

*A Little Book
of
Poems*

*I will speak
of the glorious honour
of thy majesty,
and of thy wondrous works.*

Psalms 145:5

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The Bible

This book contains –

The mind of God, the state of man, the way of salvation, the doom of sinners, and the happiness of believers. Its doctrines are holy, its precepts are binding, its histories are true, and its decisions are immutable.

Read it to be wise, believe it to be safe, and practice it to be holy. It contains light to direct you, food to support you, and comfort to cheer you. It is the traveler's map, the pilgrim's staff, the pilot's compass, the soldier's sword, and the Christian's character. Here paradise is restored, heaven opened, and the gates of hell disclosed.

CHRIST IS ITS GRAND SUBJECT,

Our good its design, and the glory of God its end. It should fill the memory, rule the heart, and guide the feet.

Read it slowly, frequently, prayerfully. It is a mine of wealth, a paradise of glory, and a river of pleasure. It is given you in life, will be opened at the judgment, and be remembered for ever.

It involves the highest responsibility, will reward the greatest labor, and condemn all who trifle with its sacred contents.

A Poem About Grace

I used to think that I was best,
My way was right, my steps were blessed,
My thoughts were sharp, my arm was strong,
I never thought that I'd be wrong.

But soon I found I'd lost my way
My faultless feet had gone astray,
My foolproof plans were ripped apart,
Because I chose to trust my heart.

I looked around and then inside,
I found no help, just broken pride.
But then I thought, "there's one more place,"
So, I looked up and found God's grace.

His kindness caught me by surprise,
The price was paid, though it was high.
The work was done, and for my part:
I only had to change my heart.

I found His strength when I was weak.
I found His grace when I was meek.
I found the answers in His book.
The key was that I had to look.

Expect God's kindness every day.
Expect an answer when you pray.
Expect the best, for when you do,
You'll see what God's prepared for you.

I'm Me and I'm Free

Want to be unhappy?
Take a good look at yourself.
Want to be discouraged?
Look at everybody else.

Don't wish you were better,
That your weaknesses were strong:
Did you forget who knows you,
And who's loved you all along?

You don't have to be perfect
Before you can be blessed.
You don't have to change yourself
To become sure that you're the best.

All I've got to know is that
It's God in Christ in me.
Then I can walk with joy and know
That I am me, and I am free.

The past is in the past now,
Let all that baggage go.
Wake up to who you are now:
Righteous, able, whole.

If you can't do it, no one can,
Stop wishing that you could.
He is risen, verdict's in,
God's judgment is: you're good!

You're already righteous,
So, go ahead – be blessed!
You don't have to change yourself,
Just change what you confess.

All you've got to know is that
It's God in Christ in thee.
So, go show it to the world:
You are you, and you are free.

The Choice

Like an avalanche over a snowy divide
Worldly information descends on my brain
Although the cascade may never subside
I determine what thoughts I retain

The ideas of the world distract and dismay
Their purpose, to cause worry and fear
Those are the thoughts I must throw away
To those concepts, I must never adhere

But God's Word comes gently like a soft summer rain
Speaking comforting words to my heart
The truth of God's Word will always sustain
These thoughts, I will not let depart

God's words are perfect, trustworthy, and true
Giving me life and making me free
These are the thoughts that I must pursue
In my mind, these are the thoughts that I need

Two kinds of knowledge compete for my ear
One worldly and one from above
Which I should choose is abundantly clear
I'll take God's declaration of LOVE

In the Meantime

When you have a promise that's promised to you
from Someone reliable, gracious, and true,
you know you'll receive it, you know He'll come through,
but while you are waiting, well what do you do?

It's called "In the Meantime," this place that you're in,
the Meantime's a place everybody has been
It starts with a promise and ends with a win,
but walking between them can sure wear you thin.

The Meantime can be a discouraging place,
where troubles and worries get thrown in your face,
and that's when the Devil will get on your case
and make you forget that you're walking in grace.

The Meantime can cause you to feel so alone,
Your feet lose their way, and your heart turns to stone
Unless you decide to look up at the throne
where Someone is watching and beckons you home.

While you're in the Meantime, Someone's there too,
protecting and watching and waiting for you.
When you keep your eyes on Him, He'll lead you through
because He's reliable, gracious, and true.

But if, in the Meantime, you wander astray,
if you give up 'cause you're so far away,
remember your savior will be on his way.
You're never too far,
He could come back today!

My Reflection

Hey mirror,
Why are you so mean to me?
You show things I don't like to see
You're quick to reveal flaws and spots
You're apt to point out what I'm not
My lack, you like to emphasize
You set my frailties before my eyes
What did I ever do to you
That makes you want to make me blue?
By setting a standard I cannot meet
You always leave me in defeat

Wait a minute! My mirror replied
I'm not to blame, I'm on your side
For all the things you think you see
Do not emanate from me
The problem is the glasses you wear
You may need another pair
The ones you're using are a worldly sort
Their job, your perception to distort
Looking through those jaded lenses
Has caused you all those consequences

It's time you put on Godly frames
And see yourself as His Word proclaims
A son of God with Christ within
Freed from all the penalties of sin
A child God calls His masterpiece
Filled with His power, joy and peace
You're perfect, complete and lovely too
That what God sees when He looks at you

So now my mirror and I are friends
For I've learned to see as God intends
A beautiful daughter full of His grace
With the glow of His light upon my face

The Mill Pond vs. the Sea

Life for some is like the mill pond
It is teeming with life,
yet when the turbulent storms hit,
it causes confusion and havoc.

Life for others is like the sea,
teeming also with life
Yet when the turbulent storms hit,
only the upper layer of the sea is touched,
for its strength and its heart is in its depth.
The life in the deep goes on,
hardly affected at all by the turbulence above.

God never promised life without storms
but for the believer with God's Word dwelling deep within,
He maintains the quiet seas of the soul.
And the hurricanes of life pass over as simply gentle breezes
because you have the love of God in the renewed mind in manifestation
without hypocrisy

The Carnival Man

It's easy to drift, to float, to steep,
allowing the world to lull you to sleep,
or rushing along with the current's flow
'til the years go by and you've nothing to show.

I myself had wandered amiss,
Lost in apathy, ignorant bliss,
But I found I needed to take a stand
the day I met the carnival man.

“Step up! Step up!” he cried to the crowd.
“Play the game that will make you proud!
Win a prize that will last for years!”
But his pleas fell unheeded on deafened ears.

The man shook his head as he watched the crowd pass,
and he warned: “My friends, you are moving too fast!
Life is too short, there are prizes to claim!
But you can't win a prize if you don't play the game.”

The prizes were cheap, but I treasured the truth
that I learned from the man at the carnival booth.
For how can you win the victory cup
if you haven't the courage and time to step up?

God is Love

God is love
He could never hurt you
Our Heavenly Father above
Could never desert you
He thinks of you more than there are grains of sand
He sent his only son to die for you so you could walk with Him
Hand in hand

Any burden on your heart
Consider it fled
When you feel like you are falling apart
Remember your old man nature is dead
Things and people of this world will tell you that you're wrong
That God does things to hurt and that His power isn't strong

But if God is all love, that is all He can give
Who cares what the world says when we know how He says we can live
God is love, let's not forget it
It's in His Word so the world's advice just doesn't fit

I'm Home

I'm very thankful for the Father that I know,
He loves me, teaches me and helps me to grow
He is always there and He hears my cries,
He mends my heart and dries my eyes.
He holds me in His caring hands,
Sets me on my feet and helps me stand.

There once was a time when to God I didn't go.
My heart was more broken with every blow
And no one was there to pick up the pieces.
I said, "Please hold me until the pain ceases"
But my cry fell on ears that were deaf,
And pain and more pain were all that were left.

Then I decided to turn my heart to stone.
"I'll show you I don't need you I can live alone.
I'm strong and I'm tough and I can take the pain."
Well, really I was empty and maybe insane,
But I couldn't stand the confusion I felt inside,
So I covered it up and said, "In MY strength I'll abide."

So, I lived like that for quite a while,
Then along came a WOW with a great big smile.
He registered me for a class called PFAL,
And then I learned that in God I did dwell.
I heard that on Him I could cast every care,
That He would heal my heart and answer my prayers.

So...I'm very thankful for the Father that I know,
He loves me, teaches me and helps me to grow.
He is always there and He hears my cries,
He mends my heart and dries my eyes.
He holds me in His caring hands,
Sets me on my feet and helps me stand.
And I'm thankful that I am HOME!

A Broken Heart

Sometimes you find yourself down and alone.
Your friends are all gone and you're all on your own.
You're condemning the world, then condemning yourself.
You're hurt so you put your heart up on a shelf.

Then you keep working the best that you can.
There's so much to do, gotta stick to the plan.
You're drowning in deadlines, you must hit the mark,
But your heart's getting dusty up there in the dark.

You keep on confessing that you'll be okay,
'Cause that's what you heard once, you must be someday.
But do you believe it, or just say you're fine?
You aren't taking action, you don't have the time.

You say, "time will heal" as the weeks slip away,
But the bitterness grows in your heart day by day.
The time has now come to destroy this façade.
Take your heart off the shelf and just give it to God.

You'll find He will mend it in no time at all.
You'll find when you seek Him, He'll answer the call.
When it comes to your heart, God's the One who knows best.
So, forgive and forget, and let Him do the rest.

Stayed on You

Every time
My heart's heavy
And things weigh on my mind, I'm going to give it
To you

Every day When I wake up
I'm going to pray
I want to see what you can do

I'm laying it down,
On you I will wait And my expectation's
Fixed on you and your grace
And I'm going to keep my anxious mind stayed
On You

Once in a while I get anxious
Looking at my life
But you've got the answers for me

So, I stop to recall Your great power,
How you've been there through it all
You work wonders for me
Faithfully

I'm laying it down,
On you I will wait
And my expectation's
Fixed on you and your grace
And I'm going to keep
My peaceful mind stayed
On You

When Goliath is in Town

It's easy to say you believe in God
And really just put up a fake façade.
It's easy to say you'll triumph today,
When all of life's troubles are still at bay.
But you will know if you're as fake as a clown
If you break when Goliath is in town.

When he comes knocking on your front door,
Does your heart sink; falling to the floor?
Is Goliath too big for your God?
If so, what you believe is a fraud.
Your strength, your money, and your plan
Is not what takes you through life's span.

It is trusting in the true God above,
The one who walks you through this life with love,
That gives you that constant confident heart
To stand until the hard times depart.

Take Time to Pray

I got up early one morning
And rushed right into the day;
I had so much to accomplish
That I didn't have time to pray.

Problems just tumbled about me,
And heavier came each task.
"Why doesn't God help me?" I wondered
He answered, "You didn't ask."

I wanted to see joy and beauty,
But the day toiled on gray and bleak;
I wondered why God didn't show me
He said, "But you didn't seek."

I tried to come into God's presence;
I used all my keys in the lock.
God gently and lovingly chided,
"My child, you didn't knock."

I woke up early this morning,
And paused before entering the day;
I had so much to accomplish
That I had to take time to pray.

Friends

My friends are the people I've cried with,
to whom I have poured out my heart,
who love me in spite of instead of because of.
From them I will never depart.

My friends are the people I've laughed with,
when laughing is just what I need.
They share in my joys and my jokes and my songs
With them, I am happy and free.

My friends are the ones who have hurt me,
and I have hurt them too.
But with my friends, forgiveness abounds,
and mercy, grace, and truth.

My friends are the ones I will stand with,
for we can do nothing alone.
With Christ in us, we walk hand in hand
'til our Father leads us home.

Joy

Sometimes living can take the joy out of life
When days get filled with envy, toil and strife.
We look around and what do we see?
But a world so lost, stuck in drudgery.
People want answers that will stay ever true.
But the things that seems good, just end up bad too.

Where is the happiness? we say in our hearts
Is it in a new home, a nice job or fresh start?
It cannot be that, as we all can infer,
Cause once we're done running, we're just as we were.
Chasing this joy is a tiresome task
Until God's Word we do turn to and ask.

You see joy is not hiding where you're not aware.
It is much more present than the very air.
It is in serving God that joy takes its shape,
And when you're really serving, you don't have to escape.
So, plant your feet, you don't have to look far,
For the place to get joy is right where you are.

God Knows

Maybe no one knows all you left behind
Your family, your friends, your home
And the prayer and believing you invested with time
And the love that you've faithfully sown.
But God knows.

You came to a place to move God's Word
A place that wasn't your home
A place that was different from what you've known
A place, at times, where you felt alone.

But you trusted in God that His Word is His Will
You believed His calling to you:
To speak His Word to those who long
To know their God like you do.

And maybe others don't know your heart
Of trusting your God like you do,
Of relying on Him and Him alone
To supply all your need to you.
But God knows.

So, you stand your ground on God's Word
Your vision is God's of Word over the World.
You've planted your feet; you will not be moved.
You're an ambassador for Christ.
It's His Word you have proved.

And there'll be that day when you stand at the *bema*
And you'll see your savior face to face.
Your trial of believing will be found unto glory
As you receive your prize for running the race.

So be proud of your stand you decided to take
To move with all of God's power
For no one really knows the greatness of this time,
Of this moment in history, this hour.
But God knows.

So Now You Can

Sometimes our lives seem less than fair
And pressures seem too hard to bear
Sometimes so many things go wrong
And sleepless nights last way too long
Sometimes our tears are commonplace
And troubles stare us in the face
Sometimes our hearts get crushed to bits
And we might want to call it quits
Don't do it!

God's Word has answers just for you
What God has promised, He will do
God called your name to be His son
And by His grace salvation's done
As your Father, He cares for you
With tender love and kindness too
God promised to supply your needs
Your expectations, He exceeds
God keeps you safe from all your foes
His mighty power, He gladly shows
So now you can

Study God's Word with diligence
And truth will build your confidence
Go to God with all your cares
And let Him answer all your prayers
Trust in the Lord with all your heart
And see the blessings He'll impart
Rejoice in God's abundant grace
And you'll have strength to run the race
Hold fast the hope that you've been given
And remember always that Christ is risen!

Living with God

I wake up every morning and I think of You,
You will always be the first thought on my mind.
With a joyful heart, I open up Your Word of Truth
and remember that You're powerful and kind.

I spend time every evening with Your family,
and I thank You, God, for each and every one.
Surrounded with Your love, they guard and comfort me,
and I'll pray for them until these days are done.

At night, I sit with You and watch the stars arise,
Your Word is what they faithfully proclaim.
The roaring lion, Jesus Christ, in triumph cries,
and I have every right to use his name.

Every morning, noon, and night I seek Your face,
Empty-handed, I come searching for Your grace
I will treasure every hour spent with You,
Day-by-day I will expect You to be true.

The Power of One

One song can spark a moment,
One flower can wake the dream.
One tree can start a forest,
One bird can herald spring.

One smile begins a friendship,
One handclasp lifts a soul.
One star can guide a ship at sea,
One word can frame the goal.

One vote can change a nation,
One sunbeam lights a room.
One candle wipes out darkness,
One laugh will conquer gloom.

One step must start each journey,
One word must start a prayer.
One hope will raise our spirits,
One touch can show you care.

One voice can speak with wisdom,
One heart can know what is true.
One Life can make a difference –
That one life can be you!

Dealing with the Adversary

My enemy is a mean old bird
From me, he tries to steal God's Word
He tries to fool me with his lies
He thinks he'll make me compromise

He shoots his fiery darts at me
He thinks his roaring will make me flee
He condemns me for my past mistakes
He thinks by that my heart will break

With pressures, he tries to push me down
With pleasures, he tries to lead me around
He thinks against his wiles I cannot stand
He thinks he has the upper hand

BUT I've got news for that S.O.B.
In Christ, I have the victory!
My ransom has been fully paid
Free from his clutches, I have been made

Over my life he has no right
For I'm a son of God with might
Greater is he that is in me
Than that old snake will ever be

I am equipped with all I need
Against his methods, I will succeed
My mind's renewed to hold God's Word
I'm not afraid of that old bird!

So, if I hear that lion's roar
I know that I need fear no more
Because it's Christ in me I'm sure
And I am more than a conqueror!

No More Acting

All my life I was searching for something.
To be free, my heart would yearn.
All I'd learned seemed really worth nothing,
Deep inside my heart with pain still burned.

I wore a mask Yes, I was an actor –
Tried to hide my guilt and shame.
But behind the scenes, when no one was looking,
I would cry, "I just can't take the pain!"

Then, one day someone came and spoke the words of life.
Her eyes so full of love looked through my lie.
She spoke the Words of God, they cut through my façade.
She said, "The acting's over, turn to God."

For the first time in my life I didn't have to play a part.
I am what God says I am, His Word dwells in my heart.
Yes, this is really me, who God said I would be.
Now the acting's over, I am free.

God changed the set, He's my director.
Now my script is from above.
Changed from within, I am a new man,
Standing in the spotlight of God's love.

For the rest of my life I don't have to play a part.
I am what God says I am, His Word dwells in my heart.
Yes, this is really me, who God said I would be.
Now the acting's over, I am free.

No more props, no make-up, no more false disguise.
I now have a new life; no more living lies.
Yes, this is really me, who God said I would be.
Now the acting's over, I am free.

The Power of Prayer

Nobody knows the power of prayer,
But somebody must be listening there
With a friendly ear for the heart that calls –
Someone Who knows when a sparrow falls.

Miracles lie in the power of prayer:
Faith that can banish the soul's despair!
Hope that can shine like a holy light,
And brighten the spirit's darkest night!

When earthly help is of no avail,
There is one Friend Who will never fail.
Just lift your eyes – the answer is there,
For nobody knows the power of prayer!

God Never Ever Leaves You

God never ever leaves you
 You're too precious in His sight
God never ever forsakes you
 Not even in the darkest night
God never ever ignores you
 He listens each time you pray
God never ever tempts you
 For your escape, He makes a way
God never ever lies to you
 That's something He cannot do
God never ever condemns you
 By His mercy your life is new
God never ever forgets you
 On His palms, you are tattooed
God never ever fails you,
 By His Son, you've been rescued

God always always cares for you
 He binds your every wound
God always always guides you
 His Word keeps your life in tune
God always always comforts you
 He surrounds you with his love
God always always strengthens you
 He gave you power from above
God always always protects you
 He keeps you safe from harm
God always always provides for you
 For you, He bares His mighty arm

God never ever leaves us
 Because this one thing is sure
God always always loves us
 With His love that's true and pure

God Just Made My Day

“Well that just made my day!”
A small thing people say
Right when a happy thing comes,
That helps them feel a bit less glum.

Well, I’m here to tell you
Something to prize as true.
This is the day the Lord has made
The price for you already paid.

So, stand up with your shoulders tall and wide,
Because in you, God in Christ is inside.
Now the moment you awake you can say,
“Would you look at that, God just made my day!”

Riches

Out of this life no one ever takes
Things of silver or the gold he makes.
All that man may cherish or hoard away.
At death, he leaves here to stay.

He may have toiled for a painting rare,
To hang on his wall but he must leave it there.
He may call it his own and boast of its worth,
But he gives it all up with his last breath on earth

For all that a man gathers and all that he owns.
He leaves behind when he enters death's door alone.
When corruption puts on incorruption,
And mortal puts on immortality,
The riches you've earned are the souls you've won,
Who join you at the Return when it's all done.

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