

## A POET'S PRAYER TO CHRIST

O Creator of the infinite variety  
in ever-new worlds unfolding,  
in ever-fresh thoughts revealing,  
how convention's uniform "obvious"  
squeezes out every drop of uniqueness  
from our personally special contribution  
to Your envisioned human tapestry!

We, in Your image, are thus drained  
of sacred individuality, O great I AM,  
of diverse creativity, Almighty Artist,  
and blinded from seeing the big picture,  
detoured from the divine path of life.

Forgive us, Lord, for our lazy conformity  
to the sly serpent's social straitjackets!

O Son of God, our Savior and Lover,  
one with us in body and soul and spirit,  
by Your hovering, inspiring Holy Dove  
instill in us our own new horizons of heart!

Indweller of our separate inner beings,  
the One bidding us follow You in unique ways,  
calling each of us no longer servants but friends,  
manifest our newly birthed identities in You,  
enlivening our works of art, to exalt You,  
our words of wisdom, to proclaim Your Mind,  
our deeds of compassion, to embody Your Love!

Only thereby will Your grace lead us  
to sound the profound depths,  
attain to the heavenly heights,  
and embrace the awesome breadth  
of Your holy purposes and expanding plans  
for fallen humanity, redeemed and restored  
one by one, to fulfill distinct destinies  
in an everlastingly joyous, corporate unity,  
O Christ in us, our hope of glory,  
and our heart's home at the Father's throne!

— *David L. Hatton, 5/8/2018*