

BE OF GOOD CHEER

(John 16:33)

Trials and tragedies, trouble and pain,
Hopes that are dashed amid dreams that are slain:
All of these pepper the world where you dwell,
Making your life just a little like hell.

Satan may threaten, and demons may swarm,
Yet I am with you in tempest and storm.
This I will promise: your heart will have peace
As you let go in My Spirit's release.

Yes, there is darkness, disease and despair
Marring My beautiful world everywhere.
That's why I came, to connect with each loss
By the embrace of My sin-laden Cross.

Be of good cheer in the Message you've heard.
Others have suffered who knew not My Word.
Others are hurting who still know Me not—
Yours is the cross that can light up their lot.

Take tribulations and trials you face . . .
Plunge them in love by the strength of My grace.
Follow My path, when the suffering grows.
Cherish the Cross! It will conquer your foes!

— *David L. Hatton, 7/12/2000 (revised, 1/17/2014)*