But If Not

I stepped out on the plain of life and death that day, As that great champion of defeat gave forth his mighty shout, "I'll have your bones for breakfast," I heard him say, "And with one blow, I'll take you out!"

> Here stood this giant called Compromise, In all his threatening pall, With weapons made from hardened lies, Dead set on watching victims fall.

With airy promises of direst fate, He thought to force my full surrender, And brandishing both fear and hate, Thought in my soul, despair he would engender.

> "Give up this path you walk each day," He said with threatening face, "You cannot walk this narrow way, Else I will wreck you in this place."

But in resolve that's born of God, I challenged this great lie, And answered him with knowing nod, I said, "You'll try...I know you'll try.

But there is one who guards my soul, And guides my steps for sure, And he will stop the worst that you control, Then mitigate those things I must endure.

But, if I go through trial or pain in this life's path that I have trod, I'll not abandon it nor bow to you, Nor cease to leave outcomes to God, Whose ways are right and true."

Robert P. Myers, 2009