

## **A Soldier's Prayer**

(found on the body of an American Soldier during World War I)

Lord God I have never spoken to you,  
But now I want to say how do you do?  
You see God they told me you didn't exist,  
And like a fool I believed all this.

Last night from a shell hole I saw your sky,  
I figured right then they had told me a lie.  
Had I taken time to see the things you've made,  
I'd have known they weren't calling a spade, a spade.

I wonder God if you'll take my hand?  
Somehow I feel that you will understand.  
Funny how I had to come to this hellish place,  
Before I had time to see your face.

Well I guess there isn't much more to say,  
But I'm sure glad God I met you today.  
I guess the zero hour will soon be here,  
But I'm not afraid since I know you're near.

The signal, well God I have to go,  
I like you lots, this I want you to know.

Look now this'll be a horrible fight,  
Who knows I may come to your house tonight.  
Though I wasn't friendly to you before,  
I wonder God if you'd wait at your door?

Look I'm crying, Me, shedding tears,  
I wish I had known you these many years.  
Well, I have to go now God, good-bye.  
Strange now since I've met you,

I'm not afraid to die.

## **A Soldier's Prayer**

(written by an anonymous confederate soldier, US civil war)

I asked God for strength, that I might achieve,

I was made weak, that I might learn humbly to obey....

I asked for health, that I might do greater things,

I was given infirmity, that I might do better things....

I asked for riches, that I might be happy,

I was given poverty, that I might be wise....

I asked for power, that I might have the praise of men,

I was given weakness, that I might feel the need of God....

I asked for all things, that I might enjoy life,

I was given life, that I might enjoy all things....

I got nothing that I asked for -

but everything that I had hoped for,

Almost despite myself, my unspoken prayers were answered.

I am among all men most richly blessed.