

"Think! - Who's Not
Listening?
by Mrs. Jeanne Bireley

Hey Lordi Are You up there? Why
don't you listen to me? Can't You
see what a mess this world is in!
Don't you care, can't you hear -
don't you see?

Why do you let these things
happen, when with just a wave
of your hand,

You could change things back
like they used to be, on the day
creation began.

No war, no death, no pain, no
fear, a literal heaven on earth. As
things of value slip away, we
realize what they were worth. No
weeds to choke out a garden, no
need to labor or toil.

All our needs were provided,
without even tilling the soil.

No greed, no hate, just peace
on earth.

The kind of world we wish for
today

That's how it all began Lord -
why did You take it away?

Wait a minute! - What am I
thinking?

We can't put the blame on you!

You didn't create little robots, You
gave us a mind and a soul. You let
us make our own choices, so that
means, we took control.

We abused the freedom you gave
us, and strayed in our own wicked
ways.

We've drifted so far away from
You, that's why our world is in
turmoil today.

No matter how great our bless-
ings, all we do is gripe and com-
plain.

We rarely remember to thank
You - but in trouble, we call on
your name.

We're so busy we've no time to
worship, and You'll find us of
God's Holy Day sleeping in - at

the mall - seeking pleasure, we
even forget to pray.

With aU our faults, Your Word
says You love us

And if we turn from our old
wicked ways,

Repent, and ask for Your for-
giveness, You'll wash all our
sins away.

We took control, and tried it our
way.

Look around - Count the cost my
friend.

We know we have sinned as a
nation, but sin starts in the heart of
man.

We can save this old world from
disaster, if we put God in control
again.

He'll help us pick up the pieces,
and like a potter molding his clay
He will remold, reshape, and re-
store us, if we will only trust Him
today.

I came across this poem I wrote
in 1994 and as we come 10 the _
close of another year, it struck
me that nothing has really
changed. We are still listening
to self and not God.

I've lived over three quarters of a
century, and I know there have
always been storms of every kind.
But I never remember such
massive destruction all over the
world with every force of nature
going on a rampage as we've had
recently.

It's like the plagues of Egypt when
Pharaoh wouldn't let Moses lead
God's people to the Promised
Land. Those things happened
because God was trying to get a
message through to Pharaoh.
Maybe these disasters are
happening now because God is
trying to get a message through to
us.

We have all sinned and come

We have all sinned and come
short of the glory of God. Maybe
as we close out another year we
need to look within and see what
we personally can do to change
things.

We can't go back to the Garden of
Eden, because we can't undo our
mistakes but as we begin the year
2004, we can resolve not to repeat
them as we remember it's not God
who has turned a deaf ear to us,
it's we who are not listening.

I really hope that if sometime in the
future I come across this poem
again I'll be able to look at it
differently and can rejoice in the
fact, that as God's people, we
have opened our ears to Him and
really began to listen. And that
because of it, we have made this
old world of ours a better place in
which to live.