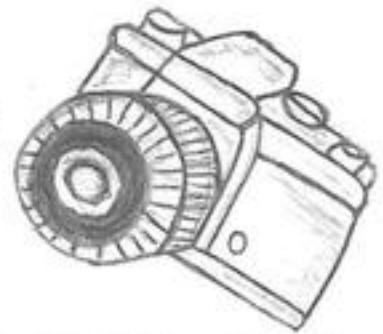
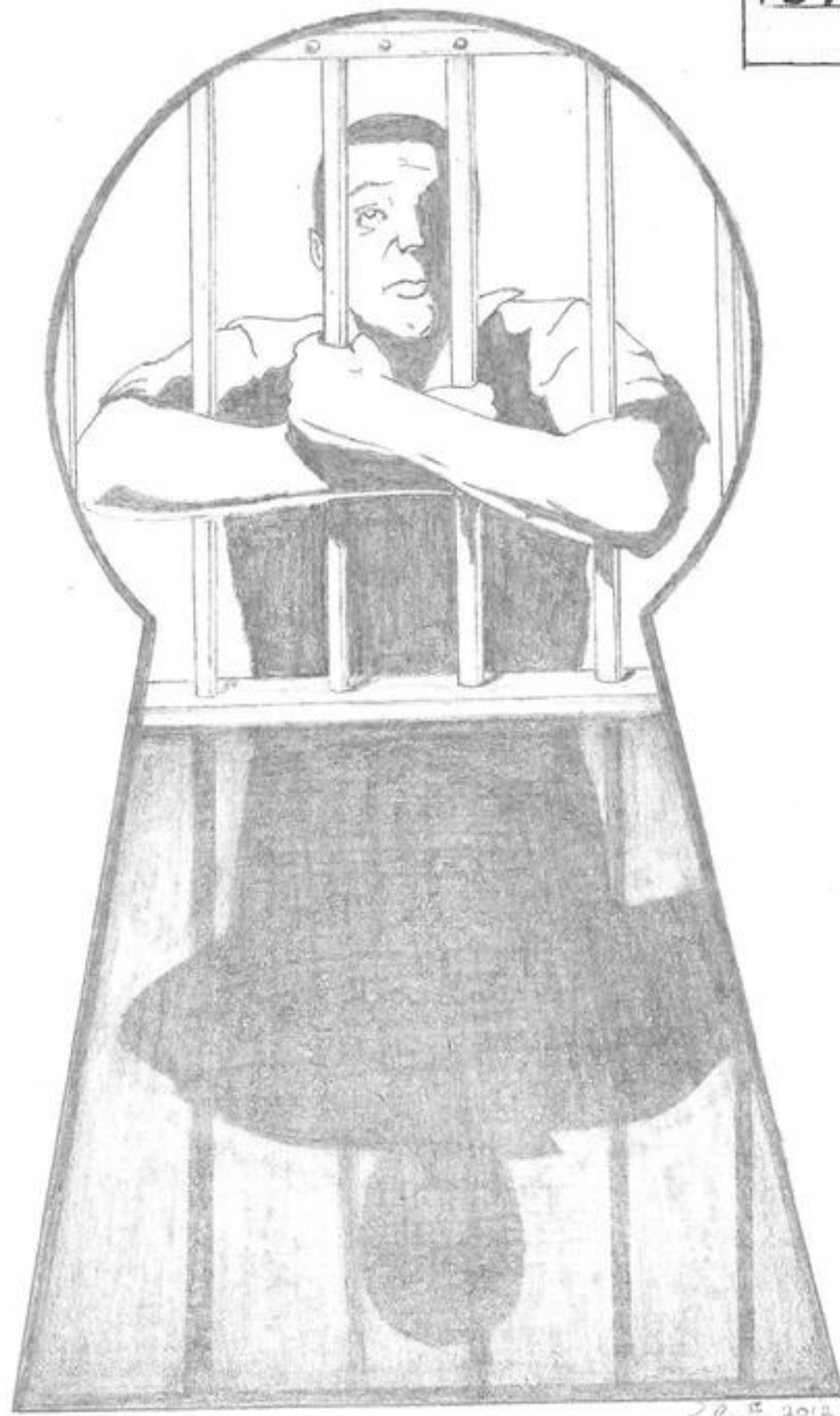


# Snapshots Of Grace: Experiencing God Behind The Wire



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# SNAPSHOTS OF GRACE:

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Cover Artwork by:  
ROBERT D. BROWN III

# Guide my hand

1-2

Through my 3 fingers hold the pen,  
 I PRAY God. But you guide my hand.  
 To help me touch the hearts of men,  
 That they may come to understand.

Your boundless mercy and Amazing Grace,  
 That they may know your perfect peace.  
 And in you find a resting place,  
 Where countless worries would all cease

Help me find a way to impart  
 The joy I've found as I've kneeled.  
 And your word, hidden in my heart,  
 Through my writing - may be revealed

Not my words, Father God, but yours -  
 May be planted and then take root,  
 And that your Spirit opens doors  
 So those words may then bear fruit.

I PRAY you use me as you will,  
 And that your perfect will be done. -  
 But your Holy Spirit may instill  
 The means to glorify your Son.

I've poured your word into my spirit,  
 And meditated upon each line.  
 But I may both fear - and REVERE it,  
 As a Sparrow God nine.

2-2

It's Riches, which are beyond compare,  
Must be declared to this Generation!  
So I pray God that I may share  
the Great Hope of my salvation.

Your Son, Our Lord, Jesus Christ,  
The only hope for a sin sick soul.  
For which He Gladly sacrificed  
His life - that we may be made whole.

I'll hold the pen, God guide my hand,  
That your truth may flow slowly -  
According to your perfect plan,  
I pray God, that you may use me.



## No \$ Crownz

1-4

IN most of man's endeavors,  
THERE ARE TREASURES, AWAKED AND PRIZES  
STEPS, ADDERS, GEMS AND LEVERS  
BY WHICH HE MEASURES HOW HE RISES.

THERE ARE OSCARS FOR THE MOVIES,  
AND TONY'S FOR THE STAGE.  
GRAMMYS IN THE MUSIC WORLD.  
THAT ALL SERVE AS A STAGE.

PULITZERS FOR WRITERS,  
NOBELS FOR SCIENTISTS.  
PEACE AWARDS FOR THOSE WHO RISE,  
BY BEING HUMANS.

THERE ARE HONORARY DOCTORATES,  
FELLOWSHIPS AND GRANTS.  
CROWNS AND BRONZES,  
IN ENGLAND AND IN FRANCE.

WORLD CUPS AND OLYMPIC GOLD.  
PENNANTS, BANNERS AND FLAGS -  
ALL PRIZES YOU CAN HOLD.  
THAT GET YOUR PICTURE IN THE MAGS.

BUT A WAREHOUSE FULL OF TROPHIES  
AND A TRUCKLOAD OF AWARDS.  
STIMES OR BIOGRAPHIES  
AND OTHER SUCH REWARDS.

2-4

One day will lose Their Luster  
 begin to tarnish and RUST -  
 One day, even Their "duster"  
 will simply RETURN to DUST.

What I'm about to say may SURPRISE,  
 OR even seem a bit ABRUPT.  
 But THERE'S another kind of PRIZE  
 And A CROWN that won't CORRUPT.

HEROES, and HANDS of STATE  
 MIGHT NOT even make THIS LIST.  
 WORTHY FOLKS WITH VAST ESTIMES  
 May ALSO just be DISMISSED.

Although "WORKS" can't EARN our SALVATION,  
 Once SAVED, they CAN EARN our REWARDS.  
 AS we OVERCOME TRIBULATION,  
 IT'S THE MARK THAT we're PRESSING TOWARD.

An INCORRUPTIBLE CROWN for TEMPERANCE,  
 And for EXHIBITING SELF-CONTROL.  
 BRINGING THE FLESH INTO OBEDIENCE,  
 OF THE SPIRIT, and CLEANSING THE SOUL.

THE CROWN of LIFE is for BEARING YOUR CROSS,  
 WITH FAITH - IT'S A DAILY SACRIFICE.  
 LEARNING to REJOICE IN THE FACE of LOSS,  
 AND for KNOWING GOD'S GRACE will suffice.

3-4

A Crown of rejoicing for winning souls,  
 For personal evangelism.  
 For taking part in the Great Commission,  
 Shining God's love - as if through a prism.

The Crown of Glory for feeding the flock,  
 With the nourishing Word of the Lord.  
 Haping them to plant their feet on the Rock,  
 And teaching them about His sword:

The Crown of Righteousness will belong  
 To all those who love His appearing  
 And I'll tell you friend it won't be long,  
 It's so clear that the time is nearing.

Decked out in white robes and gowns  
 As the heavenly angels sing  
 The saints of God will lay their crowns,  
 At the foot of the throne of our King.

We race not for some corruptible crown -  
 And not for the praises of men.  
 And once won - we'll gladly lay them down,  
 To hear "Well done, my good and faithful friend."

Our hopes are not like other man's  
 Once saved, our priorities shift.  
 We look at life through another lens,  
 And salvation our greatest gift.

4-4

In all of our endeavors  
 Where we seek as the highest prize  
 Is to always do whatever is  
 Seen as best in The Master's eyes.

Our crowns are incorruptible  
 And the Glory is not our own  
 Our "treasure" is not bankruptable,  
 For the Riches that we have known,  
 Are begin and end -  
 At the foot of the Master's Throne

Incorruptible Crown  
 Crown of Life  
 Crown of rejoicing  
 Crown of Righteousness  
 Crown of Glory

1 CORINTHIANS 9:25-2  
 JAMES 1:12, REV.2:10  
 1 THESS. 2:19, PHIL. 4:1  
~~2 TIM 4:8, 4:8~~  
 1 PTL 5:1-4, LK 10:35

## The Journey

1-4

Aunt I,

I want you to take a JOURNEY WITH ME,  
LET'S TRAVEL BACK IN TIME - THROUGH THE SCRIPTURE.  
TRAVEL THROUGH THE WORD OF GOD WITH ME,  
AND SEE IT CLEARLY - AS A PICTURE.

I want you to imagine THIS SCENE,  
IT TOOK PLACE IN 2nd Kings, 6:8 THROUGH 18

Syria'd declared war on ISRAEL,  
They chose to war upon God's chosen NATION.  
God's chosen, surrounded by the infidel -  
And Elisha PRAYING for Salvation.

Elisha's SERVANT WENT OUT TO SPY THE LAND,  
He came back trembling and confounded.  
TRY AS he might, he couldn't understand -  
Elisha'd said "FEAR NOT", though they were surrounded.

You see - The servant was like you and I,  
looking at life through the NATURAL EYES,  
He couldn't see the HEAVENLY HOST -  
whose numbers had darkened the SKIES.

Well, Elisha PRAYED the Lord open his eyes,  
Not in the NATURAL, but the SPIRIT Realm.  
Can you imagine the servant's SURPRISE -  
No doubt it had to just overwhelm.

The ARMY he'd caught had them surrounded,  
was surrounded by chariots of fire.  
The servant must have been ASTOUNDED,  
By what was about to transpire.

2-4

Once again, Elizba simply PRAYED,  
 And the enemy was STRUCK blind.  
 The power of God had been displayed -  
 Can you imagine that scene on your mind.

That same power belongs to you and I,  
 We can go boldly to the Throne of Grace.  
 And our God is ready to supply  
 Our strength we need and a RESTING place.

Now we both know the word is true,  
 Let God be TRUE - and every man a liar  
 We know what the power of prayer can do -  
 Call down the hosts in chariots of fire.

Today's battle may be of a different sort,  
 But the word of TRUTH was REVEALED.  
 Romans 10 "Who has believed our REPORT?"  
 I say "By His STRIPES we are healed!"  
Amen

Now I want you to imagine this,  
 The woman who had suffered so long.  
 As Jesus walked by with TAIRUS,  
 DETERMINED - she made her way through the THONGS

She knew that just the hand of His GRACE,  
 Had the power to make her whole  
 To end all those years of TORMENTS,  
 RESTORE her - Body and Soul.

3-4

Can you imagine what she must have been feeling,  
 After touching just the hem of His clothes.  
 When she felt her body healing  
 By the power just a touch bestows.  
 Hallelujah!

Today we don't need to touch His clothes,  
 Nor to fight our way through the crowd  
 Through just His name that same power flows,  
 Whether whispered, or said our Lord.  
 Jesus!

Now we both know the word is true  
 Let God be true, and every man a liar.  
 He's standing by to strengthen you,  
 Every time you begin to tire.

And remember what else He said,  
 My dear, He promised "Always" to abide.  
 When you were in that hospital bed  
 Ministering angels stood at your side.

Not just the hem of His garment,  
 But Jesus, through the spirit inside.  
 Heard your every whispered prayer,  
 And dried your eyes each time you cried.

Today, we don't need to touch His clothes,  
 Nor to fight our way through the crowd  
 Through just His name that same power flows,  
 Whether whispered, or said our Lord.  
 Jesus!

4-4

Today, we don't need to touch His clothes,  
 Nor to fight our way through the crowd,  
 Through just His name that same power flows.  
 Whether whispered, or said our Lord  
 JESUS!

Now I want you to imagine this scene,  
 To see it clearly, in your head -  
 Our Lord, Jesus Christ, the Nazarene,  
 Standing at the foot of your bed!

Think about the comfort of His touch,  
 Imagine Him - Right there in the room.  
 Can you hear Him say "I love you so much,  
 You are the reason I rose from the tomb!"

My dear - you don't have to touch His clothes  
 nor to fight our way through the crowd  
 through just His name, that same power flows.  
 Whether whispered, or said our Lord  
 JESUS!

We know He's not a man that He would lie,  
 And He said He would never forsake you!  
 He's here to wipe every tear from your eye,  
 To give you strength when trials shake you.

The next time you're feeling weary,  
 My dear - I want you to remember this.  
Not just the comfort of the Master's love,  
 But the promise of His kiss!

## Testimony

1-3

THE VIEW THAT I ONCE had of Sin,  
 WAS NOT THROUGH ANOTHER MAN'S EYES.  
 PERHAPS UNLIKE you, I ONCE SIT IN A PEW,  
 WHILE WEARING A CLEVER DISGUISE ...

BUT BEHIND MY CLOAK OF RIGHTEOUSNESS,  
 I'D JUST BUILT A HOUSE OF LIES.

I TOOK PRIDE IN MY HUMILITY,  
 AND I SAW NO CONTRADICTION -  
 NOW I REALIZE WHAT A MOCKERY  
 I'D ONCE MADE OF THE CRUCIFIXION.

I'D PUT A 'NEW COAT' ON THE OLD MAN,  
 INSTEAD OF THE OTHER CITY AROUND.  
 IT MIGHT HAVE LOOKED GOOD FROM THE OUTSIDE,  
 BUT THE 'NEW MAN' WAS TO MY EYE,

LIKE A GRACIOUS HOST, I'D ASKED THE HOLY GHOST,  
 TO COME IN - AND MAKE HIMSELF AT HOME.  
 HE TOOK A LOOK AROUND, AND ALONG HE'D FOUND,  
 WAS IN THE RUST THERE BENEATH THE CHROME.

MY 'PIOUS GRIN' HAD JUST HAD THE SIN  
 OF A 'PUBLISM' THAT MINDLY BRAGS -  
 AND THAT 'NEW COAT' I'D PUT ON THE 'OLD MAN'  
 WAS, IN REALITY, JUST A LIP MY ROSS.

MY VAGITY, AND MY INEQUITY,  
 HAD BEEN DEFINING MY CIRCUMSTANCE -  
 I DROPPED TO MY KNEES AND WITH A TERRIFIC PIER,  
 I SIMPLY BEGGED FOR ANOTHER CHANCE.

2-3

I said I would not rest until all my lies,  
 Had been dispossessed and evicted.  
 No more lies! And no more Mibis!  
 Then I "confessed," and I was converted.

Well no "hot come" had touched my lips,  
 And no Angels suddenly APPENDED -  
 No trumpets blow, and no veil was Ripped,  
 But all those dark, dark clouds had cleared.

I tremble to think if I had waited awhile  
 And got caught up in a DESERTED "I'll"  
 I'll wait, I'll see, I'll pray. I'll think about it,  
 I'm "almost convinced", but still - I doubt it.

I hope you don't just sit on the fence,  
 And later hear the words "Get thee hence".  
 Oh my God...  
 "I NEVER KNEW YOU, GET THEE hence!"

So don't get caught in "AGRIPPA" denial -  
 In which you were "almost persuaded".  
 You may find yourself in a deserted "I'll",  
wishing. You had NEVER waited.

Well - It's not easy to admit these things.  
 To talk of the mask part I used to wear.  
 It's a pain for going to lift the lid.  
 On my past shame like this and share.

3-3

But - If I can reach just one man,  
Touch a heart, or help to save a soul.  
Perhaps help someone to understand -  
Then it would be a worthy goal.

If they can learn from my mistakes,  
Avoid the pain that I've endured...  
If I can spare them the headaches,  
Or help to have their soul "RESTORED".

Then my time spent close to the fire -  
And all those times that I feel the pain.  
Might just edify, and inspire -  
And my JOURNEY won't have been in vain.

## God's Love

by

Young folk look, with hope, to the future,  
 While some old folk may yearn for the past.  
 Yet those magical moments in between,  
 Somehow - never seem to last.

Yet each day carries its own Blessings  
 God's Great Gifts of Mercy and Grace.  
 But we miss while we are obsessing  
 Over those things that we can embrace.

While we search for those things that glitter.  
 Those things we can hold or touch -  
 So often we may end up feeling bitter.  
 When we find it's 'fools gold' that we clutch.

Once we understand we're deep building on sand,  
 And our dreams have all faded like mist.  
 By then, it's too late to appreciate -  
 All of those Blessings that we have missed.

So let's start now, today, at this moment,  
 Let us begin to realize;  
 When all has been said and done my friend,  
 It's only God's love that satisfies!



## Afterglow of Prayer

1-2

Sitting here in the Afterglow  
 Of a mighty moment of PRAYER.  
 In which the words just seemed to flow,  
 And I know - that the SPIRIT was there.

Prayer can blot the mouths of Lions,  
 And open doors that set us free.  
 It can stop the rain from falling down,  
 And change the course of history.

It can heal the broken hearted,  
 And give us all the victory.  
 The Gates of hell can not prevail  
 With PRAYER AS THE MASTER KEY.

It's the power to bring down strongholds,  
 And to 'cast down' vain imaginations  
 Build a hedge around our households  
 And bring healing to our nation.

With FAITH - you may move mountains.  
 But with PRAYER - cast them into the sea.  
 With PRAYER we get as much attention  
 As God gave at GETHSEMANE.

When we say the words "Our FATHER,"  
 We enter the Throne Room of GRACE.  
 And we know we need not bother,  
 With any sorrows in this place.

2-2

When we cry out in Jesus' Name,  
 we're welcomed into God's embrace.  
 By the Blood of him who overcame -  
 when he died for Sin - in our place.

"The fervent prayer of a righteous man,"  
 the Word tells us "Avileth much."  
 But it also lets us help His hand,  
 And feel the Glory of the Master's touch.

So, while sitting here in the after glow,  
 Of a mighty moment of PRAYER.  
 I can't help but feel these tems of Joy -  
 At the feet of the Master's Chair.



## The Bible

1-2

There are 66 books in The Bible  
 That line up and flow - The gift of the Word.  
 And though written by 40 different men,  
 It was the same message that they all heard.

They were written in 9 different countries,  
 And yet - Not once did they lose the thread.  
 While written in 3 different languages  
 They seemed to me from a single hand.

Among the writers were farmers and kings,  
 Even a gospel by a physician.  
 Rich men and poor men, judges and priests,  
 Generals as well as musicians.

There were "scientists" and fishermen,  
 From the cities, the country and shore.  
 By the Word of God, some were born again -  
 Changing the world forevermore.

They wrote from divine inspiration,  
 Not one of them wasting a line.  
 All stamped in the great revelation,  
 As though the fruit of a single vine.

Though spaced out over 1,600 years,  
 It flows - as a single, perfect story.  
 And a re-occurring theme appears,  
 God's great love, His mercy and glory.

2-2

God USED THESE men - Time and Time Again,  
To SHARE with the World His STORY.  
So That we all might be lifted up  
By His Great Love, His MERCY and GLORY



## Armor of God

1-2

Doubt is a ~~debt~~ part the devil uses,  
Armed at the heart of those he abuses.  
He shakes the mind, and rattles the nerves,  
trying to bind anyone who serves.

The father of lies, as silly as a thief,  
He'd have you stagger in disbelief.  
He'd have your fears multi-tasking,  
And make you waver in your asking.

To Rock your faith is part of his plans  
Unless you're safe in the Master's hands.  
He'd shake the faith of the most devout -  
If he can get them to walk in doubt.

But - No need to fear his fiery darts,  
Nor demons babbling in his black arts.  
The Lord we serve is more than able.  
In fact - He's already prepared a table.

With faith we'll pass - the last to the first -  
Of us who choose to run "the Good Race".  
With faith and hope there's no need to grope;  
We can be safe within God's embrace.

Yes doubt is a ~~debt~~ part the devil uses,  
To shake your faith - he ~~first~~ confuses.  
A "spirit of fear" is one of his ruses;  
A "Roaring Lion" - A role he chooses.

2-2

LET'S NOT BE IGNORANT OF HIS DEVICES.  
 He weakens the faith of those he entices.  
 But - with Lions gird about with the Word of TRUTH  
 We're given ARMOR THAT'S FIRE PROOF.

From those fiery darts, we're kept quite safe,  
 When we put on the "SHIELD of FAITH".  
 To cast down vain IMAGINATION -  
 Put on the HELMET of SALVATION.

To guard against his DILIGENCE,  
 Put on the BREASTPLATE of RIGHTEOUSNESS.  
 Even when we're still quite eloquent,  
 With "foot Shod" our Ank is our STATEMENT.

Protected by Armor  
 And delivered by PRAYER -  
 The Devil doesn't stand a chance.

With the Armor of God  
 We Rejoice - In Joy -  
 No matter what our CIRCUMSTANCE.



Eph. 6: 10-20

## Hold On

1-2

I've been down in the Valley of Despair  
 Where a thousand TEARS were shed.  
 Way down deep in the Valley of despair  
 Where my faith was like a Thread.

That Thread of faith was my road to Hope,  
 And I held on in desperation  
 'Til I wore that Thread into a rope -  
 It was the Hope of my salvation.

At times it seems I've been to hell and back.  
 But I've come back with a testimony.  
 The Lord was there to pick up the slack,  
 And never once did He leave me lonely.

There's death and doubt, and yes - despair,  
 Down in the Valley, as everyone knows.  
 But I've come back with a word of more,  
 It's to the Valley that the River flows.

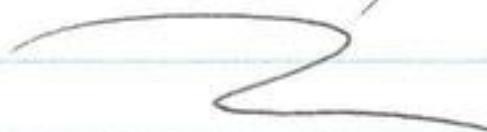
In the darkest part of this Valley,  
 I came across the "River of Life."  
 A fountain that was flowing freely  
 Amidst barrenness and strife.

Way down deep there in the Valley,  
 Amid the darkness and despair  
 My spirit began to rally.  
 When I realized that the Lord was there.

2-2

He was, right there beside me,  
The "Shepherd" that I'd heard of -  
To comfort, lead and guide me,  
Into the light of the Father's love.

So hold on if ya make that journey,  
To where the bitter winds often blow  
With His Rod and Staff, He'll comfort you,  
No matter where you may have to go.



## The Test

1-1

One day this same "TEST" will be your TESTIMONY  
 And you won't stand on mere Ceremony.  
 You'll raise your hands high and boldly say,  
 What God had done - and how He'd made a way.

You may slay the darts that tried to kill you <sup>head</sup>  
 Lay of the fiery darts, and the tears you shed.  
 Of all those sleepless nights, tossing upon your bed,  
 First coming Sleep - then being Shepherded.

And, Hallelujah! Tell of the peace you found  
 Not enabled you to, somehow, rebound.  
 How you "let go" and simply trusted God,  
 And The Lord was there with His staff and Rod

To light, to lead, to rule and guide -  
 And as He'd decreed, to always abide.

Yes - One day this TEST will be your TESTIMONY,  
 Of how The Lord never left you lonely.  
 How He was there to guide you through -  
 And you will share along you know is TRUE...

Though troubled on every side,  
 In the end - you were NOT DISTRESSED.  
 Because He who promised to abide -  
 Was there to see you through THE TEST.



## Promise Land

1-2

What would it be like  
 If you never had a CARE.  
 NEVER had a TRAIL,  
 OR a burden to bear.

What would it be like  
 If your faith was NEVER shaken.  
 If you never had a doubt,  
 OR ever been mistaken.

What would it be like  
 If you were always warm.  
 If you never felt a chill,  
 Or had to face a storm.

If all your goals were met,  
 And all your bills were paid,  
 And when the sun bore down  
 You always had some shade.

Never lost a loved one  
 Or had to suffer pain;  
 And the words "well done"  
 Were a constant refrain.

What if no seasons changed,  
 No trees gave up their leaves,  
 And you lived in a world  
 WHERE NO ONE EVER GRIEVED.

2-2

A world like THAT?  
 God could have made it.  
 But it was THIS world  
 THAT He PRENTED!

In a world like THAT,  
 WITH NO EXTREMES -  
 who would call on God,  
 OR have a need for dreams?

THIS world - WITH ALL ITS SORROW,  
 ITS TRIBULATIONS AND ITS PAIN;  
 ITS CONCERNs ABOUT TOMORROW,  
 And ALL THE THINGS we can't EXPLAIN.

Did NOT come about through chance,  
 IT WAS NOT mere EVOLUTION;  
 IT WAS NOT random CIRCUMSTANCE,  
 OR some genetic SUBSTITUTION.

God Spoke IT INTO EXISTENCE -  
 And IT was ACCORDING TO plan.  
 According to divine PROVIDENCE,  
 THAT we may not yet understand.

So let us LEARN, Then, to SEEK His will,  
 And HIS MARYS OUTSTRETCHED hand;  
 And HIS GRACE WILL suffice until,  
 HE LEADS US TO THE PROMISE Land.

MAT. 25: "... Come, ye blessed of my FATHER,  
 INHERIT the Kingdom prepared for you from  
 the FOUNDATION of the WORLD!"

## Holding Our Hand

1-1

Before A Tear can Roll from cheek to chin,  
 Our Father Reaches out His hand.  
 To touch our soul and let healing begin,  
 In ways we may not understand.

Before The pain can bring us to our knees,  
 He's already there, at our side.  
 More in the midst of our catastrophies,  
 A healing balm is being applied.

We're all the same, in the midst of our pain,  
 It's so hard to feel the Master's touch.  
 We only feel the arms, and the weight of the chain  
 Which is why we may complain so much.

But before your tear can roll from chin to chest,  
 Our Father's hand is already there.  
 To comfort our souls and to give rest.  
 Even though we may be unaware.

When the pain subsides, and we're made in Thow,  
 We may think we did it on our own.  
 When our tears have dried like the morning dew,  
 He sits here - smiling - upon His Throne.

Yet, we may look back and see a single track  
 Of footprints - left mere in the sand.  
 That the Master had been holding our hand.



## Feature Presentation

1-2

Movie Screens in your Imagination  
 Can destroy your peace of mind.  
 And bring you under the domination,  
 Of the wicked one's lies that bind.

If your "Feature Presentation"  
 Isn't inspiring The Lord, Jesus Christ.  
 Then, you're open to the exploitation,  
 Of Lucifer's main device.

He has a "cast of thousands"  
 With the many parts that they play.  
 They'll plant their seeds of doubt and -  
 Attack your faith in the matinee.

If you let him have a "starring role";  
 He may appear as an angel of light  
 Then it won't be long until he takes control -  
 And peace of mind has taken flight.

Scenes of nodding and graphic violence,  
 Can quickly become "RATED-X"  
 Bringing lust of the flesh as a consequence  
 Leaving us stressed, vexed and perplexed.

Before you get yourself into that rut,  
 Into Satan's mental TV of WAR -  
 Call on the Savior, and He'll yell "Cut!"  
 And leave that trash on the cutting room floor.

2-2

So let the gift of your imagination,  
 Revolve around God's Grace and Glory.  
 Around the Majesty of His Creation,  
 After all - This is His Story.

Just imagine the Coming Attractions:  
 The Lord returning in Power and might.  
 It's sure to have plenty of terror:  
 And Oh... what a beauty for sight.

So let His Word be your Inspiration -  
 The Lord produce, and the Spirit direct.  
 What a beautiful revelation -  
 The Holy Trinity in full effect!

God's Grace and Peace  
 Is more precious than gold -  
 Now that's the 'Greatest Story'  
that's ever been told. □

## Let's Pretend

1-3

Let's pretend, for just a minute my friend,  
 That all your deeds, were shown on C.N.N.  
 That everything you had ever done -  
 Was shown on 'Prime Time' to everyone.

Let me ask - would you do ~~that~~?  
 Just pretend, that this was a game.

The things you've done, could you do them again  
 If they were all broadcast on T.B.N.?  
 What if your life was an open book,  
 And everyone could just take a look.

And all the things that you'd like to forget,  
 Were splashed all over on the internet.  
 If all the things that you knew were wrong,  
 Were played on every station as if a number 1 son.

If the deepest secrets hid within your soul,  
 Were flashed on the big screen at the Super Bowl.  
 If in the dirt, the darkest part of you,  
 Was shown on cable, or on "Pay Per View".

How would it feel, if all your "petty crimes"  
 Were shown on the cover of the New York Times.  
 It's just a game - but imagine the shame,  
 If all your sins were posted under your name.

Well my friend - It's time to open your eyes.  
 Consider this - just a word to the wise.  
 The hearts of men can wear no disguise  
 Nor can hide his intent from the Master's eyes.

2-3

Hebrews 4:12 will erase any doubt,  
 If you don't understand what I'm talking about.  
 He discerns the thoughts and intents of the heart.  
 Soul - Spirit -唐ス me tomorrow - He divides apart.

If it's still not clear, or you have any doubts,  
 Take a look at 44:21 in the Book of Psalms,  
 "Shall not God search this out?" - No secrets my friend  
 This time it's not a game of 'let's pretend.'

But thank God for His mercy and His Amazing Grace,  
 Though we all have stumbled, we're not out of the race.  
 There's Redemption - And forgiveness for sin.  
 It's about where you're going - Not where you've been.

Come now friend - let us reason together,  
 The weight that burdens us is light as a feather.  
 And though your past was as if it were mud,  
 You can get cleaned - put it under the blood.

Because the price was paid at Cana'an,  
 And the Blood of Jesus has set us free.  
 He paid the price to give us liberty,  
 And when He shed His Blood - we got the victory!

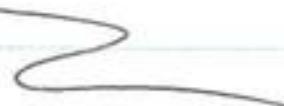
So while there's time - Think about it my friend,  
 This time it's just a poem, and soon it will end.  
 It's up to you, what the future will hold,  
 Just remember - You've already been told.

3-3

HE DISCERN'S THE THOUGHTS AND INTENTS OF THE HEART,  
BUT IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO MAKE A FRESH START.  
THE NEXT TIME THAT YOU HEAR AN ALMIGHTY CHIM,

YOU CAN NAIL YOUR UP ON THE ANGEL.

THE TIME IS AT hand, YES - THE NIGHT'S FAR SPENT;  
MAKE A STAND ON YOUR KNEES - TIME TO REPENT.



GARY RIDD

[www.betweenproblems.org/blogs/1398](http://www.betweenproblems.org/blogs/1398)

## Fig Leaf

1-3

WELL I'VE NEVER heard this said before,  
 But if the first religion had a name.  
 A little hut with a sign on the door,  
 would bear the Fig Leaf. Poor hid the shame.

They weren't trying to reach out to God,  
 The fact is, they were trying to hide.  
 They were hoping to avoid the Rod -  
 Not trying to be sanctified.

They used to walk in the cool of the day,  
 In fellowship with the Creator.

Then they hid, not knowing what to say,  
 Led astray by the prevaricator.

The first words of God that were repeated  
 were, somehow, twisted into a lie.  
 He'd said of that fruit "Do not eat it"  
 Neither shall ye touch it, less ye die.

When the serpent came to beguile Eve,  
 The first thing he did was misquote the word  
 To lead astray, he would first deceive,  
 With a lie that was really absurd.

He said, "You shall not surely die,  
 But you shall be more like a god."  
 And so Eve chose to believe the lie...  
 Exchanging fellowship for the Rod.

2-3

IT pains me to think some things haven't changed.  
 The word of God is still being twisted,  
 taken out of context and re-arranged,  
 and the truth is still being resisted.

Through self-deception and delusion,  
 man's hearts just continue to harder.  
 The father of lies and his illusion,  
 didn't stop back there in the garden.

Many churches in the land today,  
 should have a Ag Leaf upon the door.  
 They ignore the truth, seeking their own way,  
 through fables, traditions and love.

Line up their actions with the word of God,  
 test the spirit, and look for the fruit.  
 You might find the grapes of wrath being trod  
 and the word of truth is destructive.

I feel led by the spirit to speak out.  
 I'm not trying to cause any pain.  
 I'll ruffle some feathers, without a doubt,  
 but I'm not worried bout the sons of Cain.

My heart goes out to the innocents,  
 to all those who are being mislead.  
 Lies from the pulpit are a pestilence,  
 like a virus that is being spread.

3-3

One day soon will come RECOMPENSE,  
 For surely VENGEANCE belongs to THE LORD.  
 And some will fear the words "get thee hence"  
 EVERLASTING FIRE - THEIR REWARD

If it turns out I've burned some bridges,  
 I've got the only bridge I'll ever need,  
 And that's the Bridge that began at the cross,  
 By which my SALVATION was guaranteed.

Anyone who has been offended  
 OR PAINED I've just sown some seeds & discarded,  
 It's the WORD & TRUTH that I've defended -  
 So just go and TAKE IT up with THE LORD!



GARY FIRD

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