

A Soldier's Prayer (unknown author)

**The soldier stood and faced his God
Which must ever come to pass.....
He hoped his shoes were shining
Just as brightly as polished brass.**

**Step forward now, you soldier
How shall I deal with you
Have you always turned the other cheek
To my church have you been true?**

**The soldier squared his shoulders and
Said “No Lord I guess I ain’t”
Because those of us who carry guns
Can’t always be a saint.
I’ve had to work most Sundays
And at times my talk was tough
And sometimes I’ve been violent,
Because the streets are awfully tough
But, I never took a penny
That wasn’t mine to keep....
Though I worked a lot of overtime
When the bills got just too steep,**

And I never passed a cry for help,
Though at times I shook with fear,
And sometimes God forgive me,
I've wept unmanly tears.

I know I don't deserve a place
Among the people here.....
They never wanted me around
Except to calm their fears.

If you got a place for me Lord,
It needn't be so grand,
I never expected or had too much
But if you don't I understand."

There was a silence all around the throne,
Where the saints had often trod...
As the soldier waited quietly,
For the judgement of his God,

"Step forward now you soldier,
Walk peacefully on Heaven's streets,
You've already served your time in Hell,
come rest and be at peace

