

TREASURES OF THE HEART

by
Kenneth L Birks

Prose and Poetry Refreshing the Soul

Treasures of the Heart

Prose and Poetry to Refresh the Soul
Developing to a Deeper Walk with God

Biblical Devotional Poetry

By Kenneth L. Birks

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Chosen by God as peculiar treasures, in Him, we delight.
Distributing gifts to all, He pours into our vessels to ignite.
Given for the profit of all, His body, He desires to glorify.
Given to aid in ministry, we press to receive His best.
As flames of fire burning with passion, we press to bless.

*But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency
of the power may be of God and not of us.*

2 Corinthians 4:7

Foreword

As you read through the devotional prose and poetry found in this book, you will find a beautiful blend of timeless truths fitly applied to today's culture and challenges that fill your heart with treasures from above. The Heavenly insights will challenge you to grow in the knowledge of the Son of God, enabling you to excel in all that God is calling you to be and do.

Each devotional poem stands on its own, but together, they will propel you into a rewarding journey of experiencing the treasures God desires to fill your heart with as you journey through this life. *"This book's prose and poetry writings are intended to call you away from all that distracts so that your heart can be set on what brings delight to your soul and our Heavenly Father above."* — David Fredrickson

The majestic flow from one poem to the next contains powerful prophetic wisdom and revelation that will fill your hearts and minds with the wonderful treasures God intends you to enjoy. *"The prose and poetry written here are very Davidic and musical. They will flow like delightful streams of thought with heavenly impartations as you receive encouragement to fulfill all our Heavenly Father has commissioned you to do."* — Edward Becker

May God bless you richly as you meditate on the Word of God that has been interpreted into Holy impartations of encouragement and blessings through prose and poetry.

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The Father's Peculiar Treasures

Chosen by God as peculiar treasures, in Him, we delight.
Distributing gifts to all, He pours into our vessels to ignite.
Given for the profit of all, His body, He desires to glorify.
Given to aid in ministry, we press to receive His best.
As flames of fire burning with passion, we press to bless.

With the fields of harvest before us, His gifts, we attest.
The Word of knowledge at the well, He reaped a harvest.
As prophecies reveal the state of hearts, faith challenges.
With gifts of healing and miracles, crowds gather to hear.
With discerning spirits, demonic strongholds disappear.

Knitted and framed together as lively stones, He builds.
As each stone discovers its gift, He places strategically.
Freely given to expression, we press on, building accordingly.
As each stone freely explores, His glory overshadows.
Bathed in glory, multitudes repent, changing dramatically.

A greater harvest to reap, fully developed, we make ready.
As one body, fully equipped in all gifts, we rise in formation.
Throughout the earth, we go to every tribe and nation.
Fully armed with spiritual weapons, Satan stands aghast.
As Jesus puts the sickle to the harvest, the earth is harvested.

~

In whom the whole building, being fitted together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord, in whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place in the Spirit.

Ephesians 2:21-22

Treasures of the Heart Unlocked

Hidden away in obscurity, desires unachieved lie in wait.
As areas of the heart remain locked, destiny lingers.
Hidden deep in the recesses of the heart, treasures await.
In obscurity, that which begs to be opened unlocks.
Eyes of understanding enlightened, discovery inflates.

Holding the heart's keys, insight reveals the kingdom within.
As questions seize, light breaks through the cracks therein.
Insight giving way, that which was locked opens.
With treasures glimpsed, hope appears for what's exposed.
Undetected areas uncovered; treasures appear disclosed.

With destiny no longer lingering, divine abilities unearth.
Faith moving forward, all things about life disperse.
With treasures opened, the heart presses forward in fervency.
Forgetting the past, it reaches forward, laying hold fearlessly.
Free from chains of darkness, the heart rejoices in discovery.

As seasons come and go, treasures appear when required.
With each season, new treasures lie waiting to be opened.
Faithful is He who holds, giving keys needed or desired.
Unlocking abilities, innate and divine, new treasures appear.
Oh, that we might know Him, who has the keys to the kingdom.

~

That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that you may know what the hope of His calling is, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints.

Ephesians 1:17-18

Rejuvenated by the Holy Spirit

Lost in delusions of self-destructive ways, we look for comfort.
Worn down with the same results, we look for something new.
Looking for a magic formula, we dream away, lost in confusion.
No longer satisfied with what once filled, we contemplate.
Once empowered by dreams of success, disillusionment settles.

Hearing others speak of empowerment from above, we give ear.
With interest piqued, we look for answers with listening ears.
With childlike faith, we step into thoughts foreign to our thinking.
A breath of hope materializing, we consider what's left behind.
Nothing to lose; we embrace this new way, trusting as we go.

From faith to faith, belief in this unknown path becomes clear.
Given to the path wholeheartedly, empowered, we commit.
With full realization, we immerse ourselves in God's Holy Spirit,
Giving up on self-sufficiency, we rely on His sufficiency to sustain.
Empowered by His Spirit, we press forward in all freely given.

As His truth becomes reality, it sparks heated passion within.
As belief and faith merge with His Spirit, ignited passion produces.
Empowered with fresh vision and understanding, we run to gain.
No longer lost in confusion, freed from past, we're free to fulfill.
With promises given, we fully embrace all told wholeheartedly.

~

However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears, He will speak; and He will tell you things to come.

John 14:13

Manifesting Christ's Presence

With fruitful harvests in mind, the divine seed He plants.
Planted deep in the earth it bursts forth in His likeness.
As a grain of wheat has many seeds, His seed multiplies.
Going forth in His likeness, the seed planted bursts forth.
In a powerful display of power, transformation emerges.

Born of the Spirit, His seed planted, hearts begin to produce.
As the seed takes root, new life springs forth, bearing leaves.
Watering seed with the Word, trees of righteousness appear.
As plants emerge in abundance, fruit bursts forth in His likeness.
Faith to faith spiritual growth is evidenced in Christlikeness.

Making no provision for the flesh, new nature emerges.
As newness in Christ emerges, the old disintegrates.
From glory to glory, Christ reveals Himself in those emerging.
Putting on the garments of the new man, the old are tossed.
Adding to their faith, virtue, knowledge produces self-control.

With godliness, kindness, and love in place, newness takes over.
Filled with power and authority, newness emerges in fullness.
Knitted and joined together in Christlikeness, His body emerges.
Fully surrendered, embracing His cross, His body magnifies.
His seed multiplied; Christ appears in His glory through His body.

With His presence manifested, His Body harvests and gleans.
With signs and wonders filling the harvest fields, they reap.
As multitudes upon multitudes enter, He transforms abundantly.
With many laborers praying into the harvest, much is gleaned.
With the harvest reaped, the coming of the Lord is prepared.

~

But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord.

2 Corinthians 3:18

Cultivating Your Heart

Trampled by carnality and worldliness, the heart disengages.
Weighed down by worldly cares, the soil cries for righteousness.
Disillusionment taking over, the heart gives way to confusion.
Cracked and broken, the ground's soil yearns to be plowed.
With the promise of righteous rain, prayers for rain are heard.

Committed to cultivating fallow ground, repentance is pursued.
Coming as the early rain, His righteousness rains uninhibited.
As righteousness begins to rain, His love softens the ground.
As cracks disappear, righteousness covers, chains are unbound.
As ground saturates, treasured hearts emerge renewed.

Newness emerging, transformation sprouts with refreshed reality.
The ground watered and nurtured; increase gives way to vitality.
With a spirit of joyfulness, the ground gives way to new fruit.
Immersed in wisdom and revelation, a surge of power is felt.
As downpours of righteousness extend, new fields are plowed.

Coming as the latter rain, covering the earth, He extends mercy.
Made entirely new, cultivated by His Spirit, the anointed rise.
In His fullness, fully matured, the harvest is beautiful and glorious.
The harvest completed, the earth's fruit is excellent and appealing.
Having escaped from worldliness, you stand ready for His return.

~

*Sow for yourselves righteousness; reap in mercy; break up
your fallow ground, for it is time to seek the Lord till He
comes and rains righteousness on you.*

Hosea 10:12

Hearts Filled with Joyful Treasures

Awakened by thoughts swirling about, we listen joyfully.
With anticipation, we give of ourselves to Him faithfully.
In wonderment we stand amazed as joy penetrates.
Drawn to Him in intense joy that floods, we discover.
Embraced fully, joy reverberates with cleansing power.

Sins washing away, guilt and shame disappear into the night.
Captivated by His joyful treasures, in His benefits, we delight.
As tender mercies take hold, angels above rejoice over us.
No longer bound by sin and darkness, we delight in salvation.
Redeemed from destructive ways, our joyful hearts beat on.

Satan aware joyfulness strengthens; he comes to steal.
With traps and snares, he comes to deceive and beguile.
Not ignorant of his devices, we stand ready to defend.
As he hurls his darts, taking the shield of faith, we contend.
Filled with joyful hearts, in His countenance, we give praise.

From the wells of salvation, we continually draw as joy fills.
Filled with the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, His joy fulfills.
Called according to His purposes, with joyful hearts, we lead.
Immersed in His Spirit with wisdom, revelation accedes.
With anticipation for heart treasures to come, joy exceeds.

~

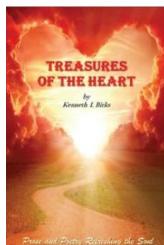
*Behold, God is my salvation, I will trust and not be afraid;
for Yah, the Lord, is my strength and song; He also has
become my salvation. Therefore, with joy, you will draw
water from the wells of salvation.*

Isaiah 12:2-3

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Treasures of the Heart: Prose and Poetry Refreshing the Soul

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About the Author



Ken Birks is an ordained Pastor/Teacher in the Body of Christ. He functions as an elder and is one of the teaching pastors at The Rock of Roseville in California. He is presently semi-retired with a writing ministry and serves as a wedding officiant in the Sacramento region. Before this, for twelve years, Ken was the Senior Pastor of Golden Valley Christian Center, a Spirit-filled, non-denominational church in Roseville. Ken attended and graduated from the Charismatic Bible College of Anchorage. He

came into a relationship with Apostle Dick Benjamin, then the Pastor of Abbott Loop Christian Center (ALCC) in Anchorage, Alaska.

Aside from The Lord Jesus Christ, the core of Ken's spiritual being and the person he's become is a direct result of the influence and teaching he received from Dick Benjamin for more than 25 years." Other influences have been Bob Mumford from Life Changers and, in the past 20+ years, Pastor Francis Anfuso of The Rock of Roseville.

Ken has been married to Lydia for 44 years plus. They have two adult children and consider them their highest calling, along with the many teens and children they have been foster or surrogate parents to over the past 30 plus years.

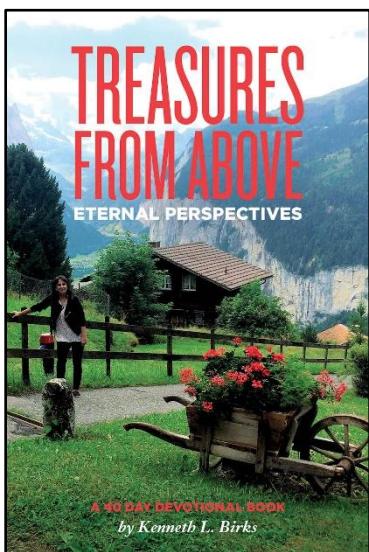
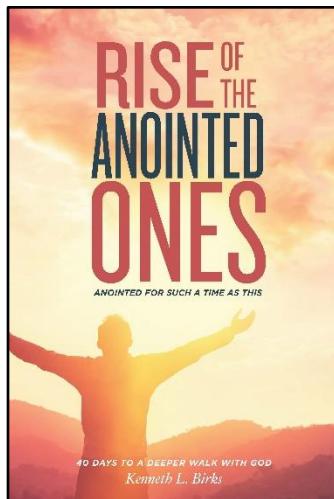
Check out Ken's internet ministry, "Sowing Seeds of Faith," at kenbirks.com. Sowing Seeds of Faith reaches over 5500 unique visitors a month with free Bible studies, devotional poetry, sermon outlines, audio and video messages, podcasts, and other Bible study materials to help equip saints for the work of the ministry.

Books and Workbooks by Ken Birks

40 Day Devotional Books

Rise of the Anointed Ones

Ken Birks has written a masterpiece of superb continuity. Each devotional stands on its own, but together, they propel you into a rewarding journey of experiencing God's presence in tumultuous times. The majestic flow from theme to theme contains powerful prophetic revelation as God calls His end-time warriors to arise. The poems that follow each devotional are Davidic and musical. This book is like a voice in the wilderness calling God's beloved away from all that distracts Him who is jealous for His bride. – Ed Becker and David Fredrickson

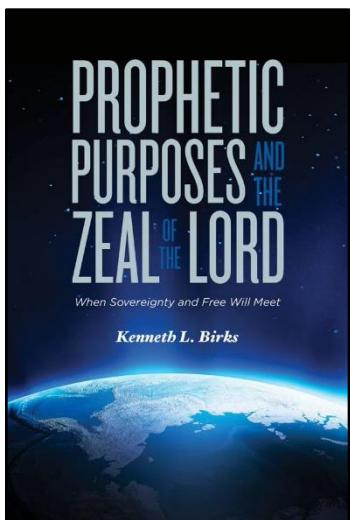


Treasures From Above

These devotionals are designed to enhance your relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ in all aspects of your walk. The intent is to draw you into a deeper understanding of how the Holy Spirit and God's Word work together to conform you to the image of Christ. Each devotional should inspire you to be all you can be in Christ as you embrace the wonderful promises of God to help you receive all that pertains to the life God has given you. The aspect that separates this book from other devotionals is that each devotional ends with a biblically inspired poem that encapsulates the essence of the devotional.

Books and Workbooks by Ken Birks

Theological Books



Prophetic Purposes and the Zeal of the Lord

Do you believe worldwide revival is possible? Try to imagine what it will be like when the Church rises in the glory spoken of by Isaiah, the prophet. Just as God, in His sovereignty, brought forth the Messiah according to Daniel's prophecy, He will bring forth the prophetic purpose of a worldwide revival according to His timing. God's people, whom He planted in every city, village, town, and countryside worldwide, will stand up as the vast army, just as Ezekiel prophesied. His prophetic purpose will be fulfilled. As God breathes on the dry bones prophesied

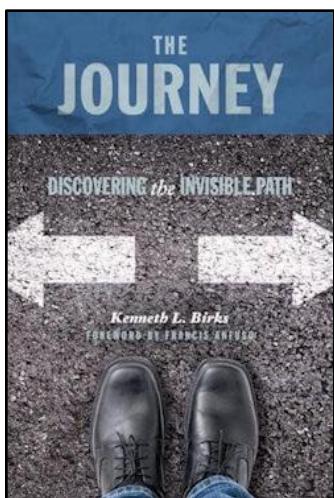
by the prophet Ezekiel, His glory will fill all in all, just as Paul prophesied to the Ephesians. This book explores and instructs how to be ready for this prophecy and others that God will fulfill before the coming of Christ to set up His eternal kingdom on earth as it is in heaven.

The Journey: Discovering the Invisible Path

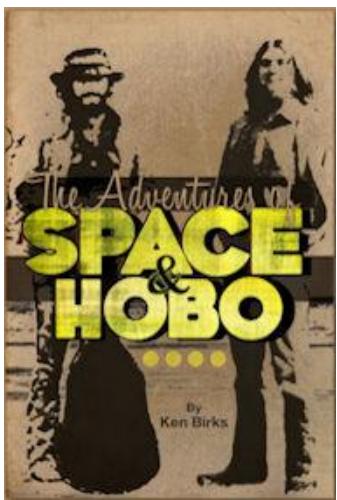
The Journey gives a glimpse into God's path for your life. Whether you're starting your journey in the middle or detoured and lost your way, it will help you. The book illuminates the invisible path that leads to God's goodness and experiencing His kingdom within. It leads you to discover the most incredible adventure of your life.

Quote from Francis Anfuso, KLOVE

"Ken makes complex concepts simple and masterfully unpacks the Bible's greatest mysteries. He provides a sure foundation upon which to build a lifetime of insight."



Books and Workbooks by Ken Birks



The Adventures of Space and Hobo

The Adventures of Space and Hobo tells the story of Ken's nomadic life after Vietnam. The book explores the on-the-ground confusion and chaos of the Vietnam War and its effects on a generation and those who served. Named "Space" by a new friend, Hobo, Ken, and his traveling companion hit the road to partake of all the possibilities of that generation in search of adventure and uncharted experiences. The story takes us step by step along the path of awakening a lost soul on his way to understanding

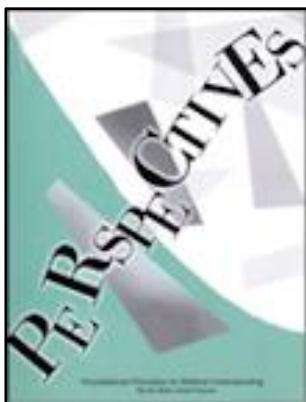
himself, his path, and the meaning of his life.

Bible Study Workbooks

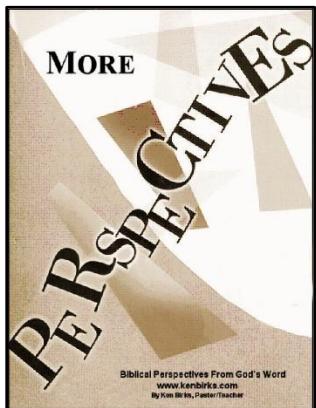
Biblical Perspectives Course

This course features lessons designed to give you a solid Biblical foundation in the elementary truths of God's Word. It has three things in mind: building doctrinal foundations, developing godly character, and helping you discover and find God's destiny and purpose for your life.

Please see the following website for more information and Lesson Titles:
kenbirks.com/perspectives-both/



Books and Workbooks by Ken Birks



More Biblical Perspectives Course

This course features lessons focused on three major areas of our Christian growth - doctrine, character, and destiny.

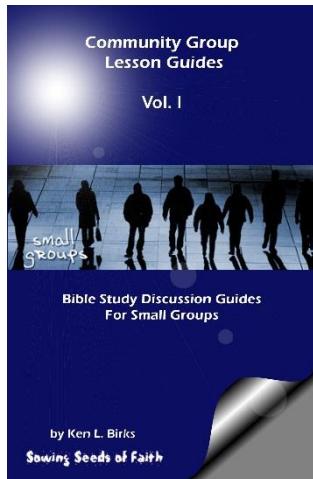
These lessons are designed to give you the Biblical understanding to strengthen your Christian foundation and take you on a deeper walk with God.

Please see the following website for more information and lesson titles:
kenbirks.com/perspectives-both/

Small-Group Lesson Guides

There are twenty-five lessons to help you discover Jesus in your midst during small group Bible studies.

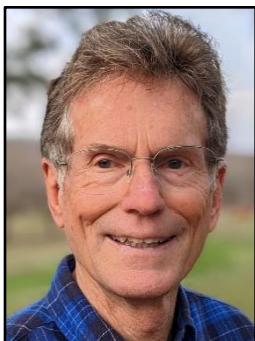
Please see the following website for complete information and titles:
kenbirks.com/discipleship/lesson-guides.htm



For all Books and Materials,
please see the following website:

Booksbyken.com

Reviews and References



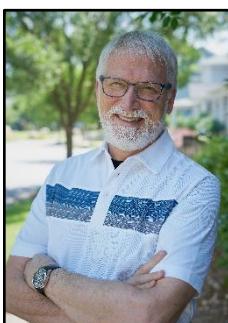
David Fredrickson, Sr. Pastor (Retired), Evangel Christian Fellowship, Sacramento, CA

Most true followers of Christ would agree that we are witnessing a time when self-serving Christianity is reaping the whirlwind of disunity, confusion, and fruitlessness. It is past time to listen to the voice of reason merely. Instead, we must respond with renewed minds, hearts, and actions.

Ken's devotionals and poetry are like a voice in the wilderness calling God's beloved away from all that distracts to Him who is jealous for His bride. The reader who hears and responds will bring joy to the heart of God and encouragement to others who have put their hand to the plow.

Edward Becker, Senior Pastor, Naches Valley Community Church, Yakima, WA; Vice President, Antioch World Missions

This work is filled with Biblical truths and spiritual revelation that flow from a heart passionate for the Savior and His precious Bride, the Church. The majestic flow from theme to theme contains powerful prophetic revelation as God calls His end-time warriors to arise. I was also amazed by each poem. The words were Davidic and musical, flowing like delightful streams with heavenly impartations.



Dr. Jay Zinn, Founder of The Discipleship Group

There are few authors who can take theology and turn it into a devotional series of divine, inspiring nuggets of poetry. Ken Birks is an author who penetrates your heart and soul to know God better.

Reviews and References



Jim Feeney, Ph.D., Former Sr. Pastor and Webmaster at Pentecostal Bible Studies and Free Pentecostal Sermon Central

I've known Pastor Ken Birks for several decades. He and I have worked in various ministerial capacities in the same family of churches. Ken is held in extremely high esteem among our many pastoral colleagues. He is a minister with a strong grasp of the Word of God, a wide variety of administrative skills, a heart for souls, a proven experiential familiarity with the gifts of the Holy Spirit, and an unwavering commitment to the work of the Lord.

Doug Hartline, Information/Technology Director, University of California - Retired

Ken's work herein ensures God's Word shines from a different angle in a way that helps us to look at it in a much deeper and often more profound way. It provides us with the unique ability to understand and appreciate God's Word in ways we may never have thought of before. We are suddenly confronted with beauty and clarity to our perceptions of our world and God's Kingdom.



Online Connections

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Sowing Seeds of Faith, Bible Studies. Sermons, and More

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TREASURES OF THE HEART

**Awakened by His voice within, we rise in anticipation.
Gliding through the landscapes of our minds, we look back.
Seeing His hand in all that's gone before us, we glimpse.
With deposits of faith, He gently caresses the heart.
Breathing new life into us, the way forward is discovered.**

About the Book

**This book is a collection of Devotional Prose and Poetry
Ken has written over the past few years. The prose and
poetry is designed to enhance your growth and maturity in
Christ and inspire you to be all that God created you to be.**

About the Author



Ken Birks is an ordained Pastor/Teacher in the Body of Christ. He presently functions as an elder and is one of the teaching pastors at The Rock of Roseville in California. He also serves as a wedding officiant in the Sacramento region. Before this, Ken was the Senior Pastor of Golden Valley Christian Center, a Spirit-filled, non-denominational church in Roseville, for twelve years. Ken has been married to his wife, Lydia, for over 44 years.