

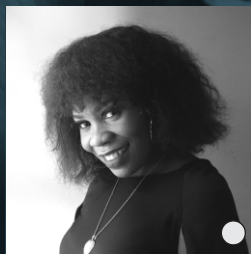


And so I know He is also here,
watching me. Then **I heard Him** say that
this too will come to pass!

"**Reflections** is the work of a potent poet. The words are the inspired presentation of each of our deepest thoughts and most closely guarded fears. Ebahi broke down the barriers that surround our hearts, helping us to give expression to those things we have hitherto searched for the right words to say."

Tutu Oshofowora - Author, Councilor and Convener of
Relationship Building Blocks

EBABI TAYO-OGUNLEYE is a strong voice of worship, an outstanding vocalist and a songwriter. She has a pronounced sense of purpose and believes that Life must be lived intentionally. Ebahi has written many songs including *Your name, You Deserve, Give Him Praise, You Are God* and the very soulful hit track single *Lay It To Heart* amongst others. She is happily married with children



RE- FLEC- FLEC- TIONS

...BEHOLDING HIM DAILY

a collection of psalms

Ebahi Tayo-Ogunleye

RE- FLEC- TIONS

(...BEHOLDING HIM DAILY)

a collection of psalms

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REFLECTIONS by Ebahi Tayo-Ogunleye

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SALVATION

THE EMPTY SPACE

I was so young, just about twelve
But I knew that there was something wrong
The world sees smiles on my face
Yet there still abounds an empty space
One that nothing in this world could fill
Though I searched the highest hill
I kept living.....why?
For I had not the reason ----- this empty space

Nothing seemed to work right
No matter how I tried
I never felt satisfied
Although I was always occupied
Everyone thought I was okay
But I knew I was near decay
On the corridor I was
When I admitted I was lost
Alone I wept
Hoping that I would be helped
Then she came and shared in my pain
'THAT EMPTY SPACE can be filled
As it is meant for only One Man
Who alone can make you stand
As she whispered in my ear, "DO YOU KNOW JESUS?"
For He is here, if you would allow Him draw you near
I believed as I welcomed Him in
The empty space to fill.

*From the ends of the earth I call to you, I call as my heart grows faint;
lead me to the rock that is higher than I.*

Psalms 61:1

TOOK MY PLACE

It should have been me on the cruel cross
It should have been my hands nailed on the tree
It should have been my side the sword pierced through
But You took my place.

Your head was bruised with a crown of thorns
Your hands were pierced while it should have been mine
I should have been the one, spat upon and dragged on the streets
But You took my place.

Now I have a life that is sweet to live
A hope that will forever endure
I am standing strong because You paid a great price
For You took my place.

You took my place to save my life
If I did bear the cross
I would have died
You had the power to lay Your life and rise again
But You took my place to give me another chance
For myself, I could not save
You bore my sin
Took the guilt away
When You took my place.

*God made him who had no sin to be sin for us,
so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.*

2 Corinthians 5:2



FORGIVEN

I cannot deny doing things You do not approve of
Though I have known You for many years
To say I do not disobey would be a lie
And to confess ignorance of Your forgiveness – falsehood!
If each strand of my hair were to fall off
and I become bald, even scalped
Dear Lord, I know it would be nothing to atone for my errors
But I have found grace in Your sight. Halleluyah!
Your forgiveness opens me up to new mercies
So, I would rather boast in Your forgiveness
Than in my efforts and good works
My claims of righteousness are mere rags before You
Even my thoughts need purification and cleansing
Yet in all, You offered a chance for better days
I wish I could sing it out loud in a song
But my voice is sour and so I'd rather write You the song
Knowing my heart sings it as well.
I am the one who has been forgiven much!
I know not of another but myself
No man could ever love me this much
To lay down His life for me like You did!
You, my King, died for me
What an astonishing love!
What an incredible story of all time!
It is my joy to honor You in all I do
Help me to truly pay You the tribute You so deserve, my Lord!

*Surely I was sinful at birth, sinful from the time my mother conceived me.
Yet you desired faithfulness even in the womb;
you taught me wisdom in that secret place.*

Psalm 51:5-6

I TRUST IN YOUR LOVE

God never fails
His workings, no failure
His love, ever faithful.
Oh, how I have come to trust in Your love!
I believe much in Your love for me, far more than life itself
Without a doubt I can never miss it in life
I know this truth, as I know my name

My life was so empty until You stepped in
When I was weak You showed me Your strength
Father, just as Kim Burrell sang
“I am convinced that I can do anything with You...”
Oh, let me abide in this love forever!
It is a safe haven for me

Was I present when You knitted me in my mother's womb?
When You decided to make me such beauty to behold!
When You gave me a name that is so world class!
Was I there when You decided to save me?
All of this I found embedded in that love You have for me
That love makes it easy to understand You have great plans for me
Spelt out so clearly before You
And to think that each day and moment
You ensure I do not fall short of fulfilling those plans
leaves me speechless

God of love, God of wonder, God of grace, the reason I'm still here
Your Hand of mercy touched me and I'm changed forever
Right here, I care less about the pleasures and pressures of life
All that matter is to experience again and again
The warmth, peace and security that Your love provides.

*Yet you brought me out of the womb; you made me trust in you, even at
my mother's breast. From birth I was cast on you; from my mother's
womb you have been my God. **Psalm 22:9-10***



IDENTITY

WONDERFULLY MADE

Your feet are not feminine! People would say.
No size in London! I was labeled
Of a truth, masculine shoes were my succor all through high school
Their derogatory remarks and humiliating opinions I endorsed
Because of ignorance of myself
I used to be laughed at; my nose was always a point of abuse
“Where is Gorilla Nose?” Someone’s calling for me. Ha!
Before the mirror I wished I was someone really beautiful. OMG!

I sold my reality for their opinions—self-esteem was alien to me
Poor little thing— no idea of her true identity!
I found solace in my books and academic performance
That was my only advantage, so I thought
Swinging moods became natural—controlling my emotions
But somehow I met with You and You showed ME to me!

Gradually I began to see the wonderful beauty I am
I belong to God, not them
God was awed when He finished this masterpiece—ME.
“This is so good!” He exclaimed.
He made me His choice and priceless jewel—little did I know.
He ordained my name: Ebahi —PROPHECY!

“She shall fully fulfill destiny and possess many lands and territories.
Her nostrils will sieve in clean air whenever she sings my praises.”
And wherever the soles of her feet set upon is hers for the taking.
Now, the stone they once mocked has become the chief cornerstone
There is no flaw in Your works; No error about me—this I know

*Not that we are competent in ourselves
to claim anything for ourselves,*

*but our competence comes from God.
He has made us competent as ministers of a new covenant
- not of the letter but of the Spirit;
for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life.
2 Corinthians 3:5-6*



PURPOSE

RUNNING THE RACE

I have chosen to run the race
Because I am certain that You have given me the grace
Though some roads are crooked
I will still march ahead

Tired I feel sometimes
Yet I find strength to draw at all times
From You Who has called me
Into this contest to win
Afraid I am at the hurdles
Fear seems to grip my soul at the obstacles
Almost at the point of withdrawing
Oh how You come to keep me going

As everyday goes by
The end of my race draws nigh
So I will press on
So that I wouldn't lose sight of beyond
Hmmm! My crown to obtain
In heaven, this is my greatest gain.

*Therefore, since we are surrounded
by such a great cloud of witnesses,
let us throw off everything that hinders
and the sin that so easily entangles.
And let us run with perseverance
the race marked out for us.*

Hebrews 12:1

ON THE JOB

It is another Sunday
And I am meant to lead another session of praise
Yes! Carry the people along in a worship experience
Lead them to His presence
What a job Lord!
I feel so weak and down in my spirit
I want to be led myself
I would willingly hand over the microphone.

But I hear the Spirit whispering; "in your weakness is My strength"
And sincerely I heard me say "Holy Spirit! Do not start..."
Do not tell me the things I know already..."
"Yes! you know

But my duty now is to remind you, especially in moments like this.
I'm aware of your thoughts and I know the very reasons
why you feel incapable.
But it is all in the plan,

As you sing those songs, you again proclaim the truth of My Word.
Your experiences shouldn't make you think less of My Word.
My Word is what remain true and not your experiences.
Your feelings will change the moment you decide to see me in them.

Especially if you are ready to work with Me,
So you see, go up there,
Spread my truth in the music
And just keep doing that."

*But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made
perfect in weakness. "Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my
weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me.*

2 Corinthians 12:9

NOW I KNOW WHY

Now I know why He loves me
Now I know why He cares
Now I know why He sacrificed His life
Yes! I am glad, I am glad He did

I am His best creativity
Astonishingly and skillfully completed
In no other likeness but His own
I am an icon! I hear Him say to me
“You can’t visualize the depths of My deposits in you
I cannot sit and watch you waste. NO!
Adam missed it, but I had a plan in store
‘Cause I could not afford you missing it too
And in that plan was to bring you back to Myself
Though at a great cost, but never at a loss
You are My purpose wrapped in flesh
With a mandate to fulfill on earth
Such that will help many others find My love, just like you have.”

“Yes I love you
Yes I care and a whole lot too
Yes I sacrificed My life for You
And I am so glad, so glad that I did.”

*For we are God’s handiwork,
created in Christ Jesus to do good works,
which God prepared in advance for us to do.*

Ephesians 2:10

HALLELUYAH!

Praise the Lord, O minstrels graced with melodious voices!
Shout His praise! Dance His praise!
Make melodies with your hands and bodies
Why so conscious of yourself before the Lord our God?

Praise the Lord, O minstrels, those endowed with passion to sing!
Are we not meant to sing before the King today?
He awaits our sacrifices of worship. Why keep Him waiting?
We have not kept the promise to be there morn, noon and night
Who are we to keep the King waiting?
Shall we continue like this because His grace abounds?
Is it because His gifts and calling are irrevocable?
I have gone ahead; please join me in a hurry.

Praise the Lord, O minstrels, garnished with the zeal for worship!
“Where are the alabaster boxes? Why have you come empty?
Why are your boxes not full?” says the Lord
I daily load you with benefits; I top your boxes every day and hour
Come with it into the sanctuary and pour your love on Me
Do it with a good and upright heart
And watch if others will not join in the parade”
Oh praise the Lord, minstrels! Praise the Lord!
You who are gifted with skills to make music
Make the strings, the pianos and cymbals flow together
Let the Drums, ‘konga’, ‘gangan’ and all percussions harmonize
Do not leave out the trumpets, saxophones and clarinets
Sing His songs back to Him.
O minstrels, praise the Lord always!

*Praise the Lord. How good it is to sing praises to our God,
how pleasant and fitting to praise him! **Psalms 147:1***



WORSHIP

IN AWE OF YOU

Despite Your love for me I fear You
In reverence, consciously I do nothing to hurt You
Nor anything that will arouse Your anger. No, Lord!
David, the psalmist said "You do things as You are pleased"
Who could have questioned You in all of heaven or earth?
But, in Your mercy You chose to do great things with my life
Because of this and many more I will fear You!
The scripture records how You wiped out an entire human race
And preserved just one family
How You erased kings and gave their lands and riches as an
inheritance
A special possession to Israel, Your servant
I can ponder on this truth all day long!
Though You desire me to love You with the heart of a child
And perhaps not leave room for any fear, but dear Lord consider my
fear as a holy sacrifice.
I really wished that Ananias and Sapphira did not mess up with You
I have learnt from them not to unnecessarily get used to Your Person.
It's Your choice to make me Your delight and I respect that choice by
choosing to live for You
No man can do the things You do, the way You do them
You are the true meaning of my life; the full definition of my destiny
Receive my upraised hands and my state of fear
As a symbol of intense reverence for You

*Serve the Lord with fear and celebrate his rule with trembling. Kiss his
son, or he will be angry and your way will lead to your destruction, for his
wrath can flare up in a moment. Blessed are all who take refuge in him.*

Psalm 2:11-12

GREATNESS PERSONIFIED

No question beyond Your knowledge
But, questions from the answers You have already gave
No idea beyond You, O Lord!
You own time and space; Eternity through eternity
The God who inhales and exhales wisdom
Ijinle Otito (Depth of Truth)! Ijinle Ife (Depth of Love)!
You are Greatness Personified
Your judgment reveals Your goodness
In rebuke Your love is never withdrawn
If all eyes are opened to see and understand
The length, breadth, depth and height of Your love
With ease all of human race will run to You for solace!
You can tell where the sky begins and where it ends
You can measure its breadth and its circumference
You conceived the image and purpose of an unborn child
And chart out its course for this side of eternity
One after the other You created us all
Peculiar seven billions and still counting
How You blend time and events into destiny's map is beyond us
Your insight is unsearchable; Your foresight is unfathomable
Your hindsight is unimaginable
The depth of Your creativity knows no bound
The beauty of Your works displays Your greatness
You alone are King! You alone are God!
You are Greatness Personified

*... God, the blessed and only Ruler, the King of kings and Lord of lords,
who alone is immortal and who lives in unapproachable light, whom no
one has seen or can see. To him be honor and might forever. Amen.*

1 Timothy 6:15-16

MAY I NEVER...

May I never get too used to Your Presence, O Lord!
To think that I can stage-manage Your Presence is folly
That I fully know Your powers is to belittle Your Omnipotence
All that You have ever created is just a miniature fraction of
All that You can still create
O Lord, You are more than everything; In fact, everything is in You
May I be stupid enough to obey You like Peter
When it made no natural sense
May I be foolish enough to offer my five loaves and two fishes
For a project meant to feed thousands of families
May I be crazy enough to have a preference for God's foolishness
Than to glide on the wisdom and brilliance of man
May I never cage what You can do
in and through me with my mindset!
May I never get too familiar with You
To make Your power of non- effect in my life!
May I never have the nerve to reason out Your instructions!
It takes a child to fill the pots with water when the need is wine!
Keep my heart and mind like that of a babe
Like that of a child who trusts and believes absolutely
May I never get too used to Your acts to take You for granted
Too used to Your styles to beat the Rock instead of speaking
May I never...
It is You alone who are to be feared.

Who can stand before you when you are angry?

Psalm 76:7

GOD SUPREME

How great You are,
Yet You dwell in this little heart of mine
The Light of the World beams from my inside
A mystery unresolved
The Lion, yet the Lamb
The Living Water, yet the Consuming Fire
The Pillar of Fire by night and the Pillar of Cloud by day
You are the Amazing Wonder humanity is yet to comprehend
Sinach sang, "The more I know You, the more I want to know..."
Oh, how true!
Your personality is unsearchable!
Incomparable, Indescribable, Unfathomable!
Who made a way in the sea, a path in the waters?
Who fed many mouths with just a little meal?
Who brought down great walls by mere shouts?
Who unraveled to Jacob the secrets of building his own merchandise?
Who defeated the wisdom of the wise and the strength of the great?
You never cease to do wonders in amazing dimensions
You are GOD SUPREME

*Who can proclaim the mighty acts of the Lord
or fully declare his praise?*

Psalm 106:2

*The waters saw you, God, the waters saw you and writhed;
the very depths were convulsed.*

Psalm 77:16

NONE LIKE YOU

I try to hold the wind but I cannot
I try to count the sand but I cannot
I try to number the stars, still I cannot
I gaze at the plants and have observed how You blend variety colors
Lord I find this to be extraordinarily beautiful
They all speak of Your mighty works
Who ensures that the ocean waters are still?
Not crossing their borders.
Who leaves the rainbow arc in the skies,
reminding us of His covenant?
Who ensures that the ovum of a woman develops to a foetus
and life is reproduced?
No one but the Almighty God.
I believe You gave science what it knows today
I believe You hold the world together
I believe You hold time in Your Hands
I believe that You are the True and Living God
There is indeed none like You.

*You care for the land and water it;
You enrich it abundantly.
The streams of God are filled with water
to provide the people with grain,
for so you have ordained it.*
Psalm 65:9





RELATIONSHIP

IT'S AMAZING

It's amazing how a King would stoop so low
It's amazing, how He died, just that I may glow
It's amazing, how I feel His love so pure
That in Him I have a destiny so sure
It's amazing, oh! His grace so full and free
To help me live a life abundantly green
It's amazing how through me His purpose is fulfilled
Only because my heart to Him I have released
It's amazing, how He lights my cloudy days
Making them as bright as the sunny rays
It's amazing how He meets every need
Even when I am not diligent with my seeds
It's amazing how He answers my own prayers
Not minding the weight of all His children's desires
It's amazing how He constantly has me in His mind
Even when I was yet to give Him a chance in mine
He is my soul's desire and strong Deliverer
My Shepherd, King, Strength and Shield
My Tower, Pillar and Mighty Healer
My Daily bread and Living water
My song and melody; my lot and inheritance
My Guide and Counselor
He is the voice I hear when I need to be directed
The calmness I feel when the storm rages
He is the very Peace beyond my understanding
Simply put - God is AMAZING!

*The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy;
I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.*
John 10:10

THAT I MAY KNOW HIM

Oh that I may know Him
Who is called Christ, the Anointed One.
Described as God's beloved Son in whom God is well pleased

Oh that I may know Him
Even the power residing in His Name
To show the world the saving grace of His Name
To manifest His power and glory in establishing His Kingdom
in the earth

Oh that I may know Him
To enjoy a sweet relationship with JESUS
Dwelling daily in His Presence; Feasting persistently at His stall
As He shows me the alleyway of life
Fullness of joy and pleasures forevermore

Oh that I may know Him
To grow in the things of the Spirit
Deeply entrenched, sound and sensitive
Robust in the mind and attitudes of His holiness
Daily leading a life worthy of His divine presence

Oh that I may know Him
To love You, sweet Holy Spirit
To always be in genuine fellowship with You
Till I fully exemplify Your Divine Nature and Attitude (DNA)
Necessary to carry the love of CHRIST to a dying world

*I want to know Christ—yes, to know the power of his resurrection and
participation in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death.*
Philippians 3:10

GET OUT OF HERE

How did I get here? I ask myself
How did I get here? My mind is full of fear
Thoughts of not being loved by You
When did I start to think I needed to work so hard for Your approval?
When did I start to measure Your love for me
By the things I possess or do not possess.
How foolish I have become to compare my life with other persons
Dissatisfaction, depression, worry are crippling in.
Please how did I get here oh Lord?

Looks like my heart has shifted its focus
When men slept, the evil one came sowing seeds
When and how did I sleep? Not watching! Not praying!
I took my eyes off You, Something like what Peter did
When You asked him to walk on water.
And now Your peace I know but only in trickles
Your joy I can't find! Your voice I don't seem to hear.
I must get out of here
It is nothing compared to what I know.
The life giving spirit on my inside has been silenced.
Lead me again beside still waters
Restore my soul
Renew a right spirit within me.
No delay! Get out of here!

*Create in me a pure heart, O God,
and renew a steadfast spirit within me.*

Psalms 51:10



DIRECTION

LOOKING FOR YOU

Right now I am looking for You
Looking for Your Hand, Your smile, Your wink...
Whatever I need to be sure You are with me in this
I have been there before when I thought it was okay to launch out
Only to find out that I followed my way, not Yours!
I have made up my mind never to go without You
So, right now I am looking for You in this

Right now I am looking for You
Lord, show me that You are in this
And that this time I am getting it right
You undoubtedly know the easiest language I understand
The peace You give, always surpassing my understanding
Your Word... My Lamp... My Light...
With Your light my flight becomes very easy
In Your Light I will make my greatest heights
But right now I am still looking for You in this

Right now I am looking for You in this
Though I feel like forging ahead
But it's not wise to take Your silence for a "Yes."
Rather, I will take it as a "Wait!" than a "Go ahead"
Though waiting isn't easy sometimes,
But I would rather obey than to fail, or to be a waste
So, I ask for strength to tarry a little longer until I find You in this.

*I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go;
I will counsel you with my loving eye on you.*

Psalm 32:8

PRAYER 

LIFT ME UP

My Lord! Come down
In Your mighty strength and power
Reveal Yourself in and through me
Show Yourself strong for me
Do what You alone can do
Release Your Hand of blessing
Shower the glory of heaven on me
From what money can buy me
To the countless bounties that money cannot!
Let Your goodness manifest!
Lord! Let men see Your glory in me
Give me new songs: new hymns of praise
Make ways for me in the wildernesses!
Grant to me Miracles that will take me to my next level!
Do new things, I pray You
Make me glorious news
A marvelous wonder for eyes to see
I desire such lifting and elevation
A rising that could only be arranged and explained by You
Cause me to be amazed, to wonder, and to be overwhelmed
To You alone is my cry
Uproar of praise awaits You, my Helper
And I will proclaim You to all men as the Glory and Lifter of my head!

*He performs wonders that cannot be fathomed,
miracles that cannot be counted.*

Job 9:10

HELPERS OF DESTINY

O helpers of my destiny, where are you
I call you from the east and the west,
From the south and from the north,
From across the nations and within the cities
Come to me! Come to me now! I know you are out there.
Let us find ourselves quickly
For my heart yearns to meet with you.
It's time for the prophesy to be fulfilled
It won't be difficult to find me, I have no doubts
For I have obediently positioned myself
Exactly where the Master said you will find me.
I haven't tossed myself to and fro.
Look at the manuscript given to you and just follow
I am waiting here, with such a great expectation.
Don't bother about how I will know you.
Because I will, I have a sure guide, the Holy Spirit.
He dwells on my inside, no errors found in Him
For He says to me exactly as He hears from the Master
Bring me my inheritances, my portions and my lots.
I am here; it's about time we met.

*Because of your temple at Jerusalem
kings will bring you gifts.*

Psalms 68:29

HUNGRY FOR CHANGE

I do not want to be the same again
I do not want to go back the way I came
Let Your presence saturate me now
Let it fill my being; let the exchange begin
I do not want to be the same no more

I remember how she met You at the well
Carrying a lot of burden on her mind,
she was thirsty for something new
But then her past didn't really want to let her go
You offered to her the Living water
in exchange for her stagnant water
In minutes, she was filled with joy and
sharing her testimony all around

He was known to be a killer of the saints;
the terror of the church of God
But on the way to Damascus,
He saw a light, he heard his name, he was filled with fear
You said to him, why do you harass, maltreat and discriminate Me?
But now, you will bear My mark!
And your name will be changed to Paul.

I do not want to be the same again
I do not want to go back the way I came
Let Your presence saturate me now
Let it fill my being; let the exchange begin
Because truly, I hunger for a change!
An increase! A new experience! A new name!
No more the same again.

*And we all, who with unveiled faces all reflect the Lord's glory,
are being transformed into his image with ever-increasing glory,
which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.*

2 Corinthians 3:1



HOPE

TEARS OF A SISTER

I could call him my brother
We grew up together in the faith
We had dreams and aspirations
One day I would be a mechanical engineer he often said
And I dwindled between being a doctor or pharmacist.
Years passed, we see ourselves growing daily
And suddenly, he is changing, living in the negatives
Wrong friends, low grades,
consistently inhaling gaseous carbon monoxide

How did God allow this to happen...?
My childlike faith would question
And now I have carried the burden for so long
Each time I think of him, I cry, I go silent,
I get lost in thoughts wondering where this thorn came from.
Years have passed and I still hope for the restoration of this lost sheep.
Lord, it's been over two decades! Should I have given up?
No I should not and I will not
'Cause to give up is to say that the problem is beyond you
If you came for the man at the pool after 38 years,
You will still come for him.
I will wait; I will wait, for you to wipe these very tears of a sister.

*Is not Ephraim my dear son, the child in whom I delight? Though I often
speak against him, I still remember him. Therefore my heart yearns for
him; I have great compassion for him," declares the Lord.*

Jeremiah 31:2



HEALING

TO BE A TESTIMONY

At this very moment
I do not know where to turn
To the right or to the left
To go ahead or step aside
I wish that everything I desire
Will just happen at the snap of my fingers
I wish that I could just run out the door
And embrace a whole new world.
I see life working for them and don't work for me
I see the peace that they own
The joy that they feel, the security they possess
But anxiety, insecurity, deep poverty, uncertainty
That is what I feel and that is what I see right now...
How is it that my story is different?
I hear what they hear
I sing what they sing
We serve in the same church
I am present in all the services too, Lord....
It can't be You Lord
You have been the same since time began
Your values, principles, Your Word
In the equation of life, You are constant
You don't change,
So it has got to be me!
Yes! – Me!
Show me to me
Show me my heart
Are You still there in my heart?
Have I pushed You out?
Where are You in my heart?
I cannot find You here

What has occupied my Master's seat?
Why is my heart no longer His home?
I am certain the room cannot be empty
I am too scared to even think about it,
No! No! No!
Resentment, distrust, unforgiveness, bitterness, anger
.... diseases locked up in my heart.
I see it, they are there, right there
Though it's hard to admit
They are right there in bits and pieces
Like little tumors growing in various corners of my heart
Little wonder I have no fruit to show,
My heart is infected
My confessions and my declarations of faith also
Making my promises delayed and my experiences in God stale
But diseases do heal,
Heal me Lord, I am ready
And fill me again
I let go, I give it all away
So that I can truly be the TESTIMONY
You want me to be...

*Listen to my prayer, O God,
do not ignore my plea.*

Psalms 55:1

HEAL MY HEART

When my heart is sour; when it is hurt
When words pierce like sharp arrows
When the arrogance of men arouse natural tendencies
When people act with no sense of apology
When they have taken my humility for stupidity
Gentleness for foolishness and meekness for weakness
And I feel like fighting back to let them know that
Blood equally flows through my veins
Then do I need healing, O Lord
I am Your servant; I am Your image
I am Your seed; I have a status in You
A status I would not want to stain or degrade
To fully reflect Your Person, Power and Glory all day
Oh give me the strength and grace not to be like any other but You
My Healer, come quickly and heal my wound
Let it go away completely like it never happened
For Your Name's sake
I refrain and swallow my pride
For Your Name's sake, I choose not to react
Your love has taught me to suffer long for my Master
Heal me O Lord, and I shall be healed!
Save me O Lord and I shall be saved!
Help me to remain worthy in Your sight
Heal my heart, O Lord!
Heal me...

*I have seen their ways, but I will heal them;
I will guide them and restore comfort to Israel's mourners.*

Isaiah 57:18

THANKSGIVING



PONDERING

More than my words and tears of joy
O Lord, more than a million thanks to You
I am trying to say something of delight
My heart fighting to burst forth
I don't know what it is
And I just can't hold it back
Simply put Lord, I am grateful
Grateful for all I was, I am and will ever be
You know my story, my birth and growth
My process, pains, and progress
Failures, errors and all
You gave beauty for ashes
Preserved my truths and shielded me from shame
For all these I give thanks and much more
For blessing me more than I deserve
For not exchanging punishment for my sins
For being my covering, more than I know or can say
A disaster I would have been if not for Your discovery and cleansing
Oh my! — See what beauty I have become!
I considered the times I wished I were dead
When I had more questions than answers
You saved me from dark-minded men
And preserved me for a future mapped out
A changed life with new definitions
You healed my wounds—totally whole, no scar whatsoever.
Halleluyah!
With these thoughts, I WORSHIP YOU

*Praise the Lord, my soul,
and forget not all his benefits.*

Psalm 103:2

IMELA!

Waking up each morning
I think about Your goodness and I thank You
What do I see? New mercies beyond my history
Therefore, I do not consider the mishaps of the past
I fully embrace the graceful showers of the day
And here is my heart without complaints.
Saturating Your ears with praises from my gratitude fountain
“IMELA!” (*Thank You!*)
Thank You for the million seconds I have lived and will live
Despite the perils of the nights and the arrows that fly by day
You never sleep nor slumber; my safety is ever paramount
Thank You for morning dew that flushes the air of pollutions
To ensure fresh breath for me every morning.
You gave me sight to always appreciate the works of Your Hand
I will say it again and again IMELA!
I refuse to forget about the job You gave me when I asked for it
You kept watching as I complained about certain things
Until I came to myself and learnt to be thankful in the midst of it all
I realized Your thoughts and plans for me are only good
No evil or harm therein
For the times I crossed the road without sighting danger
For the many times I violated the law and could have been caught
For the many times You fireproofed my home,
I may not know how sound my car is. Yet, I drive around
I dare not trust the mechanic, than I trust You
My thanks knows no bounds
IMELA! IMELA! IMELA!

*Praise the LORD. Give thanks to the LORD,
for He is good; His love endures forever.*

Psalm 106:1



PROPHECY

WHO IS BLESSED?

Who is blessed and honored?
Who is favored and graced over others?
Who stands out and is to be served first?
Who will walk the high places of the earth?
Who is garnished with the love of a king?
Is it not me? — the delight of the Most High God?

Whose needs do powerful nations and mighty kings supply?
Whose crooked paths have been made straight?
Whose steps are continually ordered by the Almighty?
To whom was it said, “Everywhere you walk you shall possess”?
To whom shall people submit?
Is it not me—the delight of the Most High God?

Who lends to nations and does not borrow?
Whose outcome is far beyond what eyes have seen or ears heard?
Who rides on the wings of grace; soaring like an eagle?
Who is never alone; whose ministering angels keep the charge?
Who cannot stumble? Who cannot trip?
Is it not me the— delight of the Most High God?

So why are you burdened, O my soul? Why worry?
I see beyond where I am or what I possess now
I see the Word as it is written of me in the sacred book
It is my season of Glorious Manifestation
I am the daughter of the Most High; the heir of the King of kings
I am God’s wonder in action;
I am the manifestation of the sure Word of Prophecy...
I am the blessed one

*And what no human mind has conceived”—
the things God has prepared for those who love him—
These are the things God has revealed to us by his Spirit.
The Spirit searches all things, even the deep things of God.*

I Corinthians 2:9-10

However, as it is written: “What no eye has seen, what no ear has heard,

MY SET TIME

My set time,
Tick says the clock, tick tick....
What He has promised to do ...
He will do quickly....
I know it is my time
Ask me how I know
There is music all around me,
Shouts of rejoicing all around me
From one friend to the other, from families to families
The miracles are happening and the major ones too
The testimonies are amazing...
It's like we are playing the game "pass me the ball."
Ha! Ha! Obviously it is getting to my turn.
I feel it; I hear it, my clock ticking as my time of overflow approaches
Yes! Lord I am ready,
Body, soul and spirit,
Remind me again – it is only but for Your glory...
News will go into town about me, but it's all for Your glory
They shall say "how come you got it so quickly"?
And I shall gladly declare...
"The Lord my God brought it my way."
I have rejoiced with others, now they will rejoice with me...
My set time is now!

*Surely you will summon nations you know not,
and nations you do not know will come running to you,
because of the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel,
for he has endowed you with splendor.*

Isaiah 55:5



MY PRESENT HELP

You have done it again today
I am never stranded!
I am never left alone
You always show up! Always!
And right on time too.
Flat tyres, boot jam
Kids in the car going to school
Had no means to reach my best friend
Had to fix the automobile
Mechanic miles away
Lo, it's in the morning!
I looked up and called to You as usual
Up to heaven I lifted my request
“Dear Lord, make a way!”
Oh yes, You did it!
I heard You say, “Do as I say.”
I did, and You sent help my way
Nothing missing, nothing broken
Nothing lacking; I got help with no stress
Help in exceedingly abundant measure
An intervention beyond my weirdest expectation
Exceedingly abundantly You say.....
Lord, I can't thank You enough!
E se o, Agbanilagbatan! Mo dupe o!
Oba da'ni ma gbagbe eni! E ku ise mi

*So we say with confidence,” The Lord is my helper;
I will not be afraid. What can mere mortals do to me?”*

Hebrews 13:6

IT SHALL COME TO PASS

A state of affair to the other
From one test to another
I was forced to ask God - “Sir, how far na?”
But then, a thought of Job...
Compared to His, I dared not complain
‘Cause God was there all along.
And so I know He is also here, watching me.
Then I heard Him say that this too will come to pass
As often said in the Bible, “It came to pass.”

From it a story evolves
Things really do come and pass away
Nothing lasts forever; no condition is truly permanent
Felt like I was drowning earlier!
But it's amazing how that phrase
Changed my attitude and lifted my heart!
Not too long I shall say of this phase,
“It came to pass, a moment in time...”

When I sought to give
When I fasted because there wasn't enough to go round
When I dropped empty offering envelopes in tears and pain
For I had a sure hope of my calling;
a great joy on my inside reminding me
That this has come to pass

So I endure the cross, not minding the indignity...
Because soonest, my Future though known to me
will be unveiled for the world to see
A blessing to and for many generations
Her challenges came and today, they are passed away.

*And the God of all grace, who called you
to his eternal glory in Christ,
after you have suffered a little while,
will himself restore you and make you strong,
firm and steadfast.*

I Peter 5:10

I WILL OVERCOME

I have been silent all day Lord
I do not think I have uttered a word to You
Many things I want to say, sincerely
I wish I knew how best to say them
I really do not feel like talking to You, it is crazy I know
Well it is not like You do not know what I am thinking or trying to say,
But it just doesn't feel real when I don't talk to You

You have become my surest friend
When no one is listening, I just know that You are listening
When no one is thinking of me, I can bet my life that You are
Yet Lord, I have questions
Questions that the world around me can't answer
So here I am at the bosom of my friend
to find rest for my troubled soul.
Why are You so hushed? Why do you seem so distant?
Why have You shut Your feelings?
How do I balance the instructions with my present realities?

Speak to me, my Lord!
I see the eyes of men staring at me,
I sometimes hear the murmurings
Though I act like I am not bothered
But my strength is shedding fast, that I can no longer hide
My brooks are dry, yet my tasks pile
I look up to heaven because You are all that I believe in
As hard as things may look, I know that You will never give me a
challenge beyond my capacity

So I ask for Wisdom and Grace in abundance
To see me through this phase and beyond-

for I must pass this test.
I will overcome!

*Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters,
whenever you face trials of many kinds,
because you know that the testing of your faith
produces perseverance.*

James 1:2-3

