

## The Pearl: Hymn 6

1, 2

(Neumark: *If Thou But Suffer God to Guide Thee*)

Would that the memory of the fathers  
would from their tombs to us exhale.  
Wiser were they than all the others,  
and always faithful without fail.  
They sought the right path all their days,  
without corruption, filled with praise!

God gave the Law, the mountains crumbled,  
yet fools broke through to disobey.  
But good Elijah never stumbled;  
God fed him by the birds of prey.  
To Samson God gave honey, too;  
both ate as God thought they should do.

Then Samson took as wife a daughter  
of Gentile stock, when judgment failed.  
Hosea married whom none ought to,  
but God's command with him prevailed.  
The Gentiles prospered without awe  
of God or of His holy Law.

Then God arose to judge the nation;  
He set their sins before their eyes.  
By grace He then restored their station  
and cleansed them of their sins and lies.  
He proved His truth to them again  
and showed God is not moved by men!

Yet Israel in dark sin persisted  
and from God's will turned all away.  
Their sinful ways they all insisted  
were better than God's chosen way.  
Yet God, encompassed all in light,  
exposed their darkness and their night.

3

(Agincourt: *O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High*)

Fools turn from God and from His Word,  
though plainly He shows there that Christ is Lord.  
The prophets cried out what God had willed,  
and Jesus all that Word fulfilled!

Though plainly God has shown all men  
the truth of His love over and again,  
yet fools reject Him and curse His Word,  
and turn away from Christ the Lord.

They bend the truth, they cry out lies.  
The way of God's righteousness they despise.  
And yet the righteous continue on  
the saving path of God's great Son.

Fools cloud the saving, holy way  
by all that they do and by all they say.  
They sought salvation all are on their own  
and turned God's Pearl into a stone.

4

(Veni Immanuel: *O Come, O Come, Immanuel*)

O Gift of God, which wicked fools have spurned  
and unto false and deadly poison turned,  
they sought to make all truth be their own,  
and tore it from the root where it had grown!  
They taught their lies, yet they could not prevail;  
Your truth and beauty surely will not fail!

They sought to separate themselves from You,  
and with Your Law and Presence thus be through;  
So also Israel's tribes tried and failed,  
for truth and justice finally prevailed.  
All who rebel, all who Your truth despise  
will be consumed and ruined by their lies.

O come, O come to us, though small our race,  
O Gift of God, reveal to us Your face!  
On all sides let Your pure love prevail,  
nor let Your peace and kindness ever fail.  
O You, Who love and care for great and small,  
O come, O come unto us, one and all!

5

(Slane: *Be Thou My Vision*)

Let all who scorn You by this be reproved:  
That they chose strife and by love were not moved.  
Though sin and darkness to such men appealed,  
these Your great beauty and kindness revealed.

You came among them Your beauty to show,  
that they salvation and glory might know.  
Just like this pearl which in my hand here rests,  
Your holy beauty Your glory attests.

All who observed You and heard Your true Word  
wondered, astonished – Might You be the Lord?  
Thus You divided the people in two:  
Those who opposed and those who trusted You.

Blinded, they saw not Your beauty and grace.  
Your truth was hidden and kept from their face.  
But to the faithful a mirror You showed  
as Your salvation on them You bestowed.

6

(Tallis: *Canon*)

Some thought to make You but a king;  
some not to You would worship bring.  
Come down, rebuke, revive, renew,  
and turn the hearts of men to You!

Sit, Lord, as God to judge all men.  
Let prophets sing their songs again.  
And let the Just One raise His voice,  
while all who trust Your grace rejoice!

7

(Hyfrydol: *Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus*)

Come unto Your Church, Lord Jesus  
rest, God's Gift, within our soul!  
Thus Your grace will ever please us  
though the wicked rail and roll.  
Over every falsehood, every lie,  
and every wicked way,  
save us, keep us, help us, let Your  
holy Presence with us stay!

Thus fulfill Your holy covenant,  
folding Moses into the New.  
From the first light of Your Testament  
to the last, shine bright and true!  
Blessèd be our Lord and Savior,  
He Who to us has brought His light,  
saving, loving, cleansing, renewing,  
Jesus rescued us from the night.