## **ABOUT THE BARD**

I'm Bill Oakes, better known these days as the *Christian Bard*. I live in Texas with my first (and only) wife of 53 years. We've raised two kids and now enjoy a grandchild from each of them.

Most of my time is wrapped up in Bard-related work—writing, planning, publishing, dreaming.

My wife is fine with it as long as I do my share around the house: laundry, dishes, helping with meals, and tackling the occasional "dangerous" chore she hands me.

Before starting this venture, I spent more than 50 years as a Master Falconer. Red-tailed Hawks were my specialty, though Harris' Hawks were a close second, and I flew a few falcons, too. I wrote a falconry beginners' column for almost 30 years and put out a little manual back in 1993 that's still selling on Amazon today.

But my greatest love is Jesus Christ and the Bible. Writing about what He's taught me—plain, down-to-earth, and from the heart—is what really drives me. (I'll say more about that in the Ministry section.)

And one last thing: I'm alive today only by God's mercy. After ten years living under a death sentence with cirrhosis of the liver, He redeemed me in December 2024. Now I'm confident He's given me another twenty years. That means plenty more books ahead—and I can't wait to get them written.