
G O D S P E L L

Script Notes and Revisions

by Stephen Schwartz

1999

...AUTHOR'S NOTE TO THE DIRECTOR...

GODSPELL is a deceptively difficult show to direct.

This is primarily because much of the dramatic action, and virtually the entire action of the first act, is sub-textual. The text of Act One is, after all, essentially just a series of lessons and parables in what appears to be no particular order. And while Act Two essentially follows the Passion story, with such familiar scenes as the interrogation of Jesus by the Pharisees, the Last Supper, Gethsemene, and so on, it is still interspersed with stories and teachings.

So it is easy for the show to appear formless, or worse, for the ten performers to degenerate into ten stand-up comics vying with one another for laughs and attention. This is the diametric opposite of what GODSPELL is about.

Above all, the first act of GODSPELL must be about the formation of a community. Eight separate individuals, led and guided by Jesus (who is helped by his assistant, John the Baptist/Judas), gradually come to form a communal unit. This happens through the playing of games and the telling and absorption of lessons, and each of the eight individuals has his or her own moment of committing to Jesus and to the community. When Jesus applies clown make-up to their faces after "Save the People," he is having them take on an external physical manifestation that they are his disciples, temporarily separating them from the rest of society. But the internal journey of each character is separate and takes its individual course and period of time. Exactly when and why this moment of commitment occurs is one of the important choices each of the actors must make, in collaboration of course with the director. At the end of the first act, the audience is invited to join the community through the sharing of wine (or grape juice), mingling with the actors during the intermission.

In the second act, after an opening number that continues the sense of playfulness and includes some good-natured teasing of Jesus by his followers, Jesus announces: "This is the beginning." By this he means that now that the community has been formed, they are ready to move through the challenging sequence of events leading to the Crucifixion. When Jesus removes their make-up, just prior to the Last Supper, he is saying that they have assimilated his teachings into themselves and no longer need the outward trappings that brand them as disciples. And when Jesus is taken from them at the end, the rest of the company remain fused as a community, ready and able to carry forth the lessons they have learned.

If this basic dramatic arc is not achieved, GODSPELL does not exist; no matter how amusing and tuneful individual moments may be, the production has failed.

A few other general issues: It is important that Jesus be the leader at all times, that the energy and attitude of each "game" come from him, particularly in the first half of the first act. Even when a game or parable is initiated by another of the troupe, there should be a clear sense that it is done for and with the master's approval. It is easy for the show to appear to be "Jesus and his Nine Zany Friends;" this is wrong. If a misplaced reverence for Jesus causes him to be played as too "serious" or passive, the balance of the show is distorted. He is, if you will, the Chief Clown, and must drive the action at all times.

Speaking of "Clowns," there are often misconceptions about the concept of the clown analogy in GODSPELL. For instance, sometimes it is misunderstood as the cast being "hippies" or "flower children." The concept was derived by John-Michael Tebelak from a book by Harvey Cox, head of the Harvard Divinity School, entitled "FEAST OF FOOLS", most particularly the chapter called "Christ the Harlequin." I recommend it to those with questions about this concept. If it is difficult to find, copies may be ordered from the Harvard Divinity School in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Since we are on the subject of the character and personality of Jesus, it seems appropriate to discuss issues of casting at this time. The original production of GODSPELL was performed by a cast of five men and five women. While many productions have been done with a different gender balance or with more or less people, the script reflects the original cast breakdown.

In the script, other than the characters of Jesus and John the Baptist/Judas, the characters are called by the first names of the original cast members. (For purposes of the program, the first names of the actors in each individual production may be substituted.) In any given production, each actor will bring his or her own personality traits to the character, but it is helpful for the director to look for certain salient personality characteristics when casting each role. This allows the individual cast members to be different enough from one another for the audience to distinguish them, and it makes the specific assignments of lines in the script make sense from a personality and character arc point-of-view. Following is a brief description of each of the character types:

JESUS — Must be the most charismatic individual in the cast. High energy, charming, funny, gentle but with strength. He is the sort of person others instinctively follow.

JOHN THE BAPTIST/JUDAS — He has attributes of both Biblical figures: he is both Jesus' lieutenant and most ardent disciple and the doubter who begins to question and rebel. Like Jesus, he is also charismatic, but in more of an overt revolutionary way. Usually played by someone handsome and masculine, with an undertone of sexuality. He is the most "serious" and intellectual of the group, though as with all the actors, he must still possess a good sense of physical comedy.

JEFFREY — Very high energy. Impish and playful. In the original, he played several musical instruments, including concertina and recorder.

LAMAR — Not the brightest in the bunch, he is a little slow on the uptake. But there is a great sweetness and innocence about him. Because he sings "All Good Gifts," he must be a very good singer.

HERB — The comedian, the class clown. The guy who can do a hundred voices and imitations. This is also the role that sings the least, so it is wise to cast it for a comedian rather than a vocalist.

ROBIN — A bit of a tomboy, but basically open and sweet. She is the first of the group to commit to following Jesus in the song "Day by Day."

JOANNE — The confident one, the show-off. The first one to volunteer, sometimes she jumps in before she really understands what's going on.

PEGGY — The shy one. Sometimes a little slow to get things, but when she does, she commits all the way. Has an "earth mother" kind of warmth to her.

SONIA — Sassy and slightly cynical, the most urban of the group. Also the "sexy" one, but her sexiness contains a large element of put-on, in the manner of Mae West or Madonna (who in fact once played this role.)

GILMER — The female equivalent of the class clown. Goofy and a cut-up. This is the female role that sings least, and therefore should be cast with a strong comedienne.

In addition to each individual being able to stand out, it is important that all be able to function as an ensemble, without any feeling that any one (other than Jesus) stands out above the others. Other important traits to look for in casting are comic ability and skill at improvisation.

The style of playing is also important to mention. We used to tell cast members in the original production to imagine that the audience was composed of half adults and half children, some of whom were blind and some of whom were deaf. The parables had to be made clear and entertaining to each of these groups. Thus the use of both sophisticated verbal humor and broad physical comedy, to appeal to all the age groups, and the reliance on acting out the stories visually (for the "deaf" members of the audience) and through the use of different voices and sounds (for the "blind" members of the audience).

A last issue to discuss here is that of level of production values and tone. When John-Michael Tebelak first conceived and directed GODSPELL, it was set in a distinctly urban and gritty environment — a brick wall at the back and a high chain-link fence that enclosed the action and suggested an abandoned inner-city playground. Three unfinished wooden planks and two sawhorses provided the rest of the scenery. All of the props and costume add-ons used in the show came out of garbage bags on stage or were hanging on the fence at the top of the show. In lieu of area lighting, illumination was often provided by one or more of the nine PAR lights that were hung in three rows over the stage and which actors could turn on and off when they needed to be lit. In other words, there was an emphasis on simplicity, on "Theatre of Poverty," on theatrical magic created by the actors without "production values." Above all was the sense of fun and beauty

created from urban garbage, like the Watts Towers in inner-city Los Angeles. The lighting, while colorful, was deliberately rudimentary. In other words, if the set looks too "pretty" or designed, the lighting too elaborate, or the production too polished, the essence of the show has been lost. And while the setting need not be a graffiti-covered inner-city lot, a feeling of urban blight and poverty is integral to the mood of the show.

In the script that follows, I will attempt to include stage directions that describe what was done in the original production and discuss the underlying idea and purpose of the action. While a creative director is free to alter the specifics, it is important to remain true to the subtextual content, motivations, and dramatic structure.

Stephen Schwartz

A NOTE ABOUT THE LYRICS

My credit for GODSPELL reads: "Music and New Lyrics by..." This is because many of the songs in GODSPELL are derived from the Episcopal hymnal. They are: "Save the People", "Day by Day", "Bless the Lord", "All Good Gifts", "Turn Back, O Man" and "We Beseech Thee." In addition, the lyrics for "On The Willows" are derived from Psalm 137, "Light of the World" is largely derived from Matthew 5, and "Alas for You" from Matthew 23.

MUSICAL NUMBERS

ACT ONE

1. Prologue	(Company) ..	2
2. Tower of Babbble	(Company) ..	5
3. Prepare Ye (The Way of the Lord)	(John the Baptist, Company) ..	8
4. Save the People	(Jesus, Company) ..	10
5. Day by Day	(Robin, Company) ..	23
6. Learn Your Lessons Well	(Gilmer, Jesus, Company) ..	36
7. O, Bless the Lord, My Soul	(Peggy, Gilmer, Company) ..	40
8. All for the Best	(Jesus, Judas, Company) ..	47
9. All Good Gifts	(Lamar, Company) ..	56
10. Light of the World	(Company) ..	63

ACT TWO

11. Learn Your Lessons (Reprise)	(Lamar, Company) ..	66
12. Turn Back, O man	(Sonis, Jesus, Company) ..	67
13. Alas for You	(Jesus) ..	72
14. By My Side	(Peggy, Gilmer, Company) ..	78
15. We Beseech Thee	(Jeffrey, Company) ..	83
16. Day by Day (Reprise)	(Peggy, Gilmer, Company) ..	87
17. On the Willows	(The Band) ..	89
18. Finale	(Jesus, Company) ..	93
19. Bows	(Company) ..	95

ACT ONE

JESUS

My name is known: God and King.
 I am most in majesty, in whom no beginning may be and no end.
 Highest in potency I am, and have been ever.
 I have made stars and planets in their courses to go.
 I have made a moon for the night and a sun to light the day also.
 I have made earth where trees and grasses spring,
 Beasts and fowl, both great and small, all thrive and have my liking.
 I have made All of Nothing for Man's sustenance,
 And of this pleasant garden that I have mostly goodly planted,
 I will make him Gardener for his own recreation.

(A note about the Prologue, "Tower of Babble" — Since this musical number does not appear on the original cast album, its importance is often misunderstood. The Prologue was left off of the cast album for commercial considerations, so that the album could more easily "cross-over" as a pop album. But within the context of the show, the Prologue is vital. Because GODSPELL is essentially about the formation of a community, it is necessary to see what the individuals are like when there is no community — how lost they are and how easily they descend into violence and chaos.)

SOCRATES

I honor and love you. But I shall obey God rather than you. And while I have life and strength I shall never cease from the practice and teaching of philosophy. For know that this is the command of God; and I believe that no greater good has ever happened in the state than my service to the God. For I do nothing but go about persuading you all, old and young alike, not to take thought for your persons or your properties, but first and chiefly to take care about the greatest improvement of the soul. This is my teaching and if this is the doctrine which corrupts the youth, then I am a mischievous person.

(Music, a solo piano, starts under the speech)

1 — Prologue

(Compan

But if anyone says that this is not my teaching, then he is speaking an untruth.

(Sings)

WHEREFORE, O MEN OF ATHENS,
 I SAY TO YOU THEREFORE:
 ACQUIT ME OR NOT, BUT WHICHEVER YOU DO,
 I SHALL NEVER ALTER MY WAYS,
 NEVER ADJUST MY APPROACH TO THIS MAZE,
 NEVER REFORM TILL THE END OF MY DAYS,
 EVEN IF I HAVE TO DIE MANY TIMES.

THOMAS AQUINAS

GOD IS APPREHENDED BY IMAGINATION, INTUITION,
 REASON, TOUCH, OPINION, SENSE, AND NAME (AND SO ON).
 BUT ON QUITE THE OTHER HAND,
 WE FIND WE CAN'T BEGIN TO UNDERSTAND HIM,
 SO TO SOME IT SEEMS A SHAME TO GO ON.
 BUT HE IS ALL THINGS IN ALL,
 AND HE IS NOTHING IN ANY.
 HE IS OFTEN FOUND IN ONE THING SMALL,
 CONVERSELY, HE IS OFTEN MISSED IN MANY.

MARTIN LUTHER

GOD ALMIGHTY HAS MADE OUR RULERS MAD,
GOD ALMIGHTY HAS TURNED OUR PEOPLE BAD;
FOR THE GERMAN NOBILITY, WITH TYPICAL AGILITY,
HAVE SO APPLIED THEIR SKILL AT EGREGIOUS LAWS —
THAT THE PEOPLE ARE LEAD ASTRAY;
THEY FEEL BEHOLDEN TO OBEY.
IT MAY BE JUST THE GERMAN WAY,
BUT GOD, IT GIVES ONE PAUSE!

DAVINCI

THE RISE OF MAN...

WAS NATURAL.

MAN IS SO LEVITABLE!

INSTEAD OF ADMIRING
MAN'S FILLING OF THE VOID,
WE SHOULD RATHER BE SURPRISED
THAT GOD HAD MAN
SO TYRANNIZED.

MAN WILL BE STRONG,
SO LONG.

GIBBON

THE DECLINE OF ROME
WAS NATURAL,
AND INEVITABLE.

INSTEAD OF INQUIRING
WHY ROME WAS DESTROYED,

WE SHOULD RATHER BE SURPRISED

...THAT ROME REMAINED
SO STRONG...

SO LONG.

FREDERIC NIETZSCHE

WHAT...
IS NOBLE
NOWADAYS?

JEAN PAUL SARTRE

ATHEISTIC EXISTENTIALISM,
WHICH I REPRESENT,
IS MORE COHERENT —
I DO BELIEVE IT.

BUCKMINSTER FULLER

MAN IS A COMPLEX OF PATTERNS, OF PROCESSES.

JEAN PAUL SARTRE

THERE IS NO SUCH THING AS HUMAN NATURE,
NOT IN ALL OR FEW MEN,
SINCE THERE IS NO GOD TO CONCEIVE IT.

BUCKMINSTER FULLER

MAN IS A COMPLEX OF PATTERNS, OF PROCESSES.

I live on Earth at present, and I don't know what I am.
I know that I am not a "category."
I am not a thing — a noun.
I seem to be a verb, an evolutionary process —
An integral function of the universe.

2 - Tower of Babble

(Company)

ALL

SO HIGH IN MY
 LOVELY IV'RY TOWER OF BABEL.
 (BABBLE, BABBLE, BABBLE, BABBLE,
 BABBLE, BABBLE, BABBLE)
 HIGH ABOVE THE RABBLE.
 (RABBLE, RABBLE, RABBLE, BABBLE,
 RABBLE, BABBLE, BABBLE, RABBLE, BABBLE)
 GREATEST MIND OF HISTORY,
 SOLVING LIFE'S SWEET MYSTERY,
 SO LISTEN TO ME,
 SO LISTEN TO ME,
 KNOW HOW LIFE SHOULD BE.
 KNOW HOW LIFE SHOULD BE.
 OH, WHAT DOES IT MATTER IF THEY DON'T AGREE?

SOCRATES

(Two times)

WHEREFORE, O MEN OF ATHENS,
 I SAY TO YOU THEREFORE:
 ACQUIT ME OR NOT, BUT WHICHEVER YOU DO,
 I SHALL NEVER ALTER MY WAYS,
 NEVER ADJUST MY APPROACH TO THIS MAZE,
 NEVER REFORM TILL THE END OF MY DAYS,
 EVEN IF I HAVE TO DIE MANY TIMES.

THOMAS AQUINAS

(Two times, simultaneous with above)

GOD IS APPREHENDED BY IMAGINATION, INTUITION,
 REASON, TOUCH, OPINION, SENSE, AND NAME (AND SO ON).
 WHILE ON QUITE THE OTHER HAND,
 WE FIND WE CAN'T BEGIN TO UNDERSTAND HIM,
 SO TO SOME IT SEEMS A SHAME TO GO ON.
 BUT HE IS ALL THINGS IN ALL,
 AND HE IS NOTHING IN ANY.
 HE IS OFTEN FOUND IN ONE THING SMALL,
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(Two times, simultaneous with above)

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 FOR THE GERMAN NOBILITY, WITH TYPICAL AGILITY,
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 THAT THE PEOPLE ARE LEAD ASTRAY;
 THEY FEEL BEHOLDEN TO OBEY.
 IT MAY BE JUST THE GERMAN WAY,
 BUT GOD, IT GIVES ONE PAUSE!

FREDERIC NIETZSCHE

(Two times, simultaneous with above)

WHAT...
 IS NOBLE
 NOWADAYS?

Already the axe is laid to the roots of the trees; and every tree that fails to produce good fruit is cut down and thrown on the fire. I baptize you with water, for repentance sake...

But He who comes after me is mightier than I. I am not fit to take off his shoes.

He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire.

JESUS

Okay!

(JOHN turns and sees JESUS standing there,

JOHN THE BAPTIST

Do you come to me?

JESUS

Yeah, I wanna get washed up.

JOHN THE BAPTIST

I need rather to be baptized by you.

JESUS

No, no. Let it be so for the present. We do well now to conform with all that God requires.

(During the following, as JESUS sings, JOHN baptizes him

4 — Save the People

(Jesus, Compa

JESUS

WHEN WILT THOU SAVE THE PEOPLE?
O GOD OF MERCY, WHEN?
NOT KINGS AND LORDS, BUT NATIONS,
NOT THRONES AND CROWNS, BUT MEN!
FLOW'RS OF THY HEART, O GOD, ARE THEY;
LET THEM NOT PASS, LIKE WEEDS, AWAY,
THEIR HERITAGE A SUNLESS DAY.
GOD SAVE THE PEOPLE.

SHALL CRIME BRING CRIME FOREVER,
STRENGTH AIDING STILL THE STRONG?
IS IT THY WILL, O FATHER,
THAT MAN SHALL TOIL FOR WRONG?
"NO," SAY THY MOUNTAINS;
"NO," SAY THY SKIES;
MAN'S CLOUDED SUN SHALL BRIGHTLY RISE,
AND SONGS BE HEARD INSTEAD OF SIGHS.
GOD SAVE THE PEOPLE.

WHEN WILT THOU SAVE THE PEOPLE?
O GOD OF MERCY, WHEN?
THE PEOPLE, LORD, THE PEOPLE,
NOT THRONES AND CROWNS, BUT MEN!
GOD SAVE THE PEOPLE, FOR THINE THEY ARE,
THY CHILDREN AS THY ANGELS FAIR.
GOD SAVE THE PEOPLE FROM DESPAIR.

GOD SAVE THE PEOPLE.

COMPANY

O, GOD SAVE THE PEOPLE.

EIGHT cast members. have changed their clothes and now wear brightly-colored mufti.)

COMPANY

JESUS

GOD SAVE THE PEOPLE!

GOD SAVE THE PEOPLE!

GOD SAVE THE PEOPLE!

GOD SAVE THE PEOPLE!

GOD SAVE THE PEOPLE!

GOD SAVE THE PEOPLE!

(During the following, the EIGHT greet JESUS and each other and show off their bright new raiment to one another.)

ALL

WHEN WILT THOU SAVE THE PEOPLE?
O GOD OF MERCY, WHEN?
THE PEOPLE, LORD, THE PEOPLE,
NOT THRONES AND CROWNS, BUT MEN!

GOD SAVE THE PEOPLE, SAVE US,
FOR THINE THEY ARE, FOR THINE THEY ARE.
THY CHILDREN AS THY ANGELS FAIR:
O, GOD SAVE THE PEOPLE,
SAVE THE PEOPLE,
GOD SAVE THE PEOPLE,
FROM DESPAIR.
GOD SAVE THE PEOPLE!

GOD SAVE THE PEOPLE,
O, GOD SAVE THE PEOPLE,
GOD SAVE THE PEOPLE,
O, GOD SAVE THE PEOPLE,
GOD SAVE THE PEOPLE,
GOD SAVE THE PEOPLE,
GOD SAVE THE PEOPLE.

(NOTE: From this point on, the actor playing JOHN THE BAPTIST will be referred to as JUDAS. This is for convenience sake. In GODSPELL, the characters of John and Judas are combined into one role, that of Jesus's right-hand man who ultimately betrays him. The fact that they have the preceding early one-on-one scene between them helps to establish their special relationship and differentiate it from JESUS' relationships with the other disciples.)

(NOTE: While it is not necessary to follow this direction literally, it is important that, at JESUS' instigation, ALL don some sort of symbol that shows that they have separated themselves from society and that they are members of a tribe following this particular leader. In lieu of make-up, it could be a piece of clothing or a badge or whatever. But the symbolic point must be made. Towards the end of the Second Act, this make-up or badge or special piece of clothing or whatever will be removed.)

JESUS

Now, do not suppose that I have come to abolish the Law and the prophets. I did not come to abolish, but to complete. I tell you this: so long as heaven and earth endure not a letter, not a stroke, will disappear from the Law until all that must happen has happened. If any man, therefore, sets aside even the least of the Law's demands he will have the lowest place in the kingdom of Heaven. But he who keeps the law and teaches others so, he will have the highest place in the kingdom of Heaven.

I tell you this, unless you show yourselves far better men than the Pharisees and the doctors of the Law...

JOANNE

Harrumph, harrumph, harrumph.

(NOTE: This can be any sound or snippet of speech of the actor's choosing, so long as it illustrates the appropriate character)

JESUS

...You shall never enter the kingdom of Heaven.
(JESUS now starts singing a circus rhythm, which the OTHERS pick up.)

Oompah-pah
 Oompah-pah
 Oompah-pah
 Oompah-PAH

ALL

La-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la.
 LA-LA-LA-LA-LA-LA-LA-LA-LA-LA-LA

JESUS

There once was a judge...

(Since JOANNE was brave enough to enact a character, JESUS now selects her to enact the judge.)

OTHERS

La-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la.

JESUS

...Who cared nothing for God nor man.

OTHERS

LA-LA.

JESUS

And in the same town there was a widow...

(JESUS now selects another disciple to help him illustrate the story -

...who constantly came before him demanding justice against her rival.

LA-LA.

COMPANY

JESUS

For a long time he refused, but in the end he said to himself...

OTHERS

(Holding note throughout the following)

LA...

JOANNE

(Enacting a magisterial-style judge)

"True, I care nothing for God nor man. But this widow is so great a nuisance, I will see her righted before she wears me out with her persistence."

OTHERS

LA-LA-LA-LA-LA-LA-LA-LA-LA-LA-LA!

JESUS

You hear what the unjust judge says: and will not God vindicate his chosen, who cry out to him day and night while he sits listening patiently to them?

OTHERS

Will he, Jesus? Will he, will he?

JESUS

I tell you, he will vindicate them, soon enough.

OTHERS

(Cheering)

Yay! *(etc.)*

JESUS

(Cuts them off)

But, when the son of man comes, will he find faith on earth?

(The OTHERS are not sure of the answer and murmur thoughtfully to one another, as one disciple, LAMAR -

LAMAR

Oh, I'm glad you brought that up...

...and then he moves on to the next lesson. He plucks SONIA out of the group and brings her up onto the table.)

SONIA

(Quieting the OTHERS)

Shhh!

(And she begins to "preach" in a revivalist meeting style)

Gather 'round, brothers and sisters!

(The OTHERS immediately begin to participate in this new "prayer meeting" game.)

Because two men — I said two men...

OTHERS

Hallelujah!!

SONIA

...Went off to the temple to pray. One, a Pharisee,...

(GILMER, perhaps nudged by JESUS, decides to portray the Pharisee.)

OTHERS

(Showing general derision for the Pharisee)

Boo! (etc.)

SONIA

...and the other a tax gatherer.

*(JEFFREY**becomes the Tax Gatherer,*

OTHERS

(Showing inexplicable sympathy for the Tax Gatherer)

Ahhh!

SONIA

The Pharisee, why he just stood right on up, and pra-a-a-a-yed thus:

GILMER

*(As the Pharisee, immensely pleased with herself)**"I thank thee, O God, that I am not like other men, greedy, dishonest, adulterous, or, for that matter, like that tax gatherer."**"I pray twice a week — get that? Twice a week!! And pay taxes on all that I get."**(General derision directed at GILMER. She responds by looking haughtier than ever.)*

SONIA

But the other kept his distance and would not even raise his eyes to the good Lord in Heaven.

(To PEGGY)

I said the good Lord in Heaven, Chile.

PEGGY

Amen, sister!

SONIA

But beat upon his breast, saying:

JEFFREY

"Oh, God, have mercy on me, sinner that I am!"

ALL

Hallelujah! Amen! (etc.)

JESUS

And it was this man, I tell you...

GILMER

Oh, you've got to be kidding!

JESUS

...and not the other who went off and quitted of his sins.
For every man who exalts himself...

...shall be humbled:

But...

...Every man who humbles himself, shall be exalted.

Father in Heaven...

Shall be exalted!

JESUS

You have learned that they were told: Do not commit murder, anyone who commits murder must be brought to judgement. But what I tell you is this: Anyone who nurses anger against his brother must be brought to judgement. So, he who...

...ABUSES...

...his brother must answer for it in the court. But, he who sneers at his brother must answer for it in the fires of Hell.

Now. What if you are bringing a gift to the altar, and...

...you suddenly remember your brother has a grievance against you?

, LAMAR, playing the aggrieved brother.

JOANNE

Hai-yah.

JESUS

(To JOANNE)

No, you leave your gift where it is, before the altar.

Leave it!

JOANNE

O.K.

JESUS

First, go and make a peace with your brother.

(JOANNE crosses to LAMAR

Now go and offer your gift.

OTHERS

Woo woo woo!

JESUS

But, what if your brother sues you?

You'd better settle with him quickly.

Otherwise, he'll hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the constable...

...and you'll land in jail.

ALL

Unnh!

JESUS

And I tell you, you'll not get out of there until you've paid the last penny.

(JESUS begins clapping a rhythm which is picked up by ALL.

JEFFREY

(In rhythm)

There once was a king...

ALL

Yeah, yeah!

JEFFREY

...Who decided to settle accounts with the men who served him.

ALL

Yeah, yeah, yeah!

JEFFREY

Well, at the outset there appeared before the master a man whose debt ran into the millions.

ALL

What?

JEFFREY

I said the millions!

ALL

Whoa!!

JEFFREY

Since the man had no means of paying the money, the master ordered him to be sold to meet the debt with his wife...

ALL

No!

JEFFREY

...And his child...

ALL

Whoa!

JEFFREY

...And everything he had. Well, the man threw himself down at the master's feet and went:

ALL

Unh!

(NOTE: Depending on the style of the chant, the above "unh" can be anything from rap-style noises to "Ooh-bop-a-loo-bop-a-wop-bam-boo." Whatever, it serves as the musical button for the chant.)

JOANNE

"Oh, be patient with me..."

JEFFREY

...He said,...

JOANNE

"...and I will pay you in full."

JEFFREY

(No longer talking in rhythm)

And so moved with pity was the master, that he decided to free the man and rer the debt and let's hear it for the master!

ALL

Yay! Huzzah! What a great master!! (etc.)

JUDAS

Wait a minute! That's not the end of the story. No sooner had the man gone out than he met a fellow servant who owed him a few dollars. He gripped him by the throat and said:

JOANNE

"Pay me what you owe me!"

JUDAS

The man threw himself at his fellow servant's feet and begged him, saying:

HERB

"B-b-b-b-be patient with me and I shall p-p-pay you."

PEGGY

But he refused and had him jailed until he should pay the debt.

LAMAR

Well! The other servants were deeply distressed when they saw what had happened.

They ran and they told their master the whole story!

Accordingly he sent for...

...The Man!!!

ROBIN

"You scoundrel!"

LAMAR

...He said to him.

ROBIN

"I remitted the whole of your debt when you appealed to me. Were you not bound to show your fellow servant the same pity I showed you?"

JEFFREY

And so fricken was the skrickpocket that he clickened the stortz and furplunkt i schmontz!

(NOTE: Any gibberish of the actor's devising will suffice here.)

ALL

WHAT????

JEFFREY

And so angry was the master that he condemned the man to torture until he could pay the debt in full.

ALL

Unh-unh-unh.

JESUS

And that is how my Heavenly Father will deal with you, unless you each forgive your brothers from your hearts.

5 - Day by Day

(Robin, Company)

ROBIN.
becomes the first disciple to declare her loyalty.)

ROBIN

Master...

(Sings)

DAY BY DAY,
 DAY BY DAY,
 OH, DEAR LORD THREE THINGS I PRAY:
 TO SEE THEE MORE CLEARLY,
 LOVE THEE MORE DEARLY,
 FOLLOW THEE MORE NEARLY,
 DAY BY DAY.

ROBIN

2 GIRLS

AH

DAY BY DAY,

AH

DAY BY DAY,

AH

OH, DEAR LORD,

AH

THREE THINGS I PRAY:

AH

TO SEE THEE MORE CLEARLY,

AH

LOVE THEE MORE DEARLY,

AH

FOLLOW THEE MORE NEARLY,

AH

DAY BY DAY.

DAY BY DAY.

*(The music becomes more rhythmic, switching to 4/4 time, as all now join
 the song, singing in unison.)*

ALL

DAY BY DAY
 DAY BY DAY
 OH, DEAR LORD, THREE THINGS I PRAY
 TO SEE THEE MORE CLEARLY
 LOVE THEE MORE DEARLY
 FOLLOW THEE MORE NEARLY
 DAY BY DAY.

DAY BY DAY
 DAY BY DAY
 OH, DEAR LORD, THREE THINGS I PRAY
 TO SEE THEE MORE CLEARLY
 LOVE THEE MORE DEARLY
 FOLLOW THEE MORE NEARLY
 DAY BY DAY.

ROBIN & 3 OTHERS

OTHERS

DAY BY DAY,

DAY BY DAY,

DAY BY DAY,

DAY BY DAY,

OH, DEAR LORD,
 THREE THINGS I PRAY:

THREE THINGS I PRAY.

TO SEE THEE MORE CLEARLY,

DAY BY DAY,

LOVE THEE MORE DEARLY,

DAY BY DAY,

FOLLOW THEE MORE NEARLY,
 DAY BY DAY.

DAY BY DAY.

DAY BY DAY,

DAY BY DAY,

DAY BY DAY,

DAY BY DAY,

(ROBIN & 3 OTHERS)**(OTHERS)**

OH, DEAR LORD,
THREE THINGS I PRAY:

THREE THINGS I PRAY.

TO SEE THEE MORE CLEARLY,

DAY BY DAY,

LOVE THEE MORE DEARLY

DAY BY DAY,

TO SEE THEE MORE CLEARLY,

DAY BY DAY.

LOVE THEE MORE DEARLY,

ROBIN**3 OTHERS****OTHERS**

YES, I WANNA

SEE THEE MORE

CLEARLY,

LOVE THEE MORE

DEARLY, YEAH --

TO SEE THEE MORE

CLEARLY,

LOVE THEE MORE

DEARLY,

TO SEE THEE MORE

CLEARLY,

LOVE THEE MORE

DEARLY,

TO SEE THEE MORE

CLEARLY,

LOVE THEE MORE

DEARLY,

DAY BY DAY,

DAY BY DAY,

DAY BY DAY,

DAY BY DAY,

DAY BY DAY.

ROBIN

FOLLOW THEE MORE NEARLY,

DAY BY DAY,

DAY BY DAY, BY DAY, BY DAY,

ROBIN + OTHERS

BY DAY.

NOTE: At some point during the song, either here at the end or during ROBIN's first solo verse, it would be good if some physical gesture between ROBIN and JESUS was specific enough that it can be repeated during the "Goodbye" scene in Act Two and we in the audience will remember it.)

JESUS

Hello!

Now, if your right eye offends you, tear it out and fling it away.

HERB

That's the most ridiculous thing I ever heard.

JESUS

It's better for you to lose one part of your body than for the whole of it to be thrown into Hell.

HERB

Yeah, but she's ... she's so.... she's got a weak back.

JESUS

Since when?

HERB

About a week back.

JUDAS

Master, let me chastise the vixen.

JESUS

Why don't you just ...

JESUS AND JUDAS

(In unison)

... get back there.

JESUS

Now, if your right ...

... hand offends you, I want you to cut it off and fling it away.

SONIA

Oh, c'mon!

JESUS

Now look, it's better for you to lose one part of your body than for the whole of it to be thrown into hell.

JESUS AND SONIA

Woo woo woo woo woo woo woo!

JESUS

You've heard that they were told: An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.
 But what I tell you is this: Never set yourself against a man who wrongs you.
 So if someone slaps you on the right cheek, turn and offer him your left.

JUDAS

Oh, Jeeeesus Chr...

ALL

Slowly I turn, step by step, inch by inch...

(JESUS slaps JUDAS across the face. The OTHERS gasp and JUDAS angrily raises his hand to strike back. He freezes with his hand in mid-air. Looking at his hand, he suddenly turns it into a "telephone" and pretends to get a call.)

JUDAS

Hello.

(Pretends to listen; then to JESUS:)

It's for you. It's your father.

(He and JESUS smile at each other and hug.)

(NOTE: Obviously, there are many bits to be found other than the "telephone gag" from the original production described above. The point is that JUDAS is angere enough to begin to strike back at JESUS, thinks better of it, and extricates himself from the situation in some amusing and charming way.)

JESUS

Now, if a man sues you for your shirt...

ALL

Charades!

ONE OF THE DISCIPLES

Famous Quotation!

MUSICIAN(S)

Give him your coat as well!

ALL

Give him your coat as well! Yay!

JESUS

Now, if a man in authority asks you to go one mile with him...

JUDAS

Wait a minute! Wait a minute! Let's hear it from the Eternal Savior of the Cosmic Consciousness!

JESUS

Now, if a man in authority asks you to go one mile with him...

Go with him two!

ALL

Go with him two!

JESUS

Give when you are asked to give...

...and never turn your back...

...on one who wants to borrow.

GILMER

Hey, you wanna see a show?

JESUS

At these prices?

(SAMARITAN: PEGGY

MAN: HERB

ROBBER: JEFFREY

PRIEST: JOANNE

JUDGE: ROBIN

SONIA

A man was on his way from Jerusalem to Jericho, when he fell in among robbers who beat him, stripped him, and left, leaving him half dead. It so happened that a priest came upon him, but when he saw him he went past on the other side. So, too, a judge came to the place and saw him and went past to the other side.

But, a Samaritan who was making the journey came upon him, and when he saw him, was moved to pity. He went up and bandaged his wounds, bathing them with oil and wine.

Then he put him onto his own beast, brought him to an inn,...

...And looked after him there. The next day he produced two pieces of silver and gave them to the innkeeper and said, "Look after him and if you spend any more money I will repay you on my way back."

JESUS

You have learned that they were told, "Love your neighbor, hate your enemy."
But what I tell you is this...

Love, ...love, love love your enemies.

And pray for your persecutors.

HERB

You don't mean...?

JESUS

I do!

Only so can you be called Children of your Heavenly Father, who makes his sun rise and set on good and bad alike, and sends the rain on the honest and the dishonest. Now if you greet only those who greet you, what reward can you expect? Surely the tax gatherers do as much as that. And if you love only those who love you, what is there extraordinary in that? Even the heathen do as much. No, your goodness must know no bounds, just as your Heavenly Father's goodness knows no limit.

But, be careful not to make a show of your religion before men.

ALL

Oh.

JESUS

Because if you do, no reward awaits you in the kingdom of my Father.

When you do some act of charity, don't announce it with a flourish of trumpets as the heathen do in the synagogues and in the streets. I tell you they do it just to win admiration from men. No, when you do some act of charity...

...don't let your right hand know...what your left hand is doing.

ALL

Ohhhhhhh.

ONE DISCIPLE

Did you see that?

JESUS

Your good deed must be in secret.

LAMAR

It's a secret!

JUDAS

What the Good Master is telling us is that when God tells a little secret on us, the angels write it down in a big...

JESUS

No, no, no. Your heavenly father, who sees what is done in secret...

...He will what?

ALL

Reward you!!!

JUDAS

There was once a rich man who dressed in purple and the finest linen,...

ROBIN

That's me.

JUDAS

...And every day feasted in the greatest magnificence. At his gate lay a poor man...

...named Lazarus who would have been glad to have satisfied his hunger with the scraps from the rich man's table.

ROBIN

Oh, my God, it's good!

JUDAS

Even the doggy-doggies used to come and lick his open, running sores.

OTHERS

Ewww!

JUDAS

Well, one day the poor man died...

...and was carried away by the angels,...

...to be with Abraham.

The rich man also died,...

...and was buried in Hades,...

ROBIN

Hello.

DEMONS

Hello.

JUDAS

...Where he was in torment!

He looked up and there, far away, was Abraham, with Lazarus close beside him

ROBIN

Oh Father Abraham, have pity on me; send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water to cool my tongue for I am in agony in this fire.

GILMER

(As ABRAHAM)

Remember, my child, that all the good things fell to you while you were on earth and all the bad to Lois...

JUDAS

Lazarus...

GILMER

Abraham. Nice to meet 'cha.

And now it is he who has consolation here and you who are in agony. But that ain't all! There's a great chasm fixed between us and no one from your side who wants to cross it can, and no one from our side who wants to cross it can ...either.

ROBIN

Then, Father Abraham, send Lazarus to my Father's house, where I have five brothers to warn them so that they too may not come to this place of torment.

GILMER

They've got Moses and the prophets. Let 'em listen to them.

ROBIN

But if someone from the dead should rise, then they would listen.

GILMER

(As ABRAHAM, to ROBIN)

Look, if they don't listen to Moses and the prophets, they ain't gonna listen to nobody, even if someone should...

GILMER AND ANGELS

...rise from the dead.

ALL

Nyuk, nyuk, nyuk, nyuk, nyuk, nyuk, nyuk.

6 — Learn Your Lesson Well

(Gilmer, Jesus, Cor)

GILMER

(At this point, she can drop her ABRAHAM accent if she chooses.)

I CAN SEE A SWATH OF SINNERS SETTIN' YONDER
AND THEY'RE ACTIN' LIKE A PACK OF FOOLS.
GAZING INTO SPACE, THEY LET THEIR MINDS WANDER,
'STEAD OF STUDYING THE GOOD LORD'S RULES.
HEY! YOU BETTER PAY ATTENTION,
BUILD YOUR COMPREHENSION,
THERE'S GONNA BE A QUIZ AT YOUR ASCENSION.
NOT TO MENTION ANY THREAT OF HELL,
BUT IF YOU'RE SMART, YOU'LL LEARN YOUR LESSONS WELL.

JESUS

The lamp...

...of the body...

...is the eye...

If your eye...

...is sound,...

...your whole...

...body...

...will be filled...

OTHERS

...lamp, lamp...

...body, body...

...eye, eye...

...eye, eye, eye...

...sound, sound, sound...

...whole, whole, whole...

...body, body...

...filled, filled, filled, filled,
filled, filled, filled...

(JESUS)

...with light.

(OTHERS)

...light, light, light...

During the following, GILMER closes her
eyes and gropes about blindly.)

But...

...but, but...

...if your eye...

...eye, eye, eye...

...is bad...

...bad, bad, bad...

...your whole

...whole, whole, whole...

...body...

...body...

...will be darkness.

(A beat of silence.)

If then...

...then, then, then...

...the only...

...only, only, only...

...light...

...light, light, light...

...you have...

...have, have, have...

...is darkness...

...-ness, -ness, -ness...

...the darkness will be doubly dark.

GILMER

I can't see!

ALL

What's the matter? What's wrong? (etc.)

GILMER

I've got my eyes shut!

EV'RY BRIGHT DESCRIPTION OF
THE PROMISED LAND MEANT,
YOU CAN REACH IT IF YOU KEEP ALERT.
LEARNING EV'RY LINE, AND EV'RY LAST COMMANDMENT
MAY NOT HELP YOU, BUT IT COULDN'T HURT.
FIRST YOU GOTTA READ 'EM, THEN YOU GOTTA HEED 'EM.
YOU NEVER KNOW WHEN YOU'RE GONNA NEED 'EM.
JUST AS OLD ELIJAH SAID TO JEZEBEL
YOU BETTER START TO LEARN YOUR LESSONS WELL!

JESUS

Now, no servant can be the slave of two masters.

Either he will love the first...

...and hate the second...

...or be devoted to the second...

...and think nothing of the first.

JESUS

No man can serve God...

What!?

ALL

JESUS

...and money!

ALL

Oh, money!

(As they ALL go to get into position for the Rich Man's parable,

business. They remained in these positions for the first verse of "Bless the Lord" ...

JOANNE

There once was a rich man whose land yielded heavy crops. He debated with himself: "Oh, what am I to do?," he said. "I have not the room to store my produce. Ahh, this is what I will do," he said. "I will tear down my storehouses and build them bigger. I will collect in them all my corn and popcorn and tuna surprise, and M&Ms...

And then I will say to myself: 'Man, you have plenty of good things laid by you, enough to last you many years. Take life easy. Eat. Drink. Enjoy yourself.'" But, then God said to the man,...

7 — O, Bless the Lord, My Soul

(Peggy, Gilmer, Cor)

JESUS

"You fool, this very night you must surrender your life. You have made your money. Who will get it now?"

JOANNE

O BLESS THE LORD, MY SOUL!
HIS GRACE TO THEE PROCLAIM!
AND ALL THAT IS WITHIN ME JOIN,
TO BLESS HIS HOLY NAME, OH YEA!
O BLESS THE LORD, MY SOUL!
HIS MERCIES BEAR IN MIND!
FORGET NOT ALL HIS BENEFITS,
THE LORD, TO THEE IS KIND.

JOANNE AND GIRLS

HE WILL NOT ALWAYS CHIDE;
HE WILL WITH PATIENCE WAIT,
HIS WRATH IS EVER SLOW TO RISE.

JOANNE
AND READY TO ABATE.

AND READY TO ABATE.

AND READY TO,

AND READY TO
ABATE,
O, YEA!

MEN
O, BLESS
THE LORD.
O, BLESS
THE LORD.
O, BLESS
THE LORD.

GIRLS
AND READY TO
ABATE,

ABATE.

JOANNE AND GIRLS
HE PARDONS ALL THY SINS;

PROLONGS THY FEEBLE BREATH;

HE HEALETH THY INFIRMITIES.

MEN
ALL THY SINS,

FEEBLE BREATH.

JOANNE
AND RANSOMS THEE FROM DEATH.

GIRLS
O, BLESS THE LORD, MY SOUL.

JOANNE
O YEA!

MEN
O, BLESS THE LORD, MY SOUL!

JOANNE AND GIRLS
HE CLOTHES THEE WITH HIS LOVE;

UPHOLDS THEE WITH HIS TRUTH;

AND LIKE THE EAGLE HE RENEWS

MEN
WITH HIS LOVE,

WITH HIS TRUTH.

JOANNE
THE VIGOR OF THY YOUTH.

JOANNE AND GIRLS

THEN BLESS HIS HOLY NAME,
WHOSE GRACE HAS MADE THEE WHOLE;
WHOSE LOVE AND KINDNESS CROWNS THY DAYS.

MEN
O, BLESS
THE LORD,

O, BLESS
THE LORD,

O, BLESS
THE LORD.

JOANNE
O, BLESS
THE LORD, MY SOUL,

O, BLESS
THE LORD, MY SOUL,

O, BLESS
THE LORD,

GIRLS
O, BLESS THE LO
MY SOUL,

MY SOUL.

O, BLESS THE LORD,
MY SOUL,
MY SOUL.

O, BLESS THE LORD,
MY SOUL.

JOANNE AND 2 OTHERS

O, BLESS THE LORD, MY SOUL!
O, BLESS THE LORD, MY SOUL!

JOANNE
O, BLESS THE LORD,
MY SOUL!
O, BLESS THE LORD,
MY SOUL!
O, BLESS THE LORD,
MY SOUL!
O, BLESS THE LORD,
MY SOUL,
O, BLESS THE LORD,
MY SOUL,
O, BLESS THE LORD,
MY SOUL!

FIRST GROUP
O, BLESS THE LORD,

O, BLESS THE LORD,

O, BLESS THE LORD,

O, BLESS THE LORD,

O, BLESS THE LORD,

O, BLESS THE...

SECOND GRO
BLESS THE LOR!
BLESS MY SOU!

BLESS THE LOR!
BLESS MY SOU!

JOANNE

BLESS THE LORD!

BLESS THE LORD!

BLESS THE LORD!

MY SOUL!

O, BLESS THE LORD,

MY SOUL!

O, BLESS THE LORD, MY SOUL!

ALL OTHERS

BLESS THE LORD!

BLESS THE LORD!

BLESS THE LORD!

BLESS THE LORD!

BLESS THE LORD!

BLESS THE LORD!

O, BLESS THE LORD,

MY SOUL!

JESUS

Therefore I bid you: Put away anxious thoughts of food and clothes to cover your body. Surely life is more than food, and the body more than clothes...

HERB

Her body is more than clothes. Look, I'll show ya!

JESUS

Consider the lilies of the field.

They don't work, they don't spin, and yet I tell you, Solomon in all his splendor was not attired like one of these. Now if that's how God clothes the grass, which is here today...

(JESUS)

...and tomorrow is thrown on the fire, will he not all the more clothe you?

How little faith you have! So don't go around anxiously saying, "What am I to eat? What am I to drink?"

HERB

What are we to eat?

ALL

Don't ask that!

JESUS

Set your mind ...where?

ALL

God.

JESUS

God's kingdom and his justice and all the rest will come to you as well. So do worry about tomorrow. Tomorrow will take care of itself. Each day has problem of its own.

JOANNE

Master, Master! Blessed are the poor in spirit...

JESUS

For theirs is the kingdom of Heaven.

ROBIN

Blessed are they that mourn...

JESUS

For they shall be comforted.

GILMER

Blessed are the meek...

JESUS

For they shall inherit the earth.

JEFFREY

Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for justice...

JESUS

For they shall be filled.

SONIA

Blessed are the merciful...

JESUS

For they shall have mercy.

LAMAR

Blessed are the pure in heart...

JESUS

For they shall see God.

PEGGY

Blessed are the peacemakers...

JESUS

For they shall be called the children of God.

HERB

Blessed are they who are persecuted for righteousness' sake...

JESUS

For theirs is the kingdom of Heaven!

JUDAS

Blessed are you!

...When men shall revile you and persecute you and say all manner of evil against you ... falsely.

JESUS

Did I ever tell you that I used to read feet?

No, it's true. Some people read palms or tea leaves, I read feet.

Look what this foot says. It says: "Rejoice!"

JEFFREY

It says "Ree-bok."

JESUS

No, no, rejoice and be exceedingly glad. For great is your reward in Heaven.

8 — All for the Best

(Jesus, Judas, Company)

JESUS

WHEN YOU FEEL SAD,
OR UNDER A CURSE,
YOUR LIFE IS BAD,
YOUR PROSPECTS ARE WORSE.

YOUR WIFE IS SIGHING, CRYING,
AND YOUR OLIVE TREE IS DYING,
TEMPLES ARE GREYING,
AND TEETH ARE DECAYING,
AND CREDITORS WEIGHING YOUR PURSE;

Is everybody happy?

OTHERS

Ehhh ...

JESUS

YOUR MOOD AND YOUR ROBE
ARE BOTH A DEEP BLUE,
YOU'D BET THAT JOB
HAD NOTHING ON YOU.
DON'T FORGET THAT WHEN YOU
GET TO HEAVEN YOU'LL BE BLEST.
YES, IT'S ALL FOR THE BEST.

JUDAS

SOME MEN ARE BORN TO LIVE AT EASE,
DOING WHAT THEY PLEASE,
RICHER THAN THE BEES ARE IN HONEY;
NEVER GROWING OLD,
NEVER FEELING COLD,
PULLING POTS OF GOLD FROM THIN AIR.
THE BEST IN EV'RY TOWN,
BEST AT SHAKING DOWN,
BEST AT MAKING MOUNTAINS OF MONEY.
THEY CAN'T TAKE IT WITH THEM,
BUT WHAT DO THEY CARE?
THEY GET THE CENTER OF THE MEAT,
CUSHIONS ON THEIR FEET,
HOUSES ON A STREET WHERE IT'S SUNNY,
SUMMERS AT THE SEA,
WINTERS WARM AND FREE,
ALL OF THIS AND WE GET THE REST.
BUT WHO IS THE LAND FOR?
THE SUN AND THE SAND FOR?
YOU GUESSED —
IT'S ALL FOR THE BEST.

JESUS

WHEN YOU FEEL SAD,

OR UNDER A CURSE

YOUR LIFE IS BAD,

YOUR PROSPECTS ARE WORSE.

JUDAS

SOME MEN ARE
BORN TO LIVE AT EASE,
DOING WHAT THEY PLEASE,
RICHER THAN THE BEES
ARE IN HONEY;
NEVER GROWING OLD,
NEVER FEELING COLD,
PULLING POTS OF GOLD
FROM THIN AIR.

(JESUS)

YOUR WIFE IS SIGHING,
CRYING,

AND YOUR OLIVE TREE IS DYING,
TEMPLES ARE GREYING
AND TEETH ARE DECAYING,
AND CREDITORS
WEIGHING YOUR PURSE;
YOUR MOOD AND
YOUR ROBE
ARE BOTH A DEEP BLUE.

YOU'D BET THAT JOB

HAD NOTHING ON YOU.
DON'T FORGET THAT
WHEN YOU GO TO HEAVEN
YOU'LL BE BLEST.

YES, IT'S ALL FOR THE BEST.

(JUDAS)

THE BEST IN EVERY TOWN,
BEST AT SHAKING DOWN,
BEST AT MAKING
MOUNTAINS OF MONEY.
THEY CAN'T TAKE IT
WITH THEM,
BUT WHAT DO
THEY CARE?
THEY GET THE
CENTER OF THE MEAT,
CUSHIONS ON THEIR FEET,
HOUSES ON A STREET
WHERE IT'S SUNNY,
SUMMERS AT THE SEA,
WINTERS WARM AND FREE,
ALL OF THIS AND
WE GET THE REST.
BUT WHO IS THE LAND FOR?
THE SUN AND THE SAND FOR?
YOU GUESSED —
IT'S ALL FOR THE BEST.

JESUS

Now, how can you look at the speck of sawdust in your brother's eye, when all the time there's this great plank in your own?

JUDAS

I don't know. How can you look at the speck of sawdust in your brother's eye, when all the time there's this great plank in your own?

JESUS

Or — how can you take the speck of sawdust out of your brother's eye when all the time there's this great plank in your own?

JUDAS

I don't know. How can you take the speck of sawdust out of your brother's eye when all the time there's this great plank in your own?

JESUS

You hypocrite!

First take the plank out of your own eye so you can see clearly to take the speck of sawdust out of your brother's.

JUDAS

Wait a minute! That's no answer to the question!

JESUS

Did I promise an answer to the question?

JESUS

WHEN YOU FEEL SAD,

OR UNDER A CURSE

YOUR LIFE IS BAD,

YOUR PROSPECTS ARE WORSE.

YOUR WIFE IS SIGHING,
CRYING,

AND YOUR OLIVE TREE IS DYING,

JUDAS

SOME MEN ARE
BORN TO LIVE AT EASE,
DOING WHAT THEY PLEASE,
RICHER THAN THE BEES
ARE IN HONEY;
NEVER GROWING OLD,
NEVER FEELING COLD,
PULLING POTS OF GOLD
FROM THIN AIR.
THE BEST IN EV'RY TOWN,
BEST AT SHAKING DOWN,
BEST AT MAKING
MOUNTAINS OF MONEY.

(JESUS)

TEMPLES ARE GREYING
AND TEETH ARE DECAYING,
AND CREDITORS
WEIGHING YOUR PURSE;
YOUR MOOD AND
YOUR ROBE
ARE BOTH A DEEP BLUE.

(JUDAS)

THEY CAN'T TAKE IT
WITH THEM,
BUT WHAT DO
THEY CARE?
THEY GET THE
CENTER OF THE MEAT,
CUSHIONS ON THEIR FEET,
HOUSES ON A STREET
WHERE IT'S SUNNY,
SUMMERS AT THE SEA,
WINTERS WARM AND FREE,
ALL OF THIS AND
WE GET THE REST.
BUT WHO IS THE LAND FOR?
THE SUN AND THE SAND FOR?
YOU GUESSED—

YOU'D BET THAT JOB

HAD NOTHING ON YOU.
DON'T FORGET THAT
WHEN YOU GO TO HEAVEN
YOU'LL BE BLEST.

(+OTHERS)

YES, IT'S ALL FOR THE...

IT'S ALL FOR THE...

JESUS

You must never be distressed.

OTHERS

YES IT'S ALL FOR THE...

JESUS

All your wrongs will be redressed.

OTHERS

YES, IT'S ALL FOR THE...

JUDAS

Someone's got to be oppressed.

ALL

YES, IT'S ALL FOR THE BEST!

SONIA

Yes, it's all for the ... yes, it's all for the ...

JESUS

Judge not, that you yourself shall not be judged.
For whatever you deal out to others...

...will be dealt back to you.

GILMER

JESUS LOVES ME, THIS I KNOW ...

ALL

CAUSE THE BIBLE TELLS ME SO ... (etc.)

she assures him that she is... and goes to the side of the stage to watch.

JESUS

A sower went to sow some seed...

PEGGY

A sower went to sow some seed...

and as he sowed, some seed fell along the footpath...

...Where it was trampled on,...

...and the birds ate it up.

JOANNE

Tweet, tweet, tweet.

PEGGY

Some seed fell on rock.

(PEGGY)

...And after coming up, withered for lack of moisture.

Some seed fell in among weeds...

...and the weeds grew up with it...

...and choked it!

And some of the seed fell into good soil...

SONIA

Hey, that's us!

PEGGY

And it grew, and it yielded a hundredfold!

JESUS

Now, if you have ears to hear, then listen, ...listen, for this is what the parable means. Do you know what the seed is?

PEGGY

A baby!

JESUS

Uh... no. The seed is the word of God...

JESUS

...And that seed which fell along the footpath represents those who hear the Word, but then the Devil comes and carries them off for fear they should believe and be saved.

JOANNE

Oy!

JESUS

And that which fell upon rock, oh, they receive the Word with joy when they first hear it, but they have no root and so in time of testing they desert.

JESUS

And that which fell among the weeds, they hear the Word, but their further growth is impaired by cares...

...and wealth...

...and pleasures of the world.

JESUS

Oh, no, no, no! They bring nothing to fruit.

PEGGY

No fruit, Gilmer.

JESUS

But, that which fell among good soil ...Hey, good soil, good soil!

...They hear the word with a good and honest heart and through their perseverance yield a harvest.

9 - All Good Gifts

(Lamar, Con

JESUS

Come on, form a circle, big circle ...

JOANNE

Not that kind of circle, stupid.

LAMAR

WE PLOW THE FIELDS, AND SCATTER
THE GOOD SEED ON THE LAND,
BUT IT IS FED AND WATERED
BY GOD'S ALMIGHTY HAND.
HE SENDS THE SNOW IN WINTER,
THE WARMTH TO SWELL THE GRAIN,

THE BREEZES AND THE SUNSHINE,
AND SOFT, REFRESHING RAIN.

(REFRAIN) ALL GOOD GIFTS AROUND US
ARE SENT FROM HEAVEN ABOVE.
THEN THANK THE LORD,
O, THANK THE LORD
FOR ALL HIS LOVE.

JESUS

So don't store up your treasures on earth, where it grows rusty and moth-eaten,
and thieves break in to steal it. No, store up your treasure in heaven, where there
is no moth, and no rust, and no thief. For where your treasure is, so will your
heart be also.

ALL

WE THANK THEE, THEN O FATHER,
FOR ALL THINGS BRIGHT AND GOOD,
THE SEED TIME AND THE HARVEST,
OUR LIFE, OUR HEALTH, OUR FOOD.
NO GIFTS HAVE WE TO OFFER
FOR ALL THY LOVE IMPARTS,
BUT THAT WHICH THOU DESIREST,
OUR HUMBLE THANKFUL HEARTS.

(REFRAIN)

ALL GOOD GIFTS AROUND US
ARE SENT FROM HEAVEN ABOVE.

LAMAR

SO THANK THE LORD,
O, THANK THE LORD
FOR ALL HIS LOVE.
I REALLY WANT TO
THANK YOU LORD,

OTHERS

AH.

ONE GIRL

LOVE.

LAMAR

I WANT TO
THANK YOU LORD,
THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR LOVE.
I WANT TO THANK YOU LORD,
I WANT TO THANK YOU LORD,
OH, THANK YOU LORD!

OTHERS

ALL GOOD GIFTS AROUND US
ARE SENT FROM
HEAVEN ABOVE.
ALL GOOD GIFTS
AROUND US.

HERB

Attention!

Right-left! Left-right! Get down! Get up! Get down! Get up! Left-right!
Wiggle your ears! Hup, two three four! Hup, two, three, four!

JESUS

Don't give dogs what is holy...

ALL

Two-three!

JESUS

...And don't throw your pearls to the pigs for they will only trample on them
and then they'll turn and cut you to pieces.

A-one, a-two, a-one, two, three, four.

...and a transition in the "Prodigal Son" parable...
...the break-down of roles for the...

(FIRST NARRATOR and ELDER SON: HERB

FATHER: LAMAR

YOUNGER (PRODIGAL) SON: JEFFREY

SERVANT: GILMER

LOCAL LANDOWNER and SECOND NARRATOR: JUDAS

WHORES, PIGS, REVELERS and SCENERY: ROBIN, SONIA,
JOANNE, PEGGY.

HERB

Once upon a time there was a man who had two sons and the younger said to his father: "Father, give me my share of the property." So, he divided his estate between them. A few days later the younger son turned the whole of his share into cash and left home for a distant country, where he squandered it in reckless living. He had spent it all, when a severe famine fell upon the country and he began to feel the pinch. (Ouch!) So he decided to attach himself to one of the local landowners...

...Who sent him on the farm to mind the swine.

JUDAS

Swine!

JEFFREY

Swine?

ROBIN, SONIA, JOANNE, AND PEGGY

(As Pigs)

Pigs!

HERB

He would have been glad to have filled his belly with the pods that the pigs eating...

PIGS

Oink, oink, buster!

HERB

...But no one gave him anything. Then he came to his senses (BOING!) and said: "How many of my father's paid servants have more food than they can eat, and here I am starving to death. I will set off and I will go to my father and I will tell him: 'Father, I have sinned against God and against you; I am no longer fit to be called your son; treat me as one of your paid servants.'" So he set out for his father's house, but while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and his heart went out to him. (Lub-dub, lub-dub, lub-dub, lub-dub) The son ran to his father, threw his arms around him, and kissed him, saying: "Father, I have sinned against God and against you; I am no longer fit to be called your son; treat me as one of your paid servants." But the father called to one of his servants...

(Whistle)

"Quick, fetch me my robe, my best one. Put a ring on his finger and shoes on his feet and bring the fatted calf and kill it. And let us have a feast to celebrate this day, for this son of mine was lost and is found."
And the festivities began!

JUDAS

Now, the elder son was out on the farm, working. (Whew!) And on his way back, as he approached the house, he heard music and dancing. He called to one of the servants and asked him what it meant. The servant said: "Uh, uh, uh, your nephew — nope, nope, nope, your cousin — nope, nope, your brother, yup, your brother's come back home again and your father's killed the fatted calf 'cause he has him back safe and sound, yup, yup, yup!"

But the brother was ...

...irritated.

HERB

Oh, c'mon!

JUDAS

He was pretty damned mad! And refused to go in the house. The father came out and pleaded with him but he retorted, saying:

"You know how I've worked for you all these years and I never once disobeyed your orders and you never gave me so much as a kid for a feast with my friends. But! Once this son of yours turns up, after running through your money with his women, you kill the fatted calf for him."

"My boy," said the father, "You are always with me and everything I have is yours. Now, how could we help but celebrate this happy day, for your brother here was dead and has come back to life — "metaphorically speaking" — was lost and is found."

HERB

No, I don't wanna. Please don't make me, Jesus...Oh, alright!

JESUS

Is there a man among you
Who will offer his son
A stone when he asks for bread?

ALL

Is there a man among you —
— Who will offer his son —
— A stone when he asks for bread?

JESUS

A snake if he asks for fish?

ALL

No!

JESUS

Well, if you now — Bad as you are —
— Know how to give your children what is good for them —
— How much more will your Heavenly Father — Give good things...

ALL

Good things!
Good things!
Good things!
Good things!
Yeah!

JESUS

...to those who ask for them?
— Always treat others — As you would have them treat you!

ALL

Yeah — Yeah — Yeah!

JESUS

Well, that is the law and the prophets.

ALL

The law and the prophets, the law and the prophets,
the law and the prophets, the law and the...

10 — *Light of the World*

(Company)

...prophets.

The law and the prophets, the law and the prophets,
the law and the prophets, the law and the prophets!

HERB

YOU ARE THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD

ALL

YOU ARE THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD.

HERB

BUT IF THAT LIGHT'S UNDER A BUSHEL,
IT'S LOST SOMETHING KIND OF CRUCIAL

ALL

YOU'VE GOTTA STAY BRIGHT
TO BE THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD.

PEGGY

YOU ARE THE SALT OF THE EARTH.

ALL

YOU ARE THE SALT OF THE EARTH.

PEGGY

BUT IF THAT SALT HAS LOST ITS FLAVOR,
IT AIN'T GOT MUCH IN ITS FAVOR.

ALL

YOU CAN'T HAVE THAT FAULT
AND BE THE SALT OF THE EARTH.
SO LET YOUR LIGHT SO SHINE BEFORE MEN.
LET YOUR LIGHT SO SHINE,
SO THAT THEY MIGHT KNOW SOME KINDNESS AGAIN.
WE ALL NEED HELP TO FEEL FINE.

JUDAS

LET'S HAVE SOME WINE!

JEFFREY

YOU ARE THE CITY OF GOD.

ALL

YOU ARE THE CITY OF GOD.

JEFFREY

BUT IF THAT CITY'S ON A HILL,
IT'S KIND OF HARD TO HIDE IT WELL.

ALL

YOU'VE GOTTA STAY PRETTY IN THE CITY OF GOD.
SO LET YOUR LIGHT SO SHINE BEFORE MEN.
LET YOUR LIGHT SO SHINE,
SO THAT THEY MIGHT KNOW SOME KINDNESS AGAIN.
WE ALL NEED HELP TO FEEL FINE.

(ALL)

LET'S HAVE SOME WINE!

ROBIN

YOU ARE THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD.

ALL

YOU ARE THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD.

ROBIN

BUT THE TALLEST CANDLESTICK
AIN'T MUCH GOOD WITHOUT A WICK.

ALL

YOU'VE GOTTA LIVE RIGHT
TO BE THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD.

JESUS

We're gonna take a little break now, but in the meantime we'd like to invite you all up on the stage for a little wine. Or go out in the lobby, use the facilities, get some fresh air. We'll be back in ten minutes and thank you all very much for coming!

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

...I haven't been I have a traditional beginning to its ... with a blackout and ... of the ... mission of ... in the stage ... of them ... to play ... the ... sings a ... words ... of his ... director ... the ... play ... at the ... and the

11 — Learn Your Lessons Well (Reprise)

(Lamar, Co

LAMAR

I CAN SEE A SWATH OF SINNERS SETTIN' YONDER
AND THEY'RE ACTIN' LIKE A PACK OF FOOLS.
GAZING INTO SPACE,
THEY LET THEIR MINDS ALL WANDER
'STEAD OF STUDYING THE GOOD LORD'S RULES.
YOU BETTER PAY ATTENTION,
BUILD YOUR COMPREHENSION
THERE'S GONNA BE A QUIZ AT YOUR ASCENSION.
NOT TO MENTION ANY THREAT OF HELL,
BUT IF YOU'RE SMART,
YOU'LL LEARN YOUR LESSONS WELL.

EVERY BRIGHT DESCRIPTION OF
THE PROMISED LAND MEANT
YOU CAN REACH IT IF YOU KEEP ALERT.
LEARNING EV'RY LINE IN EVERY LAST COMMANDMENT.
MAY NOT HELP YOU,
BUT IT COULDN'T HURT.
FIRST YOU GOTTA READ 'EM,
THEN YOU GOTTA HEED 'EM
YOU NEVER KNOW WHEN YOU'RE GONNA NEED 'EM.
JUST AS OLD ELIJAH SAID TO JEZEBEL,
YOU BETTER START, TO LEARN YOUR LESSONS WELL.

...which is
...direct the audi-
...to SCOTLAND'S entrance.

...lines she used in the original production...
...her own...
...Does your
...performance to performance

...at the end of the script, Sonia's sexuality is
...performed
...lowering her neck, revoluting away
...effect...

12 - Turn Back, O Man

(Sonia, Jesus, Company)

SONIA

TURN BACK, O MAN, FORSWEAR THY FOOLISH WAYS.
OLD NOW IS EARTH, AND NONE MAY COUNT HER DAYS.
DA-DA-DA-DA-DA.
YET THOU, HER CHILD,
WHOSE HEAD IS CROWNED WITH FLAME,
STILL WILT NOT HEAR THINE INNER GOD PROCLAIM:
TURN BACK, O MAN

(Is your seat comfortable, sir?)

TURN BACK, O MAN

(Whatcha doin' after the show?)

TURN BACK, O MAN

(Mmm, I like that!)

FORSWEAR THY FOOLISH WAYS.

(See ya later - I'm goin' to the front of the thee-ay-ter)

EARTH MIGHT BE FAIR, AND ALL MEN GLAD AND WISE.
AGE AFTER AGE THEIR TRAGIC EMPIRES RISE.

DA-DA-DA-DA-DA:
BUILT WHILE THEY DREAM,
AND IN THAT DREAMING WEEP:
WOULD MAN BUT WAKE FROM OUT HIS HAUNTED SLEEP.
TURN BACK, O MAN

(Is that your sister?)

TURN BACK, O MAN

(Can ya see from where your sittin'?)

TURN BACK, O MAN

(To JESUS)

(Hiya, big boy!)

FORSWEAR THY FOOLISH WAYS.

JESUS

EARTH SHALL BE FAIR, AND ALL HER PEOPLE ONE;
NOT TILL THAT HOUR SHALL GOD'S WHOLE WILL BE DONE.
NOW, EVEN NOW, ONCE MORE FROM EARTH TO SKY
PEALS FORTH IN JOY, MAN'S OLD UNDAUNTED CRY:
EARTH SHALL BE FAIR, AND ALL HER PEOPLE ONE!

SONIA

C'mere, Jesus, I got something to show ya!

ALL

TURN BACK, O MAN,
FORSWEAR THY FOOLISH WAYS.
OLD NOW IS EARTH, AND NONE MAY COUNT HER DAYS.

SONIA

DA-DA-DA-DA-DA.

ALL

YET THOU, HER CHILD,
WHOSE HEAD IS CROWNED WITH FLAME,
STILL WILT NOT HEAR THINE INNER GOD PROCLAIM:
TURN BACK, O MAN.
TURN BACK, O MAN.
TURN BACK, O MAN.
FORSEAR THY FOOLISH WAYS.

SONIA

Play it, honey.

JESUS

Stop.

This is the beginning.

ROBIN

(Now a Pharisee,

By whose authority are you acting like this?

HERB

Who gave you this authority?

JESUS

Well, I have a question to ask you. Answer it and then I'll tell you by whos authority I act. The baptism of John; was it from God or was it from man?

(The Pharisees nervously confer among themselves.)

JEFFREY

(To ROBIN and HERB)

If we say "from God," he will say, "Then why did you not believe?"

ROBIN

But if we say "from man"...

JEFFREY

...the people...

HERB

...will be angry, for they took John as a prophet.

(The Pharisees reach a decision and, thinking they have avoided a trap, reply smugly.)

ROBIN, HERB, JEFFREY

(To JESUS)

We do not know.

JESUS

Then neither will I tell you by whose authority I act, but I have a story for y
A man had two sons.

He went to the first, and said, "My son, go and work in the vineyard today
"I will go," said the boy, but he never went. Then the father said to the secc
"Now go my son, go and work in the vineyard today." "I will not go," said
son, but later on he changed his mind and went.

Now which of these two did as his father wished?

ROBIN, HERB, JEFFREY

The second.

JESUS

And I tell you this: Tax gatherers and prostitutes are entering the kingdom of heaven, because when John came and showed you the right way to live, you didn't believe him, but the tax gatherers and the prostitutes did. And even when you saw this, you did not change your minds and follow him.

ROBIN

Master, you are an "honest man." Give us your ruling on this: Are we or are we not permitted to pay taxes to the Roman emperor?

JUDAS

You hypocrites!

JESUS

Show me the money in which the tax is paid.

Well, now, whose head is on here, whose inscription?

HERB

Caesar's.

JESUS

Then pay Caesar what is due Caesar, but pay God what is due God.

HERB

Master, what is the greatest commandment of them all?

JESUS

Thou shalt love the Lord, your God, with all your heart and all your soul. That is the greatest commandment. And the second is like it: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. All the rest of the law, and all the prophets have written, is based on these first two.

The doctors of the law and the Pharisees sit in the chair of Moses, therefore I tell you to what they say, pay attention to their words, but do not follow their practice. For they say one thing and do another. They make up heavy packs and pile them on men's shoulders and they don't raise a finger to lift the load themselves. Everything they do is done for show. Oh, they go about wearing broad phylacteries with large tassels on their robes. They like to have their places of honor at feasts and at the synagogues and to be greeted respectfully in the street and to be called "teacher."

But you must not be called "teacher" for you have one teacher: The Messiah,...

...and you must not call any man on earth "father" for you have only one Father and you are all brothers,...

13 - Alas for You

...And you must call no man on earth "rabbi" for you have one Rabbi and he is Jesus, the Son of Man, who is seated in Heaven.

JESUS

ALAS, ALAS FOR YOU, LAWYERS AND PHARISEES,
HYPOCRITES THAT YOU BE,
SEARCHING FOR SOULS AND FOOLS TO FORSAKE THEM,
YOU TRAVEL THE LAND, YOU SCOUR THE SEA;
THEN WHEN YOU'VE GOT YOUR CONVERTS,
YOU MAKE THEM TWICE AS FIT FOR HELL
AS YOU ARE YOURSELVES.

ALAS, ALAS, FOR YOU, LAWYERS AND PHARISEES,
HYPOCRITES THAT YOU ARE;
SURE THAT THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN AWAITS YOU.
YOU WILL NOT VENTURE HALF SO FAR.
OTHER MEN WHO MIGHT ENTER THE GATES YOU
KEEP FROM PASSING THROUGH;
DRAG THEM DOWN WITH YOU.

YOU SNAKES, YOU VIPER'S BROOD,
YOU CANNOT ESCAPE BEING DEVIL'S FOOD.
I SEND YOU PROPHETS AND I SEND YOU PREACHERS;
SAGES IN RAGES AND AGES OF TEACHERS.
NOTHING CAN MAR YOUR MOOD.

JUDAS

(Shouting at Pharisees)

Hypocrites!

JESUS

ALAS, ALAS FOR YOU, LAWYERS AND PHARISEES,
HYPOCRITES TO A MAN;
SONS OF THE DOGS WHO MURDERED THE PROPHETS,
FINISHING OFF WHAT YOUR FATHERS BEGAN.
YOU DON'T HAVE TIME TO SCORN OR TO SCOFF.
IT'S GETTING VERY LATE.
VENGEANCE DOESN'T WAIT.

YOU SNAKES, YOU VIPER'S BROOD,
YOU CANNOT ESCAPE BEING DEVIL'S FOOD.
I SEND YOU PROPHETS AND I SEND YOU PREACHERS;
SAGES IN RAGES AND AGES OF TEACHERS.
NOTHING CAN MAR YOUR MOOD.

BLIND GUIDES!
BLIND FOOLS!
THE BLOOD YOU'VE SPILT
ON YOU WILL FALL.
THIS NATION, THIS GENERATION
SHALL BEAR THE GUILT OF IT ALL!

ALAS, ALAS, ALAS FOR YOU,
BLIND FOOLS!

JESUS

O, Jerusalem!

ALL

O, Jerusalem!

JESUS

City that stones the prophets and murders the messengers sent to her. How
have I longed to gather your children, as a hen gathers her brood under her
but you would not let me! And so I tell you: You shall never see me until th
when you say, "Blessing on him who comes in the name of the Lord!"

But, take care that no one misleads you. For many will come claiming my na
and saying, "I am the Messiah!" And many will be misled by them.

For the time is coming when you will hear the noise of battle near at hand. I
nation will make war upon nation, kingdom upon kingdom; there will be fa
and earthquakes in many places, but with all these things,...

...The birthpangs of a new age begin!

For as things were in Noah's days...

HERB

Happy Noah's Days!

JESUS

...So will they be when the son of man comes.

HERB

C'mon animals. C'mon. There's a 73% chance of rain!

JESUS

For in the days before the flood, men ate and drank and married and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away.

ALL

Master, save us! Are you not afraid we shall be drowned? Save us!

JESUS

Have you no faith? Peace. Be still.

For when the son of man comes, there will be men...

...Working in the fields.

And of these men working, one will be taken and the others left.
Women...

...Grinding at the wheel.

And of these women grinding, one will be taken and the others left. So be awake then, for you do not know on what day your Lord is to come.

ALL

Hah!

JESUS

Remember, if the householder had known what time the burglar was coming he would have stayed awake all night.

ALL

Ha-cha-cha-cha!

JESUS

Keep awake, then, for the son of man will come at a time when you least expect him. Now, ...who is the trusty servant?

The man charged by his master...

...To take care of his servants and pay them at the proper time. Well happy servant who is at his job when his master comes, for I tell you, he will be in charge of all his master's property. But, what of the bad servant...

...Who sits around saying, "Oh well, the master is a long time coming," and begins bullying the servants and eating and drinking with his drunken friends. I tell you this, the master will come on a day he does not know at a time he expects and will cut him to pieces.

Then he'll take his place among the hypocrites, where there is wailing...

ALL

Wailing!

JESUS

...and gnashing of teeth.

ALL

G-nash, g-nash, g-nashing!

JESUS

(Opening a fortune cookie and reading his fortune.)

Remember, he who humbles himself as a little child will find good fortune in the kingdom of Heaven.

(He throws away the cookie and eats the fortune.)

ROBIN

Master, this woman was caught in the very act of adultery and in the law that Moses has laid down such women are to be stoned.

JEFFREY

Yeah, what do you say about it, mister?

JESUS

That the one of you who is faultless shall throw the first stone.

GILMER

Oh, boy!

JESUS

Where are they now? Has no one condemned you?

PEGGY

No one, sir.

JESUS

Nor do I condemn you. You may go. Do not sin again.

14 - By My Side

(Peggy, Gilmer, Co

PEGGY

WHERE ARE YOU GOING?

WHERE ARE YOU GOING?

CAN YOU TAKE ME WITH YOU?

FOR MY HAND IS COLD AND NEEDS WARMTH.

WHERE ARE YOU GOING?

PEGGY AND GILMER

FAR BEYOND WHERE THE HORIZON LIES,

WHERE THE HORIZON LIES,

AND THE LAND SINKS INTO MELLOW BLUENESS.

PEGGY

O, PLEASE TAKE ME WITH YOU.
 LET ME SKIP THE ROAD WITH YOU
 I CAN DARE MYSELF,
 I CAN DARE MYSELF.
 I'LL PUT A PEBBLE IN MY SHOE
 AND WATCH ME WALK,

GILMER

O, PLEASE
 LET ME SKIP THE ROAD WITH
 I CAN DARE MYSELF,
 I CAN DARE.
 I'LL PUT A PEBBLE IN MY SHO
 WATCH ME WALK.

PEGGY

I CAN WALK AND WALK.

GROUP

I CAN WALK.

GILMER

I SHALL CALL THE PEBBLE DARE.

PEGGY

I SHALL CALL THE PEBBLE DARE.

PEGGY

GILMER

WE WILL TALK
TOGETHER

WE WILL TALK

+ALL

ABOUT WALKING.

ABOUT WALKING.

DARE SHALL BE CARRIED.

ALL

AND WHEN WE BOTH HAVE HAD ENOUGH,

PEGGY AND GILMER

I WILL TAKE HIM FROM MY SHOE, SINGING:

ALL

"MEET YOUR NEW ROAD."

PEGGY AND GILMER

THEN I'LL TAKE YOUR HAND,

PEGGY

GILMER & GROUP

FIN'LLY GLAD

FINALLY GLAD

THAT YOU ARE HERE,

THAT YOU ARE HERE

BY MY SIDE,

BY MY SIDE,

BY MY SIDE,

BY MY SIDE,

BY MY SIDE,

BY MY SIDE,

(PEGGY)

(GILMER & GROUP)

BY MY SIDE,
THAT YOU ARE HERE
BY MY SIDE.BY MY SIDE,
BY MY SIDE.

JUDAS

Then the man they called Judas Iscariot went to the chief priests and said:
"What will you give me to betray him to you?" They paid him thirty pieces
of silver.

PEGGY

And from that moment he began to look out for an opportunity to betray hi

PEGGY

GILMER & GROUP

BY MY SIDE,

BY MY SIDE,
BY MY SIDE,

BY MY SIDE,

BY MY SIDE,
BY MY SIDE,

BY MY SIDE.

BY MY SIDE,
BY MY SIDE.

JESUS

Now, when the Son of Man comes in all his glory, with all his angels with hi
he will sit in state on his throne, with all the nations gathered before him. A
will separate the men into two groups, as a shepherd separates the sheep...

Maaaa ! ...from the goats ... Baaah!

And then he will put the sheep on his right and the goats on his left...

G O D S P E L L

LAMAR

Sheep on his right? Oh, that right!

JESUS

and then he will say to those on his right: "Baa baa baa baa baa."

SHEEP

Baaaaaaa!

JESUS

You have my father's blessing. Come and enter the kingdom that has been ready since the world was made.

JESUS

For when I was hungry you gave me food, when I was thirsty you gave me drink, when I was naked and without a home you took me to your house, and when I was ill and in prison, you came to my aid.

JESUS

Hey, hey, hey get back there.

JEFFREY

Baah!

JESUS

And then they will say to him:

G O D S P E L L

ROBIN

Master, when was it we saw you hungry and gave you food or thirsty and gave you drink?

GILMER

Yeah, or in prison and helped you?

JESUS

And then he will say to them: Anything you did for one of your brothers he however humble, you did for me.

GILMER

Oh, I get it.

JESUS

And then he will say to those on his left...

GOATS

Yeah?

JESUS

A curse is upon you!

GOATS

Baah!

JESUS

You go from my sight to the eternal fire...

...to the eternal fire, that has been ready for you with the devil and all his ar
For when I was hungry, you didn't give me anything to eat; when I was thir
you didn't give me anything to drink; when I was naked and without a hom
you didn't take me to your house; and when I was ill and in prison, you did
come to my aid. And they will say to him:

JOANNE

Aw, Master, if we'd a known it was you, we woulda taken you out ...

...for a couple of Lamb Chops!

JESUS

And then he will say to them: Anything you did not do for one of my brothers here, however humble, you did not do for me.

GOATS

Baah!

15 - We Beseech Thee

(Jeffrey, Company)

JESUS

Go take your place in eternal punishment!

GOATS

Baah!

JESUS

But the righteous shall have everlasting life!

JEFFREY

BAAH BAAH BAAH BAAH BAAH BAAH...

OTHERS

Baaah!

JEFFREY

FATHER, HEAR THY CHILDREN'S CALL,
HUMBLY AT THY FEET WE FALL,
PRODIGALS, CONFESSING ALL,

ALL

WE BESEECH THEE, HEAR US!

JEFFREY

WE THY CALL HAVE DISOBEYED,
INTO PATHS OF SIN HAVE STRAYED;
AND REPENTANCE HAVE DELAYED,

ALL

WE BESEECH THEE, HEAR US!

JEFFREY

COME SING ABOUT LOVE
THAT CAUSED US FIRST TO BE.
COME SING ABOUT LOVE
THAT MADE THE STONE AND TREE.
COME SING ABOUT LOVE
THAT DRAWS US LOVINGLY,

ALL

WE BESEECH THEE, HEAR US!

JEFFREY

COMPANY

Sick!

WE COME TO THEE FOR CURE,

Guilty!

WE SEEK THEY MERCY SURE.

Evil!

WE LONG TO BE MADE PURE,

ALL

WE BESEECH THEE, HEAR US!

JEFFREY

COMPANY

WE PRAY THAT WE MAY SEE,

Blind!

WE PRAY TO BE MADE FREE.

Bound!

WE PRAY FOR SANCTITY,

Stained!

ALL

WE BESEECH THEE, HEAR US!

JEFFREY

COMPANY

COME SING ABOUT LOVE

LOVE!

THAT CAUSED US FIRST TO BE,
COME SING ABOUT LOVE

LOVE!

THAT MADE THE STONE AND TREE.
COME SING ABOUT LOVE,

LOVE! LOVE!

ALL

THAT DRAWS US LOVINGLY,
WE BESEECH THEE, HEAR US!BY THE GRACIOUS SAVING CALL
SPOKEN TENDERLY TO ALL
WHO HAVE SHARED MAN'S GUILT AND FALL,
WE BESEECH THEE, HEAR US!BY THE LOVE THAT LONGS TO BLESS
PITYING OUR SORE DISTRESS,
LEADING US TO HOLINESS,
WE BESEECH THEE, HEAR US!

ONE OF GROUP

BOOM, CHICK-A-BOOM, CHICK-A-BOOM, etc.

ALL

GRANT US HOPE FROM EARTH TO RISE,
AND TO STRAIN WITH EAGER EYES,
T'WARDS THE PROMISED HEAV'NLY PRIZE;
WE BESEECH THEE, HEAR US!

JEFFREY

COMPANY

COME SING ABOUT LOVE

LOVE!

THAT CAUSED US FIRST TO BE,
COME SING ABOUT LOVE

LOVE!

THAT MADE THE STONE AND TREE.
COME SING ABOUT LOVE,

LOVE!

LOVE,

LOVE!

LOVE.

LOVE!

COME ON SING ABOUT LOVE,

LOVE!

LOVE!

LOVE,

LOVE!

LOVE.

LOVE!

COME ON SING ABOUT LOVE,

LOVE!

LOVE!

LOVE.

LOVE!

WE BESEECH THEE, HEAR US!

THAT DRAWS US LOVINGLY;
WE BESEECH THEE, HEAR US

COMPANY

BOOM, CHIC-A-BOOM, CHIC-A-BOOM, CHIC-CHIC,
CHIC-A-BOOM-A, CHIC-A-BOOM-A, CHIC-A-BOOM, CHIC-CHIC,
CHIC-CHIC! BOOM-CHIC!

(Peggy, Gilmer, Company)

16 — Day by Day (Reprise)

ALL

DAY BY DAY,
DAY BY DAY,
OH, DEAR LORD, THREE THINGS I PRAY:
TO SEE THEE MORE CLEARLY,
LOVE THEE MORE DEARLY,
FOLLOW THEE MORE NEARLY,
DAY BY DAY.

ROBIN & 3 OTHERS

DAY BY DAY,

DAY BY DAY,

OH, DEAR LORD,
THREE THINGS I PRAY:

TO SEE THEE MORE CLEARLY,

LOVE THEE MORE DEARLY,

FOLLOW THEE MORE NEARLY,
DAY BY DAY.

DAY BY DAY, BY DAY,
BY DAY, BY DAY.

OTHERS

DAY BY DAY,

DAY BY DAY,

THREE THINGS I PRAY:

DAY BY DAY,

DAY BY DAY,

DAY BY DAY,
DAY BY DAY, BY DAY,
BY DAY, BY DAY.

symbolic act occur that makes it clear that JES
removing from his followers an outward manifestation of their separateness
ordinary men and women.

They have become a community to such an extent that he is preparing them
out into the world without him. His next words, therefore, are doubly shocki

JESUS

I tell you this: One of you among us will betray me.

(OTHERS)

Can it be me, Lord?

JUDAS

Rabbi, can you mean me?

JESUS

(To JUDAS)

The words are yours. Do quickly what you have to do.

(JUDAS looks at JESUS and the OTHERS for a moment.

Then he gets up and runs out.

He picks up a matzoh.

Boruch atoh Adonoy Elohaynu melech ho-olum, Ha-mo-tzi lechem min ho-

Take this and eat; eat for this is My body.

(JESUS)

Boruch atoh Adonoy Elohaynu melech ho-olum, boray p'ri hagofen.

Take this and drink for this is my blood,...

...the blood of the covenant shed for the forgiveness of sins. And I tell you I shall never again drink from the fruit of the vine until I drink it again with you in the Kingdom of my Father.

(The Band)

17 — On the Willows

(The music for "On the Willows" begins. During the song, JESUS goes from person to person and bids farewell to each.

THE BAND

ON THE WILLOWS THERE
WE HUNG UP OUR LIVES,
FOR OUR CAPTORS THERE REQUIRED OF US SONGS.
AND OUR TORMENTORS MIRTH.

ON THE WILLOWS THERE
WE HUNG UP OUR LIVES,
FOR OUR CAPTORS THERE REQUIRED OF US SONGS.
AND OUR TORMENTORS MIRTH, SAYING:

SING US ONE OF THE SONGS OF ZION,
SING US ONE OF THE SONGS OF ZION,
SING US ONE OF THE SONGS OF ZION.
BUT HOW CAN WE SING,
SING THE LORD'S SONG
IN A FOREIGN LAND?

JESUS

Stay here while I go over there to pray. My heart is ready to break with gr

Stop here and stay awake with me.

THE BAND

ON THE WILLOWS THERE
WE HUNG UP OUR LIVES.

JESUS

Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass me by.

Yet not as I will, but as thou wilt.

What!? Could none of you stay awake with me one hour? Stay awake and spared the test!

Oh, the spirit is willing but the flesh is weak.

ALL

Everyone else may fall away on your account, but I never will.

JESUS

I tell you this. Tonight before the cock crows, you will all betray me three times.

JESUS

Father, if it be not possible for this cup to pass me by without my drinking from it,
 THY ... WILL ... BE ... DONE!

LAMAR

If you are the son of God, turn these stones into bread!

JESUS

Man does not live by bread alone. He lives on every word that God utters.

PEGGY

If you are the son of God, throw yourself down, for Scripture says:
 "He will send his angels to support you and they will hold you in their arms."

JESUS

You shall not tempt the Lord your God.

HERB

All these things I will give you if you will do me homage.

JESUS

Begone, Satan!

You shall do homage to the Lord your God and worship him alone.

JESUS

Friend, do quickly what you have to do.

JESUS

Put down the sword; he who lives by the sword, dies by the sword.

(JESUS)

Do you not suppose that I could appeal to my Father, who would at once send me twelve legions of angels to come to my aid? Do you take me for a bandit? You come after me with swords and cudgels? Day after day I sat teaching in the synagogue and you didn't come after me then.

(JUDAS' preparations are completed and JESUS is tied to the fence.

JESUS

But all this has happened to fulfill what the prophets have written!

(Jesus, Company)

18 — Finale

JESUS

OH, GOD, I'M BLEEDING!

OH, GOD, I'M BLEEDING!

COMPANY

OH, GOD, YOU'RE BLEEDING.

JESUS

OH, GOD, I'M DYING.

COMPANY

OH, GOD, YOU'RE DYING!

JESUS

OH, GOD, I'M DYING.

At a dark break, during which ALL climb and gather on the

stage. JESUS has suddenly

fallen. ALL then sing, as they enter the stage, to

the music change.

JESUS

OH, GOD, I'M DEAD!

COMPANY

OH, GOD, YOU'RE DEAD!

OH, GOD, YOU'RE DEAD!

OH, GOD, YOU'RE DEAD!

begin to sing

LONG LIVE GOD,

LONG LIVE GOD,

LONG LIVE GOD,

LONG LIVE GOD.

(ALL slowly move to JESUS' body. The MEN take it off the fence

LONG LIVE GOD,

LONG LIVE GOD,

LONG LIVE GOD,

LONG LIVE GOD.

LONG LIVE GOD,

LONG LIVE GOD,

LONG LIVE GOD,

LONG LIVE GOD.

WOMEN

LONG LIVE GOD,

LONG LIVE GOD,

LONG LIVE GOD,

LONG LIVE GOD.

MEN

PREPARE YE

THE WAY OF THE LORD,

PREPARE YE

THE WAY OF THE LORD.

Tempo on the music. ALL then, singing
the hymn, enter the stage and sing the hymn.

WOMEN

LONG LIVE GOD,
LONG LIVE GOD,
LONG LIVE GOD,
LONG LIVE GOD.

MEN

PREPARE YE
THE WAY OF THE LORD,
PREPARE YE
THE WAY OF THE LORD.

ALL

PREPARE YE THE WAY OF THE LORD,
PREPARE YE THE WAY OF THE LORD.

each door of the temple
the world, there has been comment from some about the lack of an
... the curtain, ... which
... above their heads. ...
... the former ... ON ISSUES
... as gone to other worlds ...
... of the ... the church is ...
... as the ... it is ...
... the vision ... sequence
... they have
... during the course of the ...

(FELIX and COMPANY run back in for the curtain call, rhythmic
and ... of " ...")

19 - Bows

(Company)

ALL

DAY BY DAY,
DAY BY DAY,
OH, DEAR LORD, THREE THINGS I PRAY:
TO SEE THEE MORE CLEARLY,
LOVE THEE MORE DEARLY,
FOLLOW THEE MORE NEARLY
DAY BY DAY.

DAY BY DAY, BY DAY,
DAY BY DAY, BY DAY, BY DAY, BY DAY.

THE END