John 1.

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It began with the word, and the word was with God
He was there at the start, since the word: it was God.
Every thing was created through Him, naught was made
 Without Him anywhere any time that was made.
The infusion of Life did the world much upgrade
And that Life was the Light that for men had been made
 In the dark shone the light but the dark saw it not,
As the dark did not know that the Light was from God.

There came one, name of John, who by God had been sent
He arrived then to witness the Light he’d been lent
So that through him all men might believe in true Light,
He was not the true light but all men at his sight
Could soon see the true light which had entered the Earth
Granting men their salvation through a wondrous rebirth!

In the world was the Word and though God made the world
By and through Him, the world knew Him not as He stirred.
He did come to the country that WAS all His own
He was not well received though He was flesh and bone,
There were some, all the same, who believed in His star
In the hearts of these few He did reach very far
As He gave them the right to be children of God;
Did this happen through natural means? It did not!
So they were not begotten through natural father,
But instead God Himself had become their new Father!
A true human of grace had embodied the Word,
And He lived right amongst us, His glory we heard
Which He spread all around as the Father’s own Son,
This from time immemorial He knew He’d have done!
John the Baptist spoke OF Him as he did cry out:
“I do say He’s the one I was talking about
That He comes after me, but much greater than me
He was there a long time, much before I could be!
From the spread of His grace we shall all blessed be!”
God through Moses the Law, as of old, He did give,
Jesus Christ teaches Truth and the grace to forgive!
No one has ever seen the Almighty, our God,
Though the Son, who is God, on our own earth has trod,
Made Him known to us all, as the Son was with God.
From the Jewish Authorities priests came to John
For to ask who he was after all he had done.
He replied very clearly: “Messiah I’m not!”
“Maybe you are Elijah?”, they said. “sent by God?”
“That’s not so”, thus spoke John, “He is NOT what I am!”
“Therefore are you a prophet?”, so THEIR question ran
“Nor am I any Prophet that YOU do expect!”
“We must know who you are, we ask you with respect
Since the ones whence we came want the truth in effect!”
John then quoting the Prophet Isaiah, he said:
“To be crying aloud in the desert I’m led,
Making Way for the Lord’s coming journey ahead!”

Then the messengers who’d come from some Pharisees:
“If of those we suggested, you’re not one of these”
They did ask “then why DO you baptize, if you please?”
“I baptize just with water but there comes the one
Who is higher than ME and comes WHEN I am done!”

The next day Jesus came and John thus did begin:
“There’s the Lamb of our God who can cancel our sin!
He’s the ONE I spoke OF who must come after me,
Who is greater than I as you will shortly see!
He existed before my own soul came to be!
I did not know in what form His coming would be,
But I’ve baptized with water so that He would be known
By the people of Israel FOR the Truth sown!

I did see the Lord’s Spirit that came like a dove
Which then stayed on a Man who appeared full of love.
But I still did not know if He was the right one
Until God said to me, when baptizing was done,
I would see the Lord’s Spirit descend on a Man
Who has been the Lord’s Son since the whole world began
He’s the one who’ll baptize with the fire of the Spirit
I can tell He’s the true Son of God, as I’ve seen it!

The next day John was standing again in that place
With just two of his followers seeking God’s grace.
John then saw Jesus and he cried: “Oh, do behold!
Here’s the Lamb of Lord God!”, this is what he then told.
The disciples heard this and they both followed Jesus
They thought: “He is the one who the truth will reveal us!”
Jesus turned and then asked them: “What do you two seek?”
“Oh good Teacher! It is where you live that we seek!”
“Come with me”, Jesus said, “then you’ll know where I live!”
Jesus was very ready His friendship to give!
At His house then they spent all the rest of the day,  
One of them was so pleased, he did brook no delay  
His own brother, called Simon, he went on thus to tell  
“We have found the Messiah, our fears He will quell!”  
As he brought him to Jesus, who saw him and said:  
“You are Simon, and I will soon put you ahead,  
So your name shall be Cephas or Peter instead,  
And you’ll act like a rock, with a well measured tread!”  

The next day He proposed to go TO Galilee  
And this day He found Phillip and said: “Follow Me!”  
Phillip was from Bethsaida, as Andrew and Peter,  
Then they sought out Nathaniel, who was also a seeker.  
Saying: “We have found Him of whom Moses did write  
It is Jesus of Nazareth, Joseph’s son, right?”  
“You said Nazareth? Can any good come from there?”  
Said Nathaniel. “Come!” so said Phillip, “Come near!”  

When to Jesus Nathaniel came, Jesus said:  
“Here’s a true Israelite, naught but truth in his head!”  
“It is strange that you know me!” Nathaniel said,  
“By the fig tree I saw you ere you came to me!”  
:“King of Israel, and Son of God you must be!”  
Said Nathaniel, thinking that this was the key!  
Jesus answered Nathaniel: “You just believe me,  
Since I said that I saw you there under that tree!  
You shall see greater things than what you have just seen,  
You shall see many angels come on pastures green  
The Lord God’s only Son amongst them will be seen!”
John 2.

On the third day there was a great wedding in Cana,
And it was a great feast in luxurious manner!
The Lord Jesus and also His mother, were there
His disciples were also invited to share!
After much celebration there was no wine left
Mary to Jesus said: "See how they are bereft!"
Then she said to the servants: "Do all that He tells!"
There were six waterpots used for water from wells
Jesus said to the servants: "Fill these waterpots
From the well over there but do use lots and lots!
To the head waiter then take along some you've drawn!"
The head waiter was serving some guests on the lawn
When he tasted the drink that the servants had brought
He passed on to the bridegroom the following thought:
"It is normal to serve the good wine at the start
If you wish by the guests to be thought of as smart,
The less fine of the wines can be left until late
When the guests can no longer discern the wine's state.
You have kept your best wine till the end of the feast
Which the guests won't enjoy as they should, in the least!"

For the Jewish Passover it was almost time,
Jesus in the great Temple corrected a crime!
In the courts of the Temple, some WERE selling sheep
Some exchanging some monies, with profits so steep!
With a whip made of chords He was ready for battle:
He chased OUT all the people, the sheep and the cattle.
Then for each moneychanger, He pushed down his table,
And He scattered the money as far's He was able!
To the merchants He shouted: "Get ye out of here!
You've the house of my father's turned into a lair
Of some hunters for profits in some market fair!"
Then the Jews, they demanded of Him wondrous signs
To show He had the right to do acts of these kinds.
Jesus said: "Do destroy, if you will, this my Temple,
And in three days I'll raise it, it is just that simple!"
Then the Jews said: "IT HAS taken forty six years
To construct but to raise it in three days He dares!"
But the Temple He mentioned was His very Self
Who three days after dying would rise with the help
Of the Father who Is just the same as himself!
After He was indeed resurrected from death,
Having lain in the tomb, He regained His own breath.
The disciples recalled the words Jesus had said
Thus to full understanding of Scripture were led.
John 3.

There was one Pharisee, Nicodemus by name,
In the dead of the night he to Jesus once came
And to Jesus he said: “Teacher! You are from God,
Otherwise to perform what you do you could NOT!”
Then Lord Jesus replied: “In the Kingdom of God
You can NOT enter IF born again you are NOT!”
“I don’t see how a man can be born when he’s old”
Nicodemus then asked: “I can be good as gold
But I can’t again enter my own mother’s womb,
But it is much more likely that I’ll enter my tomb!”
Then Lord Jesus replied: “I will tell you the truth
You can’t enter the Kingdom, I tell you forsooth,
If you’re not born of water and out of the Spirit
Flesh begets only flesh, Spirit makes only Spirit.
You should not be surprised: you should be born again
Whither winds tend to blow is beyond all your ken,
You can hear its soft sound, you know not whence it comes
   Even whither it goes or to what it succumbs
Thus the one born of Spirit then Spirit becomes!
Nicodemus then asked: “How can this ever be?”
Jesus said: “You’re a Teacher, and yet you don’t see?
We do speak what we know and report what we’ve seen,
Yet you do not accept what our message has been!
You do not understand when I speak of this world,
   So then if I tell YOU of the heavenly world
How can you in that case believe in my word?
   No one truly has been up to heaven till now,
Except one for whom God such a thing will allow
It is this Son of Man whom God so does endow
As He came down from heaven so He is here now!”
Just as Moses raised up the bronze snake in the sands
In this way Son of Man shall be raised o’er the lands
So that all who believe, they for ever shall live
Since God so loved the world that His Son He did give
   So that all who believe should eternally live
For God sent not His Son for the judging of men
But to save them with loving, again and again!
   Whosoever believes in the Son is not judged
But all those who do not have already been judged
Since they did not believe in the Lord’s only Son
Therefore this is the way in which judgment is done:
   There’s some light that’s come into the world’s utter dark
But most men love the dark, they find light much too stark

Evil deeds are concealed very well in the dark,
But whoever does WHAT is true comes to the light
So obeying the Lord can be seen to be right.

Some of John’s own disciples discussed with a Jew
Points of ritual washing which they had to do.
So this Jew went to John and: “Oh Teacher!”, he said,
“You remember the man by the Jordan you met?”
He does baptize them all and relieves them of debt!
“No one CAN have a thing that the Lord does not give,
This you can surely witness as long as you live!
I am not the Messiah but I’ve been sent ahead,
To prepare for the one with the heavenly bread;
You know brides do belong to the grooms, it is true,
But the friend of the groom what is it he can do?
When he does hear the voice of the groom, he’ll rejoice
This is why I am glad when I am hearing His voice,
Thus the one more important than I shall become,
I myself will become so much smaller than some!”

“He who comes from above is the greatest of all,
Those from Earth for more plain earthly things, they will call,
They will speak of the Earth or they’ll speak not at all,
He who comes from the heavens is much greater than all
He tells what He has seen and has heard in His message
And yet few will accept this His glorious passage!
But all those who accept will confirm: God’s the Truth,
As the one whom God’s sent shines in Spirit forsooth;
So He speaks God’s own words that come from God’s true Spirit
As the Father gives love and the power comes with it
So the Lord in this way to the Son gives all power
Those believing the Son, He with life will empower
But the ones who do not, they’ll be surely undone
They’ll be under God’s punishment, each every one!”
John 4.

Jesus came to a town in Samaria called Sy-Char
From the field Jacob gave to his son this was not far.
Jacob’s well was just there on the side of the road,
Jesus sat by the well, having put down His load.
He was tired by His journey and it was about noon,
He was hoping He could have a drink very soon!
A Samaritan wanted to draw from the well,
“Give me water to drink”, Jesus started to tell,
“I am just a Samaritan but you’re a Jew
How is it you can ask me to draw drink for you?”
Jesus answered: “If you only knew God’s great gift,
Or who is it who asked you the water to lift,
You would ask Him to give you some life-giving water
And if YOU do not know that, then surely you ought to!
She replied: “You’ve no bucket, the well is so deep!
But then where is the life-giving water you keep?
It’s our ancestor Jacob who gave us this well,
Jacob’s folks and his flocks all did drink from it well,
You don’t claim to be greater than Jacob, do you?
This in spite of the fact that we know you’re a Jew!”
Jesus answered: “Whoever drinks this will yet thirst,
But whoever drinks of what I did tell you first,
I am telling you now that he never will thirst!
And the water I give him will sprout as a spring
Which then life-giving water for ever will bring
And so therefore will give him eternal a life
Instead of the usual dull earthly strife!”
She replied: “Do give me of your water, good Sir
Then to THIS well I never myself will bestir!”
Jesus said: “Call your husband and then both come back!”
“I do NOT have a husband”, the woman called back.
“When you say you’ve no husband, of course you are right”,
Replied Jesus while keeping her well in His sight,
“You’ve been married five times but the man with you now
He is not your own husband, you’ve taken no vow”
“I can see you’re a prophet”, the woman then told,
“Here our own proper ancestors worshipped of old
Is Jerusalem not for your worship the place?
That is where all you Jews can obtain the Lord’s grace!”
Jesus said: “Believe me, woman, time will soon come
When this mountain, yea cities! So changed will become
So that NO one will worship here, yes, surely none!
You Samaritans know not to whom you should pray
But Salvation from Jews will be coming your way.
But the time, it is here, it's already arrived
When the power of God's Spirit is truly applied
So that people will worship the Father as real
Giving HIM the right worship as heavenly jewel
Because He's pure Spirit, your worship He'll feel
Through the power of his Spirit, while you humbly kneel
She replied: "I do know the Messiah will come,
When he's been all of us much more wise will become!"

" I am He, who am talking to you at this time"
Answered Jesus by saying these words so sublime.
By this time the disciples returned from the town,
When they saw the Samaritan, they with a frown
Went to ask Jesus: "Why are you talking to her?"
At this point the poor woman abandoned her jar,
And returned to the town, which was not very far
There she told all her friends that she'd met one who knew
All about her whole life, He knew all, it was true!
Could He be the Messiah? Come with me and let's see!"
So they all went to see who this strange man could be.
The disciples said: "Teacher! Have something to eat!"
You have been sitting here all exposed to this heat!"
Jesus said: "I have food that you don't know about!
The disciples said: "Some brought Him food, we've no doubt!"
But then Jesus explained what He meant by his food,
But still many among them had not understood.
"My own food is obeying the Will of my Father
There is nothing I know of that I would do rather!
Don't you say: Four months more and the harvest is here?
With clear eyes watch the fields, see what fruit they will bear!
They are ripe for the harvest, the reaper is paid,
Thus the crops for a life that's for ever, are made
So the sower and reaper can thus both rejoice
As the work is accomplished with one single voice.
There is one who does sow, while another does reap
You've not worked for the harvest that you can now keep,
Since some others have done the hard work before you,
But still yours is the harvest, I tell you, it's true!"

There were many Samaritans who did believe
That's because of the words that this woman did leave.
"We no longer believe just because of your word,
We now know that He must be the Saviour of the world!"
The Samaritans said, after Jesus they'd heard.
Jesus met an official from old Capernaum
Who did ask for His help in a voice not so calm:
“Will you come to my son who I’m sure will soon die
If you don’t come to save him from death, bye and bye!”
Jesus said: “You may go, since your son will not die!“
The official did as Jesus asked and departed
But then on his way home, he had hardly yet started
He did meet his own servants who told him his son
Was alive and much better though naught had been done!
When he asked at what time his dear son was thus healed,
It was on seventh hour, as to him was revealed.
Then he did realize that this was just the time,
When Lord Jesus had said that his son would be fine!
This was Jesus ‘s second miraculous sign
In the house of this man all believed from this time!
John 5.

There is a pool with five porches right near the large gate called the Sheep,
It’s called Bethesda in Hebrew and this pool, they say’s very deep!
Crowds of sick people would lie in the porches, some blind and some lame,
There lay a man who’d been ill thirty years at the time Jesus came;
As Jesus passed him He asked him the question: “D’ you want to get well?”
He thus replied: “When the water does stir, I can’t get to the well!
Always another gets there just before me as I am far too slow!”
Jesus then said: “Just arise and pick up your old mat and then go!”
At the same time the sick man, he got well and he started to walk.
Some of the Jewish authorities straight away started to talk:
“IT is a Sabbath, the Law does forbid you to carry your mat!”
Answer came swiftly: “The man who had healed me did not tell me that!
Clearly He told me to start walking home and to carry my mat!”
They then retorted: “Who then is this man who commanded you that?”
BUT he did NOT know that IT was Lord Jesus who HAD made him well
Jesus had slipped away through the big crowd so that he could not tell.
Later the healed man, he was in the Temple for Jesus to find,
He told him: “Now you are well, with a virtuous life be aligned,
Stop all your sinning and to all your brothers be kind!”
Then the man left and he said to the Jewish authorities there
That it was Jesus who healed him, so he could walk easily here!
By Jewish Law you should never do healing if it is Sabbath day
So that they wanted to persecute Jesus but He then did say:
“MY father IS always working, so I too must work all the time!”
Then they all wanted to kill Him as what He’d said, they thought a crime.
He had just broken the Sabbath and said that His Father was God
Which they did think was a crime as He’d made Himself equal with God!
So Jesus answered them: “I must be telling you this to be true:
That the Son on His own not through His Father there’s naught He can do.
He will do just what His Father is doing for He loves the Son
So thus the Father will show to the Son how all things should be done.
He’ll also show Him some things so much greater than what you have seen
So you will all be amazed at how things in your time will have been!
Just as the Father can raise up the dead and give them a new life,
In the same way the Son CAN raise to new life without any strife
Nor will the Father make judgments on people without His own Son,
Since He has given His Son all the rights how the judgment is done
Therefore the people will honour the Son as they honour the Father
If you don’t honour the Son whom He sent you don’t honour the Father.
He who believes in Him who to Earth sent me when you hear these words,
He’ll not be judged but for life through eternity will be made worth.
I say the time is now coming, oh nay, it already is here,
Now that the voice of the Son of the Father, the dead they will hear,
Those who will hear the clear voice of the Son will return to new being,
Just as the Father life’s source since the start of the world, He has been,
So the Son also was made by the Father the source of new life
And He is given the right to be judge, for which time is now ripe.
Soon now each dead person will hear his voice and will rise from the grave
Each who lived well in the eyes of the Son this end judgment will save
But be condemned to the fires of hell if they did not behave.

I can do nothing on my own authority, I follow God,
I only judge as my Father does tell me, as He is My God.
I do not do what I want but what He who has sent me does want
What I say to testify for myself you do not need to flaunt,
There’s someone else who will testify for me and his words are true.
John is the one to whom messengers came who were sent there by you
And what he spoke on that very occasion was all very true!
I do not need any witness from Man still I do say to you
That you’ll be saved if you believe in the words that are certainly true!
John, he was just like a lamp which was burning and shining its light,
And you were willing to share in its warmth as it shone very bright,
I have a witness which is even greater than John’s witness was:
Why do I do what I do, it should make you for some time to pause
Since what I do is directed by Him who has sent me to Earth
So it’s my Father who testifies on my behalf and my worth.
You’ve never heard God’s own voice nor have you ever seen His own face,
Nor is there for His good message in your hearts prepared a good place.
This is because you do not yet believe in the one He has sent
You think you’ll find life for ever if you reading Scriptures attempt!
And in these very same Scriptures my actions you’ll find well described
But to gain your life eternal, with me you will have to abide!

I know that you do not have very much love for God in your hearts
I have been sent by my Father so with me authority starts.
Yet you’ve acknowledged me not yet if someone comes in his own power
You will receive him and praise him and in his great power you’ll cower
You seem to like to receive all the praise from each one to the other
But you do not try to win any praise for the love of your brother
Given by one who alone is your God, so how can you then believe me?
I will not be the one who will accuse you if ever you leave me,
Moses, the one in whom you’ve put your hope will be then your accuser
If you had truly believed Prophet Moses then you would have known me,
As if you look in his writings you’ll see that he wrote all about me.
But since you do not believe all the things that he wrote in his day
How can you ever believe its fulfillment in what I do say?”
John 6.

Jesus was followed by big crowds of people who wanted to see
More of miraculous healings so near Him they wanted to be.
Jesus walked up on the side of a mountain, and looked at the crowd,
At which He asked one of his own disciples, thus crying out loud:
“Where shall we buy enough bread for these people in need of some food?”
Phillip then answered that eight months’ of wages would not buy sufficient
For each to have just something to eat in this crowd quite so giant!
Andrew, the brother of Peter spoke up and said he’d found a man
Who had five loaves and two fishes which he then to offer began.
Jesus said: “Have all the people sit down!”, there was plenty of grass.
They all sat down, there were five thousand of them, it was a great mass!
Jesus then took all the loaves and the fishes and to God gave thanks
He gave the people sufficient to eat who sat on the banks.
When they had all had enough, then to His good disciples He said:
“Gather the pieces left over, do not let us waste any bread!”
So the disciples, they gathered twelve baskets of what had been left,
And all the people were thankful that they had not been left bereft!
They realized that He was a great prophet and wanted to make Him their King
So Jesus hid in the mountains as He did not wish such a thing!
When evening came the disciples went down to their boat in the lake,
Then they set sail on towards Capernaum the crossing to make.
Jesus had not joined them yet and the evening was growing more dark,
Winds were increasing, the waves, they were swelling, the seascape did seem very stark!
Soon they saw Jesus approaching the boat, walking right on the water,
They were afraid that it must be a ghost so began all to totter,
But Jesus cried: “It is I, Do not fear! So He entered the boat
His good disciples then knew who He was so they gave Him His coat
All of a sudden they did realize that they’d reached the far shore,
And they did wonder what other strange things for them were still in store!

On the next day all the crowd that had stayed on this side of the lake
Saw that the boat was not there which Lord Jesus’ disciples did take
And they did note that Lord Jesus with them o’er the lake did not sail,
That the disciples cast off by themselves being afraid of a gale,
(There were, however, some boats that had come from Tiberia’s region,
Where they’d partaken of bread blessed by Jesus, of which there was legion!)
So when they knew the disciples and Jesus were no longer there
They took these boats and crossed over the lake in case Jesus was here.
On the far side of the lake they did find Him and thus they inquired:
“How did you come here in all this high wind?” was the question they fired.
Jesus responded: “In truth I will tell you that you don’t seek wonders,
It is the bread that I gave you about which each one of you ponders!
Don’t be concerned with the bread that in days will no longer be good,
Nourishment for your eternal existence should now be your food!
Which I’ll provide for you as Son of Man on whom God’s set His seal,
Eating such heavenly bread, you will see, is a much better deal!”
Then they asked Jesus: “Then how must we labour to work for the Lord?”
“Then how must we labour to work for the Lord?”
“You must believe in the one whom He sent, then you CAN come aboard!!”
“Then how must we labour to work for the Lord?”
Then they did ask: “Will you give us a sign so we then might believe?
In the wild desert our fathers got manna which was their reprieve!”
Jesus replied: “Moses WAS not the source of the heavenly bread
It was my Father in heaven; with SUCH bread that YOU will be fed
Heavenly bread which comes down from above giving life to you all!”
Then they said: “Give us this bread for which all of us now we do call!”
Jesus then said: “I’m the bread of all life, so you won’t ever hunger
If in me you will believe, you will not suffer thirst any longer!
So I have told you, but though you have seen me you still don’t believe;
All that the Father will give it’s to me that he will finally leave
Never will I reject any believer so they’ll never grieve!
I have come down from above not to do what might seem what I’ve willed,
But to make sure that the will of my Father is amply fulfilled!
This is the will of my Father who wished me to come to the Earth
That I should lose not a jot of the things to which I’d given birth.
This is the will of the one who has sent me: to be with you here,
Those who believe in the Son should eternally stay in His care.
On the last day I will raise them, as certainly I shall be there.”

There was much whispering by those who listened to this heavy message
Mostly because He had claimed his divinity in this great passage:
“I am the bread from the heavens sent down by the Father to you”

“Is he not Jesus, the carpenter’s son, and a regular Jew?
We know his father is Joseph and Mary is surely his mother!
So he ne’er came down from heaven and no one can say any other!”
But Jesus said: “Don’t complain in your hearts about what you have heard,
For people can’t come to me if not called by my Father’s own word
On the last day I will raise them from death as in Scripture is writ:
‘They will all BE taught by God!” so the heavens they will never quit!
All who do hear and do learn from the Father, to me they will come
(Not that there are who have seen the great Father, I say there are none,
Only myself whom the Father has sent, as from Him I have come)
I do assure you that those who believe in me will live for ever
I am the bread of all life and of life all eternal the giver
Your antecedents when lost in the wilderness fed on the manna,
But they all died in the end and thus followed their nature’s old manner!
Bread from the heavens will give life eternal to those who will eat it
I am the bread that’s alive, I was sent here by my Father’s Spirit.
Anyone eating this bread they will join the eternally living
This bread is my very flesh that to this world I’m giving!”
Then people argued about what it meant to be eating his flesh
Which they discussed ‘mongst themselves thus their minds they did try to refresh.
So Jesus said to them: “If you don’t eat of the flesh of the Son
And you don’t drink of his blood, of eternal life you will have none!
But those who EAT my flesh and those who DRINK my blood will live for ever
On the last day I will raise them whom from the Lord nothing will sever.
True food is my flesh and true drink is my blood, this to you I say,
All who eat my flesh and all who drink my blood in me they will stay
And I’ll stay in them as for life eternal that shall be the way!
I live empowered by my living Father who sent me your way
In the same way those who partake of me shall in life ever stay!
This is the bread that came down from the heavens for which you should pray.
Your own forefathers ate manna and died but if you eat my bread
You’ll never die and so have life eternal, as I have just said.

On hearing this some disciples did say: “This is very hard teaching!
Who can accept such hard words that our senses yet cannot be reaching?”
When Jesus heard the disciples thus grumbling, He then spoke thus:
“Does it offend you when I speak the truth very clearly between us?
What if you saw me ascend to the sphere where I was at the start?
Flesh counts for nothing but Spirit gives life which resides in the heart.
What I have told you all comes from the Spirit and therefore is Life,
Yet there are some of you here who do find to believe is such strife!”

Jesus knew from the start who would be those who would never believe
And He knew who would betray Him before from life He would take leave!
Jesus said: “No one can come to me but through my Father’s consent!”
Many at this point did leave Him as they were no longer content!
Jesus then asked the apostles if they would like also to leave,
Simon then answered: “We’ve nowhere to go as in You we believe
You have the words that give us the new life that will last us for ever
You are the one who’s been sent by the Lord so to stay we’ll endeavour!”
Then Jesus said: “I did choose all you twelve, yet one here is a devil”
Jesus thus knew then that one of the twelve would not stay on the level.
Jesus IN Galilee stayed a while for the Jews
In Judea were scheming, or so ran the news,
To find something against Him so He could be killed
And so all the commotion He’d caused could be stilled.
At this time a great feast was about to be held
So great crowds for the feast to Jerusalem welled!
Jesus’ brothers, they said He should go to the feast
To speak OR to perform some new wonders, at least.
Jesus said to His brothers that His time had not come,
Though He would go in secret but told only some.
All the people did wonder where Jesus could be
And they talked much about Him though himself did not see.
Some said HE led the people astray, which was bad,
Some said He was from God, since the powers He had,
Later He showed Himself in the Temple and taught
And the people who listened they marveled and thought:
“How does HE know so much when He’s not been to school?
Yet He knows all the texts, so He can be no fool!”
Jesus said: “What I know does not come from myself
But from Him whence I came who has all on His shelf!
He who speaks from himself, his own glory will seek,
If to glorify Him who has sent me will speak
He’ll tell only the Truth, so God’s justice will seek.
Was it NOT Prophet Moses who gave you the Law?
Which by many of you here is practiced no more
How is it some of you to kill me you do seek?”
They replied: “You’ve a demon if thus you do speak!
Tell us who are the ones who to kill you do seek!”
He replied: ”I have done much good work you’ve admired.
Circumcision from Moses’s words you acquired
Though it seems that your forefathers had such a Law,
On the Sabbath to circumcise thence do you draw?
Since you DO on the Sabbath permit circumcision,
Then why do you get angry when I do my mission
When to heal on the Sabbath has been my decision?
You do not keep the Law to its fullest precision.
Do not judge by appearance, see that justice is done,
You adjudicate then by the laws of the One!”
In the crowd there were some who did wonder and ask:
“Is this not the same man whom to kill is our task?
Yet He speaks up quite freely yet all keep their peace.
“Is He truly the Christ?” is what gives them release?
But with Him we do know from what place that He comes
With the Christ we won’t know from what place that He comes.

So then Jesus He cried in a voice very loud:
“Some of you who are murmuring in this big crowd
Think you know who I am and the place whence I came;
I’ve not come of myself, this in spite of my name,
But I came from the one who sent me to this place,
He is absolute Truth and you don’t know His face!
But I know Him myself as I’m here by His grace”
This is why they did try to arrest Him but none
Could do so as His time, He said, Had not yet come.
But there were a great many who thought He was Christ
Thus from countering to true belief were enticed,
Would the Christ, when He comes, give us more wondrous signs?
Pharisees, when they heard people talk in these lines
They dispatched some strong guards to effect His arrest.
Jesus said: “I do know what brings you on this quest;
But my time with you all will now be quickly spent,
I’ll return to the One through whose Will I was sent.
You will look for me but I’ll not BE there to find
Because where I shall be I’ll have left you behind!
But the Jews understood not at all what He’d said:
“Where is it that He’ll go where He cannot be found?
He might go to the Greeks, there to find some new ground?
What is this way of speaking which with us He’s used?
We shall look for Him but why shall WE be confused
Why can we not go where He is planning to go?
Where indeed are the places of which we don’t know?”
On the last day of these festive days Jesus spoke
For the fires in His hearers’ hearts thus to stoke:
“Brothers! If you are thirsting, then just come to me,
To the rivers of life that are gushing and free!”
What He meant was the Spirit, it would soon be flowing,
Which they would all receive as their faith it was growing!
At that time Holy Spirit had not yet been sent,
Because Jesus had not made His glorious ascent.
Many, hearing this, said: “Here’s a prophet so true!
He’s the Christ”, some did say, as their faith thus it grew!
Some objected by saying: “It’s writ in the text,
That Christ WILL come from Bethlehem, David’s elect!”
So there was much dissension as folk did reflect!
There were some who did want to arrest Him right there
But the guards who’d been sent to take Him did not dare!
When the guards had gone back to the chief Pharisees,
They then asked them why they Jesus did not then seize.  
The guards said Jesus’ words were not like other speech,  
The priests said He’d seduced them by how He did teach!  
Any chief Pharisees, did they also believe?  
But these crowds, we do know, to the scriptures don’t cleave!  
Nicodemus, the one who’d seen Jesus at night:  
“To condemn without hearing, in Law is it right?”  
They replied: “So it seems you are from Galilee,  
Study texts and then surely you will also see,  
That no prophet has ever come from Galilee!”
John 8.

At the temple He spoke to the priests and the scribes
When they brought Him a woman from one of the tribes,
Who in flagrant adultery just had been found,
So they put her before Him right there on the ground.
“By the law set by Moses this one should be stoned!”
So the priests and the scribes very gravely intoned.
“What say YOU should be done to account for her sin?”
They were trying to trap Him with THIS scene so grim!
But then Jesus He drew with His hand in the sand,
And then spoke these few words to the priests’ little band:
“Let the one without sin cast the first fatal stone!”
Then continued to write in the sand all alone.
Struck by conscience they all went away one by one,
He said “Where is it that your accusers have gone?
No one now has condemned you for what you have done!”
She said: “No one is left and my life I have won!”
“Neither do I condemn you”, He said, “Go in peace!
Do not sin any more now you have your release!”

Jesus spoke to the people with many a word
Such as: “I have come here as the light of the world!
Those who walk at my side will not walk in the dark
But will all be illumined by life’s brilliant spark!”
They said: “You are a witness thus only for you,
Therefore what you do witness, it cannot be true!”
Jesus said: “Even witnessing for me alone,
Still my witness is valid as I’m not alone;
I do know whence I came and I know where I’ll go
On the other hand you know not how things are so.
You all judge by the flesh, but I don’t judge at all,
If per chance I did judge, it would be a true call,
As I AM not alone, there’s my Father withal
Who has sent me to you so I break down the wall!
Double witness, your Law as the truth will accept
If my Father and me I as witnesses set
Then the truth of my witness you’ll truly accept.”
They said: “Will you tell US where your Father is now”
“You do not know the facts nor the needed know-how
For to know who I am or my Father above
If you knew me you’d know that my Father was Love
I will leave you quite soon, then to seek me you’ll try,
Where I go you can’t go, in your sins you will die.”
The Jews thought: “It may be He’ll commit suicide
Since He says where He'll go we could not if we tried!”
Jesus said: “You're from here, but I am from up there
You are from this world here, but I'm not, is that clear?
You will die in your sins if you do not know me
As the Christ in the person whom right here you see!
“But then who are you?” asked some of them in confusion.
“As I've told you I am from above an intrusion!”
“There are things that I'll say and I'll judge about you
With the words of the Father, which therefore are true.”
“When you’ve lifted me up as the known Son of Man
You will know I’ve been Christ since the world, it began.
I do naught but what Father has taught me so well
This same Father’s still with me and me still does tell
What is pleasing to Him, I obey His words well!”
Jesus then spoke to those who said they did believe:
“Persevere in my teaching, the path do not leave,
Then you’ll be my disciples, to me you will cleave!
Thus you'll know the whole truth, which will then set you free!”
They replied: “To be free, we do not need the key,
The descendants of Abraham all will be free!”
Jesus said: “If you sin, then of sin you are slave,
And the slave does not stay in the home till the grave
But the son he remains, he’s at home and no slave!
If the Son sets you free then for sin you’ll not crave!”

I do know you are Abrahams daughters and sons,
Yet inside you a wish for to kill me in runs,
Since from you to my words no response ever comes!
When I speak I say that which I heard from my Father,
Each of you does refer to your own earthly father.
They replied saying their father was Abraham,
Jesus said: “If you all were sons OF Abraham
Then you would do the works of the said Abraham!
To destroy me is what in your hearts now you seek
The same man who to you God’s own truth tried to speak
Abraham did not do the bad things that you seek!
I can see it’s your own father’s work that you do”
They replied: “This can be our straight answer for you:
It’s not so that we FROM fornication were born,
Our true Father is God, as we pray every morn;
Jesus said: “If your father were truly Lord God,
You would love me as I the Lord God’s ways have trod.
I have not come to you through my own will alone,
It is God who has sent me who sits on the throne;
Why is it that you can’t understand what I say,
Why don't you take some note when I show you the way?
You are all from the Devil, your own father true,
As you wish to do all that he tells you to do!
He has been a great killer since Life was begun
And I know that from truth he will always have run!
When he says what is false, he then speaks his own speech,
He begets but untruths, only lies will he preach,
If the truth I proclaim, doubting me you begin,
Which of you can indeed now accuse me of sin?
When I speak, why the truth in your minds won’t stay in?
If indeed you’re from God, you will hearken His word,
You do NOT listen since you’re NOT from His world!”
“A Samaritan and one with demon you are!”
Said the Jews who had not followed HIM very far.
He replied: “I do not have a demon, d’you see?
Do the Will of my Father’s an honour to me!”
“I tell you, my own glory I do not ever seek.
There are those who do so, and to judge also seek.
It’s the truth that I tell you when I let you know,
Those who follow my words, they to death will not go!”
Thereupon from the Jews came the hasty response:
“We can see that your demon you cannot ensconce!
Abraham and the prophets we know they all died,
But all will live for ever if your ways they’ve tried?
Are you greater than our own forefather who died?
Who is IT that you are by the claims you’ve implied!”
Jesus said: “I do not my own self glorify,
In no way my own glory I ever imply
It’s my Father who will glorify me in time,
The same God whom you claim as your Father sublime!
It is true that this Father you have never yet known,
But myself I do know Him by what He has shown.
If I said I don’t know Him I would be a liar,
I say that I do know Him and follow His fire.
Abraham, your forefather, was glad in the hope
That he’d see me which was of his life’s the great scope!
When he did he was glad to fulfill his high hope!”
Then they said: “You are NOT even fifty years old
And you’ve seen Abraham? How can you be so bold?”
Jesus said: “Before Abraham was I am here!”
At this point they attempted to stone Him right there,
But He hid himself from them yet through them He left
From this murderous wish the big crowd was bereft.
John 9.

Jesus met a blind man who since birth had been blind
The disciples then asked: “Who’s sinned or been unkind
For which God castigates him by taking his eyes?
Was it He or his parents who’d told many lies?”
Jesus said: “He is blind not because of a sin,
But so THAT God’s good works on his eyes could begin.”
I was sent by my Father to do His good works
Which is done in God’s light as at night danger lurks
While I am in this world I’m the light of the world,
This I tell you so THAT you’ll remember my word!”
Having said these fine words, He did spit on the ground,
His saliva with earth healing mud it thus found,
He then plastered this mud on the eyes of the blind
And He told him the Siloe pool he must find
In whose waters he must wash his eyes very well
But “Do find the right pool!” this again He did tell.
The blind man did perform what by Jesus was told,
And his eyes were then opened, no more as of old!
Then the neighbours, and those who had seen him before,
Said: “Is HE not the blind one who begged by that door?”
Some said that this was so, others did not agree.
The man said, with much glee: “Yes, indeed, it was me!”
They then asked him: “How did this man open your eyes?”
“He with earth and His spit made some mud for my eyes
Then He plastered this mud on my eyes and then said
To the pool of Siloa I now must be led
In its waters my eyes I must wash, He then said
So I went to this pool and did AS I was told,
Then I regained my sight, which is worth more than gold!”
Then this man, who’d been blind, was led TO the chief priest
There to show Pharisees how he had been released!

It was Sabbath when Jesus made mud with his spit
And then used it for healing the blind man with it.
Then the priests also asked how he regained his sight,
He replied that the man with some mud put it right
His sight was then restored when he’d washed in the well,
Thus his story was told, it was all he could tell.
Since the healing was done right there ON Sabbath’s day
They thought that this young man did not follow God’s way
Others said how can sinners such wonders perform
So there was much dissension, which caused quite a storm!
So they asked the blind man there, in spite of the cries:
“What think you of the man who did open your eyes”
“I think He is a prophet!”, said he in reply.
But the priests, they did think, it was all a big lie,
As they thought that this man had in fact not been blind;
So they sent someone out for his parents to find,
Whom they asked: “Is this man your own son, who was blind?
“He was blind at his birth so how come that he sees?”
“He’s indeed our own son, born quite blind, if you please,
How it is he now sees, who had opened his eyes
We don’t know, but we know that he will tell no lies,
So why don’t you ask him, an adult just like you,
He will speak for himself, what he says will be true!”
So they called back the man who’d been blind and then said:
“Prophet is this man NOT but a sinner instead”
“Whether He is a sinner I’m sure I don’t know,
I was blind just before, now I see where I go!”
Then they asked him: “How did he then open your eyes?”
“You don’t listen! I’ve already told you this twice!”
So then why do you want me to tell you again
Do you wish now to join and to follow his men?”

They pronounced some rude words then went on this to say:
“You can be His disciple, we’re for Moses’ way.
We do know Prophet Moses with God did converse,
But to follow this one for us would be a curse
As we cannot find out how He came to His birth!”
He replied with these words: “I do find it so strange
That His details of birth are for you out of range!
He has opened my eyes that were closed at my birth,
God does not answer prayers of sinners on Earth
Those who do what God wills will receive answered prayers
They will know in this way the Good Lord that He cares!
No one has ever healed any who was born blind,
Therefore He is from God, the man you have maligned!”
“You were born all in sin yet to us you dare preach”
Said they chasing him out for his manners the breach!

Jesus knew what they’d done, so He called for the man:
So He asked him quite straight when He’d found him again:
“Believe you in the Son of Almighty Lord God?”
“Tell me who is this Son of the Almighty God,
So that I can believe in Him” said the blind man.
“You have seen Him since healing your eyes I began,
It’s the person who is speaking with you right now”
Said Lord Jesus without even raising His brow!
“ I believe!”, said the man “and I worship Him too!”
Jesus said: “I have come to this world, it is true,
So the blind get to see and yet those who do see
(or who think they can see) then all blind have to be.”
But then some Pharisees, who had heard what He’d said
Asked Lord Jesus: “Are we to our own blindness led?”
Jesus said: “Being blind, you would be without sin,
Since you say you can see, thus your sins will remain”
"He who DOES not come IN by the door of the fold
But who scales a high wall (as you might have been told!)
Or who climbs through the window, he's surely a thief
Who cares not whether sheep in the fold come to grief!
He who comes through the door's the one who cares for the sheep
Who will know his kind voice even while fast asleep.
He will call every sheep by its name as he comes,
As if THEY were his friends or his daughters and sons.
He will go well before them and they'll follow through
As they'll follow his voice which they know to be true.
They won't follow a stranger, from such they will flee
As his voice they will find more unfriendly to be!"

Jesus then said to them: "See that I am the door!
They were all thieves and robbers, who'd come there before!
But the sheep did not listen, I am telling you,
Since the voice that they heard, they knew well was not true!
I say: I am the door!, come through me! You'll be saved!
So go out and come in when the pastures you've grazed!
But the thief, he comes in to destroy or to steal
While I've come to give you a full life with much weal!
Know that I am the shepherd who gives up his life
To enable the sheep to live life without strife!
If you ARE not the shepherd, but one who's been hired,
When the wolf comes marauding, your strength is not fired
You'll abandon the sheep so to save your own skin,
So you just run away and the wolf is let in!
If you are just a hireling, you don't love the sheep
So you let the wolf take them while you are asleep!

But I AM the good shepherd and know my own sheep,
And they know me as well with a friendship so deep,
I say: I know the Father as He does know Me,
And I'll die for my sheep, if that's how it must be!
I have other sheep too that are not in this fold
They shall all hear my voice and come out of the cold
Then there will be one shepherd and only one fold!.
So my Father, He loves me for I give my life
Which I might take again, coming back to new life;
No man takes it from me that which I freely give
I've the power to give it and power to live;
This is what I received as command from my Father
It is not given me to proceed any farther!
Then there was much dissension on this with the Jews
Since what Jesus had said, many it did confuse!
Some said: “He has a demon or HE must be mad,
But such words with a demon who then could have had?”

Dedication festivities were in full swing,
Some Jews then round Lord Jesus had made a tight ring.
The Jews asked: “Tell us truly if you are the Christ!”
Jesus answered: “I told you but YOU believed not
Since you ARE not my sheep, you are not in my lot.
To my voice my sheep listen and follow my way,
I give them life eternal, in my hands they’ll stay!
It’s my Father who once gave them over to me,
He’s the strongest so they snatched away cannot be!
Me and Father are one and so always shall be!”

Then the Jews sought to stone Him so picked up some stones.
Jesus said: “I’ve done many good things in your homes
Which of these is the one for which YOU wish me stoned?”
“It is not for good things that you have to be stoned
But for blasphemous words that you just have intoned!
You do think yourself God yet you’re only a man,
You are guilty of sin Prophet Moses did ban!”

Jesus said: “Is it not said in Moses’s Law:
‘I have said you are gods!’ Have you read this before?
If the scripture calls gods those to whom God commands
(Scripture cannot be changed in spite OF your demands!)
How could you then proclaim that the one God has sent
He blasphemes if to you this idea He lent:
I say I am the Son of Lord God whom He sent?
If I don’t do my Father’s good works then all you
Should be free to believe what I say is untrue.
But if I do His works, if you think I’m not right,
Just believe in the works that I do in the light!
So that you will believe that the Father’s in Me
And I am in the Father and for ever will be!”

Then the Jews at this point sought to take Him again,
But He slipped through their hands so they sought Him in vain.
In the village of Bethany there was a place
Where a family lived a good life with much grace.
There was Martha then Mary and Lazarus too,
They lived happily there as contented a crew!
One day Lazarus caught a most dreadful disease
So his sisters sent word to Lord Jesus: “Do please
Come to us as our brother you love is so ill!”
He said “This illness Lazarus it will not kill;
To the glory of God his disease will be used
So that God’s Son be glorified in what ensued!”
Though He loved the two sisters and Lazarus too,
He delayed His departure for one day or two.
To His own true disciples He made this suggestion:
“Let us go to Judea!”, to which came the reaction:
“Some days back there the Jews they to stone you had tried,
Do you now wish to go back to danger?” they cried.
Jesus said: “Are there not just twelve hours in the day?
If you walk by the day, you’ll not stumble, I say,
You more likely will stumble by walking at night,
If you walk in the dark, you will miss the bright light!”
Then He said: “Our friend Lazarus’ fallen asleep,
I’ll go now so wakes from his sleep very deep!”
The disciples replied: “If he sleeps, he’ll get well!”
He meant Lazarus died, but this he wouldn’t tell.
But then later He said this: “Our friend, he is dead,
But for YOUR sake I’m glad I was not by his bed.
There will come an event that will help you believe
Let us go to him and see what we can retrieve!”

On arrival they found that the dead man had been
In the tomb for four days and much grieving was seen
Many Jews had arrived the two girls to console
Which at SUCH times it WAS all good friends’ proper role.
Martha, when she had heard that Lord Jesus was near
Went to meet Him so SHE could put things in the clear.
On the other hand Mary had stayed at their home,
As most likely she needed to be left alone.
Martha said to Lord Jesus: “ Lord! If you’d been here,
My dear brother would not now be dead, I do fear!
But I also believe that of God what you ask,
He will grant you as His so supreme divine task!”
Jesus said: “Your dear brother will resuscitate!”
Martha said: “The last day we’ll all resuscitate!”
Jesus said “Truly I’m resurrection and life
Who believes in Me, even though dead, will have life!
And those who now do live and in Me they believe
They will not ever die, this you truly believe?”
“I believe you’re the Christ and the Son of our God
Who’d been promised to come and so whom we must laud!”

After this she departed her sister to call
When she found her all saddened all alone in the hall
She said: “Jesus is here and it’s you He would see!”
When she heard this she rose just as fast as could be
So she in the Lord’s presence very quickly could be!
Then the Jews who had come to the house to console her
Also rose and they followed: they wished to be with her.
Thinking she would now go to the tomb for to weep there.
But then Mary, when of the Lord Jesus caught sight,
Quickly fell on her knees and said, feeling contrite:
“Had you come here before, then he would not have died!”
Jesus then, when He saw they were sad and they cried
Was much moved and therefore this to say did decide:
“Tell me where you have placed him, just show me the place!”
“Come and see, over here!” they did say with much grace.
Jesus wept; so they said: “Look, He loved him so much!”
“He could have stopped his death just by using His touch!”
Some said “if He can give the sight back to the blind,
Surely He could have healed him by using His mind!”
Jesus, trembling, now went right up to the grave
Which was carved out of rock in the form of a cave
To the entrance they’d rolled an extremely large stone
Thus securing for ever the dead man’s new home!
Jesus said: “Take away the big stone from the grave!”
To which this simple answer the sad Martha gave:
“He’s been dead since four days and the body will smell!”
“Don’t you know that in glory our God will excel?”
Is what Jesus to all those around Him could tell!
So they rolled the big stone right away from the tomb
Jesus said, with His eyes lifted up from the gloom:
“Oh my Father, I thank you for hearing my prayer
I know that you do always respond with much care
I have said this in order that people around
For belief you have sent me should have much more ground!”
After this He stood firm and then loudly did shout:
“Brother Lazarus! I command you to come out!”
Then the dead man came out, hands and feet all tied up
With a towel round his face he could hardly stand up!
Jesus said: “Loosen him, from his feet to his head,
Then let our brother go when you’ve done what I’ve said!”
Many who had just seen what Lord Jesus had done
    Did believe in Him now as Messiah the Son!

Of these facts there were some Pharisees who were told
    Who were not with believers in all the same fold!
These convened a large meeting of Pharisees there
    They said: “This man works miracles, so it’s unclear
How the man we should handle, since if we do naught
    More men will follow HIM which with danger is fraught!
    As the Romans will come for our place to destroy
    Make an end of our nation they all tools will employ!”
Then Caiaphas, who was the chief priest for that year
    Said: “You don’t understand how to solve this affair!
    It could be more convenient for one man to die
    Than for our chosen nation to burn in the fire!”
    He had not said all this as his personal view
    But as chief priest foretelling the death of one Jew
Rather THAN the destruction of all should come true!
    In this way God’s true men would all be brought together
    And they would form one body as brother to brother!
    From that day they decided that He would be killed
    Therefore Jesus’s actions in public were stilled!

Now the time for Passover was getting quite near
    Many went to Jerusalem to get all clear
Well before the great feast to get pure through the rites
    Hoping in their own souls to rekindle old lights!
    Many looked in the Temple if Jesus was there,
    Of new danger for Him there was much in the air.
There’d been orders by priests: if Lord Jesus one saw
    He should tell the chief priest, so he’d take Him by law.
John 12.

There were six days to go to the Passover feast
Which then Jesus’s wish to see friends had increased
So He took to the road, towards Bethany bound,
Where He knew His friend Lazarus’ family’s found.
Sister Martha for all a good meal had prepared
As she wished to be sure that they knew how she cared.
At this point Mary took a big jar of perfume
Made of costly ingredients whose scent filled the room.
Then she poured this perfume over Jesus’s feet
Which she wiped with her hair to make them clean and neat.

One of Jesus’ disciples, one Judas Iscariot,
Thought that Mary her action should really vary it
By exchanging the costly perfume for some gold
And then pay out the money to the poor and the old!
He said this not because he did care for the poor,
But since he was a thief, for whom gold was a lure
He was acting as purser, stealing funds, to be sure!
Jesus said: “I would rather that you let her be,
The perfume it was meant for when they bury me.
In your midst you will always have plenty of poor,
But myself you will not always have at your door!”

Many sought Jesus out for His miracles wrought
(Such as Lazarus back to new life He had brought!),
The chief priests sought to kill Him and Lazarus too,
As they were living proofs of what Jesus could do!
The next day the great crowd that had come for Passover
Had learned that Lord Jesus was on His way over
To Jerusalem, so they took branches of palms
Which they’d gathered together from neighbouring farms
Went to meet Him and shouted all with one accord:
“Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!
Blessed be from now on the King OF Israel!”
Jesus sat on a donkey as Scripture does tell:
Do not fear, Zion’s City, your King has now come
Riding on the bare back of a small donkey’s young!
Though at first the disciples did NOT understand
That these lines had been written by one ancient hand!
It was only when Jesus had been glorified
That they knew they had done what had been prophesied!
There were also some Greeks who had come to the Feast
Who did want to converse with Lord Jesus at least,
So they asked the disciples if they Jesus could see,
Who arranged they could do so as soon as could be.

Jesus said: “It is time for the Son to have glory
So now soon will unfold the life-and-death story:
If a kernel of wheat does not fall on the ground
And does not die while under the soil that it’s found
It will just remain there as a poor single seed,
But then if it should die as a life-giving deed,
Many seeds will arise from that one little seed!
So the man who loves life, he will lose it for sure,
But the man who hates life, to eternity ’ll soar,
So whoever serves me, he must follow me through,
So where I am will also be my servant true!
If one serves me, my Father will honour him too.
Now my heart is so troubled, so what shall I say?
Shall I say: Father! Take what’s to be right away?
But it’s why I have come, for the pain to be slain
So, my Father! Bring glory this way to your name.”

Then a voice thundered down from on high in the sky:
“Look, much glory I’ve brought, I’ll bring more bye and bye!”
Of the crowd who had heard the loud voice from the sky
Some said thunder it was, some that angels did cry.
Jesus said: “Look, this voice was for your benefit
This your world, to be judged now it soon will be fit!
Soon the prince of this world, he shall be overthrown,
The raised up Son of Man will come into His own
Who will draw all to Him so they won’t be alone.”

The crowd spoke: “We have heard that the Christ’s for all time
So how can the raised up Son of Man be your sign?
Anyway who is this Son of Man you define?
Jesus said: “Not much longer will YOU have the light,
In this light you should walk while its shine is still bright
Ere the darkness descends so you don’t see the way,
Put your trust in the light that shines during the day,
So that you may become the true sons of the light!”

After this Jesus left and He hid from their sight.

Even though Jesus had shown miraculous signs
They still did not believe as He spoke his great lines!
This was so that words of Isaiah came true:
Oh Lord, who has believed this our message to you
And to whom was the arm of the Lord put to view?
For this reason there were some who could not believe
Notwithstanding a message elsewhere he did leave:
He has blinded their eyes and has deadened their hearts,
They can’t see with their eyes nor to know with their hearts,
They won’t turn so I’ll heal them of ills with mine Arts!

Even some of the leaders in Him they believed
To confess such belief Pharisees would have grieved,
Who would then not permit them for their avowed creed
Synagogues to attend having sowed a bad seed!
That’s because they preferred the vainglory of men
To God’s glory which could have been sown among them.
Jesus cried and He said: “He who in me believes
In the one who has sent me he also believes
And the one who sees me sees the one who sent me,
I have come to the world so my light you can see
So that no longer IN a great darkness you’ll be!
If you do not believe when I’ve spoken my word
I’ll not judge as I’ve not come for judging the world
But to save it by giving the Father’s own word!
There’s a judge for the one who does truly reject
Me and my truthful words if he cannot accept:
These same words will condemn him on that judgment day
They are not just from me all the words that I say
Through my Father’s command come the words and the way
So I know that His words lead to life without end
And my words are the ones that the Father did send!”
Now that Passover was getting nearer at hand
Jesus knew that He soon would be leaving this land
To be gone to the Father leaving those He did love,
Although He would now show them the extent of His love!
Then the devil instilled in Iscariot’s heart
The betrayal of Jesus would soon be his part.
Jesus knew that the Father ‘d put things in His power
That from God He had come and He knew at this hour
That to God He’d return but his seed it would flower.
After supper He rose and exchanged what He wore
For a towel around Him, for a task, to be sure!
After this He poured water to fill a small basin
(With this task His disciples He wanted to chasten!)
So He started to wash the feet OF the disciples
Drying them with the towel, as sign for all peoples..
When it was Peter’s turn, Peter said: “Oh my Lord!
Will you wash my poor feet?” Simon Peter thus roared
Jesus said: “You don’t know why I do what I do,
But you’ll know later on when you have thought it through!”
Peter said: “You shall not, in this life, wash my feet!”
Jesus said: “In that case that will be your defeat
As I’ll have naught of you if I don’t wash your feet!”
So then Peter replied: “Oh my Lord! Not just feet,
But my head and my hands so I can be replete!”
Jesus said: “If you’ve washed, then perforce you are clean,
Just your feet need be washed as can plainly be seen.
You are clean, but not all of you here are all clean”
When He’d washed all their feet, He changed back in His clothes
And decided the why for the task to disclose
Saying: “Do you know why I have done what I chose?
You’ve been calling me Master or Lord; you’ve done well,
Indeed this is correct as you plainly can tell,
Therefore if as your Master I have washed your feet,
Washing each others’ feet, would it not be discreet?
As example to you I have done what I’ve done
So that each of you follow, yes, each every one!
No, the servant no more than his master can be,
Nor the messenger more than the sender, you see?
Now you know all these things, you’ll be glad if you do
Act accordingly as will be fitting for you!
I do not speak of all, I do know whom I’ve picked,
‘By one who shares my bread by his heel I’ll be kicked’
As the Holy Writ said about me long ago,
Translation into verse form ©2003 by Zoltan P. Dienes.

I tell you this just now so that all of you know
That I am the true Christ and if I say: You go!
And assign you a task, then all people will know
That if you they receive, then in Me they believe
And the One who has sent me their life will retrieve!"

After having thus spoken, He seemed much disturbed
Thus He spoke as His mind could no longer be curbed:
"There is one amongst you who Me soon will betray!"
The disciples, amazed, did not know what to say,
And indeed they did wonder who could choose that way!
The disciple Jesus loved lay his head on His breast,
Simon asked this disciple, “Ask who!” as their quest.
This disciple then turning to Jesus, he said:
"Who is it among us who to such things is led?"
Jesus said: “It’s the one to whom I’ll give this bread
When I’ve dipped it in sauce. Understand what I’ve said?”
Then a small piece of bread He did dip in the sauce
Then He gave it to Iscariot, known as Judas, of course.
At this time Satan entered the heart of this man,
Jesus said: “Go with haste! Do the task you began!”
None of those who were present could know what He meant
As they thought Judas for more provisions was sent
Judas took the small mouthful and then out he went.

At this point Jesus said: “Now He is glorified,
Son of Man, you will see!” so thus Jesus had cried,
“Also God who’s in Him will be now glorified!”
"Oh my children! your company soon I will lose,
You will look for me, but as I said to the Jews,
You cannot follow me to the place where I’ll be,
But another commandment I’ll leave you from me:
One another do love, just as I have loved you.
Then the whole world will know you are part of my crew!”
Simon Peter asked: “Where are you going, Oh Lord?”
“Where I go, yet your passage I cannot accord”
Said Lord Jesus as more at that time could not say
“But then later you’ll follow since you’ll find the way!”
“Oh, my Lord, why can’t I follow you even now?
I am ready to die for you, no matter how!”
Thus spoke Simon to say how he felt as of now.
Jesus said: “You are ready to die for my sake?
Very soon you will find that your life is at stake
You’ll deny that you know me three times, I do say
Ere the cock crows at dawn in its usual way!”
John 14.

“Let your heart not be pained and believe in your God,
And believe in Me too, although some, they cannot!
In the house of my Father there are many rooms
Where for you happy life for eternity looms
If this were not the case, I’d have told you by now,
I’ll prepare you a place, only I know just how!
When I’ve been to prepare an abode for you all,
I’ll return and will give you a welcoming call
So that you’ll be with me when I you there install!
You’ll know where I have gone and you’ll come and not fall!”

Thomas said: “We don’t know where it is that you’ll go
How can we know the way and not be in great woe?”
Jesus said: “I’m the way, and the truth and the life,
The one way to the Father’s through me from this life,
And the Father you know if myself you do know
So you know Him, you’ve seen Him, I tell you it’s so!”
“Just the Father, do show us, and that will be fine!”
So said Phillip quite nervously, needing a sign.
Jesus said: “I have been with you now for some time,
You don’t know me yet, which of course isn’t a crime!
You the Father have seen if you have been with me,
So then ‘Show us the Father’ how can problem be?
Do you not yet believe that I am in the Father,
And the Father’s in Me, so you need go no farther!
And the words that I tell you come not just from Me
So the Father in Me does the works that you see.
That I am in the Father and that He is in Me
You should know even by all the works that you see.
I tell you in all truth: those believing in Me
Will do works even greater than what you do see!
And whatever you ask in my name I will do
So the glory of Father and Son shall come true
I repeat: what you ask in my name I will do!”

If you love me, obey the commandments of mine
I will pray to my Father to send you a sign
In the form of a Counselor who’ll stay with you
Which will be the embodiment of Spirit true,
Which the world can’t receive as they don’t see or know
But you’ll know as to you this great gift I’ll bestow
I will not leave you orphans, to you I’ll return,
After some little while the world me won’t discern
On the other hand, you will continue to learn
Because you will all see me as I am alive
Just as you’ll be alive, with the Spirit you’ll thrive!
On that day you will know that I am in the Father
And that we’re in each other, so we are together
And the one who observes my commandment loves me,
He who loves me well loved by my Father will be
I will also well love him and thus he’ll see me.
One disciple then asked: “Tell us what does it mean,
What you are showing us by the world won’t be seen?”
Jesus said: “Ones who love me will do what I say,
And my Father will love them for their righteous way,
We will come to them and make our home where they’ll stay.
But if one loves me not, he won’t do what I say
Note, the words that you hear do not come just from me
They are my Father’s words, who to you has sent me!
I have said all these things while I am still with you
But the Counseling Spirit will teach all of you
To remember that what I have taught you is true.
I will leave you in peace, I will give you My peace
But it’s not as the world such a gift would release,
I give, so that no trouble should stay in your hearts,
So that casting out fear you can live in these parts.
You have heard all I’ve said, but I will now depart,
I’ll come back so do not suffer so in your heart.
If you loved me, you would be so happy for me
As I go to the Father who is greater than me
I have told you these things well ahead of the time,
So that when they’re fulfilled, you’ll believe in my sign..
I’ll not speak any more, the bad prince is at hand,
He has no hold on me, I hope you understand;
But the world, it must know that the Father I love
And I do what He says, as commanded above.
Now do come, let us go, the bad prince is no dove!”
John 15.

My good Father’s the gardener, I’m the true vine,
Any branch without fruit to be cut He’ll assign
But a branch that bears fruit He will prune with much care
So that more fruit will grow, as well as what’s there.
I have spoken my words to you, so you are clean;
You remain right in me and in you I’ll remain
There’s no branch by itself can produce any fruit,
It must stay on the vine and be fed from the root.
There’s no fruit you can bear if in me you don’t stay,
This is how I do teach you to follow my way.
I say: you are the branches and I am the vine
I in you, you in me, we’ll produce fruit that’s fine
Without me there is nothing that you can achieve,
Therefore in the good vine you must truly believe!
Anyone not in me is a branch thrown away,
It is burned as it’s withered and so cannot stay.
If you stay right in me and my words stay in you,
You can ask what you will and I’ll give it to you!
It’s to my Father’s glory you’ll bear much good fruit
So that as my disciples you’ll never be mute!
As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you,
Now remain in my love and to me do stay true!
If you keep my commands, you’ll remain in my love,
Just as I’ve kept the Laws of my Father above.
This is how I do know that I remain in His love.
I tell you all these things so your joy stays with you,
That your joy should be full and thus always stay true!
My commandment is THAT you should love one another.
Just as I have loved you as a sister or brother.
There can be no more love than defying the end,
Sacrificing his life for the sake of his friend.
If you do what I teach, you will be my true friends
All through life and beyond, so that IT never ends.
I do not call you servants, I’m telling you so,
As the servant knows not what his master does know.
I will call you my friends as I’ve taught you to know
What my Father’s told me, so your knowledge does grow.
You had not chosen me but I chose all of you
So that YOU will bear fruit doing thing that you’ll do
And this fruit should be permanent, so what you ask
Then my Father will grant you as His holy task!
I command you these things so each other you love.
If they hate you, then know that they’d thrown down the glove
   To hate me with much passion and God up above.
If you were from this world, you would be in its love!
But you’re NOT from this world, as you’re my own elect,
   So that YOU from the world only hate can expect!

Do remember the words I have spoken to you,
   What I told you of servants, it is very true:
That the servant no more than his master can be,
   All of you very much persecution will see
That’s because they’ll be trying to persecute me,
   So if they’ve kept my word, then with yours they’ll agree.
To you THEY’LL do these things just because of my name,
   Since they don’t recognize the Lord God whence I came.
Had I not come and spoken they would bear no blame
   There can be no excuse for them now to their shame.
He who hates me, does hate my own Father as well
   If I hadn’t done works that no one could foretell
They would not have to feel any guilt in their hearts
   But they’ve seen the works done, so their hearts feel the darts
As they hate God and Me, which is where their guilt starts.
   This occurred so that Scripture be truly fulfilled:
   “Then without any reason with hate they were filled’.
When the Counselor comes whom the Father will send
   To your ears the full truth from the Father will lend,
He will testify to you of me to the end!
   You must testify too, as you have been with me
From the start, so of truth then you certain can be.
John 16.

I have told you these things so you don’t go astray
From the synagogues you will be all kept away,
Times will come when it will be thought service to God
If one kills you to act as God’s punishing rod;
They will do all these things as they have not known me,
Nor have they known my Father who could set them free.
I have told you these things so that when comes the hour,
You’ll remember my words and from danger won’t cower

At the start of our friendship this I didn’t say,
Since I was always with you and never away!
To the one who had sent me I must now soon go,
And yet none of you ask me: “Where is it you go?”
On account of the things I have said you are sad,
But in fact the whole truth is not nearly so bad,

It is useful that I go away at this point
If I don’t then the Counselor could you not anoint.
If I now go away and your hearts do not rend,
Then there will come the Counselor whom I will send.
When He comes he’ll convict all the sinners of guilt,
So that judgment and righteousness here will be built.

The great sin is that in me they do not believe
But I go to the Father and so I must leave,

So the judgment is on the bad prince of this world,
Because he has been judged through applying my word!
I have much more to tell you which you cannot bear,
You’ll be guided in truth when the Spirit is here

Since He’ll not speak to you as from Himself alone,
But He’ll tell you the truth He has heard that is known
And He’ll say what’s to come, making His words your own!

He’ll bring glory to me, taking from what is mine
And thus telling you all so you know the right sign!

All the things that belong to the Father are mine,
And He’ll take from what’s mine and thus keep you in line.

Me much more you won’t see but you’ll see me again
As I go to the Father where I shall remain.

Some disciples did not understand what he’d said
There was one who could not put this into his head:
Asking: “ What is ‘won’t see me’, then ‘see me again’
Or ‘go to the Father’, what does all this mean?”

Jesus knew that they wanted these questions made clear,
About leaving and then again coming back here.
I must say that you’ll weep and you’ll mourn but the rest
Of the world will feel joy but you will feel oppressed
But your sadness will turn into feelings of joy.
When a woman gives birth to a girl or a boy
She feels pain as the time of her trial’s arrived.
But then after she heard that her baby had cried
And the moment had come for which she had long thrived
She forgets all her anguish, takes all in her stride
And admires the new life with much joy and with pride
Same with you, now you are in the hour of much pain,
But your hearts will rejoice when you see me again
And this joy you’ll not lose, with you it will remain!
I tell you on that day you will not ask for more
Though that day will my Father on you his gifts pour!
Up to now you have not asked for aught in my name,
Ask away! You’ll receive! And your joy will be plain.
To tell you all these things I have used figured speech,
Of the Father now soon very plainly I’ll teach
On that day you will make your requests in my name,
I will not ask my Father for you for the same
As my Father loves you, which I’ve made very plain.
He loves you because in your turn you do love me
As my coming from God you so clearly do see!
I did come from the Father to come to the world,
I now go back to Him, this you know is my word.
The disciples then said: “Your speech is very plain,
You are not using figures of speech so we gain
Understanding of some of your knowledge you share
There is no need for questions to know what we hear,
Thus we know that you came from the Lord to be here.
Jesus answered: “Are you starting now to believe?
Time will come, nay, it’s here when you me all will leave
You will just melt away or seek refuge at home,
And so I will be left on my own all alone!
But my Father is with me, so I’m not quite alone
I have told you all this so that you may have peace,
Be united with me, then you’ll feel some release!
But you will have to suffer, this to you is my word,
You must try to be brave, I’ve defeated the world!”
John 17.

After Jesus said this, He looked up to the sky
And prayed: “Father! Your Son will you now glorify
So the path of the glory to You He can find,
For you gave Him authority over mankind
So that life sempiternal He CAN give to those
Whom you gave him for ever with love to enclose
And eternal life means to know you, the true God,
And to know Jesus Christ whom all men should applaud.
I have shown your great glory down here on the Earth
I have finished the work to which I’d given birth,
In your presence now give me the glory I had
When the world you began which in beauty you clad."

“I have told these good men of the World about You
You did give them to me, they were yours, it is true.
But you gave them to me so they learn what to do
And your word has been kept very well by this crew!
They have learned that the things you gave me come from You
I gave them your true words, which are yours and so true!
They’ve accepted these words and they know I’m from You,
That You did send me down to the Earth, they know too.
I do pray for them now, I don’t pray for the world
But for those you gave me, who are yours by your word
All my things they are yours but in them I find glory
As we now are so near to the end of the story.
I am not, as myself, in this world any more
But then they’re in the world to which they do set store.
Holy Father! Protect them in your holy name
So that they can be one, just as we are the same!
While I was with them all, they were safe through your name
I protected them so none of them went astray
Except one who was bound to proceed his own way
So the Scriptures come true as they do every day
I now do come to you and I speak to the world
Let my joy be their joy, let their flag be unfurled
I did give them your message which roused the world’s hate
They are not of this world, on this there’s no debate,
Nor am I of this world in its present bad state.
I do not ask you TO take them out of the world,
But I ask you to shield well them from Satan’s word!”
Just as I can’t be said to belong to the world,
In the same way they do not belong to the world
Dedicate them to you through the working of truth,
Which of course is your word as the essence of truth.
I did send them myself into this evil world
Just as you sent me here by pronouncing your word.
For their sake I myself dedicate all to you
So that they too can dedicate their lives to you!
I pray not just for them but for those who believe
In me through the good message my people did leave.
I do pray they become as we are all as one
That they be all in us as you are with your Son
May they be all as one for the world here to see
And believe that to save it indeed you sent me!
I gave them the same glory that you gave to me
So that they may be one, just as You are with Me
This means I am in them, also you are in me
Thus then they can be one for the whole world to see,
So the world should well know that indeed you sent me
And that you also love them just as you love me”
Holy Father! You gave them to me and I want
Them with me in the place of which joy is the font.
So that they see the glory that you did give me
For you loved me before the world you made be!
Righteous Father! The world does not know who you are,
But I know You, who sent me down here from afar,
And I did make you known to the people down here
And I will still continue to make it all clear
Who you are so their life towards you they can steer
So your love for your Son can be also in them
And that I as your Son may be firmly in them”
John 18.

After this Jesus took those with Him to a grove
Where He with His disciples very oft used to rove.
But then Judas, the traitor, he too knew this place,
Because Jesus had often gone there spreading grace.
Therefore Judas came there with some priests and armed guards;
But then Jesus, aware of what was on the cards
Did come forth and then asked them: “Pray! Whom do you seek?”
And the guards, quite surprised at the sound quite so meek
Then said: “Jesus of Nazareth IS whom we seek”
Jesus said: “I’m this person to whom you now speak”
As He said this, they backed and they fell on the floor,
“Tell us! Whom do you seek?”, Jesus asked as before
They said: “Jesus is He, the one we have come for!”
Jesus said: “I have told you before I am He!
So you might as well let all the others go free!”
So as thus to fulfill what He’d said in His prayer:
I’ve not lost any one you have put in my care!
Simon Peter right then did unsheathe his big sword
The High Priest’s servant’s ear he sliced off for his Lord
But then Jesus told him: “Put your sword right away!
It’s the cup Father gave me, it must be this way!”
So the guards then took Jesus and had Him well tied,
They took Jesus to Annas, so He could be tried.
The priest Annas was Father-in-law of Caiaphas
Who was High Priest that year who’d suggested that Jesus
Be the one who should die for the Nation and “Save us!”
One disciple and Peter just followed along
Who were known by the High Priest, also by the throng,
By the High Priests own house there was one large courtyard
Where they kept a good fire to keep warm the armed guard
Peter and this disciple went to warm themselves there
But the girl at the gate said to them: “Look! Who is here?
Are you not a disciple of that Nazarene there?’
Pointing at Simon Peter who was much confused.
“I am not!”, he replied, thinking he’d be abused.
Peter entered the courtyard and stood by the fire
Though without realizing he’d just been a liar!

The High Priest questioned Jesus on matter He taught,
Jesus said: “In my teaching for truth I have fought,
Teaching always in public in your synagogue
Of my words you could easily have kept a log,
I don’t see why you question me on what I’ve said,
It were better you asked those who heard me instead
They will know very clearly the things that I’ve said.  
When He’d said this a guard slapped Him right in the face  
Saying: “Talking like this to a priest’s a disgrace!”  
Jesus answered: “If I have said anything wrong  
Will you please say so plainly and tell every one.  
But if I’m in the right in what I have just said,  
Then how come that your hand to strike me it was led?”

All this time Peter was keeping warm by the fire  
When another bystander this way did inquire:  
“Were you not with that man who is under arrest?”  
“I was not”, Peter said, failing his second test!  
Then a relative of the man Peter ‘d attacked  
Said to Peter quite calmly: “I know it’s a fact  
That you were in that garden! No courage you lacked!”  
Peter then thus replied: “I do say you are wrong!”  
And the rooster then crowed with a sound loud and strong.

Then they took Jesus on to the Governor’s place  
But the Jews did not enter as they could not face  
Being sullied so they could not eat the Passover  
Pilate therefore thought he would towards them come over  
He said: “What accusation against him you bring?”  
They said: “If He was clear He’d not be in this wing!”  
Pilate said: “Take Him then and judge Him by your Laws!”  
“We cannot pass the death sentence for any cause!”  
Said the Jews as they tried to apply their own laws.  
Pilate then went back into the palace and called  
For Lord Jesus, avoiding this way being stalled:  
“Do you say it is true you’re the King of the Jews?”  
“Is this question from you, or based on other clues?”  
“The High Priest and his men have put you in my hand,  
What is it you have done for disturbing the land?”  
Jesus said: “My own Kingdom is not of this world,  
If it were then my men would free me with one word  
But my Kingdom is not situated down here!”  
Pilate said: “Then it’s true you’re a King from somewhere!”  
Jesus said: “As you say now that I am a King.  
It’s for this the Lord God to the world me did bring,  
So that I to the Truth I could thus testify,  
Those who are for the Truth, will be hearing my cry!”  
Pilate said: “What is Truth?” and went out to the crowd  
And addressed them like this, in a voice strong and loud:

“There’s no guilt I can find in the man whom you’ve brought!  
But according to custom, of those we have caught  
We can free one of them at the feast of Passover
Would you like this your King of the Jews handed over?”
But the Jews said: “Not Him! It’s Barrabas we want!”
He was known for his crimes which the Jews did not daunt!
John 19.

Pontius Pilate took Jesus and then had Him flogged
(His ideas of justice, they were somewhat clogged!)
Then the soldiers found thorns with which they made a crown,
   Put it on Jesus’ head, pulling IT all well down,
Then a big purple cloak on His shoulders did place
And said: “Hail! King of Jews!” and struck HIM in the face.
   While in much sweat his body at this point did soak:
   “I have brought Him to you so that justice be built,
   And you know that I find in this man there’s no guilt!”
   So then Jesus came out wearing His thorny crown
   And in His purple cloak showed Himself to the town.
Pilate said: “Ecce homo!”, the priests then replied:
   “He must die! He must die! Let Him be crucified!”
Pilate said: “Take him then and nail Him on the cross!,
   I find NO guilt Him, so I am at a loss!”
   They replied: “We’ve a law which decides He must die
   As we know that to be Son of God He did try!”
Pilate heard what they said, he became more afraid
   He went back in the Palace to give Jesus aid.
Pilate then said to Jesus: “From where do you come?”
   Jesus just remained silent, reply He gave none.
Pilate said: “How is it that you don’t speak to me?
   I could order your death or I could set you free!”
   Jesus answered: “You could never have all this power
   If it had not been granted by God for this hour.
   The one who brought me here has a much greater sin”
Pilate then freeing Jesus he tried to begin.
   But the Jews in the yard they continued their din,
   Shouting: “Letting Him go you are not Caesar’s friend,
   This man’s claim to be King is a bad rebel trend!”
Pilate, when he heard this, he brought Jesus along
   And he sat down in judgment before the large throng.
Pilate said to the crowd: “Look now! Here is your King!”
   (To some hope to persuade the big crowd he did cling!)
   But they cried: “To the cross! Crucify! Crucify!”
Pilate asked: “This your King, do you wish Him to die?”
   “We have no King but Caesar!”, the Chief Priest announced.
Pilate handed Him over, the sentence pronounced!

They gave Jesus the cross on which He would be nailed
Which then up a steep hill with great effort He trailed.
   At the top of the hill was the Place of the Skull
   After climbing the hill with the cross and no lull!
Then the guards crucified Him, nailing Him on the cross
Though some were at their task just somewhat at a loss.
Then two robbers were crucified, one on each side,
Putting one on the left and one on the right.
Pilate wrote on the cross for all there to peruse:
“This is Jesus of Nazareth, King of the Jews”
Many people read this as it was not far out,
In Greek, Latin and Hebrew, to leave none in doubt.
The Chief Priests said to Pilate: “Don’t write King of Jews,
But write: He had declared that He was King of Jews!”
Pilate said: “What I’ve written I’ve written and you
Cannot SAY to me what to write or what to do!”
After they’d crucified Him, they took what He wore,
Shared it equally out so that none would get more.
There was also a robe that was all in one piece,
They did not want to cut it, nor give it a crease,
So one said: “Let’s draw lots and let chance so decide”
Each one hoping that luck would be on his side.
This occurred to make this Holy Writ a true probe:
“They divided my clothes and drew lots for my robe!”

Standing close to the cross were his mother, named Mary,
Also His mother’s sister and Magdalene Mary
Jesus saw the disciple He loved and His mother
He said: “Here is your son!”, then He spoke to the other:
“She is now your own mother!”, so from then on, for good,
He kept her at his home, as he’d well understood.

Then the Jews they asked Pilate if the legs they could break
Of the ones crucified and the bodies could take.
They asked this because on the sabBATH they could not
Leave the bodies on crosses in heat there to rot.
Soldiers so broke the legs of the one on the left,
On the right was the next who had died for some theft.
When they came to Lord Jesus, they saw He was dead,
So His legs were not broken but left whole instead.
One however did plunge his long sword in His side
Whence at once blood and water poured out far and wide.
Scriptures were thus fulfilled: “Not one bone they will break!”
“At the one they have pierced a good look they will take!”

There was Joseph who’d been friends with Jesus in secret
(This was so since High Priests in the town could not take it!)
He asked Pilate if he Jesus’ body could take
Pilate then this concession very clearly could make.
Joseph with Nicodemus a tomb had prepared
So from breaking the Sabbath they could all be spared;
Nicodemus collected some spices so rare
For the body to spice with the utmost of care.
So they wrapped Jesus’ body in linen and spice
Having taken much heed of some ancient advice.
John 20.

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It was dark on Sunday morning, Mary Magdalene in deep mourning
To the tomb she was directed, she knew not why so she acted.
When she reached Lord Jesus’ tomb, she could see across the gloom
That the rock was rolled away which was meant to bar the way.
So she ran to Simon Peter, but she thought it would be safer
One whom Jesus loved to find, as she needed someone kind.
When she’d found them, she did speak thus: “They have taken the Lord Jesus
From the tomb which is now empty, I had thought they’d placed a sentry!”
This disciple, joined with Peter to the tomb came for to check her.
They both ran there very fast, caution to the wind they’d cast.
The disciple, he was first, to the entrance he had burst,
Peter came in from the street, then he saw the folded sheet
And the towel from His head, which was placed elsewhere instead.
It was folded with much care, he could only stand and stare!
The disciple also entered, his own mind now having centered
And he saw what Peter’d seen, and believed what must have been!
They were not yet in the picture as they knew not of the Scripture
Which said He’d rise from the dead so they were still in much dread.
The disciples, they went home, as they had no wish to roam.
Not so Mary, who was staying, at the tomb she would be weeping.
When she looked towards the grave at the entrance of the cave,
Saw two angels dressed in white, their two faces shimmered bright.
One of them sat at the head, one sat at the foot instead
Of where Jesus had been laid who then this discourse did make:
“Tell us why you are a-weeping! Is there someone you are seeking?”
“The Lord Jesus has been taken, and not knowing has me shaken!
Having said this, she turned round, there saw Jesus, yet no sound.
That it was Him she did not know, she was still sad and did weep so!
Jesus said: “Why are you crying? And whom could you here be seeking?”
“If you placed Him in concealment, do pronounce me a true statement
Telling me where you have placed Him so that I can go and fetch Him!”
The Lord Jesus said: “Oh Mary!”, she replied: “Oh, this is scary!
But I see you are the Master!”, which in happier mood did cast her.
Then Lord Jesus thus was speaking, making sure her ears were reaching:
“Now untouched I must be rather as I’ve not gone to my Father,
But you must tell all my brothers, and my sisters, friends and others
I am rising to my Father who is also your own Father,
This means I shall go to God, who is also your own God.”
Then she went to tell disciples all she’d seen (no fancy titles!).
In the evening of the same day (so it was still on that Sunday)
The disciples were locked in, fearing Jews who might come in.
The Lord Jesus there appeared, notwithstanding all their fears
His disciples He would woo, saying: “Peace to all of you!”
He then showed them both His hands, in His side the wounded strands.
Then He gestured, very calm: “Peace be with you!” with His arm.
“That my Father sent me ‘s true, so I now send all of you,
With my breath now I do send it, do receive the Holy Spirit!
To all those you do forgive, my forgiveness I will give,
Those whose sins you do retain, shall not my forgiveness gain.”

Thomas was not at the scene when with Jesus they were seen.
Thomas thought it was not true, this is what he said he ‘d do:
He must touch the wound of nails, otherwise his faith, it fails!
Eight days later they were meeting, this time with Thomas all sharing,
Jesus entered as He had done and said “Peace to you!” to each one.
Then to Thomas spoke Lord Jesus: “Press your finger here, to please us!”
Thomas touched the wounded hands (Jesus knew he understands!)
“Oh my Lord and Oh my God!” thus spoke Thomas to his God.
Jesus said: You do believe, since to my sight you could cleave.
Happy those who’ve never seen me but believe and understand me!”
John 21.

Simon Peter, he was thinking. He would like to do some fishing,
Then the others said: “We too, wish to do what you will do!”
So they went out on the lake, but all night did nothing take.
In the morning as the sun rose, fishers were bewailing their woes.

Jesus stood on water’s edge, leaning back against a ledge
He addressed the fishermen thus, but they knew not it was Jesus:
“Have you not caught anything?” they said: “Oh no! Not a thing!”
He said: “Here’s help in your plight, throw the net in on the right!”
They did try then on the right and then TO their great delight
So much fish came in the net, pulling at it they got wet!
It was hard to pull the fish in, happy ending to their mission!
The disciple Jesus loved so said: “It’s Jesus!” from the boat’s bow.
The disciples came ashore, with the net with fish galore,
Charcoal fire was there burning, on it fish and bread were frying.
Jesus saw what they had brought, “Do bring some of what you’ve caught!”
Peter dragged the fish ashore, he could not have managed more!
Jesus then said: “Come and eat”, so each one found his own seat.
None of them said: “Who are you!”, it was Jesus, that they knew!
So they fried the bread and fish, served it out in one big dish
Since He rose up from the dead, sharing all the fish and bread
Was the third time He appeared to His friends for whom He cared.

Jesus asked of Simon Peter (for an answer ever neater):
“Do you love me, is it true, more than these people here do?”
Peter said: “You know I love you, you do know that it is true!”
Jesus said: “In all the lands, do take care of all my lambs!”
But then Jesus, He went on: “Peter Simon, son of John
Will you tell me if you love me?” , Peter answered: “I do truly!”
“Be awake and do not sleep, and take care of all my sheep!”
Thus He answered Simon Peter, sounding like a keen discerner.
For the third time He went on: “Peter Simon, son of John,
“I am so that you do love me?”, so then Peter answered sadly:
“Lord! You must know everything! You know love to you I bring!”
He said: “Take care of my sheep! Them in safety you must keep!”
“In your young days you could wander and explore the wide blue yonder,
When old age on you it lands, you will stretch out your two hands
And some one will tie you up, thus your freedom you’ll give up.”
Jesus told him of this trend, so he’d know how he would end!

He’d asked Jesus: “Who’ll betray you?”, he knew not which way the wind blew
This disciple was near Simon, who on Jesus would rely on
To discover from his master how John would pass to hereafter.
“What about this man, oh Master?”, to which Simon wished an answer.
“If I want him to be living, till it’s time that I’ll be coming,
What is it to you, I pray? Follow me now all the way!”
Thus reports started to fly: this disciple would not die!
But Lord Jesus never said that this man could not be dead,
He said: “If I want him living, till again I will be coming,
How is that concern of yours, as I never gave you cause?”

The disciple who spoke these things is the one who all these lines brings,
He was guided so to do, what he’s written is all true.

Jesus did yet many more things than to you this little book brings,
Were they written one by one, you’d need many books, not one,
For all such there’d be no space for the whole world to embrace!