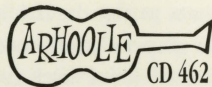


SONNY TREADWAY

"Jesus Will Fix It!"

1. JESUS WILL FIX IT FOR YOU
2. BLESSED ASSURANCE, JESUS IS MINE
3. HOW I GOT OVER
4. LORD I PUT MY TRUST IN YOU
5. CREATE IN ME A CLEAN HEART
6. NO, NEVER ALONE
7. PRAISE IN REMEMBRANCE OF BISHOP LORENZO HARRISON
8. HALLELUJAH ANYHOW
9. WHEN I'VE GONE THE LAST MILE OF THE WAY
10. I READ THAT LETTER
11. PRECIOUS LORD, TAKE MY HAND
(T. A. Dorsey)
12. HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Sacred Steel
Guitars-Vol.3



Eston "Sonny" Treadway - steel guitar
Ronnie Mozee - guitar
Derrick Glen - drums

Produced by Bob Stone
Executive producer: Chris Strachwitz

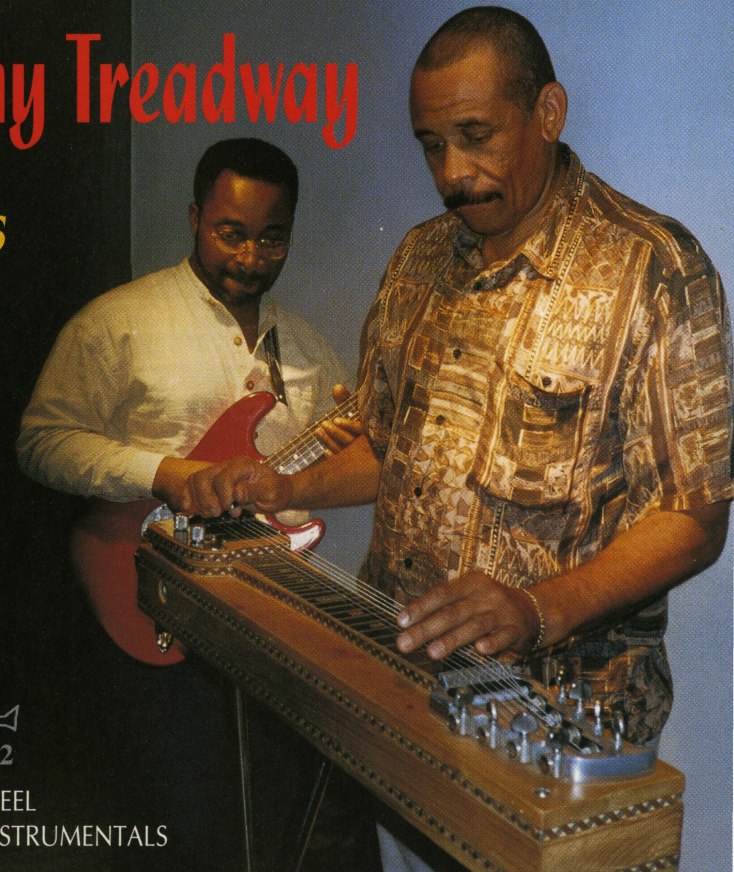
Recorded at Mirror Image Studio, Gainesville,
FL - May 5 & 6, 1997, Ronny Cates - engineer

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Sonny Treadway

Jesus Will Fix It!



SACRED STEEL
GUITAR INSTRUMENTALS

SONNY TREADWAY

"Jesus Will Fix It!"

Sonny Treadway is a stunning steel guitarist from the Jewel Dominion tradition, where the instrument has been used to drive high energy Holiness-Pentecostal services for nearly sixty years. His wife, Bishop Eunice Treadway, serves as pastor at the Jewel Dominion church in Deerfield Beach, Florida, where Sonny's inspired playing helps fill the congregation with the Holy Spirit.

Music is at the heart of Holiness-Pentecostal services. In the hands of a skilled, spiritually-guided player like Treadway, the steel guitar seems to be the perfect instrument for helping congregations achieve religious ecstasy. He can make his steel moan, growl or sing sweetly. His

rhythmic walking bass lines combined with call-and-response leads will drive a congregation to "shout" and do the Holy Dance every time. Treadway will tell you that when a church service is going well, he is not in control over his guitar, the Holy Spirit is. After church, as he listens to cassette tapes of his playing that he recorded during services, he sometimes can't believe it is really him. He might have to play the tape over a few times to learn some of his own steel guitar licks.

Bishop Lorenzo Harrison (1925-1986), the third leader and Chief Overseer of the Jewel Dominion, was by far the most influential steel guitarist in that church. For decades he traveled throughout the United

States to play the Lord's music and preach the gospel. His influence was so widespread that all Jewel steel guitarists owe him a tremendous musical debt. The important elements of the Jewel Dominion steel guitar style are rooted in Harrison's playing: the eight-string E-tuning; extensive use of the bass strings, which are often tuned lower than those of a standard guitar; "praise" or "shout" music that nearly always has three chords; and an affinity for the wah-wah pedal (an effect Sonny does not use). Treadway had the good fortune to play standard electric guitar on the road with Harrison for three years, a musical and spiritual experience he treasures. The years with Harrison had a lasting effect on Treadway's steel playing. He is quick to point out, however, that he does not imitate Harrison nor any other steel guitarist.

The music of the Jewel Dominion differs considerably from that of the Keith Dominion, a related church that also has a strong steel guitar tradition. Generally, Jewel Dominion music is quite a bit slower and considerably more melodic than that of the

Keith Dominion. Much of the praise music played in the Keith Dominion has no real harmonic movement: the Jewel music always has distinct chord changes. Pedal steel guitars are gaining in popularity in the Keith Dominion. The eight-string non-pedal lap steel is still the instrument most closely associated with the Jewel Dominion.

Treadway was born in Detroit, Michigan, where his father was a Jewel Dominion minister. He remembers that when he was five he amazed his father by unpacking his mail-order standard guitar, tuning it up, and playing immediately, without assistance. His first steel guitar was a 1950s Bronson six-string lap model.

Today Treadway plays an eight-string, non-pedal guitar that he made by combining parts from a 1960s Fender DeLuxe, a tuner assembly from a Sho-Bud pedal steel, and a body he skillfully fashioned from a piece of hardwood he retrieved from a trash dumpster.

He tunes the instrument to an E major chord of his own configuration. He might

vary the pitch of the bass strings, sometimes putting two or three in unison. For certain tunes he will drop a treble E to a flatted seventh. His playing relies on extensive use of the bass strings. As is typical of many Jewel Dominion steel guitarists, he will not play in a group that includes an electric bass. He feels the notes of the bass are too close to those of his steel's lowest strings.

Treadway listens to an eclectic variety of music that includes country, rhythm and blues, rock, and jazz, as well as gospel. He also plays the saxophone, drums, and harmonica and has recently taken up the fiddle.

Joining Treadway for this recording are two other Jewel Dominion musicians. Ronnie Mozee, who lives in Indianapolis, is one of his favorite guitarists. Equally comfortable on steel as well as standard guitar, Mozee travels extensively with the current leader of the Jewel Dominion, Harrison's daughter Bishop Naomi Manning, a talented composer and singer as well as a gifted spiritual

leader. Mozee's tasteful finger-picking is the perfect complement to Treadway's steel. Drummer Derrick Glen lives in Gainesville, Florida. Both Glen and Mozee have the greatest respect for Treadway and have learned a great deal about making good music from him.

The instrumentals Treadway plays on this album are a mix of gospel standards, spirituals, hymns, and original music. "Praise in Remembrance of Bishop Lorenzo Harrison" is a piece Treadway composed shortly before Harrison's death. He played it for the Bishop at a service in Mississippi, then again at his funeral. "Create in Me a Clean Heart," a recent original composition, is a moving "shout" or "praise" piece that deliberately increases in tempo as the excitement builds, a common trait of Jewel Dominion music. Treadway breathes new life into Thomas Dorsey's "Precious Lord, Take My Hand" and "How I Got Over," a number made popular by Mahalia Jackson.

Whether executing a sensitively-ren-

dered hymn, playing his unique interpretation of a gospel standard, or pouring out a driving, call-and-response "shout," Treadway always gets the feeling across. Welcome to the sound of the steel guitar played according to Sonny Treadway. There is really nothing else quite like it.

(Robert Stone, Gainesville, FL)

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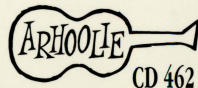
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Sacred Steel Guitar Instrumentals

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