



THE BIBLE IN VERSE

... by Alvy E. Ford

ACTS

CHAPTERS 1 TO 28

Chapter 1

Jesus ascends in the presence of men.
Angels declare He is coming again.
Judas is dead; the Disciples cast lot,
Vote for Matthias to fill the twelfth spot.

Chapter 2

Holy Ghost fills the select of the Lord,
Speaking with tongues as new things are outpoured.
Peter, the weakling, now stands as a rock,
Three thousand souls are brought into the flock.

Chapter 3

Peter and John, at the beautiful gate,
Loosen the lame from his terrible fate.
Multitudes wonder and gather about.
Christ is the healer as Peter points out.

Chapter 4

High priest and leaders are jealous and mad.
Preaching in Jesus' name henceforth forbade.
Peter responds that he'll preach full and frank.
Followers, jubilant, sing and give thanks.

Chapter 5

Man and his wife dare to tempt God, and lie.
Peter rebukes them; they fall down and die.
Wonders are done; the apostles are beat;
Counting it honor, they preach and repeat.

Chapter 6

Seven are chosen to portion out bread.
Stephen, the wise, is appointed as head.
Stephen does miracles, wonders, and signs.
Facing the council his countenance shines.

Chapter 7

Stephen, anointed, shows Israel's fate,
Hist'ry of evil, rebellion, and hate.
Hearers, convicted, are cut to their hearts.
Stephen kneels down, offers prayer, and departs.

Chapter 8

Simon presumes the Lord's gift can be bought.
Peter rebukes him and leaves him distraught.
Eunuch begs Philip to show him some light.
Eunuch baptized; Philip taken on flight.

Chapter 9

Saul is struck down by a heavenly light,
Called to the clergy while minus his sight.
Peter at Lydda frees one from his bed.
Dorcas at Joppa is raised from the dead.

Chapter 10

Peter sees vision of meats clean and foul,
Told to partake without whimper or howl;
Sent to Cornelius, who waits him with prayer,
Sees the outpouring on Gentiles there.

Chapter 11

Peter is called by the church to explain,
Tells of the wonders, and they feel the same.
Great persecution and dearth in the land.
Off'ring is taken and sent at Saul's hand.

Chapter 12

Herod kills James and binds Peter in jail.
Angel appears and the prison doors fail.
Herod's oration is welcomed with cries.
Herod is eaten of worms, and he dies.

Chapter 13

Elymas dares to withstand and make light;
Saul, now called Paul, boldly blots out his sight.
Antioch Jews show rebellion and strife.
Gentiles welcome redemption and life.

Chapter 14

Folk at Iconium, bitter and sweet.
Lame man, at Lystra, is stood on his feet.
People stone Paul, till they think he is dead.
Later, he rises and forges ahead.

Chapter 15

Council convenes at Jerusalem now,
Votes to abolish the law's heavy vow,
Brands fornication and idols as sin.
Barnabas balks, so young Silas comes in.

Chapter 16

Lydia's called, as is Timothy lad.
Damsel is loosed from the spirit so bad.
Silas and Paul, being beat, are enslaved,
Sing, are delivered; the jailor is saved.

Chapter 17

Thessalonica is scornful and jeers.
Then to Berea that willingly hears.
Then off to Athens to preach on Mar's hill.
Paul speaks with eloquence, reason, and skill.

Chapter 18

Paul, with Aquilla at Corinth, makes tents,
Preaches with fervor, is made an offense.
Then comes Apollos, who's mighty in word,
Publicly proving that Jesus is Lord.

Chapter 19

Miracles, special, are wrought at Paul's hand.
Demons just scoff at a sinner's command.
Silversmiths groan when their profits are trimmed.
Ephesus roars when her goddess is dimmed.

Chapter 20

Eutychus falls from the loft to his death;
Paul comes, embraces, restoring his breath.
Paul then departs, says they'll see him no more.
Farewells are spoken; the weeping is sore.

Chapter 21

Paul, at Jerusalem, bound with a vow,
Moves most discreetly to head off a row.
Multitudes gather and throng him about.
Captain brings soldiers and rescues him out.

Chapter 22

Paul, on the stairs, makes an eloquent plea.
Multitude shrieks that he ought not to be.
Soldiers would scourge him and worsen his plight.
Paul uses wisdom and stands on his right.

Chapter 23

Paul once more faces the council of Jews.
Schemers try subterfuge, hopelessly lose.
Paul's little nephew gets word of their trick.
Paul is sent out of Jerusalem—quick.

Chapter 24

Felix, the governor, hears Paul's defense.
Paul, like a statesman, employs common sense.
Felix is torn with conviction and fears.
Paul is detained for another two years.

Chapter 25

High priest and Jews yet contend for Paul's scalp.
Paul then appeals to Augustus for help.
Festus brings Paul for Agrippa to hear.
Paul brings his case to the king without fear.

Chapter 26

Paul, to Agrippa and Festus and all,
Tells in detail of his Heavenly call,
Earnestly pleads with the king to receive.
Almost, Agrippa is led to believe.

Chapter 27

Paul is at last on a vessel at sea,
Points out the grief and the loss there will be.
Paul is ignored, but at terrible cost;
Men are all saved, but the vessel is lost.

Chapter 28

Folk on the island are friendly and kind.
Paul brings them healing, then leaves them behind.
Paul comes at last, as a pris'ner, to Rome;
Dwells two full years in his own rented home.