

# Vision

In dream I saw an open book  
Whose pages long had lain unread;  
I felt the urge to take a look—  
The bookmark said, 'your daily bread'.

I picked it up with nervous hands  
Maybe fearing what I'd find,  
Little knowing then the bands  
That bound me captive, heart and mind.

With reticence I read at first;  
Could these depicted things be true?  
Creation! Fall! the awful curse!  
So much in here I never knew.

The flood! Babel! then Abraham!  
My mind was boggled by the news  
God gave His written law to man,  
He pledged salvation through the Jews!

Much sacrifice and temple rite,  
Shed blood of bulls and goats and rams,  
From sin and evil no respite  
Till there would come the promised Lamb.

Up to this point I only saw  
Man's failings, flaws and sinfulness,  
While everywhere God's broken law  
Demanded final just redress.

But then He came—Immanuel,  
Of virgin mother, manger-born,  
Came to the land of Israel—  
Almighty God in human form.

He trod the land from east to west,  
Disease and darkness fled His sight,  
He raised the dead, the children blessed,  
Demonic powers put to flight.

I saw Him as He climbed that hill  
Bleeding, battered, crowned with thorns—  
It broke my heart to see them kill  
The Prince of Life—the Saviour scorned.

The emptiness, the sheer despair—  
A shroud of hopelessness descends,  
The evil ruling everywhere—  
We've murdered Him! Where will it end?

Who moved the stone? The tomb is bare!  
No lifeless body to be found;  
The empty garments lying there  
Suggest a mystery profound:

For God has plans that far transcend  
What men or demons can devise—  
Through death the reign of death will end—  
The death of Christ brings Hell's demise.

His resurrection from the dead  
Breaks the curse of Eden's fall;  
Wrath due to us He took instead—  
Oh the wonder of it all!

My dream's now actuality;  
In Jesus Christ I've life and peace,  
Rejoice in faith's reality  
In joy and hope and love's increase.

*Vincent Lyons*