

Seek Now the Truth.

[For Choir, Bass, Tenor, Soprano, Harp, Tuba, Cor Anglais, Trumpets, Strings (cello, viola, violins) and Percussion (drums, cymbal, triangle, paiste gong)]

[Tenor spoken with choral interludes and music]
In the beginning there was an explosion
An explosion which occurred everywhere at once
Filling all space from the beginning
With every particle rushing apart from every other particle.

After one-hundredth of a second
The universe was a hundred thousand million degrees
centigrade.
Particles were continually created out of pure energy
And annihilated again
At four thousand million times a density of water.

When the first three minutes ended
The universe was mainly light, neutrinos and antineutrinos.

Much later, after a few hundred thousand years
It would cool to form atoms of hydrogen and helium
And condense to form galaxies and stars.

[Choir]
[breathing]
[whispered] Listen.
[the sound of wind]
[spoken breathily] I am that I am.

Great is God
Great and noble is his name
Have mercy upon us
And lead us in the way of truth.

[Soprano]
The light the world longs is now shining
It is shining into the darkness
But the darkness does not apprehend
It is shining in the darkness
But the darkness does not overcome.

It is shining in many a soul
And now the new order
Has begun in the kingdom of the heart.
It is shining in many a small group
In a heavenly and earthly fellowship
Of children of the light.
It will always shine and lead many
Into the world of need
That they may bear it up
Into the heart of God.

[Bass enters and ascends a podium]

[Choir]

Great is God

[Bass]

The Oneness of all that is
The merciful, the magnificent
Maker of time

[Choir]

Maker of time

[Bass]

Creator of space

[Choir]

The Everlasting, the Eternal One.

[Bass]

Be with me, o merciful one
When my final hour draws near.

[Choir]

Be with us with mercy to the end of our days.

[Tenor, spoken with music]

I was reticent

And my thoughts troubled me

I doubted myself

And could not speak.

Then I asked

Why am I ashamed to speak of what I see

To say of what I think?

Am I so ignoble

That none will listen?

Am I so far from the truth

That those that hear my words

Will laugh in derision?
And if it be so
Who is the greater fool
The one that says nothing
Or the one that speaks out?
Then hear my words and judge them.

I tell you there are no supermen
Do not be misled
Do not mislead yourself.
If I tell you a table is a chair
Do not say 'Here is a great thinker
We must believe what he says'.
For you know in yourself what is
You can detect who twists the truth.
Do not say: 'He is a great orator
Who has by brilliant arguments convinced me
That a table is a chair'
For there are some things you know in yourself are true
And no amount of argument
Will change the truth into lies
And lies into truth.

[Bass, spoken, no music]
When he saw the crowds he went up a hill.
He took his seat,
And when his disciples had gathered round him
He began to address them.
And this is the teaching he gave.

[Choir]
How blest are those who know their need of God
The Kingdom of Heaven is theirs.
How blest are the sorrowful
They shall find consolation.
How blest are those of gentle spirit
They shall have the Earth for their possession.
How blest are those that hunger and thirst to see right prevail
They shall be satisfied.
How blest are those who show mercy
Mercy shall be shown to them.
How blest are those whose hearts are pure
They shall see God.

How blest are the peacemakers
God shall call them his sons.
How blest are those who have suffered persecution
for the cause of right
The kingdom of Heaven is theirs.

[Tenor]
This change
This transformation
This defiance and ruination
O pity the suffering of the World
Know that I am with you.

I am also the God within me
The Eternal One
The God of Change
Who dies in each blink of an eye
And whose transformations
Whose coming-to-be
Are in the same breath
Immovable eternity.

[Choir]
Our father in Heaven who loves the world
Why art thou so cruel?
I am a Muslim, I am a Jew
The taunting crowd, the cross I bear
I speak to thieves who die beside
Today, today
I will see you in paradise
My God, my God
Why hast thou forsaken me?

[Tenor]
Thy servant knows and sees
That wisdom is not my own.
It rests in the humble who have need of Thee.
In the silence of Meeting and in the Mosque
About the table on whose bare wood
The carafe of lilies lies
We seek to know Thee and be comforted.

I am like the grain of sand
That sits so tiny on a shore
That spans between two continents.
Within me is this light.
I am the God that dies within me
And the Universal One
The Cosmos
The Universal Logic that will never change
I am here
I am with you.

[Soprano]
Thou art like a diamond
That sparkles in the light,
The dove whose flight
Through the rainbow of peace
Signifies Thy presence.

[Choir]
When this time dissolves
I shall be with you
In the shadow of candle-light
Holding you in sweet memories.

[Bass, spoken]
May I be thought a good and kindly man, and say

I this little creature
I am Thy servant.

This is the day
I enter the sleep of nighttime
In my fear and anguish I am comforted
You are with me, you are from me.

[Bass, sung]
I knew the world
Its clouds, its landscapes
Its peoples and its living things.
Gone is this instant
But you walk before me.

The being that was
Is the being that will be.
As the Earth rotates
Day becomes night
And night becomes day.

In my striving I sought out truth
None told me, but I knew it there.
Many busied themselves with mundane things
Told lies to further their positions.

I told them, raise your eyes
To the stars, to the galaxies.
These were not created by you.
You claim the power of these
Yet you know not this, you seek not this.

Great is the truth to those that seek it.
In all your strivings seek this truth
And may peace be upon the world.
Then in your mercy and kind heart
Will others know you as you know yourself.

[Choir]
Seek not to destroy, for those that sow evil
Reap the cataclysm.
Be brave in your judgement for the good.
Then will the gift of goodness
Be bestowed upon humankind
And those that seek truth will find it.

[Tenor and Soprano] (↓sung)
(↓spoken) What was is no more
What will be is yet to come.

Lend me your solace
Lend me your peace
The tears of rain dry from my face
I speak of my love for you.

The blue sky opens now
I feel the power of your embrace
The pleasure of your smile.
He who flies with the bird
Who lives with every cell
Tell me this love you know

To the generations that seek this truth
Bring to the light of day
Then will the world re(sung)veal
How great is the beauty of creation
How magnificent the essence of being.

[Choir]

Great is the One
Great and noble is his name.
O Eternal One, stay thy wrath
Lead thy people in the ways of justice and peace.

Great is God.
Great and profound is his wisdom.
Those who seek his true face
Are terrified of his power.
Those who are bloated in their self-esteem
Who proclaim man the centre of being
Know not their pitiful ignorance.

Peace and serenity is with you.
Avoid evil and do the good.
Seek wisdom even when you cannot find it.

God is just.
Follow His bidding.
This planet
This Earth
This jewel in the cosmos
He has left in your trust.
Peace and serenity is with you.

[Soprano (spoken), harps lightly in background]
For those that wish, there is a text. Perhaps it may be found in its
littleness, a source of loveliness and joy.

[Soprano exits]

[Text accompanied by silence]

God is not only some being in higher authority. In a sense, so are
you. You think you must bow down to him in observance. Indeed if
you are a Muslim you must. God follows you around every minute

of the day. There is no need to pray to him in excess. He is within you and your soul even if you do not acknowledge it.

God is not some outward instrument of our control. He is our friend. He speaks outward from the world. He inhabits every molecule of your being. At the same time, this intimacy not shown in any display you may ignore as you go about your work. God does not demand that we all go to Great Mosques. Some are more humble and do labour for the benefit of all. He acknowledges you for all this, even as you, it is a duty to Himself. Then love him deeply from inside. All outward display is nothingness compared with this. In deep reverence for the identity of you, you will see your being to encompass the whole world, even to extend beyond it.

Then see this, little thing, as the snail who loves God. He cares for you. Acknowledge this in your being, even in ways you do not understand. God is the love of you and all that exists. Even in your dying you are Him again. Dwell deeply in the thought of this. God is love, was love, will love you now and for Eternity.

[Tenor enters, speaking flatly without much emphasis, no music]

I seek to lie down in peace.

My strivings are too much for me.

O one that surrounds me share your love.

May I follow you, even I

in the derangement of my heart.

[Tenor exits]

[Choir and music in climax]

Great is God.

Great and noble is his name.

God is Great.