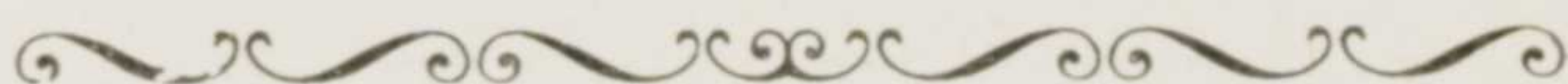


PROMISED STRENGTH



One day when my burden seemed greater
Than my body and spirit could bear,
Weighed down by the load, I faltered
Beneath my sorrow and care;
And I cried to the heedless silence
As I walked where I could not see:
“Where is the strength this is promised?
Where is the strength of me?”

And suddenly out of the stillness,
A voice came clear and true:
“My child, you are striving to carry
A burden not meant for you,
And the thought of the years outstretching
Before you has darkened the way,
While the only strength I have promised
Is the sure strength day by day.”

I took one step—and I found it
Quite easy, indeed to take,
And the burden slid from my shoulders
And my heart that was ready to break
Gave thanks that my eyes were opened
And my shoulders were eased of their load,
As I saw, step by step I was strengthened
To walk on the roughest road!

—Grace Noll Crowell.

This and other Gospel tracts are sent out for prayerful distribution on the free-will offering plan.

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