

O Sons and Daughters, Let Us Sing Worksheet

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Verse 1

O sons and daughters, let us sing!
The King of heaven, the glorious King,
Over death today rose triumphing.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Verse 2

That Easter morn, at break of day,
The faithful women went their way
To seek the tomb where Jesus lay.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Verse 3

An angel clad in white they see,
Who sat, and spake unto the three,
“Your Lord doth go to Galilee.”
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Verse 4

That night th’ apostles met in fear;
Amidst them came their Lord most dear,
And said, “My peace be on all here.”
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Verse 5

When Thomas first the tidings heard,
How they had seen the risen Lord,
He doubted the disciples’ word.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Verse 6

“My piercèd side, O Thomas, see;
My hands, My feet, I show to thee;
Not faithless but believing be.”
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Verse 7

No longer Thomas then denied;
He saw the feet, the hands, the side;
“Thou art my Lord and God,” he cried.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Verse 8

How blessed are they who have not seen,
And yet whose faith has constant been;
For they eternal life shall win.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Verse 9

On this most holy day of days
Our hearts and voices, Lord, we raise
To Thee, in jubilee and praise.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Vocabulary In one or two words define the following terms from the poem.

Verse 1: glorious, triumphing, alleluia

Verse 2: faithful, tomb

Verse 3: clad, spake, doth

Verse 4: th’, apostles, amidst

Verse 5: tidings, doubted

Verse 6: piercèd

Verse 7: denied, Thou, art

Verse 8: constant, eternal

Verse 9: holy, Thee, jubilee

Word Pictures Word pictures is another way of saying *imagery*. *Imagery* or *figurative language* helps us form a picture of what the author is trying to present. Discuss what these word pictures mean and, perhaps, without drawing a picture of Christ, draw your idea of the *imagery* or *figurative language* the author uses!

Verse 1: let us sing

Verse 2: faithful women, seek the tomb

Verse 3: angel clad in white

Verse 4: apostles met in fear

Verse 5: Thomas ... doubted the disciples' word

Verse 6: Thomas see

Verse 7: No longer Thomas then denied

Verse 8: faith has constant been

Verse 9: hearts and voices

Mechanics Verbally discuss

Who is the speaker? (Does the speaker have a specific personality or has the author remained in the background so the message of the poem will be more clear?)

What does the poem reveal about the speaker's character? (Sometimes, poems reveal nothing about the speaker's personal thoughts, feelings, or attitudes. Yet, the poem may demonstrate those character traits that are important to the author like courage, loyalty, perserverance, etc.)

Is the speaker addressing someone in particular or is it to anyone? (Sometimes poems are not directed to anyone in particular, but to anyone that may read it.)

Does the poem have a setting? (Does the author tell where the poem occurs? Is the poem about a specific event?)

Is the poem about a particular event? (Is the event past or present? If it is about a past event, does the remembrance of the event have a particular meaning to the speaker?)

Is the theme of the poem stated directly or indirectly? (Some poems are straightforward and are meant to be taken literally. In songs, the theme may be presented in the refrain or in the last few lines. Sometimes the theme is a little bit more difficult to discern as it is made with figurative language or symbols.)

How did you respond to the poem when you read it the first time?

What point of view or perspective is the speaker? (What meaning do you think the poem has for the author?)

How did you respond to the poem when you read it the first time? (Did your thoughts and feelings change after you took time to study it?)

Comprehension Questions Verbally discuss

Verse 1: According to the author, who should sing? Why?

Verse 2: What happened at the break of day? Who went to the tomb? How are they described?

Verse 3: What did they see? How was it dressed? What did the angel say?

Verse 4: Why do you think the author used the term “th”? Who met? How were they feeling? Who came to them? What did He say?

Verse 5: What did the disciples tell Thomas? How did Thomas respond to the news?

Verse 6: Why do you think the author used the terms “piercèd” and “thee”? Why do you think the author opted to accent the second “e” in “piercèd”? What was told to Thomas?

Verse 7: What caused Thomas to believe? What did Thomas see? Why do you think the author opted to use the terms “Thou” and “art”? What do they mean? What did Thomas say?

Verse 8: Who are blessed? Explain and discuss: “whose faith has constant been.”

Verse 9: According to the author, what is “this most holy day of days”? What are raised? For what purpose are they raised?

After reading this poem, what character traits did you think of? What does the Bible have to say about these character traits?

What Does the Bible Say?

Find Scripture proofs for each of the assertions or statements made for each of the nine verses.

Discuss the message of this poem in light of 1 Corinthians 16:13, “Watch ye, stand fast in the faith, quit you like men, be strong.”

Caleb (Num 13:30), Joshua (Josh 1:1-11), Jonathan (1 Sam 14:1,6-14), and Daniel (Dan 6:1-28) all seem to take courage seriously. Courage is doing what is right even though one is afraid. Give other Bible examples of courage. Site historical examples, past and present, of those demonstrating courage.

Continue to discuss this poem in light of ...

Matthew 22:37 " ... Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind."

Luke 10:27 "... Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind."

Deuteronomy 6:5 "And thou shalt love the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might."

Mark 12:30 "And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength ..."

The Author/Poet

Based on what you have studied about this poem so far, would you guess that the author was a Christian or a humanist? How did you arrive at your decision?

The name of the author for this poem or lyric is Jean Tisserand (?-1494). This Franciscan monk died in Paris in 1494. The song was published posthumously in Paris, 1525. The Latin name for the song is:

O filii et filiae, Rex coelestis, Rex gloriae

Geography

Locate Paris, France on a globe, map and atlas.

Challenge Locate Galilee on a map or in an atlas.

Compare/contrast France's weather with your own for one week.

Make a French meal for your family.

Activities

1) Make your own book! Without making an image of Christ, draw pictures representing each verse. (Note: that will be nine different illustrations). With construction paper and other items readily available at home, make a title page with the name of the song and the author's name which will be your book's cover. You may want to illustrate your cover and include this poem in your book.

2) Make your own play! Re-enact with your siblings or friends the message discussed in this poem. Keep it lively, simple, and short. You may want to end your play with singing a rousing chorus of this poem or reading Scripture verses. Videotape your creation.

3) Radio Drama! With a handheld tape recorder, create your own radio show dramatizing the message of this poem.

4) Be a Reporter! Either with your family camcorder or with a handheld tape recorder, "interview" various individuals this poem could illustrate (e.g., family members, the apostles, Joshua/Caleb/Ruth/Esther, the Pilgrims, etc.). In order to have the fast paced style of a reporter, watch and/or listen to the news with your parents' permission. Keep the interviews lively, quick, and to the point.

Remain objective! Being objective means just reporting the facts and not giving your opinion of the situation.

5) What is one of the things you most enjoy? Is it literature? math? science? sports? cooking? Take that area of interest and relate that to this poem. If you enjoy dance, for example, develop a dance routine that physically expresses the sentiments of this poem. If you enjoy shop, create something out of wood that helps to clarify this poem. Do you enjoy creating stories? Write a story based on any time period you desire that expresses the sentiments of this poem. Do you enjoy creating things in the kitchen? Make an ancient meal from this time or develop your own meal that symbolizes the many different points this poem makes.

6) Poster. Create a poster illustrating the the author's view of the impact of *O Sons and Daughters Let Us Sing*.

7) Scavenger Hunt. Go to the library to learn what you can about Jean Tisserand (?-1494) and share it with your family. If possible, discover the story behind this poem.