
For he is the caster of life that's of birth,

In our years of laughter and our years of glee  
We honor this master who made all we see,  
In our years of living, and dying each day  
We die to our penitent as he lights the way,

In golden years glowing, and long days passed by  
We live our life knowing that we can just try,  
To hold each e'er closer in mind and in heart  
Holding to love and not to depart,

In all of our living and all of our ways  
We find that our casting is love as it stays,  
To love each one's spirit and hold each dear true  
Till all our years golden have lived life till through,

We say to the young and envy of heart  
Be not of self-pride, to let it, love part,  
But in consecration of love that is real  
Let it guide your souls to life and its yield,

The nugget of gold we found in our years  
Has pushed back the sorrow and wiped away tears,  
As we strive to keep this nugget in flame  
It guides to truth, to win in life's game.



Ode to Play

My mind had a playdate  
I sought to entertain,  
I wanted to enrapture  
As I ran away,

The dealings that I'm dealt with  
Are not so filled with fun,  
So, in my mind's great meaning  
I've chosen now to run,

Running from the shadows  
That seek to linger on,  
Running from the torture  
Of which the day seems fond,

Running to a soulmate  
Of one I cannot see,  
Running to the future  
Of what I don't believe,

Yet running to a master  
Of whom does span all time,  
Running to Christ Jesus  
In hopes He'll make me 'thine',

Running to a savior  
I pray He'll hear my plea,  
Running to his safety  
To stay eternally,

Running to a playground  
Of which I've never known,  
One in which the children  
Are there not to grow old,

Running to the answers  
That life has yet to give,  
Running to a lifetime  
There, to forever live,

Running into God's love  
To keep my spirit new,  
Running to his presence  
For He knows what to do,

In my life of running  
One thing I keep in mind,  
When running to the master  
Peace of mind I'll find.

Ode to Retire

Today I thought of working  
But hoped someday to stop,  
My dreams and inner wishes  
My imagination caught,

I thought but to retire  
Of that I often dream,  
I wish it would transpire  
My inner wishes scream,

I wonder if my future  
Is easier than said,  
What will be forthcoming?  
Where to make my bed?

I think that my tomorrow  
Is built up from today,  
So, I should have no sorrow  
Coming in my way,

The answer though is simple  
One I should have known,  
God is ever present  
And all of life He owns,

If I should retire  
He will make a way,  
For all that will transpire  
To be my happy day,

In all I need to praise Him  
And thank Him for the life,  
That He has with love given  
To keep my soul from strife,

When I shall retire  
My faith won't go away,  
Instead, I'll be more driven  
To worship God and pray,

I pray that all the living  
Truly find the way,  
To honor God and serve Him  
So that their soul will stay,

Today I've found the answer  
To what was hard to ask,  
For God will give me guidance  
In my retired task,

And though I be retired  
I shall not want nor faint,  
For God holds all my future  
And He is what I aint,

God holds all tomorrows  
He answers all that's asked,  
He'll solidify my future  
And make my days to last.

Of One So Young

Children laughing, children playing  
A smile to take your heart,  
Children running, children jumping  
And this is where it starts,

A child is born and raised in love  
From parents blessed by charge,  
A charge to Adam and to Eve  
To make all mankind large,

As parents look to safer realms  
To keep the child in peace,  
They make adjustment as deemed so  
And never ask a cease,

All babies born are blessed of God  
He holds them in His care,  
As parents gently teach the child  
They find that God is there,

If, God forbid, the child should pass  
At any early age,  
In God's arms the child will be  
And safe from all would wage,

Life is full of merriment  
Yet more than we can see,  
For heaven's host and angel's choir  
Hold child eternally,

To lose such life can kill our soul  
But please just keep in mind,  
With the Lord this child lives on  
And will, throughout all time.

Of Where I Roam

With all of daylight's passing  
My soul has found a home,  
One of new tomorrows  
Where I am not alone,

Here I fear no sunshine  
Windy, stormy days,  
Here my moments are mine  
This is where I'll stay,

Bright here is the city  
That lies before my feet,  
It lights the streets up pretty  
As everyone I greet,

Here there's no tomorrows  
All is in today,  
Here there is no sorrow  
All illness passed away,

Golden is the daylight  
From the royal throne,  
In this holy city  
It's now of where I roam.

*In Loving Memory of*  
Jerome Wells  
April 26, 1950 to May 3, 2018

## The Offer

An offer came to me one day  
To purchase pen to page,  
To buyout every single thought  
From now to youthful age,

The offer in the dollars high  
Thought to be a price,  
But carried with a cost too grand  
As Judas did to Christ,

It asked that I should write no more  
Of what God's spirit bids,  
An offer I could not conceive  
For how then could I live?

Knowing Christ his mercy strong  
Is what I know of life,  
To spell that out in pen and song  
Of God's love and our strife,

To know God's sweet salvation  
To hasten to his voice,  
To know he's near and in me  
The offer had no choice,

All I know in living  
Is what God has to say,  
His spirit and his giving  
As he leads the way,



## COVENANT'S PROMISE

The offer I was offered  
Would quench the voice within,  
That speaks and cries to people  
Of God's love you can win,

For me there is no offer  
Of any given price,  
To which I'd quench the spirit  
To turn my back on Christ,

For all the given offers  
That would steal a soul,  
Rebuke the hand of Satan  
And the offer whole,

Reach for higher offers  
With Christ as the goal,  
He has the single offer  
That satisfies the soul.

## Opportunity

Every season brings a task  
Of errand's toil and questions asked,  
A season bold or season mild  
One for men, women, child,

In the seasons where we live  
We look to get, we look to give,  
We get, with toils of our perspire  
We give, with mirth of heart's desire,

If the season be our own  
We reap of that of which was sown,  
We gain the rich of season's share  
And keep the treasures with great care,

When we find that in our care  
Are waiting tasks our hearts can snare,  
We take the task and see it through  
And take great pride in all we do,

We'll find that tasks aren't for just toil  
But fertilize our own soul's soil,  
Then we find our soul to be  
Of peace and strength for all to see.

Our Little Pride

We have a little toddler  
She's precious and so new,  
Her smiles will make our hearts jump  
As well as things she'll do,

This precious little baby  
Plays and toddles round,  
Each day is an adventure  
As long as she's around,

Her smiles will light as sunshine  
In twinkling of her eyes,  
Her giggles are so joyful  
As with all she does and tries,

When it's late of evening  
And she is laid to sleep,  
We ask that God the father  
Our little pride to keep,

Then when it comes morning  
And she is wide awake,  
Begins a new adventure  
For our little pride to make.

## Our Mind's Eye

I had a thought in mind  
That spanned throughout my time,  
Of whom I am to be  
And what I wish to see,

Will I be of genius?  
Or seen to be of dunce?  
Will I make a mark in life?  
And live it only once?

Will I be a helper  
To every passing soul?  
Will I be a critic  
And down another's soul?

Will I act of wisdom  
With deeds and words I say?  
Will I be quite petty  
As I traverse the day?

Will my soul find freedom  
In knowing God above?  
Or will I be quite restless  
Not grasping to God's love?

In this life we all live  
From day to living day,  
We all have each other  
To greet along the way,

So, deep within our mind's eye  
To keep a thought in mind,  
To treat each person as ourselves  
And treat each other kind.

## Our Prayers

Our prayers are with you always  
Through the darker times,  
We pray for health and wellness  
That to you it will find,

We pray that you're not weary  
We pray that you feel strength,  
We pray for sorrow's kindness  
Our prayers for you immense,

We pray in faith believing  
That God will move for you,  
And heal the body's weakness  
To gently guide you through,

We pray unto the evening  
From the morning light,  
We pray to God the father  
That He will wield His might,

We pray your understanding  
Of why we seek to pray,  
Is that, the God of living  
Controls all life today,

We pray that you'll be with us  
From year to shining year,  
For you are of our family  
As we would have you near,

We pray to God believing  
We thank God for the deed,  
The touch from just His spirit  
Is all our prayers will need,

In this prayer is wisdom  
Against what others say,  
God will heal the illness  
That is just His way,

Ask in faith believing  
Of what prayers will do,  
Then you'll be receiving  
What prayers do for you.

Our World

What a wonderful place I can see  
This great big world about me,  
With sounds and signs and colored breeze  
This world is more than I can see,

I pray it lasts for years to come  
I pray the lands be great,  
I pray for peace to keep it so  
Before it is too late,

I trust my family take a stand  
And keep the world in check,  
To make it last with strength and grace  
And do not let it wreck,

If all the world would take a stance  
To make it once anew,  
What better place our world would be  
That holds both me and you,

If you see this message clear  
Then be a friend of mine,  
And pray to God to change our world  
To know His love divine.

## The Painter

A brush, a stroke, a solid line  
A hue of green or red,  
An outlined shape, a freehand stroke  
A portrait from my head,

The paint is smooth, the canvass taut  
I stroke the brush across,  
The shapes define the mystery  
Of what is gained or lost,

I see the shape – what will it be?  
I hear it loud and clear,  
When painting done I rest the brush  
I'll paint what I hold dear,

When e'er I hold a brush in hand  
The canvass comes to life,  
With images I've brushed there-on  
Be it peace or strife,

With each stroke a story's told  
Of what my mind sees clear,  
The images I've seen in life  
Of what I love or fear,

The paintings that you see me paint  
Are more than pigment stain,  
But images from my life  
That may not be again,



## COVENANT'S PROMISE

So, when you see these paints of mine  
I trust that you will know,  
They're of my heart and my mind  
And shall always be so.

## The Passing

With ever moment that we live  
We breathe to live our all,  
To know our family one and all  
Until we hear God's call,

With each day we live to love  
With family and our kin,  
To hold them close and love them dear  
To know them close within,

Each day we see this e'er loved one  
We think we know their soul,  
Not the case this always is  
We may not know them whole,

We know not what they go through  
The sorrow nor the pain,  
We just look to see them near  
And hope for that again,

We never know the frame of mind  
That goes with sorrows end,  
Nor the cure of what it takes  
For sorrow such to mend,

Yet when loved ones pass away  
Their presence does not leave,  
Their passing makes our hearts go down  
As then we will bereave,

## COVENANT'S PROMISE

But know that just their essence near  
Is not to make us sad,  
But make us know we love them dear  
And thank God for what we had.

## The Path of Light

Within our daily chores and cares  
Within our daily toils and snares,  
Within our daily woes and fears  
Within our daily joys and tears,

There is a holy mind of state  
That lifts our hearts and joy elates,  
To give us peace and love abound  
To let us know that God's around,

Just pray that God will lead you thru  
All you see and all you do,  
To know His truth and know His pain  
Then of His love and mercy gain,

If we in prayer upon our knees  
Seek to what His spirit feeds,  
Then we'll know of His delight  
And follow in His path of light.

The Pen-Pal

Just to write and read a note  
From someone who cares,  
Not of fruitless judging  
But just the thoughts they bare,

Often there's a reason  
Just to type a note,  
To speak of turning seasons  
Or share a daily quote,

At times the text will carry  
A mood of great suspense,  
And of the text it varies  
From small then to immense,

When I find a reason  
To type unto this friend,  
I do it in my season  
To gain a healthy end,

The texts that we may gather  
And with each other share,  
Are from within our seasons  
Of which we live and care.

## Philosophical Prayer

A prayer of prayers, a prayer of faith  
A word to say and hear,  
A song to sing, a word to read  
A hymn to shout and cheer,

A time of love and honesty  
A time to make things new,  
A thought in time to hear a rhyme  
To know its meaning true,

A hope, a care a humbled prayer  
A line of text we read,  
A phrase that makes us read again  
Of that we often need,

A book so philosophical  
It bleeds the inner soul,  
A story that enraptures us  
And makes us feel so whole,

To find these things just look around  
And all of them you'll find,  
Exist within our fingers grasp  
They fill our hearts and minds,

Every moment that we live  
These things are ever there,  
It's only with our blinding fear  
From our mind's eye they tear,

## COVENANT'S PROMISE

To see these quite clearly so  
Just open eyes and see,  
That God has given all these things  
To those that will believe.

Play

Friends and family gather round  
Sometimes to hear me play,  
I play in church, I play at home  
I play e'er where I stay,

I love to win when I play  
I love to be the best,  
I love this life, I love the Lord  
I love to play, then rest,

Just as God created  
Then rest on seventh day,  
I also feel like resting  
But like much more to play.



The Play

Books are opened, books are closed  
Stories read and stories told,  
Plays are written, actors cast  
And on and on while all time lasts,

We're all actors on a stage  
Throughout life as all time plays,  
There are times the actor's sad  
There are times the actor's glad,

But as we live from day to day  
We find that life is more than play,  
It is how we treat each other  
Mother, father, sister, brother,

Our life to each and each its own  
But all to answer to God's throne.

## The Player

The pigskin that I carry  
To reach the end of zone,  
Is triumphed when I get there  
If I make it there alone,

We're all a band of warriors  
Seeking our own just rewards,  
As gladiators in modern day  
Using pigskin as our swords,

We still take down opponents  
And thrash them with great glee,  
Salute them when the game is done  
And rejoice in jubilee,

We want our fans to see us  
As victors of the sport,  
If lose to foe on other side  
We want fans in our court,

So, if you come to see us  
Just keep this thought in head,  
We'll play the game victoriously  
And play it as we're led!

Poetry

Everyone that has a poem  
They feel it should be read,  
And understood with wit and rhyme  
Or freestyle from their head,

Yet poems are a mystery  
In some forms as they're penned,  
When author thinks to provoke minds  
And then the mystery ends,

If a poem is written thus:  
A line built from last line,  
Then readers of the poem true  
Can follow it real fine,

Then there are the poets who  
Will write from chain of thought,  
They write their felling moments of  
Whatever mind has caught,

The reader of such jumbled jire  
Blinks a wrinkled brow,  
To find a meaning in such words  
That tells the why, the how,

Oh, to get a message clear  
In all that we can write,  
Write our words from love to tear  
As seen from our mind's sight.

Poet's Prose

In every line of poet's prose  
There is a meditation,  
In every petaled nature's rose  
There is a sweet sensation,

If all the poems and their prose  
Would be sweet as nature's rose,  
Then every line would be of verse  
That could be read, in mind rehearse,

If every book within our time  
Would be as the verse of poet's rhyme,  
Then all books would then be read  
With meditation thought in head.

Precious

God gave a command then earth formed  
He spoke again formed skies from storm,  
Again, He spoke the mountains rose  
Then with His word made fauna in droves,

Then God formed man from dusted clay  
To be His precious until this day,  
He told the man what not to eat  
And made all life for man to greet,

But man did stray from what God said  
And for that price his life was dead,  
This story told as we have heard  
Is Bible truth in every word,

In these texts as we have read  
Lies one truth that wasn't said,  
When Adam fell he gave a choice  
For good or evil a spoken voice,

If in our hearts we choose God's word  
And heed to Him, our spirit's heard,  
Then in kinship we do join  
And in His eyes, we're from His loin.

*Ref: John 1:12 and 2 Corinthians 6:18 KJV*

## Primal Faith

My faith in God is primal  
Its nature is my life,  
I give Him all my hopes and dreams  
My sorrow and my strife,

My love for Him enormous  
He holds me in His love,  
He keeps me near and dear to heart  
And watches from above,

Of family I am thankful  
They are so dear to me,  
I love them with life's passions  
To them, I'll always see,

They'll always make me happy  
As I do know their love,  
As families meet and in heart greet  
They will not push nor shove,

To me this life is simple  
I give my life to Christ,  
I ask He softly lead me  
It's He who paid life's price,

My life's dedication  
Is to God, to give all,  
He will give a return  
As His spirit calls,

## COVENANT'S PROMISE

Let God be your mentor  
Keep your family close,  
Stay your soul in righteousness  
Then life will be utmost.

## The Promise

All creatures great and small  
On this planet one and all,  
Are living here by God's own grace  
For us to be in such place,

Not always was this so  
God was grieved of here below,  
Man had sinned, turned his face  
God, felt man then had no place,

God found grace in Noah and sons  
Had them build an ark for ones',  
Had all creatures march right in  
Then shut the door and sealed within,

Floods then came on all without  
Drowned them dead, of that no doubt,  
Then saved Noah and his kin  
Gave them Earth to start again,

Then God placed a bow in sky  
That all should see and not ask why,  
That when storms come and when they go  
God will calm it with the bow,

To not again flood all living  
For weight of sin and misgiving,  
To use the bow of why it's sent  
To remind God the covenant,



## COVENANT'S PROMISE

It's a promise from the king  
For all that look and all who've seen,  
That God will stay destruction's hand  
And let not flood destroy all lands.

## The Reach

Life abounds around us  
We learn, we live, we teach,  
We look at life that found us  
The life within our reach,

We look to be quite merry  
Joyous in our heart,  
Throughout this life we carry  
Our moments in life's part,

Every moment passing  
We find a brand new goal,  
To reach another milestone  
Of which, we'll be made whole,

This wondrous life of passing  
Brings joy to us each day,  
In which life's ever casting  
All things that come our way,

We reach for inner freedoms  
We reach for distant goals,  
We reach for love and laughter  
We reach from in our soul,

In this life of reaching  
Of what we reach the most,  
Is that of life's acceptance  
Within God's realm of hosts.

Rescue

I find myself alone  
Sitting in a chair,  
The only one around  
No one else is there,

I look into my heart  
And see my truest dreams,  
Then my soul cries out  
It yells and then it screams,

Rescue me in love  
Throw me a lifeline,  
Pull me up above  
Make my spirit thine,

Hold me ever close  
Never to let go,  
Let me know your love  
Let this now be so,

Rescue me oh Lord  
Let me hear your voice,  
Rescue me my King  
Your spirit be my choice,

Rescue me in love  
To your eternity,  
Open up my eyes  
Oh Lord please let it be.

## The Riches of His Love

God is more than love to me  
His spirit bold and true,  
His love transcends space and time  
It made both me and you,

His spirit calls unto our souls  
To know his heart of care,  
To be with him eternally  
And of his spirit share,

The fathomed depths of love divine  
Has no bounds nor ties,  
His love immense forever grand  
Fills both earth and skies,

The question asked 'Is God love?'  
Is asked of pure ignorance,  
To know love is to know God  
His love is vast intense,

The riches of his love so pure  
Created all we see,  
To know it grand in simpleness  
Is of his love - - believe,

No mortal man has ever known  
A love so deep and vast,  
His love bestowed upon our souls  
Is of his spirit cast,

## COVENANT'S PROMISE

If e'er we reach the heavens vast  
And travel very far,  
We'll find his love is also there  
And yet is where we are.

## The Riches of Spirit

Today I prayed a prayer of faith  
I asked of God to hear me,  
To guide me through these days of late  
I asked of God to see me,

My prayer to Him is for my soul  
I seek to be more close,  
A friend to me He is the most  
I know His Holy Ghost,

The riches of His spirit true  
Flows within my soul,  
His love and kindness make me new  
His spirit makes me whole,

I pray to Him in morning time  
I worship every day,  
I witness with all moments mine  
He knows of all I say,

His spirit's filled with riches true  
With love and mercy kind,  
His statutes direct all I do  
His joy is pure divine,

Today I prayed a prayer of faith  
To know my God more true,  
If you believe, then pray your prayer  
In faith, He'll hear you too.

## The Robe

In my seat I listen  
To truths as seen from sides,  
In words of speech and gesture  
And things as one would hide,

I listen to the story  
As each side tells its own,  
In sorrow and of glory  
Of good and evil sown,

I see the mediators  
Try to make their case,  
With facts and presentations  
As if within a race,

Each would have me listen  
To harken to their side,  
But I must not be biased  
But in the law abide,

With each story telling  
I must make a choice,  
Of who is law abiding  
And who has lawless voice,

With my block and gavel  
The stories will find end,  
To stop the guilty party  
And some to freedom send,

For those who use the gavel  
And sport the judgement role,  
Be sure to listen closely  
And give place unto the robe.



Rose

I saw a rose of red today  
I counted all the blooms,  
I saw it blossom yesterday  
I saw its beauty loom,

I love to see all nature grand  
I love to plant and sow,  
I love to nurture in the land  
I love to see it grow,

Within this life there's a death  
When the petals fall,  
But life again with tiny seeds  
And I would plant them all,

In our lives we win, we lose  
But learn't I from the rose,  
No matter what e'er may befall  
When we die, we grow.

## The Rose of Rearing

Open, honest caring  
Firm displays the scene,  
Characterized by wisdom  
A virtue that is seen,

Taking other's worries  
Guiding them to ease,  
Teaching them the values  
That only wisdom sees,

Showing them that crying  
Is just a plea for help,  
Aiding them in trying  
To hear the cry in self,

Taking them to laughter  
From the cries, the tears,  
Not knowing what comes after  
In the coming years,

Opening understanding  
To what childrearing means,  
The duties and the kisses  
The shudderd tears and screams,

Looking for the answers  
Helping moms to find,  
The stressless resolution  
To fears of heart and mind,

## COVENANT'S PROMISE

A rose among the thistles  
In life's infant stage,  
She teaches mothers reardom  
Drawn of her history's page,

A doctor and a scholar  
A mother to the moms,  
She will always be there  
To help you find what calms.

## Rose of Wisdom

There are times we find in life  
A smile, a wink, a nod,  
Helps folks through painful strife  
And helps them think of God,

There are folks that lead the way  
Where others need to go,  
They listen with attentive ear  
They help folks through life's flow,

They take the reins and lead the charge  
To let others see,  
Just how to reach full life itself  
They teach as they believe,

Mothers with new babies born  
Listen to these few,  
They take the wisdom taught to them  
So they'll know what to do,

Like a rose upon a stem  
They teach of things so grand,  
Of baby cries and tender tears  
Of how one can but stand,

The petaled knowledge they display  
Is sought of mothers new,  
To rear the child in loving ways  
One day, they shall teach too,

## COVENANT'S PROMISE

To gain and fully understand  
Of how this wisdom goes,  
Becomes the task at mother's hand  
To know, and then to sow,

The sweetness of this knowledge gained  
With all its cons and pros,  
Will help the mothers know in truth  
The meaning of this rose.

## Sanctuary

The passing of our father  
Is painful to us all,  
His life has so enriched us  
To him we'd often call,

His tender loving mercies  
The wisdom of his words,  
His strength in dedication  
The tales he's aid and heard,

His presence overwhelming  
His love would lift us all,  
Yet each of us his dearest  
We saw him standing tall,

His hopes, his dreams, his visions  
Are with us yet today,  
For those he had but taught us  
To live them every day,

We'll miss this man so greatly  
He was our rock and stone,  
We know that God will keep him  
For he is of God's own,

In this life of perils  
Of which he had to task,  
He'd meet of each its challenge  
And oft, no help he'd ask,

## COVENANT'S PROMISE

So, in life's final chapter  
His soul, it did not tarry,  
For it has moved so swiftly on  
To heaven's sanctuary.

In Memory of  
Edward C 'June' Preston  
July 2, 1928 – October 28, 2018

Season's Greetings

Wet, wet, rainy days  
Wind howling thru the trees,  
Birds that chirp, fly, and sing  
The ever-busy honey bee,

Early spring is brisk and bright  
Flowers bursting come to life,  
Nature's grandiose precipice  
As creatures roam in endless strife,

Something grows and something dies  
As life moves as we know it,  
Clouds of darkness fill the skies  
And Mother Nature shows it,

Seasons come and seasons go  
With wind and rain and bitter snow,  
Heated days and sweaty nights  
Gifts of glee and spooky frights,

Round the clock and round the globe  
Each special place, its season holds,  
The only thing that stays the same  
Is Summer's heat to Winter's reign.



The Shift

The nights are long  
The days are short,  
I stay the shift  
I work its course,

From start of clock  
Till end of day,  
I do the time  
All work - no play,

I see it safe  
Where others be,  
I view the halls  
And rooms I see,

I see the night  
The stars in view,  
In quietness  
I have my view,

While stationed at  
My place of work,  
I see folks pass  
As they too work,

When all is done  
At end of day,  
I return home  
For a short stay,

Then will I  
Return again,  
For a shift to start  
And a shift to end.

The Shot Caller

My wife said "Let's go swim today"  
But quickly changed her mind,  
She said of other things to do  
We do not have the time,

She often plans the place to go  
And things that we will do,  
She'll think of things she wants to buy  
Some things old or new,

She always keeps me guessing  
Just any time of day,  
Which direction she will take  
Or that of what she'll say,

There must be a reason  
For everything I do,  
Each time I must explain to her  
And then carry thru,

I guess in every marriage  
Whether cold or hot,  
There will be just one of them  
Who always calls the shots!

## Sight Unseen

My eyes are old and weary  
Or young but full of ails,  
My vision isn't clearly  
Perceptions sometime fails,

I have to aid my vision  
With spectacles I wear,  
Though it be quite dreary  
It is a cross I bear,

In daylight I see sunshine  
When storming I see rain,  
When reading I see blurry  
With aid the clear is gained,

Without my aid to vision  
I will not see so fine,  
What I perceive as factual  
Distorts within my mind,

To all who have such vision  
Will know just what it means,  
Without the aid of eyesight  
Will view with sight unseen.

Simple Hands of Clay

I raise my hands to praise Him  
To God upon His throne,  
I reach them towards the heavens  
For I would be His own,

I hear and I do listen  
Where e'er my praise might be,  
It matters not nor lessens  
The praises I would sing,

I strum in strings of music  
And play before His throne,  
I play this music to Him  
I pray He take me home,

My ever-simple praises  
With hands or those that strum,  
Are giving to the master  
The praises He has won,

In all my days of praising  
From youth until today,  
Is done with my mind tasking  
These simple hands of clay.

## The Smile

Always tender greetings  
A gleam within the eye,  
Never signs of mourning  
Never signs of sigh,

Twinkling and light dancing  
The sparkle and the glee,  
A hint of life romancing  
And always glad to see,

Highly all contagious  
A smile that lights the room,  
Lifting all who view it  
From woes and soulful gloom,

A smile that makes the daybreak  
And rolls dark clouds away,  
It's always glad to see you  
And never goes away,

If you see this person  
You'll know just what I mean,  
A smile so very pleasant  
O'er all the smiles I've seen.

Sojourns of Tomorrow

The sojourns of tomorrow  
Are born in zeal today,  
A faith that keeps us focused  
In what we do or say,

A hope of all life's fortunes  
Of new and setting suns,  
Of listening to the wind blow  
Each day, we have begun,

A chain that drives tomorrow  
In all our thoughts and prayers,  
It knows of joy and sorrow  
And tenderest of cares,

The zeal we have within us  
Keeps us firm and strong,  
No matter what the day brings  
Nor of the healing, long,

We look unto the future  
As if it is today,  
For when we finally get there  
It's not where will stay,

The sojourns of tomorrow  
Heal and mend our soul,  
From all that has befallen  
And spurns a brand-new goal.

Solace

In quiet reservations  
We seek to calm the soul,  
In spirit's hesitation  
We would to find us whole,

In mind-filled e'er ambitions  
We seek a life-time goal,  
We seek to hide perditions  
Would never have them told,

A mystery of the ages  
Is what goes through the mind,  
To make a person gentle?  
To make a person kind?

What kind of anticipations  
Will set our souls at ease?  
What kind of situation  
Will of our spirit please?

The questions and the answers  
Are different for each man,  
Under God's creation  
It's hard to understand,

Why will one be gentile?  
Why will one be kind?  
Why be self-destructive?  
What goes through our minds?



## COVENANT'S PROMISE

We'll never find the answers  
To questions of unknown,  
But have the faith in knowing  
They're all upon God's throne,

So, as we stop to ponder  
The thoughts of mortal man,  
Let our hearts not wander  
From God and His command,

To all who've felt such great loss  
From kin as they have passed,  
Just know that God is with them  
Until his final task,

And though our hearts be heavy  
A future hard to see,  
God will see us through it  
If we will just believe,

To know a life once living  
Is precious to us all,  
And we become the richer  
As the spirit calls,

For each shining moment  
In which we spend our lives,  
The more we share in spirit  
Of what within each lies,

The message and the meaning  
Of all you just have read,  
Is though a loved one passed on  
Their spirit's never dead,

It is with the master  
Of all you see and hear,  
So, let your spirit find peace  
And let your heart not fear.

## The Soldier's Call

Hours, hours and hours long  
It seems that I must stay,  
In this nested fortress strong  
Just to earn my pay,

With each day of burning sun  
I see it shine so bright,  
I feel the heat and hear the wind  
With nothing in my sight,

As long as mercied breath I breathe  
I know God's at my side,  
To keep me safe and make me strong  
As in His love I hide,

I trust in God to see me through  
That one day I will be,  
Home again refreshed and new  
I trust in Him for me,

Every man that takes this call  
And carries it straight through,  
Is taking call so all are free  
From what this world can do,

We take this call for freedoms lot  
We take this call for pride,  
We take this call of brothers' arms  
We take it side by side,

To each and every one of us  
That seek out freedom's ring,  
We take this call to protect all  
From tyrant's evil things,

In all our dedication  
Of what we know to do,  
We give you great assurance  
We're doing this for you.

The Solemn of Might

When God began, He made men  
In His image and likeness,  
Then from man He made woman  
And gave them earth to possess,

He made the earth, the stars, the sky  
He made the beasts and things that fly,  
He made the rains, He made the snow  
He made the creepy thing, and things that glow,

He made the beast of every field  
He made the crops with their yield,  
He made the heavens, He made the night  
He made all with the solemn of might,

When all was done God did rest  
Unto man he gave the best,  
Life to live and never die  
Just one thing, to pass it by,

As men are we often fail  
So did Adam; we know the tale,  
Now we seek, with God unite  
To know that solemn of His might.

## The Sounding Drum

A snare, a bom, a rat-tat-tat  
A noise for all to hear,  
A rhythm for rhyme, a medley  
To those both far and near,

A soothing sound, a march to war  
A sound of peace and joy,  
A natural sound of heavens vast  
A sound all ears enjoy,

A rhyme in time, a marching band  
A sound that tests all time,  
Minute as loftily butterfly  
But large in every mind,

A spoken word is heard as such  
Its meanings e'er so broad,  
In as much we do have  
The words of our dear Lord,

Yet every line within God's texts  
Have simply meanings true,  
We seem to see them differently  
When read by me and you,

God is love yet God is wrath  
His temperance is just,  
If we choose to please Him true  
His word, to live, we must,

## COVENANT'S PROMISE

Every person reads the word  
And claims to see it clear,  
But see its meaning wide and broad  
In love and trembled fear,

Yet all who choose to hear the word  
And take it unto heart,  
Regardless of the side they see  
They wish it not to part,

So if God's word in many ways  
Is seen by one and all,  
Why do we spend so many days  
Preaching whom to call?

We call to God the holy one  
We're saved by Christ the son,  
We're comforted with the ghost  
By victories we've won,

In God there is a unity  
It's of His spirit true,  
No matter of what side we see  
God's in both me and you,

Instead of saying look to God  
Of what I know and see,  
Shall we all bow unto Him  
And just simply - - believe!

## The Source of Faith

Why were we created?  
To praise and serve the Lord?  
To give to God obedience  
To know and read his word?

What could be the reason?  
Is evolution true?  
Did life start as an amoeba?  
Which made all we see and do?

Is life everlasting  
In a higher realm?  
Is there a supreme power  
Which is our guiding helm?

What do we seek after?  
Power, glory, fame?  
Do we seek religion?  
Or monetary gain?

What do we choose to live for?  
Ourselves, family, friends?  
Have we asked for guidance?  
Which leads us past life's end?

What is all life's reason?  
Which makes the path we walk?  
Is it to us a treasure  
Of how we choose to talk?



## COVENANT'S PROMISE

If we have only questions  
That we can only ask,  
And never know the answers  
Will we know life's task?

If we are created  
By one God above,  
Then life's truest meaning  
Is give Him all our love,

For those that evolution  
Explains all mysteries told,  
Shall never be with faithful  
And not see streets of gold,

Those that are the faithful  
Find that faith's great source,  
Is knowing the creator  
To seek His path and course.

## The Spirit Has Concern

Years ago, I did a deed  
I found my soul to God appease,  
I took an oath, I took a plunge  
In baptismal gown, in water lunge,

To God I said, 'I give my all'  
Yet did I know intent of call?  
Did I really know the truth?  
Of one so young, there at my youth?

Now, in my age I know for sure  
A baptized soul is not a cure,  
Unless of course, one understands  
To ere do so wills God's commands,

When ere we take upon this act  
We should know to be a fact,  
Of bible script as we do learn  
Of God's spirit has concern,

And if we know the bible true  
And ask of God what we should do,  
We ask of God that with His might  
Our baptized soul with Him take flight,

Giving space to His desire  
We deny self to know Him higher,  
And give our all, our first and last  
To be His child, of His type-cast.

## The Sport

In everything I do I love  
Each and every day,  
I love to live, I love to learn  
I love to simply play,

I play the sports I love the most  
I keep them in my heart,  
I play them with some friends of mine  
Sometimes it's I that start,

I am close to my family  
And close to all my friends,  
The sports I play is not for all  
But that won't let it end,

I play of love, I play of truth  
I play to make a goal,  
If I don't play, I feel a loss  
I play to feel quite whole,

In every day I live, I play  
I seek one inner goal,  
To be as much as I can be  
Within this life of goals.

## Standing Tall

“Against the heat, the wind, the rain  
Stands one tall, and tall again”

Within life we often see  
Men with strength, men with glee,  
Some are called by certain name  
Some seek glory, some seek fame,

Some are wrought with daily tasks  
Some are weary with things asked,  
Then there’s some that bypass rules  
Then there’s those that act as fools,

There be many, many men  
But few that stand so tall within,  
Few that know of nature’s truths  
Few that plant in Godly roots,

Few that keep God’s statutes close  
Few that honor God the most,  
Few that pray for every man  
Few that seek to heal the lands,

Few that seek to know God higher  
Few that love and peace inspire,  
Few that lead with every breath  
Few that in God’s spirit rests,

## COVENANT'S PROMISE

Few that live to tell God's tale  
Few that anger from them fails,  
Few that hold all life so dear  
Few that know when God is near,

Of these gentlemen so few  
There is one that this life knew:  
All of life - - is life within  
Not what is gained nor what has been,

Life is precious for all mankind  
Very few of these men you'll find,  
That hold to life within the soul  
And with that life they seek God's goal,

To give all men the light of time  
The words of God, His grace divine,  
To treat all men as would himself  
And show them love as God has dealt.

## The State of Being

If I'm to be a mother  
In what I know to be,  
Or a sister to a brother  
And of his merits see,

If I'm to be a daughter  
Of one who knows my name,  
And laboriously birthed me  
To enter in this life's game,

If I'm to be a member  
Of my local church,  
And join them in a choir  
And Sunday hymns rehearse,

If I'm to be a Christian  
And know my Jesus Christ,  
And know of sinners sinning  
And why He paid the price,

If I'm to know the meaning  
Of all I do and see,  
Of why I am now living  
And what I'm meant to be,

Would I change the venue  
To please my inner soul?  
Would I turn the table  
To understand my goal?

## COVENANT'S PROMISE

Why would I e'er think of  
Never being me,  
And change my out appearance  
For others there to see,

How would I then answer  
My god when He calls?  
Could I stand His presence?  
Or would I to ground fall?

If my inner being  
Is not what God arranged,  
And if I chose to change it  
Would I not be deranged?

How then do we wrestle  
And seek to make a change,  
From that which God intended  
And of it re-arrange?

How can we then ask Him  
To hear us in a prayer?  
Or find our soul's confession  
And think He will be there?

How is it we will fathom  
That if our gender change,  
Life will have more meaning  
And all our love to hang?

What can be the reason  
That one would be so bold?  
To take what God has given  
In all that we've been told,

And change it for the pleasure  
Of what's not understood?  
To think of it a treasure?  
Quite honestly - - Who would?

How is it we realize  
Christ died upon the cross,  
To cleanse us of our sin  
And reach to save the lost,

But in our moral statutes  
We treat as if mistake,  
What our soul was born with  
And different, it, we make,

In our state of being  
Do we know God's plan?  
Or do we think to change it  
And make it just for man?

Have we met the savior?  
Do we know the cross?  
Have we met God's spirit?  
Do we know the cost?

God is not the author  
Of craziness we see,  
And He is our creator  
Of what we're meant to be,

If we think it reason  
To change what God has made,  
Then do we not deny  
God's love and all Christ paid?



## COVENANT'S PROMISE

If I'm to be a mother  
Then unto every child,  
I'll tell them to be proud of  
Themselves - - as God allowed!

Steadfast

The wise of their own wisdom  
Feel they know all plans,  
How planets are created  
And history of man,

Of simple faith they scoff at  
It seems to self-appease,  
'It's simple superstitions  
Of what one will believe',

To those I say in earnest  
I thank God for my life,  
For all I see around me  
Of what I know is right,

I thank Him for the sunshine  
I thank Him for the night,  
I thank Him for my loved ones  
And all that's in my sight,

I thank Him for tomorrow  
I praise Him in the eve,  
I thank Him for the wisdom  
And ignorance - - to believe.

The Storm's Wake

There is a comfort I do know  
Throughout life, I've found it so,  
I know a master, and a plan  
Of what will come, for all of man,

I would tell you of this thought  
Of what my eyes and heart has caught,  
To know the reasons of the seasons  
To know the rhymes of the times,

If I tell you, will you hear?  
Of this voice, so loud, so clear?  
All man's wonderings, all man's plans  
Are subject unto God's commands,

In this life we endure storms  
Which take us from our comfort norms,  
They teach us what we do not know  
Of how we live and how we grow,

In all life's storms that I have lived  
I use the faith that God does give,  
And every storm, that would me take  
I find God's refuge, in all storm's wakes.

## The Streams

Two streams flowing side by side  
Each within each reach,  
Turning twisting as they go  
Yet paths don't seem to breach,

Ever close yet ever far  
These streams in life contend,  
That one day close, not one day far  
These streams will join within,

As streams cut through canyon floors  
As streams make the ground,  
The strength they have will make to shores  
In all the streams man's found,

Yet these streams seek different tides  
Than those of sailing seas,  
They seek to be a union stride  
Their spirit to appease,

If the streams will let time flow  
And seek the higher stand,  
Their lives and paths each will know  
As if by God's command.

The Summer of Life

Some days cold, some days hot  
Some days old, some days new,  
Some days far and in between  
Some days many, some days few,

Days of winter cold and gray  
Days of frost that seems to stay,  
Days of white filled lofty snow  
Days that linger till we're old,

Days of flowers colored tall  
Days of budding trees and all,  
Days of growing, time to plant  
Days that break the winter's rant,

Days that fill us with desire  
Days that make our being perspire,  
Days that warm us to the bone  
Days that take us from our home,

Days that see the fall of leaves  
Days that we roll down our sleeves,  
Days that teach the end of life  
Days that end with much less light,

Of all the days within the year  
My favorite, I'll just make it clear,  
Are those days of warmth and sun  
With longer days, than nights for fun,

Within my soul, within my rest  
Those days are what I like the best,  
To feel the warmth of summer sun  
To rest, relax, enjoy, have fun.

Sweetly Child

Sweetly child just go to sleep  
God will watch you God will keep,  
He will fill your dreams so mild  
He will keep this little child,

Jesus loves it when we pray  
In our hearts he comes to stay,  
Sleep for now and get good rest  
In morning wake and be at best.

The Swing

A hit, a miss I took a swing  
At life itself and things I've seen,

Of things present, of things past  
Of things short lived, of things that last,

Of memories old, adventures new  
Of things not touched, of things I do,

In all the things I've said and done  
I find new life from sun to sun,

Within each day I find anew  
Comes new memories fresh and true,

In this life of love and woe  
Comes a message pure as gold,

Live each day as if the last  
Have no regrets of now or past.



The Task Undone

Every day I have a task  
A new one for each day,  
It may be hard or easy be  
It changes day to day,

The tasks at hand are things I do  
When e'er I meet the day,  
They keep my time to things I do  
Of what I do and say,

All tasks I have will make my pay  
They take up all my time,  
Each one complete will bring the next  
They challenge soul and mind,

Of all the tasks that I partake  
The one that's left undone,  
Is when I take the time for self  
All tasks - - my time is won.

## The Task

Duty calls for me today  
For tasks that are at hand,  
I make my day of things I do  
As fun as often can,

It's not that I enjoy each task  
Or do it gleefully,  
It's not that I find the things I do  
Reflect what's inside me,

A task undone is incomplete  
And leaves a soulful stain,  
It leaves a tear inside oneself  
An inner sort of pain,

I find that when I do a task  
I do it with great pride,  
I'll rarely leave a task undone  
Or of its presence hide,

A task complete is simply sweet  
An inner sort of goal,  
Then once the task is laid to rest  
My day is then made whole.

Temptation's Trial

Wild imaginations  
In endless swirling thoughts,  
Large exaggeration  
Of what our mind has caught,

Braggs of resolution  
Of what we have achieved,  
Daily concentrations  
Of what we have conceived,

As creatures of tomorrow  
We build it yet today,  
Of joy or endless sorrow  
Is what will be our pay,

From sun till its own setting  
We seek to make path straight,  
With all our time of planning  
We close or open gates,

God has set his statutes  
For us to plainly see,  
To read and heed its warnings  
To those that would believe,

In moments of temptation  
We're but to merely ask,  
What within good reason  
Should we take the task?

If rightly judged the luring  
Of that which does defile,  
With wisdom of God's spirit  
We smash temptations vile,

Listening to the master  
Of all creation's realm,  
We've victory o'er temptation  
And place God at the helm.

Thank You Mom

Thank you, mom, for caring  
Expressing all you do,  
Thank you, mom, for sharing  
Your heart so pure and true,

Think you mom for telling  
And leading to all right,  
Thank you, mom, for selling  
My heart towards God's own sight,

Thank you, mom, for showing  
With your life every day,  
Thank you, mom, for glowing  
As your life shows a way,

Thank you, mom, for being mom  
Each time that I call,  
For all the love that you show  
Thank you for that most of all.

That of Which I See

I see in understanding  
Of thoughts that I do think,  
Of all of my surroundings  
Of things that make me blink,

I know of Christ the savior  
I know God has a plan,  
Of why he has created  
All woman and all man,

I know that I am part of  
Much more than I do see,  
I'm part of God the father  
I know he lives in me,

Of all of my surroundings  
Of which I understand,  
I know there are no worries  
If, with God, I am,

I see God in the morning  
I see God in the night,  
I see God with his loving care  
I see God in his might,

I know that he is with me  
In what I say and do,  
I know that he will carry  
My soul, my whole life thru,

To me there is a blessing  
In what I understand,  
In knowing of God's wisdom  
And what is in his plan.

The Thing that's True

Open to interpretation  
Are realms we often see,  
Of life, of thought, of conscious  
The things that make us be,

Will we be forthcoming  
In all we do believe?  
Or will we be self-cunning  
In that we do conceive?

Is life more than living?  
From sun to setting sun?  
Is life made for giving  
Of things that we have won?

Is life for the morrow  
Of what we've made today?  
Or full of joys and sorrows  
In all that comes our way?

Perhaps we'll know the answers  
If we can ever be,  
Humbled to the master  
That made all life we see,

In this life of living  
There is one thing that's true,  
Life is everlasting  
To God's chosen few.

The Things of Me

Daily I take value  
In all the things I know,  
My wife, my pets, my family  
In all the ways they grow,

My wife is spouse and mentor  
She brings the best in me,  
My dog is my companion  
When asleep I let it be,

My mother is my wisdom  
She knows a word of truth,  
She reared me and she raised me  
Till now and from my youth,

These things are of importance  
Because they make up what is me,  
My life is more enriching  
Because of what they be.



This Life I Live

My day begins with mystery  
Of what my soul may see,  
Wil it be of sorrow past?  
Or will it be of glee?

The hours I spend throughout my day  
I think of thoughts and prayers,  
Not of God omnipotent  
But of all that life e'er bears,

I love my life, my family  
I love the hours of day,  
I love the moon, the stars, the sky  
I love to find my way,

All of life I've known and seen  
Speak volumes to my soul,  
In this life I love so dear  
I seek to be made whole.

This Life

In all my time I had to live  
I give myself applaud,  
For things I've seen and things I've done  
For things that would be outlawed,

By desire I live this life  
By rights that God designed,  
By His love I know His grace  
My life He has outlined,

I know His spirit's firm and true  
And may not understand,  
Why He loves both me and you  
And why He created man,

But in my heart of hearts I know  
Christ went unto a cross,  
And there He stretched His life for me  
And did for all the lost,

My life has taken many turn  
My days have some regret,  
But to the Christ I give my soul  
My miseries are offset,

For in my past I have learned  
That Christ will make a way,  
All I need do is trust His word  
Then kneel to Him and pray,

## COVENANT'S PROMISE

A prayer of faith with love in heart  
To feel approving sigh,  
A sign to me from God above  
That He's forever nigh,

All my days I'll worship Him  
To me He's done great things,  
He gave me life, He gave me love  
And to me peace He brings,

If I should look back at life  
And wish one thing would change,  
It'd be the hour I loved Him so  
When I was re-arranged,

I'd ask to know His heart so true  
Then in His bosom care,  
I'd give my all to love Him so  
And leave all worries there,

Today I look back and see  
That Christ has kept my soul,  
Through the harshest of my dreams  
That of my spirit stole,

I should e'er be humble  
To always praise His name,  
For in His love He kept me  
To give me life again,

For me there are no worries  
For Christ has bought from me,  
All that could have bound me  
Then He set me free,

A word to all the mothers  
And fathers of a child,  
There is no greater loving  
Than of God's care so mild,

The message these lines carry  
Is not of poem and prose,  
But of a life so merry  
That God alone imposed.

Tides of Time

Seasons come and seasons go  
Days and years pass by,  
We will learn all we will know  
And ask the question "Why"?

Everything we find to do  
Leads to task or toil,  
All the times enjoyed with few  
Breaks in our heart new soil,

Ocean waves will fall and rise  
Tides of high and low,  
Time will mock us as we go  
Through our lifelong flow,

We make our achievements grand  
And mark the things we've done,  
Until we meet God at his stand  
When life with Him we've won,

Every moment filters past  
In which we give our all,  
Or let the moment's meaning pass  
It nevermore to call,

With each passion that we live  
We find ourselves to give,  
To that passion all our hope  
In which we wish to live,

As the waves of oceans tides  
If we look we'll find,  
Life will have its high's and low's  
Throughout the tides of time.

*In Memory of:  
Melvin E Hatfield*

Time's Clause

With every reason in my mind  
For all things, there is a time,  
A time for love and sorrows vast  
To spring ahead or look to past,

A time to heal, a time to grow  
A time to feast, a time to sow,  
A time to inner self reflect  
A time to give my most respect,

A time to live, a time to die  
A time to mourn, a time to cry,  
A time to praise our God above  
A time to hate, a time to love,

And yet in all my reasons vast  
Of what time holds, how long it lasts,  
A time to keep my inner thoughts  
From killing time and all it brought,

A time to boldly look ahead  
To that of life, and not of dead,  
To know that time is on my side  
And it, with God, I will abide.

## The Time of Times

Time, time, and time again  
I drove into the city,  
I spent my days living there  
Sometimes the days were pretty,

Hours and hours on the clock  
I'd do my daily tasks,  
Each day would bring new challenges  
I'd do whatever asked,

My life was filled with bits and bobs  
In this daily grind,  
From one task to another  
These tasks weren't hard to find,

Through the days, the months, the years  
The tasks were not the same,  
Of nature second was to me  
I was asked by name,

Now these tasks behind me  
I seek a different time,  
One in which all my tasks  
Are simply from my mind,

These tasks now of my future  
Aren't like the tasks of past,  
The tasks I choose make memories  
That through my life will last,



## COVENANT'S PROMISE

I'll change my living scenery  
To where I've been before,  
A place that makes my heart swell  
And speaks of foregone lore,

A place of time in memory  
That takes me to a scene,  
In which has peace and silence  
From tasks that I will wean,

I'll start my life in new days  
That wake me with a smile,  
And there I'll spend my new time  
Enjoying every mile,

This place to you I speak of  
Is not just in my past,  
But now it holds my future  
And all my time that lasts.

Timeless Pond

I listen to the crashing waves  
Feel gentile passing breeze,  
I see the ocean vast and blue  
This moment, just to seize,

I feel the ocean calling me  
To know its fathomed depths,  
To see the creatures caught below  
Of how their course is met,

The sands beneath, they shift and flow  
They're ever moving on,  
They keep their captive well contained  
This timeless ever pond.

To Be as You Would Be

Let my eyes see you  
Let my ears hear you  
Let my touch feel you near,

Let my lips praise you  
Let my heart love you  
Let my soul know you are here,

Let my arms lift high  
Let my mind be thine  
Let my life be of your word,

Let your love divine  
Be in the heart of mine  
Let me dwell in your word that I have heard,

Keep me near you oh my King  
Let me of your spirit sing  
That I praise you with all I am to be,

Let me always know you're there  
In your comfort and your care  
In this life and through eternity,

Let there be no mortal task  
Keep me from that you would ask  
That I give my whole of essence Lord to thee,

Let me in my heart of hearts  
From your word to never part  
And to be within my life as you would be.

To Christ I Call

To Christ I call in tribulation  
Or in sobered nights,  
To Him I call for revelation  
To know His depths and heights,

He is the lily of the valley  
God's jubilant jubilee,  
He is the king of all creation  
It's He, who sets us free,

In my nights and in my days  
I feel Him e'er so near,  
The tempter has no justification  
With Christ I have no fear,

He teaches me to be his own  
With His word and care,  
He calls to me from on His throne  
To always pray, forbear,

My Christ is more than just a prayer  
He's in the air I breathe,  
He's never far, He's always there  
Has been since I believed,

Every moment I'm alive  
I feel Him in my heart,  
His spirit near with love so dear  
I pray it never part,

## COVENANT'S PROMISE

The hope in God in prayer you see  
Is always to believe,  
Ask, seek, then you'll find  
His love you will receive,

All that I can say my friend  
Is that you hear these words,  
So, in your heart and in your soul  
Them you will too rehearse,

To Christ be all the glory  
He is the risen son,  
So, all our days and all our ways  
In Him is victory won.

To Earth from Planet Alpha

To Earth from planet alpha  
We see you in your sky,  
We don't know how to tell you  
But really want to try,

It frustrates all our people  
To see you laying waste,  
All your planet's resource  
In such a hurried haste,

Your elements in nature  
Changing as they are,  
The time of your demise  
Is ruled within your star,

You're killing off your people  
With wars of every kind,  
With universe expanding  
It's leaving you behind,

To Earth from Planet Alpha  
We wish you'd understand,  
Just how the earth is changing  
Of how you're killing land,

Of how your planets twilight  
Is nearing and is close,  
And how that it affects us  
We'd tell you that the most,

## COVENANT'S PROMISE

You think that you are single  
A universe to self,  
And never can you hear us  
You've placed us on a shelf,

We've tried at times to tell you  
There is a better way,  
We've traveled in your dying skies  
At night and light of day,

To Earth from Planet Alpha  
Please hear our strongest plea,  
You're not alone in universe  
We hope that you will see,

Before the time that's nearing  
In which there's no more time,  
To change the course of Earth's demise  
And peace you all will find.

To Those I Love

I had a dream, a heart's desire  
It came so quick, like raging fire,  
It told me of the things so close  
Of my kin, I love the most,

I saw each face, I heard each voice  
I spoke with each, it was my choice,  
I held them close, I shook each hand  
I dreamed of wife, of child, of man,

I felt the dream was part of me  
To know the ones I love dearly,  
To look, to see, how they are close  
And within my life, they mean the most,

This dream of mine was not of me  
But to those I love, of whom I see,  
It took my soul, it took my eyes  
To those I love, I do surmise,

If every dream would be so grand  
To draw me close, with those I stand,  
Then dream I would just every day  
And learn from it in every way.



Tomorrow's Dream

Today I have a journey  
A path that I must take,  
I trust I'll go the distance  
The course I choose to take,

For me, I see life's freedoms  
As treasures vast to keep,  
To nurture them and hold them  
And know them, wake or sleep,

My journey's never ending  
It takes me to each day,  
There is a sort of blending  
That doesn't go away,

Today is like tomorrow  
Although, I cannot see,  
Of any joys or sorrow  
I tend to just believe,

My journey ever lasting  
That takes me through each day,  
Is always ever casting  
The scenes that come my way,

Today I feel life's freedoms  
Tomorrow, yet again,  
For in the bright tomorrow  
Is love, family, friend.

Tranquil Wish

If all my meditation  
And all my time my own,  
I'd seek a celebration  
Of what I've gained and grown,

I' make my life rich happy  
I'd have a boat that sails,  
I'd make my potent passion  
I'd have no time that fails,

I'd open all my riches  
To those that would enjoy,  
The solitary wishes  
Of what hearts can employ,

I'd look unto tomorrow  
As just another day,  
That God has mercy granted  
To let it come my way,

Without a hesitation  
I'd dream a lofty dream,  
With all of this upon me  
And of it yield and glean.

The Travel

Sometimes I'm in waiting  
For planes and trains and such,  
Sometimes I am moving  
But it is not too much,

Sometimes I am staying  
Where I find work to do,  
Sometimes I am praying  
Fr the job to be done and through,

But always in my journeys  
I have within my heart,  
The thoughts of dearest loved ones  
Of whom I am apart,

When I finish travel  
And I'm at end of day,  
I find the time to reflect  
Of what had come my way,

It's then I come to realize  
My travels make me new,  
With each new destination  
I find this ever true,

If you wish to travel  
To see the world afar,  
Be prepared to realize  
It's different than you are.

## The True Heart

The true heart is loyal  
It holds to one's faith,  
It knows of the difference  
What "is" and what "ain't",

It honors all wisdom  
Of all love and truth,  
It never forgets  
Remembers from youth,

It honors its elders  
Takes care of its kin,  
Will seek to praise God  
It honors all men,

It takes none for granted  
It doesn't seek greed,  
It lives this life fully  
It has no great need,

It seeks to admire  
Of all life itself,  
It looks to all others  
Of where it can help,

The true heart is beating  
With love that is kind,  
Forever among us  
And from envy, blind,

## COVENANT'S PROMISE

This heart that I speak of  
Can be in us all,  
If we just once realize  
To God we should call.

## Understanding

In all of God's creation  
I think I understand,  
That heavens made for angels  
And was not made for man,

For everything angel  
Is from God alone,  
Ascending and descending  
To us from God's throne,

We are not as angels  
But of God's family,  
We weren't made to praise Him  
But serve Him willingly,

In all my understanding  
I know this very true,  
If you read the Bible  
You will know it too.

The Union

Nine months in waiting  
I felt you inside,  
I heard your small cries  
You kicking my sides,

Nine months of journey  
I toiled in await,  
To hold you so darling  
A hard time to take,

My love for you grew  
In measures unknown,  
Except to a mother  
Giving birth to her own,

So dearly I loved you  
Before you were born,  
That I asked God to watch you  
And bless you in form,

A mother in waiting  
So loves her child,  
That changes her life  
From wild to the mild,

The lessons of living  
A life with newborn,  
Is a lesson in life  
That is lived and not worn,

My child I'm your mother  
That gave birth to you,  
And I'll lead you and guide you  
In all that you do,

So, keep me in memory  
All years of your life,  
And know that a mother  
Gives each child its life.



Unseen

Free from growing older  
Far from things that die,  
New to life forever  
Look to eastern skies,

Life's just but a vapor  
Lasting for a while,  
Moments of our candor  
Wrestling every mile,

Joys are full of splendor  
Fears will come and go,  
Tears we shed in sorrow  
Love will make us grow,

Life is splendid sorrow  
Loves that never last,  
Days without tomorrow  
Luck that's never cast.

## Until Life's End

With all my living dreams  
All my thoughts and schemes  
The living breath I breathe  
All things I do with ease

I have this utmost thought  
Of what all dreams have brought  
Of where I seek to be  
Within eternity

I long to be with you  
More than you ever knew  
Our hearts to be one beat  
And in you I'd find  
My soul's peace of mind  
You would be my closest friend  
Until life's end

In all my days I think of you  
Of how you were and what you'd do  
Of what it means, you at my side  
Of how my dreams would live and die

And then I know  
The love so grand  
I'd give my all  
To hold your hand

I long to be with you  
More than you ever knew  
Our hearts to be one beat  
And in you I'd find  
My own soul's peace of mind  
You would be my closest friend  
Until life's end

Val

Various times in your past  
A lot of things you would do,  
Little memories of times gone by  
Encompass and surround you,

Now today you're different though  
Caring for us all,  
I look in sheer amazement dear  
At your love, your depth, your all,

First I ever met you  
Roars on through my heart,  
Every waking moment  
Excites me like the start,

May all life's richest blessings  
Always be your prize,  
No one deserves them better  
So, listen to my wise,

Birthdays are for giving  
Dreams to bearers of,  
A person whom was born that day, like  
You -- the one I love.

Van

Often, I have wondered if  
You know just how I feel,  
The depth of love I have for you  
Surpasses all that's real,

I look at you in depths of awe  
Of all you say and do,  
How much you care, how much you love  
What makes you all that's you,

Your caring smile, your thoughtfulness  
Your grace, your charm, your wit,  
I can't deny I hold you high  
You are my perfect fit,

As mothers go, you're all of them  
With every caring touch,  
And that is why you're as you are  
Because you love so much,

I may not say this everyday  
I feel it just the same,  
An honor you bestowed to me  
The day you took my name.

The Value of a Minute

The ever-sweeping hands of clocks  
Sweep past the valued time,  
Each time I view a clock so grand  
I feel the time is mine,

Each moment that I have in time  
Is precious and so few,  
I feel I do not have the time  
To do all I must do,

My day is filled with many things  
That I must start and finish,  
The time I have to do all tasks  
The day lacks time within it,

The value of my fun filled day  
Is measured not by time,  
But what I can accomplish in  
The time that I claim mine.

## The Victors

Days will twist and days will turn  
All throughout our lives,  
Some things will grow, some things will burn  
Some days are clear blue skies,

Every moment of our lives  
Brings such different things,  
Some the good, some the bad  
Such all days will bring,

In the turmoil of our lives  
There is a center theme,  
God is in control of all  
Life is more than meme,

Through the clashes and the throws  
Of life's ocean vast,  
If we stop to pray a prayer  
We'll know where God has cast,

All our lives and all our days  
Are all within God's spirit,  
Just the one prayer to pray  
Then of His will, we'll hear it,

In our lives of all our days  
We can overcome,  
To be the victors of this life  
And know of where we're from.

The Views

Within my womb I hold in care  
Two lives of whom I will share,  
Each with rights and minds of own  
I've carried them as they have grown,

In awe I wonder of their needs  
Their times of rest and times to feed,  
What will they want, what will they be?  
How will they look, how will they see?

What path will each in life take?  
What futures will each in life make?  
Will one of law or doctor be?  
Will one of pen or song to sing?

How will they measure and to each grow?  
Of each their hearts, will they know?  
Will they compete or be a team?  
Will they know love as I have seen?

Regardless of their futures bright  
They are precious in my sight,  
For each to grow and be the man  
That stands so proud as any can,

These boys that grow inside of me  
Do give me hope of what will be,  
Of futures bold and futures grand  
Each boy will grow just as he can.

## The Virtue

Underlying tones  
Of “hush” and “yes you can”,  
The e’er approving nod  
Of an elderly woman,

One of many years  
Of many times, in every place,  
That lived a fullest life  
In this world of every race,

The troubled times of past  
Made her stronger as she grew,  
An in-surmount of wisdom  
She would pass to those she knew,

This giant of a person  
Is so dear and close to me,  
She sees me as a son  
And sees what I ought be,

Her kindred she does love  
And treats them all the same,  
She claims them as her own  
As she calls them by their name,

Her love is ever sound  
As it rings within her voice,  
Her spirit ever strong  
As it leads her to life’s choice,



## COVENANT'S PROMISE

In her we see a strength  
That binds in unity,  
This feeling so immense  
That it captures what we see,

In all our days of knowing  
This woman of great might,  
She helped us find our way  
From the wrong and to the right,

If you hear these words  
And don't simply understand,  
Then you haven't met this woman  
Who was blessed by God's own hand.

## The Voice of God

Children's smiles and laughter  
Parent's joyous glee,  
Life with children after  
And all that they will be,

In life's shining moments  
We look unto the child,  
Forever are we caring  
Of the youth so tender mild,

From birth to graduation  
In our hearts we care,  
To groom them and to guide them  
And of our love to share,

This family institution  
Is not by accident,  
But by divine guidance  
Its path is heaven sent,

We hear the voice of children  
Of babies goohs and gaahs,  
Not understanding thru them  
We hear the Voice of God.

The Voice

I heard a voice inside of me  
It told me I should pray,  
It spoke of love and kindness  
It led me through the day,

The voice was sweet to my ears  
And soothing to my soul,  
It spoke of heaven's majesty  
And what should be my goal,

It carried me when I was weak  
It kept my soul in care,  
It taught me of God's love divine  
It taught my heart to share,

This voice I know is of God's own  
The comforter he sends,  
To keep us focused on His throne  
Our heart to make amends,

This voice will teach us how to pray  
When we can't find the words,  
This voice is of God's holiness  
And of His word we've heard.

The Void

In early life we learn things  
Some of good and bad,  
Throughout life we hear things  
Some of happy – sad,

In this life we live things  
Through hard times we can fail,  
In this life we find things  
That seem to tell a tale,

Life is all around us  
We live it and we breathe,  
We love to see its beauty  
The memories it leaves,

If we find we're caring  
Then life will be within,  
If we're never sharing  
Then life will not ascend,

In this there's a wisdom  
To give more than to take,  
To let the life around us  
Not be a mere mistake.

Waiting for Peonies

Songs of love and life and majesty  
Words that steep into the soul,  
Rhymes that pull at hearts of you and me  
Days that make you pay the toll,

Hours that pass us by as lazy days  
Days that never seem to end,  
Years that linger in our thoughts of life  
Times, we don't know where to begin,

I'm just sitting in my quiet life  
Writing letters, I won't ever send,  
To tell truth I watch the seconds pass  
As I'm waiting for the peonies my friend,

Our lives are close but they are just as far  
We have much to make amends,  
While we can wish upon that twinkled star  
We look to life and how it ends,

Each day I wake I see a brand-new sky  
Its clouds or clear do soar my soul,  
I see the stars and I see no end  
I let the starshine take control,

I'm just sitting in my quiet life  
Writing letters, I won't ever send,  
To tell truth I watch the seconds pass  
As I'm waiting for the peonies my friend,  
As I'm waiting for the peonies my friend.

The Wait

Through years of life awaiting  
That time will be no more,  
Till I see the master's gating  
On everlasting shore,

Till moments all around me  
Are just a memory of,  
The times that do surround me  
Then I can see God's love,

His love is overwhelming  
It reaches every heart,  
His love is quite astounding  
It comes from Godly part,

Now the wait is over  
The master's time's at hand,  
I look toward the moment  
In front of Him I'll stand,

His mercy ever bounding  
His spirit calls my soul,  
I hear the trumpet sounding  
His spirit takes control,

I am no longer waiting  
I feel him at my side,  
I finally found his gating  
And where I will abide.

*In Memory of  
Paul Vincent Ressler  
July 1, 1936 - April 23, 2017*

The Walk of Stars

I sing, I dance, I pray, I play  
I keep my heart refreshed,  
I live, I love, I sleep, I dream  
I keep my soul at rest,

Years have come and years have gone  
But days are all the same,  
They start at dawn and end at dusk  
And so we play life's game,

In all my years present past  
I've lived life every day,  
I've seen the snow, endured the rain  
I have a lot to say,

I hear folks speak of younger days  
When they were fresh and new,  
To them I say "Why grow old?"  
Just enjoy all that you do,

Age is but a memory  
Of life that slipped away,  
Instead of aging on, you see  
Just live the game and play,

Throughout my years I had some fun  
I've sang, I've danced, I've cried,  
For me I see my best years yet  
From those I will not hide,

I live a life of love and faith  
I find my strength therein,  
Though my body shows some age  
I'm full of youth within,

In all my life, my memories  
Are just a thought away,  
Within those thoughts I cannot live  
I choose to live and play,

Aging isn't what we do  
It's what we all endure,  
Enjoying life and keeping faith  
Will make your future sure,

If you'd walk among life's stars  
You'll find they're you and me,  
They sing, they dance, they pray, they play  
They live eternally.



The Walls

Let's build a wall, protect our own  
Let's build it high and long,  
Let's make it strong, make it bold  
Its strength to last years long,

Let's tell the world we have this wall  
To keep us safe therein,  
Let's make it known we'll build it strong  
Built by ten thousand men,

Let's take account of private land  
Which we will need in course,  
Let's be aware of sinking sands  
And of the earth – its source,

Let's ask all to understand  
This wall will mean no harm,  
It is our lock, our key to trust  
It'll save us from alarm,

But do we know this wall we build  
Will do less good, more harm?  
For nations see this we build  
Which strikes their hearts alarm,

The walls then built are not of stone  
No mortar or wood grain,  
But walls of flesh with the hearts  
Of those that will abstain,

When e'er we reach to separate  
Ourselves from neighbor man,  
We build the walls within ourselves  
And take a lonely stand,

Instead of walls to keep us safe  
How would it e'er to be,  
If by some chance we reduce hate  
And helped the world to see?

If we become quite unified  
With bordered countries close,  
Could we then gain closer ties?  
And make of life the most?

For every soul there is a wall  
We live it every day,  
If these walls we can break  
We'll truly find our way.

The Warf

I took a walk down fisher's lane  
To catch a fish or two,  
As I walked, I saw the Lord  
In all that I did do,

I saw Him in the morning sky  
As clouds, they floated by,  
I saw Him in the birds that fly  
They soared so very high,

I saw Him in the fish that swam  
So swift and gracious fast,  
I saw Him in each passer by  
And in all time that lasts,

I saw the Lord in everything  
For in it all, He is,  
Then I saw Him in my heart  
For there, also He lives.

## The Warrant

A warrant I was told of  
Of one to apprehend,  
For crimes that were committed  
For seasons of great sin,

This warrant was for someone  
That just would not comply,  
But lived a lawless lifestyle  
With every passerby,

This warrant I was given  
I had to carry through,  
To make it much much safer  
For lives of me and you,

But when I served the warrant  
I found the crime to be,  
A crime of sinner's passion  
A crime that sets one free,

It wasn't of great violence  
Nor of any stolen goods,  
But of a lonely spirit  
And of a love that could,

Within this crime of passion  
It was a stolen heart,  
The warrant that I carried  
Was that of heaven's part.

We Bow Down

We bow down we kneel in prayer  
To speak unto our Lord,  
We make our soul of essence  
In humbleness God toward,

We bow down to know His grace  
To feel His spirit near,  
We bow down for victory  
Ore all that we would fear,

We bow down in humbleness  
As this our spirit needs,  
We bow down to hear His voice  
As our spirit He feeds,

We bow down to yield our strength  
To know from whence it's from,  
We bow down to gain in heart  
That we may overcome,

We bow down of our essence  
To pray, to praise, extol,  
We bow down to give our life  
And then to gain our soul,

We bow down to God's spirit high  
We bow down to His throne,  
We bow down in hopes He's nigh  
To claim us as His own,

We bow down in our spirit  
Upon our bended knee,  
And of God's essence, hear it  
We bow down to be free,

We bow to Christ the savior  
We pray with comfort Ghost,  
We give to God all essence  
We bow to heaven's host,

We bow to Christ believing  
He hears the words we say,  
That we may be receiving  
His guidance on our way,

We bow to God the master  
The King among all kings,  
So, in this life and after  
His praises we will sing - - we bow down.

We Won't Forget

We won't forget the day we saw  
Our city filled with ash,  
When terror struck with fury  
And planes in towers crashed,

We won't forget our friends who died  
In overwhelming heat,  
Or those who perished down beneath  
Atop and below street,

We won't forget the air in which  
Our lungs could not withstand,  
Nor sight was seen on that clear day  
When terror struck our land,

We won't forget the countries proud  
Who flocked unto our needs,  
Of what they did and how they felt  
For they were too displeased,

We won't forget the hundreds dead  
their names yet still untold,  
While nations grieved and mourned with us  
For those the towers hold,

We won't forget the world around  
Who watched in disbelief,  
Then came to us to aid us so  
We could find some relief,

We won't forget the visitors  
And children in the stow,  
Who came to see the market trades  
Instead fell to great woe,

We won't forget that innocence  
Was shaken great that day,  
Nor of the heartfelt moment  
When millions joined to pray,

We won't forget the battle cry  
Which rose from billowed grounds,  
The vengeance of our nation's wrath  
Our armies' thunderous sounds,

We won't forget all those who joined  
And answered to the call,  
As we flew to the battlefield  
Crying "Death to terror all!",

We won't forget the unseen hands  
Which guide us every day,  
It's God above whose wrath we join  
As terror we will slay,

We won't forget that life's a treasure  
And every moment gold,  
As we rid earth of terror warriors  
And society remold,

We won't forget to e'er be humble  
In future steps we take,  
To ensure that all terror crumbles  
And a life of peace we make.

We won't forget!



## The Wedding

Awaiting for that person  
That lifts my very soul,  
That keeps me looking forward  
To ever building goals,

Now that I've found that someone  
That lifts my spirit high,  
We'll be in reunion  
From now until we die,

Together we will marry  
And in our hearts to wed,  
When we both say "I do"  
That's all that need be said,

On to higher journeys  
On to married bliss,  
On to loving memories  
On to eternal kiss,

When we are together  
In union we will be,  
May this last our lifetime  
Until eternity.

## The Weight I Bear

I bore a weight of sorrow  
So early in my life,  
It masked all my tomorrow  
I saw it as great strife,

Then I came to ponder  
This weight I had to bear,  
And found I sought to save it  
And keep it with great care,

Seldom do I wonder  
If this weight weren't to be,  
What would be the outcome  
How would it have changed me?

This weight became my savior  
Of all my living be,  
Because it was my sister  
And not a weight, you see.

We're Not Twins

Over, and over and, and over again  
Day in and day out,  
I find that I am living with friends  
And what they are all about,

When e'er I'm with them or they with me  
We're seen as brother and brother,  
Yet no one knows why as seen in their eye  
We're not kin to one another,

Not that it matters to have the chatter  
Confusion amongst the myth,  
At times though it's weary  
And sometimes it's just a lift,

To all that see us and may not believe us  
We're not offended at all,  
We're doing our jobs, doing our best  
And letting the pieces just fall.

## What May Befall

A man today played havoc  
He killed with gun in hand,  
People mourned in masses  
All throughout the land,

Storms struck many houses  
They took the lives of some,  
The rest they just left homeless  
A place to live, had none,

The earth, it shook so greatly  
It made a city fall,  
The people cried in anguish  
To God, they did not call,

A plague took many people  
A vaccine was never found,  
Some had suffered dearly  
Some were placed in ground,

These things were oh so grievous  
Of how they came to be,  
To answer why they happened  
Genesis, chapter 3,

When man fell in the garden  
It opened toils and woes,  
It bought us all of evil  
This daily story goes,

## COVENANT'S PROMISE

If we become quite fearful  
Of all that can befall,  
Then our soul's forgotten  
Upon whom we must call,

God created Adam  
God from him formed Eve,  
God created all we see  
And all we are to be,

God gives to us wisdom  
God gives to us love,  
God gives to us words of faith  
To trust in Him above,

Always there'll be evil  
Tears, and fears, and woes,  
Sometimes there'll be bad times  
No one really knows,

Fear is not of evil  
But fear, with doubt is sin,  
Doubt, our heart, will torture  
Faith - - will that heart mend,

Let us not be tortured  
Of all that may befall,  
Place faith in all God's graces  
And to Him daily call,

Let your fear be holy  
Of He, who all life brings,  
Whom set all stars in their place  
Of Him, all angels sing,

Listen to His guidance  
When evil starts to call,  
Then trust in God and do not fear  
Of all what may befall.

Wonders All

I see the stars that shine so bright  
I see the moon, its luminous light,  
I see the sky, so big above  
I see of God, his unfeigned love,

I know the oceans' so deep, so vast  
I know when storms are overcast,  
I feel the wind so soft, so strong  
I see the years as they are long,

I know of firs of hundred years  
I know of joy, I know of tears,  
I know of wonders upon this earth  
And wonder of wonders, an infant's birth,

All within all I see so grand  
Are things of life which outshines man,  
Of all wonders, of grandeurs all  
I see myself, and the life I call.

## What My Hands Find

Daly, I find tasks  
That lead me to delight,  
And daily I find tasks  
That seem to be a fight,

Daily I find reason  
Some good and some bad,  
About the daily tasks  
Some happy yet some sad,

Daily I run chores  
That keep me on my track,  
And daily I find chores  
That if could, I'd give back,

Daily I find time  
A little window of,  
That what my hands will find  
I do towards God above,

What e'er my hands may find  
Of tasks, of time, of chore,  
I seek to always give  
As if unto the Lord.



What Pains Us Most

Today I saw a doctor  
Was given a prognosis,  
My life would change forever  
To family, friends, and closest,

My condition in my life  
Would make me see things new,  
To make me realize  
I must change what I do,

I like the things of living  
I enjoy every day,  
But now my doctor tells me  
I must to change my ways,

Instead of my dear diet  
Different things to eat,  
I'm on a stricter diet  
And of it not to cheat,

My heart, my mind, my valor  
Is not within this task,  
But for the healthful reasons  
I must do what is asked,

My love of life is splendid  
In many different ways,  
But now my doctor tells me  
To change, if I want days,

It's not that getting older  
Should make me as I am,  
But what I've done in my years  
My health, gave it a slam,

Now the doctor tells me  
Be careful as you go,  
And let our science guide you  
As you heal and grow,

I say to you live healthy  
Be careful what you eat,  
To limit doctor visits  
And health you soon will greet,

Don't let the hype to fool you  
Just find and make a plan,  
Instead of seeing doctors  
With good health make a stand,

Use my little wisdom  
To change your healthy ways,  
To seek more to be healthy  
And lengthen all your days.

What We Do with Time

A raindrop falls, a snowflake lofts  
A flower grows into a rose,

A flower wilts, its petals fall  
A leaf turns brown and hits the ground,

The majesty of nature's best  
Will stand the test of time and rest,

What we see with our eyes  
God's great earth, grand open skies,

The real beauty of what we see  
Is that it's made for you and me,

As years go by their season's pass  
There is one thing that always lasts,

The time God gave for us to live  
Within this life, to Him to give,

It matters not what we see in mind  
But it matters most what we do with time.

## What We See

In all glitter, in all grime  
In all places, in all time,  
In our hearts, in our prayers  
In our love, in heaven's stairs,

In the people, in one soul  
In what makes us, keeps us whole,  
In the rhythm, in the rhyme  
In one moment, in all time,

In our fortunes, in our past  
In the living, in what's cast,  
All our heartache, all our love  
Of our essence from above,

Through our lifetime, what we see  
What we know and we believe,  
What we see with sight of eye  
What we know within our sigh,

All are different, yet the same  
All God's children in His name,  
If we see with natural eyes  
We miss the message of heaven's skies,

What we see with eyes of heart  
Is unto God in heaven's parts,  
We see with love within our soul  
Then know that God is in control,

## COVENANT'S PROMISE

If we look through spirit eyes  
We look to life which never dies,  
There we'll find, there we'll know  
The love of God and know it bold.

## When Eyes Behold

When eyes behold the beauty  
Of all that I have seen,  
When minds have seen the value  
Of all that I have dreamed,

When innocence of nature  
Is shown upon a page,  
When all of our damnations  
Are to the world displayed,

My heart does seek to ponder  
The rarities of man,  
How do we live in darkness  
Within our timeless lands?

Why do we seek to alter  
The way another lives?  
Or put forth limitations  
On what others have to give?

Is it that we worry  
Our part will be withheld,  
Of all the spoils that fall from  
This world in which we meld?

In our time of wisdom  
In that we know the way,  
How far have we fallen?  
Can we get back someday?

## COVENANT'S PROMISE

Our part to all mankind  
Is not to greedily pull,  
But put to ease for all minds  
And for all needs – fulfill.

## When I Shall Wake

When I shall wake in morning  
I'll find I've done all tasks,  
Now it is the season  
To put away the past,

I'll wake to see vacations  
I'll wake to see the seas,  
I'll wake to see great mountains  
I'll wake to just be me,

I'll put away work sorrows  
The schedules of my past,  
I'll wake for all tomorrows  
And make my living vast,

For now, it is my season  
To make each moment mine,  
So, when I wake tomorrow  
I'll know it's my own time.



When Worlds Collide

When worlds collide of wonders high  
With worlds of make believe,  
We find ourselves believing in  
That which we do perceive,

If faith is measured by what's seen  
And what we understand,  
Then life would be all faithful  
And words would save all man,

But faith is for believing  
In what we do not know,  
Of how one is receiving  
That cherished crimson flow,

If life is all we hope for  
For one to know the king,  
Our faith is ere but lacking  
Forgetting just one thing,

To all a call is given  
To know and understand,  
In whom life is forever  
This goes to every man,

When this life is over  
Our spirit yet lives on,  
So then in the hereafter  
The call may chance call on,

Not knowing where the heart is  
We cannot see this through,  
But God who knows all spirits  
Can save the spirit too.

*In Memory of:  
William Roger Riddle  
April 9, 1944 - December 16, 2014*

Why We Pray

We pray to God our Father  
To near ourselves to love,  
To know the pains of Jesus  
Of heaven up above,

We pray to God believing  
Of His mercy and His care,  
We ask of his forgiveness  
Of things we shouldn't share,

We pray for loves and neighbors  
As they too have some needs,  
We ask of God to bless them  
And hear us from our knees,

We pray to e'er get closer  
And far away from self,  
We pray to be like Jesus  
And of our weakness help,

We pray of life's beginning  
At start of each new day,  
As God we seek to pleasure  
With adorations praise,

We pray to know the feeling  
Of God's approving sigh,  
To feel His spirit near us  
And in His word abide,

We pray for all the nations  
That they may know this King,  
To lift their mass confusion  
And pray the heavens ring,

We pray to be more like Him  
And know His spirit true,  
Till no longer do we see us  
But God in all we do,

We pray in faith believing  
We praise of gratitude,  
We worship God in glory  
We pray our hearts be true.

Wings of Prayer

Deep emotions far inside  
Daily Stresses far and wide,  
All our heartache, all our woe  
What becomes us as life goes?

Changing seasons, cold and heat  
Children dying in our streets,  
Politicians telling lies  
Air of refuse fill our skies,

We really need a change today  
We need for things to go our way,  
We need to know that God is there  
We call to him on winged prayer,

Hope is always near at hand  
To every woman, child and man,  
To find the answers, to be free  
And make our living comfortably,

Just imagine if you can  
What it takes to take a stand,  
Stop the madness that we see  
Change the lives of you and me,

Just a crying, just a prayer  
To our God who always cares,  
Find the strength internally  
Cry aloud for all to see,

Make the difference, make the stand  
Change the pace and heal the land,  
Stop the dying of the child  
Cast your vote for less beguiled,

Clear the heartache, clear the pain  
Change the drought to days of rain,  
Clear a path to purer heart  
Make joy and peace our honored art,

Raise the flag of our cares  
To God above, whose always there,  
Soar our praise and heartfelt care  
To God's throne, on wings of prayer.

Wisdom's Song

In wisdom's truth  
We seek a firm salvation,  
In wisdom's years  
We seek of health and care,

In wisdom's fortress  
We seek to be secure,  
In wisdom's lair  
We seek to be united,

In all our years  
We seek to learn of wisdom,  
In all our fears  
We seek of them to hide,

When we are strong  
We know that we aren't weary,  
When we're in song  
We feel a joy inside,

Throughout our lives  
Wisdom is a mistress,  
We hold it close  
And keep it at our side,

When we are young  
We hide ourselves from wisdom,  
When we are old  
Wisdom, in us, abides,

In wisdom's song  
It tells us of our longings,  
It plays a tune  
And keeps us in our prime.

Within Reason

With every rhyme and reason  
Of which I know is true,  
Holds within is seasons  
And throes of nature's dues,

All the natural caring  
All the spirits share,  
All the time hereafter  
All my woes and cares,

I will find the meaning  
In what is said and done,  
In this life I'm living  
With all that's under sun,

In this life so fragile  
We ask, we seek, we pray,  
To be with God hereafter  
When he will have his day,

Now within all reason  
I find the truest truth,  
Is I'm forever learning  
And have been from my youth.



The Word

Words of wisdom  
In texts we read,  
To our souls  
These words will feed,

For every line  
That gives us power,  
It makes us stronger  
In that hour,

Words are life  
In written form,  
They can start wars  
Or weather storms,

A word can live  
A word can grow,  
Take care with all  
The words we sow,

If we choose  
A word with care,  
It will not  
Our soul to snare,

But use its strength  
To reach the skies,  
And give strength to all  
Who under lies.

## Worlds

Worlds are many, numbered high  
Throughout space are foreign skies,  
Numbered more than pebbled sea  
We wonder where these worlds could be,

Are they close or distant far?  
Are they like us or have more stars?  
Do they grow and do they learn?  
For daily bread how do they earn?

Are their peoples small or vast?  
Do they dream of future, learn from past?  
Do they laugh and play and sing?  
Or pray to God till heaven's ring?

Are they yet brethren we should know?  
Do they plant and do they sow?  
Do their people buy and trade?  
Do they sleep when daytime fades?

Are there some worlds that we will see?  
What they are and seek to be?  
Perhaps in time we'll understand  
Where all worlds are- - within God's plan.

The Worshipping Kind

To wit, to wake, to wonder  
To teach the words of God,  
To open up his graces  
Telling where His angels trod,

To lead to God disciples  
That hunger for His word,  
In songs and prayers sought after  
They keep in heart what's heard,

To open understanding  
What spirit says to flesh,  
Be mindful of Christ's coming  
Escaping throes of death,

Teaching of God's kindness  
Of His majesty,  
Swaying souls from blindness  
So, spiritually they see,

Aiding to full knowledge  
Of what heaven holds,  
Teaching of the gates thereof  
And the streets of gold,

Asking God for blessings  
To all that would but hear,  
Of His son's near coming  
And what they should not fear,

Giving thanks for answers  
To questions yet to ask,  
Knowing God is faithful  
He will fill the task,

In this bible study  
Wisdom God will grant,  
To all souls that be therein  
And of His word romance.

Yalanda McGhee –

I Read a Lot of Everything I Enjoy

Years of thoughtful reading  
All sorts of text of page,  
Lends to higher thinking  
At any reader's age,

Never lightly thinking  
Dull thoughts to ponder by,  
Always ever learning  
My mind on constant high,

Consuming every writing  
Geared to wet my wit,  
Heeding that life's answers  
Encased in thoughts I get,

Every time I read a book  
I seek its meaning true,  
Reading is a life to me  
Enthralled, I enjoy too,

Anytime I choose to read  
During night or day,  
Always, I find it interesting  
Learning as I may,

Of the books I choose to read  
Tons of things I find,  
Often take me far away  
Far places in my mind,

Every line of every text  
Value I do see,  
Every word of every line  
Renders strength to me,

You can watch your movies  
Television shows,  
Happy play on internet  
In glee or sorrowed woe,

Not to peak your interest  
Giving you my take,  
I thought that I should tell you  
Enjoy, don't hesitate,

Never pass up reading  
Just to say you can,  
Open books and read the words  
You'll be the better man!

## Hidden Text

Val - Page 176. The first letter of each verse spells:

“Valencia Freemans B Day”

Page 226 - The title is spelled out in the first letter of each verse.

“Yalanda McGhee - I Read a Lot of Everything I Enjoy”

