

Wayne
Bucknor

40 years:
God is good

40 Years: The Stories behind the Songs

Wayne Bucknor/ Vol. 1

I'll Give You the Glory

While ignoring my calling and literally watching EVERY possible West Coast and East Coast basketball game of the 2011-12 NBA season, I was accosted by a certain Dirk Nowitzki commercial. He asked his watchers to close their eyes and envision themselves doing something great: for him it was ending up in the NBA playoffs. Since it was my 20th time seeing the commercial for the post-season, I decided to participate and close my eyes as well. I envisioned living my dream as a songwriter. At the end of the commercial, I turned off the TV in the middle of a contentious game, and decided to go to the basement and write a song that people wanted to hear. I decided on some popular CCM chords and for the next 18 minutes of my life, penned the words and music of this song. What if I had finished watching the game? SMH. Praises be to God!

Oh, and I have to give props to my son, BJ (Buck Jr.). I asked my kids to produce me, because I was feeling very lazy and uninspired. The next morning my son came down to my room and said, "Alright Dad, I'm ready to product!" :-). Hence, this project. The beat during the "To God Be the Glory" section was totally BJ's creation.

Coming Home

I arranged half of this hymn in 1990, inspired by the group that I was privileged to be a part of, Special Music. Yes, that was our name, LOL. A Take 6 influenced, a capella sextet, whose leader was Joey Kibble. I was writing it for Special Music, but the group disbanded when Joey was selected to be a member of Take 6.



When The Lord told me to take a break from full-time employment at Oakwood University in the 2006-2007 school year, I made the time to finish the arrangement with hopes of submitting it to Take 6. An up-and-coming group named COMMITTED (the winners of Season 2 of the NBC Sing-Off) were formed at Oakwood in God's timing and agreed to learn the arrangement.

Be Peculiar

Walking into prayer meeting at Madison Mission, I was taken by the Elder Abdele George reading this popular scripture found in Matt 5:43-48. The problem about loving my enemies was that I was currently dealing with someone that I thought had it out for me. What now God? You want me to love them? Immediately the groove and the melody started coming during the meeting. I turned the organ down low, and the phone recorder ON.

Lord Make Me Your Servant

In the beginning of the New Year of 2012, my wife and I got the opportunity to attend the wedding of Dr. Glenn Phillips and his wife Tina on the beautiful island of Antigua. We were forced to stay for a whole week because this particular airline only flew in and out on Saturdays! Anyway, when returning the rental car on

our last day, I was in that mode of setting new year resolutions. I said a silent prayer while driving, "God, what is my purpose? What is it that you want me to do?" No sooner than I stopped praying, I looked at the cassette player in the car, and noticed a cassette that had been in the car for the entire 7-day trip. On this album was a song that I co-wrote with Joey Kibble. IN THE MIDDLE OF ANTIGUA IN A RENTAL CAR!! What I felt the Spirit saying to me was that I should do what He's been telling me to do. "Write and produce the songs that I've given you. You can't possibly reach the world by yourself, but your music can." I often doubt my gift, hence the length of time that it has taken me to put out an album. This song's sentiment is to ask the Lord to make me do his will and stop listening to the devil's discouragement. There is only one YOU, and God wants to use YOU to touch the world.

This song came directly from a dream I had the following day about the most talented guitarist that I've ever known, Eddie 'Spanky' Alford, who unfortunately passed away years ago. In the dream, I asked his wife if I could touch his guitar. The G and E theme heard in the intro, are the notes that I plucked, which woke me up and inspired the writing of the song over the next hour.

Safety Of His Arms

I wrote this song on a plane in 1996! Hence, the lyrics, " I'm Riding High above the Clouds." But, it has a dual meaning of being in good relationship with Jesus Christ. I love it when we are close. It's the best feeling to have. The security and peace that His Spirit gives is unsurpassed.

Thank You Medley

I arranged this medley in 1993 as an encore for my Senior Recital for my BA in music degree from Oakwood College. The testimony is that I've been playing it for 20 yrs! What I mean specifically, is that this is the one of the few piano arrangements I've ever done. God is good and He gave it longevity. But I did do another one for this project!! Finally!!

I Know It's You Lord

This is a praise song that welled up in my spirit one day as I was walking into the music building at Oakwood University.

I honestly can't remember what particular good thing the Lord had done that day. But as I look back over my life, I realize that all of the good happenings in my life, couldn't have been of my own doing or coincidence. Why did you ask me, Pastor Doggette, at age 25, to be the minister of music for one of the premiere Adventist churches in the world? Why did you ask me, Dr. Lacy, to be the piano instructor at Oakwood University, without a long history of successful piano students? Why did you ask me, Take 6, to substitute for Cedric Dent on an 18-show tour of Japan when singing isn't my specialty? Why did you ask me, Vice President Anderson, to conduct the world-renowned Aeolians in 2007-08 year with no other class obligations, without knowing that I actually needed that extra time because of my deadline to complete my dissertation? Why am I the chair of the music department that I resigned from in 2006-07?

I know it's You Lord.

God Is Good

While studying the Scriptures, I made the deduction that anytime there was a great worship service these words would be uttered: "For the Lord is good and His mercy endureth forever." {2 Chr. 5:13-14; 2 Chr. 7:1-6; 2 Chr. 20:21; Ezra 3:11; Ps. 100:5; 106:1; Ps 107:1; Ps. 118; Ps 136; Jer. 33:11; Seems as if The Lord really likes for us to speak about His goodness and His mercy. I read Ezra 3:10-13 in the Message translation that read, "God is good, and He will never quit loving Israel." That phrasing made it a little more real to me.

Great Is Your Faithfulness

I was leaving a powerful praise team rehearsal and the songs that were selected were based around the theme of the faithfulness of God. When I was driving home, I was listening to a piano album by George Shearing. On came a great instrumental and while it played all I could hear is Great Is Your Faithfulness. I later learned that the name of the song was What Kind of Fool Am I? But it's a gospel song to me now!

I'll Confess It

This song was inspired by talking to a family member about the reality of 1 John 1:9, "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us of our sins, and cleanse us from all

unrighteousness. The words of the chorus flowed from my lips as encouragement to him and I knew a song was coming!

Thank you Duawne for singing this. It was amazing to me that you recorded this in Bermuda a week before your terrible car accident with your family in which our loving Father protected you. God is not through with you yet!

Special thanks to Mark and Roycelynn Marcel & the New Life SDA Church in Gaithersburg, MD for helping me to finish this song in a songwriter's workshop I held there.

We Three Kings/Chopin Sonata no.3

The fourth movement of the Chopin B minor sonata was one of my favorite pieces to perform in my matriculation at the University of Alabama for my DMA degree. I wanted to make a new piano arrangement so I thought of a song that was minor and it was Christmas so voila! Shout out to Dr. Noel Engebretson of the UA piano faculty. I know that I ruined this precious Chopin piece!

My Tribute

I didn't write this one, just arranged it. If I did, I would be a rich man. Lol. Thank you Kevin & Shavonne for letting me steal you off of your Huntsville vacation to record this on a late Saturday night!

And We Pray

This song was inspired by a mass email that I received from Marti Schneider, wife of Don Schneider, the former North American Division President of the Seventh-day Adventist denomination. He unfortunately suffered from a brain illness, and his wife kept us abreast of his successful progress through his many



Wayne
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40 years:
GOD is good

Exec. Producer: Wayne Bucknor
Produced by: Wayne Bucknor
Associate Producer: Wayne 'BJ' Bucknor II
Engineered by: Wayne Bucknor, Norman Carrington
Production Assistants: Nina Bucknor, Cameryn Bucknor, Carmen Bucknor
Recorded at: Crestview Studios
Mixed at Musiek Studio
Mixed & Mastered by: Daniel Beard
Musicians:
Kelvin Wooten: Bass
Brandon Taylor Pair: Drums
Norris Jones: Guitar
Wayne Bucknor: Keyboards
Hannah Ellis: Flute
Wendy Hodges: Oboe

Photos by: E L Jones for Truly Blessed Photography--
TrulyBlessedPhotog.com.

CD and Jacket Design by: **JERRY ROSS**

40 Years: The Lyrics

I'll Give You The Glory

(Wayne Bucknor) Bucknor Publishing/BMI

Lead: Milton Doggette

BGVs: Milton Doggette, Tamara Bodie

I can see it

I can see my name in lights

I believe it

Believe my faith shall be made sight

You ordained it

Before I even knew my name

Because of You I gain my fame

And I'll give You the glory

I can see it

I see a room in heaven above

Filled with presents

Sealed with a kiss and wrapped in love

Gifts from the Master

That's been waiting just for me

To receive when I believe

And I'll give You the glory

And I give You the glory

Give you the honor due your name

For I am not worthy

If left up to me I'd live in shame

You are the captain

Of my raging roaring sea

Forever give to You not me

I will give You the glory

I'm not gonna listen

Listen to that voice no more

That tells me I'm nothing

And keeps my head down to the floor

For You have created me

And all that You made You said was good

And for this call I believe I should

Give You the glory

To God be the glory

Great things He has done

So loved He the world

That He gave us His Son

Who yielded His life an atonement for sin

And opened the lifegate that all may go in

I will give You the glory

Coming Home

(William James Kirkpatrick) public domain

Arranged by (Wayne Bucknor)/Bucknor

Publishing/BMI

Performed by Committed(Geston Pierre, Alain

Gervais, Theron Thomas, Dennis Baptiste Jr.,

Maurice Staple, Robbie Pressley)

Leads: Dennis Baptiste Jr., Robbie Pressley

Vocal Percussion: Alain Gervais

Verse 1:

I've wandered far away from God,

And now I'm coming home;

The paths of sin too long I've trod,

And now I'm coming home.

Chorus:

Coming home, coming home,

Nevermore to roam,

Open wide Thine arms of love,

Forgive me Lord, I'm coming home.

Verse 2:

I've wasted many precious tears,

Now I'm coming home;

I now repent with bitter tears,

Lord, I'm coming home.

Be Peculiar

(Wayne Bucknor) Bucknor Publishing/BMI

Leads: Sherice Tomlin, Jamel Strong

BGVs: Tamara Bodie

Love your enemies

And pray for those who persecute you

Do good to those who hate you

Pray for those who mistreat you

For if you love those who love you

What credit is that to you

That's ordinary love

But what I'm asking you to do

Is extraordinary

Be peculiar

You say you wanna be My child

And you're yearning for above

You want to bear My name

And show the world My love

Well, there is a perfect love

That is few and far between

Makes you wanna give your all

And turn the other cheek

Be peculiar

A peculiar people

A holy nation

A royal priesthood

A chosen generation

Tried in the fire

Refined in the furnace

Dipped and bloodwashed

Ready for service

Lord, Make Me Your Servant

written January, 2012

(Wayne Bucknor) Bucknor Publishing/BMI

Lead: Robbie Pressley

What if all your life has been an imaginary

dream

Thinking you succeed

But true purpose, you conceded

Living life to your own plan

With no thought for what was His

Master plan for you

The plan that made His dream come true

Chorus:

Lord, make me Your servant

Take all of my commitment

I die to my own will and

Live only to please You

Now, now and forever

Yours, and only You forever

Lord make me Your servant

Give purpose to my life

Higher than the highest thoughts

Is Your ideal for me
But I decide to be
Content with mediocrity
Setting for things that You
Didn't sketch out in Your plan
Now I understand
I'm letting go and now I hold Your hand

(Chorus)

I look back and see the wasted years
The wasted tears
The wasted fears
Oh! My future looks much clearer now
I'm wiser now
Cause I'm Yours now

(Chorus)

I promise You now Lord
I'm going to live right
With You at my side Lord
I know it will be alright

The Safety of His Arms

(Wayne Bucknor) Bucknor Publishing/BMI
Lead: Theron Thomas
BGVs: Tamara Bodie, Theron Thomas

I'm riding high above the clouds
I'm in the sky so far above the many cares
of this world
For I'm with Jesus and He's in me
Such a peaceful feeling, such a sweet relief

There is nowhere else I'd rather be
In this state of mind I'm really free
I'll never leave this place
The safety of Your arms

Chorus:

I want to stay where You are
Everyday where You are
Never to leave from Your presence
There, right where You are
It is so much better up here
Away from all my troubles and away from
all my fears

Self is not an option when You're around
My spirit's elevated to higher ground

There is nowhere else I'd rather be
In this state of mind I'm really free
I'll never leave this place
The safety of Your arms

(Chorus)

I remember when I used to sit alone and cry
Regretful, feeling sorry for the mess I made
of life
Then You came along and rescued me from
my despair
Gave me peace, gave me joy, now I'm in
the safety

Vamp:

I'm in the safety of His arms

Not gonna worry, not gonna fret
I know the Lord's never failed me yet
Whatever the problem, whatever the test
I know where I'm running, I'm running
for safety

There's safety in His arms
I'm safe from all alarm
Nothing can touch me
When I'm in the safety

I'm not leaving Your side
I'm enjoying this ride
There's no place I'd rather be
I'm in the safety

There is no place I'd rather be
No other place for me
No seven seas could take the place of peace
No other one for me
No other love could give security

When all around me things are going wrong
Go to my secret place and sing my song
Strong tower, my defender
He shall hide me

Thank You Medley

Arranged by (Wayne Bucknor)/Bucknor
Publishing/BMI
contains excerpts of Thank You Lord (Walter
Hawkins), Thank You Lord (traditional), My
Tribute (Andrae Crouch), Thank You Lord for
Saving My Soul (Seth & Bessie Sykes)

I Know it's You Lord

(Wayne Bucknor) Bucknor Publishing/BMI
Lead: Tamara Bodie

I know it's You Lord
These things just don't happen to me
I know it's You Lord
Never cease to amaze me
All things are possible
When I stay in Your will
I know it's You Lord
Simply amazing

Don't stop praying
Anticipating
Keep awaiting Your blessing to come
God will answer
I know He will answer
He will always keep His word

God Is Good

written January, 2009
(Wayne Bucknor) Bucknor Publishing/BMI
Lead: Cameryn Bucknor, Wayne 'BJ'
Bucknor II
BGVs: Cameryn, BJ, Nina Bucknor

Chorus:
God is Good
And He'll never stop loving Israel

Verse 1:
Thank You for Your Love
Thank You for Your Son
Thank You for the way You died for me
For all that You have done
For the victories You've won
We give to You the sacrifice of praise
You made a way

Chorus:

Verse 2:

Your mercy never ends
You are my greatest friend
Your goodness I will never question
For all that You have done
For the victories You've won
We give to You the sacrifice of praise
You made a way

Chorus:

Vamp:

God is good, God is good, sing it
God is good, yeah
All the time, yeah

Great Is Your Faithfulness

written in 2011

(Wayne Bucknor) Bucknor Publishing/BMI
adapted/inspired from George Shearing piano

performance of What Kind of Fool Am I

Lead: Bryan Cordell

There's been times when I had thought You
failed me

Thought that You had let me down
But when I look back over my life
You're the truest friend I've ever found

Chorus:

Great is Your faithfulness
Great is Your faithfulness
Everyday of all my life You've been so faithful
I can't repay You for
They way You've opened doors
I'll sing forevermore of Your faithfulness to me

(Chorus)

I'll Confess It

W. Bucknor and the New Life Workshop Choir
written 10-16-09

(Wayne Bucknor) Bucknor Publishing/BMI

Lead: Duawne Starling
BGVs: Duawne Starling, Tamara Bodie

How could I end up doing wrong
After all You've done for me
Every time I've found myself in need
You were right there just blessing me

Love draws me to Your presence
I'm falling at Your feet
I'm asking for Your mercy once again

Chorus:

I'll confess it
You'll forgive it
And then we'll start over again

How can I overcome?

I really want to do better
I'm denying the power that You've given me
The pain in Your eyes keeps convicting me

Have I used too many chances?
Done this too many times?
I come to You, I can't do this on my own

(Chorus)

Thank You for blessing me
Thank You for Calvary
Thank You for saving me
Now we'll start over again

We Three Kings/Chopin Sonata no.3

(John Henry Hopkins, Jr./Frederic Chopin)

Public domain (arr.Wayne Bucknor) Bucknor
Publishing/BMI

My Tribute

(Andrae Crouch)

Arranged by (Wayne Bucknor) Bucknor
Publishing/BMI

Additional lyrics: Wayne Bucknor
Leads: Kevin & Shavonne Sampson

For all the love You gave me
And all the times You saved me
Lord I wanna thank You for all You've done
for me

How can I say thanks
For the things You have done for me
Things so undeserved
Yet You gave to prove Your love for me

The voices of a million angels
Cannot express my gratitude
All that I am

Or ever hope to be
I owe it all to Thee
To God be the glory
To God be the glory
To God be the glory
For the things He has done

With his blood
He has saved me
With His power
He has raised me
To God be the glory
For the things He has done

So let me live my life
Let it be pleasing Lord to thee
And if I gain any praises
Let it go for Calvary

With His blood
He has saved me
With His power
He has raised me
To God be the glory
For the things He has done
For the things He has done

For all the love You gave me
And all the times You saved me
Lord I wanna thank You for all You've done
for me

And We Pray

written circa 2007

(Wayne Bucknor) Bucknor Publishing/BMI
Lead: Carmen Hope Thomas
BGVs: Tamara Bodie

The other day I had to cry
Didn't quite know the reason why
Problems come from left and right
Keep me up half the night

You felt my pain, noted my fear
Told me that you're always near
Came right on in, assisted me
Comforted me

Chorus:

And we pray

That we can
Be that
The Lyrics continued...

Caring and loving for someone else
Hurting
Going through

Glad that I'm back on my feet
God's been good, so good to me
I'm thankful for the way you gave
The telephone calls, the prayers prayed

Cards you sent, so dear to me
Encouraging words that set me free
I want to do the same for you
And others going through

Chorus:

I wanna be there for you
I'll help to see you through
You have a friend in me
Guarantee
I'll be there

And we pray that we can
Be that
Caring and loving for someone else
Hurting
Going through

40 Thank-Yous

This thank you section could be a book. I'd like to thank God, first and foremost. The way You've led my life is very humbling. You never let me feel satisfied with my work because You know I would get the 'big head.' Everything that I don't like the public likes, and vice versa. I will continue to be a slave to YOUR will.

My wife Carmen has always been the inspiration for my work from day 1. She challenged me to do this project for my 40th birthday. Although, I procrastinated and I'm about to turn 41 in a week, in the Bible the blessing always came 'after' 40! Thank you for believing in me. I love you sweetie.

My producer(s) have literally been my children. Thank you BJ for sitting with me for hours and for your creative ideas. Thank you Nina and Cameryn for your straightforward critiques and your encouragement by singing my songs around the house. I love you guys with all my heart.

Now to the musicians and soloists on this project: how can I ever thank you enough! Most of you did this as a favor, refusing payment. Glory to God! Because I had no money! This is one of the major reasons I procrastinated. I was blown away at the consistency of God's blessing. I am grateful for your friendship and will always be there for you. Thank you for your willing musicianship Kelvin Wooten (Bass), Brandon Pair (Drums), Norris Jones (guitar), Hannah Ellis (Flute), and Wendy Hodges (Oboe). Steve Easton, thank you for recording Duawne in Bermuda! Thank you for your one of a kind background vocals, Tamara Bodie, Duawne Starling and Jillian Lawrence. Tam, I worked you so hard, I'm sorry! Thank you to my dream team of soloists and groups: Milton Doggette, Jamel Strong, Sherice Tomlin, Bryan Cordell, Wayne "BJ" Bucknor II, Cameryn Bucknor, Nina Bucknor, COMMITTED-Dennis Baptiste, Jr., Robert Pressley, Jr., Maurice Staple, Alain Gervais, Theron Thomas, Geston Pierre, Duawne Starling, Carmen Hope Thomas, Shavonne and Kevin Sampson,

Shout out to my partners in musical crime for making my life so much more fun: Take 6, Aeolians, Jason Max Ferdinand, Vilroy McBean, Virtue, John Stoddard (thanks for the Logic loops), Keys to the Kingdom-Gale Murphy, AT Westney, Michael Andrews, Shelton Kilby, III, Nancy Dudley, and Brian Jones. My faculty and administration at Oakwood University: Audley Chambers, Lucile Lacy, Julie Foster, Adriana Perera, Sung-jun Kim, Eurydice Osterman, Jason Ferdinand, and Makeda Hampton, Freida LaPaugh, Leslie Pollard, and Garland Dulan. To the churches that have made me feel really special: Madison Mission SDA, Oakwood University SDA, Patmos Chapel SDA, Progressive Union MB, New Life SDA-Gaithersburg, MD, Restoration and Southampton SDA in Bermuda, Pastor Hodnett and Deidre Hodnett. To those who have encouraged me to go on and pursue what God has given me, Thank You- Hallerin Hilton Hill, Joey Kibble, Eric Thomas, Roberto Burton, Laurent Vergnac, Glenn Phillips, Natalie Alexander, Chris McNish, Bruce Bean, Michael Taylor, Mark Bucknor, Sharon Spence, George and Carol Byars, Debbie Millet, Camille and Joel Williams, Noel Engebretson, James Doggette Sr., Ty Douglass, Durand Carrington, Norman 'Kwofi' Carrington, Andrew "Benji" Young, Tyron Hetherington, Kaggia Scott, David Trofort, Owen Simons, James Bowman, and Denis Ross, III.

Special thanks to Jerry Ross for his artistic direction and vision in the album artwork and graphic design. This journey could not have come to a beautiful close without you. Thanks also to my sweet daughter Nina for sharing your ideas on the graphic design.

I would like to thank my father, Frederick Bucknor for stopping his piano lessons so that he could afford to put me in lessons. I would like to thank my mother, Norma Bucknor, for cleaning the Engel School of Music that I attended in Orlando so that she could keep me in piano lessons. Your selfless lives, have created mine.

