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Staring into the Future – by Ken L. Birks

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Staring into the future, thoughts drift away in hopelessness.
Where are the thoughts that once filled the mind with excitement?
In disparity, thoughts of uncertainty, fear, and unbelief filled the heart.
Waves of discouragement and disillusionment brought forth weariness.
Where are the dreams and desires that once captured the heart?

Staring into the future, we question, where has the time vanished?
Is there time to fulfill dreams and aspirations that once ruled the spirit?
Is the gift given with a promise for the future still alive with expectation?
Is it too late to breathe deep and allow His presence to come with passion?
While Satan plunders, Jesus comes to give abundantly, filling the gap.

Staring into the future with that which is true, breathes impetus.
Thoughts brought into His captivity bring forth hope that's limitless.
Looking back to past victories allows faith to arise on the horizon.
Girding up the loins of the mind, brings forth focus with determination.
Gifts are uncovered as new life and hope burst forth in a new season.

Staring into the future, firmly planted, His abilities allow a fresh start.
Doubt, and confusion wash away, as fresh vision fills the heart.
Confidence embraces the heart with new strength, now shown.
Joy floods the soul, preparing the way for paths unknown.
Staring into the future, uncertainty is now replaced with faith.

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Unlocking Treasures of the Heart – By Kenneth L. Birks

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Hidden away in obscurity, desires unachieved lie in wait.
Destiny lingers as undetected areas of the heart remain locked.
Hidden deep in the recesses of the heart, treasures await.
With the eyes of understanding enlightened, questions arise.
What is locked away in obscurity that begs to be opened?

Insight reveals the kingdom within holds the keys to the heart.
As questions seize the heart, light breaks through the cracks.
Revelation and insight give way to that which has been locked.
The heart fills with intensity and hope with treasures glimpsed.
Undetected areas come forth as treasures are disclosed.

Destiny no longer lingers and waits with divine abilities unearthed.
Faith moves forward as all things that pertain to life are dispersed
With treasures opened, the heart presses forward in fervency.
Forgetting the past, it reaches forward, laying hold, fearlessly.
Free from the bondage of darkness, the heart rejoices in discovery.

As seasons come and go, new treasures appear when required.
With each season, new treasures of the heart must be opened.
He who has the keys to the kingdom is faithful to give the keys desired.
Abilities, innate and divine, break forth as the keys unlock new treasures.
Oh, that I might know Him, who has the keys to the kingdom.

Scripture References: Proverbs 15:6, 21:20, Isaiah 33:6, 45:3, Matthew 13:44, Ephesians 1:17, 5:14, Psalm 112:4, 119:130, 2 Corinthians 4:6, 2 Peter 1:3-4, Philippians 3:12-14, Ephesians 5:8, Matthew 16:19, 2 Corinthians 1:18-22.

Hearts Freely and Totally Committed – By Kenneth L. Birks

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Saved according to God's purposes we're drawn.
Filled with excitement and wonder, we respond
With hearts engaged, we come with expectation.
Having tasted of His goodness, we commit to Him.
With hearts filled with hunger, we ask for more.

What is it that is that is required, we ask?
Hearts freely and totally committed, He responds.
What does that entail and what's the cost, we ask?
Hearts committed as living sacrifices, He responds.
With hearts filled with questions, we count the cost.

He looks down from heaven to find those who seek.
Will we be those whom He finds, we wonder?
As we count the cost and fully commit, He finds.
Now ready to fully discover what's ahead, we engage.
With hearts fully set on His purposes, we rejoice.

With hearts fully engaged, we discover His gifts.
We learn to behave like Christians, walking in obedience.
We learn to be fervent in spirit, rejoicing in hope.
We learn to be patient in tribulation, counting it all joy.
We are sensitive to the needs of others, clinging to goodness.

No longer slaves to sin, we're untangled from worldly affairs.
With our decisions now based on kingdom realities, we rejoice.
No longer my will, but His will, we freely give generously.
Walking circumspectly, time is redeemed for His desires.
Freely and totally committed, we bask in His goodness.

Scripture References: 2 Timothy 1:8-9, 1 Peter 2:1-3, Luke 14:27-30, Psalm 14:2, Romans 12:1-2, Romans 12:9-21, 2 Timothy 2:1-4, Matthew 6:33, Mark 14:36, Ephesians 5:15, Matthew 6:19-21.

The Sanctifying Process – *by Kenneth L. Birks*
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One offering, perfected forever, we are sealed.
Predestined to be conformed to His image, we yield.
Entering into God's prophetic purposes, we arrive.
Ears trained to hear His voice, as He directs, we thrive.
With the work of Christ finished, the Spirit's work drives.

Vessels of Honor, we hope to be as He purifies.
With unquenchable fire, the chaff burns away.
Walking in the Spirit, fleshly lusts disappear.
The process endures, keeping our eyes on His visage.
Change comes, glory to glory, beholding His image.

Having begun in the Spirit, the enemy subverts.
Shifting our attention to legalism, Satan beguiles.
We rest in the Word to protect, aware of Satan's wiles.
God's works are birthed, immersed in His workmanship.
From glory to glory, the process continues to equip.

With spiritual eyes opened, His wonders never cease.
Submitting His Word, His thoughts are embedded.
With minds filled with insight, newness exceeds.
Yielding, new nature comes forth, replacing oldness.
Submitting to God's ways, the enemy leaves.

Pressing on, we stretch forward to things ahead.
Forgetting the past, we press forward in destiny.
From glory to glory, the prize within sight, we tread.
As vessels of honor, we engage in prophetic purposes.
Pressing on, we live by this rule as we are lead.

