

GIVE ME THE ROSES WHILE I LIVE

Old-Time and Bluegrass Gospel Song by James Rowe and R.H. Cornelius; **DATE:** Early 1900's; **CATEGORY:** Bluegrass Gospel Song; **RECORDING INFO:** Coon Creek Girls; Carter Family; Blue Sky Boys; Jimmy Martin and Roy Lee Centers; Red Clay Ramblers; **OTHER NAMES:** Give Me The Roses Now; **NOTES:** This is one of the classic bluegrass gospel waltzes.

1. Won - der - ful things of folks are said When they have passed a -
 way; _____ Ros - es a - dorn the nar - row bed
 O - ver the sleep - ing clay. _____ Give me the ros - es
 while I live Try - ing to cheer - me on. _____ Use - less the
 flow - ers that you give Af - ter the soul is gone. _____

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G **D** **G**
 Wonderful things of folks are said, When they have passed away
D **G**
 Roses adorn the narrow bed, Over the sleeping clay.
C **G** **D**
 Give me the roses while I live, Trying to cheer me on
G **D** **G**
 Useless are flowers that you give, After the soul is gone.

Let us not wait to do good deeds, Till they have passed away
 Now is the time to sow good seeds, While here on earth we stay. *Chorus*

Kind words are useless when folks lie, Cold in a narrow bed
 Don't wait till death to speak kind words, Now should the words be said. *Chorus*