

Tom Ames' Prayer

Intro – G C G G D Em C G G D G

[G]Everyone in Nacogdoches [C]knew Tom [G]Ames would come to some bad [D]end
Well the [Em]sheriff had caught him stealin' [C]chickens and [G]such
by the time that [D]he was [G]ten

And one day his daddy took a [C]ten dollar [G]bill and he tucked it in his [D]hand
He said I can [Em]tell you're headed for [C]trouble son
and your [G]momma wouldn't [D]under[G]stand

So he took that money and his [C]brothers old [G]bay and he left without a word of [D]thanks
Fell [Em]in with a crowd in some [C]border town and [G]took to [D]robbin' [G]banks

Outside the law your luck will [C]run out [G]fast and a few years came and [D]went
'Till he's [Em]trapped in an alley in [C]Abilene with [G]all but [D]four shells [G]spent
And he realized [C]prayin' was the [G]only thing he hadn't ever [D]tried
Well he [Em]wasn't sure he [C]knew quite how but he [G]looked up [D]to the [G]sky
Said you don't owe me nothin' and as [C]far as I [G]know Lord don't owe nothin' to [D]you
I ain't [Em]askin' for a [C]miracle Lord just a [G]little bit of [D]luck will [G]do

And you know I ain't never [C]prayed [G]before but it always seemed to [D]me
If [Em]prayin' is the same as [C]beggin' Lord I don't [G]take no [D]chari[G]ty
Yeah but right now Lord with my [C]back to the [G]wall I can't help but [D]recall
How they [Em]nearly hung me for [C]stealin' a horse in [G]Fort Smith [D]Arkan[G]sas
Judge Parker said guilty and the [C]gavel came [G]down just like a cannon [D]shot
And I [Em]went away [C]quietly and I [G]began to [D]file and [G]plot

BREAK - G C G G D Em C G G D G

Well they [G]sent the preacher down [C]to my [G]cell He said the Lord is your only [D]hope
He's the [Em]only friend that you [C]gonna have
when you [G]hit the end of [D]Parker's [G]rope
Well I guess he coulda' kept on [C]preachin' 'till [G]Christmas but he turned his back on [D]me
I put a [Em]home made blade to that [C]golden throat
and asked the [G]deputy [D]for the [G]key
Well it [G]ain't the first close call I [C]ever [G]had I'm sure you already [D]know
I had some [Em]help from you Lord and the [C]devil himself
It's [G]been strictly [D]touch and [G]go
[SPOKEN]Yeah but [G]who in the hell am I [C]talkin' [G]to there ain't no one here but [D]me
Then he [Em]cocked both his pistols and he [C]spit in the dirt
and he [G]walked out [D]in the [G]street