



The Words Of Jesus

**The Sermon on the Mount
in poetic verse**

Richard Hindmarsh

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In
Poetic Verse**

Richard A. Hindmarsh, MD



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INTRODUCTION

This poetry book, "The Words of Jesus," is an exploration and celebration of the Sermon on the Mount—a collection of verses that seeks to breathe new life into the profound teachings imparted by Jesus. Just as the sun bathes the mountaintop in its warm embrace, these poems aspire to bathe the reader's consciousness in the radiant light of wisdom, love, and compassion that permeates the Sermon.

Within these pages, you will find verses that paint vivid landscapes of divine truth, unveiling the profound depth and relevance of these ancient teachings in our modern world. Through carefully crafted words, each poem aims to invite you on a transformative journey—a pilgrimage of the heart and mind—wherein the timeless wisdom of Jesus' sermon resonates with new meaning and significance.

Poetry, with its lyrical cadence and vivid imagery, possesses a unique ability to capture the essence of profound ideas and distill them into moments of timely reflection

As you delve into these verses, allow yourself to be transported to that sacred mountaintop. Feel the gentle breeze of spiritual awakening brush against your cheek, and let the words embrace your soul, inviting you to dwell in the depths of divine love, grace, and mercy. Through contemplation and meditation on these poems, may you discover new insights, kindle the flame of spiritual growth, and embark on a transformative journey toward a life aligned with the teachings of the Sermon on the Mount.

May the verses within this collection serve as a testament to the enduring power and timeless relevance of the Sermon on the Mount. May they echo in the chambers of your heart, forever reminding you of the divine truths that illuminate the path to inner peace, righteousness, and God's boundless love.

And seeing the multitudes, He went up on a mountain, and when He was seated His disciples came to Him. Then He opened His mouth and taught them, saying:

Matthew 5:1-2

Would You Have Listened?

Would you have listened
The sermon was brief,
To a people in bondage
A message of release.

Two thousand words
Only a quarter hour,
No speech before
Had such great power.

To the crowd that gathered
They didn't care much,
What they were after
Was a healing touch.

For the few that listened
And took it to heart,
His words were transforming
Giving life a new start.

But much of the crowd
Would later scorn and mock,
And send Him to the cross
With their angry talk.

Would you have listened
Would your heart beat anew,
Would you be counted
As one of the faithful few?

And seeing the multitudes, He went up on a mountain, and when He was seated His disciples came to Him. Then He opened His mouth and taught them, saying:

Matthew 5:1-2

Blessings And Curses

To be happy and blessed
Is what we desire,
Not sad and cursed
And stuck in the mire.

All blessings received
They come from above,
Delivered when needed
By the God of love.

He comforts those mourning
When they are so sad,
And shows mercy to sinners
When they have been bad.

He gives peace and comfort
To those who are meek,
And satisfies the longs
Of all those who seek.

If your heart is pure
He will give you sight,
To see His workings
As you follow His light.

If you feel cursed
In what do you trust?
If you just trust in yourself
Your blessings will rust.

Blessed are the poor in spirit, For theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Matthew 5:3

Cursed Are The Boastful

Self-righteousness is foolish
Like the paper that you flush,
Not the neat and tidy
But the one covered with your stuff.

They look for a public stage
A place to beat their chest,
For deep down inside
They think that they're the best.

But contentment is not gained
In the promotion of yourself,
God must be first
Leave your pride on the shelf.

When you hear your ego shouting
"I can do it on my own,"
You'll be courting curses
And your heart will turn to stone.

So, if you want God's blessing
And have heaven for a home,
You must crucify your ego
And He will grant shalom.

It's the humble and the lowly
Who receive His peace and rest,
They are the ones who are happy
Knowing He is the best.

Blessed are those who mourn, For they shall be comforted.

Matthew 5:4

Cursed Are The Hard-hearted

Their hearts are hard
Encased in ice,
They may be mean
Or they may be nice.

They show no care
For the wrongs they've done,
The hurt they cause others
They define as fun.

Remorse and contrition
Are not on their path,
And if you cross them
You will face their wrath.

The comfort they value
Is kept in a shell,
That surrounds their heart
On the highway to hell.

But God promises a peace
A comfort that's real,
If you mourn over sin
And to Him you appeal.

For our hearts are corrupt
And for this we should mourn,
Then God in His mercy
Will remove the thorn.

Blessed are the meek, For they shall inherit the earth.

Matthew 5:5

Cursed Are The Defiant

Cursed are the defiant
They are bad to the bone,
Rebels without a purpose
See their parents groan.

They are brash and inconsiderate
And will fight with all they've got,
To steal your peace and treasure
Yet, rarely getting caught.

They use their might and power
Ignoring all alerts,
To get what they desire
Even if it hurts.

The curse that they do carry
In spite of all they've tried,
Is no matter what their lot
They are never satisfied.

But God has made a promise
To the gentle and the meek,
For He is the great provider
To anyone who will seek.

For the earth and sky above us
To Him they all belong,
And if you are His child
He'll never do you wrong.

*Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,
For they shall be filled.*

Matthew 5:6

Cursed Are The Covetous

Cursed are the covetous
They hunger for more stuff,
And even when they get it
It never is enough.

They feel they are deserving
Entitled to it all,
For they are oh so special
And all others are so small.

Their hunger is never satisfied
Their thirst is never quenched,
Driven by greed and jealousy
And envy that's entrenched.

Some are seeking fortune
Some are seeking fame,
And even if they get it
They live in a constant pain.

For you cannot fill a void
That only God can fill,
No matter what your fortune
No matter what your skill.

But to those who remain hungry
For what He has to give,
They will find a filling
And a brand new way to live.

Blessed are the merciful, For they shall obtain mercy.

Matthew 5:7

Cursed Are The Malevolent

Cursed are the malevolent
Who live to cause you pain,
Revenge to them is tasty
And spite is seen as gain.

They have no felt compassion
For struggles others face,
Don't expect them to show mercy
Or offer an ounce of grace.

They love to stir up trouble
Leaving anguish in their path,
And if you show them mercy
They will show you wrath.

They see others as deserving
Of the misery they are in,
To help a struggling neighbor
They would see as sin.

But God has given a promise
To those who have a heart,
That if they are compassionate
His mercy He'll impart.

We all have need for mercy
Forgiveness from the Lord,
Be conscious of the plight of others
Don't let their anguish be ignored.

Blessed are the pure in heart, For they shall see God.

Matthew 5:8

Cursed Are The Depraved

Cursed are the wicked and perverted
The ones who are depraved,
Who glory in their evil
To which they are enslaved.

Their conscious is seared
With no felt guilt or shame,
If they are caught in a fault
They are quick to blame.

The god that they seek
They hold in their hand,
Under their full control
Responsive to their demand.

They don't value life
Or the plight of the lame,
They growl and mock
And call you a name.

But to those who are holy
Whose hearts are pure,
The God of creation
To them will appear.

Keep your desires and affections
In a heart that's sincere,
Be pleasing to the Lord
And to you He'll appear.

*Blessed are the peacemakers, For they shall be called sons
of God.*

Matthew 5:9

Cursed Are The Contentious

Cursed are the contentious
The ones who live to fight,
The ones who love to bully
While claiming they are right.

Their tempers are so sour
Their expectations high,
Serve them just right
Or surely, you will die.

They take what you do
Then mix in a lie,
To twist your motives
And make you comply.

They share all their poison
With everyone they meet,
Stab you in the back
Or make you obsolete.

But God has a promise
To the workers of peace,
Who will pay the great cost
For fighting to cease.

If you live to make peace
And not wield a sword,
You will be called His child
This is the greatest reward.

Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, For theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Matthew 5:10

Cursed Is The Acquiescent

Cursed is the acquiescent
Who live by compromise,
Cowardice is their motto
And fear is their demise.

Their faith remains well hidden
Behind a wall of pride,
And they live a life of turmoil
When faith and fear collide.

Conflict is felt as evil
They need to be thought of well,
Their convictions are quite fickle
On their path to hell.

With no substance, spine, or fortitude
They really are a mess,
Plagued with guilt and shame
In a space of constant stress.

But to those with faith and courage
Your life will not be calm,
You will face scorn and ridicule
From the godless throng.

To you God has given a promise
A home for eternity,
A dwelling in His kingdom
And part of a holy fraternity.

All humanity, every one of us, is vile and corrupt! So disgusting and immoral that Jesus Christ had to come to earth and suffer a horrific death to save us from ourselves. Take time to think about that!

The Un-beatitudes

Set aside all pretense
Be honest and sincere,
Abolish self-deception
And you will see more clear.

We're all just wicked children
Rotten to the core,
Void of worth and goodness
Always wanting more.

We are depraved in our very essence
Contentious in how we relate,
Malevolent in our charity
Defiant and full of hate.

We are boastful towards God and others
Hard-hearted when faced with proof,
Covetous in our lusting
And acquiescent regarding the truth.

But the God of grace and mercy
Provided us a way,
To live a life of blessing
If Him we do obey.

God grants us many blessings
That are His to freely serve,
Through the work of His Son
Blessings we don't deserve.

Blessed are you when they revile and persecute you, and say all kinds of evil against you falsely for My sake. Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for great is your reward in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

Matthew 5:11-12

Scorned And Mocked

Scorned and mocked
And under attack,
If you live for the Lord
You'll have a target on your back.

They will twist the truth
With evil intent,
And speak it to others
To cause you torment.

They will drag your name
Through the dirt and mud,
And when you are present
Act like your bud.

The trust that you built
With toil and pain,
Will be called into question
And used for their gain.

Don't be discouraged
Or cower in fear,
The God who loves you
He is always near.

So when you are scorned
Do not be sad,
For there is a prize in heaven
That should make you glad.

You are the salt of the earth; but if the salt loses its flavor, how shall it be seasoned? It is then good for nothing but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot by men.

Matthew 5:13

Bland Faith

When salt has lost its flavor
Everything tastes bland,
Why would you want to keep it
When it tastes like sand.

For the way that you live
And the words that you speak,
Should bring peace to your world
If you are humble and meek.

The God that you serve
Will be seen for sure,
If you show mercy
And your heart is pure.

When the wicked around you
Hit you in the chin,
Do what is righteous
As you mourn over sin.

God has given you gifts
For you to share,
With a world in pain
To show them His care.

Share freely your salt
No matter the cost,
Deliver His message
To the world that is lost.

*You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill
cannot be hidden.*

Matthew 5:14

It's Cold And Dark

The day is cold and dark
The air is filled with deception's smoke,
And if you try to run and hide
You will begin to choke.

Under the cloak of darkness
Deception reigns supreme,
Confusion is the norm
Things are not what they seem.

Ignorance, sin and misery
Flourish in the night,
When darkness covers all
Everything's a fright.

When all is dark and dreary
It doesn't take much light,
To see the path more clearly
Causing great delight.

A city on a hillside
Even in the night,
Can guide a weary traveler
With its distant light.

If you live to serve the Master
Your life will be a light,
To those who live in the darkness
An answer to their plight.

Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house.

Matthew 5:15

A Well-Lit House

God has given you a treasure
From His Spirit and His Word,
A light to share with others
A message to be heard.

So, let that light shine brightly
Through all you do and say,
Don't hide it in a corner
Put it on display.

You never know who's watching
Or needing a ray of light,
For we live in a darkened world
Full of pain and fright.

Be patient and forgiving
Be kind to those you meet,
To those within your household
Don't let the light deplete.

Be humble and not bitter
When offenses come your way,
Live a life of purity
Be careful what you say.

Live a life defined by gratitude
For He has saved your soul,
And given you a light
And the path to become whole.

Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

Matthew 5:16

The Light Of His Love

His love is a light bright shining
Beauty it does reveal,
In wonders and miraculous
A beauty you can feel.

His love is a light bright shining
Showing you His plan,
When you believe you can't
His whispers say you can.

His love is a light bright shining
Sending a message to your heart,
That He is the one who loves you
And knew you from the start.

His love is a light bright shining
Giving you a home,
A place of His selection
Never again to roam.

His love is a light bright shining
In a dark and twisted world,
Look for Him this moment
His banner has been unfurled.

His love is a light bright shining
More than a little spark,
For His love is a light bright shining
Dispelling all the dark.

Do not think that I came to destroy the Law or the Prophets. I did not come to destroy but to fulfill.

Matthew 5:17

Letter And Spirit

Rules and laws are needed
In a land of untamed hearts,
A land where greed is master
Amid a flock of poisoned darts.

Freedom is not living
In a land devoid of law,
Where boundaries do not matter
And weakness is a flaw.

Our God is never changing
And the rules He did give,
To us should be a blessing
The righteous way to live.

But His law must be internal
Coming from the heart,
Not just seen in actions
Without the inner part.

He came and died to save us
To renew us from within,
And through His grace and mercy
Remove the stain of sin.

To love God and your neighbor
With a heart that's renewed,
Is the law of the Master
For sin to be subdued.

*For assuredly, I say to you, till heaven and earth pass away,
one jot or one tittle will by no means pass from the law till all
is fulfilled.*

Matthew 5:18

The Bar Is Set

The bar has not been lowered
In this age of grace,
Acts and thoughts still matter
And sin still has a face.

God's Word remains established
As the measure for our soul,
His code has not eroded
It remains a righteous goal.

It gives us instruction
About who we are,
Creatures of corruption
Who've wandered afar.

We've wandered from His purpose
We've wandered from His plan,
We're stubborn and rebellious
Getting all we can.

But if we seek Him daily
And are humble when we pray,
His Word will have new meaning
He will show us His way.

The way to life eternal
Freedom from our past,
A righteous way of living
And a purpose that will last.

Whoever therefore breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches men so, shall be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does and teaches them, he shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I say to you, that unless your righteousness exceeds the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, you will by no means enter the kingdom of heaven.

Matthew 5:19-20

We Are All Teachers

God's moral law is binding
More eternal than the sun,
He calls us to be teachers
Proclaiming everyone.

It is not a code of merit
Or just a righteous act,
It must come from deep inside you
Your heart it must impact.

Don't take this mission lightly
Or run away in fear,
Be a righteous teacher
Make His message clear.

Teach them with your speaking
And how you live your life,
What you do with blessings
And how you handle strife.

So open up the pages
Of His living Word,
Listen for the Spirit
His whispers will be heard.

Be a faithful servant
Be humble in your walk,
Teach His way to others
He is taking stalk.

You have heard that it was said to those of old, 'You shall not murder, and whoever murders will be in danger of the judgment.' But I say to you that whoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment. And whoever says to his brother, 'Raca!' shall be in danger of the council. But whoever says, 'You fool!' shall be in danger of hell fire.

Matthew 5:21-22

Murderer

Indignation is never righteous
If it's intent is to destroy,
Or if mocking and scorning
Are actions you enjoy.

You'll be convicted as a murderer
In God's holy court,
For the anger in your heart
And the truth you did distort.

Don't let offenses have the power
To awaken all your pride,
Giving birth to anger
That stirs you from inside.

For angry vengeful thoughts
Quickly turn to hate,
And soon you will be standing
Knocking on hell's gate.

So when you are offended
Guard your heart and mind,
Ask the Lord to change you
And peace you will find.

Don't forget that others
Even if they're mean,
Bear His holy image
Though it can't be seen.

Therefore if you bring your gift to the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar, and go your way. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift.

Matthew 5:23-24

Apology

Don't lose your soul
To save your face,
When you offend
Plead your case.

Be quick to own
The wrong you've done,
Don't drag your feet
It's a time to run.

Keep your apology simple
Not a long discourse,
State your part
And don't use force.

If on the way to church
Your heart is stirred,
Change your course
To speak a humble word.

Simply state your offense
And don't place blame,
On anything else
To reduce your shame.

Return to worship
With a heart renewed,
For you have done your part
To resolve a feud.

Agree with your adversary quickly, while you are on the way with him, lest your adversary deliver you to the judge, the judge hand you over to the officer, and you be thrown into prison. Assuredly, I say to you, you will by no means get out of there till you have paid the last penny.

Matthew 5:25-26

Resolution

When you owe a debt
Be quick to pay,
This is not the time
For a long delay.

For if you wait too long
That debt you owe,
Will not stay small
It will start to grow.

And the wrongs you've done
To friend or foe,
Just like the debt
They tend to grow.

So seize the chance
Without delay,
To resolve the wrong
This very day.

For the time will come
If you wait too long,
That you will lose the chance
To resolve the wrong.

But if you still have breath
It is not too late,
So pay that debt
And remove the weight.

You have heard that it was said to those of old, 'You shall not commit adultery.' But I say to you that whoever looks at a woman to lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart.

Matthew 5:27-28

Lustful Eye

Guard your heart
And guard your eye,
If you look with lust
What you have will die.

If there is lust in your eye
It will rot your soul,
And the price you'll pay
Will be a great toll.

Lust will not mend
Your broken heart,
It will hijack your mind
Then rip it apart.

A lustful eye
And wonton desire,
May start as a spark
But now your house is on fire.

In the eyes of the Lord
They are just the same,
The thought or the act
Have the same name.

So seek the Lord
Be pure and wise,
And don't let your heart
Follow your eyes.

If your right eye causes you to sin, pluck it out and cast it from you; for it is more profitable for you that one of your members perish, than for your whole body to be cast into hell. And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and cast it from you; for it is more profitable for you that one of your members perish, than for your whole body to be cast into hell.

Matthew 5:29-30

The Offenders

What is sought with your eye
Or held in your hand,
Can become an offender
That needs to be banned.

If what you see
Causes you to stray,
You must be strong
And look away.

If what you do
Consumes your soul,
Remove yourself
And take control.

Be aware of your idols
Your passions and desires,
Before you are left
Facing hell's great fires.

When the mind-space it's renting
Leaves no room for Him,
It's no longer a pastime
It's a source of sin.

Remove it while your able
Before it gets too late,
Before your life is over
And you're entering hell's gate.

Furthermore it has been said, 'Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce.' But I say to you that whoever divorces his wife for any reason except sexual immorality causes her to commit adultery; and whoever marries a woman who is divorced commits adultery.

Matthew 5:31-32

Marriage

Right from the beginning
God had the perfect plan,
At the core of every family
One woman and one man.

Made to dwell together
In perfect harmony,
Serving one another
For all eternity.

But hearts that beat together
Now no longer meet,
Driven far apart
By selfishness and deceit.

For sin did burst the bubble
Staining that perfect plan,
Now no longer serving
But getting all you can.

Hearts have become hardened
Like the diamond on the hand,
Dreams have turned to ashes
Not what you had planned.

Dear God of mercy
Help us Lord we pray,
May we walk together
And not run away.

Again you have heard that it was said to those of old, 'You shall not swear falsely, but shall perform your oaths to the Lord.' But I say to you, do not swear at all: neither by heaven, for it is God's throne; nor by the earth, for it is His footstool; nor by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. Nor shall you swear by your head, because you cannot make one hair white or black.

Matthew 5:33-36

Lie Detector

Detection is important
When it comes to lies,
But, oh it's so confusing
When they're thick as flies.

An oath is a promise
That I will speak the truth,
A way to not be challenged
Even if there's proof.

A promise without substance
Is just a pack of lies,
To take those words as gospel
Would not be wise.

A hope deferred
Is a promise not kept,
An act of the devil
Who is quite adept.

So, do not make a promise
With no intent to keep,
And show you are a liar
The slope is steep.

Be alert and oh so cautious
It is a sign of growth,
When you can spot the lie
When you hear an oath.

But let your 'Yes' be 'Yes,' and your 'No,' 'No.' For whatever is more than these is from the evil one.

Matthew 5:37

Simple Truth

The truth should be quite simple
Not needing a fancy dress,
Don't lose the truth in verbiage
Let your no be no and your yes be yes.

From a heart depraved and empty
Will flow a stream of words,
That hit you in the face
Like a flock of birds.

A message clothed in curses
Will never be believed,
Though spoken with great passion
It will never be received.

In a world of dark corruption
We are drowning in a sea,
Of words of sly deception
With the pressure to agree.

There are words of confusion
Words to put you down,
Words that cause division
Be careful not to drown.

So make your answers simple
Affirm with a yes or no,
No need for explanation
Or excessive verbal flow.

You have heard that it was said, 'An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.' But I tell you not to resist an evil person. But whoever slaps you on your right cheek, turn the other to him also. If anyone wants to sue you and take away your tunic, let him have your cloak also.

Matthew 5:38-40

Revenge

When tempted by injustice
And revenge is on your mind,
If you strike out in anger
Peace you will not find.

Vengeance is His
But how we would like a part,
To strike back at evil
Would warm our frozen heart.

An eye for an eye
Will just breed hate,
And the end result
Brings a terrible fate.

You can't right a wrong
With a poke in the eye,
No matter how skilled
Or how hard you try.

But when you have tasted
God's grace from above,
When you are hurt
You can respond with love.

It's God's love in your heart
That makes a river flow,
A divine river of love
That delivers evil a blow.

And whoever compels you to go one mile, go with him two.

Matthew 5:41

Unjust Demands

Love is not selfish
It's not kindness to get,
It is not timely or convenient
Or a path to remove a debt.

It is picking up a burden
That was never yours to bear,
Because of God's love
Showing you care.

Unjust demands will come your way
As you walk this path of life,
Instead of your rights
Choose peace not strife.

When compelled to walk that mile
Be willing to make it two,
And show God's love to those around
For He will see you through.

The path this side of heaven
Is covered with thorns,
And you will need His grace
When you meet the one who scorns.

He will give you strength
His light will guide your way,
So, bear that unjust burden
Let His love be on display.

Give to him who asks you, and from him who wants to borrow from you do not turn away.

Matthew 5:42

Generosity

If you want a life that's full
Give what you've been given,
Be gracious towards others
Because you have been forgiven.

Be generous with your time
Don't wait for a rainy day,
To encourage a weary brother
Let peace be on display.

Be generous with your words
Season them with love,
Be kind and always faithful
Give bitterness a shove.

Be generous with your treasure
It is a gift from God,
For if you hold on tightly
You will lose the entire wad.

Be generous with your sharing
Of the faith that gives you peace,
To others who are searching
For their emptiness to decrease.

Be generous with your worship
You serve the God who cares,
Praise Him with abandon
Be humble with your prayers.

You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you, that you may be sons of your Father in heaven; for He makes His sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust.

Matthew 5:43-45

Loving Your Enemies

Love the ones who hate you
Be kind to all you meet,
Serve the Lord with gladness
To love is not defeat.

God has made a promise
To those who will be kind,
He'll be there to help them
When they are in a bind.

So take time to consider
Those who are in need,
Be they friend or foe
How can they be freed?

In the face of trials and troubles
When others choose to mock,
Speak with words of peace
Don't be a stumbling block.

A heart that's cold and hardened
Uses vengeance as a crutch,
When what it needs is healing
Found in the Master's touch.

So, be His hands of mercy
Show love in the face of hate,
Point others to the Savior
He can lift their weight.

*For if you love those who love you, what reward have you?
Do not even the tax collectors do the same? And if you greet
your brethren only, what do you do more than others? Do not
even the tax collectors do so?*

Matthew 5:46-47

Unlimited Kindness

God has made a promise
To those who are kind,
He will be there to help them
When they are in a bind.

So take time to consider
Those who are in need,
What are their struggles
How can they be freed?

Consider those with weakness
Because their body now is frail,
Sitting in a corner
Shivering, gaunt and pale.

Consider those unable
To care for themself,
Be they young or aged
Don't leave them on a shelf.

Be wise as you show compassion
To those who show their need,
Their outstretched hand demanding
Many be an act of greed.

God's blessing is a promise
To the humble and the meek,
So ponder and consider
The station of the weak.

*Therefore you shall be perfect, just as your Father in heaven
is perfect.*

Matthew 5:48

True Perfection

The apple shouldn't fall
Far from the tree,
If God is your Father
That's how you should be.

Perfect in mercy
Perfect in grace,
Perfect in forgiving
Not spreading disgrace.

Love is a verb
Birthed in God's heart,
It is active, not passive
We must do our part.

Oh Lord do Your work
On this heart of stone,
Bring it to life
Make it Your clone.

May I see others
Through Your loving eyes,
And be loving and gracious
And never despise.

For I know of Your love
It saved my soul,
And the sharing of that love
Is my ultimate goal.

Take heed that you do not do your charitable deeds before men, to be seen by them. Otherwise you have no reward from your Father in heaven. Therefore, when you do a charitable deed, do not sound a trumpet before you as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may have glory from men. Assuredly, I say to you, they have their reward. But when you do a charitable deed, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, that your charitable deed may be in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will Himself reward you openly.

Matthew 6:1-4

Secret Generosity

Do you look for a stage
To promote your stuff,
Or is patting your own back
Rewarding enough?

When you give to the poor
Do you do it with flair,
So your generous acts
Can be seen everywhere?

Does the applause you receive
And the accolades won,
Further God's kingdom
Or just what you've done?

Do your merciful acts
Prove that you're vane,
Do you live to serve others
Or what you can obtain?

Love does not focus
On the hand with the gift,
But the person in need
To give them a lift.

God sees all that you do
He knows all that you've planned,
Be generous with others
Your reward is in His hand.

And when you pray, you shall not be like the hypocrites. For they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the corners of the streets, that they may be seen by men. Assuredly, I say to you, they have their reward. But you, when you pray, go into your room, and when you have shut your door, pray to your Father who is in the secret place; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly.

Matthew 6:5-6

Spiritual Merit Badge

Do you go to church
Just to be seen,
To show others that you're holy
Pretending to be clean?

Do you pray out loud
So everyone can hear,
Proclaiming you're godly
While not being sincere?

The holy acts of a saint
Is not a badge you wear,
Proclaiming your own glory
Praying with such flair.

When speaking to the Father
Hide yourself away,
Be humble and sincere
When you pause to pray.

The secret whispered prayer
From a heart that's sincere,
Is heard by the loving Father
Your words to Him are dear.

He waits for you in secret
The place His treasure is stored,
To confirm you are His child
Oh what a grand reward.

And when you pray, do not use vain repetitions as the heathen do. For they think that they will be heard for their many words. "Therefore do not be like them. For your Father knows the things you have need of before you ask Him.

Matthew 6:7-8

The God Who Hears

When you love the Lord
In your soul there is a glow,
For His love and kindness
Will cause you to grow.

The glow is the presence
Of He who hears,
Your prayers of concern
And all your fears.

He speaks to your spirit
With whispers of love,
When your heart cries for mercy
There's an answer from above.

If you are weary
Tired and torn,
Pray to the Lord
In the early morn.

He hears your prayers
He is aware of your state,
And an answer is coming
That won't be too late.

His answer will fit
Your spoken need,
If you are humble
And not praying in greed.

*In this manner, therefore, pray: Our Father in heaven,
Hallowed be Your name.*

Matthew 6:9

God the Prominent

We have a glimpse of Your prominence
In all that You have made,
The splendor of a sunset
As the light begins to fade.

When I look up to the heavens
Where the moon and stars reside,
I am filled with awe and wonder
That You are by my side.

You are God the Prominent
The creator of the world,
And as the sun is rising
Beauty is unfurled.

Forgive me Lord, I pray
For making You so small,
I cannot capture Your majesty
With a plaque on the wall.

But to see You in Your prominence
That you reign supreme,
Is to see You as much more
Than the captain of my team.

Worthy of praise and worship
Just for who You are,
Eloah the prominent
Who does not dwell afar.

*Your kingdom come. Your will be done On earth as it is in
heaven.*

Matthew 6:10

God's Kingdom

We were created for His kingdom
But we threw the key away,
So He sent His only Son
To provide for us a way.

His kingdom is now in process
But one day it will be complete,
And on that happy morning
We will sit at Jesus' feet.

Creation now is groaning
Waiting for that day,
The day of Your appearing
For this we hope and pray.

Perfectly loving and righteous
Your will for us today,
Our guide and companion
Teach us to walk Your way.

May there be a sweet, sweet melody
A harmony of our wills,
A conforming to Your purpose
Sung from heaven's hills.

Thank you for Your patience
May we see Your kingdom grow,
May there be a grand revival
Let Your Spirit flow.

Give us this day our daily bread.

Matthew 6:11

Daily Bread

You are the sole provider
Of everything I need,
To do Your will and purpose
Your supply is guaranteed.

Your bread will not sustain me
With bitterness in my heart,
Fighting enemies I've created
Thinking I'm so smart.

Your bread will not sustain me
If I step outside Your will,
Seeking my own pleasures
And never being still.

His bread will not sustain
A heart that's full of pride,
I will do it my way
Come enjoy the ride.

If you're weary and you're worn
Broken and fully spent,
There is something you are doing
That isn't heaven sent.

For His nourishment comes
In the doing of His will,
From His Word and from His Spirit
As His plan you do fulfill.

And forgive us our debts, As we forgive our debtors.

Matthew 6:12

You Get What You Give

It's the gift that keeps on giving
When you chose to forgive,
Letting go of deep resentments
Now you're free to live.

Forgive to be forgiven
Hear the Master's call,
He has grace and mercy
Available for all.

There is a gift that's greater
It makes your life worth live'n,
Is when you have done great harm
And with mercy have been forgiven.

We all deserve His judgement
We are rebels at the core,
But our sins He has covered
Not seen any more.

With the burden of sin now lifted
No longer under that weight,
You can live with purpose
And not the rebel's fate.

My heart explodes with praises
It is a holy flood,
To know my sins are covered
By His precious blood.

And do not lead us into temptation, But deliver us from the evil one. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Matthew 6:13

Trials And Tests

Life's path is often crooked
Littered with traps and snares,
With unlimited distractions
And urgent earthly affairs.

Lord I need Your guidance
Lead me through the dust,
I'm choking on confusion
And don't know in whom to trust.

I know that You are faithful
And Your love for me is real,
As I walk through times of shadows
Please hear my humble appeal.

Help me see the evil
Hidden in plain view,
Light the path before me
See me safely through.

May the bumps and bruises
Received along the way,
Strengthen and refine me
And help me not to stray.

May my focus be Your kingdom
In light of eternity,
And may I have a place
With Your faithful fraternity.

For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

Matthew 6:14-15

Bondage Of Not Forgiving

There is a bondage that is greater
Than any prison cell,
The bondage of not forgiving
Will drive your soul to hell.

Like a weight tied to your ankles
As you try to swim,
Un-forgiveness will hold you under
Your future is looking grim.

If you want to see God's mercy
For the times when you have strayed,
Then give that mercy to others
Treat their debts as paid.

If you want a soul that's healthy
And the freedom to really live,
Thank the Lord for His mercy
And be eager to forgive.

If you lack a forgiving spirit
Means you must be blind,
And your heart has become hardened
With an arrogant, twisted mind.

For the debt you're owed by others
Pales when you compare,
Your debt owed to the Savior
And your sins that He did bear.

Moreover, when you fast, do not be like the hypocrites, with a sad countenance. For they disfigure their faces that they may appear to men to be fasting. Assuredly, I say to you, they have their reward. But you, when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, so that you do not appear to men to be fasting, but to your Father who is in the secret place; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly.

Matthew 6:16-18

Pretentious Spirituality

What is it you are seeking
When you fast and pray,
Is it the affirmation of others
Behind your grand display?

Fasting should be humbling
Not a way to beat your chest,
A righteous display for others
Claiming you are best.

There's no selfishness in worship
If it's from the heart,
It's all about the Master
Not the image you impart.

Hypocrisy is selfishness
Putting on a grand display,
Showing off to others
Causing them to stray.

Don't display your piety to others
For their approval or their cheers,
They will see through your hypocrisy
Even if there are tears.

Take your sorrow to the Master
Find a secret place,
For He will be your stronghold
And your sin He will erase.

Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal;

Matthew 6:19

Storing Treasures

The sweet melody of riches
Like money on a tree,
It gives pleasure for a moment
But no security.

It feeds a hungry passion
Always wanting more,
And when I have enough
There is no room on my floor.

So then I must get busy
Build a much, much bigger house,
To store those precious treasures
And chase out every mouse.

But as I sit there quiet
In the midst of all this stuff,
There is a deep and haunting feeling
That there'll never be enough.

The pleasures that are fleeting
Have now just flit away,
And I am left here grieving
With only bills to pay.

The answer is in resting
In the protection of Your hold,
To know that You love me
Is worth more than all the gold.

*but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither
moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in
and steal.*

Matthew 6:20

Heavenly Treasure

Fill your treasure-chest in heaven
To last for eternity,
Be deliberate with your deposits
And leave no uncertainty.

Deposit some righteous character
Be humble and be meek,
With a heart that is pure and holy
In everything you seek.

Add some hope and faith
In the God who saved your soul,
Live for Him with passion
For He has made you whole.

Invest some heartfelt gratitude
For all He has done for you,
Thank Him for His mercy
And that you are counted among the few.

Throw in some praise and worship
Fill it to the brim,
Sing with reckless abandon
Or sing a familiar hymn.

Don't forget the crowning jewels
Send them to heaven above,
For the treasure of greatest value
Is a heart that dispenses love.

For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Matthew 6:21

Heart Sought

If you follow your heart
Where would it lead,
To a place of peace
Or a house of greed.

It's what you do in secret
How you use your days,
And where you spend your money
Will show what you praise.

What do you do in secret
Away from prying eyes,
Is your righteousness consistent
Or just a pack of lies?

The time that you've been given
Is it filled with selfish acts,
Or seeking self-promotion
Engaging in unrighteous pacts?

How do you spend your money
Look at those receipts,
Are you generous with your giving
Or consumed with useless treats?

Guard your heart with fervor
Be honest with what you see,
Take stock of what you treasure
Get ready for eternity.

The lamp of the body is the eye. If therefore your eye is good, your whole body will be full of light. But if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If therefore the light that is in you is darkness, how great is that darkness!

Matthew 6:22-23

Health Eyes

If the eye of your heart is darkened
It will limit what you see,
You may see what is before you
But lose sight of eternity.

What color are the lenses
You have before your eyes,
Are they stained with greed and selfishness
Leading to your demise?

Are you blinded by hate and bitterness
Looking to devour,
Those you blame for your anguish
As you're perched up on your tower?

Perhaps your site is diminished
By rebelliousness and sin,
With no room to consider others
As your patience is growing thin?

Or maybe your eye is bothered
With a speck of ingratitude,
Believing you're more deserving
With an entitled attitude?

This world is dark and dreary
As we wander in the night,
Ask the Lord to save you
And He will bring you light.

No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon.

Matthew 6:24

Slavery

I know you might not like it
But you really are a slave,
But you get to choose your master
That you will serve until the grave.

You could clammer after treasure
Or serve the God above,
And one path you will hate
While the other you will love.

A golden ball and chain
Is still a ball and chain,
It is a vicious master
That will cause you endless pain.

If you live for money
You'll never have enough,
It may promise you security
But the security is just thin fluff.

It will not buy you peace
When you're weary and alone,
And it will not bring you meaning
When your beating heart is stone.

So live for the other Master
The One who knows you best,
Live to serve the Father
And He will give you rest.

Therefore I say to you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink; nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing?

Matthew 6:25

Don't Worry

Anxious thoughts and worries
They mess with your mind,
Listen to them closely
For an answer you will find.

These cares that hold you hostage
Are just an emotional crust,
That tell you very clearly
Where you place your trust.

If you trust in riches
You'll never have enough,
To buy peace and contentment
Or other important stuff.

If you trust your wisdom
You'll pay a heavy toll,
For there's insufficient knowledge
To sooth a troubled soul.

If you trust in others
They will surely let you down,
No matter what your status
Or position in the town.

To abandon all your worries
And leave them in the dust,
Lean in one direction
In God alone you must trust.

Look at the birds of the air, for they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? Which of you by worrying can add one cubit to his stature?

Matthew 6:26-27

Open Your Eyes

Just take a look around
And what do you see,
God's grand creation
All eating for free.

Look at us humans
Who fret and fuss,
And get all in knots
With the smallest stuff.

We worry about this
We worry about that,
And we start to panic
When we lose our cat.

We are a ball of nerves
Because our faith is weak,
Our days are confusing
And the future is bleak.

You won't grow taller
By worry and stress,
Though it may make you wider
Oh, what a mess.

God loves you more dearly
Than the birds of the air,
Let go of your worry
He hears your prayer.

So why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin; and yet I say to you that even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. Now if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is, and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will He not much more clothe you, O you of little faith?

Matthew 6:28-30

True Beauty

The cares of this world
Oh, how they weigh you down,
What shoes should I be wearing
When I go to town?

God made you for His purpose
And He loves you very much,
So, don't depend on your clothes
As an emotional crutch.

To focus on fashion
Will lead to despair,
Empty affirmation of others
Who do not care.

Don't be imprisoned by your clothing
Or defined by what you wear,
Be attentive to your spirit
And God will find you there.

True beauty that is internal
Will be evident to all,
By a radiant appearance
Not the color of your shawl.

Be clothed with peace and purpose
In God's eyes you are a star,
No need to strive for affection
Be grateful for who you are.

Therefore do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' For after all these things the Gentiles seek. For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things.

Matthew 6:31-32

Don't Worry – Be Grateful

Don't worry – be grateful
God knows what you need,
Be anxious for nothing
Abandon all greed.

Don't worry – be grateful
God is in control,
There is no need to fret
For what the enemy stole.

Don't worry – be grateful
God has given you this time,
And to waste it with worry
Would be an awful crime.

Don't worry – be grateful
God hears your prayer,
Come to Him with gratitude
And release every care.

Don't worry – be grateful
Though your present may be tough,
He will provide an answer
And His answer will be enough.

Don't worry – be grateful
So praise Him today,
For His grace and mercy
And showing you the way.

*But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness,
and all these things shall be added to you.*

Matthew 6:33

God's Kingdom

For what are you seeking
What do you hope to find?
These kingdoms on earth
Will all be left behind.

All of us are seekers
Looking for a way,
For a life of meaning
We hope and pray.

We seek for happiness
In what we say and do,
God has promised fulfillment
If it's Him you pursue.

Seek God's holy kingdom
With all your heart and soul,
Don't stay tangled in earthly troubles
Make His kingdom your goal.

Be righteous in your dealings
With everyone you meet,
Even if they're evil
Don't cower in defeat.

Seek to bring Him glory
Spread His joy and peace,
Share His love with others
And His kingdom will increase.

Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about its own things. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.

Matthew 6:34

One Day At A Time

Fear about the future
That rules your mind today,
Is the definition of worry
Causing your spirit to decay.

Each day is filled with troubles
But God has promised to supply,
What you'll need for the struggles
If on Him you do rely.

Like mana sent from heaven
God supplies for each new day,
His wisdom, strength, and courage
As you hope and pray.

Tomorrow will have its troubles
And some may be severe,
Trust the Lord to save you
Then live today without fear.

To fret about tomorrow
As you live today,
Is actually quite useless
So keep that worry at bay.

God provided for your yesterdays
And He'll be present if there's a tomorrow,
So, seize this day, and give Him praise
And don't embrace another day's sorrow.

Judge not, that you be not judged.

Matthew 7:1

Biased Critic

Don't look for faults in others
To make you feel less small,
Or pray for their defeat
Then cheer when they fall.

Be wise but show compassion
Don't stab them in the back,
Or ferret out their weakness
Then launch a cruel attack.

The "what" of other's actions
Is always plain to see,
But you'll never know the "why"
Or the source of their mournful plea.

Judge the offense, but not the offender
Don't condemn their soul,
Be generous with forgiveness
Keep your criticism under control.

Don't be bitter, judgmental or hateful
Or look at others with scorn,
Be quick to hear and slow to speak
And be gracious to those who mourn.

See others through the lens of charity
Even if they've done you wrong,
God will judge their motives
And place them where they belong.

For with what judgment you judge, you will be judged; and with the measure you use, it will be measured back to you.

Matthew 7:2

Righteous Scale

When the scales of justice are lifted
Which way will they tilt,
Will you be acquitted
Or will you start to wilt.

What you see before you
Are the judgements that you used,
Applied in your direction
Now who is accused?

So if you're highly critical
Tearing others apart,
Expect a critical inspection
When God looks at your heart.

If your mean and greedy
Living for what you can get,
You will lose it all
Unable to pay your debt.

Choose mercy over judgment
And mercy will come your way,
So when those scales are lifted
It will be a glorious day.

Be generous with forgiveness
As God has forgiven you,
And be cautious with your judgements
Of what others say and do.

And why do you look at the speck in your brother's eye, but do not consider the plank in your own eye?

Matthew 7:3

Flawless Focus

The flaws we see in others
Should be an insightful clue,
Of what goes on inside us
Hidden from our own view.

We stare at the faults of others
But are blind to our own,
We're quick with our rejection
As our hearts turn into stone.

We know we are not flawless
But better than the crowd,
Smug and oh so righteous
Silent but oh so proud.

With zeal we point at others
Highlighting their every sin,
Instead of being honest
With the corruption we hold within.

There's no need to be pretentious
God sees behind your shell,
And He is there to save you
From your path to hell.

So before you point at others
Spend time before the Lord,
And ask Him to uncover
The sins you have ignored.

Or how can you say to your brother, 'Let me remove the speck from your eye'; and look, a plank is in your own eye? Hypocrite! First remove the plank from your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother's eye.

Matthew 7:4-5

Impudence

Don't be quick to offer service
When you see another's flaw,
Be gracious and forgiving
You're not the holy law.

We all are vile sinners
Whom Jesus died to save,
None of us are worthy
Yet He still forgave.

Don't focus on correcting
Those who cross your path,
When you are the one deserving
A taste of God's holy wrath.

As you lay upon your pillow
Invite the Lord to search,
Your heart, your soul, your spirit
And knock you off your perch.

If you cannot see the sin
That's blinding your sight,
You are in no position
To tell others what's right.

So look in the mirror
Of His precious Word,
Be humble as you pray
And your vision will be less blurred.

Do not give what is holy to the dogs; nor cast your pearls before swine, lest they trample them under their feet, and turn and tear you in pieces.

Matthew 7:6

Dogs And Pigs

Some will bark
And some will snort,
But neither has ears
For a righteous report.

They eat and devour
What has already died,
But refuse the word
Of the One who was crucified.

The dogs and pigs
Have heard God's word,
And spit it out
Saying it is absurd.

They have turned their back
To the God of love,
To live for themselves
And give you a shove.

The dogs are vicious
They growl and mock,
And swine like the mud
Not your righteous talk.

Be humble, yet wise
And share without fear,
The goodness of God
To those with ears to hear.

*Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find;
knock, and it will be opened to you.*

Matthew 7:7

Ask, Seek, Knock

Ask, seek, and knock
The Lord has a plan for you,
And He will guide and shield you
Until your days are through.

Ask in faith believing
That Jesus will provide,
All you need to serve Him
For He is by your side.

In earnest keep on seeking
There is much more to be found,
For He is a willing teacher
Whose teachings will astound.

Knock on the door before you
Don't cower in defeat,
He will give you strength and courage
And make your life complete.

With a humble heart believing
Ask for what you wish,
And with purposeful determination
Seek for what you miss.

The Lord is a loving Father
And He hears your every prayer,
With confidence come before Him
And give Him every care.

*For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds,
and to him who knocks it will be opened.*

Matthew 7:8

Perseverance

Keep asking, keep seeking, keep knocking
Till your time on earth is done,
Never give up fighting
For what the Lord has already begun.

Be persistent in your asking
Come before Him every day,
And He will give an answer
As you pause to pray.

Be earnest in your seeking
Never give up hope,
For when life is filled with troubles
He is there to help you cope.

Knock like you really mean it
Don't run away in fear,
Soon you'll be included
And your purpose will be clear.

Ask till there's an answer
Seek until you find,
Knock till the door opens
For our God of love is kind.

He will give you His plan and purpose
And guide you on the way,
And nudge you when you need it
And help you when you stray.

Or what man is there among you who, if his son asks for bread, will give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will he give him a serpent? If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask Him!

Matthew 7:9-11

Ask Your Father

Earthly fathers are not perfect
They are filled with many flaws,
But they serve and protect their children
It is their righteous cause.

A parent's love is never perfect
Yet they hear their child's pleas,
They feed and change as needed
And wipe up every sneeze.

I know it's hard to fathom
But God loves you so much more,
He gives you breath and wisdom
And a world to explore.

He sent His Son to save you
From all your selfish sin,
And now guides you with His Spirit
With new life from within.

Be grateful for your fathers
In heaven and on earth,
One who changed your diapers
And the One who gave you worth.

Don't be shy when you approach Him
Ask and He will give,
The strength, the plan, the wisdom
He will freely give.

Therefore, whatever you want men to do to you, do also to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets.

Matthew 7:12

The Golden Rule

To love God with all your being
Is the greatest of all laws,
But then how do you love your neighbor
When they are full of many flaws.

You need to pause for just a moment
Walk a mile in their shoes,
If you were in their position
What action would you choose?

View their present struggles
As greater than your own,
For if you remain self-focused
Your heart will turn to stone.

Give patience and tender mercy
As the Lord has given you,
For you never can be certain
What they're going through.

I would expect a ridged boundary
If my path veered off to hell,
In word or deed or attitude
Or in ways I could not tell.

To love God and love your neighbor
Is the essence of God's law,
And if you follow His direction
Your heart He will slowly thaw.

Enter by the narrow gate; for wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it. Because narrow is the gate and difficult is the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it.

Matthew 7:13-14

The Squeeze

Two gates are there before you
Which one will you choose,
The broad one is inviting
But with the narrow one you won't lose.

Wide and easy is so tempting
No need for a detailed map,
Just follow the crowd around you
Right into Satan's lap.

No need for a moral compass
Be tolerant of sin,
Be arrogant and selfish
Do anything to win.

Consumed by selfish ambition
Your soul goes up in smoke,
Your cruising toward destruction
This choice is not a joke.

So choose the gate that's narrow
Set aside your pride,
Ask the Lord to save you
He's inviting you inside.

The path will not be easy
The choice is yours to make,
With life and death before you
Which path will you take?

Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves.

Matthew 7:15

Deceptive Teachers

When the days are dark with deception
You will know the end is near,
Listen to the Master
His words are "Do Not Fear!"

Institutions that once were trusted
No longer are the same,
They lost their moral compass
Abandoned guilt and shame.

There is counterfeit salvation
Costly but offered for free,
And all that is required
Is to cast your vote for me.

Follow all my teachings
Watch me on TV,
It will make you wealthy
For only a little fee.

Confusion and deception
Are both tools you know,
Used to feed their greed
And to empty your soul.

Remember His words
"Do not fear,"
Bathe in His Word
He promised to be near.

*You will know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes
from thornbushes or figs from thistles?*

Matthew 7:16

Fruit Inspector

Inspect the fruit
Of those who teach,
Observe the live's
Of those who preach.

To test the fruit
You must be near,
So take a bite
And do not fear.

The fruit that is real
Will not bite back,
But if you bite what's fake
You'll face an attack.

Fruit that is phony
Looks great from afar,
But if it is real
It won't taste bizarre.

Are they humble and honest
When they pause to pray,
Or is there a pressure
For you to pay?

When you test the fruit
There should be the flavor of love,
Seasoned with grace
From the God above.

Even so, every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit. A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a bad tree bear good fruit. Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. Therefore by their fruits you will know them.

Matthew 7:17-20

Good Fruit, Bad Fruit

Good fruit is such a blessing
It helps you to be strong,
To be more like the Savior
And guide you when you're wrong.

It is filled with grace and mercy
From the God above,
And points you to the Master
Seasoned with His love.

It invites you to be like Him
Not pressured to conform,
It does not put you in a corner
If you don't fit the stated norm.

Bad fruit becomes apparent
It will show itself in time,
For when you get a mouthful
You can taste the slime.

With bad fruit there is a pressure
Though subtle at the start,
To give until your broken
And not what's in your heart.

Ask the Lord for wisdom
That you will clearly see,
Through the lies and deception
What's hanging on the tree.

Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. Many will say to Me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?' And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!

Matthew 7:21-23

Delusional Confidence

Just calling Jesus, Lord
Won't open heaven's gate,
You must live as He tells you
To determine your eternal state.

But with faith and sincere holiness
You must do God's bidding will,
As you serve the Lord and Master
And His purposes you fulfill.

Words alone are not sufficient
It must come from deep within,
A heart that's pure and humble
A life aware of sin.

Seek Him with a holy passion
Be humble when you pray,
And don't put off till tomorrow
What He has for you today.

If you are a true believer
Repent of every sin,
Have love for one another
Let Him change you from within.

If you want to enter heaven
Take time to pause and pray,
Be transparent before the Master
And love the Jesus way.

Therefore whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock: and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it did not fall, for it was founded on the rock. "But everyone who hears these sayings of Mine, and does not do them, will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand: and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it fell. And great was its fall.

Matthew 7:24-27

A Sure Foundation

I want to be a house
That will stand amid the storm,
By doing all Your bidding
Not following the norm.

I've heard Your word and leading
Give me strength to carry on,
To put those words to action
Please give my heart a song.

To live for You each moment
To do the Father's will,
To spread Your loving kindness
Your purpose to fulfill.

I want to be Your vessel
Please shine Your light within,
Exposing what is hidden
The deep and secret sin.

Help me see the path
That will only cause me harm,
And lead me back to You, Lord
Take me by the arm.

Keep me on the path
That leads me back to You,
To grow, to love, to serve
As my days on earth are few.

And so it was, when Jesus had ended these sayings, that the people were astonished at His teaching, for He taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes.

Matthew 7:28-29

The Words Of Jesus

The words of Jesus
Are the words of life,
They are words of comfort
Amid all strife.

The words of Jesus
Were written for all,
Read them today
Respond to His call.

The words of Jesus
Is God's message to you,
Embrace every one
And your life will be new.

The words of Jesus
Will teach you to love,
To live like the Master
With strength from above.

The words of Jesus
Are new each day,
They are alive and active
And will show you the way.

The words of Jesus
You must hear and do,
And He will bring you to heaven
When your life is through.

CONCLUSION

In the culmination of this poetic journey through the Sermon on the Mount, we find ourselves standing on the precipice of a profound spiritual awakening. Like the gentle whispers of a breeze on a mountaintop, these verses have carried us to new heights of understanding, challenging our hearts and minds to embrace the transformative power of love, compassion, and righteousness.

Through the vivid imagery woven into these pages, we have beheld the beauty of a world illuminated by divine wisdom. Each line, like a brushstroke on a sacred canvas, has painted a portrait of a life lived in harmony with the teachings of the Great Teacher. We have witnessed the radiance of humility, the resilience of meekness, and the boundless power of forgiveness.

As we reach this final verse, our souls stand in awe of the boundless love that has cascaded upon us, guiding our steps and shaping our spirits. We have come to understand that the

Sermon on the Mount is not merely a collection of words or a sermon given long ago, but a timeless beacon that illuminates our path in the present moment.

The conclusion of this poetic journey is not an end, but a new beginning. It is an invitation to carry the light we have discovered within us and share it with a world thirsting for hope. The Sermon on the Mount beckons us to live as peacemakers, to hunger and thirst for righteousness, and to embrace the sacredness of every human soul.

As we close this chapter, let us remember that these verses are not confined to the pages of a book. They are etched upon our hearts, and it is through our actions and the way we treat one another that we bring them to life. May the echoes of these words resound in the chambers of our souls, inspiring us to create a world where God's love reigns supreme.

So, let us embrace this conclusion as a springboard into a life of purpose and devotion, living each day as an offering of love and kindness. And may the Sermon on the Mount forever remain a guiding star, illuminating our path and beckoning us toward a higher, more compassionate existence.

In the grand tapestry of human experience, may our lives reflect the essence of these sacred words, and may our hearts forever resonate with the eternal wisdom contained within the Sermon on the Mount.

Books by this Author

Pearls From The Psalms

Poems From The Still Of The Night

Dismantling Destructive Strongholds

God's Armor For Today's Battles

Our Fractured Image

Godly Grit

Prepared to Stand

Deadly Roots

The Subtle Destructive Power of Bitterness

The Frantic Cry for Comfort

A Christian doctor's look at addiction.

Fodder for Ponder

Poems on pondering.

Stress Undressed

A look at five major causes of stress.

Now I've Gotcha!

A brief overview of the substances causing addiction.