

Clouded Judgment

The wrong choices I made were often based upon
the environmental pressures in which I was raised.
My mind was confused; I had no one I trusted;
And someone else may see me as crazed.
But fear and passions, my pain and desires
continually left me in a state of being dazed.
The double-standards and hypocrisy I daily experienced.
The schools I attended where I was regularly hazed...
...They clouded my judgment; so I made those poor choices.
And during that time, God left me unfazed
by the truth of his words, and his power which I felt,
and upon which I constantly gazed.
But when God shined his light, and I came to my senses,
I found the depths of his love and was amazed!
So, then my stinkin' thinkin' was cleared, and now?
All I can say is that "My Lord Jesus Christ be praised!"

L. Daniel O
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Thank You FOR READING!

Below are some questions to reflect on from this piece. Feel free to also use one as a conversation starter with a fellow reader, or even a loved one on the outside!

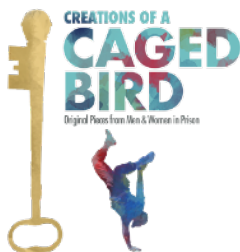
What brings peace and joy to your life?

Whether spiritual faith, relationships with family and/or friends, attention to your physical well-being, educational advancement, or another focus, describe how this thing that brings you joy has also helped you think more clearly.

We'd love to hear what you thought of the piece, or if you've had any meaningful conversations as a result. Or perhaps you'd like to share an expression of your own (visual art or creative writing). You are always welcome to write to us at Shining Light at P.O. Box 267, Annville, PA 17003.

**Note: We will not be able to provide a response to your letter or receipt of your submission, but know that we value your feedback and contributions and will take them seriously.*

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