

# I Heard The Bells

I had never really gotten beyond the first couple of verses to this song before today. Longfellow wrote it when he was nursing his son who had been severely wounded during the Civil war. (Some say he had already died).

The song *I Heard The Bells On Christmas Day* was written while hearing church bells ringing on Christmas. It shows both wisdom and enduring faith.

## **I HEARD THE BELLS ON CHRISTMAS DAY** by Henry W Longfellow

I heard the bells on Christmas day  
Their old familiar carols play;  
In music sweet the tones repeat,  
"There's peace on earth, good will to men."

I thought how, as the day had come,  
The belfries of all Christendom  
Had rolled along th' unbroken song  
Of peace on earth, good will to men.

And in despair I bowed my head:  
"There is no peace on earth," I said,  
"For hate is strong, and mocks the song  
Of peace on earth, good will to men."

Then pealed the bells more loud and deep:  
"God is not dead, nor does He sleep,  
For Christ is here; His Spirit near  
Brings peace on earth, good will to men."

When men repent and turn from sin  
The Prince of Peace then enters in,  
And grace imparts within their hearts  
His peace on earth, good will to men.

O souls amid earth's busy strife,  
The Word of God is light and life;  
Oh, hear His voice, make Him your choice,  
Hail peace on earth, good will to men.

Then happy, singing on your way,  
Your world will change from night to day;  
Your heart will feel the message real,  
Of peace on earth, good will to men.

## KATHY'S CORNER

Merry Christmas!

