

POEMS WRITTEN AT EIGHTY FOUR
PLUS OTHER POEMS FROM YEARS BEFORE

BY

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HYMNS AND POETRY - IDEAS AND SUGGESTIONS

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PREFACE - APPRECIATING POETRY

Obviously, not all poetry, or what is presented under the guise of poetry, can appeal to a spiritually mature mind. Almost every day, what is printed in the name of poetry passes before my reading eyes. Very much of it reminds me of a phrase from the book of Daniel - chaff that is blown about by the wind on the summers' threshing floor. It's worthwhileness amounts to a cipher with the rim knocked off! That kind of poetry is about as substantial as a momentary reflection in a mirror.

Serious poetry takes time for comprehension and appreciation. Regrettably, the extreme busy-ness of our present ways of life can rob us of a great deal of poetic enjoyment and uplift. Extreme occupation with material things tends to clutter the mind, and to dim our powers of perception of insights and values that have eternal implications and significance.

The finest kind of poetry is not as easily written as is prose. This is true both of subject matter as well as manner of expression. It therefore follows that poetry is more carefully written than prose. It requires more careful thinking.

It has been said that the finer poetic mind is quite akin to the prophetic mind. What a joy it is when both these types of mind coalesce in one person. How wonderful when, under the amazing ministry of God's marvelous Holy Spirit, His far-sighted thoughts and intentions are expressed in words of clarity, of beauty, rhymic rise and fall of word sounds, and in ways supremely appropriate to the lofty source of inspiration! The prophet Isaiah often rose to such kind of presentation! In these poems which follow, I sincerely hope, that in part, the high concepts just expressed, has found a measure of implementation.

A few words of explanation and background may be in order here, concerning these POEMS AT 84. They have been written in a little over one month, during this 84th year of my life. In writing them an effort has been made to gather and express many of the outstanding insights and exalted perceptions of a lifetime of ministry, and I hope, growth, hoping as well that they bring uplift to many to whom they may come. Along with these, I am including a number of Hymns written over the years, most of which have been set to music.

All the titles of the first 32 topics, were set down quite awhile before they were developed in poetry. It is thus hoped there is a logical sequence of development. Also, in writing them, I wanted to vary the ways of arrangement, the poetic meter, and the rhymic treatment somewhat widely. There is thus some blank verse - rhyme without rime. Besides, there has been effort made to suit the poetic meter to each of the individual topics. Occasionally there has been some departure from strict rules, in order that thought and beauty of expression might be achieved. I beg your indulgence for these.

Finally, it will help any who read them for pleasure or for stimulation, or who want to read them aloud, if they will take time to discover the particular type of meter used for each topic - that is the arrangement of accented and unaccented syllables. There is what may be called a swing to each. Finding it will increase your enjoyment. To those unfamiliar with writing and understanding poetry, it will help if you purchase a Random House vest pocket Rhyming Dictionary, particularly pages 231-239.

All are of a more or less deeply religious and spiritual nature. Since this is so, I reverently ask God's blessing on them and you, as you read and study.

Most sincerely

Earl R. Curry
Kirtland, Ohio - March 1, 1975

#1

THE EXQUISITELY EXQUISITE

Quote:

From this creeping thing in the dust,
To this shining bliss in the blue —

God give me courage to trust,
I can break my chrysalis too!

— To A Butterfly, by Alice Freeman Palmer

* * * * *

1. There is an exquisitely exquisite,
That keen minds can desire and explore —
Far more precious than all the world's jewels!
More exalting than all the world's lore!
2. There is Heav'n with its exquisite glory!
There is beauty amazing and vast!
There is goodness resplendent and gracious!
There are treasures from ages long past!
3. There are souls whom the Lord has made perfect!
For His glory inspires all life's ways!
There are beautiful skies as at sunset!
Brilliant stars for the night and the sun for our days!
4. There is God, the tremendous Creator,
Whose high purpose transcendently lifts!
Yes! There is the exquisitely exquisite
That enthralles all who seek, and become holy gifts.
— Earl R. Curry, July 1974
Kirtland, Ohio

* * * * *

2 GOD HAS A MIGHTY UNDISCLOSED

The day shall come when you shall comprehend even God!
D. & C. 85:12 - A promise - amazing beyond words!

1. God has a wondrous undisclosed!
Reserved for reverent searching souls —
Those spirits rare, who light the way,
Because they search for lofty goals!
God mourns that man has been so blind,
In all the years since time began,
For, now, a golden age could be,
Had man sought God, and He blest man!
Lo!

2 - Continued

2. Behold there is need for a mighty revival!
To sweep thru the church with a great cleansing power!
To set us on fire with an expanding vision!
To open our eyes to the needs of this hour!
To help us perceive God's high ways of enabling --
To know He has wisdom beyond our surmise!
To strengthen our faith in His yet undisclosed!
To help us to grow, and in His ways be wise!
Therefore, have faith that

3. To all ye who yearn for a glorious future --
Far above any age that the world has yet known --
If you will but seek with a strong expectation,
The high path to this future will surely be shown!
Yea! Hear ye the word of the Latter Day Prophet,
That still points us to heights which as yet are untrod --
If ye live near to Him, in desire and in seeking,
The grand day shall yet come when you'll comprehend God!
Therefore, remember! and be assured, that
God has a wondrous undisclosed!
Reserved for Rev'rent searching souls --
Those spirits rare, who light the way,
Because they search for lofty goals!

— Earl R. Curry, July 20, 1974
Kirtland, Ohio

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3 AH! LOFTY ARE GOD'S HOPES FOR LIFE!

1. Lo! Lofty were God's hopes for life,
When first He plac'd man here on earth --
Midst scenes of beauty fair and vast --
That man, like these, would be from birth!

2. God gave man a mind richly blest with potential!
To think and to plan, to create and devise --
To search out great truths, hidden laws and deep secrets --
And in all his way become noble and wise.
To build for himself great machines that save labor,
That add to his life, and that better his lot,
To gaze at the stars, and to measure their masses,
To search out their laws so their course he'd plot!
To build and contrive the amazing great organs,
Whose volume of sound great cathedrals could fill
With beautiful music his creative urging
Should bid him create, with such consummate skill.

3 - Continued

3. Yet! These are but part of man's innate potential!
God destines to shine and more brilliantly glow,
When man in great faith seeks the light of His Spirit,
Enabling great goals - for it's thus he shall know!
There yet shall be Zion, with Stakes spreading out,
Where talents exalted shall blossom and bloom!
There's hundreds of years when the Lord shall be with us!
And life shall expand - may God grant it be soon!
4. Lo! Lofty are God's hopes for life!
His Kingdom's flag will be unfurled!
His holiness shall bless all men!
And saintliness shall grace the world!
— Earl R. Curry, July 23, 1974
Kirtland Ohio

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#4. IMMENSE AND VAST IS GOD'S CREATIVE POWER

Quote:

Belief in God presses multifariously upon man. There are so many reasons for it, within and without - a grain of sand sufficing, and a whole universe at hand to echo the decision! — that for every mind, not devoid of all reason and desperately conscience proof, the truth; which it is the least possible to prove, it is little less than impossible not to believe.

— Samuel Taylor Coleridge

Immense and vast is God's great power,
That carries on thru endless time -
So vast, indeed, it overwhelms,
As oft we seek to understand.

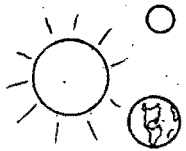
Yet, rev'rent minds who try to see
This vastness of His mighty power,
Tho filled with awe, yet step by step,
As time goes on, will comprehend!

We turn our gaze aloft at night,
And view the starry studded dome,
Whose diamond points of brilliant light
Gives just a glimpse how God creates.

Yet, when our vision's magnified,
By sweeping, giant telescopes,
In boundless depths of distant space,
Unnumbered galaxies are found!

These galaxies are ruled by law
That radiates from where God is --
Thru all the vast immensity,
His hand controls, in ordered ways.

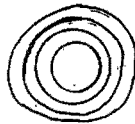
In nature's ways we also see
The Lord's intelligence at work —
In canyons vast, in lichens small,
In lofty pine, or mountain wall,
Yet, more than all this vast array,
God works thru man to procreate,
That at long last, a mighty host
Of His own kind, shall rule the world!
I'll put my trust in His great power,
Whose wondrous marvels we thus see!
I'll love, adore, and live for Him,
Thru ages vast - forever more!
— Earl R. Curry, July 24, 1974
Kirtland, Ohio



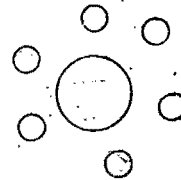
SUN - AND
MOON & EARTH



THE STARRY
HEAVENS



SATURN



A GALAXY



A
SPIRAL NEBULA

SEE:

1. Canst thou bind the sweet influences of Pleiades, or loose the band of Orion? Job 38:31
2. The heavens declare the glory of God! Psa. 19:1
3. If I take the wings of the morning and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea ... there... thy right hand shall hold me. Ps. 139:9
4. Any man who has seen any or the least of these, hath seen God in his majesty and power. D. & C. 85:12
5. The glory of God is intelligence. D. & C. 90:6
6. Can any one in his senses imagine, that this disposition of the stars, and this heaven so beautifully adorned, could have been formed by a fortuitous concourse of atoms? Cicero

5 OH COME YE ALL GOD'S NOBLEMEN!

Blessed are all they that do hunger and thirst after
righteousness, for they shall be filled with the Holy
Ghost. Jesus - Mark 5:8

1. **Oh come ye all God's noblemen,
His world has waited long -
And man distraught by sin and shame
Is ruled by much that's wrong!
God's call rings out, as trumpet blasts,
To all with ears to hear -
Come! join with me, with all your might,
And I shall be your Seer!**

2. **Your world was made for more than this
That makes man's life distraught and ill!
Alas! that selfishness and hate
Have caused mankind to war and kill!
The hosts of hell would foist on man
Gross sins that God abominates,
Which in their course must take grim toll!
And cause all life be desolate!**

3. **Oh come ye! All God's noblemen!
All bloody swords make ploughshares now!
Oh bear your spears to prying hooks!
Let godly deeds be seed you sow!
Bring in the day of brotherhood
When Christlike ways shall reign supreme!
When earth shall be a world at peace,
And God's great love has all redeemed!
— Earl R. Curry, August 1974
Kirland Ohio**

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6 SEE! SUCH AS THESE ARE MEN OF GOD!

Quote:

**"With the monstrous weapons man already has,
humanity is in danger of being trapped in this
world by its moral adolescents. Our knowledge
of science has clearly outstripped our capacity
to control it. We have many men of science, but
too few men of God."**

— General Omar Bradley

1. Lo! Such as these are Men of God, -
For these the world has need!
Men who live close to God's own heart,
In mighty word and deed!
2. Such men as was Enoch, who builded a city
A city so perfect the Lord from it shone!
Or such as Isaiah, the magnificent prophet!
Or mild Jeremiah who prophesied doom.
Or Peter the stalwart impetuous man,
Or Paul the one sent to gentiles afar,
Or John, in the Spirit, on Patmos' drear Isle,
Or Nephi, the leader in God's promised land,
Or those who have tarried to work for the Lord,
Or Joseph, the chosen, to bring the church forth,
From out the confusion of hundreds of years
Or good brother Oakman of this our own day!
3. True Men Of God:
Love Him with all their hearts -
They understand His plans for life -
They love their fellow man -
They live above all earthly strife!
They share with men the great good news,
That Jesus shared in ages past!
They live so God can speak thru them
To lift men up, so that at last,
The golden age of man shall come,
When distraught man has found the way,
To holy peace that then shall reign,
In all the world, in that glad day!
4. Beside these Holy Men of God,
A noble womanhood shall also be!
5. Thanks be to God!

— Earl R. Curry, August 27, 1974
Kirtland, Ohio

- "And These signs shall follow them that believe:"

1. In my name they shall do many wonderful works:
2. They shall cast out devils in my name;
3. In my name they shall heal the sick;
4. In my name they shall open the eyes of the blind.
5. And unstop the ears of the deaf,
6. And the tongue of the dumb shall speak
7. And any man that shall go forth and preach this gospel of the kingdom, and fail not to continue faithful in all things, shall not be weary in mind, neither darkened, neither in body, limb or joint. From D. & C. 83

8. Go ye forth . . . reproving the world, in righteousness, of all their unrighteous and ungodly deeds, setting forth clearly and understandingly the desolation of abomination in the last days. D. & C. 83
9. You shall find wisdom, and great treasures of knowledge, even hidden treasures. D. & C. 86

"What this parish needs, what every parish needs,
is men who know God at more than second hand."

— Thomas Carlyle

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#7 THE EPITORIO OUGHT SOON TO BE!

This is a prayer for the Epitorio, written in poetic symbolism, and somewhat as Isaiah would write (I hope).

The lofty goal for the Epitorio, is the creation of heart-warming and inspiring music about the holy concept of Zion.

May it be, that at times, poetic expression can be more than rime, and the rhythmic flow of accented and unaccented words? May it be that there is an even loftier melody and beauty when noble ideas, and exalted beckoning hopes, and immensely worthwhile concepts, are enthrallingly expressed and delightfully worded, even as Isaiah clothed his poetic and prophetic perceptions in language that has blessed the ages?

This we are attempting to do, in this prayer for the realization of a sacred project. I beg the indulgence of any not accustomed to this sort of upreach and outreach, as on angelic wings, or as a musical symphony of words, that express profound desire for the bounteous blessing of Him of whom it is written His glory is intelligence - and intelligence of the loftiest order.

Now, therefore, in deepest reverence —

Most Wonderful and glorious Father in Heaven, Thou who has a most marvelous and far-sighted destiny for all who love Thee greatly, and are of mighty faith; Thou who desirest above all else to use every POSSIBLE FACILITY of persuasive beckoning, toward Thy blinded sons and daughters who dwell so much as in barren deserts of life, and Thou who in the very nature of Thy most holy personality, seekest ever among men and women, dynamic means of invitation toward all the nobility that could be; - from the vastness of all that Thou art, and with the immense energies and the tremendous treasures of wisdom, love, and intelligence within the Holy Spirit, and with the well-nigh unbounded resources granted to Him who loved even unto horrible crucifixion and death! --

Oh, grant now that all the fetters that slow us, all the chains that restrain us, may all be rent asunder, permitting and making possible, thru the holy gift of music, the radiant shining forth of the Lord Jesus in gentlest entreaty and beckoning, toward the golden age you would have man see, and reach.

Glorious Father! knowing that the discords and natures of men may be harmonized by noble words set to the harmonies of celestial music; and that words and music, born of the Spirit, are made graciously appealing and lovingly persuasive; and remembering there is much yet to be achieved in this sacred project - we plead for Thy strength, Thy guiding light, Thy special gift of Endowment, to come to each participant.

1. Amplify to each, we pray, the illumination that made possible the first unique musical setting - Worthy is the Lamb, that bore witness of Thy inspirational power!
2. Heal, oh heal, any limiting affliction, and any blindness of spirit that can cause a weakening of our energies!
3. Let us not forget that dynamic Zion, Thy hope for man thru all the ages, is tremendously needed even now, by all that love Thee, and especially by suffering humanity!
4. Guide us, oh All-Wise Father, to such as can join with us.
5. Oh grant unto us the spiritual gift of inspired imagination, that can open to us ways of implementation and accomplishment, that mortals, of themselves cannot see!
6. Oh give unto us a growing sense of urgency. Let us not forget that the destiny of tens of thousands hinge upon their awareness of the magnificent goal of Zion.
7. Grant that more and more, marvelous creative gifts that Thou alone canst bestow, shall scintillatingly encompass our minds, making extraordinary things possible, even much beyond our usual selves!
8. We thank you kind Father, for the guidance that has blest us thus far. Nevertheless make us increasingly aware that we need you more, and more, and more!
9. Our altogether loving Father, enlarge and extend our horizons of understanding, and make possible a wonderful comprehension of Zion, and a vision of the glory yet to be!
10. Above all else, eternal Creator and beneficent Giver, bestow upon us an enlivening appreciation of the tremendousness of all Thou art, and Thy age-old yearning for a Zion whose destiny is to bless and inspire the sons and daughters of all mankind, and that out of her perfection and beauty, Thou All Glorious One, canst shine! Enable us to help make Zion so shine.

8 ALMIGHTY GOD DESIRES TO SHARE!

A mighty and wonderful vision
I declare unto all seeking light -
Our marvelous God and Creator
Songs to share of His pow'r and might!

1. His infinite treasures of wisdom,
2. And intelligence, boundless, and vast!
3. His glorious powers of persuasion,
4. All His truth and His words in the past!
5. His love so tremendous and vital!
6. And His Spirit to guide all mankind!
7. His sure and His far-sighted purpose,
8. That can open all eyes that are blind!
9. His angels direct from His presence.
0. He can send unto those who have need!
11. And always the loving Lord Jesus,
12. Longs to succor whenever we bleed!
13. Our loving Lord God so desireth to share,
14. That all wounds shall be healed and all evil o'ercome!
15. That all life shall be glad and all men shall be pure,
16. Ah! all glory to Him! May His will soon be done!

Have faith then in God, the wise giver of life,
Then with you, from His vastness He'll share!
And you shall mount up as on wings of an eagle,
And in life more abundant you'll dwell in His care!
Kirtland, Ohio - September 4, 1974

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9 SEEK YE THE LORD, AND SEEK YE HIM NOW!

1. Come! Seek ye the Lord, in whose likeness you are!
You were not made to wander in darkness and sin,
You were made to live in all goodness and beauty
And a Destiny noble! Come ye! Enter in.
2. Come seek ye the Lord! He is not far away!
He's the zenith of goodness, a guide you can trust!
He lovingly beckons! His arms are outstretched.
He's the top-most Enabler! He is God! He is just!
3. Tomorrow may seem a good time to repent -
But tomorrow's a time that we never may see.
So, seek ye the Lord! It's today we must seek Him!
For paths that lead upward, where God sets us free!
- Kirtland, Sept. 10, 1974

10 OH! TO BE PART OF THE SCHOOL OF THE PROPHETS

As the time of Christ's days on earth drew near their end, and knowing how human and earthy were the personalities of his disciples, and that somehow they must be transformed to their loftiest and best, he bade them tarry at Jerusalem until they were endowed from on high.

In the Restoration that brought the church out of the wilderness and confusion of the ages, it became part of His Magnificent Intention to not only build a most holy House of the Lord, but in that sacred building to establish a School of the Prophets, grandly conceived, as a means to raise up mighty men, adequate to His mighty purpose!

Oh Lord! to be part of the School of the Prophets -
That glorious School that Thou yet shalt require,
When Thou raisest up mighty men as Thy servants -
Giants in Spirit! their minds set on fire!

When Thou, in Thy way, raisest up mighty Prophets -
Such men as the world has never yet seen!
Endowed with Thy Truth, to go forth to the nations,
To draw man to Truth, burn the dross and make clean!
Anointed to preach, and make clear Thy glad tidings,
To lift up the broken and captives set free,
To open all prisons that bind human spirits,
To hasten that time all the world needs to see!
When we shall know how to build beautiful Zion,
Whose splendor shall be as a bright morning star!
When people shall live just as Thou hast intended,
When evils shall cease, and no longer shall mar!

Lord, bless Thou our longing for that promised time,
When all who love greatly shall sit at Thy feet,
When we, at long last shall envision Thy purpose,
And Thou shalt make holy a mighty elite.

— Kirtland, September 19, 1834

* * * * *

11 IMMENSE IS OUR NEED TO GROW UP IN THE LORD!

1. Immense is our need to grow up in the Lord!
Whose wisdom is vast, as most glorious fountains -
He stands out, ahead, calling us to come follow,
To beautiful lands, beyond towering mountains!
2. For surely the Lord has most lofty intentions,
For all who will trust and will go where He leads!
There are ways to be trodden where He'll bid us go,
There's a wealth of uplifting, there's miraculous deeds!

11 - Continued

3. Why trust ye, oh saints, in man's limited wisdom,
When such is earth bounded, and subject to changes,
While wisdom which comes from the Lord of Creation
Enables His people cross difficult ranges!
4. Ah! Who can describe the tremendous Resources,
That center in God, and that radiate out -
As reservoirs water a far spreading city -
Even so God's resources bless all free of doubt!
5. Immense is our need to grow up in the Lord!
Oh why do we tarry, so stubborn! so blind!
When God wants to bless with magnificent power,
And pour out His Spirit on drifting mankind!
— Kirtland, September 12, 1974

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12 HOLY SPIRIT, WONDROUS SPIRIT, BE THOU
OUR HOLY GUIDE!

1. Holy Spirit, mighty Spirit, be Thou now our light and guide -
Without thee we walk in blindness - Open paths both broad and wide,
That lead on, in grand potential, one as workers for the Lord -
Open doors to loving labors, armed with Thy most holy sword!
2. Give us ever broad'ning vision of the noble times to be -
We would know in growing detail! Open eyes! Oh let us see!
For the glory and the splendor of the All that God intends
Must enthrall all minds who see it, and who clearly comprehend!
3. Sad! We know that all Creation groaneth in travail and pain -
When Thou guidest not our labors, we but labor then in vain.
Glad! We know that when Thou guidest, God's great Kingdom
can arise,
With it's glory and it's splendor, far beyond our dim surmise!
4. Wondrous Spirit! Guiding Spirit, sent from God to show the way -
Share with us Thy boundless Wisdom! Hear us as in faith we pray!
For the soul whom God is leading, longs to hasten t'ward God's goals -
'Neath Thy brilliant light and guidance, help us find our destined roles!
— Kirtland, Ohio - September 13, 1974

Scriptures:

1. What is man that Thou art mindful of him? . . . Thou has made him a
little lower than the angels. . . ! Psa. 8:4,5.
2. Verse 3, line 1 : The whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain
until now. Romans 8:22

12 - Continued

3. And to them I will reveal all mysteries; yea all the hidden mysteries of my kingdom from days of old; and for ages to come will I make known unto them, the good pleasures of my will concerning all things pertaining to my kingdom. From D. & C. 76:2

13 OH LORD, MAKE BARE THINE ARM OF POWER

1. Oh Lord, make bare Thine arm of Power,
Thy mighty arm, as in days past -
Confusion reigns throughout the world,
We need Thee Lord, in a vast blast,
Destruction can o'erwhelm mankind
By bombs of war that have been made -
A mighty witness now needs be -
That such may come, give now Thine aid!
2. How can we reach earth's multitudes,
That they may plainly understand?
Unless Thy majesty and love,
Is vibrant made, supreme, and grand!
Yea, miracles Thy Word hath said
Are come to help mankind believe,
That there may be no just excuse,
To follow ways meant to deceive.
3. What shall these ways of power be?
Thy Word in Zion made alive?
A Church endowed in mighty ways?
A ministry with fire and drive?
Much finer ways of broad outreach?
Thy Spirit's power in vast display?
Restraint's of Judgement soon withdrawn?
To fill the world with vast dismay?
4. Whatè're Thy ways, increase our faith,
That we may use Thy means of power!
Let grace abounding show us how
To reach mankind in this dread hour!
Help us to show Thy mighty live
In all the good that lies before, -
Thy wondrous hopes for all of life!
Thy blessing, Lord, forever more!

-- Kirtland, Ohio - September 17, 1974

14 WHEN CLOUDS LOOM LOW AND DARKNESS
HIDES

1. When clouds fly low, and darkness hides,
And upward paths we dimly see -
When stalwart faith somehow is lost,
An Thou art miles away from me -
When men prove false, or low, or mean,
Nor gracious largeness makes them free -
It's then, distraught, we cry, oh Lord,
Can holy Zion ever be!

2. When storms erupt, and smog engulfs,
Dispel, dear Lord, our gloom and fright!
Let all the wonder of Thyself
Drive quick away those shades of night!
Help us to know that truth abides,
Forever and forever more -
That wrong destroys, and right creates,
That glorious life lies on before!

3. When lightnings flash and thunders roar,
When all seems lost, and end is near -
Think back when Christ was crucified -
Disciples hid in blighting fear!
Yet! Christ arose, and joy returned!
That searing trial made strong His saints!
There's need of clouds, as well as light,
So when clouds come, we ought not faint.

Note: Gloom causes darkness and loss of hope: as
"Life on this earth has been a brief and
discreditable episode on one of the minor
planets." - Anonymous
- Kirtland, Ohio - September 18, 1974

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15 MAGNIFICENT IS THE LORD'S HIGH INTENTION

1. Magnificent is the Almighty's Intention,
For all His Creation, so vast in its size -
Else why should there be all this wonder and splendor
We behold, as we look through a telescope's eye!
Our earth's galaxy, our own milky way,
With its own gentle glow, in the vastness of space,
Yet billions like it, far extending go on -
Thus the glory of God, spreads in splendor apace!

15 - Continued

2. Magnificent is the Lord's pow'r of Creation!
For in marvelous ways, we are like unto God!
It is so He hath made us, and shared understanding
To encompass the glory, His truth has enshod!
The Lord's far above all the firmaments bodies,
Notwithstanding their splendor, their brilliance and light,
His lofty intentions are part of His being,
Shared with all who will love Him and live for the right!

A scripture:

For since the beginning of the world men have not heard
nor perceived by the ear, neither hath the eye seen, O
God, besides Thee, what He hath prepared for him that
waiteth for him. — Isaiah 64:4

— Kirtland, Ohio - September 18, 1974

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16 WHAT THINGS YOU LEARN, THESE THINGS YOU TEACH

1. When the servants of God seek to build up their wisdom,
And they study vast subjects in the schools of the land,
Be assured when they're through all their courses of study,
And return to their pulpit, wherein they will stand -
They're most likely to teach from the all they've been taught
Its for such they have labored, in a long steady grind,
While quite often God's Word has been set to one side,
Both by them, and by teachers, agnostic in mind.
2. Some exceptions there are, and in truth be it noted,
Though these seem far apart by times measuring rod.
It appears to this poet, a School of the Prophets
Is the Lord's perfect way to prepare men of God!
In this school will be taught all the ways of the Kingdom!
Under Spirit and Light, whose clear guidance they've earned,
And their minds shall encompass the breadth of God's purpose,
It is these they will teach, for it's these they have learned.

Note:

The splendid idea of the School of the Prophets, adequately understood, is an amazing concept. The phrase School of the Prophets is an affirmation, a prophecy that fine, brilliantly enabled, prophetic minded, men of God, can be developed by the Lord's kind of schooling and teaching! It is a divine concept, not human!

— Kirtland, Ohio - September 18, 1974

17 I LIFT A HYMN FOR THIS NEW DAY

1. I pray a song for this new day -
This day that follows twilights glow -
Ah! may the beauty of the dawn
Delight, enthrall, enrich and grow,
For who wants me be sour and dour,
Or sad, or hopeless - full of gloom -
I'll make this day a day of joy!
I'll give my best - as flowers bloom!
2. This day I'll host exalted thoughts,
This day I'll seek uplifting friends,
This day I'll try inspire someone,
And work with all t'ward noble ends.
This day kind words I'll surely speak
To all I meet along the way,
This day I'll live a Christlike life
That makes the hours a holy day.
3. But most of all, I'll seek Thee, Lord,
That you shall guide me all day long -
So that my life Thy truths shall show -
That truth that saves from all that's wrong!
For well I know this world needs men,
Who know Thee more than second hand!
But men thru whom Thy ways shine out
To guide men t'ward Thy promised land.
4. These words are but a simple lay,
Of one who seeks to build each day!
May you my friend, seek much, much more -
The world needs saints who thus explore!
— Kirtland, Ohio - September 24, 1974

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Note: In just one generation this world could be made over,
if each new child that is born could be taught to en-
vision, and love the kingdom of God.

— An expanded affirmation of E. Stanley Jones.

18 TREASURE UP GOD'S WORD YE SAINTS!

Whoso treasureth up my words shall not be deceived. - Jesus

- 1, We think now and then of the time of the end,
Of the hour when God's Son shall in triumph return!
When He shall be seen coming back in great glory,
And when legions of angels shall gather His saints!
When man shall be cleansed of his sins and his folly,

18 - Continued

And the church has received its most glorious head!
We'll learn then to live as Creation intended,
And earth, then transfigured, be Eden again!

2. We read in God's Word that vast turmoil shall be,
That the earth shall be troubled on sea and on land,
All nations shall tremble in growing dismay.
As wars shall destroy and vast millions shall die.
Then Satan will rage with a terrible choleric,
Gathering all he deceives as to great armageddons,
When the fortunes of war seem to say all is lost,
Yet the outcome shall change for the Christ shall appear!

3. It's written that Satan will almost deceive
The very elect whom our Father has called,
By wily temptations and by ways seeming right,
That make Satan seem almost an angel of light.
There'll be careless feasting as servants surfeit
Quite forgetting the fact the Lord's coming is near.
And many shall sleep, and believe silly twaddle,
They will say and believe that the Lord will not come.

4. In view of all this long foreseen by the Savior,
And spoken by Him, when disciples inquired -
"If you treasure my Word, you shall not be deceived,
Nor shall Satan destroy, nor shall turn you aside!"
Let's seek then the scriptures for clear understanding,
Of all that will happen when Jesus returns!
Let's seek the assurance and light of His Spirit,
As God lives you will meet Him, and not lose your way!

— Kirtland, Ohio - September 24, 1974

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19 MY DESTINY - WHAT SHALL IT BE?

Quote: This day we fashion destiny
Our web of fate we spin
This day for all hereafter
Choose we holiness or sin.
— Adapted. Author?

1. I'm looking up at autumn leaves,
A trembling in the breeze
They're dancing as they swing and swing,
Unmindful of the winter's freeze
And well they might for soon sharp frost
Shall change their green to colors bright -
But then, alas! they'll fall to earth,
No more to swing, as in delight.

19 - Continued

2. Quite like these leaves are our brief lives,
So tossed about by forces vast -
From time of birth 'till when we die -
And life for us shall then be past.
Except God gives us right to choose,
To choose the ways that we will go -
We can go on to life beyond!
And since, in truth that this is so -
3. I'll choose the ways that upward leads!
I'll prize all beauty and all truth!
I'll look beyond the stars that shine!
I'll share my best with age and youth!
And then, perhaps, as earth's life ends,
A vision grand shall open wide -
As I look up t'ward life beyond!
And hope to dwell by God's own side!
— Kirtland, Ohio - Sept. 24, 1974

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19 B MY DESTINY - WHAT SHALL IT BE?

What greater joys can be described
For all who live as God desires -
There's joys of home with those most dear,
There's noble friends that each acquires,
There's Word of Wisdom ways that bless,
And splendid treasures to be found,
There's food to eat that brings delight,
There's vibrant health that can abound.
There's beauty of the colored flowers,
There's glory of the sunset's glow,
There's beauty of the mountain range,
There's radiance from suns light on snow.
There's awe in gazing at the stars -
Those gems of light in distant space!
There's wonder in a grain of sand!
There's splendor in a rose bud vase.
Our destiny is thus made bright!
When we shall our best gifts employ!
For we are told in God's own Word,
That man was made to live in joy!
— Kirtland, Ohio - September 25, 1974

20 A GLORIOUS DAY IS YET TO BE!

1. Bright promises enrich our lives,
As they are held before us here -
The promises of Dad and Mom,
The promise of a sweetheart dear -
But best of all are promises,
The Scriptures set before our lives
And special promises God gives
To faithful souls, with wills to strive.
2. And so it's good to dream about
Those glorious days that yet shall be,
When God fulfills His promises,
In mighty ways that help man see!
When we shall move in strongest faith,
As happened once at Pentacost -
And men shall hear God's ways made plain,
Before earth's final holocaust!
3. There's such as these that are ahead -
The grandest blessings God will share,
With each dear soul who seeks His help,
The arm of God shall be made bare!
His highest hope shall be made clear
When Jesus Christ again shall come!
To usher in millenium!
- Kirtland, Ohio - September 25, 1974

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21 LORD MAKE US STRONG TO WORK WITH THEE

1. A tow'r of strength, art Thou, dear Lord -
A universe makes this truth plain -
In all the ages of mankind,
Without Thee Lord, we try in vain.
From out the heart of Thy Creation,
Break Thou our bonds and set us free!
Oh make us strong with Thy Salvation!
Then call us forth to work with Thee!
2. Around us, men, with sins distraught,
Are plagued with ills they cannot change,
Oh Lord, if Thou wilt make us strong,
We'll open doors that man may range,
Both far and wide, in godly effort,
To live above all ways that mar,
That in Thy strength, with will to conquer,
Restraining gates shall swing ajar.

21 Lord Make Us Strong To Work With Thee - Continued

3. Oh Lord of Hosts, please help us see,
How we may gain the strength that's Thine.
From all our sins, oh cleanse us Lord,
And make us strong for this our time.
Pray cleanse our hearts from all that's evil,
Displace these with Thy holy ways,
That Thou, through us, can't make life over -
Oh Lord, our God, make strong our days.
— Kirtland, Ohio - September 25, 1974

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22 OH TO BE BY HIS SIDE IN THE DAY OF
ENDOWMENT!

1. Oh to stand by Christ's side in the day of Endowment
When the Prince of Jehovah, shall stand among men.
Fulfilling His word, suddenly in His temple,
"Setting down, as to meat", with His servants again!
No like has been shared for many long ages,
Or with Prophets or Seers, who have spoken for Him,
For there shall He stand, come afresh from God's presence
To make holy His Church, and to cleanse it of sin!
2. What a wonderful time to be there at Christ's feet,
To be made holy men by this pure "Son of Man"!
To be lifted above all the world's carnal pleasures
And to comprehend fully His great purpose and plan!
There, made richly dynamic, by Christ's lofty vision,
And by all the procedures His wisdom shall use
When He sends to the nations His gospel's glad message,
When the world shall be warned, both the Gentiles and Jews!
3. He'll prepare to extend a most blest invitation,
To share His highways, and His purpose for all!
He will also set forth a stern message of warning,
That will follow rejection of this His last call!
It is then from His massive resources of Spirit,
He'll endow, and will share with His Spirits vast power
With His servants and people, who love Him supremely,
To exalt all that's noble, in this world's final hour!
4. Ah! to stand by Christ's side in the day of Endowment!
When the Prince of Jehovah shall stand among men!
— Kirtland, Ohio - September 25, 1974

#23 GOD'S THOUGHTS AND WAYS ARE FAR
ABOVE THE LOWLY WAYS OF MAN.

1. God's thoughts and His ways are so far above
Man's ways that have caused so much woe!
For this spake the Prophet Isaiah,
That all ages should certainly know -
In contrast with God's brilliant thinking,
Man's thinking is merely a glow!
2. Behold God's stupendous Creation!
Tremendous! For more than we've sought!
For all this magnificent glory,
Extols the vast depth of His Thought!
How else, in the name of all reason,
Could this vastness and glory be wrought?
3. THEREFORE ! ! !
4. O why are we blind and so stubborn?
Neglecting God's thinking that towers?
Depending on man's human wisdom?
When the wisdom of God has vast powers?
This wisdom is boundless and mighty!
It is this that we need in these hours!
— Kirtland, Ohio - September 26, 1974

#24 HOW GREAT IS OUR NEED OF THEE, DEAREST LORD

1. I address Thee as Savior, Thou who art our Lord
Our Creator's great gift, to break sins silken cord!

Ah! sinners are we, within sins lethal grip! WE NEED THEE

2. There's unbelief that shinks our souls - there's laziness of mind -
There's selfishness, that narrows life - we often are unkind -
There's evil thoughts, that bruise and mar - we often choose the low -
There's lust that sears, each life it scars - our eyes are holden so -
There's bickering that hinders growth - we fail to choose the right -
There's hopelessness, that makes morose - we walk not in Thy light -
We seldom look within Thy word - where treasures can be found -
And since we choose, with little thought - our sins, Oh Lord, abound!
So, Savior strong, be Thou our help, from all vast sins defend,
For scores of sins belay our way, with Hell their final end.

That Man may noble be, WE NEED THEE LORD!

3. It's by Thine aid, life can become, most holy, pure, and free,
For who hath seen Thy holy ends, must dwell on heights he sees.
Thy noble ways are holy ways, that yield a high reward,
In breadth of life, in vision bright, in brotherly accord,
In life made good by brotherhood, and aims that upward lead,
That such may be, o Savior strong, meet our tremendous need!
Draw near to us, dear Lord, our strength, help us draw near to Thee,
Oh give to us Thy Spirits aid, thy Gift to set men free!
4. When Jesus stood at Jordan's edge, in ecstasy John cried -
"Behold the Lamb of God, who takes away mans sinful pride!"
5. Glory! Glory! Hallelujah, to our God, the Lord of Hosts!
Glory be, through all the ages! Father! Son! and Holy Ghost!
- Kirtland, Ohio - September 28, 1974

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#25 BEHOLD GOD'S ARMS ARE OPEN WIDE!

1. Does the image of God, with His arms open wide,
In most tender and yearning outreach t'ward mankind,
Seem to trouble your mind, that a mighty Creator,
To our needs in this life, shows He will not be blind?
He has placed us on earth, to work out our salvation,
He has hopes for all souls, for so rich is His care -
Though He surely takes joy, in the all He's created,
But can joy overflow, if there's now one to share?

25 - Continued

2. He has made us as souls, a bit lower than angels,
Those most glorious Beings who dwell near His throne,
So He opens His arms, that His love He may show us,
With an infinite yearning that we be His own!
What a maze of bright glory, we shall be beholding,
As we move t'ward these arms that are open so wide -
In this world, and hereafter, we always shall be
In the care of Jehovah, our Maker, our guide!
3. Does it not touch your hearts, then, whoever may read this?
As you envision God, with His loving outreach?
As you understand more of His mighty intention,
His vast gifts to all life, when in faith we beseech?
Oh, the blessings that open when we gladly love Him -
There's no words can describe, nor no artist can paint -
It is like His creation, so vast and expanding -
What a glory to be a disciple and saint!

- Kirtland, Ohio - September 27, 1974

26 OH, HASTEN, DEAR LORD, THE TIME OF THY COMING!

1. Oh hasten, dear Lord, the great time of Thy coming,
Lest the nations with weapons their genius has made,
Shall destroy humankind in horrendous destruction!
That endangers all life if this hate is not stayed!
There's a growing exhaustion of earth's vast resources,
That Thy foresight's provided to meet all our needs,
That one wonders if aught shall be left for Thy coming,
If this plunder continues in blindness and greed.
 2. As we sometimes consider the wrongs of the ages,
And we apprehend surely, there shall come a time,
When the earth shall be cleansed, from its sins and its folly,
All its evils and torments, its bloodshed, its crime.
There must surely arise a man mighty and strong,
With a strength based on wisdom, discernment and right,
Who can show us the way to what God has intended,
A most wonderful time when Thy rightness is might.
 3. Oh Thou strong Son of God, it is Thou we have needed,
It is Thou who can'st guide, to this time of delight -
For there centers in Thee a great vastness of wisdom,
And of love, and of vision, of truth, and truth's light!
Ah! then hasten, dear Savior, we long for Thy coming!
Bringing all that is needed, for Peace in the world!
So that earth, at long last, shall become as God wants it!
And the banners of God, everywhere, be unfurled!
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26 - Continued

Going back into the memories of years long past, I seem to remember reading somewhere that the promise and concept of Christ's return, is mentioned almost 320 times in the Scriptures.

— Kirtland, Ohio - September 28, 1974

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27 ETERNITY! - HOW VAST THOU ART

1. The Problem of Conceptualization:
It is hard to conceive all Eternity's vastness,
With our minds occupied by earth's daily concerns,
So, we seldom set forth in attempts at perception -
Since no question is asked, there's no impulse to learn.

2. How Vast is Eternity? Eternity is Like:
All the sands on the shores, both of lakes and of oceans,
Were each grain a full year of sidereal time!
Or -
As our own Milky Way, with its great constellations -
With all galazies vast - stupendous - sublime!

3. Therefore, God helping:
May we realize then, how amazing this vastness,
That goes on, and goes on, and with never an end -
May we learn to choose wisely each day as we live it,
Thinking of this vast future - and whither we tend -
May we never exchange godly ways for those evil -
It's the ever enduring for which we'll contend!

4. Keep then thy heart with all diligence:
It is wise to be careful, in making our choices -
Let us choose, in the light, of vast ages to be -
For all they who are chosen are they who are choosing -
For a life that's exalted in Eternity!

"High up in the north, in the land called Swithjod, there stands a rock. It is a hundred miles high and a hundred miles wide. Once every thousand years a little bird comes to this rock to sharpen its beak. When the rock has thus been worn away, then a single day of Eternity will have gone by." - The Story of Mankind, by Hendrik

Willem van Soon, p. 1

— Kirtland, Ohio - September 30, 1974

1. Can there be aught that is faster,
Faster than the speed of light,
In this Universe so splendid,
Vast beyond our human sight?
2. Yes! there is that which is faster,
When we think both deep and well -
As when God speaks in inspiration,
From that orb where He must dwell -
Distant far from earthly orbit -
Instantly He sends His word!
Here to guide His chosen people,
That His counsel may be heard!
3. Yes! there is that which is faster -
Prayer that answered when we seek -
Such as told by good Isaiah -
God responds before we speak!
And, in need, we ask His Spirit,
To remove darkness and gloom -
Then, from out God's vast blue yonder -
Darkness to light gives instant room!
4. Yes! there is that which is faster,
As when death sets spirit free -
And we're taken, faster, faster -
Past all suns and galaxies!
To a haven, that is ready,
Past the bounds of space and time -
Instantly we're taken thither!
Angels bear us to that clime!
5. Certainly! there's that that's faster,
Faster than the speed of light!
In this universe so boundless,
Vast beyond all human might!

- Kirtland, Ohio - October 1, 1974

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At a lecture at the University of California, Prof. Edward Teller was describing the astonishing progress that science has made since world war two. "Practically everything that for years we believed to be true has been proven false or incorrect by subsequent discovery," he said. "In fact there is only one statement that I would now dare to make positively; there is absolutely nothing faster than the speed of light - maybe."

29 JESUS THE HOPE OF AGES TO BE

1. What yet shall be, in future years,
Depends on human choices purely -
For evil ways destroy and maim -
While good preserves, and lifts - aye, surely!
2. Yet, goodness needs its demonstration -
For men must see e're they believe.
Where can be found this revelation?
Enabling man so to achieve.
3. Why, surely! It's in the Lord Jesus,
The Son of God, and Son of Man -
For perfectness, there is no other,
In all the years since time began!
4. In kindness, in works of love,
In ways of thought, in ends for striving,
In high ideals, in truth proclaimed -
He points the way for all our trying!
5. Moreover, God through this Lord Jesus,
Swings doors ajar to His vast treasures -
Of truth, of light, of boundless wisdom,
Of holiness, angelic pleasures -
And, best of all! He shares His Spirit
His power vast, for man's wise using -
That God's high hopes, from man's beginning,
At last may be man's highest choosing!
— Kirtland, October 3, 1974

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A HYMN - remembered from long ago -

"Jesus is standing in Pilot's hall,
Lonely, despised, and forsaken by all -
Hark! What meaneth the sudden call -
What will ye do with Jesus?
What will ye do with Jesus?
Neutral, ye cannot be!
Some day your heart will be asking,
What will he do with me?"

30 THIS IS MINE EVERLASTING COVENANT
(Dedicated to Gen. 9:17-24, I. V.)

1. When?
The bright rainbows shall arch, through the vaults of the heavens,
As a witness to man; God will never destroy,
All the creatures that live, with a vast flood of waters -
Then the Lord will remember His Covenant with man.
When that time shall have come that men keep God's commandments,
Needed Zion shall stand, once again on the earth -
Splendid Zion shall come, the great city of God!
2. The promise! The Everlasting Covenant!
This is God's everlasting grand cov'nant with man -
When the peoples of the earth shall embrace His great truths
And look up t'ward Him, then shall Zion look down,
And all heaven rejoice, with gladness supreme-
Yea! all earth shall tremble with joy that's complete.
3. Glorious events will then come to pass!
Then that noble assembly, the church of the Firstborn,
Shall come down out of heaven and earth shall possess -
Having place there until the time of world's ending !
This is God's Everlasting grand Cov'nant with man!
4. The Shining token of the Covenant!
Then when ye shall see clouds, and the storms, and the rainbow -
Oh remember the promise made ages ago -
Sacred Zion shall come - upon earth - and from Heaven,
In the climax of time - the great city of God!
- Kirtland, Ohio - October 3, 1974

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31 WHEN MAN RESPONDS TO GOD'S DOWNREACH! !

1. What a wonderful topic for deep meditation,
And for asking our God for His blest Inspiration,
And that He'll help us see, just as prophets can see,
All the glory and spendor, of that time yet to be.
2. For it's certain and sure that all sin will be banished,
And all evil be known for the curse that it is;
When all warring and bloodshed is a mist of the past,
And when Satan is bound, with great chains, hard and fast;
For then hating will cease, as will lying, and thieving,
Nor men selfishly seek for dominion and power;
What a day that will be when all ills that mar life,
Shall be left far behind, in all ending of strife.

27 - Continued

3. What a glorious time when men learn to love God,
With devotion and ardor that doubts cannot quench,
Loving not only Him, but whatever is good,
In a grand demonstration of true brotherhood.
When the ways of the Lord become clear and attractive,
Because men understand, at long last, they are best;
And when all ways of labor, move t'ward sacred goals,
Bringing joy in that labor, that gladdens all souls.
When at last the High Ways of the place where God dwells,
Shall be ways brought to earth, and God's will has become
The glad will of all men - making earth Paradise -
Ah! It's glories and beauties are beyond all surmise!

4. Oh my brother and sister, with zeal, please respond
To the outreach of God, that can lift, and will heal!
For a glorious age shall then bless all mankind
And the hosts of the nations no longer be blind!
— Kirtland, Ohio - October 3, 1974

* * * * *

32 THE WORLD SHALL YET TRANSFIGURED BE!

1. There's a word full of meaning, that comes from the Scriptures,
That word's transfiguration - a bright incondesence
Of our God's Holy Spirit - transinfinite far, beyond all man's conception
Making bright as the sun, both Christ's face and His raiment.

2. It's a beautiful story, of when the Lord Jesus, took three of the twelve
To a very high mountain, to pray, and to worship, the One who's Eternal,
The most holy, exalted, Creator, and Center of our universe!
And then - Lo! from the brilliance of God's vast effulgence,
The whole person of Jesus, brightly shone as the sun,
And the voice of Jehovah, said, "this is my Son, hear ye Him"!
Then amidst this bright glory stood two of time's great -
And a grand revelation of mind and of Spirit, blessed each of the twelve.

3. Now in day long since then, in this time of the world's ending,
The Lord spoke to His prophet, of His future intentions -
That in due course of time, He would change this sad world,
With a vast transformation and transfiguration
That would make earth and man, as this mountain of old,
Then, the glory of God shall envelop all nations.
And mankind shall ascend, as they're intended to do,
To a brilliant and splendid attainment of goodness.
It is then that the Word of the good prophet Joel,
Will be grandly fulfill'd, when God's Spirit pours out
On His sons and His daughters, in Words they will share -
That our God and His Son, may someday dwell on earth!

4. So, my brother and sister, I finish these poems, at eighty four,
Pleading gently with you, seek the Lord and His Spirit
For to have this God's Spirit is life at its finest
Thus, when earth is transfigured, we'll surely be there!
— Kirtland, Ohio - October 4, 1975
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Please read: Matt: 17, Mark 9:2, Luke 9:29, John 1:4, and
D. & C. 63:6

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The following Poems, written during my earlier years, are included,
because of the thought content, and because of their application to
many phases of life. Some of them have a considerable inspirational
background, because of the experiences that prompted their writing.

Unfortunately all were not dated, but, in general, they cover a period
dating back to the early fifties.

It is my hope that they will be helpful to many.

Earl R. Curry
Kirtland, Ohio
February 1975

LORD SUSTAIN THY BURDENED PEOPLE

1. Lord sustain Thy burdened people,
Thru earth's judgement time, now here,
Let Thine all pervading power
Give us strength and quiet fear.
Let us see the grand out-working
Of tremendous goals that end -
Help us understand this era,
Glorious Father, noblest friend!
2. Tho' aware farsighted purpose
Made Thee grant that out of strife,
Carried on within Creation,
Should emerge triumphant life -
Yet, the world's so full of evil,
Wickedness and sin dismay,
Ah! we long to haste t!ward Zion -
Out of darkness - into day.

Lord Sustain Thy Burdened People - Continued

3. Tarry, then, with us our Father,
For earth's day is fading fast -
Tho' we know our wondrous Savior
Shall return to earth at last -
Yet, we need exalted vision,
Which alone Thou can'st impart,
Be Thou near us, loving Father,
Strengthen now each trusting heart.
4. Should within Thy church, dark forces,
Rend, divide, obscure, dismay,
And the imps of evil Satan,
Vicious - fight to have their way
Fend these off with grand endowment!
Lead Thy church to seek this power!
Let this heavenly strong outpouring
Be the strength that meets this hour!

* * * * *

IS IT NOTHING TO YOU, ALL YE THAT PASS BY?

1. Is it nothing to you, all ye who pass by -
That our Father, in love, gave Christ unto thee?
Or that Christ's marvelous life, unselfish and true
That has shown all the world how fair life can be -
That the standard He raised, the wisest and best,
Was rejected by those who caused Him to die,
On that horrible cross on Calvary's hill -
Is it nothing to you all ye that pass by?
2. Is it nothing to you that Christ gave his all -
For the sake of all those whom sin has deceived?
Or that men thru His power can break Satan's chains
And are made noble men thru help thus received?
Are the exalted ends the Lord has for life
To be lost as we turn deaf ears to his call?
Shall the hope of the ages shrivel away -
Is it nothing to you that Christ gave His all?
3. Is it nothing to you, all ye who pass by -
That the world without Him shall never find peace,
From wars that destroy and bombs that shall kill,
Is there anyone else to bring us release?
It is only thru Him the world can be saved -
If we turn not to Him harsh judgement is nigh!
If we do turn to Him what glory can be -
Is it nothing to you all ye that pass by?

Note: This hymn has been set to music, by Elsie Zellers
191 Arcadia Ave., Columbus, Ohio 43202

www.LatterDayTruth.org

HEAVENLY FATHER, SO GRACIOUS AND LOVING

1. Heavenly Father, so gracious and loving,
Holiest, highest and noblest art Thou,
Glimpsing the breadth and the height of Thy purpose,
Come we in Faith and in reverence now,
Greatly we marvel, beholding creation
On in the vastness of infinite space.
Yet, not withstanding this limitless glory,
Thy love seeks us out in compassion and grace.
2. Lord, we would reach toward Thy extended mercy,
Gaining a vision of all we might be,
Were we to live, as far up on the mountains,
Where sight increases and horizons flee!
Heal then our eyes and remove Thou our blindness,
Part Thou the veil, now obscuring the scene.
As we reach up, both in faith and repentance,
Let Thy bless'd ways in great clearness be seen!
3. We would see more of Thy infinite goodness,
We would see more of Thy ultimate plan,
None hast but Thou all the far-sighted wisdom,
Needed to open the future to man.
Touch Thou the springs, then, of exalted action,
We would rise up and co-labor with Thee,
Bless'd by the radiant light of Thy Spirit,
Building with Thee, Thy great kingdom to be!

Notes: 1. This hymn has been set to music, by Elsie Zellers.
2. This hymn is intended for a priesthood meeting.

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PRAYER FOR ENDOWED MINISTRY

1. Hasten, great Father, the day of Endowment,
Hasten the day when Thy Spirit shall shine,
Out from the lives and the words of Thy servants,
Sweeping the world with a power divine.
Speed Thou the day of the last dispensation,
Raising the warning of judgement to come,
Pleading with men to repent of their evils.
Pricking their hearts as of old Thou hast done.
2. Give Thou Thy servants, the power of their calling,
Help them envision the breadth of Thy plan,
Touch Thou their tongues with a heavenly fervor,
Thru them make plain Thy high cov'nant with man.
Take Thou the weak and the humble and trusting.
Thru them break down all the strong and the proud,
Thru them throw down all the strongholds of Satan,
Make bare Thine arm thru a priesthood endowed!

Prayer For Endowed Ministry - Continued

3. Let Thy Son come suddenly to His Temple,
Let Him be seen by those watching for Him.
Oh, let us hear His dear voice and His counsel,
Wisdom we lack and our vision is dim.
Send Thou Thy Son from Thine own holy presence,
Transform our lives and make them Thine own.
Then, send us forth in the last great evangel,
Blest with a power the world has not known!

Note: This hymn has been set to music by Elsie Zellers

* * * * *

MY FAITH LOOKS UP TO THEE

1. My faith looks up to Thee, Man's hope eternally,
Dear Lord and friend divine -
As countless ages roll,
Thyself has been their goal,
Thy love has made them whole,
And they are surely Thine.
2. My faith looks up to Thee, I long Thy face to see,
Whose love is broad and deep -
Let grace in me be found,
Let love in me abound,
And flow to all around,
So they God's praise shall sound,
As they His way will keep.
3. My faith looks up to Thee to send Thy light to me,
My wayward life to leav'n -
Then shall my all I bring,
To Thee who art my king,
Exalted words shall sing!
Like joyous bells that ring!
Thou glorious bread of heav'n!
Thou glorious bread of heav'n!!
Amen.

Note: This hymn has been set to music by Elsie Zellers

MEDITATIONS ON WHAT SHALL YET BE

1. How great the joy when we shall stand,
Before the One who gave His life,
That men might rise above earth's sins,
And triumph o'er earth's carnal strife.
Oh gracious is this Son of God,
To show all men what life can be,
Not only as we live each day,
But even in eternity.
2. Ear hath not heard, nor hath eye seen
Nor even hath the heart surmised,
The glory there prepared for those,
Who've loved the Lord and His ways prized,
Except the saints whom He hath shown,
The grandeur of that life to be,
And these have only seen in part,
For only thus may mortals see.
3. The sunsets glow at even tide,
The beauty of some mountain scene,
The wonder of the stars at night,
The perfect trust of babes serene -
Not even these can quite suggest,
The glad surprise that God's great love
Will open to His loving saints
With entrance to His realms above!

Note: This hymn has been set to music, by Elsie Zellers.

* * * * *

PROVIDENCE

1. Like the snowflakes gently falling, silently so near us here,
Come Thy blessings, O our Father, testifying Thou art near.
Ah, how vast Thy loving watchcare, for all souls who trust in Thee
Even sending holy angels, beck'ning us to destiny.
2. Like the rain in spring and summer, nourishes each thirsty plant,
Even so, our loving Father, showers of blessings dost Thou grant.
Blessings from Thy vast abundance, come to meet our daily need,
To sustain our earth-bound bodies, spirits warm, and souls to lead.
3. Like the dew in morning sunlight, glistening on each blade and leaf -
Brilliant diamonds, sent from heaven, lift our minds above belief!
Noblest Father, gracious art Thou, thanks we give for all Thou art!
Even reaching down from heaven, blessing every trusting heart!

Note: This hymn has been set to music

A PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL PIONEERS

1. I would live this day, my Father, as I would were Jesus near,
Turning from all earthly folly, turning from all blighting fear.
Thy great love I would rely on, and Thy promises so vast
Spurred by hope of exaltation, and eternal life at last!
2. In Thy mercy, let Thy Spirit, calm my soul, inspire each hour,
Let its many gifts and graces, come each day in growing power.
Cleanse my thoughts and make them holy, lift my mind to hear and see,
Thru apocalyptic vision, open doors to things to be!
3. Oh my Father, let Thine angels richly minister and guide.
May Thy Son's most holy presence, with Thy people, Lord, abide.
Thus, in lofty, bless'd communion, they shall reach toward things above,
And shall witness, gracious Father, of Thy vast, redeeming love.

Note: This hymn has been set to music, by Elsie Zellers.

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LET ME TOUCH THE HEM OF THY GARMENT, LORD

1. Let me touch just the hem of Thy garment, Oh Lord,
As the woman of old, who had need of Thy power,
Even so, come I now, to be freed from my sins,
For I need Thee dear Lord, and I need thee this hour.
2. Let the world touch the hem of Thy purest white robe,
For they wander as sheep with no shepherd to guide,
The deceits of the one who is evil abound,
And how awful the need in Thy way to abide!
3. Oh how grand it shall be, when we all are made whole,
And all life becomes noble and lofty and sure,
When we all shall have faith to clasp tightly Thy hand,
Letting Thee be our Saviour, and life be made pure!

Note: This hymn has been set to music, by Elsie Zellers.

* * * *

THE GOOD SHEPHERD CALLS YOU

1. Hear the voice of the good shepherd,
Urgently He calls for thee,
He would have you in the vanguard
Of His war to set men free -
Free from all the dreadful evils,
That beset each age and time,
Free to hasten toward the uplands,
Free to reach a nobler clime.

The Good Shepherd Calls You! - Continued

2. Hear the voice of Jesus calling,
Nobler guide has never been.
He would open the gates of glory,
That His saints may see within,
And thus beckoned by that glory,
They might be what they can be,
When they answer to His pleading
Calling them to set them free.

3. There He stands on yonder mountain,
Arms outstretched in mute appeal,
Asking all who will to follow,
Follow up toward His ideal.
Lives of beauty, lives ennobled,
Lives enriched and fully free,
Lives of love and lives of glory,
This our Lord would share with thee!

Note: This hymn has been set to music, by Elsie Zellers

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Joseph Luff sang the Hymn Admonition in 1907 in the Stone Church, Independence, Missouri.

This hymn was written in the Temple at Kirtland in 1957
50 years later.

HYMN OF URGENT ADMONITION

Oh, my people said the Spirit, thru God's servant years ago,
Heed ye well a Father's counsel, and by deeds your purpose show,
For the world is rushing onward, toward a judgment naught can stay,
Therefore rise and be obedient, 'tis the world's momentous day.

Now most dang'rous tides are breaking, wave on wave they reach your doors,
The whole world is filled with hatreds, which shall lead to awful wars,
Yet, God's people all too heedless, linger still in worldly ways,
Dwelling far below the uplands, whereon shine His brightest rays.

Surely He would lead His people toward that time of radiant light,
That yet waits to break upon them, brighter than the noon is bright.
Yea, the glory of the Spirit, waits to shine upon you here,
That the witness of endowment, warns the world that Christ is near.

God would now redeem His Zion, that from hence His law might go,
That its truth find demonstration, His ways best and proven so.
That the world thru this example, shall be beckoned from afar,
Toward that time of Christ's appearing, Millennium's doors to swing ajar.

Hymn of Urgent Admonition - Continued

Rise then, to this hour of challenge, turn away from paths of sin,
Call on God in mighty prayer, that His Spirit enter in.
Seek in faith and seek Him humbly, He will hear each deep-felt cry,
For the time of Christ's appearing, verily is drawing nigh.

Oh, my people, hear His pleading, let each seek the finer part,
In Him is your sure salvation, He will keep the pure in heart.
Bravely face these times of peril, live in highest holiness,
Naught shall harm whom God protecteth, for His pow'r is limitless. Amen.

Note: This hymn has been set to music, by Elsie Zellers

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THE BLESSED CONGREGATION

Blessed is that congregation
Where the noble-hearted dwell;
Where there is a wealth of friendship
And where love stands sentinel;
Where there is a loving outreach
T'ward all souls who starve or bleed;
Where there is a questing upreach -
T'ward the One who meets our need.

Blessed is that congregation
Where God's Spirit lights the way;
Where the glory of this spirit
Is a kindling guiding ray,
That leads on to lofty purpose,
All God's gifts to wisely use,
That inspires dynamic action -
Other lives to lift, enthuse!

Blessed is that congregation
Whom prophetic vision lights;
Who have shared God's exaltation,
Who have gazed on lofty sights;
Who have seen the future ages
And who know beyond surmise -
Of the glory, grandeur, beauty,
Of God's wondrous paradise.

HYMN TO THE RETURNING CHRIST

1. All glorious Lord, we hail Thee,
Now come to claim Thy bride,
To cleanse her sin, her folly,
Her selfishness, her pride.
Returned with wondrous power,
To change the lives of men,
Returned to conquer evil,
And set men free again.
To cleanse our soul of doubting,
And make us wholly sure.
To purge our wanton longings,
To make us wholly pure.

2. Oh, let Thy radiant presence,
Transform and make us Thine,
Oh let Thy brilliant purpose,
Thru all our purpose shine.
Returned to lead Thy Zion,
To noble heights and fair,
Returned from God, the Father,
His finest gifts you'll share.
Returned in brilliant glory
To usher in an age,
That shall exceed in beauty,
All dreams of priest or sage!

3. Most wonderful Redeemer,
We welcome Thee this hour!
Most wonderful Lord Jesus,
Our all wise Counselor!
The Everlasting Father,
Hath sent Thee, Prince of Peace!
The Mighty God is with Thee
Thy reign shall never cease!

Note: This hymn has been set to music, by Julia Ann
Conway, 701 E. Sunshine, Springfield, Mo. 65804

* * * * *

HOW MAY THE LORD SPEAK TO MEN
(An Inspirational Experience)

1. O my sons and my daughters, with hearts tightly closed,
Even tho' I, the Lord would oft'times be your guest,
You so heedlessly choose, without tho't or concern,
So that I, even God, cannot enter your breast.
Must the time therefore when by fire and by sword
I must chasten the nations by war's awful way?
Is it only thru suff'ring, destruction, and loss,
That men's hearts can be opened to what I would say?
2. Must it be that sore judgement engulf all the world?
Must there be raging storms with their light'nings fierce flash?
Or must nature unleash rushing floods that destroy?
Or must earthquakes abound, causing cities to crash?
Or must harvests oft fail, bringing famine and want?
Or must pestilence sweep out of bounds and control?
Must it be by such means, I, the Lord, come to you?
Must I win you by these, Christlike ways to extol?
3. Can you tell why the heart is so hard to persuade?
When persuasion results in a life-giving change?
And just why is the heart, as it were, made of stone?
Is the fact that I love you distressing or strange?
I, the Lord, from my heaven, long to lift up your life!
Knowing well the great glory of all that can be,
Were mankind to respond as I reach down to him,
That thru mountain top vision my children may see!
4. I would call to all men thru the life of my Son!
Thru the light of my truth in my word would I speak!
By my servants clear voices, and by gifts most profound,
Will I enter your hearts, if in faith you will seek!
There are legions of angels awaiting to bless!
There are heavenly powers beyond your surmise!
Unto grandeur and glory, resplendent and vast -
If you open your hearts, I will open your eyes!

Note: The above has been set to music, by Elsie Zellers

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A HYMN OF DEEP FAITH AND ENTREATY

1. Father! whose transcendent glory, fills the vastnesses of space,
Thou whose hand expands creation, in far spreading works of grace,
From that wondrous orb of brightness, wherein is Thy dwelling place,
Hear Thou now our hymn of worship, as these noblest of earth's race
Now unite to plead for wisdom, wisdom Thou alone can'st give,
Wisdom deep, profound, far-reaching, that can lift all those who live
On this world Thy love created, empow'ring all who want to strive
Upward toward that promised time, when evilness no more shall thrive.
2. Knowing well, dear loving Father, holiness should grace this earth -
Knowing well Thy high intention, millenium must soon have birth -
Knowing well Thy Son's returning, all this world must soon engirth -
Knowing well Thy ways for living, of all ways have greatest worth -
Therefore let Thy inspiration lift us as to mountain height,
Share with these, Thy holy servants, Thy supremest Spirit's light,
Share with us Thy lofty vision, by its rays so pure and bright,
For when this shall shine upon us, we can see what's best and right!
3. How, great Father, can our outreach, to the wandering sons of men,
Be made strong, complete, effective, touching hearts and warming them?
How can man be turned from sinning, toward what's now beyond his ken
How can'st Thou be made appealing, how can man be beckoned when
In the time of Restoration, as Thy Word goes forth in power,
In a widespread last evangel, in this era's closing hour? -
Give to us Thy understanding, give us vision that shall tower
Far above all human vision! On us now Thy blessing shower!
- Kirtland, Ohio - January 1965

Note: This is part of a developing Sacred Drama, whose title is -
God's Magnificent Intention For This Age.

* * * * *

BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO DIE IN THE LORD

1. Far in space I see bright angels,
Earthward bound to take me hence -
They have come from God's own presence,
As His gift and providence!
Now! these eyes no longer holden,
See each radiant angel face
As they come to take my spirit
To God's promised holy place.
2. Ah! how glorious is this journey!
Waft in joy that now enfolds!
As we hasten thru vast distance
On t'ward heaven's own threshold!

On past stars and giant systems!
On to blessed realms and bright -
Ever swifter, ever faster!
Faster than the speed of light!

3. Yonder, now, I see it clearly!
Ah! we've reached God's sacred strand!
Glorious, far beyond description!
Grander far than any land
There behold earth's best and noblest -
Holy Being gone before!
There! I see the good Lord Jesus!
Day has dawned! Death is no more!

* * * * *

SAVE US, LEST WE FALL

1. When Thy daughter, in her weakness
Cried, "my dear, don't let me fall"
In our tender arms we held her
Answering her pleading call.
2. Thus, great Father, as we journey,
'Mongst earth's sins which tempt us so,
Do we cry for Thy sustaining -
Thy dear grace, Lord, may we know!
3. In our search for all that's holy
Hold our hand lest we shall fall,
May Thine everlasting watchcare,
Be about us when we call.
4. Blessed Father, in death's hour,
Free us from all wild alarms,
Knowing well that underneath us
Are Thine everlasting arms!
- Kirtland, Ohio - June, 1965

* * * * *

AT EVENTIDE

1. It is good to go home, when darkness comes near,
From the hard hours of toil, to its comfort and cheer,
To the dear folk we love, in our haven of rest,
And to music, and friends, with which we are blest.
Just to hear each kind word, and be glad for each smile
Lightens burdens of life, and each cross, and each trial -
Then to sleep and to dreams, after kneeling to pray -
Ah, it's good to go home at the close of the day!

At Eventide - Continued

2. Even so, when the day of our life here shall end,
And we look for the angels our Father shall send -
What a joy then to go to that bright land and fair,
To the mansions our Lord shall prepare for us there.
Ah, what glorious places those mansions shall be -
Far beyond human tho't to envision, or see!
There'll be loved ones and noble to welcome us home,
And we'll see our Lord Jesus, when ev'ning has come!

* * * * *

OPEN GOD'S DOORS TO HIS TEMPLE

1. Open the doors to the Lord's Holy Temple-
Yea, search the intention for which it was made!
Scatter the darkness enshrouding its purpose -
The Lord's mighty arm too long has been stayed!
Long we have wandered in paths that are barren -
With eyes that are holden to His beck'ning hand,
Sweep now aside all the sins that have bound us!
Behold, as from Nebo, the Lord's promised land!
2. Look! There He now beckons, in yearning entreaty,
Inviting and beck'ning, with arms open wide -
He sees great waves of an onrushing evil,
Engulfing the world, as a great sweeping tide!
Yet, stands His House, yea it needs you, He needs you,
Let Him make you strong, with His light and His power
He can give strength thru His School of the Prophets
Preparing His church for the needs of this hour.
3. Open the doors to the Lord's Holy Temple,
For then shall His glory transmute human ways,
Then shall He bring His tremendous Endowment -
His Kingdom shall come, as He moves in those days!
Swing wide the doors to God's mighty Intention
For up from as-is, there are heights we must reach
There waits our Lord to exalt you and bless you
To lift you, empower, enlarge you - and TEACH

* * * * *

WHY THIS WONDROUS GIFT OF LIFE?

1. Most marvelous Father -
 Worlds uncounted hast Thou fashioned
 Whereon dwell unnumbered souls -
 Placed there by Thyself and Jesus,
 Surely with farsighted goals,
 What vast urge has made Thee do this
 Causing myriad souls to be,
 Knowing well all would not love Thee,
 Nor would all Thy goodness see?

2. Thank you Lord -
 Clearly now I see the reason
 That compelled Thee in that hour -
 In Thee dwells life most abundant -
 Grandness, intellect, and power -
 And you longed for souls to share with,
 Those whom love and light could sway -
 Ah, what hopes must have enthralled Thee,
 On that far Creation's day!

* * * *

GRANT US LORD PROPHETIC UNDERSTANDING

1. Gracious Father, Thou whose lofty purpose
 Like a golden thread, runs thru the years,
 In this day when human wisdom
 Fills the world with hates, and doubts, and fears -
 From that perfect sphere wherein Thou dwellest,
 Let Thy graciousness dispel our fears.

2. Grant us, Lord, prophetic understanding
 Of designs in minds of men who guide -
 Let us see that which would overwhelm us,
 And the evils which in darkness hide -
 Share with us Thy certain comprehension
 Of results of earthly sins and pride.

3. Most of all, disclose the grand out-working,
 Of the mighty powers Thou wilt use,
 To fulfill Thine ancient, faithful promise -
 Right shall triumph, evil ways shall lose!
 Gracious Father, hear our cry and pleading,
 It is Thine exaltedness we choose.

GETHSEMANE!

1. In the garden of Gethsemane
The Saviour prayed in dire distress,
For strength to bear both shame and death,
By hands of those He came to bless,
But more than these He mourned that sin,
Which grossly mars mans' tho't and deed -
And as He prayed apostles slept,
All heedless of the Master's need.
2. Our Saviour prays in anguish still -
In deepest sorrow, pleads He now,
He knows that crosses loom for man
As loomed for Him on Calvary's brow.
He weeps that evil mars the world,
So cleansing judgement soon must be -
And as He prays, we nod and sleep -
All heedless of His agony!
3. Oh Lord, our God, help us awake
To such awareness of man's plight
We will not let Him pray alone
For stubborn men to see His light.
Help us arise to lofty heights -
Made strong by guidance Thou canst give -
That out from us Thy truth shall shine!
And man shall know Jehovah lives!

* * * * *

LONGING AND YEARNING!

1. The Lord longs to bless us.
Our Father, who in deepest longing,
Lookest to Thy saints on earth,
Desiring that Thy Spirit's blessing
Come to them, and bring new birth -
Yea, yearning that within Thy people
Shall be born a great desire -
Impelling them to seek Thy Spirit,
Seek its light, its cleansing fire!
2. Great is our need, and the world's need!
Thou seest all the world's dread turmoil -
Tearing lives of men apart!
Thou knowest raging powers of evil,
Cause dismay in human hearts!
That wicked men become more brutish,
As dark forces rule the world,
And, that pow'rs of Hell and Satan,
'Gainst Thy truth and Son are hurled.

Longing And Yearning - Continued

3. Help us see what Thou would'st do!
Oh Father! let us see the future-
What thru us that Thou would'st do,
Oh swing Thou wide the gates of Heaven
Grant clear vision now anew!
Oh raise in us a holy people
Out from whom Thy truth will shine!
Oh share the boundless light Thou have'st
Dwell with us, and make us Thine!

4. We dedicate ourselves!
Great Father, fill our souls with longing!
Beckon now from heights afar!
We shall respond to Thy great yearning!
Moving t'ward bright gates ajar!
To give ourselves to Thy high purpose!
Walking hand in hand, Oh Lord, with Thee!
That man may see Thy loving outreach
Meets life's needs and sets them free!!

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