

### **CHRIST Before Pilate**

Twas early in the morning  
The priests did then proceed  
To Pontius Pilate's Judgment Hall  
My Jesus did they lead  
Within its walls they would not go  
To them it was polluted  
But openly themselves they show  
Hypocrisy deep rooted.

For never would they enter there  
Ah what a deep defilement  
And yet to shout for guiltless blood  
False virtue now so flagrant  
How loud they cried "condemn condemn"  
While Peter did deny Him  
He saw His face, he felt His grace  
And felt his condemnation.

Stern Pilate came to meet that crew  
Now filled with agitation  
That motley mob in frenzied state  
Cried out their accusation  
No fool was he, but saw their scheme  
Twas jealousy inflamed them  
And thus He said again again  
I find no fault now in Him.

The leaders now in feverish state  
Proclaimed their accusation  
We heard Him say, "I am a King"  
With voices loud, and hasten  
Now crucify this Nazarene  
With hatred's deep emotion  
Caesar's our King to him alone  
We pledge our true devotion.

He stood alone, and not a word  
His whole demeanor bearing  
The highest dignity around  
No word of theirs denying  
Then came a note from Pilate's wife  
To Him do thou no harming  
For I have suffered much today  
Indeed greatly alarming.

. . . . *Rowan Jennings*

