

# I Asked God

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 asked God to take away my pain.  
God said, No.  
It is not for me to take away, but for you to give it  
up.  
Suffering draws you apart from worldly cares and  
brings you closer to me.

I asked God to make my handicapped child whole.  
God said, No.  
His spirit is whole, his body is only temporary.

I asked God to grant me patience.  
God said, No.

Patience is a by-product of tribulations; it isn't  
granted, it is learned.

I asked God to give me happiness.  
God said, No.  
I give you blessings. Happiness is up to you.

I asked God to make my spirit grow.  
God said, No.  
You must grow on your own, but I will prune you  
to make you fruitful.

I asked God for all things that I might enjoy life.  
God said, No.  
I will give you life, so that you may enjoy all things.

I ask God to help me love others, as much as He  
loves me.  
God said...Ahhhh, finally you have the idea.

I got nothing that I asked for, but everything I had  
hoped for.  
Almost despite myself, my unspoken prayers were  
answered.

Lord For so long I thought Your love Demanded  
that I change. At last  
I am beginning to understand That Your love  
Changes me.

I am among all men, most richly blessed