

TRUTH AND CULTURE

The truth alone can free us
And bless our earthly days,
But truth is at the mercy
Of culture's whims and ways.

A culture's voice is forceful,
And loud as it is long—
From infancy to old age
It sings its haughty song.

It regulates our clothing
And how we eat and move,
Pronouncing rhymes and reasons
It has no power to prove.

And so, when truth is spoken
Against unfounded fears,
The culture that has spawned them
Condemns our open ears.

For truth takes but a moment
To melt a lifetime's lie.
When truth meets no resistance,
A culture's falsehoods die.

— *David L. Hatton, 3/17/2006*