

Appendix II

Let the word of Christ dwell in you
... in psalms, and hymns, and spirit—
ual songs, singing with grace in
your hearts to the Lord.

Colossians, 3:16

... go about the city ... make sweet
melody, sing many songs, that thou
mayest be remembered.

Isaiah, 23:16

A. FAVORITE SONGS SUNG DURING SERVICES

Music is a major part of the Holiness worship services. Guitars, electric and straight, tambourines, drums, and cymbals are standard instruments. There are usually a few regular singers from the church's congregation, but anyone who feels led by the Lord to sing a special message is warmly welcomed.

Reverend Alfred Ball, of the Holiness Church of God in Jesus Name, Carson Springs, Tennessee, organized a travelling singing group called the All for Jesus Singers. His husky-voiced young wife, Sister Eunice, is the lead singer, who, along with Alfred, plays a straight guitar. They go

to serpent handling and other churches throughout the Southeast, playing and singing their unique style of mountain gospel rock and blues. The demand for them is growing as word is spread about Brother Al's dynamic evangelistic message and the group's foot-stomping, hand-clapping, tear-jerking, almost country-western way with a song.

Thus far, the All for Jesus Singers are unrecorded professionally. Few outside the isolated church circles they have played for have had the unequalled enjoyment of listening to their original approach. Much of their music is the old-time songs of fundamental faith. Sister Eunice has written several songs, and many are "made up as you go."

Following are some of the favorite songs, many of which have been handed down through the generations. No matter who is singing or playing, the music of the little country churches has a distinct flavor, unlike any heard anywhere else in the nation.

Darkest Hours

I walked down many roads in my lifetime,
Not knowing what my life held for me.
Troubles come, couldn't find no answer,
But I found Jesus in my darkest hours.

Chorus:

I found Him on a mountain top, in valleys so low,
And when my burdens got heavy, I knew where to go.
Trials came and no one seemed to care,
But I found Jesus in my darkest hours.

Oh, there'll be mountains to climb, valleys to go through
And there'll be burdens that we will have to bear.
Your friends will be few, when there were so many.
Yet, Jesus was there in my darkest hours.

*Written by Sister Eunice Ball, Holiness Church of God in Jesus Name,
Carson Springs, Tennessee.*

Run a Little Harder

Chorus:

Run a little harder, if you want to go home.
You've got to fight a battle before you're strong.
Going along in Jesus name — He's still the mighty God,
No, He never changed.

Persecutions coming every day,
Then we know just what the Lord doth say.

Trials come on every hand.
Jesus gonna lead me to the promised land.

When you repent of all your sins,
Then a whole new life begins.
Go down to the water in Jesus Name — He's still the mighty God,
No, Ne never changed.

When I get to heaven, gonna look around
I'll put on my robe and I'll put on my crown.
I'll walk on the streets that are made of gold,
Live in a land where milk and honey flows.

Holy, Holy, Holy

Chorus:

Well, holy, holy, holy, and that's all right,
Well, holy, holy, holy, and that's all right,
Holy, holy, holy, and that's all right.
Oh, if you're living holy that's all right.

They call us holy rollers, but that's all right,
They call us holy rollers, but that's all right,
They call us holy rollers, but that's all right.
Oh, if you're living holy that's all right.

They say we're of the devil, but that's all right,
They say we're of the devil, but that's all right,
They say we're of the devil, but that's all right.
Oh, if you're living holy that's all right.

They call us Jesus only, but that's all right,
They call us Jesus only, but that's all right,
They call us Jesus only, but that's all right.
Oh, if you're living holy that's all right.

They call us serpent handlers, but that's all right,
They call us serpent handlers, but that's all right,
They call us serpent handlers, but that's all right.
Oh, if you're living holy that's all right.

They say we've all gone crazy, but that's all right,
They say we've all gone crazy, but that's all right,
They say we've all gone crazy, but that's all right.
Oh, if you're living holy, that's all right.

They call us the tongue gang, but that's all right,
They call us the tongue gang, but that's all right,
They call us the tongue gang, but that's all right.
Oh, if you're living holy that's all right.

An original song by members of various serpent handling churches throughout the Southeast. Given to the authors by Sister Eunice Ball, Holiness Church of God in Jesus Name, Carson Springs, Tennessee.

Zion, Oh Zion

Chorus:

Oh, Zion, oh, Zion
What's the matter now?
Oh, Zion, oh, Zion,
What's the matter now?

We used to sing and shout,
What's the matter now?
We used to sing and shout,
What's the matter now?

We used to speak in tongues,
What's the matter now?
We used to speak in tongues,
What's the matter now?

We used to pray for the sick,
What's the matter now?
We used to pray for the sick,
What's the matter now?

We used to cast out devils,
What's the matter now?
We used to cast out devils,
What's the matter now?

We used to take up serpents,
What's the matter now?
We used to take up serpents,
What's the matter now?

We used to love our brothers,
What's the matter now?
We used to love our brothers,
What's the matter now?

We used to believe the Bible,
What's the matter now?
We used to believe the Bible,
What's the matter now?

An original song. Author unknown. Courtesy of Sister Eunice Ball, Holiness Church of God in Jesus Name, Carson Springs, Tennessee.

God Gave Me A Light

Chorus:

God gave me a light, and told me to let it shine.
God gave me a light, and told me to let it shine.
God gave me a light, and told me to let it shine.
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

He saved this soul of mine, and I'm gonna let it shine.
He saved this soul of mine, and I'm gonna let it shine.
He saved this soul of mine, and I'm gonna let it shine.
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

He gave me the Holy Ghost, and told me to let it shine.
He gave me the Holy Ghost, and told me to let it shine.
He gave me the Holy Ghost, and told me to let it shine.
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

He healed this body of mine, and I'm gonna let it shine.
He healed this body of mine, and I'm gonna let it shine.
He healed this body of mine, and I'm gonna let it shine.
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Been baptized in His name, and I'm gonna let it shine.
Been baptized in His name, and I'm gonna let it shine.
Been baptized in His name, and I'm gonna let it shine.
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

An original song by members of various serpent handling churches. Given to the authors by Sister Eunice Ball, Holiness Church of God in Jesus Name, Carson Springs, Tennessee.

Wading Through Deep Waters

Chorus:

I've been wading through deep waters trying to get home.
I've been wading through deep waters trying to get home.

I've been wading through deep waters, wading through deep waters,
I've been wading through deep waters trying to get home.

I'm gonna see the One who saved me, when I get home.
I'm gonna see the One who saved me, when I get home.
I'm gonna see the One who saved me, see the One who saved me,
I'm gonna see the One who saved me, when I get home.

All my sickness will be over, when I get home.
All my sickness will be over, when I get home.
All my sickness will be over, all my sickness will be over,
All my sickness will be over, when I get home.

I'm gonna eat at a welcome table, when I get home.
I'm gonna eat at a welcome table, when I get home.
I'm gonna eat at a welcome table, eat at a welcome table,
I'm gonna eat at a welcome table, when I get home.

All my troubles will be over, when I get home.
All my troubles will be over, when I get home.
All my troubles will be over, trouble will be over,
All my troubles will be over, when I get home.

I'm gonna see my Jesus, when I get home.
I'm gonna see my Jesus, when I get home.
I'm gonna see my Jesus, gonna see my Jesus,
I'm gonna see my Jesus, when I get home.

*An original song. Author unknown. Courtesy of Sister Eunice Ball,
Holiness Church of God in Jesus Name, Carson Springs, Tennessee.*

Keeping Me Alive

Chorus:

Well, it's all over me, and it's keeping me alive,
Keeping me alive, keeping me alive.
Well, it's all over me, and it's keeping me alive,
Jesus is keeping me alive.

Well, I prayed it down from Heaven, and it's keeping me alive,
Keeping me alive, keeping me alive.
Well, I prayed it down from Heaven, and it's keeping me alive,
Jesus is keeping me alive.

Well, it's coming down from Heaven, and it's keeping me alive,
Keeping me alive, keeping me alive.

Well, it's coming down from Heaven, and it's keeping me alive,
Jesus is keeping me alive.

Oh, I feel it in my bones, and it's keeping me alive,
Keeping me alive, keeping me alive.
Oh, I feel it in my bones, and it's keeping me alive,
Jesus is keeping me alive.

It's the Holy Ghost and fire, and it's keeping me alive,
Keeping me alive, keeping me alive.
It's the Holy Ghost and fire, and it's keeping me alive
Jesus is keeping me alive.

It makes the devil mad, but it's keeping me alive,
Keeping me alive, keeping me alive.
It makes the devil mad, but it's keeping me alive,
Jesus is keeping me alive.

It makes me sing and shout, and it's keeping me alive
Keeping me alive, keeping me alive.
It makes me sing and shout, and it's keeping me alive,
Jesus is keeping me alive.

It makes me speak in tongues, and it's keeping me alive,
Keeping me alive, keeping me alive.
It makes me speak in tongues, and it's keeping me alive
Jesus is keeping me alive.

*An original song. Author unknown. Courtesy of Sister Eunice Ball,
Holiness Church of God in Jesus Name, Carson Springs, Tennessee.*

I Believe There's A Heaven

I believe there's a Heaven. I believe there's wrong and right.
I believe there's a Saviour. I pray day and night.
I know for sure there is a God, and this is true.

If you, a sinner, keep giving excuses for refusing to see the light
They say there's so many religions that they can't all be right.
They say they can't be holy enough and with a troubled soul,
Well, I haven't got much learning, but there's one thing that I know.

There are people who go out dancing in the jump-joint every night.
They say if you don't overdo it, a little bit's all right.
They say they only go to see, but I know it's a fact
That you can't go down the chimney without getting a little black.

There are so many people, and I know they're very wrong.
And if they keep on sinning, their religion can't be strong.
I know there's lots of hypocrites, and there's one thing I've found,
If a sinner can't climb higher, he will try to pull you down.

An original song. Author unknown. Sand Hill Church of God in Jesus Name. Courtesy of Sister Bea Eslinger.

B. POEMS BY A MOUNTAIN PREACHER

Ralph Eslinger is a Tennessean who loves God, his church, and his mountains. He finds it impossible to separate the three. He worships God as freely from a mountaintop as from a church house. Yet, he attends services regularly and often preaches at the House of Prayer in Morristown, or the Holiness Church of God in Jesus Name, Carson Springs.

Ralph, a giant of a man whose gentleness matches his size, periodically goes off into the mountains to be alone with the Lord. Surrounded by the calm serenity of nature, he communes closely with God. This man will often be filled with the Holy Ghost and handle coals from his camp fire or take up a meandering rattlesnake. Or, perhaps, he will write. Big Ralph is a farmer with little schooling, but he is frequently moved to write about his religious feelings. The simplicity of a child, the purity of a Christian, and a deep love of God are warmly evident in the poems of this mountain preacher.