

Poems, Prayers & Pictures
By Olive Borland

#### Foreword

I again want to thank Almighty God for what I consider to be His "Whispers of Love" that continue to flood my mind. I hope my thoughts will give comfort, peace, guidance and strength to all who read and I pray many will allow God to lead, guide and direct them in the days and years ahead. I am indebted to my friend, Hilary Lamberton and to John McAteer, Editor of the Tirconaill Tribune for their valued help, support and encouragement.

Olive Borland

# Whispers of Love

Whispers of Love from heaven above Speak to this heart of mine And tell me of the gift that cost The life that was Divine!

> The gift of my salvation Was bought upon a tree By the lovely Son of God Who died on Calvary!

I thank Him that He whispers still And that for good, and not for ill May I ever attentive be To the one who speaks to me.

John 10:4 & Romans 8:23

# A Word of Gratitude

Lord, my heart is filled with gratitude, With thankfulness and praise, Today as I look around me I see your goodness in many ways.

I see your beauty in the mountains
The valleys and the sea;
I see your creatures grazing
In the fields in front of me!

I hear the melodic cheerful song
Of the birds that soar on high
You created these beautiful creatures
That we see high in the sky.

Just now I saw the happy farmer
Cutting silage in his field
Only a few short months ago
He couldn't have envisaged such a yield.

You, our God are reminding us
That we can rely on you
You have kept so many promises
And you will keep the remainder too.

By Olive Borland

online

Genesis 8:22

"As long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night will not cease."

# Hidden Beauty

Yesterday was so dull and drear
Through torrents of rain, we could barely peer
But to-day the sun is shining bright
My, what a truly spectacular sight!

The sea sparkles so, so blue The boats sail by with their crews The children play on golden sand The waves lap and ebb near to land.

The wonder of seeing fields so green Where flocks of sheep and cows are seen The wonder of mountains so, so high They appear to be trying to reach the sky

The wonder of beautiful birds in flight My, what a truly spectacular sight They make one want to stretch and fly And survey all with a birds eye.

What a difference when the sun appears
Yesterday was so drab and cheerless
We were then barely aware
That all this beauty was hidden there!

God offers His Son as our light He can reveal beauty hid from sight God has so much for us to see Only in Christ can we see clearly.

By Olive Borland

# Thoughts while in my Garden

When sitting in my garden,
It is now plain to see
Plants, flowers, bushes, and trees
Growing so, so vigorously!

They create a pretty picture
They are a lovely sight
They would lift the heart of anyone
who would cast their gaze aright.

This didn't happen by accident
It didn't happen by chance
Nor did it happen by planning
Or by taking a dreamy nightly stance!

I had to take some action
Dig, sow, plant, water and weed
Because of sweat, toil and time
I have flowers and abundant seeds.

Now the scene is not all perfect There are weeds here and there I need to work another hour or two Or the seeds will spread everywhere.

There is a message here for everyone In all aspects of physical and spiritual life If we don't take action and give action time We can't expect miracles to solve our plight.

# Are we where God intended us to be?

The heads of corn stand straight and tall
Amid the barley field
They look so odd, they look a fraud
Despite their prolific yield.

I don't think it was intended That they should be growing there The seed must have been sown When the farmer was unaware?

It's not as if the seed itself
Was poor or bad or rare
It is just that in the barley field
It should not be growing there.

We are the spiritual harvest
Of the Farmer up on high
Are we growing where He wants us?
Or does He sadly watch and sigh?

Are we like Jonah with his plans Intent on our own way Instead of listening to God's voice, Have we too stubbornly strayed?

#### Thoughts While Weeding

As I began to weed my garden where weeds weren't hard to find Thoughts of satisfaction soon started coming to my mind. As bucket after bucket was filled and cleared soil I began to see I now saw space for flowers where weeds used to be. I found flowers that were hidden from the eye of passers by Because they had been encroached by weeds that caused some to die Some looked weak and feeble; some were flat upon the ground They had been deprived of sunlight to keep them healthy, strong and sound. Our lives, like my garden need the "light" of God's own SON Shining in recesses and corners that we keep hidden from everyone! God our heavenly gardener is better able to weed than you or me I know it gives Him great satisfaction to leave lives clean where sin used to be He's not worried whether the sins are many or whether they're big or small Whether they are few or far between but He grieves that we sin at all God's Word tells us sin is banned from His heavenly garden and home If we're wise we'll allow Him to weed while on this earth we live and roam.

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#### Please Take Note

When reclining in my garden
Recalling time spent there
Yes, thirty and forty years ago
I became acutely aware
That in another few years
I will be admiring a garden fair
Where no weeding will need doing
Because there will be no weeds there.

Time passes very quickly
So please take time while you may
To consider the fact of death
That will one day come our way
Only those who have trusted Jesus
Will view this garden with me
And I hope to meet you there
So we can celebrate eternally.

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#### "God is Able"

When I look at the beauty around me It is apparent all was created with care With skill, with vision and knowledge The evidence is seen everywhere.

I believe no human has the ability To conceive, to create and maintain The vast accumulation of intricacy That was woven by God and remains.

God created minute particles in detail That has confused the mind of man Who have spent years trying to decipher God's ability but they rarely can.

God has the ability to do as He wishes He is not limited like you and like me Although we sinfully disobeyed Him If we trust Jesus, He can set us free.

Jesus has gone to prepare a place for us When we in time leave this earthly race I hope like me, you can't wait to see The wonder of that amazing place!

Tribune On line

#### God, our Creator

God inscribed His signature on creation

From the first day He creation began

Examine what you wish in fine detail

You will find there the mark of His hand.

Many sceptics discredit this fact Not wishing to acknowledge our God Many have worked their entire lifetime Trying to prove that God is a fraud!

But scientists have never been able to prove This world was derived from a bang. Scientific research has never disproved God's Word of Truth and it never can.

Take note, I believe this one fact is true Science can never disprove God's Word to you If you too believe what I say is true Then you ought to seek God's Will in life for you.

By Olive Borland

Tribune

# Come see beautiful Mulroy Bay.

My heart is filled with thankfulness My mouth is filled with praise For the men who did such a great job Alongside beautiful Mulroy Bay!

We who travel around Kerrykeel
Are thrilled we can now see
The beauty that was hidden from view
By rubbish, weeds, bushes and trees.

I believe no matter where we travel,
No matter where we roam,
We'll never see more beautiful sights
Other than along this road that leads to home!

Of course you may say I'm biased And I admit that may be true But why not come and see for yourself If there's truth in what I'm saying to you!

Mulroy Bay is located in County Donegal, Ireland

#### Workers for Jesus

As workers together for Jesus Let us labour 'till setting sun Jesus himself said, "Labour, the latter days have already begun."

corrections

He says the fields are ripe unto harvest But the labourers they are few. If you my friend love the Saviour Then He has a job for you.

There is no unemployment with Jesus
There is plenty of work to do
Just let Him know you are available
He will have a job that will suit you.

We do not need to be learned
We only need to know
The love of Jesus Christ within
Then His Spirit will overflow.

Tribune



I spot with my eye light in the sky
I see it right now shining up on high
A golden light after a dark night
My, what a beautiful, beautiful sight!

God created this light to put to flight
The intense darkness of the night
He saw earth's plight, that it needed light
So He created the sun to aid our sight.

God's creation of the universe Showed His ability, power and might But when He created mankind He reached creations height.

> But sadly man became sinful In our sinless Creators sight God knew our human souls Are as dark as dark as night.

That's why He sent His only Son Who said, "I am the light for you." Now like the clouds, we must open our hearts And let the light of the Lord shine through.

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# The Robin

The little robin redbreast
That sits on the garden fence
Is such a common phenomenon
That we rarely cast a glance!

Yet this chubby little bird Of brown, white and red Is a really beautiful creature It surely must be said.

When it opens up its beak And sings its tuneful song It can cheer the heart of anyone Who is sad before very long!

We can be so preoccupied
Day after passing day
That we overlook the blessings
That God sends our way.

He says we are more precious
Than the birds of the air
Yet he also holds these creatures
In His divine loving care!

#### Please go with me today

Heavenly Father, please go with me today Help me to love you and walk in Your way Help me to follow your divine plan For I love to be led by your divine hand.

#### An Observation

Soil left unattended Gets hard, stubborn and stiff Weeds left unhindered Are almost impossible to shift!

So it is in life, Our hearts get hard within Tangled and smothered By what is known as sin.

#### God's Bounty

We thank God for the bounty
Of flowers, fruit and grain
That reminds us of His faithfulness
To us this year again.

We thank Him for our children
With talents by the score
We know they too are gifts
Sent from heavens store!

#### Prayer

Lord, You speak on so many days About so many things, in so many ways Help me to know what you have to say Help me to walk with you day after day.

#### Many Lessons

Lord, you have so much to teach us
As we travel on life's way
So many, many lessons
With every passing day!

I now see the necessity
Of sifting out the sand
In order for you to build my life
In the manner, you have planned.

# Trustworthy Promises

Thank You for your promises
On which we can depend
I know you are the God who is faithful
To keep them to the end!

When we see your rainbow
Expand o'er hill and dale
We know we can trust your promises,
They will never, ever fail.

# Harvest

Harvest a time of plenty, a time of food and grain A time of ripened apples, a time of sultry rain!

A time when the bushes are laden to the ground With juicy fruits in plenty of red and black and brown!

The corn and the barley all rustle in the breeze Along comes the farmer and cuts it with ease.

Potatoes in the drills are bursting out the soil They are ready for the picking not now a job of toil.

We thank God for the bounty that He on us bestows Now man can do the planting but God makes it grow.

We thank Him for the gifts that are ours for the asking Salvation of our souls and life everlasting!

But like any farmer that has fruit on his trees God expects His children to come and say please.

When the heavenly reaper comes to reap and to glean Will you be wheat or tares on that final harvest scene?

# Go raibh maith agat m'athair

Go raibh maith agat my Father For placing me in this land Go raibh maith agat my Father For good neighbours on every hand Go raibh maith agat my Father For the beauty of this place Where I was born and live my life I could not have chosen a better space I'm thankful for the freedom To say, feel, think and do Whatever you put on my mind As I give praise and glory to you Lord, I have begun to realise Although this land belongs to you You have allowed us to dwell here As we live our lives through May our lives give you pleasure While we live in this place May there be love, peace and joy Clearly visible on every face May I now say, "Slán Lord" As I take my leave of you I know I'll hear 'Céad Míle Fáilte' Every time I come to you I'm also delighted and excited Because 'Tiocfaidh ár Lá' I will go to dwell with you In heaven by and by!

# My prayer for Ireland

#### "Blessed be the peacemakers,"

Our Saviour was heard to say So we would do well to take heed And seek to live peaceably.

"'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind'; and, 'Love your neighbour as yourself.' Was God's wise instruction In Luke chapter 10 verse 27

I pray the people in our land Will pay heed in this our day And not let the fruits of peace Slip from our land again away.

We know the devil is devious, He is out to steal, kill and destroy So we need to be on our guard If we want God's blessings to enjoy!

May God give wisdom and discernment To those in leadership I pray So that all who live on this beautiful isle Can live in peace, friendship and harmony!

Matthew 5 v 8 Blessed be the peacemakers for they shall be called the sons of God. Luke 10 v 27

with all your strength and with all your mind;' and 'Love your neighbour as yourself.'

#### Saint Patrick

Saint Patrick is commemorated
In the annals of time
He is held in high esteem
In Irish hearts and minds
Patrick was not a citizen
Of our beautiful island home
He was captured abroad by pirates
To herd sheep on Slemish Mountain!

During his six years in captivity
He often spoke to God in prayer
On one occasion through a dream
God told him to escape from there.
It is believed he fled to Wales,
Then to France where he became a priest
'twas there in a dream he heard the Irish
Calling him his steps to retrace!

Patrick believed this dream was of God So he was obedient to his Master's voice On return he taught the pagan Irish From God's precious, divine Word of Truth. As a result many put their trust in Jesus Whose blood was shed to set sinners free Then the Good News of the gospel spread To many areas of the world thankfully.

Patrick used the three leafed shamrock
To teach about God; the Three in One
God, the Father, Son and Holy Spirit
He told how God wants us to have a relationship with Him.
He taught about God the Father; the creator and sustainer of man,
About Jesus, God's Son who died to redeem us from our sin

About the Holy Spirit who leads us to Jesus in repentance and faith And then leads us all the way to heaven, our eternal resting place.

#### "Speak Lord".

"Lord speak to me this day I pray
Help me to hear what you have to say
Cleanse me from ought that displeases Thee
Causing you to withdraw Your Spirit from me
Cleanse my lips with your live coal
Cleanse my heart and make me whole
Cleanse my mind and set me free
to hear Your Spirit speaking to me."

#### Tribune

# The Patience of God

The One who sow's a seedling
With love and tender care
Will wait with expectant patience
To see it flourish there.

#### Be Wise

It is so difficult in this our day
When life is so busy in every way
To take time to worship and pray,
To listen and hear what God has to say.

Physical food cannot feed the soul, We need spiritual food to keep us whole So we ought to be wise while yet there is time To nourish our souls as well as our minds!

# You have promised

No matter how undeserving we may be You have promised Dear Lord you will set us free To live a life that pleases Thee if we repent of our sin and trust in Thee.

#### He Loved Me

I am so very happy
And I'll tell you the reason why
I have a wonderful Saviour
Who loved me enough to die
Not because He was old,
Feeble or infirm
But just because He loved me,
So in turn I now love Him.

# My Lord!

My Lord is so good and so kind My Lord is so powerful and great My Lord is so holy and mighty That it is hard to find words to relate Just what a wonderful Saviour I have found in Christ, Jesus my Lord
You can read all about Him
In the pages of His own Holy Word
But better still you can know Him
You can meet Him and know His grace
Then you too will be singing
As you go from place to place.

#### God wants us to pay attention to His Words!

God gives divine instructions
To all who trust in Him
And we would do well to pay heed
If we want to be blessed by Him!

God's Words are all important.

Words both big and small

Now I invite you to consider

The little word called "all."

God used the word "all" many a time So we would be wise to take note Because God doesn't use words lightly And He is not known to joke.

He says, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind" and "love your neighbour as yourself."

"I think God wants us to pay attention."

"What do you think yourself?"

In all your ways acknowledge Him and He will direct your paths.

Is what we're told in Proverbs 3 verse 6
And God is well able for the task.

"All things work together for good

#### for those who love the Lord."

We would do well to note this verse Because God has never broken His Word!

#### "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."

Saint Paul was well able to say
Because he had put God Word to the test
He had proved God as his strength and stay.

#### God's Instruction Book

God has given an Instruction Book
For your life and mine
We ought to read it every day
Not just from time to time.

We need to study it personally
Not just listen to what others say
About what they read within its pages
As they study it occasionally.

God's Word is spiritual food Given to sustain souls and minds We ignore it at our peril If we want healthy spiritual lives!

We need to discern its truths
It's not just recorded history
It is the Living Word of God
He wants to speak to us personally.

Our bodies will never be nourished
If another person eats our food
Why should we expect our souls to grow?
If we don't read God's Word as we should.

By Olive Borland

#### "God's Word"

God's Word is the Word of Life That speaks to this heart of mine It was written by men and women But its author was divine.

God, the blessed the Holy Spirit
Inspired scribes to write
His divine instructions for man
Whom He created to have eternal life!

God's Word is the Word of Truth That has stood the tests of time It is God's precious guide book For your sinful life and mine!

If we're wise we will read The Bible We will put into practice what it says If we don't obey its instructions We will regret it all our days.

It tells how man disobeyed God And became snared in Satan's trap of sin But it also tells us God sent His Son To redeem all who trust in Him.

The wise study God's instruction book
While they may and while they can
All who disregard God's conditional guarantee
Will spend eternity far, far from Him!

By Olive Borland

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#### God's Treasure Trove

God's Word is like a treasure trove through every verse and line
There hidden gems and promises stand the test of time
Promises and blessings for all who care to read
Precious; precious promises for all who see their spiritual need.

Precious, precious promises as fresh as the morning dew Although made hundreds of years ago still relevant for me and you Unlike the promises of man on which we can't depend God assures us He will keep His promises beyond life's journeys end.

Jesus promises all who trust in Him will have Eternal Life,
What an amazing promise in this world of sin and strife..

"Though your sins are like scarlet they shall be as white as snow,"
We will not get a promise like that no matter where else we go.

"Come unto me all you who are weary and I will give you rest," Is the promise He gives to those who in this world are stressed "I will never leave you or forsake you," He was also heard to say; What wonderful promises for you or me to hear on any day.

"I know the plans I have for you, plans for good and not for ill,"
How wonderful to have a Saviour who loves us and always will.
He said, "I go to prepare a place for you, and I will come again,
There we will dwell together beyond life's journeys end."

#### God's Eternal Guarantee

We should read, study and learn What God in His Word has to say? About how we should live our lives On earth day after passing day!

He, our Almighty Creator
Has created for us a plan
And we would do well to take note
While we may and while we can.

We ignore God's Word at our peril Because He has given a guarantee That those who obey His instructions Will be rewarded eternally!

But like any guarantee
His will become null and void
Then we'll have only ourselves to blame
When we bear the judgement of God!

Man's guarantees are temporal God made His with an eternal plan We can either dwell with God in heaven Or to hell be eternally banned.

So I implore you, study God's Word And trust in Jesus, God's own Son He willingly gave His sinless life To purchase redemption for everyone!

By Olive Borland

# The Bible is the Word of God

Because the Bible is the Word of God We should read it every day We shouldn't read it like a story book Rather discern what God has to say.

While it was written by many scribes It was inspired by God who is divine So its truth we need to read and heed As it is His guidebook for mankind.

On God's Word we need to focus We need to allow it to enrich our mind We need to seek God's divine will While we still have the ability and time.

We need to discern what God was saying To those, He was speaking to in their day Then question what to us He is saying About how we should live our lives His way!

God says His Word is the Word of Truth Take note, His Son Jesus was heard to say "Heaven and earth will pass away but my words are here to stay."

Luke 21:33 "Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away."

#### We need to Pay Heed!

We need to pay heed to what God in His Word has to say
If we don't want to be held to account on judgement day
We ignore God's divine instructions at our peril
So take heed because on judgement day we'll have no referral
Many on our day are stubbornly going their own way
Deliberately ignoring what God in His Word has to say
But God has never, ever broken a promise yet
And we would do well to take note least we regret it
It is God's divine wish to bless and not to condemn,
His instructions were given for the good of man
But He also gave mankind the freedom of choice
So the ball is in our court but we'd do well to heed His voice.

#### Seek God's Will & Way

If we seek to do God's divine Will
In our time and in our way
We may say the wrong things
To the wrong people daily!

A radio or a television Must be tuned to a station To communicate effectively To people in every nation!

We must seek God's forgiveness
Having trusted in His Son
If He is to communicate with us
And direct us as we work for Him.

# God's Word, our Spiritual Food

We as Christians need to be aware of the trap Of only reading about where other people are spiritually at; Rather than reading what God in His Precious Word has to say To ourselves as we live our lives here on earth day by day.

God says His Word is the very Bread of Life;
As necessary to sustain our souls as food is to sustain physical life;
You and I know we won't live long if we cease to eat food
Yet we neglect to be sustained by God's Word as we should.

#### Prayer

Guide and direct me, guard and protect me,
This now dear Lord I pray.
Please help me never to stray from you
Throughout my earthly days!

# A Prayer of Dependence on God

Be my guard and be my guide
Be the One who will never leave my side
Be my help and strength too
I am so glad I can rely on you
Be my comfort and my stay
Never let me drift away
Be my shelter from the storm
You are The Rock I can rely upon.

# Something everybody needs to know

Jesus the sinless Son of God Gave His life on Calvary's Tree So that sinners who put their trust in Him Can be from sin set free!

#### A Bridge like no other

My Saviour formed a bridge Across a chasm deep and wide So that if we trust in Him We can reach the other side.

He formed it with His body Nailed upon the tree Nothing else could bridge the span Between a righteous God and me!

Jesus alone was sinless In thought, word and deed That is why His life and death Can meet every sinners need.

This world has mighty bridges Across rivers deep and wide We must place our trust in them If we are to reach the other side!

Man has made these bridges
Of timber, steel and stone
But Jesus wonderful bridge
Was made of sinless flesh and bone!

Gordon Wallace

# The Correct Key

The key of a Mitsubishi van
Won't start a Seat Car
When it won't turn the ignition
We know we won't get far.

If our aimed for destination
Is way beyond our view
We won't ever get there
If we expect this car to get us through!

When the correct key is inserted
We still won't get too far
Until the key is turned,
We will have no power to start the car.

If our destination is heaven
Only Jesus can get us in
He is the only key
God will accept in place of sin.

When we trust Him as Saviour God the Spirit comes to dwell He then gives us strength to live, To conquer sin, death and hell!

When at last we travel on Beyond this scene of time We will hear our Saviour say "Come on in, I know you are mine."

#### A true Fact

There is no earthly road we can travel
That will lead either you or me
To the rewards that were brought by our Saviour
Who died to set sinners free!

# My Prayer

Lord I dedicate
my mind,
my heart,
my hands
and my mouth
May they bring glory to You
wherever I am,
whenever I can
and with whoever I happen to be.

#### Take Note!

We don't have time to be angry
We don't have time to be cross
We don't have time to grumble
For much precious time will be lost

Time passes by so, so quickly We blink and it's almost gone It disappears like a puff of smoke We are old before very long.

We need to spend time wisely
We need to value each day
We ought to help people we meet
As we live life from day to day.

We ought to love, help and comfort
People who are in distress
If we share with them the love of God
Then our own souls will be blessed.

# The Journey of Life

I handed the keys of my life To one who is a better driver than me He knows every bend on the road And every pothole He can clearly see He is not concerned about the traffic Or the road signs along the way He knows when to stop at the lights And how to take off again carefully He knows when to take the exit To the left or to the right He knows what is happening along the way Nothing is hidden from His sight He taught me much on the slipways of life Through sickness, sadness, pain and the like He taught me that my focus ought to be More upon Him and less on me He taught me about His healing ability and might As we travelled through dark tunnels into the light He has enough food for the journey So we will never hunger or thirst And we'll have time to look at the scenery The beautiful views He created for us He knows when to give someone a lift He can meet folk's needs along the way He wants me to help meet those needs And enable that person to have a brighter day Of course, He has room in the back For family members who care to ride As His stretched limo has the capacity To carry all to His Father's side He has already paid for the fuel That day on Calvary's cruel tree He knows there is enough fuel in the tank To take us all the way to eternity!

Gordan

### The prayer of my heart

Dear Lord, please lead, guide and direct me In everything I say, think and do Help me to give praise, honour and glory In every circumstance dear Lord to You!

Thank You for Your blessed Holy Spirit That comforts, strengthens and keeps Help me to dwell in Your Divine Will Every day whether awake or asleep!

Please, oh please dear Lord, help people to see
What you want them to know through thoughts you give me
Help me to understand Your Word as I read
So that I can help others who are in spiritual need.

Please give me wisdom and discernment each day As I meet people who need you on earth's pathway Take from me anything that would hinder or hurt The people I meet whom you love so much.

Take from me arrogance, hypocrisy and pride And anything else that should not dwell inside Please show me clearly how you see me And enable me to live as I ought daily.

Take from me thoughtlessness and selfishness I pray Help me to show your love to all who pass my way Lord I desire nothing but to dwell in Your Will May Your Holy Spirit enable me Your Will to fulfil!

#### God asks us to commit our all to Him

God asks us to not just put our toe in the water
In regard to our relationship with Him
He asks us to commit ourselves completely,
He knows only then will we know peace with Him.

God asks us to love Him with all our hearts,
With all our souls, with all our minds,
With all our strength and our neighbour as ourselves
Then we'll know peace with Him and within as well.

God wants us to know peace with our neighbour This was our heavenly Father's original plan Before Adam and Eve, our fore-bearers sinned And broke mankind's relationship with Him.

God tells us to commit our all, He says hold nothing back If we give Him control, He'll make sure we nothing lack He has a purpose and plan for us much better than we know The wise give Him the keys because He knows the way to go.

# The Gap Within

People are trying everything
To fill the gap within
Things like alcohol, drugs and sex
Hoping to fill the gap with fun
But God, the one who made us
Knows that nothing can satisfy
But His love within our hearts
And I'll tell you the reason why.

It's because that is the way He made us
With a vacuum only He can fill
So He sent Jesus; His divine Son
To carry out His will.
You see we chose to do our thing
And go our stubborn way
But our God couldn't look on sin
And someone had to pay.

So Jesus died on Calvary's Cross
To break the bonds of sin
He took our sin upon Himself
To give us peace within
God asks us to put our trust in Jesus,
Turn our backs on sin and shame
Then He will send the Comforter,
The Holy Spirit is His name.

### God asks us to Forgive

One day we'll leave this scene of time You and I know that this is true But how we go and where we go Is largely up to me and you!

We can leave this world with harmony Between us, our family and friends Or we can leave it with animosity If we don't take time to make amends.

If relationships remain broken
This is not part of God's will and plan
God commands us to forgive one another
Or we won't receive forgiveness from His hand.

When teaching the disciples The Lord's Prayer
One condition God's Son did make
We must try to make amends
Or one day we will regret our mistake.

We all need to seek God's forgiveness His mercy, love and grace If we're wise we'll do so immediately Before we meet our Judge face to face!

#### Matt. 6 v 14 & 15

For if you forgive men when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive men their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins.

# God requires trust in His Son's Sacrifice

Many people in our world today
Aim to wash the stain of sin away
But soap and water will never suffice
God requires trust in His Son's sacrifice.

God's Word tells us there is no other way
We can stand cleansed on judgement day
Jesus blood was shed as a sacrifice for sin
Forgiveness can be gained by trusting in Him.

Trusting means acknowledging sin within Repenting and placing our trust in God's Son If we turn from self and live His way We will dwell in heaven with Him one day.

When cleansing and peace then reign within We should give thanks, praise and glory to Him Knowing of ourselves there is nothing we can do Other than let others know they can be cleansed too.

Gordan

# On the 25<sup>th</sup> of December many will celebrate

On the 25th of December two thousand and sixteen Many will celebrate the birth of their Saviour and King Jesus birth was recorded as was your birth and mine Taking note of His parents, place of birth, date and time These details are required while we live on this earth As when going to school, getting a job, or taking a husband or wife God had these details recorded since time began So He could record the history and movement of man But take note, God says, because we were born in trespasses and sin We must be born again if we are to live eternally with Him That is why Jesus was born both human and divine He who knew no sin was born to bear your sin and mine We are told we must accept the gift of redemption and grace If we are to receive forgiveness ere we meet God face to face Our rebirth God will then record in the annals of time As on judgement day books will be opened to seek your name and mine Many will then hear the blessed voice of their Creator God Say, "Well done, good and faithful servant, enter the joy of your Lord." But we're told the multitudes that stand that day in the queue Will hear, "Depart from me, I never knew you."

### Happy Christmas Everybody

Once again we will have the opportunity to say We wish a Happy Christmas to everybody As on the 25th of December, we celebrate the birth Of Jesus Christ, God's Son who was born on earth While Jesus was human He was also divine God planned this so He could relate to your life and mine Jesus wasn't born in a palace the son of a queen He was born in a stable of a lowly virgin When an angel told Mary she was to give birth to God's Son, While troubled and confused she said, "May Thy Will be done." When Mary visited her cousin Elizabeth prior to the birth Elizabeth said, "Blessed are you among women who live on earth. But why am I so favoured that the mother of my Lord should share with me the news of this blessed child of God? Even the child in my womb jumped for joy when my ears heard the news of this precious baby boy!" May we too like Mary have the good sense to say? "May God's will be done in my life every day." May we also like Elizabeth recognize Jesus as Lord? And daily live lives giving praise to our God.

### God's Gift of Gift's!

Christmas cards and Christmas gifts Remind us of God's own Son God sent Jesus from heaven to earth He was God's gift to everyone.

He wasn't wrapped in fancy paper Bound in tinsel, ribbon or card He was laid in a lowly manger I'm sure circumstances were hard.

God sent His precious gift
Because He wanted us to know
How much He loved and cared for us
Who live on this earth below!

God's Gift of Gift's was priceless
This gift gold could never buy
Yet all who accept this gift
Will know its value when they die!

We are told they then will enter
That place of peace and rest
Where Jesus has gone to prepare
For all, He was sent to save and bless.

### No Other Birth Compares

There was no other baby born on earth
That compared to Jesus at His birth
For His birth alone the calendar was changed
Because He took our sin and He took our blame.

Jesus Christ the one and only Son of God Left the splendour of heaven to dwell on earth's sod He became human although He was divine So He could identify with your life and mine.

God, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit Had created this world and everything in it But man deliberately disobeyed his Creator And became entangled with the satanic dictator!

God's heart was sore because man had sinned So in love, He sent His sinless Son to die for them Because God is holy, sin could not enter heaven So mankind had to be redeemed and forgiven!

God in mercy placed man's sin on Jesus, His Son In whom His Own divine fullness dwelt within So that all who now repent, trust and believe Can full redemption from their Creator receive!

#### The Greatest Person Ever

The greatest person that was ever born Arrived on earth on that first Christmas morn While He was The Creator of the universe He laid aside His kingly station at His birth He who owned the cattle on a thousand hills And the wealth in every clime Came to this sin-cursed world To save your sinful soul and mine He came in obedience to His Father's above His life He laid down as a sacrifice of love That is why He died on Calvary's Tree And why His Father raised Him from death in victory But man also has his part to play He must acknowledge his need personally If man in repentance admits his helpless estate God will then restore him to his rightful place.

#### Why our BC and AD dating plan?

Have you ever considered how dating began
And who instigated the new dating plan
Someone must have been mighty and great
For their birth to instigate the change of date
How important now would a person need to be
For the calendar to be changed on their entry
I think this fact in itself has much to say
About our Lord Jesus Christ and His birthday
His divine birth was prophesied from time began
Because His Father, God had an eternal plan
God recorded His purpose in writing for all to see

The importance of Jesus entrance into history!

#### Value Time

Minutes are fleeting, hours have gone
Days are passing and before very long
The New Year will be upon us, God ordained it so
If you and I are wise we will value time as we go
Because, before very long we will give an account
To God when we end our travel on this earthly route.

Christmas reminded us that God had a plan
He allowed His Son to be born to save sinful man
God knew we were powerless to live life as we ought
So He sent Jesus to earth, Jesus our salvation bought
Now God offers redemption and redemption is free
Jesus paid sin's penalty for you and for me.

If we ignore God's offer we do so at our peril Because God is holy, sin is banned from heaven Sin must be punished; God's Word tells us so Sinful man is bound for hell, trouble and woe! This is not God's wish so listen while you may then we will celebrate together in heaven one day.

# Prayer at the beginning of a New Year

Dear Lord, You know the way ahead
And only You can lead
So oft we stumble blindly
We do not Your instructions heed
We need to allow You to guide
Our every thought and plan
If we are to know Your divine leading
and Your eternal purpose understand.

#### The Year Ahead

Lord, as we step into the year ahead You alone know the challenges around every bend Give strength day by day when problems we meet Thank You for allowing us to lay problems at Your Feet Thank You for Your strength in the years gone by Thank You for being the One on whom we can rely!

#### New Year

In this New Year may we focus; may we reflect and see
The possibilities that God lays before you and me,
May we never dismiss; may we never decline
the opportunity to make a difference in this God-given time.

If we consider His Will in all that we do
If we seek His divine guidance all our lives through
Then I know we'll be blessed and other people will too
And this world will be a better place for all who pass through.

#### Spring, a Very Busy Time

Now that spring has come and the sun has begun to shine
We see the dusty corners that hitherto we thought were fine
Dark hidden areas now filled with golden light
May reveal dust and cobwebs that before were hid from sight.

Even the proudest housewife who is cleaning all the time Could now be embarrassed to find hidden dust and grime It is now time to wash, scrub, dust, polish and to shine, For many, many housewives Spring is a very busy time.

This reminds us of our souls that are dead in trespasses and sins
We may not be aware of the problem until we invite Jesus in When He
sends the Holy Spirit and His light begins to shine
We suddenly become aware of the extent of our hidden grime.

Thankfully Jesus is willing and able to take on the cleansing role He has the ability to cleanse the most corrupt and dirty soul He, the Son of God has the ability to cleanse us from all sin All we need to do is invite Him and He will the work begin.

If, we receive new life in our spirit that had been dead in sin God gives us the gifts of love, joy and peace to dwell within He then sets our sights on our eternal heavenly home We'll dwell there with Him when we no longer this world roam.

#### Why we celebrate Easter?

We can never be saved by good works
Or by anything we have done
We can only be saved by putting our trust
In Jesus Christ, God's sinless Son!

That is why we celebrate Easter
The resurrection of Jesus our Lord
He who won the victory over sin and death
Praise Him, our risen, exalted God.

But then you may ask the question, "Just what can we be saved from?"
The eternal punishment reserved in hell
That waits for all who reject God's Son.

### My Debt was placed on Him

It was on the cross of Calvary
That Jesus died for you and me
It was there He paid the price for sin
The debt I owed God placed on Him.

Within my heart, I'll sing His praise
I'll glorify Him all my days
I owed a debt I could not pay
With thanks to Him my voice I'll raise.

My Saviour bore my sin and shame I now will praise His holy name I thank Him for His cleansing power I'll love and praise Him hour by hour.

He loosed the curse of sin and death He gave me life, He gave me breath He gave me joy, He gave me peace My praise will never, ever cease.

By Olive Borland

### Hymn of Praise

Oh God of heaven to you we raise Our hearts in joyful hymns of praise; We thank you for redemption won on Calvary's cross by Christ your Son.

We want to lift His name on high We want our praise to fill the sky; It was for us He bled and died; He for our sin was crucified.

He gladly paid the price for sin
That all repentant might enter in
To Your eternal, heavenly rest
Redeemed, forgiven, cleansed and blessed.

He knew there was no earthly way That we could pay our debt for sin He chose to leave His home on high; He came to earth to bleed and die.

Now let us all our voices raise
With hymns of thanks in joyful praise
To Jesus Your beloved Son
He, eternal life for us has won.

### Help me dear Lord

Help me dear Lord to praise your name
As I lift my voice and sing
How I long to glorify
You, my risen Lord and King!

You broke the strangle-hold of sin How I want to praise your name You the sinless Son of God Bore my sin, my guilt, my shame.

I never can repay You Lord God placed my debt upon your head Nor can I ever thank You Lord It was for my sin that you bled.

You are worthy of our all praise
I'll glorify you all my days
You gave me life, you gave me peace
My praise will never, ever cease.

### Please; oh please Dear Lord

Please, oh please dear Lord, help people to see
What you want them to know through thoughts you give me
Help me to understand Your Word as I read
So that I can help others who are in spiritual need.

As I meet people who need you on earth's pathway Take from me anything that would hinder or hurt The people I meet whom you love so much.

Take from me arrogance, hypocrisy and pride And anything else that should not dwell inside As you know; I want in Your Divine Will to abide May Your Holy Spirit be my strength and guide!

#### We must repent!

Jesus Christ came to earth to seek and save the lost
If we ignore this fact then we will have to bear the cost
We are told all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God
So we must repent if we are to receive His mercy from above
God says He loves the sinner, but He also hates the sin
So we must repent if we are to receive mercy from Him.

Luke 19 v 10
For the Son of Man came to seek and save what was lost.

Romans 3 v 23
For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

Romans 5 v 8 But God demonstrated His own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

#### Romans 3 v 9

The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.

#### 1.John1 v 9

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

# Our Spiritual Surgeon will always succeed

We know sin is rampant in our world today
And there will be consequences for living sinfully
But we can't stand in judgement and say
I have never, never sinned in any way.

All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God Is what we are told within God's Holy Word!

God warns the wages of sin is death

But He offers all the gift of eternal life.

Many people don't acknowledge their sinful state But, like cancer sin secretly grows with speed We're told sin like cancer will certainly cause death Unless it is dealt with while we live on this earth!

The only One who can deal with sin is Jesus, God's Son
His sinless blood was shed to redeem everyone
But as with cancer we must acknowledge our need
Recognising Jesus our spiritual surgeon will always succeed.

by Olive Borland

#### I Will Never Leave You"

I fail, I fall, I falter
I'm not all that I should be,
I worry when the times are tough
Rather than relying Lord on Thee.

Your Word so clearly tells me The promises are there to see "I will never leave you, You can rely on me."

Forgive me when like Peter I take my eyes off Thee And sink beneath the tumult Of adversity.

You tell me to look at the lilies
And the grass in the field
You tell me that King Solomon
Was not arrayed like one of these.

You say we are more valuable
Than the birds of the air
Yet you too hold these creatures
In Your loving care.

You tell me to, seek first Your Kingdom,
Then live right with Thee
And God our Heavenly Father
Will lovingly take care of me

#### Redemption is about "Faith"

Satellites are now clearly visible
They can be seen with the naked eye
They look like diamond broaches
Suspended high in the sky.

We know they have been put there by man To gather information about our earth and planet We have to accept what we are told by "faith" With lack of knowledge, we don't understand it.

Many people don't believe there is a God Who dwells in heaven on high And in a sense that is understandable Because we can't see Him with our eye!

But in His Word God clearly tells us
That when He created you and me
He created us both physical and spiritual
So we can dwell with Him eternally.

In His Word God also tells us
That because we were born in sin
We can't have a relationship with Him
As His Spirit cannot dwell within.

Yet He says because He loved us He sent His one and only Son To take our place on Calvary's Cross Our burden of sin God placed on Him.

If we're wise we will accept God's offer Of forgiveness and redeeming grace By putting our trust in Jesus Christ Who died to take our rightful place!

God's tells us His Spirit will dwell
Within all who trust in His Son
And He promises an eternal home
Where we will dwell forever with Him.

### Salvation by Faith, not Works

The Word of God is precious; the Word of God is true,
Paul says, "For it is by grace you are saved by faith not by anything you can do"
God doesn't want us to be able to boast of good works that we have done
Rather He wants us to give thanks and praise to Jesus Christ, His beloved Son.

Jesus allowed His sinless blood to be shed to save sinners like you and me Now He offers salvation as a gift to all, and as you know a gift is free All we have got to do is accept His offer to make salvation our own I think that is good news for sinners who could not for their sin atone.

Although we don't deserve it, God offers us forgiveness from all sin If we trust in the sinless sacrifice of Jesus Christ, His beloved Son The gift of eternal life is too good to refuse so don't let it pass you by Because God offers all who accept a home in heaven when they die!

If you like me believe what God says in His Word is true
Then let us go and tell others so they can believe it too
Then one day we'll praise our Saviour way up on high
When we all meet together in heaven by and by!

Ephesians 2 v 8

For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith – and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God – not by works, so that no-one can boast.

#### Cobweb Corner

Come out of cobweb corner, Shake off the dust and say Yes I will shine for Jesus I'll shine brighter every day.

Our Saviour asks His followers
To shine like lights for Him
So that all who live in darkness
Will know He dwells within.

Many, many people today
Live their life in dark despair
Can we do less than tell folks
Of God's love, that's beyond compare.

# Open Your Heart

Open your heart and let Jesus come in Open your mouth then and let His praise ring Open your eyes and I know you will see Many people who live in uncertainty.

Many who don't know what way to turn? Many who don't know the Saviour within? Many who don't know that God's Word is true? Why don't you tell them like I'm telling you?

People who fear what each day may bring People who fear death's final sting People who need someone like you or me To tell them why Jesus died on the tree!

# Granny Borland

When Granny Borland bought something
She would then often say
I now have enough
To do me my day!

Her sentiments were real, Her words they were true Because she didn't live to see Her clothes worn through!

We too should be wise

And take note of the time

Because the day will come

When we'll leave all behind!

# I began to understand God's paín

As I thought of the burden That my Lord had laid on me For the salvation of my friends His love I began to see.

I recalled the pain I felt As I saw them turn away And spurn His loving offer Day after passing day!

I then realized with sadness How deep must be God's pain Knowing in love He created us To return His love again!

#### The ABCD of Salvation

ADMIT that you are a sinner BELIEVE that Jesus came to save CONFESS your need of forgiveness DECIDE to receive God's amazing grace.

God sent His one and only Son
To die for you and me
He knew that we were powerless
To set our sinful souls free!

Because we were trapped and bound By Satan's evil trap of sin Jesus agreed to allow Our sin to be placed on Him!

Because no sin could enter heaven And we were all condemned to hell God accepted Jesus sacrifice But we must accept it as well.

We must admit our need!
We must turn our back on sin!
We must trust Jesus as Saviour!
We must decide to give glory to Him.

John 3 -16 & 17 For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world but to save the world through him.

## While Jesus is the Son of God He is also God the Son!

While Jesus is the Son of God He is also God the Son So all honour, praise and glory Is due at all times to Him!

No other child born on earth
Was both human and divine
This fact sets Jesus Christ apart
He came to be your Saviour and mine.

He set aside His Kingly station When He came to earth to dwell He had to take on our human role In order to rescue us from hell!

Like us, He suffered temptation But unlike us, He did not stray That's why God accepted His sacrifice On the cruel cross of Calvary!

While God accepted His sacrifice You and I must accept it too Saying, "Jesus please forgive my sin, I want to know New Life in you."

# Please listen and listen well

Because of God's love, mercy, redemption and grace

He sent His only Son to take the sinners place The Lord Jesus' blood was shed on Calvary's tree So that sinners like you and me could be set free.

While God wants us to live eternally in heaven, That can only happen if our sins are forgiven Through His Son whom God raised from the dead And who now intercedes at His Father's right hand.

Jesus was sacrificed once to take the sins of many He will appear a second time to take us to heaven But we are told in God's Word entry is not automatic We must seek salvation or we will remain static.

But God says there will be judgement for sin The devil will be judged and those who follow him Will be plunged by God into the flames of Hell So if we are wise we will listen and listen well.

Rev. 20:14 & 15 Then death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. The lake of fire is the second death. If anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.

#### "I will remember your sin no more"

God tells us in His Word the one sin He won't forgive Is blasphemy of the Holy Spirit whom He gave to live Within the souls of all who repent, trust and believe So we must pay heed if we want forgiveness to receive.

All other sins God says He is willing to forgive If on acknowledging our need we repent and believe In Jesus who gave His sinless life on Calvary's tree Because He loved wayward sinners like you and like me.

God says if we confess our sin He is faithful and just And will forgive our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness He added a wonderful promise for hearts that are sore When He said, "I will remember your sin no more."

God is the only One who can cleanse the soul of sin He also has the ability to rid hearts of fear within He can remove sins as far as the east is from the west In sins place He offers all the gift of joy and peace.

But we can't play lip service and expect Him to hear Repentance must come from the heart and must be sincere He who has counted the number of the hairs on our head Also knows each thought before a word is said.

Matthew 12:31 And I tell you, every sin and blasphemy will be forgiven men, but the blasphemy against the Spirit will not be forgiven.

1 John 1:9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and will purify us from all unrighteousness.

Psalm 103:11 & 12 For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is His love for those who fear Him, as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us.

### We ought to listen

We wouldn't be embarrassed or ashamed to say We were saved from a burning house physically But many are embarrassed in this our day To admit they need to be saved spiritually.

God says we ought to listen and listen well Because we are all bound for the flames of hell He says we are dead in trespasses and sins So we can't live eternally in heaven with Him.

God warns that Hell is a place of torment Where the flames are never quenched A place where all unrepentant sinners Will remain eternally entrenched!

He says without the shedding of blood There is no forgiveness for sin But all who trust in His Son's sacrifice Will be saved for all eternity by Him!

Thankfully God provided this rescue plan
Because He wants to save women and men
Who realize their need of redemption from sin
Through trusting in Jesus who died to rescue them!

If we are to be made righteous in God's sight We must personally admit our eternal plight While God is not willing that any should perish He makes *us* choose our soul's earthly exit flight.

#### Please, please repent and trust in Christ

There are so many unexpected deaths

Sudden deaths and young deaths
That I feel I ought to say
Please repent of sin and trust in Christ today.

None of us know if we'll see tomorrow
We cannot boast of another hour
God says the keys of life and death
He holds within His power.

Jesus, God's Son who gave His life
To save you and me from sin
Said three times we must be born again
If we want to dwell in heaven with Him!

We are told because of disobedience
Many are dead in trespasses and sin
We must be born both physically and spiritually
If we are to know forgiveness and peace within!

The Lord Jesus said His Father, God Didn't send Him to condemn the world But the world could be saved through Him If we recognize our need and turn from sin!

Jesus says He doesn't want any to perish, That is why He gave His life on Calvary's tree All He asks is that we repent and believe Then we can live with Him eternally.

#### We are a Privileged People

Many people consider it a privilege When they can meet with someone of notoriety They get so excited if a few words they can say. To a royal, a politician or a sports personality!

In most cases, they would have an appointment to make
In order a few words to say or a hand to shake
They may have to stand a long time in a queue
Only to be told, "This person cannot now speak to you."

This is never the case when we speak to our God He who is the Almighty Creator and sustainer of all Says His ear is ever attentive to our cry It is His hope and desire that to Him we draw neigh.

He invites us to come and make our wants known To Him, the King of Kings who sits on His throne But He tells us because He cannot look on sin We must trust in His Son who took our sin upon Him.

God says He wants to give us a brand new start
He wants to give us peace in our hearts
He says He wants to wipe our hearts slate clean
He wants our sins to forgive and our souls to redeem.

We are a privileged people is all I can say
We can access Almighty God in His throne room daily
We ought to fall down in worship at the feet
Of this One with whom no earthly being can compete.

#### "Please" and "Thank you"

As I communed in prayer with my Lord and my God I apologised when I realized "please" was almost the most uttered word Right then it was as if I heard my Heavenly Father say "I'm delighted when you come and speak to me on any day." "Don't you know that when a parent is teaching their child to speak "Please" is one of the first words, be it said in Irish English or Greek." "The parent may not always fulfil their child's request Because they only want for their child what is the very best. But when "ves" is the answer they then want to hear The words "Thank you Daddy, or Mammy" ringing in their ear." "The same scenario applies in your relationship with me And it will remain so for now and for all eternity." "While I don't want to be selfish, greedy or vain I want you to have nothing but the best so I'll say "Yes" again and again. Nor do I want to lavishly pour treasures into your lap I want you to make good choices and keep our relationship on track." "I want your life to be an example so that other people will see That they too can know the help of the Holy Spirit daily."

"

#### God allows man to make choices

Because God is a God of mercy He sent Jesus Christ, His Son To rescue sinful, fallen man; God desires to save everyone.

While looking on man with compassion God devised a rescue plan He knew man's fate was hopeless Because he was unable sins battle to win.

Yet to mankind God gave freedom He allowed man to make choices in life Man can accept or reject God's offer He can choose eternal life or death.

John 3:36 "Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life, but whoever rejects the Son will not see life, for God's wrath remains on him."

#### God has a Plan

It is God's wish that all would see
That He has a plan to set us free
From the bondage of sin and shame,
to lift our burden of fear and blame.

He wants to put a new song in each heart He wants to give all a brand new start He wants to wipe every soul's slate clean He says, "I won't remember your sin again."

But, we all must repent and turn away From sin that besets our souls daily Of ourselves, this we are unable to do, That is why Jesus died for me and you.

2<sup>nd</sup> Peter 3:9 The Lord is not slow in keeping His promise, as some understand slowness. He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish but everyone to come to repentance.

#### Indescribable Love

Love cannot be described Or weighed upon the scales But it has sustained the universe And humanity through the years!

The love of man and woman
Of parent and of child
Has been the sustaining factor
In this world where we abide!

Human love does not compare
With the love of our Saviour on high
He has gone to prepare a place
For those who trust Him when they die.

#### Questions worth Answering

Does it embarrass you to know that there is one who watches every move and turn?

Does it shock you to know that He also hears and knows our very thoughts and fears?

Does it frighten you to know that He is Judge and before a sinless God we will not fudge?

Does it encourage you to know that He understands and because of our weakness, He made plans?

Does it relieve you to know that He sent His Son to be the substitute for everyone?

#### My Prayer for You

My heart goes out to our friends today
Grief has unexpectedly come their way
They have been plunged into the depth of despair
I pray God in mercy will meet them there.
I'm glad He is the One who is able to do
Far more than we as humans are able to
May they at this time know His strength and grace?
May He help them cope with the trials they face?
I pray it will also give them comfort and peace
Knowing friends sympathise in this time of grief.

#### A Word of Thanks to Friends

After struggling with pain Barely able to move Can I tell you I appreciated? Displays of love!

## Praying for you

A few words I would like to say You are in our thoughts and prayers today There is not much more I can do Other than come to the throne of God for you There I ask our God to be Your strength and your security, I pray you will know His help and love And His guidance from above Soon I pray you will see His plan, I know you will then understand That in the midst of tribulation Our God is there and He is able To turn our sadness into praise Just like in scripture where it says Of Joseph, Daniel and of Job Their stories are there so we will know He can our problems overthrow, He can bring blessing out of pain, He can take loss and make it gain, God can use what you go through To speak to people who are watching you.

#### All may not be as it seems

Underneath the rolling waves of the stormy sea

The water is as calm, as calm can be

This I was told by someone who knows
Is the mysterious picture of how water flows!

This fact spoke to me of our humanity
Many people live in tumult and adversity
But if their trust is in Jesus as Saviour and Lord
Their hearts can abide in peace despite the odds.

Other lives can look calm, peaceful and serene Like a gentle, gleaming, flowing stream While in fact their hearts may bubble with rage Like an angry tiger trapped in a tiny cage.

## We are not safe and we are not sound!

We are not safe and we are not sound
It's as if we are trapped on sinking sand
We are all blighted by the curse of sin
We will only be redeemed if we trust in Him
Who gave His sinless life on Calvary's Tree
To rescue wretched sinners like you and me.
If we could have made heaven on our own
Jesus wouldn't have had to die our sins to atone
He says we must believe, repent and turn from sin
If we are to receive the gift of salvation from Him!

#### God's Opinion of Same Sex Marriage

Take note of what God says in His Word I pray
With regard to the question that is on our minds these days
Because God speaks so clearly we ignore Him at our peril
He commands us to pay attention or before Him, we'll have no referral
We are told if man disregards God, God will allow him to go his own way
Soon his life will become so wicked and evil he will sin continually
God warns folk will pay a penalty if they have sex with their own gender
I pray our government will listen carefully before family life is torn asunder
God warns His wrath will be revealed against the depravity of man,
So we must pay heed to what God says while we may and while we can
He says we will be held accountable for our actions, speech and thoughts
But we will also be judged by Him if we condone others who breach His laws
God warns all who ignore His decrees deserve the penalty of death,
So we need to obey His Will while in our lungs we have breath.

If you don't accept what I say is true Please read Romans chapter 1, v's 18 to 32 Read there for yourself what God has to say And His Word will clarify things I pray.

God's Law doesn't mean that God is unsympathetic and unkind
Far from it, He ever has the good of His created in mind
He who moulded and made us after His divine Will
Knows exactly how He created us His Will to fulfil
He is also well aware that Satan led man astray

And is grieved when He sees how Satan tempts man down his sinful way
God knows Satan's aim is to steal, kill and destroy
The lives of unsuspecting men, women, girls and boys
That is why our God who loves us sent His only Son
To redeem sinners who repent and put their trust in Him
Regardless of our status or what we have done

God is willing to wipe the slate clean for each and every one He then gives His followers the strength to live life as we ought Because when Jesus, God's Son died, *He*, our salvation bought

In fact, Jesus is now seated at the right hand of God
Interceding for those who love Him while we remain on earth's sod
We are told He is also preparing a place for all who trust in Him
So that when we leave this scene of time we can dwell eternally with Him.

#### My Lord and my God is well able to do!

My Lord and my God is well able to do Far, far, far more than I expect Him to Because He has the ability to do at His leisure Whatever gives Him joy and gives Him pleasure.

He created the world and He created you and me He created much, much more than we can see He created the universe and everything in it, The earth, the seas, the moon, stars and planets.

God created all with nought but His Word of Command He then created man saying, "I'll leave all in your hand." But because man disobeyed God and bears the judgement of sin God says if we don't trust in Jesus we can't live with Him.

God has sustained and maintained all for thousands of years And His divine Word tells us we have nothing to fear He says we are more precious than the birds of the air Yet He says He also holds them in His loving care.

He says He has numbered the hairs on our head And He says we like the sparrow by Him will be fed But He tells us we will be tempted and tested by sin And many will reject is if we put our trust in Him.

In fact Jesus, God's Son who gave His life on the tree Says, "Many will reject you if you put your trust in me but stand firm to the end and then I promise you will be cleansed from all sin and dwell with me eternally.

## We take so much for granted

We humans take so much for granted We expect our bodies to work as they should I don't know about you but I know this I do And I expect you also are part of this brood.

We open our mouths and we expect to hear Thoughts that quickly flash through our minds We don't have to search through books or files Nor do we have long, long discs to unwind.

We can see, taste and hear
We can smell, feel and touch
We can fear, hate and love
We have been endued with so much.

Our legs can sit, stand and walk,
They can jump, kneel and lie
And with our hands, we can do so much
If we are only but willing to try!

We were given minds that enable us
To envisage, create and plan
They are such a complex organ
They have baffled many a man.

We can use the abilities we were given
To make this world a better place
We can help the people we meet
Or we can leave this world in disgrace.

# None of us are guaranteed another day

If you were trapped in a pit and knew you would die Would you do all in your power, would you scream and cry? Would you attract attention from any source you could Would you care if people thought you were a fool? If you knew your life was slipping quickly away Would you know it was time to think of God and pray?

Trusting that He has the ability to do All that is needed to redeem and restore you.

God says we are all trapped in the pit of sin
He says we are all powerless to cleanse ourselves within
But He tells us He sent His Son who was well able to do
All that was needed to rescue me and you
He says He can redeem our souls from the pit
But we need to be wise and our need to admit
God says He sent Jesus, His Son to die
Because His sinless sacrifice could save you and I.

Jesus life's blood paid the ransom to set us free
From the bondage of sin, that holds us in captivity
We ought to grasp His offer while we can and may
Because none of us know when life will slip away
Then it will be too late to cry and shout
Because we will have chosen our eternal route
So please, oh please take note while you may
Because none of us are guaranteed another day!

## The devil doesn't go on holiday

When listening to the news one is apt to say The devil doesn't go on holiday, he is busy every day.

Murder after murder and crime after crime There is no shortage of bad news to fill your mind and mine.

Men's hearts are full of hatred, of bitterness and greed Causing corruption and misery, jealousy and grief.

Sadly many do not know that Christ can satisfy The longings of the heart of all who to Him draw neigh.

Jesus is always willing to lend a listening ear And rid hearts of sadness, bitterness and fear.

He can replace fear with peace, and sadness with eternal joy If we put our trust in Him, He can the devils schemes destroy.

#### God asks us to trust Him

God asks us to trust Him, not in part but the whole He wants us to give Him complete control Of all that we think, say, feel and do He offers abundant life to me and to you.

Our Creator wants for us nothing but the best If we give our Saviour control our lives will be blessed He offers forgiveness, love, peace and joy Gifts this world cannot give and cannot destroy.

Only a fool would reject such an offer of grace From the one who owns this world, time and space God has the ability to do at His leisure Whatever gives Him joy or gives Him pleasure.

God created man from the dust of the earth He breathed into man's lungs and gave him breath One day He will call time and we will all have to go And meet Him face to face, this many of us know.

We can meet Him as friend or we can meet Him as foe As friends we'll meet if we trust His Son ere we go He sent His only Son Jesus to die for our sin But we'll be judged by God if we've rejected Him.

#### You are a Unique Individual

Regardless of who is reading this Be you black, white, tan or brown You are a unique individual There's no-one like you around.

God created you for a purpose,
He created you with a plan
I know you will never be satisfied
Until God's purpose you understand.

Your DNA sets you apart Your fingerprints are unique to you Your voice is distinct from others There's no-one on earth like you.

We ought to ask our Creator
To reveal His purpose and plan
Then allow Him to lead and guide
In the way that only He can.

You may think God doesn't care for you
That He doesn't know your need
But He wants to strengthen and guide you
And you don't even have to plead.

God says, "I know the plans I have for you, plans for good and not for ill."

So we will never be content
Until we allow Him, His plans to fulfil.

This world would be a better place
If we all sought the Will of God
There'd be less anger, crime and murder
Peace would reign on earth's sod.

#### We are going to die some day

We don't know the route
And we don't know the way
We don't know the time
But we're going to die some day.

It is a fact of life
Like the rising of the sun
We know it is going to set
It has done so since time begun.

Our lifespan is in the control Of the One who gave us breath It is He who will call time He knows the date of our death.

But we have the choice As to where we will go A heaven to gain, a hell to shun God has told us this is so.

We must choose the destination
While yet we have time
Because none of us know
When He will call on our line!

Our transport costs have been paid By Jesus Christ, God's Son We will only gain entry to heaven If we have put our trust in Him!

John 4:6 Jesus answered, "I am the way, and the truth and the life. No-one comes to the Father except through me."

#### Let us thínk about bírth

Let me change the subject, let us think about birth The joy of seeing new life on this earth!

I had eight such privileges in my lifetime Because of a miscarriage, I was denied nine.

While my husband and I gave life to our children We were powerless to do anything but await their arrival.

When I as a baker try to make a good cake I must follow the recipe or I will regret my mistake.

This world had to have a Creator, I'm sure you'll agree Who could instigate such incredible complexity?

God says He knit us together in our mother's womb If we're wise we will thank Him who created us on His loom.

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

Psalm 139:13 "For you (God) created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb."

#### Anchored in Christ

While I lay on Cala Gran beach, an anchored boat I surveyed And thoughts of salvation in Christ to my mind were conveyed.

I recalled that I was firmly anchored in Christ Because I had trusted in His sinless blood sacrifice!

As I watched that boat move gently around and around I realized Christ lets us move although to Him we are bound.

God tells us that as Christians we are anchored in Him If we trust the Lord Jesus to cleanse us from sin!

That anchor on the boat was invisible to the naked eye, So is the indwelling presence of Christ to passersby.

But should a storm arise that boat will be safe, In like manner, the Christian is held in God's amazing grace.

## When I tried to light the fire

When I tried to light the fire It became apparent before long There was indeed a problem I envisaged what was wrong.

The fire just couldn't breathe
It was deprived of air
The pit was full of ashes
No life could ignite there.

When the ashes were removed
Before very long
Fire was glowing in the grate
It was a pleasure to look upon.

I thought this is a picture
Of your sinful life and mine
Unless we get rid of sin
We'll remain dead for all time.

Because we are like our fire That was powerless to help itself When Jesus saw our problem He took our sin upon himself.

How we ought to thank Him And sing His praises every day He can give life to our dark souls That man can never take away.

## My thoughts when making French Toast

When I was making French Toast the other day, Thoughts of my Mum and Gran came my way Good memories came flooding to mind Of this treat that they made from time to time!

The recipe now I would like to give
So that you and your family too may "live"
Beat eggs, add sugar or salt and beat some more
Soak bread in the mixture, fry, and you'll be happy I'm sure.

As I thought of this treat I began to see
There is spiritual truths hidden in this recipe
I don't mean to twist scripture but I can recall
Jesus said, "Even the rocks and stones declare that I am God."

Jesus said to the disciples, "You are the salt of the earth."
Sugar and salt as you know help food to taste at its best
But sugar and salt are of little use on their own
When added to other ingredients their potential is shown.

.The egg resembles the Holy Spirit in the life of man It contains life-giving nutrition as was God's plan The bread resembles the precious divine Word of God Jesus said, "I am the Bread of Life" when He walked earth sod.

If our lives "like the toast" are pleasing to both God and man They ought to contain more of God, less of self, as was His plan Then, our families and the world will be well able to see The divine presence of God living in the lives of you and me!

#### I beg you, book Your Ticket

Please take a few minutes to consider this thought with me One day I'm going to fly and I'm going to fly for free.

I won't need a ticket and I won't need a plane But I'm going to fly through the air just the same.

I don't know the date and I don't know the time. But my heavenly Father has all that information in mind.

I may be dead or I may be alive. But this will be the greatest flight to take to the sky.

God says the dead who have trusted in Christ will fly first The graves will open and bodies will rise from the dust.

What an amazing spectacle that will be It will be the greatest spectacle to happen in earth's history.

The dead will be given new bodies in the blink of an eye What an awesome sight that will be for stunned passersby.

They will be even more shocked when believers at their side Will suddenly arise to meet the dead in the skies!

The flight will go further than any flight has ever gone It will take us to heaven to meet God, the Father, Spirit and Son.

We are going there to celebrate the wedding feast of the Lamb It will be a banquet like no other so book your ticket while you can.

God will also include your name on that amazing flight If you put your trust in His Son, you too will reach heaven's heights.

Trust in that sacrifice of blood Jesus made on Calvary's Tree He paid the ultimate price to set sinners free.

Be warned there will be a day of judgement for all sinners on earth Who reject God's offer of redeeming grace.

Because He sent His one and only Son to die for their sin After death, He will then show no mercy when sinners meet Him.

## I thank God for His many blessings

I thank God for His many blessings
I can count them one by one
But it takes such a long time now
At times I just say, "Thank You for each one."

I thank God for the gift of salvation
I consider it gift number one
Salvation won't just last a lifetime
Its eternal benefits will go on and on.

The number one blessing of salvation
Is the forgiveness of my sin
How I thank my precious Saviour
For His blessing of peace and joy within!

Salvation I could never have achieved
No matter how hard I tried
I couldn't have worked for, bought or earned it
It is life's greatest gift to all who on earth abide.

Within salvation, there are many blessings
Too, too many to count
I just want to say, "Thank You, thank You Lord
Salvation I would not want to be without.

I thank God for my wonderful family
My wonderful husband, wonderful children and oh!
Sure I couldn't forget my wonderful grandchildren
Bless them each and every wonderful one.

I thank God for good health and happiness
For a good home, food on the table and friends
Many, many very good friends
I pray God will continue these blessings to send.

I thank God for the blessing of sight Of hearing, speech, taste and touch I don't have enough words to express my thanks My God has given me so much.

If any person now reading this poem
Is anxious, grieved, afraid, worried or in despair
Please come right now to our wonderful Saviour
Our Lord Jesus is also willing your burdens to bear.

## God offers salvation to all

I have said it before and I will say it again
God offers salvation to all, praise His holy name.
He offers salvation as a gift and like any gift it's free
But we must accept that gift if it's going to belong to you or me.

God offers this gift of salvation to all who trust in His Son
Who gave His sinless life to save everyone
Regardless of who we are or what we have done,
Be we the child of a royal, a popper or whatever we have become.

God says, "I will put your sin in the sea of my forgetfulness
To remember them no more!" AND
"Though your sins are like scarlet they shall be as white as snow."
though they are red as crimson, they shall be like wool."

But you may say, "I'm good, I don't need God's offer of grace I'm prepared in my own strength to meet Him face to face." Remember God says, "There is no-one righteous, no not one." There will be no-one in heaven unless they trust in His Son.

Or you may say, "I'm too bad, I continually sin."
But let me tell you there is mercy for all who trust in Him.
God says, "He that comes to me I will in no wise cast out."
So come while you may without fear or doubt.

Jesus says, "Come to me and I will set you free."
"I will give you redeeming grace if you put your trust in me."
But remember if you reject God's divine offer of grace
He will then show no mercy when you meet Him face to face!

By Olive Borland Trib.

Isaiah 1:18 "Come now let us reason together," says the Lord. "Though your sins are like scarlet they shall be white as snow; though they are red as crimson, they shall be like wool."

# Lean not on your own understanding

I am convinced and I hope so are you
That what God says in His Word is authentic and true.
He made wonderful promises; I would now like to share a few
These promises bless me; I hope they will bless you too.

Jesus, the Son of God was heard to say, "Come unto me all you who are weary and burdened and I will give you rest."

I believe many, many people need to hear of this promise in these days of anxiety, worry, strain and stress.

"I have come that you may have life and have it to the full."

I think anybody who would reject this great offer would be a fool
Jesus gave His sinless life for us on Calvary's cruel, cruel tree
His precious blood was shed to redeem sinners like you and me.

To those who are willing and obedient God was heard to say, "Though they are red as crimson, they shall be as white as snow;" "Though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as wool."

I know we won't get an answer that, no matter where else we go.

God says to those who trust Him, "I will remember your sins no more."

What an incredible offer to get from our amazing Creator

He is the Judge who holds the keys to the doors of heaven and hell

He is the One we are all going to meet sooner or later.

I urge you; trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding This what we are told in God's precious Word And we would do well to obey His commanding.

# "He that comes to me I will not cast out."

Jesus said, "He that comes to me, I will not cast out." Upon this promise of Jesus, we should not cast doubt You should accept His offer and come while you may You may not have the opportunity on another day.

None of us know when God will call on our line
It will be too late then to say, "I have changed my mind."
You will then hear Him say, "Too late, too late."
"The NO ADMISSION sign is now on the Mercy Gate."

I beg you, come to Jesus while you may You will not regret it on Judgement Day He now offers us sinner's His amazing grace, Because on Calvary's Tree, He took our rightful place!

He, the sinless Son of God who bore your sin and mine Offers us His gift of salvation and forgiveness combined All who are wise accept His offer while they may, Whereas the foolish will bear the consequences eternally!

John 6:37 All that the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never drive away."

#### Faith in Jesus is the answer

Faith in Jesus is the answer Yes, faith in Jesus is the key I forsook all and trusted Him Who gained salvation for me!

No payment, no good works Or any sacrifice of mine Could procure salvation From God who is Divine.

Salvation must be accepted As a gift of God's loving grace By each unworthy recipient Ere we meet God face to face.

No earthly road we travel
Will lead either you or me
To the rewards purchased by Jesus
Who died to set sinners free!

We must travel the road of faith If we want to know victory Our burden of sin was paid for By our Saviour on Calvary!

#### A question worth considering

Do our lives reflect the image of our Saviour as they should or do the portray an image that is bad rather than good?

Do the people who encounter us feel the warmth of His love And want to get to know Him the God who dwells in heaven above?

Or are they depressed and want to run away

Because of how we live our lives on earth from day to day?

## To Him be the Glory

What we give God, He takes What He takes, He cleanses What He cleanses, He fills What He fills, He uses.

To Him be the glory Forever and forever.

Amen

On realizing our need of redemption
If we come in repentance and faith
Putting our trust in God's beloved Son
Who died to take the sinner's place.
God puts our sins in the sea of His forgetfulness
To remember them no more
And with the infilling of His blessed Holy Spirit
We receive eternal life from His heavenly store.

When Jesus allowed His blood to be shed
On Calvary's cruel, cruel tree
He knew we were powerless to save ourselves
But in love, He wanted to set us free.
He knew without the shedding of blood
There is no forgiven for sin
And because He alone was sinless
Our sin had to be placed on Him.

Miraculously God raised Him from the dead
He now sits enthroned at God's right hand
There He intercedes for those who trust Him
Because our needs He knows and understands.
He puts a new song of praise in our hearts
Our God of divine mercy to glorify
He gives us the desire to share the Good News
With our family, friends and all who pass by!