

A&Ω

Alpha & Omega

Malcolm Hunter

Composer, Arranger, Saxophonist

1. **Alpha & Omega (The Alpha)** - 2:15
Revelation 1:8; John 1:1-3

2. **Son of the Promise** - 7:55
Genesis 3:15, 21:5; Isaiah 9:6; Luke 2:8-14

3. **Jehovah** - 3:21
Exodus 33:18-23

4. **Guide Me, O Lord!** - 6:26
Psalms 23, 25:4-5; Exodus 13:21-22; John 14:1-7

5. **Elijah (Swing Low Sweet Chariot – P.D.)** - 5:54
2 King 2:11; Matthew 11:11-15

6. **The Small Gate, The Narrow Path** – 3:43
Matthew 7:13-14

7. **Sea of Galilee** – 7:08
Matthew 4:18-19; Mark 4:35-41; Matthew 14:22-33; John 21:1-14

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*“Musical Sound Pictures Celebrating
Life in the Son of God”*

8. **Philip and the Ethiopian** – 7:07
Acts 8:26-39

9. **In Jesus' Name** – 4:42
Matthew 6:5-15; John 14:13-14; Acts 4:12

10. **Corinth** – 6:24
1 Corinthians 1:2-3

11. **God of All Comfort** – 6:46
2 Corinthians 1:3-5; John 14:26

12. **The Least of These** – 6:51
Matthew 25:31-40

13. **I. Apocalypse II. The New Jerusalem** – 6:35
Revelation 1-20, 21-22

14. **Alpha & Omega (The Omega)** – 2:26
Revelation 22:13

*A portion of “Swing Low Sweet Chariot” included in “Elijah” was composed by Wallace Willis, circa 1865, Public Domain per Harry Fox Agency. All the other songs on this recording were composed, arranged, programmed, performed, and produced by Malcolm Hunter using the following:

- Selmer Mark VI (1969) Tenor Saxophone with an Electro Voice RE20 microphone.
- A Korg M1 keyboard controller connected to an Edirol SC-88 VL Sound Canvas MIDI Sound Generator for all the accompanying instruments.
- Cakewalk's SONAR MIDI programming, wave file recording, and overall mixing software.

*All songs except track Nos. 1, 5, and 11 mastered by Randy Rood, Mastering Engineer. Pre-release tune-up mastering conducted by the engineers at CD Baby.

*To enhance your listening experience, read a song's title and associated verses for context before listening to it.



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The completion of this album of wordless, instrumental sonic portraits is a long overdue dream come true! And there are quite a few people for whom I'm thankful.

First, a special thanks for my family who exposed me to a variety of music genres: my late parents, Malcolm and Ruby, my sisters Regina (especially her mail order record collection), LaVerne, and Sabrina. Also, my immediate family who put up with me when I was using our Antioch CA home as a studio (Rosanna my wife, our son David, who is now married to Courtney, and they have a daughter - Rosanna's and my granddaughter! - Ellie, and our son Benjamin). I want to give special shout-outs to my wife Rosanna's brother Greg and my fellow Grandpa Derrien for all our separate conversations about gigging and gear that we've shared over many years.

Second, I'm thankful for all the other music makers with whom I've partnered over the years. Due to the large number, I'll list only the associated institutions, educators, and/or directors: Excelsior Elementary (Mr. Beaver) and Central Junior High School (Juanita Brooks) in Union, SC; Dennis Junior High School (Ralph Burkhardt) and Richmond High School (Mr. Burkhardt again, John Parshall and Steven Varnell), in Richmond, IN; Northwestern University (Fred Hemke, John Paynter, and Bill Hochkeppel), New York University, ESSEC (Cergy-Pontoise, France); and in California, Peninsula Bible Church; Golden Hills Community Church, or GHCC (Phill H., David M., Stan, and Bill); and in Washington, Calvary Community Church, or CCC (Chris).

Third, I must make an exception and say thanks for two groups of musicians in connection with GHCC who first performed live some of the songs on this album and other songs that I composed. The first group includes the musicians in concert with me at GHCC in August 1994: Cam, Vince, Rob, Bill (drummer), John, and Karla. The second group included members of the band Real Faith Quorum (RFQ): Cam, Rob, Mike, Bill (drummer) and another Bill (bass). This group performed live some of the songs on this recording at a concert at GHCC in February 1999. Later, we recorded them on RFQ's CD entitled "Salutation" (released in the year 2000).

Fourth, thanks for the following people for the reviews, inputs, and/or atta-boys that helped me with the liner notes: my wife Rosanna, my Mother-in-Law Marilyn, my sister LaVerne, Larry and Pauline, Julius, Eugene and Gianne, Del and Pexa, Will and Sharon, Ron and Robin, John and Linda, Dave and Cindy (in California), another Dave and Cindy (in Washington), Don and Lei, Dave and Pam, and Zach and Beth. Crafting this summary was quite a journey and definitely a team effort! Also, special thanks for Skip at CCC who recommended that I read John Maxwell's book Put Your Dream to the Test after I retired from my day job. That book provided the spark that rekindled the flame to help me burn the midnight oil and complete this album. And thanks to Bill of CCC for his insights that led to my adding the enhanced listening tips.

In addition to all the above, I thank God (my Heavenly Father Jehovah, my Lord and Savior, Jesus, and my Comforter, the Holy Spirit) for the unmerited grace that caused me to be spiritually born again and allowed me, among so many other things, to be endowed with the talent to make music. It is just one of my many gifts from the Lord that just keeps on giving. Amen!

Malcolm Hunter

And when he had said these things, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ¹⁰ And while they were gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, ¹¹ and said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

- Acts 1:9-11 (ESV)



This album's title, "Alpha & Omega" (the first and last letters in the Greek alphabet, meaning "the beginning and the end") is just one of Jesus' titles found in the Bible's book of Revelation. Each song on this album that I composed (except where noted) either directly or indirectly honors Jesus, who is the hero in the greatest love story ever written. This story includes us all, and the following summarizes what is told in greater detail in the Bible. God (Jehovah – the Father, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit) created Adam and Eve and their descendants to be the object of God's love. The plan was for God and all of humanity to live together as a family...**forever!** But after Satan, along with many angels, launched a rebellion (that was doomed from the start) against God's Kingdom, Satan consoled himself with the goal of luring Adam and Eve into a trap to thwart God's family plan...**forever!** Satan used deception to convince Adam and Eve to disobey God's command to not eat the forbidden fruit; this is when sin entered the world.

As a result, Adam and Eve died spiritually, separating them and their descendants from God. This is also why we all, among other things, grow old and die physically. Each person from then on has a natural-born desire to disobey God in thought, word, and deed. Even worse, we were all destined in the afterlife to suffer the same fate as those who originally rebelled against God's Kingdom (i.e., condemned to the lake of fire)! This was a hopeless situation that no human being could do anything to change. But because God's love for us was as great as His Power, failure to realize the original plan for us was not an option. However, God's Divine Justice System requires that sin's death penalty be fully satisfied. Jesus would be the only person, in both time and eternity in the entire Universe, chosen to do what it would take to deliver us from Satan's trap. So, this is the specific reason He came to Earth. Jesus demonstrated God's great love for us by exchanging His Life as a ransom for the lives of all who believed that He came to save theirs.

And Jesus was willing to do this despite knowing the huge toll of disappointment, betrayal, and excruciating pain that He would suffer. Therefore, God used a succession of prophets over many generations, all empowered by the Holy Spirit, who consistently explained to humanity how they would know that only Jesus was sent to Earth to take away the sin of the world: He would be born of a virgin, explain how God's Kingdom worked, perform many miracles, and, most importantly, He would not sin. This made Jesus' death as a man sufficient to pay sin's death penalty for all of humanity. Then, He triumphed over the power of sin and the forces of evil by virtue of His deity when God raised Him from the dead. This is how Jesus took away the sin of all who had lived and believed in His eventual arrival before He left Heaven and came to Earth. After Jesus died, rose again, and returned to Heaven, whoever learns about this and agrees that Jesus needed to do this to save them, then asks God to forgive them for their sin, the Holy Spirit seals them for salvation.

This revives their spirit (i.e., they are born again spiritually) and frees them from Satan's trap! They begin their new life without delay as a member of God's Royal Family. The Holy Spirit empowers them to increasingly stop rebelling and start learning how to live like Jesus did in obedience to God (no matter where they live or what they think, say, or do) as members of this growing, multi-generational, global community. This community's mission also includes telling others what Jesus did so that they, too, can decide whether they want to be saved and become members, as well. Then, when God the Father determines that His global salvation plan is complete, Jesus will return to Earth as the Groom for His Wedding Feast to be joined with His bride (i.e., all who were born again spiritually, both those still living and those raised from the dead after He returns). Finally, they will all live together as the Royal Family in the Kingdom of God...**forever!** This is why I say that Jesus (the Alpha and Omega, the beginning, and the end) is the hero of the greatest love story ever written! This album is my gift of appreciation to Him for His role in this story.

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