

# "WILDERNESS JOURNEY"



*(Photograph by Melody Childers)*

## **1 Peter 5: 10**

**And after you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you.**



## LAUGHTER OF GRACE

Once there was gaiety and music --- reverberating into glorious song  
In a wilderness so wildly beautiful --- it beckoned my soul to belong  
A place where I listened to my thoughts --- hearing a bonny tune within  
A sweet melody of harmonious notes --- telling me life was about to begin.

Abruptly, I heard only dissonant chords --- like an organ with a broken pipe  
Sadly replaced by sorrowful sounds --- harshly evoked with one fell swipe  
Thus, rambling these woods alone --- in an emotionally exhausted state  
Blinded by fear and trembling --- I welcomed the dark as my soul mate.

Then, contrary to the laws of man ---in me; the Spirit did dwell.  
Changing my inner thoughts --- giving me courage, my fears to quell  
I, who once lived in despair --- was then asked to bring forth fruit  
Beyond all ordinary rules --- the Lord, my God, was in pursuit.

Touching me with His healing love --- my heart burst forth into song  
Grace! Grace! Wonderful grace! --- Lyrics from His heavenly throng  
The laughter of grace freely flowed --- straight from God's own lips  
Forever blocking my guilt and shame --- from Him I'd seen an eclipse.