

Echoes of Hope

By

Fisola Taiwo

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DEDICATION



This anthology is dedicated to a pioneer
of the faith work in my generation. Such a
wonderful man who has always been and
remains such a bright light on the path of
righteousness for so many.
To Oluwole “Olododo” Akanni

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FOREWORD



I am honoured to write the foreword for this book by my dear friend and fellow believer in Christ, Taiwo Oluwafisola. For over a decade, our friendship has been a source of blessings in my life, and I am excited to share in this significant moment of their creative journey.

Within the pages of this book, I have witnessed the profound impact the pages of this book hold. They have the remarkable ability to lift burdens, cast light upon darkness, and instil a renewed sense of hope within the reader. Each portion showcases beauties that stem from a place of solitude that the author shares through his communion with Christ.

As I reflect on the heartfelt verses gracing these pages, I am reminded of the boundless presence of our Creator, guiding the author's hand with divine inspiration. Through his skillful craftsmanship, he has composed a melody of words—a heartfelt offering of devotion to the One who instills hope in our lives.

Dear reader, prepare yourself for a journey that resonates deep within your soul. Open your heart and allow these psalms to embrace you as you glean the pages of this book. Within their verses lie the profound essence of our shared humanity—a tapestry of emotions, experiences, and aspirations, all interwoven with an unyielding trust in the power of hope.

I am grateful for the opportunity to bear witness to the eX-

traordinary journey of my friend through the creation of this book. May the words come out to you as a beacon of hope, light in dark places as you navigate through life's twists and turns, and igniting a flame of hope within your own heart.

With heartfelt appreciation,
Oladotun Aluko.

THE VISIT



My ankles are strengthened¹
My feet receive the power to carry me
My heart revives
My soul dancing when you visit me

My hope is renewed
Alas! I can believe again²
When the lord visits my habitation³
I find that I can dream again⁴

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1. *Acts 3:7*
 2. *Job 14:7*
 3. *Psalm 16:9-10*
 4. *Isaiah 12:2*

IN THE BEGINNING



In the beginning it was dark⁵
My soul lost to the truth
Without substance I lied
Seeking help
Seeking hope

In the beginning there was war
My body ravished by sin
Without salvation I cried⁶
Seeking strength
Seeking succor

In the beginning I saw death
My spirit empty of life
Without breath I died⁷
Seeking love
Seeking light

In the beginning there was light
My soul glimpsed the truth
Rejoicing in your presence⁸
Seeing hope
Seeing help

5. *Genesis 1v1*

6. *Genesis 49v18*

7. *Ephesians 2v1,5*

8. *Acts 2v28*

In the beginning there was peace
My body restored to health⁹
Exultant at your appearing
Finding strength
Finding succor

In the beginning I saw life
My spirit born again¹⁰
Your words filled my lungs
Giving love
Giving light¹¹

9. *Isaiah 53v5*

10. *John 3v3-5*

11. *John 1v5,9*

SLEEP



Tonight I sleep in peace
For his spirit will grant me ease

Tonight my soul finds rest
As I lay on my Savior's breast.

Tonight I have no fear
My protector is close enough to hear

Tonight I have no guilt
For on His blood was my altar built

Tonight I sleep with Grace
Because my heart has known his face

Tonight I trust my God
Who comforts me with his rod

IN ME



If not in God
Then not in me
For I in God
And God in me

If spoken by faith
Then Echoed by me
For faith in me
And I in Faith

If dead in sin
Then not of me
For in sin was I
But in sin I'm not

If alive in Christ
Then alive in me
Since Christ for me
And I am Christ's

If given by Grace
Then received by me
For Graced I am
And gracious shall be

If born of God
Then born in me
For of God, I'm born
And God is born in me

TIME



Do not be compelled by time to rush
Your destination is outside the jurisdiction of
the clock

Make Hay while the sun shines
Command sunrays when you have hay

The king you serve exists outside of time
He is the redeemer of mortal years

Fear not!
Be not eager to arrive.

The God you serve is a God of processes
He has it all under control

Be not afraid
God rules.

Be not worried
Our father reigns.

COMFORT



The lord is my shepherd¹²
so I must be as sheep
Trusting in his ability
Sure in his love

The lord is my shepherd
Hence I cannot weep
Looking unto Divinity¹³
Directed from above

The lord is my Shepherd
So I must be as at peace
Holding on to his promises¹⁴
Secured in his grace

The lord is my shepherd
Hence I experience ease
Holding on to righteousness
Assured in his face

12. *Psalms 23:1*

13. *Hebrews 12:2*

14. *Hebrews 10:23*

OF BIRDS AND BUGS



If eagles have nests
And lizards have their holes

If lions have dens
And bugs have their homes

If they are all catered for by my
Father
He will not leave me alone

If fishes have partners
And Monkeys have mates

If tigers have lovers
And Penguins have dates

If ants have companions
And their friends God creates

Then I trust my Father¹⁵
To not leave me desolate¹⁶

15. *Mathew 6:26*

16. *Hebrews 13:5*

BIBLE VERSES



1. Acts 3:7, KJV

And he took him by the right hand, and lifted him up: and immediately his feet and ankle bones received strength.

2. Job 14:7, KJV

For there is hope of a tree, if it be cut down, that it will sprout again, and that the tender branch thereof will not cease.

3. Psalm 16:9-10, KJV

Therefore my heart is glad, and my glory rejoiceth: my flesh also shall rest in hope.

For thou wilt not leave my soul in hell; neither wilt thou suffer thine Holy One to see corruption.

4. Isaiah 12:2, KJV

Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and not be afraid: for the Lord Jehovah is my strength and my song; he also is become my salvation.

5. Genesis 1:1, KJV

In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.

6. genesis 49:18, kJV

i have waited for thy salvation, o lord

7. Ephesians 2:2,5, KJV

Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience:

Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together

with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;)

8. Acts 2:28, KJV

Thou hast made known to me the ways of life; thou shalt make me full of joy with thy countenance.

9. Isaiah 53:5, KJV

But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.

10. John 3:3-5, KJV

Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.

Nicodemus saith unto him, How can a man be born when he is old? can he enter the second time into his mother's womb, and be born?

Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.

11. John 1:5,9, KJV

And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not.

That was the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world.

12. Psalm 23:1, KJV

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

13. Hebrews 12:2, KJV

Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.

14. Hebrews 10:23, KJV

Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering;
(for he is faithful that promised;)

15. Matthew 6:26, KJV

Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are ye not much better than they?

16. Hebrews 13:5, KJV

Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.

APPRECIATION



I appreciate those who have helped make this a reality.
A special thank you to Prof J Ojo for consistently encouraging me to write in this direction.



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