

# Ken Emerson SACRED SLACK & STEEL GUITAR

**Included Tracks: Radio Intro - Robert Armstrong**

**Jesus On The Mainline • Down By The Riverside • In The Sweet By and By  
Ezekiel's Wheels • Joshua Fit The Battle At Jericho • Swing Low, Sweet Chariot  
Just A Closer Walk With Thee • Give Me That Old Time Religion • I'll Fly Away  
End Of My Journey • Go Tell It On The Mountain • This Little Light Of Mine  
When The Saints Go Marching In • Amazing Grace**



*I have always wanted to record an album of old spiritual songs and feature the distinct sounds of my vintage National Resophonic guitars. I have also desired to blend the Hawaiian slide and slack key styles back with musical genres that are in many ways offshoots and heavily influenced by the Hawaiian slide guitar, mainly Country steel guitar, Bluegrass Dobro and Blues bottleneck slide music, particularly acoustic Delta Blues.*

*This project is a cohesion of these styles, which all partially owe their beginnings to early Hawaiian musicians who developed the art of slide guitar in the late 1800's. The slack key guitar is a natural, welcome addition to this type of music to bring it full circle.*

*This all-instrumental album was designed for folks to sing along with, jam with their ukuleles or spoons or what have you, and make a joyous noise!*

*Aloha Nui Loa,*

*K.E.,  
Kauai, Hawaii 2014*

Grammy recognized recording artist Ken Lopaka Emerson began playing guitar at age ten. Growing up in Hawaii, he was fascinated with the sound of vintage acoustic steel and slack key guitar and began sliding a harmonica on the neck of his guitar to duplicate it. Later, he would learn first-hand by seeking out and playing with Hawaiian artists such as Gabby Pahinui, Sol K. Bright, Alice Namakelua, David Keli'i and Alvin K. Isaacs. Those mentors, along with a passion for rare Hawaiian recordings, have shaped Ken's style, which combines the earliest forms of traditional steel guitar, 1920's Hawaiian Blues, '30s jazz and the swing era of the '40s. He also plays a style he calls "slack/steel," which incorporates traditional slack key techniques with the unique characteristics of steel guitar.

