

ISRAEL 12/27/03-1/09/04

QUESTIONS

So much I don't know
Asking all I see
Which way should I go?
Bumped by fate
Unwilling to bend the knee

Failing to hear
That voice call, "Come follow Me
Do my work
Serve my folk
I will set you free
And guide you where you should go"

But no, I trudge on, walking my way, Leaving home, Doing my thing
Setting out to find my dream

The urge inside, Misdirects my soul, Passions unfold, Help grows cold,
My ears are sealed, Life becomes confused, Like always walking uphill

"Has God said?" Becomes my plea, Danger demands, I call to Thee,
But once resolved, again I turn to me, My way is how I want it to be

One day when life is thick, I kneel and cry, Help me, I want you and only you,
I'll do what you say

Your grace engulfs me, I find myself and see I am free, To be me, To love you,

CC 12/27/03

ISRAEL 12/27/03-1/09/04

FRUIT OF SIN

Desperate lives, Mean eyes, Always grasping, Me and mine no more

Proud of self, Acting in spite, Long nights, Hands stained red

Passing time, Loading minds, That accuse and abuse, At the mercy of the world

Blown here, Thrown there, Plans awry, Go and sin more

Evil grows, Hearts cold, The end is near, Only ideas of love

Christ comes, And gives a heart, That changes me, From cold to hot

I can see the way, To the dreams I've known, Each day new, Joy is known

Using me, To speak the truth, Evil gone, Christ is home.

Clay 12/27/03

ISRAEL 12/27/03-1/09/04

ON THE JOURNEY

I'm thinking about the journey
Thru the Lord's lovely land
What we will see
What God will say to you and me

I want to be useful
Speak a word of truth
Show me Lord your wisdom
So I will better serve You

Standing full of mercy
Grief gently held
Knowing you will use me
Help me be of help

A life that is devoted
I want to see it real
Exercised by actions
In the life that I live

Hurting people cared for
Evil people loved
Forgive me Lord for doubting
Show me the land that you love

Starting out with Samson
Ending at Zion Gate
Teach me about Jesus
In every step I take

Walking thru a wadi
Standing on a throne
Remind me of Your forgiveness
And those I love at home

Every day is precious
Cover us with grace
Speak thru Tom and each other
So our hearts will wake

Very soon it's over
Pack my bags with you
So I will remember
What you've called me to do
Jesus is the answer
Israel is the place
Let me see your victory
As I walk towards heaven's gate
12/27/03 CC

ISRAEL 12/27/03-1/09/04

EXAMINATION

God examines me
Sees what I see
Knowing my intent
And that I'm evil bent

Jesus waits for me
To come and declare
The sin I've done
I must share

Sharing declares
To God that I know
What I've done
And that I want to grow

Cleansing is God's gift
When I fess up
Touching me
Setting me free

Each new day
Test time anew
God's examination
Helps me stay true

It strengthens my life
Eyes for my soul
Forgiveness renewed
Jesus lives in me
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ISRAEL 12/27/03-1/09/04

NEARING ISRAEL

Here we are
Worn and bruised
Flying in planes
Ain't a cruise

We've paid a price
Of worry and some fear
Drained of vigor
Our bodies scream stop!

And yet ahead we see
The Land of the Lord
Beckoning to us
Come, see and explore

See the valleys
Those conquerors settled
Drawing Israel
From God's hand

See the hills
Where Jesus walked
Bringing peace
To those He sought

Birthing life
For you and me
Giving spiritual eyes
That we might see

Walking roads
Of wisdom's school
Giving ear
To prophet's talk

I want to see
I seek to know
Lord help me
To see your home

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ISRAEL 12/27/03-1/09/04

THE CROWN

I know the Lord, I am happy that I do, To praise His goodness, And proclaim Good News to you

Jesus keeps every promise, He is never late, When we struggle with evil, His hand will give us strength

He is our protection, Our glory resides in Christ, Jesus has the power, He holds our fate

The Lord will reign forever, He's chosen us to be, Partners on His journey, The Lord sets men free

Blessed is His manner, Wisdom flows from Him, He gives light for living, As we follow Him

Each one of us is precious, Each one has a crown, The Father loves His children, He will never let us down.

CC 122803

ISRAEL 12/27/03-1/09/04

SHORESH

Down a road
Up a hill
In a wooded vale

Gentle folk
Comfort food
Curried chicken and dessert

Tom late
Time flew
Too soon it's bed

Breakfast ahead
A day of discovery
To see what God says

Off to bed
Pray for sleep
Ask the Lord our soul to keep

12/28/03

ISRAEL 12/27/03-1/09/04

GOD CAN USE ME

God is able to use me
My life is in His hands
He sees me as a treasure
His beloved one

Righteousness is His gift
Bought by Jesus' sacrifice
Giving me a pathway
To walk and live my life

Obedience is required
It verifies my faith
Spending time with Christ
Keeps me up to date

A relationship is best
Growing day by day
Jesus is the answer
I walk with Him by faith

Faith is the substance
Revealed by my acts
Becoming more like Christ
Builds a fruitful life

I am important
God has a use for me
I can be His servant
And claim what God has for me

Gifts and skills are given
To each and everyone
My hands have a duty
To do as Christ has done

Care for the hurting
Help those in need
Be a present blessing
And God will be pleased

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ISRAEL 12/27/03-1/09/04

Francis Kimmitt (On the road to Beersheva)

Standing in the sunshine
Azekah at his right
Francis shared God with us
Talked of David's fight

Francis is a fighter
A servant of the Lord
Seeking God's wisdom
Living like the Lord

Able, gentle speaker
A man who loves the Lord
Insightful from God's wisdom
A willing life by choice

A hard working teacher
Trustworthy and kind
A life of example
Pure and refined

Faithful to his family
A man that we can love
His heart is a witness
To all the things of God

12/29/03

ISRAEL 12/27/03-1/09/04

Harold Mosley

Abraham revealed
By Harold's thoughts
Expressed under control

Honed and refined
Volumes in each word
Harold is a man to be heard

Taskmaster of himself
Careful with his speech
He is a servant
Who lives at Jesus' feet

A kind, Godly father
Daughters all grown
He loves his wife
Jesus resides in his home

Always there for service
A private man of God
Serving where God leads him
Listening to God

Obedience is his watchword
Exercised in his life
Jesus is his master
The Lord controls his life

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ISRAEL 12/27/03-1/09/04

ABRAHAM'S WELL

Beersheva's well
That Abraham dug
Speaks his story
By Christ I have heard

Abraham followed
Obedience was his strength
Again and again
A Godly life displayed

Willing man of faith
Dealing with his sin
A learning, Godly servant
A man with many friends

Serving all
A caring soul
Seeing value
Everywhere he would go

Listening to a quiet word
Spoken by the Lord
Only Abraham heard God
And stood where God said

All around were questions
How could he be so wise?
His obedience despised
Abraham followed His guide

He never veered to right or left
He walked where God would lead
A man of iron with patience
Called a friend of God
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ISRAEL 12/27/03-1/09/04

EILAT

Border town
Of rich renown
In and out
Israel's devout

Out of sight
On their own
The way they live
Defies the mind

Europe's call
Playground for all
Gambling dens
Evil wins

Jesus has work
By a faithful few
Pressing on
Reminding you

Pray for them
Ask for strength
Others too
To fill their ranks

It's time to hear
Heaven's call
Or satan's crowd
Will win them all

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ISRAEL 12/27/03-1/09/04

RICH DAY

It was a very rich day
Seeing Israel's history
Out the window of the bus
Riding to Eilat

Standing on the shoulder's
Of several men of God
Listening as the Spirit
Spoke thru them God's Word

Weather far beyond my hopes
Riding where Egyptians woke
Reaching far beyond their land
Enslaving people by their own hand

Timnah Park caught me by surprise
The tabernacle
The people
And all that rock

It was a very rich day
To know that we belong
We say man's work
We felt God's hand

12/29/03

ISRAEL 12/27/03-1/09/04

I WANT TO SEE

So much explained
In God's Word
I want to see
I want to know

About my sin
About my will
Guide me Lord
To sit or be still

Speak to me
Of wayward ways
So I will hear
And immediately obey

The barren land
So vacant and brown
Is like my life
If your aren't around

I need your light
To guide my feet
I need your hand
So I won't flee

Bend my will
Break my fear
Give me courage
To love those near

As we cross
The land of Zin
Remind me Lord
I don't have to sin

Help me see
My erroneous ways
Teach me to care
To love those You hold dear

12/29/03 CC

ISRAEL 12/27/03-1/09/04

PETRA

Red rock
Dead people
Pageantry in stone

Petra's journey made
No one was home
Now evil rules stone

Long ride
Mountains groaned
Waiting for Christ's return

I noticed all the business
Even new highways
But all around me were unsaved

It was a very long day
The border was a drag
A few minutes took two hours

What have I learned?
While we were all alone
On the journey to the stones

People need the Lord
I need more faith
To keep my emotions steady
And not let my world shake

The world is full of hardness
It claims it is in charge
But Christ the Lord my Savior
Has laid His claim in my heart

12/30/03 CC

ISRAEL 12/27/03-1/09/04

GREAT TO BE WITH YOU

Father it is great to be with you
All I think and say and do
Is under your review

You know my heart
As evil as it can be
But my new soul loves thee

So much ahead to see
Protect us from the fall
Or any other enemy

I think of those at home
Care for them and all
And speak to me

About your love
And concern for me
And those that need thee

Jesus is the source
Righteousness comes from Him
And by His grace falls on me

The road ahead is dark
The changes are unseen
But every step I take
Is in the Father's hand

12/31/03 CC

ISRAEL 12/27/03-1/09/04

HOMeward

Homeward thoughts
Family and friends
Wish they were here

To see the Bible
Come alive
And have a meal with me

The land is so rugged
The people tough and smart
Their revenge is a killer
And blinds a man's heart

So long a struggle
No one will give in
Men and evil spirits
Win again and again

I want to grow
Lord let me see
How to be a servant
And bend my knee

Surrender bestows freedom
Gracious love like God's
Forgiving and forgetting
Will give me a Godly heart

12/31/03 CC

ISRAEL 12/27/03-1/09/04

LOVE IN THE DESERT

Up the road we go
Sand and desert grow
Israel wandered here
God is really dear

What a Lord we serve
He kept them alive
Israel trudged here
So many missed the love

Love is an act
It says that I count
People need love
To survive the desert of life

Check out and see
Do you love enough?
Jesus sets us free
To love and love and love

Life is often sparse
In a desert land
Not unlike love
In the ordinary man

Love takes time
Requiring one to care
For those unknown
Declaring to the world God loves me

When I see my worth
It validates my life
What I give to you
Bears fruit in me

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ISRAEL 12/27/03-1/09/04

MOSES WAS HERE

Moses was here
Living in the sand
Carried God's gift
A relationship with man

Obedience was the call
Moses failed the test
It broke God's heart
The failure in the sand

Each of us has deserts
A thing that we hate
Is there something
That makes you ill?

Pain and suffering come
Deserts intensify
The failure we feel
Causes life to be real

I want to change
To be a friend that cares
Deserts are the place
To help me learn the best

Deserts appear barren
But underneath the sand
Reside the things I need
To help me serve man

12/31/03

ISRAEL 12/27/03-1/09/04

SAVED BY GRACE

Saved by grace
Evicted from Hell
Reaching out to tell
Jesus will save you new

New idea
This way Lord
I can do this
“Not here, not now”

Back to work
The daily grind
Let’s go God
Not here, not now

Trained and hired
Teaching some
Let’s reach the world
“Not here, not now”

I get so mad
Why can’t I have my way?
Things are so slow
“Not here, not now”

Praying, learning
Building a friend
Seeing God’s miracles
In the place I serve
“Right here, right now”

12/31/03 CC

ISRAEL 12/27/03-1/09/04

WHAT I SEE

What I think
Is what I am
It's not what you see

Thinking shapes
The way I talk
How I do for you

Guiding me
Through all the things
That life throws at me

I become
A better man
By seeing you
And hearing all I can

Actions come from thoughts
Thoughts are choices made
God seeks my attention
To help me see His way

01/01/04 CC

ISRAEL 12/27/03-1/09/04

MEGIDDO

Raining at Megiddo
Coming down in sheets
Good for Israelis
Bad for my feet

Slipping on the limestone
Trudging thru the mud
Twenty plus owners
Have dealt with this drudge

This is a place of victories
And losses at the same time
Interesting owners
That held on too long

Protecting their convenience
Controlling traffic flow
Today with computers
We have the same hold

God was always present
Man always ignored
The wealth at Megiddo
Was created with their sword

Things that man makes perish
God always is
I choose Jesus
In Christ I can live

1/1/04 CC

ISRAEL 12/27/03-1/09/04

CARMEL

Fire fell
On Carmel
From God's hand
To earth

Men came
Blaming God
Accusing Him
Of weakness and lack of worth

No talk
God explained
By irrefutable ways
He is in control

Fire fell
Elijah ran five miles
Then fled from Ahab
He was afraid of the King

I'm no Elijah
He called down fire
His fear set him aside
I can't even call down fire

And question God
By falling down
Fearing life
And blaming God

But God heard
And reached towards me
Knowing my need
Christ forgave me

01/01/04 CC

ISRAEL 12/27/03-1/09/04

A NOD

How many times?
Have I challenged God
Failing in devotion
Walking with a nod

Talking, ever talking
Telling all I know
The Lord is quietly waiting
For me to listen and go

Go do the service
Only I can do
Help all the hurting
That I run into

Go help an enemy
Prayer is a way
Lift up the evil
Pray they will find Christ

Look for the heartache
Felt by most we meet
Share your encouragement
From the things you seek

Just a nod to God
Will not do the work
Christ must be the center
Of my life and work
CC 1/1/04

ISRAEL 12/27/03-1/09/04

WRONG DAY

Wrong day
Wrong way
Frustration compounded

Working out
A faith move
That's what life is like

Make it go
Surge ahead
Will end in problems for sure

Stop and sit
Listen and learn
The Lord will give the way

He wants me
And for me to hear
Draw near

The day belongs to God
My life is in His hands
His presence is my strength

1/2/04

ISRAEL 12/27/03-1/09/04

WRONG DAY

Wrong day
Wrong way
Frustration compounded

Working out
A faith move
That's what life is like

Make it go
Surge ahead
Will end in problems for sure

Stop and sit
Listen and learn
The Lord will give the way

He wants me
And for me to hear
Draw near

The day belongs to God
My life is in His hands
His presence is my strength

1/2/04

ISRAEL 12/27/03-1/09/04

I WILL NOT

I got troubles
I got woes
Difficult days
Heaven knows

Christ has come
He bore my sin
Felt my troubles
Returned to men

Now He's here
Walking with me
Helping me hear
Calming my fear

Guiding me
To peace and joy
Giving me
His wisdom and strength

Equipping me
To serve and love
Using me
To be His hands
Calling me to be His feet

Now I go
A little scared
Jesus is alive
I will not die

1/2/04 CC

ISRAEL 12/27/03-1/09/04

DONE IT AGAIN

O Lord, I need you
I've done it again
Looked away
Recovered my sin

Clean my hands
Heal my ears
Wash my heart
Reappear
I need you near

I do it so much
I'm sure it's a drag
I'm weak and foolish
I Act like a child

Help me grow
To change my ways
To obey your Word
And rejoice each day

Give me peace
Encourage me
Spread your love
All over me

ISRAEL 12/27/03-1/09/04

ALL I WANT TO DO

All I want to do
Is live life my way
I never bend my knee
I'm not free

I want to sit in front
And even drive the bus
Guiding me
As though I could see

And then one day
I knew my sin
Gave my life to Jesus
He birthed me again

That old man in me
Wants to have its way
Always stepping out
This way Lord, follow me

Failure comes
Embarrassment and gloom
I've done it again
I always presume

Thank you Lord
For holding onto me
Just like Job
You humor me

Then when I stop
I can hear you
Come this way
And follow Me

Thankfully I heard
Gratefully I seized your Word
Jesus lives in me
Life in Christ is where I want to be

1/03/04

ISRAEL 12/27/03-1/09/04

PRIMACY OF PETER

Always ready
Ever near
Listening
Hoping
To calm my fear
Jesus is my all in all

Looking
Listening
Crying for me
As I stumble
Fail
And flee
Jesus is my all in all

Offering life
Risking loss
Telling me
He's paid the cost
For my victory
Jesus is my all in all

Finally I come
Worn and lost
Overwhelmed by the world
Destroyed
Jesus forgives me
Jesus is my all in all

010304 CC

ISRAEL 12/27/03-1/09/04

GALILEE NIGHT

Singing songs of victory
On a cold Galilee night
Walking on the sea shore
We rejoiced in the sights

Stars and dark
Lights on the distant shore
Each of us was singing
Our love for the Lord

One song, then another
A dozen or more
Our cold hearts encouraged
Angels crowded in

Then we prayed together
Asking Christ to forgive
He is our Savior
In Jesus we live

I think we will remember
That Galilee night
Then one day in heaven
Jesus will share His delight

1/03/04

ISRAEL 12/27/03-1/09/04

CAPERNAUM

Friendship
Fellowship
Service
Devotion

I belong to Jesus
He says I need these things
Capernaum saw the miracles
And didn't learn a thing

Heartache
Failure
Poverty
Loss

We can help cure
No matter what the cost
Religion ignores people
It sucks their resources dry

Jesus came renewing
Enabling man to find life
So that we can face tomorrow
No matter what our plight

Giving is the planting
We reap what we sow
True wealth is discovered
When we give to all we know

01/03/04

ISRAEL 12/27/03-1/09/04

TROUBLED MIND

Jesus walked down streets He knew
Listening, caring, healing
Knowing all their hearts
Seeing human sin

He saw their shoulder's bent
By ignorance and arrogance
Weighing a ton
The world beheld God's Son

Feeling their failure
Conquering the urge to fix
Jesus kept on walking
His sacrifice would be next

He saw each needy person
As He willingly gave Himself
Then the cross exploded
Destroying Jesus life

Christ saw my sickness
Dead from my sin
Rising from destruction
Christ freed me from my sin

Jesus, Jesus, Jesus
What a joy divine
Christ is the answer
For each troubled mind

01/03/04

ISRAEL 12/27/03-1/09/04

JESUS WITH ME

Galilee is calm
The morning has come
A day of adventure ahead

Breakfast first
Then on the bus
Exploring God's world today

We see the years
Absorbed in rocks
And joy at our thoughts

Jesus came
He walked this place
Just like He walks in my heart

I love the Lord
And enjoy His Word
But the best is speaking to Him

He knows my ways
And lives my days
Now I know more about Him

All the discomfort aside
I enjoy the ride
As I look at Jesus' land

Not because He was here
But because I am here
And Christ has come with me

CC 01/04/04

ISRAEL 12/27/03-1/09/04

A DAY TO THE NORTH

Crisp day
Sun and wind
Headed to the north

Crossing through the Galilee
A caravan route
First Hazor

A really big town
Of wealthy men
It handled all the trade

Today it rests
With a sodden crest
All those men are dead

Off again
Thru the town of eight
Herman has a white head

Dan was where
We turned in
And walked thru thousands of years

Rushing water
Rushing tribes
Laish was destroyed

What seemed like a blessing
Seduced Dan's men
And constantly pulled Israel away

Picking up our journey north
We followed Jesus' trail
Up the road to Hell's gate-Caesarea Philippi

Pan was here
And so were the Romans
Where Jesus stood and spoke

"Follow me
I'm building my Church
You do not have to fear"

"God is near-He loves you-And those you hold dear"

We wound our way up Nimrod's Hill
A Crusader Fortress of old
Remind me of churches today
Secluded, exclusive, and alone
CC 01/04/04

ISRAEL 12/27/03-1/09/04

CALLING HOME

A call to home
Very far away
To a wife dealing without me
Struggling with adversity

Trusting her to Jesus
Please take care of her
Remind her of my love
Help her cope with fear
Protect her, she is dear

When apart
The heart is sad
But soon we will be home
With stories great
And sights galore

What a joy I see
When I get back home
And share my experience with you

01/04/04

ISRAEL 12/27/03-1/09/04

BYRON

There are real people
In this world
Fewer than they think
But Byron is real
A man of God who thinks

He thinks of Christ
And writes a song
To share his love and care
And touches hearts
With Jesus' concern for them

He thinks of others
And brings them joy
He shares from his heart
And bends his knee in service
To bless their heart

He honors God
By thought and deed
Loving Jesus first
His love for Christ
Expressed in life
He gives as he goes

It is hard to tell
Of others we know
But truthfully told
Byron is whole
A real man to know
A son after God's own heart

01/04/04

ISRAEL 12/27/03-1/09/04

PRAISE GOD

Praise God for all He does
Life given
Strength shared
Comfort provided
Praise God for all He does

Praise God for all He does
New friends
Daily breath
Victory given
Praise God for all He does

Praise God for all He does
New Day
Work and home
Mate and children given
Praise God for all He does

Praise God for all He does
Knowing
Feeling
Experiencing
Praise God for all He does

Praise God with His Word
Praise God by my action
Praise God in your heart
Praise God for all He does

01/04/04

ISRAEL 12/27/03-1/09/04

GOLAN

Golan broad
And green and strong
Protects the land
That God calls home

Standing hard
Against the view
That others
Can destroy you

Enemies here
Can hit the homes
That ring the Galilee
If kept away
Will save the day

What about you?
What beachhead has Satan won?
Does he gloat?
Each time you're undone

Seeing you
On bended knee
Hurt and weak
Yet his enemy

Take that stronghold
To the Lord
God will do the work for you
Satan will not win
And God will give you life

CC 1/04/04

ISRAEL 12/27/03-1/09/04

IMMANUEL

Immanuel, God with us
Where we are
Not where we aren't

Came to be
A part of us
All we do
Not just the good

Seeing us
Feeling our pain
Knowing our name
God's love is real

Calling us
To follow Him
Eternal life
We can be like Him

Guiding us
Each day we live
Equipping us to give
And be His hands and feet

Doing for us
So we grow
And get to know
Jesus who outfits us to win

01/05/04 CC

ISRAEL 12/27/03-1/09/04

MY LIFE IS REAL

My life is real
All the things I do
And God loves me

Where I am
And for what I am
Jesus has set me free

He has plan
For you and me
A plan of value and worth

Not to elevate me
Or lower you
But to equip me to serve Him

In service I grow
And reap what I sow
And see the Lord of life

My surrender to Him
Is victory for me
Enabling me to help you

My freedom is from sin
And not from God
I am free from death
I win

01/05/04

ISRAEL 12/27/03-1/09/04

GOD JUDGES

God judges
Not me
I am to love
And care for you

All I do
I do for you
To become like Christ
And live His life

His control
My surrender
His life
My death

When I serve
It is to do
But first I must be
Like Jesus

I see you
The things you do
But I am called to serve
And not declare you wrong

1/05/04

ISRAEL 12/27/03-1/09/04

I MUST BE

I cannot be
What others say
And stand for Christ

I must be
Surrendered me
And live for Him

Gifts and skills
Can honor God
But obedience is first

To change my life
From flesh to Christ
That I might be bold

Bold to serve
Bold to give
Trustworthy with my life

Spending time with Jesus
So I can help you
And live for the Lord

Days will come
Days will go
But I can survive

Live with Christ
Obey the Lord
And I will grow

01/05/04

ISRAEL 12/27/03-1/09/04

TESTIMONY

I have come this way
With a purpose
And a hope
To get to know better
How to live and grow

I'm looking for the Lord
In every place I can
I want to change
To be His man

I read His word
I pray that it will stick
Inside my heart
And guide all I do

I fall down
And by His promise
Climb back up
Jesus never fails

And then I saw
The Lord alive
In my heart
And by my side

Christ is with me
He hears every word
He knows my need
And gives me worth

I am not alone
I'm victory's child
Jesus has come
My live is won

1/5/04 CC

ISRAEL 12/27/03-1/09/04

NOW WE GO

Now we have come
To the victor's stage
A drama written by God

He sent His Son
On our behalf
To show how life could be won

Ordinary men
Impoverished times
The world changed for 2,000 years

What a thing
The Lord has done
Showing us how to give

To give of self
To have a heart
To be what we can be

No one left
By themselves
Unless they choose to be

God is good
Christ is Lord
The Holy Spirit has come

All this happened
Where we've been
Now we know

We know the Lord
We know His peace
Christ is in our heart

Now we go
To distant shores
And share Jesus with all we know

1/06/04 CC

ISRAEL 12/27/03-1/09/04

VIA MARIS

Driving the Via Maris
It is 2004
A whole lot bit different
Than what conquerors rode before

We zipped along
In relative ease
A thousand thoughts each
And comfort was the score

Conquerors raped and pillaged
They burned houses down
Leaving ash and dust
And their bondage hurt

All we leave
Are Christian thoughts
Man is good at thoughts

But I resolve
To take what I've seen
And tell the world of Christ

01/06/04

ISRAEL 12/27/03-1/09/04

ZION GATE

Zion gate stands
Full of bullet holes
Majestic and strong

Stormed by troops
Reclaiming their land
Acting as God's hand

Now they feel
That God is gone
And they are giving away their land

How many times
Have battles been won
By sacrifice and cost
And then the war lost
By self-centered greed

Tossing out the sacrifice
Luxuries claimed
Living high on others
That died for their gain

Too many times
The weak link
Earns a place in the sun

Leadership given not earned
Based upon the desire
To build a life of style

Then too late learn
The gate is undone
And all their gains are gone

01/06/04 Clay

ISRAEL 12/27/03-1/09/04

GATES AND STONE

Gates and stone
Will not stand
When destroyer's come

They slash and burn
And throw down stone
Leaving what was behind

How many times?
Have we built forts
To separate ourselves from God

Telling Him we will listen
Telling Him we are true
And yet living double-minded

I bend my knee
Before the Lord
Jesus knows me well

Forgive me Lord
For ignoring you
Help me to hear

Often what I hear
Is not appealing to me
So I quietly slip away

Then one day
I hear no words
Lord, what did you say?

“Obey me
Walk my way
And I will teach you again.”

01/07/04 CC

ISRAEL 12/27/03-1/09/04

SHORT ACCOUNTS

Too much time goes by
Too little accomplished
Looking forward to more
The day that I will be

Be the thing I know I can
What God created
Seeking Christ to let Him
Shine through me

Effort and difficulty
More than I can
Frustrated again
I fail and sin

Then Jesus touches me
Calming that fear within
That chases me
His work not mine

Living a Christ-like life
Is a costly life
Requiring my surrender
And obedience to Christ

Keeping short accounts
Admitting when I am wrong
Brings me back to focus
And equips me to grow

01/07/04 CC

ISRAEL 12/27/03-1/09/04

GATES OF HELL

Going to the Gates of Hell
At Caesarea Philippi
Caused me to think
About the way I live

Convenience is a factor
Luxuries are required
Fashioning my lifestyle
As the center of the world

Demanding my ego
Always be assuaged
Wanting my way
At the end of the day

Looking out at others
Seeing them as tools
I can use for profit
Or theological abuse

Refusing equal value
For all that I meet
Defining my relationships
By things I can defeat

People are not chattel
Man is evil and weak
In Christ the Savior
A person becomes complete

Value and worth
Come from God
The Holy Spirit leading
To make people first

Flesh and blood are dying
Economies ebb and flow
But when we come to Jesus
Our spiritual life will grow

Life is a gift from God
Spiritual life a birth
If Jesus is our master
People are of worth

01/07/04 CC

ISRAEL 12/27/03-1/09/04

HAZOR

Hazor lies dead and quiet
Who knew that this town
Would one day be gone

God gives wealth
God gives life
Ignoring God brings death

Where are the bodies?
What will they do?
Jesus shouts arise
Their judgment will renew

They will stand before the Holy Lamb
No wealth, no beauty, no fame
What happened to their powerful name?

Extracting many fortunes
From merchants traveling by
Now the folk of Hazor
Will march straight to Hell

My heart is breaking for them
They could have accepted God
But the people of Hazor said no

You must turn to Jesus
Confess your sin to Christ
For the people of Hazor
Now think that is good advice

01/07/04 CC

ISRAEL 12/27/03-1/09/04

CAROL

A thoughtful
Patient person
Who holds her tongue

Dealing gently with people
In a helpful
Hardworking way

She is a tireless worker
Protective of her brood
And attentive to their needs

Often overlooking self
She is interested
In all her family's days

What a gifted person
Creative and genuine
In all her ways

A co-worker with Jesus
A beautiful person
Through and through

Witty and wise
Never alibis
Strong and wise

A blessing
A joy
Sent from God
Carol, we love you

01/07/04

ISRAEL 12/27/03-1/09/04

HOW JESUS LOVES YOU

Each of us has value
World changing things to do
For two whole weeks
Jesus has walked you

Focused on the history
Walking through God's land
Our group has great value
God has spoken to you

We walked with Moses
Saw Abraham's well
Visited Peter's city
Cried where Jesus fell

Traveled through the desert
Traipsed through Dan
Gawked at Mount Herman
Prayed on the Galilee

Each of us has contributed
All of us have grown
God continues blessing
As we return home

Time turns its pages
We'll soon close this book
I will not forget
How Jesus loves you

01/07/04 CC

ISRAEL 12/27/03-1/09/04

ARCHIE ENGLAND

Archie is a giant
A scholar who is wise
Reaching out to teach us
Always learning and kind

Everyday was better
Because of his words
Encouraging and caring
Open and sincere

Helping us to see
The things that he saw
Yet always letting us be
A part of what went on

He infuses excitement
For the learner and the pro
Highlighting insights
That will help us grow

Used as an agent
By the Lord in His land
I feel I am better
As I've traveled thru the land

Archie makes you feel good
He magnifies who you are
He care for people
Giving them his heart

01/08/04 CC

ISRAEL 12/27/03-1/09/04

JIMMY DUKES

A friend
A scholar
Used by the Lord

To guides us through Israel
Lifting up Jesus
Sharing God's Word with us

A man who walks with Jesus
Real and strong
Able to teach God's song

Leading thru the Bible
Listening to our words
Jesus spoke thru him

I am wiser
I am encouraged
Jimmy taught us God's love

Not enough words
To list all his good traits
Three are he is faithful, trustworthy and true

He is a wise man
He is kind
Creative and insightful
He shares his heart and mind

Easily approachable
Gentle with replies
He sees greatness
In each of our lives

God is our master
Jimmy is a good servant
I am grateful for God's use of him

01/08/04 CC

ISRAEL 12/27/03-1/09/04

TOM BRIMMER

An unusual man
With a song all his own
Used by God
To lead us thru God's land

A man with a gentle spirit
Generous and kind
Willing with his teaching
Helpful and one of a kind

He's taught us geography
He's helped us see the land
Teaching us the customs
Leading us by our hand

Enjoyable to be with
Trustworthy to the Lord
A joyous spirit
Used by the Lord

Led by God
He lives in God's land
Reaching out to others
Helping them see God's hand

CC 01/08/04

ISRAEL 12/27/03-1/09/04

GROUP

I came to Israel
Looking for giants
And they were with me

I wanted to travel with God
To learn more about Him
And He was with me

Jesus values people
This trip has underscored
How valuable you are

Thank you for your teaching
The excitement was great
Everyday with Jesus is a delight

Thank you for your insights
Every site was blessed
By one of your thoughts

Traveling thru this land
I have heard the Lord
As He spoke thru you

01/08/04 CC

ISRAEL 12/27/03-1/09/04

WHEN I GET BACK HOME

I miss loved ones
I will hug them close
I will listen
As they share what went on

I'll see them thru new eyes
I've missed them lot
I just want to sit
And listen to them talk

I will not ignore them
They are blessings from God
Each moment is special
I am blessed by their love

Then when recovered
I will tell of our trip
All the things God told me
Nothing will I skip

I will share our laughter
Our pictures and things
It will be a pleasure
To recount the journeys dream

Thank you for your safety
Thank you for your word
Thank you for your teaching
Help me live what I've heard

CC 01/08/04

ISRAEL 12/27/03-1/09/04

TUVEA

Quiet and capable
Blocked by our speech
Always eager to please

A special, caring driver
Careful and complete
Never harried or weak

Even tempered
Looking ahead
A smile on his head

Careful planner
Always a clean bus
Ready to meet our needs

It was a blessing
To travel around
With Tuvea at the helm

01/09/04 CC

ISRAEL 12/27/03-1/09/04

PETRA

Red rocks
Climb and walk a lot
The wind howling thru

Edom barren
Swept by God's hand
We saw the desert too

A place of natural beauty
Rugged and clean
Massive and at times mean

Everywhere were tombs
All is carved from rocks
They sit quietly alone

Now we saw
The truth from God
His Word is without flaw

01/09/04

ISRAEL 12/27/03-1/09/04

VALUE AND WORTH

I see my life
In physical terms
I fail to look at length
To see the things that are ruling
The spiritual side of me

Behind the veil
Where we cannot see
And yet long to be
All the things that matter
Are ruling over me

I want to know my value
The world declines to give
An estimate of my worth
And yet Jesus came and died for me
The spiritual side of me is valuable
Now I want to see

I ask for Christ's forgiveness
He comes into my life giving me life
Now I see God's estimate of me
The Lord of all sees all of me
And He, the Lord loves me

Christ opens up God's riches
Seven thousand promises to me
And reminds that the Lord is living with me
Setting me free from foolishness and fear
Guiding me to live a life of value and worth

I see the needs before me
The Lord has invited me in
Now I will serve Him
Loving Him
And staying close to Him

Clay 01/10/04

ISRAEL 12/27/03-1/09/04

ARAD

Fighting Moses
Holding the land
Seeking to destroy
God's little band

Later its location
Made it David's fort
A place to put people
To dangerous to court

Always a high place
In view of the green
One step to desert
And virtually unseen

They built a holy altar
To mimic Jerusalem
Maybe Solomon worshipped
Out of sight of his God

Ever a stronghold
That sowed seeds of doubt
This little fortress
Was evil's way out

Out to the people
Making irrelevant the claims
That Israel came making
In the Lord's precious name

No place for wisdom
No obedience here
Arad was failure
That stoned Israel's ear

I will obey
I will do it God's way
That is all Jesus asks us
For success His way
CC