

1 Blinded in youth by Satans Arts
The World to our impractic'd hearts
A flattering prospect shews;
Our fancy forms a thousand schemes
Of gay delights & golden dreams
And undisturb'd repose.

2 So in the Desert dreary waste
By Magic power produced in haste
As old Romances say,
Castles & groves & music sweet
The senses of the Traveller cheat
And stop him in his way.

3 But while he gazes with surprise
The charm dissolves, the vision dies
Twas but enchanted ground:
Thus if the Lord our spirits touch
The Word which promis'd us so much
A Wilderness is found.

4 At first we start & feel distress
Join'd are never can have rest
In such a wretched place;
But he whose mercy broke the charm
Reveals his own Almighty Arm
And bids us seek his face.

5 Then we begin to live indur'd!
When from our guilt & bondage freed
By this beloved Friend
We follow him from day to day
Around of Grace thro all the way
And glory at the End.

6 What thanks are to the Saviour due
From me, dear Madam & from you
That we are undecid'd!
His Voice with each returning Year

May Faith & Hope & joy & peace
The Saviors blood brought Gifts increase
In you & all you love

9 May you the comforts long possess
Which those endeared Names express
A Mother & a Wife!

Till Jesus send his Chariot down
And call you to receive the crown
Of everlasting Life!

Tells us Salvation is more near
Than when we first believ'd

7 By love & power encompass'd round
Each year with signal mercies crown'd
That, for our souls are come!

And he who helps us hitherto
Has promis'd to support us thro
Till we arrive at home.

8 May the new Year you now begin
(As many former years have been)
A Year of blessing prove;