

GRACE POEMS

BY J. C. O'HAIR

THE GOD OF ALL GRACE

"The God of all grace" is a wonderful name:
What a privilege it is, His grace to proclaim;
To tell forth the gospel at home and abroad,
To teach guilty sinners the great love of God.

How He planned it in heaven, to send from above
His bosom Companion, the Son of His love,
To live among sinners, to die on the tree,
To receive Divine judgment for you and for me.

What love and what mercy! What infinite grace!
Christ Jesus was willing to die in our place.
Then God sent the Spirit to convict us of sin,
To make us new creatures and abide then within.

Grace excludes boasting, religion or deeds;
Provides for the sinner all that he needs.
In Christ we're accepted, complete in God's Son;
Saved without doing, by the work He has done.

Not by man's wisdom, endeavor or plan;
How utterly futile the best work of man!
Because Christ was sinless God can be just
And justify freely all who will trust.

And all who trust Jesus of glory are sure,
Preserved by God's power, forever secure.
For Christ, in God's presence, appears for His own
And makes intercession as He sits on God's throne.

And sealed by the Spirit who abides all the way,
The believer is waiting for that glorious day;
When the blessed Lord Jesus shall in glory appear;
The day of redemption! We wonder how near!

Then all that is mortal no longer shall be,
In glorified bodies our Lord we shall see.

And if we are faithful, with Him we shall reign,
For our labours in Jesus shall not be in vain.

With such grace abounding, such power Divine!
Why do we falter, doubt or repine?
And why do lost sinners remain in their state
Condemned now already and hereafter such fate?

GRACE

Wonderful, marvelous, infinite grace, abounding more than sin;
When Christ at Calvary took our place, He was man; but God within.
The worldly rulers never knew God's mystery revealed,
The Lord of glory there they slew, Him whom God had sealed.

Rich was He in heaven above, in the form of God up there;
Bosomed in His Father's love, He saw us in despair,
Ruined, hopeless, helpless, weak; like sheep all gone astray;
He will come the lost to seek, to put our sin away.

In tender mercy down He came; came to save the lost;
Creator here with human frame; see what sin has cost.
Not all the silver and the gold could for guilt atone;
No scheme of man that's new or old; but Christ Himself alone.

Yes, lower than the angels made, made to suffer death;
All our sins on Him were laid, when He yielded up His breath.
Willing all our guilt to bear, to die for you and me;
"Finished," cried the Saviour there, nailed to Calvary's tree.

Now what work must man supply beside what Christ hath done?
Our God will freely justify all who trust His Son.
This is grace, yes grace Divine, sufficient grace indeed:
Abounding grace that knows no line: for the vilest sinner's need.

Every claim Christ satisfied to clear the human race;
Between two thieves He bled and died, O what matchless grace!
Death with Him was but a spell; He took up the life He gave,
God did not leave His soul in hell, nor His body in the grave.

Death abolished, He has its key, and the key of hades, too;
Such a Christ for you and me, a living Saviour true.
A risen Christ at God's right hand, whose love has never ceased;
All power known at His command, an interceding Priest.

In heaven on His Father's throne, that blessed throne of grace,
Pleading ever for His own, He's never lost a case.
He's never lost a single one, never failed to keep
All the Father gives the Son, that Shepherd of the sheep.

He seals them with the Holy Ghost, unto redemption day:
Saves them to the uttermost; Hear the Saviour pray,
My glory, Father, let them see; my glory let them share,
Where I am, pray, let them be; God has heard that prayer.

Grace is this, and nothing less; only grace can tell
Why a sinner God should bless, and save his soul from hell.
In Adam none will heaven reach, not a single man,
In Christ alone who healed the breach believing sinners can.

While with patience here below we run for Christ the race,
What a blessed fact to know, sufficient is His grace.
Here surrounded by our foes, with conflicts all around,
In the midst of all our woes He makes His grace abound.

If in fervent prayer we ask we'll never be denied,
For every trial, every task, grace will be supplied;
Whatever sickness or distress, sorrow, wound or ache,
When heavy burdens sorely press, from that supply we take.

Exceeding riches of His grace, in ages after this,
When we've reached that heavenly place to enjoy eternal bliss.
God the Father then will show, in kindness through His Son,
There in glory we shall know, know every chosen one.

No matter what your temporal gain, if your soul you lose;
All this life will prove but vain, if Christ you do not choose.
This is still the day of grace, the door is open wide;
Faith will find for you a place, a place with Christ inside.

Answer then the Spirit, yes, as He convicts of sin,
Christ as Saviour, then confess; and He will enter in.
Eternal life with Him above, victory here and peace;
Dwelling in eternal love, His grace shall never cease.

CHRIST AND HIS SAINTS

A Saviour which is Christ the Lord,
Eternal God, the living Word,
Long promised ere His birth:
To saints of old was typified,
They hoped, they waited, but they died
Before He came to earth.

And then He came as Mary's Child;
Holy, harmless, undefiled,
In a manger laid
Born to suffer, serve and die,
The Lord of Glory from on high
Of a woman made.

The Lamb prefigured, prophesied,
On the cross was crucified;
He did for sin atone.
But now transfigured ever more
In heaven where He was before,
On His Father's throne.

For all who suffer with our Lord
There awaits a sure reward
When He comes again.
In the twinkling of an eye,
Transfigured saints shall reach the sky
And share His glorious reign.

THE OLD GOSPEL

They tell us things are moving at such a rapid pace,
That the world's outgrown the Gospel of Christ's redeeming grace;
That anyone's old fashioned who believes the Bible true,
That the world has made such progress it needs a gospel new.

If we happen to be sinners, we're really not to blame,

In fact we just think we are sinning is what some people claim.
Most folks don't understand you when you say "be born again,"
For they're working for salvation, imitating Cain.

Control our lives with noble thoughts, be gentle, sweet and pure,
And because we do the best we can, God's mercy will be sure.
Speak of God's great love for us but of His wrath say naught,
Preach heaven all you care to, but hell must not be taught.

Of Jesus some speak kindly as the Man of Galilee,
But nothing of the Lamb of God, who died on Calvary's tree.
Say naught of His pierced hands and feet, naught of His wounded side,
Out of which the Father is forming the Saviour's precious bride.

And so they twist and try to change the word which Christ did say
Shall long endure the dying world and never pass away.
O, sinner, come and see thyself a lost and ruined soul,
And hear the words of Jesus Christ, "Thy faith hath made thee whole."

Away with the world's new theories and back to the blessed Book,
Let's go to the cross of Jesus and get a saving look.
And know as we see Him hanging in agony and pain,
It was for our transgressions the Son of God was slain.

We need no other gospel for none other will avail,
But against the Church of Jesus Christ, hell's gates shall not prevail.
Be safe in the Ark like Noah, and escape the judgment flood,
Anchor your faith to Jesus, get under His precious blood.

And we'll keep our gaze on heaven and watching unto prayer,
We'll wait for the Lord of glory and meet Him in the air.
And down through the endless ages when heaven and earth are new
We'll sing of the cross of Jesus and know that His words were true.

A CHRISTMAS POEM

The Christmas season is again at hand,
 With thoughts of Christ in every land;
The Christmas message again we'll hear,
 The songs of Christ Who brought good cheer;
The Lord of glory, God's gift of love,
 Who left His home in heaven above.
We'll sing and tell the Saviour's birth,
 How He dwelt with men on earth.

Redemption's story, God's own plan,
The Lord Himself in form of man;
Yes, lower than the angels made,
In Bethlehem's manger Christ was laid;
The virgin's Son, the King Divine,
In David's house the royal line;
Conceived as was no other child;
The Seed of woman, undefiled.

God's ancient prophets, holy men,
Foretold Christ's work by mouth and pen.
Christ came these Scriptures to fulfill,
He came to do His Father's will.
He left His heavenly home on high;
He came on earth to serve and die.
His mission was to seek and save:
He suffered much; Himself He gave.

On Calvary's cross the Saviour died,
By wicked men was crucified,
But God foreknew this awful crime:
It was His own appointed time.
The death of Christ was by God's grace
That He might save the human race;
Save lost sinners, every one
Who will believe on Christ the Son.

Then God raised Him from the dead
To make His Son the living Head;
The living Christ on heaven's throne
Is interceding for His own.
Because Christ lives and intercedes
God supplies the Christian's needs.
Because Christ's there within the veil,
The Christian's anchor cannot fail.

When you know what God has done
Why do you reject His Son,
Despise His grace and spurn His love,
And miss a home in heaven above?
Believe God's Word, accept God's way;
'Tis worse than folly to delay.
Christ will save you from your sin
And give you joy and peace within.

And then from condemnation free

A Merry Christmas yours will be.
When you yourself have thus been freed
You will believe man's greatest need,
In this world so filled with strife,
Is God's free gift-eternal life.
And all who take what God will give
Shall with Christ forever live.

WHEN I SEE CHRIST

When I shall leave this house of clay,
Perhaps that time may be to-day
That I shall go or He appear
And while in death there is no fear,
Yet would be joy should He decide
Till His return I'd here abide,
But whether so, or I depart,
The earnest prayer that fills my heart
Is when I see Him face to face,
'Cause He in judgment took my place,
That by His word or look I'll know
That much of life spent here below
Has been well-pleasing in His sight;
And who can measure the delight
If there should come some small reward
From those hands on Calvary scarred.

What earthly honors can compare
With the glories we shall share,
Glories which shall never cease
With Christ exalted, Prince of Peace?
Eternal ages, endless bliss,
For all the world I would not miss;
But when in the presence of my
Lord I stand and hope for some reward,
I'll not be there for work I've done,
But by God's grace Who gave His Son
To suffer, bleed, to die, and then
To conquer death, to rise again,
And in the body to ascend
To His own place at God's right hand.
Glorious gospel; What a cost!
What a love for sinners lost!
Spurn this love? this grace despise?

How can a man be so unwise?

Satan largely is to blame;
He hates Christ's gospel and His name.
The same who in the garden lied
And brought sin by appeal to pride
Beguiles, deceives and schemes today;
So sinners doubt, deny, delay.
With temporal things he charms the soul
And thus holds sinners in control.
Religious schemes and ways galore
To keep the lost outside the door;
Away from Calvary; God's one way
To save the sheep that's gone astray.
Satan doth the saved one hate
And bids for him with every bait,
Riches, pleasure, fame and ease,
Fleshly lusts he would appease.

This clever tempter is alert,
His every move is but to hurt,
To lead the saint to compromise
And make him run without a prize;
To bring reproach, disgrace and shame
To the Saviour's cause and hurt His name.
The battle's real; for us too hard,
Each moment we must be on guard.
In Jesus' strength alone we fight,
For He alone can put to flight
The demon forces that oppose
And conquer for us all our foes.
And only as in Him we trust
Can we overcome our lust.
The pressure, trials, strife and strain
Increase with labours not in vain,
But grace sufficient if we but ask
Christ has promised for each task.

'Twill soon be over; 'twill not be long
Till we'll be with that heavenly throng.
If till He come we occupy
Or if He tarry and we die,
And we are faithful, even though
Friends forsake us here below
Persecute, and scoff and frown,
Suffering saints shall have a crown.

At the rising of the just
When we stand, as stand we must,
Before our Saviour's judgment seat
And He reveals the chaff and wheat,
When hidden things are manifest
Will our works abide the test?
With secret motives brought to light,
When we have finished here our fight,
Shall we hear God's blessed Son
Approve our service with "well done"?
Such words will far out-pay the price
Our suffering, toil and sacrifice.

What a challenge for our best
Our every talent to invest!
Not on earth, our treasures hoard,
But as He said, in heaven stored.
Then He'll prove what here He taught
That no man e'er served God for nought.
So as for me whate'er the cost,
I want to count no day as lost.
I want not temporal things to dim
My heavenly vision and sight of Him,
But day by day to serve my Lord
And wait His time for my reward.

SALVATION THROUGH CHRIST

The grace of God is now at hand,
Christ's name is heard in every land.
He's the Lord of Glory: What a Name!
What a great salvation to proclaim!
Christ was born as no other one,
The Seed of woman, but God's own Son.

God's prophets long foretold His birth;
That God would visit man on earth,
To reveal His love to Adam's race,
And bring salvation by His grace.
When God declared the time at hand;
God's Son appeared in Israel's land.

The virgin Mary was God's choice,
And so she heard the angel's voice.
He told how Christ, the Holy Child,

Would be born to her, but undefiled.
Christ Jesus would be David's seed;
God's kingdom nation would be freed.

So Christ was born for David's throne;
But the Saviour must for sin atone.
He was measured by God's holy law,
And lived on earth without one flaw.
He proved His claim by word and sign,
That he was human and was Divine.

Such deeds of mercy never known;
Such grace to sinners never shown.
He healed the blind, the sick, the lame,
The souls of men in sin and shame.
He calmed the sea, increased the food;
All Christ did on earth was good.

But signs and deeds were all in vain;
The rulers would not have Him reign.
Christ knew no sin, He broke no laws;
But they hated Him without a cause.
And religious men who knew Him not
Went unto Judas with their plot.

His price was named, the money paid,
And so the Saviour was betrayed.
God's Son must die, was their decree,
So He was nailed to Calvary's tree.
They knew not when they did their crime,
It was God's own appointed time.

For His death God's Son was made,
And on that Son our sins were laid.
Christ on the tree for sinners died,
The Lord of Glory was crucified.
He died for me and He died for you;
God's Book says this, and it is true.

Out from His grave, as Christ had said,
The Saviour came forth, no longer dead.
Yea, from death God's Son was raised;
He was seen by friends for forty days.
With those friends He communed and ate.
They were to witness, watch and wait.

Christ would be with them to the end;
Behold, they saw the Lord ascend.
Christ opened up the living way;
At God's right hand He lives today.
And there exalted on heaven's throne
He's in God's presence for His own.

In Christ believers are secure;
God's Word is true and heaven sure.
And when redemption day is here
Believers shall with Christ appear:
Appear in glory with the Lord,
And there receive their sure reward.

God's door of grace is opened wide,
But each must for himself decide.
Receive God's gift, by faith, and live:
Let God pardon, cleanse, forgive.
At peace with God, surely for you
Life will have a meaning new.

CHRIST IN US THE HOPE OF GLORY

Our worth and work is no exemption;
Our only hope is God's dear Son.
In His blood there is redemption;
Yes, the work has all been done.
Our hope of heaven is depending,
On our faith in His shed blood;
The gift of God is life unending.
For this gift give thanks to God.

Christ in us the hope of glory,
Witnessed by the Holy Ghost.
Sounding forth the gospel story;
Cross of Christ our only boast.
Beseeching others to receive Him,
God's own Son, His gift of love;
Eternal life for all who believe Him;
Eternal bliss in heaven above.

THE PRINCE OF PEACE IS COMING

The Prince of Peace is coming; God has a kingdom plan.
As King and Judge He's coming; Christ the Son of man.
The whole creation's groaning; creatures strive and rage:
God's own Word assures us of the coming golden age.

The coming King of Glory will make all wars to cease.
Instead of strife and violence, He'll bring a reign of peace.
The Lord will save His nation, restore and heal and bless,
In the time of Jacob's trouble, the time of world distress.

There'll be great signs in heaven, great sorrows here on earth;
Wars and tribulation and pestilence and dearth.
The man of sin deceiving with miracle and sign,
Will rule with mighty power; will be worshipped as divine.

With the other beast of Satan in political control
It will be his mark, or vengeance, for every living soul.
At this time of tribulation, to this earth with all its woes,
The Lord will come in judgment and conquer all His foes.

His peace and righteous kingdom shall continue to increase,
And on the throne of David He'll reign as Prince of Peace.
But before this earthly glory, yea, before the darkest days,
The blessed Lord is coming the dead in Christ to raise.

In resurrection bodies, these with saints still here,
Shall be caught away to heaven, in glory to appear.
Death may overtake us, but our hope is not to die;
But be changed at Christ's appearing, in the twinkling of an eye.

Of that transforming moment, we're told in God's own Book,
And for that hope so blessed, the redeemed should ever look.
To reign with Christ in glory, is God's promise of reward
If we suffer while we're waiting, if we suffer for the Lord.

It will mean to miss earth's sorrows in the coming day of wrath;
How blessed then believers, who choose God's righteous path!
Oh what bliss eternal for sinners saved by grace!
No death, no sin, no sickness, when we behold His face.

Above with Christ the Saviour where joy shall never cease,
This the great salvation in the gospel of His peace.
Because the Lord of glory went to Calvary's tree;
Because He suffered there for sinners; died for you and me.

Christ's death is unavailing and his sacrifice for naught,

If you reject God's mercy, the redemption Christ has wrought.
Then why despise God's goodness and choose eternal grief,
Why neglect the great salvation and die in unbelief?

SAVED BY GRACE

In Christ believers rest secure,
Judgment passed and heaven sure;
No wrath to come; but blessed peace;
Life in Christ shall never cease.

Saved by grace; not what we do;
By faith in Christ we're creatures new.
Complete in Christ and with Him one,
In heaven seated with God's own Son.

He brought with Him the reign of grace;
In death He took the sinner's place;
God spared Him not, but from above
He sent to earth His Son of love.

Made of woman, God's own Child
Was holy, harmless, undefiled;
He knew no sin, but on the tree
He was made sin for you and me.

Thereby reconciling God to man,
Such is God's redemption plan;
Yea, Christ Himself redemption is,
All the work and glory His.

His precious blood for us was shed;
In the tomb Christ three days dead.
Death abolished; an empty grave;
By this gospel God can save.

Sinful man with law had failed,
But to the cross that law was nailed.
The Saviour put our sin away;
His sacrifice, our judgment-day.

Nothing in the flesh we own,
Abounding grace, and grace alone,
Hath made us meet for heaven above.
Rich God's mercy; great His love.

Redeemed forever in God's own way,
There's joy and blessing day by day
By knowing Christ as Saviour-Lord,
By daily feeding on God's Word.

By His Spirit led and taught
To do His will in word and thought;
Preaching Christ, the Truth, the Way,
Seeking those who've gone astray.

Holding forth His Word Divine,
Knowing God would have us shine
In this world so dark with sin,
Trying precious souls to win.

Beseeching men God's gift to take
And believe that God, for Jesus' sake,
Will cleanse, forgive and justify;
Christ's shed blood will bring them nigh.

And as we worship, pray and preach,
Serve and witness and beseech,
Contending for God's truth, his Book,
For that Blessed Hope we'll look.

In God's Book 'tis said, "we know"
When He appears His saints shall go
To be with Him and like Him be
Forever more His glory see.

GRACE CAME BY CHRIST

Christ came down from heaven to manifest God's grace,
To die for sin at Calvary, to take the sinner's place.
He was in the Father's bosom eternal Son Divine;
He left His home in glory to bear your guilt and mine.

He was born in Bethlehem's manger, called "the Holy Child,"
Conceived by the Holy Spirit, His nature undefiled.
As Wonderful and Counsellor, He was born for David's throne;
Born in David's family; He came unto His own.

He came as their Messiah, to deliver, to release;
He came with signs and wonders, as the promised Prince of Peace.

His own would not believe Him; they would not have Him reign;
But some who did receive Him were saved, were born again.

He was holy, harmless, sinless, without a single flaw;
But tried before His rulers as One Who broke the law.
They condemned the Lord of glory; the Prince of Life was killed;
It was God's plan and purpose; so the Scriptures were fulfilled.

They put Him in a sepulchre, as He Himself had said;
He foretold His resurrection; God raised Him from the dead.
He appeared to His disciples when he conquered death and grave;
He sent them forth to witness of a Saviour Who could save.

Then to heaven He ascended to sit on God's right hand;
The Spirit then descended the disciples to command.
Now in the Father's presence, Christ the Priest appears,
He is ever interceding; and the Father always hears.

Our living Intercessor in heaven never sleeps;
By Him our God forgives us; He loves, He cares, He keeps.
Because God's gifts and blessings by Christ are all secured,
Of uttermost salvation the believer is assured.

In Christ a new creation, old things have passed away;
In Christ no condemnation, no future judgment-day,
When prisoners will be sentenced by the Christ they will not trust,
If they meet Him not as Saviour, as Judge they surely must.

For our every task and trial God supplies the grace;
Abundant and sufficient for every single case.
We enjoy His peace and pardon; we manifest His love,
As we seek the Spirit's guidance and look to Him above.

Risen with our Saviour, from sin and death we're freed;
By the riches of God's glory, He supplies our every need.
In the midst of strife and turmoil, comfort, calm and rest;
Seated in the heavenlies, with heavenly riches blest.

Identified forever with God's beloved Son,
Members of His Body, Head and Body one.
Waiting for our Saviour to take His Church away,
For that day of transformation-called "redemption day."

We shall then appear in glory when Christ shall thus appear;
May He find us true and faithful, if He comes while we are here.
Or if we go by dying, God tells us in His Word,

That absent from the body is present with the Lord.

If with Christ we suffer, some day with Him we'll reign;
Our service for His glory will never be in vain.
Rewards and crowns are promised to those who share His shame,
Who love and serve the Saviour and gather in His name.

Are you outside God's family, unsaved, condemned and lost?
Surely you have considered all that sin has cost.
Why not come to Jesus, be saved in God's own way;
Know God's peace and pardon and a Happy Christmas Day?

THE KINGDOM AND THE BODY OF CHRIST

Down from the Father's bosom came the Father's Son;
Long the world had waited for the promised One.
Foretold by holy prophets, in time He came to earth:
They wrote of Him as Saviour, how and where His birth.
Conceived by the Holy Spirit, Christ that holy thing,
Was born of the virgin Mary, born as Israel's King.
He was born the seed of David, to take King David's throne;
To reign o'er the house of Jacob, the house He called His own.
And to that chosen nation His kingdom was proclaimed;
He healed the broken-hearted; He cured the sick and maimed.
He proved He was Messiah by miracle and sign,
The Second Man from heaven, both human and Divine.
But His works were unavailing, His pleadings all in vain;
His nation would not have Him, would not have Him reign.
So, despised, rejected, amid their scoffs and scorns,
They crowned Him not with glory but cruelly with thorns.
They delivered Him to Pilate to nail to Calvary's tree;
Pilate judged Him guiltless, and would have set Him free;
But Israel cried, "Barabbas," chose a murderer's release;
Then Pilate was persuaded to kill the Prince of Peace.
So Christ the sinless Saviour, suffered, bled and died;
The spotless Lamb was offered, as God had prophesied.
The Son of Man foretold it, for He knew His dying hour;
But surely He would rise again; He said, "I have that power."
Sin against the Son of man and my Father will forgive,
But not against the Spirit when in heaven I shall live.
Before Christ went to Calvary He told God's future plan
To send Him back to Israel; He would come as Son of man,
To restore to them their kingdom, to be their Judge and King,
Fulfilling all God's covenants, and subduing everything.
There o'er His holy city the weeping Saviour stood,

His people would He gather as a hen protects her brood.
But alas! that sinful nation would not have it so,
But chose for all their children judgment, wrath and woe.
But the dying Saviour loved them, and to His Father prayed;
God answered His "forgive them"; His judgment was delayed.
He spared their holy city; God let their temple stand;
He sent, from heaven the Spirit to witness in their land,
To convince them that Jesus whom they had crucified
Was their promised King, Messiah, in heaven glorified.
"It was ignorance," "be forgiven," was the message sent,
"The Prince of life you murdered," will you now repent?
Will Israel still reject Him, still God's mercy spurn?
The Son of man was standing; He was ready to return,
To usher in His kingdom; make their hopes come true;
Their glorious redemption, with all Israel born anew.
But the Spirit they resisted, refused the Son of man,
God gave them up to blindness, postponed His kingdom plan.
Paul pronounced God's judgment, and Israel lost her place;
Christ sent His new apostle with His message all of grace,
Revealed by Him from heaven for Gentiles sinful, dead,
Made members of Christ's Body, with Christ Himself the Head.
Brought nigh by the blood of Jesus, redeemed by grace alone;
No law, no works religious, for sin to help atone.
In the Beloved Son accepted, and in that Son complete,
Sealed by the Holy Spirit until Head and Body meet.
In Christ a new creation, wholly cleansed from guilt,
The Father's habitation, by the Spirit built.
In Christ no condemnation, completely justified;
With Him in death and burial, by faith identified;
Yea, in resurrection, His life to manifest,
Seated in the heavenlies, and in Christ Jesus blest
With every spiritual blessing, in that heavenly place;
Making to abound for us His all-sufficient grace.
Our God is rich in mercy: because of His great love
We are sharing all the riches of our blessed Lord above.
God's righteousness within us, because He was made sin;
Our blessed hope of glory, Christ Himself within.
Christ, our hope and boasting, our Lord, our life, our peace,
Shall soon appear in glory, and His glory shall not cease.
And we shall share that glory when we see His blessed face;
Then in our Saviour's kindness, we'll fully know God's grace;
Through ages, countless ages, in the presence of our Lord,
In bodies like His body we'll rejoice in faith's reward.
All our sorrows here forgotten, no more suffering, no more pain,
In the presence of our Saviour, with Him to live and reign.
While we wait for His appearing we would do His blessed will;

Yield our minds and members, let the Holy Spirit fill
And control our lives completely as we seek those things above
And Spirit-led, our labors will be mixed with faith and love.
So at this Christmas season, because in Him we live,
Our praise and adoration to Christ our Lord we'll give:
Praise Him for His coming to give us Christmas day,
For His birth and life and teaching, for putting sin away.
Because He still is saying, "I'll give My joy and peace
To all who will receive Me," and life that shall not cease.
As we exchange our greetings and wish each other well,
To those who know not Jesus we'll not forget to tell
Of God's great gift to sinners, His own begotten Son,
The gift of life eternal by the work on Calvary done.

NOTHING TO PAY

Nothing to pay! Yes, this is true,
There is nothing left for the sinner to do.
There's nothing to pay to earn God's love;
There's nothing to pay for a home above.
The sinner has nothing good within;
The sinner has nothing to pay for sin.

No human can keep God's holy law:
None can remove a single flaw.
God's debtors we are in our bankrupt state;
How can we pay a debt so great?
Apart from grace, though doing our best,
We find no pardon, peace or rest.

Christ came from heaven to die on the tree.
Eternal life! God's gift, is free;
For God hath accepted the work of His Son,
He saves guilty sinners by the work He has done.
God saves by grace, without good deeds;
Christ is all that the sinner needs!

This is the gospel so often we've heard,
The message of grace in God's own Word.
Why should a sinner think he can aid?
Why should he pay what Christ has paid?
No value is there in a human plan;
But Christ tasted death for every man.

No payment more will God require,

What more than Christ should man desire?
Complete in Christ and justified,
Forgiven, cleansed and sanctified.
Let us thank God for His infinite grace;
And the Saviour Who was willing to die in our place,

To die on the cross to put sin away,
Rejoicing to know there's nothing to pay.
The work of the Saviour we'll never forget;
Forever we'll praise Him for paying our debt.
We'll honor and praise Him, looking above,
Seeking each day to be filled with His love.

Yes, looking to Jesus, we'll run well the race,
Depending each day on God's wonderful grace.
God's Word is true; we're sure of reward
For all that is done in the name of the Lord.
Our labor in Jesus will not be in vain,
If we suffer for Jesus, in Him we will reign.

ANOTHER CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

From heaven's glory Christ came down to sinful men on earth.
We've reached another Christmas day to celebrate His birth;
Eternal God in human form, the virgin's holy Child:
The One of Whom the prophets wrote, the seed of woman undefiled.

Gabriel came to Mary's home God's message to proclaim,
To tell her of the Saviour's birth; to give to her His name
"Call Him Jesus," God's command; on David's throne he'll reign;
He'll save His people from their sin and Israel's right regain.

In Bethlehem's manger He came forth—Israel's glorious King.
The shepherds kept their flock by night and heard the angels sing:
"Peace on earth! Good will to men! Christ is born today."
The wise men came to see the King; God's star had led the way.

And there was born the Son of God Who lived in Israel's land,
Who came to earth to do God's will—all that God had planned.
Christ came to set the captive free, give Satan's slaves release,
He spake the Word of God to men, brought comfort, health and peace.

By word and work Christ proved his claim; His right to David's throne.
But Israel said, "He shall not reign"—rejected they the Stone.
In the garden Christ was found, and by Judas there betrayed.

Before the rulers He was led, in purple robe arrayed.

Crowned with thorns they hailed Him king, in derision and disgrace;
They hated Him without a cause; they spat upon His face.
Pilate found no fault in Him, desired to set Him free:
His rulers cried, "We'll take the blame! nail Him to the tree."

So the Lord of glory died; but He suffered not in vain.
Not only was His death foretold; but He must rise again.
No other way could God be just and sinful men forgive;
The penalty by Christ was paid! By faith the just shall live.

Eternal life is God's free gift through Jesus Christ our Lord.
And when we're saved, God gives us work with promise of reward.
And as we worship, serve and wait until we hear the call
We know our labor's not in vain; for God remembers all.

He gives us grace for every day to serve by word and deed;
He keeps us by His power Divine; supplies our every need.
The riches of our blessed Lord are enjoyed by every one
Who will obey the Word of God and abide in Christ His Son.

By His Spirit we are sealed until redemption day.
Then the Lord Himself shall come and take
His saints away. In heaven we shall then appear, in bodies glorified;
All living saints who still remain and all the saints who've died.

We'll sing a new redemption song when we reach that happy place;
Ever with our Lord we'll be, as sinners saved by grace.
Tears and crying will all be o'er; no death and never night;
Eternal day for God's redeemed; forever pure delight.

At this Christmas season then, as we give to those we love,
Let our hearts be fixed on Him Who lives for us above.
If this message reaches one, who's not yet saved from sin,
Why not take God's Christmas Gift and let the Saviour in?

THE WONDERFUL STORY

'Tis a wonderful story; the Son of God's love,
Left Father and glory, came down from above.
What story stranger has ever been heard,
Christ in the manger, the Incarnate Word?

Conceived by the Spirit, God's holy Child

No sin could inherit, He was born undefiled;
Born as no other, brought forth in a shed,
A virgin His mother, as the prophets had said.

He came to His nation, their Messiah and King,
To a groaning creation glad tidings to bring.
As the prophets predicted, the Lord Jesus came
To heal the afflicted, the sick, and the lame.

Christ's word spoken, healed body and soul,
Hearts that were broken by Him made whole;
Those who were sighing were made to rejoice,
The dead and the dying arose at His voice.

He preached to the hardened, the poor and oppressed,
He delivered and pardoned the demon-possessed.
This wonderful Preacher came down from above
In the form of a creature to tell of God's love.

In mercy and kindness He pleaded in vain,
The rulers in blindness would not have Him reign.
This He knew and expected, for God had a plan;
So Israel rejected the Divine Son of man.

Judas betrayed Him as the prophets had told,
The murderers paid him, so the Saviour was sold.
Simon Peter denied Him the night of the feast,
Unjustly they tried Him, the rulers and priest.

The disciples forsook Him, the mob was at hand;
To Pilate they took Him, His death to demand.
He said of the Saviour, according to law,
In His speech and behaviour I find not a flaw.

But the rulers insisted that He die on the tree;
Christ never resisted, for He knew it must be.
God did not save Him, when His beloved Son cried,
For sinners He gave Him; forsaken, Christ died.

Before Adam's creation, before evil was done,
God purposed salvation by the death of His Son;
So the Saviour was smitten, as the prophets had said,
And as it was written-He arose from the dead.

From the mount He ascended, to His Father He went;
The Spirit descended, from heaven was sent;

The sinner's redemption none other could pay,
Not a single exemption—there's no other way.

But despite man's condition, whatever he's done,
God offers remission in the blood of His Son.
All his sins are forgiven, and then after this
All the blessings of heaven and unending bliss.

No man can alter God's own revealed way;
Why do men falter, why doubt and delay?
What a gracious provision, yet many are lost.
What's your decision? Have you counted the cost?

THE ETERNAL CHRIST

Before the heavens were above, when there was no land nor sea,
The object of God's holy love was the Christ of Calvary.
He is called the Lord of glory; He called Himself "I AM."
In God's Book is told the story of Christ the spotless Lamb.

In the Father's bosom treasured dwelt the well beloved Son;
In mutual love unmeasured, before sin's work was done.
By the Son came God's creation; by Him were all things made;
Yes, this world's foundation by God, the Son, was laid.

Before Adam left the garden in ruin and disgrace,
God planned the sinner's pardon, the redemption of the race.
God would bestow His favor, would manifest His love;
Christ would come as Saviour down from heaven above.

Prophets were anointed to foretell the Saviour's birth;
Men by God appointed said He'd come to earth.
While they were prophesying that the Saviour would be sent,
Men in sin were dying; God called them to repent.

God's mercy some receiving, as they took the sinner's place,
His promises believing, in his sight found pardoning grace;
Waiting the appearing of the Lord, the woman's Seed,
At last the time was nearing for His birth, God's mighty deed.

To nature's law contrary, the Redeemer born to earth:
The angel came to Mary to proclaim His virgin birth.
Within the Jewish nation, under the Jewish law,
The Lord of all creation was made without a flaw.

Jesus came revealing His Father's love and will
 With blessings and with healing, the Scripture to fulfill,
Such mighty deeds of kindness on earth were never known,
 Neither greater blindness than He found among His own.

Their Messiah was expected on David's throne to reign;
 But first to be rejected and then to come again.
His credentials He presented, did in vain with Israel plead;
 O'er their city He lamented, because they would not heed.

Without a cause they hated Gods' holy sinless Son,
 In the Scriptures God had stated all that would be done;
How Judas would betray Him, his own Messiah sell;
 Thirty pieces they would pay him and send his soul to hell.

As the angry rulers sought Him, Judas led the way;
 In Gethsemane they caught Him where He had gone to pray.
His disciples there forsook Him; then Peter cursed, denied.
 To Israel's priests they took Him; He was unjustly tried.

Falsely they accused Him, hired witnesses appeared;
 Without mercy they abused Him, they ridiculed and jeered.
They hailed Him in derision, put thorns upon His head;
 When they came to no decision before Pilate he was led.

Pilate was outspoken in his verdict to the throng;
 No law by Christ was broken, Christ had done no wrong.
The Lord not once resisted; His time was now at hand;
 His enemies insisted and Pilate gave command.

That Israel's King rejected be nailed to Calvary's tree,
 The heathen judge objected, but yielded to their plea.
By the soldiers Christ was taken from Pilate's judgment hall;
 By God He was forsaken, as he died without the wall.

His sinless life was given; Christ was three days dead:
 That sinners might reach heaven His precious blood was shed.
What a price for man's redemption! What a debt for Christ to pay!
 For none is there exemption from God's true and living way.

His body was requested by a rich and righteous friend;
 In Joseph's tomb it rested, but the rest was soon to end.
For after His rejection and His death on Calvary's tree,
 Must come His resurrection-----all by God's decree.

So came the day and hour God rolled away the stone;

Christ came forth in mighty power in the form of flesh and bone.
Death no interruption for Christ, the Second Man;
For His body no corruption in God's holy will and plan.

He appeared to the Eleven and gave them His command;
Then ascended up to heaven, where He sits at God's right hand.
He is ever interceding for sinners saved by grace
As Advocate, He's pleading; He has never lost a case.

In God's Book is found the story of the coming of the Lord,
To take His own to glory to receive their sure reward.
The blessed hope is nearing some will "never die,"
For at the Lord's appearing, He'll call His saints on high.

God tells the unbeliever of the place that he must go,
With Satan, the deceiver, to that place of awful woe.
Some reject God's favor, to Calvary not a budge,
Refusing Christ as Saviour, they must deal with Christ as Judge.

You are still among the living, this is still the day of grace;
At this Christmas time of giving; why not take the sinner's place,
Let the Lord give you salvation; let Christ be born in you:
Then in Christ, a new creation, you'll enjoy a Christmas true.

THE HOUSE OF GOD

God's building a house, a Temple Divine;
Not a temple of stone, nor an earthly shrine;
Not a building of brick, with a steeple and dome,
But a spiritual House, called God's Home.

The Body of Christ this House is named,
By the Spirit of God this House is framed;
A place on earth for God to dwell;
Christ gave to Paul this Truth to tell.

God's purpose in grace, His eternal plan,
The fulness of Christ, called "the One New Man";
The Mystery of God for centuries sealed,
Unknown, untold; but at last revealed.

Christ told it to Paul, unto Paul alone;
Now the Secret was his, to make it known.
In the heavens above, Christ has His seat;
There to remain till His Body's complete.

A Structure of men, of women, yea, all
Who hear God's voice and obey His call;
Called out by Him from the human race,
Chosen in Christ and redeemed by grace.

By faith alone in God's holy Son,
Because of His work on Calvary done;
In the Saviour Christ they are creatures new,
Dead with Christ and buried too;

Risen with Him who is far above;
Redeemed by His blood, God's mercy and love;
Complete in Christ, God's risen Son,
This company of saints, with Him, are one.

One spirit, one flesh, saved and secure;
The foundation of God is standing sure;
Joined to Christ, Head over all,
The Mystery of God revealed to Paul.

This Secret Divine, this Truth profound,
Was told by Paul, the prisoner bound,
For telling this Truth the jail was his home,
But he continued to tell it from his cell in Rome.

"Pray," wrote Paul, "yea, God implore
For an open mouth and an open door;
That this glorious Truth all men may see,
This secret of God revealed to me.

The unity will come, 'tis the Father's plan,
The Stature of Christ, the perfect Man;
The Capstone of Truth, to complete God's Word
By saints, today, is seldom heard.

As builders with God, by His wisdom and might,
Let us study His Word, and divide it aright,
As He completes His Church, His Temple Divine,
The House of God, your home and mine.

CHRIST AND REDEMPTION

Christ came down from glory, from His heavenly home above,
Strange and wondrous story, to tell His Father's love;

God in Man our Saviour, see what sin has cost,
The expression of God's favor, grace for sinners lost.

God so high and holy, dwelling here on earth,
As man so meek and lowly, born of humble birth.
The story is astounding, such love was never known;
Unmeasured grace abounding, such mercy never shown.

Step by step behold Him, in message, sign and deed,
He is as prophets told Him; He is the promised Seed.
He proved His claim fulfilling God's prophetic word
But found His race unwilling to crown Him King and Lord.

Behold the Saviour dealing with the sick, the blind, the lame;
By such miracles of healing He proved His heavenly claim.
He raised the dead and dying, brought Lazarus from the grave;
He fed by multiplying, stopped wind and boisterous wave.

The devil was defeated, thrice the tempter pled,
The sinless Christ repeated, "it is written;" Satan fled.
But all his hatred centered upon God's holy Son,
And he with murder entered into the chosen one.

Could any crime be greater, none that yet's been told;
The One who was Creator, for thirty pieces sold?
Behold the Man of Sorrows in a world of unbelief,
Mocking, insults, horrors; surely He knew grief.

In the garden pleading that the cup from Him might fall;
From the garden bleeding, led to Pilate's hall;
The reed and robe of mocking; the cruel crown of thorns,
To the holy One how shocking their treachery and scorns.

A heathen judge presiding for God's own chosen race,
A priest-led mob deciding the sinless Saviour's case.
"No fault," from Pilate hearing, "why not let Him go?"
And Pilate's wife is fearing, and says it must be so.

But the angry mob demands it, He must be crucified,
The Roman judge commands it, and so the Saviour died.
But God had foreordained it, Christ died for sinful man;
Christ Himself explained it, it was the Father's plan.

My blood is for remission to take man's sin away,
This is the one condition the sinner must obey.
This precious blood was given, God's redemption price;

Our only hope of heaven, the Saviour's sacrifice.

God's justice did demand it, our sins on Christ be laid;
We may not understand it, but peace by Christ was made.
The prophets had foretold Him as victor o'er the grave;
If death and hell could hold Him, how could Christ then save?

Christ received man's wages to bring Him to His goal,
Throughout eternal ages, his body and his soul.
The Father could not save Him, and save the sinner too;
So in love He gave Him; no other one would do.

Satan was defeated; Christ from death arose;
In heaven He is seated, waiting till his foes
In all of God's creation shall receive their just reward
In the coming indignation, the reign of Christ the Lord.

Before His wrath appearing, in the twinkling of an eye,
Perhaps the day is nearing, when descending from the sky,
All the saints will greet Him, caught up in the air;
In heavenly bodies meet Him, and then His glory share.

And in that land supernal, in the mansions Christ foretold;
We'll enjoy our home eternal; none missing from the fold.
His love and grace and kindness in riches will be shown,
Nor will the Lord be mindless to recompense His own.

RESURRECTION AND THEREAFTER

Resurrection day is coming, the time is drawing nigh;
When the blessed Lord of Glory shall leave His throne on high.
The voice of the archangel, the shout, the trumpet's blare;
The saints shall be all gathered to meet Him in the air.

The saints asleep in Jesus shall first be glorified;
A day of glad reunion with our loved ones who have died.
Yes, all the saints remaining who never are to die
Shall be changed and rise together in the twinkling of an eye.

To be fashioned like our Saviour; for like Him we shall be,
With bodies like His Body, when our blessed Lord we see.
"The blessed hope," God calls this, and bids us watch and pray,
Waiting in our bondage for that redemption day.

To appear with Christ in glory when Christ shall thus appear,

Is God's gracious promise for all who hold Him dear.
Saved from the world's great sorrow, the judgment of this earth;
The wrath of God in blood-shed, in pestilence and dearth.

Blessed are they and holy whom God shall thus reward
In that resurrection glory at the coming of the Lord.
A thousand years of earthly reign, then unnumbered ages more;
A never-ending life of bliss with our Saviour to adore.

As for those who have no Saviour, where shall they appear?
The second death awaits them, God's word is very clear.
And at the white throne judgment they'll hear their awful fate,
So sinner, rush to Jesus, before it is too late.

Christ will save and keep you and when He comes again
You also shall be raptured and forever with Him reign
In a resurrection body, the heavenly image bear,
Throughout eternal ages His heavenly glory share.

So while we wait for Jesus, we must witness, work and warn,
And when the night is over and we see Him in the morn
We'll receive the crown rejoicing, His, benediction hear,
At Christ's seat of judgment for saints must there appear.

We'll not be there for judgment for the sin for which He died,
But for our deeds and motives, to have our labours tried.
There is no condemnation for those in Christ the Lord,
But for true and faithful service there is a sure reward.

For every persecution which we suffered for His sake,
For every self-denial, every sacrifice we make,
We'll surely be rewarded, if in everything our aim
Has been to honour Jesus, to bring glory to His name.

Compare our present sufferings with what shall then be known
In eternal glory when the Lord is with His own.
So comfort then each other, any moment Christ may come,
And in another moment we will reach our heavenly home.

THE LORD'S PRISONER

Many years ago, in a prison cell
Sat an aged man, as the Scriptures tell.
In far away Rome, in Caesar's time,
He was there in jail, with men of crime.

That man of God no wrong had done;
He had broken no law, not even one.
"The prisoner of Christ," the Scriptures call
This aged man, the apostle Paul.

In jail for Christ, and willing to die,
From his prison home he wrote us why;
Why he suffered the criminal's chain,
Why his suffering was not in vain.

For though the apostle has long been dead,
His prison Epistles by many are read.
There's wonderful news for the human race
In these letters of Paul about God's grace.

God's purpose and grace for sinful man,
Purposed in Christ ere the world began.
Before Adam was made God planned it all,
This is the message given to Paul.

A message for heathen abounding in sin,
Dead in trespasses, no hope within;
Abiding in darkness, lusts of all kinds,
The god of this age blinding their minds.

Strangers and aliens from God's chosen race
Were saved and accepted wholly by grace;
Washed by the blood of Christ crucified
Justified freely, by God sanctified.

Brought into God's family, heirs with God's Son,
With the remnant of Israel, all were made one.
One in Christ Jesus raised from the dead,
All joined together and joined to the Head.

One Head and one Body called by His Name,
One hope of glory, one faith and one claim.
One flesh and one Spirit, one baptism too,
This is God's doings, His creation new.

Risen and seated with Christ far above,
Blessed with His riches, His unmeasured love.
Sharing His suffering while they remain here;
Promised His glory when Christ shall appear.

Changed in a moment, by Christ caught away,
God's Spirit the earnest till that glorious day.
Redemption day's coming; Christ shall descend;
Saints will be raptured; the age of grace end.

This secret of God for centuries sealed,
This mystery of Christ to Paul revealed.
No one had mentioned, no one had heard
This secret Divine completing God's Word.

The prophets of Israel told of the King,
But of Christ and His Body—not one thing.
They knew and they wrote of God's kingdom plan,
But not one word of the "One New Man."

Christ in the glory filleth all in all,
This was the message given to Paul.
The Church is the fulness of God's holy Son,
A glorious Church when His work is all done.

No wrinkle, no blemish, no spot in that day,
Every such thing shall be taken away;
God will finish the work He began,
The fulness of Christ, "the Perfect Man."

This truth long hidden no longer should be;
God wants His children this secret to see.
God wants His servants this secret to tell,
This wrote Paul from his prison cell.

Paul earnestly longed to have it told
He asked for prayers to make him bold;
To open his mouth that he might explain
The truth for which he suffered in chain.

For open doors saints were to pray,
But few were opened in the apostle's day.
This glorious truth after all these years
The child of God' very seldom hears.

There are religious creeds and sects galore;
But God still waits for an open door;
For faithful stewards, who are not ashamed
To preach this truth that Paul proclaimed.

Let us suffer with Paul, if suffer we must,

Committed to us is this sacred trust,
Paul's deposit from Christ, the mystery,
Which God still wants all saints to see.

WHEN I SAY GOODBYE

When to this world I say goodbye,
Whether Christ shall come or I shall die;
I shall not fear my future state,
Nor yet resign myself to fate;
'Tis neither boast nor carnal pride,
Nor natural worth I have inside;
My trust is not in human creeds,
Nor in my good religious deeds.

If man, by works, could heaven gain,
Then 'tis true, Christ died in vain.
There was no power on earth could save,
Nor offer hope beyond the grave.
Salvation is from heaven above;
God's Book declares that God is love.
God loved the world and sent His Son
To die for sinners, for every one.

Christ tasted death for every man:
It was God's own redemption plan.
On Calvary's cross the debt was paid,
For there on Christ our sins were laid.
In death the Saviour bowed His head,
There His precious blood was shed.
God has for sin no other cure.
By Christ's shed blood the way is sure.

When Christ had put our sin away,
In Joseph's tomb His body lay.
But on the third day Christ arose
To conquer thereby all His foes.
Then He ascended through the sky
To take His Father's throne on high;
Now in the Father's presence there
Unceasing is the Saviour's prayer.

Still He prays, "All Thine are Mine,"
Forever kept by power Divine.
Christ promised to prepare a place

For all who will receive His grace.
Some day the age of grace will end;
The Lord from heaven shall descend.
The dead in Christ will hear the shout,
And from their graves they will come out.

The living saints shall with them rise,
And meet the Saviour in the skies;
And we shall then His glory see,
And like the Saviour we shall be.
When we reach our heavenly home,
Throughout the ages yet to come,
God's grace in Christ the saints shall know,
For God has promised this to show.

Eternal life, God's gift, is free,
'Tis all by grace for you and me.
So in God's Word I rest my case,
Trusting His unfailing grace.
God cannot lie, His Word is sure;
And in His Son I am secure,
Because Christ's work has satisfied,
And by that work I'm justified.

God has pardoned every sin;
My hope of glory, Christ within.
I am prepared my God to meet,
For in His Son I am complete,
And sealed unto redemption day,
So if by death, or I'm caught away,
I shall not fear my future state,
But, loving Christ, I'll serve and wait.