

POEMS OF DEVOTION

VOLUME I



*The Flagellation of Christ
by: William Bouguereau
By His stripes we are healed...*

by: JOHN A. MCKEE

Poems of Devotion

Volume I

by: John A. McKee

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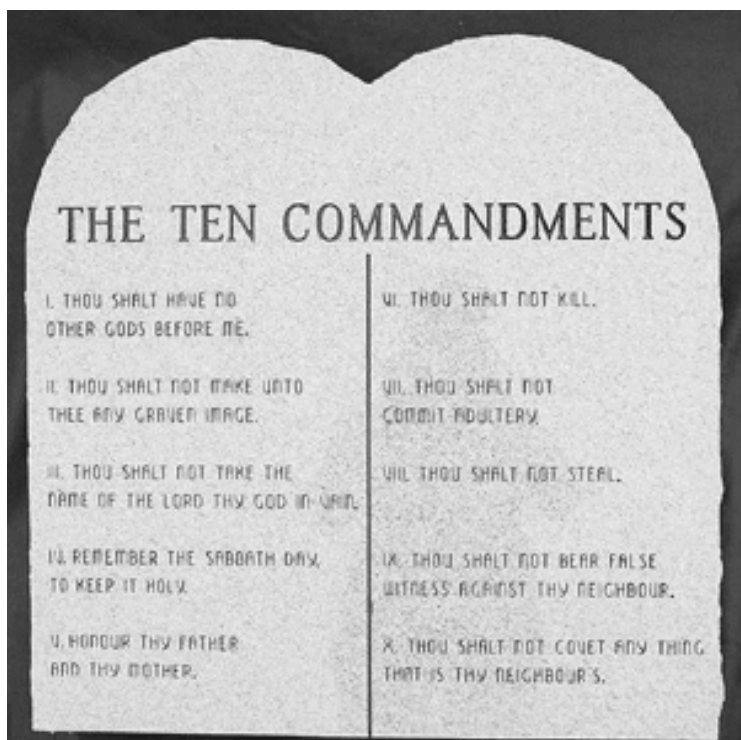
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Foreword

I have enjoyed writing these Poems of Devotion. Written out of a deep, abiding love for my GOD and King I give Him all thanks and praise...my fervent prayer is that you will find enjoyment and be blessed and comforted through the reading of them.

I dedicate this book of poems with all my love to the memory of my dear parents, Myron and Norris McKee...
Until we meet again in GOD's Holy Kingdom.

Poems of Devotion



Volume I

Poems of Devotion...Volume I

Written out of a deep sense of love and awe to give all Honor and Glory to the Three in One...the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

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A Walk on the Sea
Illustration by Gustave Dore' (1832-1883)



*A Walk on the Sea **

After miraculously feeding
The hungry five thousand
By multiplying the loaves and the fish,

Jesus told His Disciples
To go ahead in their boat
For to be by Himself was His wish.

After they had departed,
He went to the mountain
To be alone with the Father in prayer.

Later that evening,
Seeing their boat on the sea,
He could tell they were getting nowhere.

For a very strong headwind
Had made the sea choppy
Which was making their progress quite slow.

At about the fourth watch,
Jesus walked out to them
As their boat was being tossed to and fro.

When the Disciples saw Him
Walking toward their boat
They were terrified and cried out in alarm.

For they were certain they were seeing
A ghost coming toward them
Whose intent was to do them some harm.

***"Take heart, it is I;
"Have no fear."*** Jesus said,
When to the boat He began to draw near.

And Peter asked Jesus
To let *him* walk on the water...
For at that moment, he'd lost all his fear.

When Jesus said, ***"Come."***
Peter got out of the boat
And began walking towards Him on water.

But after his first halting steps
Sudden fear overtook him
And his faith began quickly to totter.

Then as Peter's faith wavered,
He started to sink.
"Lord, save me!" He said with a shout.

Jesus reached out His hand,
And catching him said,
"O man of little faith, why did you doubt?"

The winds immediately ceased
When they entered the boat...
As Disciples all sat in awed reverence.

"Truly you are the Son of GOD."
They said to Him in worship,
Feeling honored to be in His presence.

*** Matthew 14:22-33**

by: John McKee
July 1, 2001

Peace...



The Everlasting GOD

Have you not known?
Have you not heard
Of the Creator of the ends of the earth? *

Who knew you even before
He formed you in the womb?
Who knew you before your own birth? **

He is an everlasting GOD
Who neither faints nor grows weary
And His understanding is unsearchable.

He gives strength to the weak...
He gives courage to the faint...
And the Lord our GOD is very *approachable*.

For mortal bodies are frail.
They become quickly exhausted.
Each of us to this fact can relate.

But renewed strength is given
When you're weary and faint
If upon the Lord GOD you wait.

And you shall mount up with wings
To soar as an eagle...
High above your troubling storm.

GOD shall give His Peace to you
With added strength and endurance
To ensure that you come to no harm.

You shall run and not weary
You shall walk and not faint...
For GOD's love shall make you strong.

Listen for His quiet voice
And come to Him as a child...
He's been *calling* for you all along.

*** Isaiah 40:28-31**

**** Jeremiah 1:4-5**

by: John A. McKee
April 10, 2006

*Landscape with Moses and the Burning Bush – Domenichino
Domenico Zampieri - Italian, Bolognese, 1581–1641*



Moses

The Children of Israel
Were held captive in Egypt...
Enslaved for over four hundred years.

But, throughout their bondage
They grew strong in number
Giving rise to the cruel Pharaoh's fears.

So, when he ordered his soldiers
To cast Hebrew male children
Into the Nile River to drown...

A frightened Hebrew mother
Concealed her new baby, Moses,
When that edict from Pharaoh came down. *

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Volume I



I have found poetry to be a wonderfully spiritual way for me to commune with God, and it matters not whether I am writing the poems, or simply reading them; a quiet serenity comes over me during those times that

is a great comfort to my soul. I began my writings more than thirty years ago during a time in my life when I was unable to sleep well at night because of a painful back. As a consequence, throughout the night, I would have to get up to apply a heating pad to get relief. It was during this time in my life that I began to read the Bible which subsequently led me to begin writing poetry. I have found the Holy Bible to be most effective in inspiring ideas and have also been moved to write some of my poems just by the sight of a beautiful sunrise or sunset, a mountain view...or perhaps just a word, a phrase or a scene will pop into my head at times while I'm exercising. Many ideas have come to me in my sleep and at those times I am compelled to get up and go to my computer or to get a pencil and paper to jot the idea down before it is forgotten. It is my sincere hope that you will enjoy the reading of these poems and I pray that you will be blessed by them.

In His Service,

John A. McKee