

The Man on the Middle Cross

Musical By:

JEFFREY SCOTT LEAVITT

Music By:

JEFFREY SCOTT LEAVITT

Lyrics By:

JEFFREY SCOTT LEAVITT

ENTER DATE OF FINAL REVISION

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CAST:

Jesus - 12 years old & Adult

Gadias - 12 years old & Adult

Dathan - 12 years old & Adult

Aila - Gadias' Mother

Temple Teachers

Satan

Homeowner (Voice only)

Bread Vendor

Angel #1 Gatekeeper Angel

Angel #2 Supervisor Angel

Others: Mary, Joseph, Wise Men, Shepherds, Angels,
Roman Soldiers, Roman Citizens, Adult Extras, Children
Extras

TIME:

1st Century

PLACE:

Israel

Birthplace of Jesus, Birthplace of Gadias, Temple Complex, Streets of
Jerusalem, Judean Desert, Mount of Olives, Golgotha

Entrance to Heaven

SCRIPTURE PERMISSION

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Character Profiles

Jesus: God incarnate, sinless and perfect in every way.

Satan: Fallen angel, leader of the other fallen angels. He is intent on destroying God's creation, including humanity.

Aila: Aila makes her first and only appearance in Act 1, Scene 2. She is Gadias' (repentant criminal) mother and has just given birth to him. Aila is experiencing "Baby Blues," a less severe form of post-natal depression. She is concerned about the future of Gadias. She is distressed and uncertain, doubting her ability to help him become a productive member of society.

Gadias: Gadias makes his first appearance (Not as an infant) in Act 1, Scene 4. He is somewhat shy and easily led by his friend Dathan. His timidity and risk-averse nature were at least in part due to Aila's uncertainty. He may half-heartedly question or disagree with Dathan, but Dathan always convinces him to get with Dathan's program.

Dathan: Dathan can be described as a rebel, instigator, manipulator, and self-centered person. Although he does not realize it, Dathan is a human minion of Satan, or "huminion" for short. Whereas Gadias has a disintegrating moral compass, Dathan has no moral compass at all.

Bread Vendor: Jovial and rotund, the balding Bread Vendor is always helpful to whomever visits his cart. He is quickly embarrassed by

compliments, and his desire to please his patrons gets in the way of practical business sense.

Angel #1 Gatekeeper Angel: He is a confident angel, having overseen heaven's entrance for quite some time. Since most of the people coming to the gate know exactly why they are there, he is taken off-guard by the confused Gadias.

Angel #2 Supervisor Angel: He is also a confident angel, and he speaks with great authority.

Musical Numbers

ACT 1

1. His Name Is Jesus.....Ensemble
2. New Baby Blues.....Aila/Satan
3. Who Is That Kid?.....Temple Teachers
4. If I Could Tell the Future... Gadias/Dathan
5. I Dare You.....Dathan and Gadias

ACT 2

6. Are You Really the Son of God?.....Satan
7. It Is Written.....Jesus
8. You're Not a Good God.....Gadias
9. Find Me A Loaf.....Dathan
10. Sin Begins in Your Heart.....Jesus
11. Revenge.....Dathan and Gadias
12. We're Not to Blame.....Gadias & Dathan

ACT 3

13. Save Yourself.....Ensemble
14. Remember Me.....Gadias
15. Tell Me What You're Doing Here....Angel #1
16. The Man on the Middle Cross.....Gadias

ACT ONE

Scene One

Mary, Joseph, the Three Wise Men, Shepherds, cattle, and angels are at the manger after the birth of Jesus.

(The stage is dimly lit blue for nighttime effect. There is a star brightly shining in the sky above the manger, and angels in dazzling robes are across from the star. As the music begins to play, the Wise Men and Shepherds make their way across the stage to the manger where Jesus lies. Mary and Joseph are watching Jesus in the manger. They turn to greet the Wise Men and Shepherds, smiling and motioning to be quiet - "Shhh" fingers to mouth. The Three Wise Men each lay gifts at the foot of the manger. Then they all gather around the manger, and the angels come down to join them.)

(1. His Name Is Jesus.)

ENSEMBLE: ALLELUIA

SHEPHERD: THE WORLD HAS RECEIVED HER PROMISED KING

ENSEMBLE: ALLELUIA

SHEPHERD: LIFT YOUR VOICES, LET THE ANTHEM RING

ENSEMBLE

HIS NAME IS JESUS

BORN TO DO THE FATHER'S WILL

RICH AND POOR MAY FIND THEIR HOPE IN HIM

ENSEMBLE: ALLELUIA

WISE MAN: PROPHETS FORETOLD THIS TIME WOULD COME

ENSEMBLE: ALLELUIA

WISE MAN: HOLY NIGHT IN LITTLE BETHLEHEM

ENSEMBLE

HIS NAME IS JESUS

BORN TO GIVE ABUNDANT LIFE

RICH AND POOR MAY FIND THEIR HOPE IN HIM

SHEPHERD: HE'S CREATOR OF ALL THINGS

WISE MAN: HE'S THE PERFECT PRIEST

SHEPHERD: LAMB OF GOD ASLEEP ON HAY

ENSEMBLE: IMMANUEL THE PRINCE OF PEACE

ENSEMBLE

HIS NAME IS JESUS

BORN TO SEEK AND SAVE THE LOST

RICH AND POOR MAY FIND THEIR HOPE IN HIM

HIS NAME IS JESUS

BORN TO SAVE THE SOULS OF MEN

RICH AND POOR MAY FIND THEIR HOPE IN HIM

ANGEL: RICH AND POOR MAY FIND THEIR HOPE IN HIM

(After the song, the THREE WISE MEN stand up and together with the Shepherds, smile, bow, and nod to Mary and Joseph, then depart.)

(The scene transitions to the dimly lit home of Aila. The small home has one room with few furnishings, and cracked walls and ceiling.)

ACT ONE

Scene Two

Aila is in a run-down room where she has just given birth to Gadias. She ponders her meager existence and what might become of her newborn baby.

AILA

(She is seated with her face in her hands. She appears to have been weeping.)

(As the introduction to the next song plays, AILA stands up and picks up Gadias. She gently rocks him while she walks slowly around the room. SATAN enters the room and stays behind Aila, and AILA is not aware that he is there. SATAN always moves in the same direction as AILA maintaining his position behind her. **2. New Baby Blues**)

AILA AND SATAN

AILA: I AM GRATEFUL FOR THIS BOY
SATAN: MY, HE IS ASTOUNDING
AILA: I SHOULD FEEL MORE JOY
SATAN: EMOTIONS ARE CONFOUNDING
AILA: I'M ALONE WITH MY NEW BABY BLUES

SATAN
DON'T YOU WORRY
I AM HERE

AILA: WHERE WILL I FIND HELP FOR HIM?
SATAN: NO NEED TO LOOK FURTHER
AILA: HE WILL NEED A FRIEND
SATAN: I'M MORE THAN HIS OBSERVER
AILA: I AM WRESTLING WITH NEW BABY BLUES

SATAN
(Now looking at and focused on Gadias for the remainder of the song)
DON'T YOU WORRY
I'M HIS GUIDE

AILA: TERRIFIED, I DON'T FEEL WELL

SATAN: HEALING'S FOUND IN MY PLAN

AILA: I AM OVERWHELMED

SATAN: HIS FUTURE RESTS IN MY HANDS

AILA: I AM SINKING IN NEW BABY BLUES

SATAN

LITTLE BABY

YOU ARE MINE

(During the outro/instrumental, a strobe light begins to flash. Satan is walking slowly behind Aila, periodically peeking over her shoulder or from around the side, glancing at the baby, almost touching him with an outstretched and crooked finger. Aila is still unaware that he is there. When the song stops, lights go out immediately and the scene transitions to the temple.)

ACT ONE

Scene Three

The twelve-year old Jesus is sitting among the teachers at the temple complex, listening to them and asking questions. Dathan and Gadias, also twelve years old, are walking through town on their way to go swimming in the river.

(The stage is lit for daytime effect. There are approximately 10 people in the temple complex in addition to Jesus, the Temple Teachers, Gadias, and Dathan).

DATHAN

Wow! It's hot! (wiping his forehead) I cannot wait to jump into that reee-freshing river.

GADIAS

I'm with ya' on that (as he sees all the people at the temple). What do you think is going on there?

DATHAN

I don't know. But I do know it's not getting any cooler outside, and the river is calling our names.

(He calls the names in a high-pitched voice)

Dathan...Gadias.

(Back to his regular voice)

Come on.

GADIAS

How about we stop for a few minutes to check it out. It will still be light out. And it will still be hot (laughing).

DATHAN

We're supposed to be swimming already. I think that's just a bunch of religious stuff anyway. Blah. Blah. Blah.

GADIAS

I promise. Just a couple of minutes and we'll be on our way to the watery paradise. Please?

DATHAN

(Reluctantly)

Ok. But I'll have to dunk you if this takes too long. One dunk per minute if we go past, say, 2 minutes.

(They both laugh then turn their attention to the people at the temple.)

TEMPLE TEACHER 1

(Clearing his throat, he proclaims loudly and with confidence, just as Temple Teacher 1 had done.)

We must care for all those who worship the Lord our God as we worship. This is the command of God. Revile those who do not and have nothing to do with them.

JESUS

Teacher, I see that you are very wise, full of the knowledge of God.

(All the TEMPLE TEACHERS look at each other, smiling and nodding with self-approval.)

Can you tell me, what is the meaning of these sayings in Proverbs? "If your enemy is hungry, give him food to eat, and if he is thirsty, give him water to drink" and "Do not plan evil against your neighbor, who dwells trustingly beside you."

(The TEMPLE TEACHERS again look at each other, smiles turning to looks of astonishment and raised eyebrows.)

TEMPLE TEACHER 2

(Clearing his throat with a toned-down volume. Looking at Jesus with raised eyebrows momentarily before speaking.)

The teaching for today is concluded. Go in peace.

(All of the people, including JESUS, separate into a loosely formed group opposite the TEMPLE TEACHERS, who have puzzled looks on their faces. DATHAN and

GADIAS are still trying to look inconspicuous.
3. Who Is That Kid?)

TEMPLE TEACHER

WHERE DID THIS BOY COME FROM?
 HE BEATS A DIFFERENT DRUM
 HIS INTERROGATION LEAVES US NUMB
 WHAT IS GOING ON HERE?

WHO IS THAT KID?
 HE HAS SO MUCH MATURITY
 WHO IS THAT KID?
 WE OBSERVED COMPLETE SINCERITY
 YES, WE DID
 (TEMPLE TEACHERS TALKING IN AGREEMENT)

HOW DID HE GET SO WISE?
 THERE'S PASSION IN HIS EYES
 HIS DISCERNMENT IS NO SLICK DISGUISE
 WHY IS HE SO SPECIAL?

WHO IS THAT KID?
 HE SPOKE WITH GREAT DEXTERITY
 WHO IS THAT KID?
 NOT A TRACE OF CRITICALITY
 HE WAS KIND
 (TEMPLE TEACHERS TALKING IN AGREEMENT)

SHOULD WE INVITE HIM TO PLEASE COME BACK
 CONTINUE ON THIS TRACK
 IS THERE MORE WISDOM THAT WE COULD LEARN
 WE WON'T SPEAK OUT OF TURN

WHO IS THAT KID?
 HE'S TWELVE WITH ODD SENIORITY
 WHO IS THAT KID?
 LEARNING IS HIS TOP PRIORITY
 HE'S A WHIZ
 (TEMPLE TEACHERS TALKING IN AGREEMENT)

(As the song ends, MARY AND JOSEPH arrive at the
 temple complex and speak to Jesus.)

DATHAN

(Anxiously wanting to go swimming))

Satisfied? You see the sweat dripping down my face, don't you?
Let's go.

GADIAS

Wait. Wait. What did you think? Especially that boy... what was his name again? (pause) Oh yeah, Jesus. Those questions. Like he had practiced ahead of time or something. Or like he was born to do this kind of thing.

DATHAN

(Running out of patience)
You're really starting to irritate me! The boy! The questions! The (pause) river! Have you forgotten about the river? You can stay here and ponder the meaning of life. I'm outta' here!

(DATHAN gets up and starts walking away.)

GADIAS

Okay. Okay. I'm sorry. Wait up!

(GADIAS runs and catches up to Dathan.)

DATHAN

(Pleased and with anticipation, DATHAN rubs his hands together.)
All right then, good buddy. Ready to swim like the fishes?
(DATHAN puckers his lips and moves his arms in a swimming motion.)

GADIAS

(Breathing heavily)
Hey Dathan, you ever thought about...

(DATHAN interrupts abruptly and with frustration.)

DATHAN

Not again! Look, one last question then you have to be quiet for the rest of the day. That's it. My final offer before really bad things start to happen.

GADIAS

Uh, ok. I accept your offer. Yeah, that boy...

(DATHAN interrupts under his breath)

DATHAN

Oh, here we go again...

(GADIAS continues)

GADIAS

...seemed to be doing something very special with his life. What kid goes to the temple to talk to those guys?? Look at us.

(GADIAS and DATHAN look at each other.)

You ever thought about what you want to do when you get older?

DATHAN

(Disinterested and sarcastic.)

Nope-a. Nope-a. Nope-a. The here and now. That's all that matters.

(GADIAS whimsically turns to Dathan.) **4. If I Could Tell the Future)**

GADIAS

IF I COULD TELL THE FUTURE
SUCH A GIFT WOULD MEAN SUCCESS
IF I COULD TELL THE FUTURE
MY LIFE WOULD BE DEEPLY BLESSED

OWNING MANY VAST ESTATES
WITH MASSIVE WALLS AND GOLDEN ENTRY GATES
ALL THE PEOPLE WOULD SAY, "HE IS GREAT"

IF I COULD TELL THE FUTURE
MY FAME WOULD FILL ALL THE LAND
IF I COULD TELL THE FUTURE
EVERYONE WOULD SHAKE MY HAND

(GADIAS grabs DATHAN' hand and shakes it, but DATHAN keeps his arm limp. They both laugh.)

CHOSEN AS HEAD TEMPLE PRIEST
LEADING THE SPECIAL GROUP CALLED SADDUCEES
ALL THE PEOPLE WOULD HEED MY DECREES

IF I COULD TELL THE FUTURE
MAYBE I'D BE JUST LIKE HIM

(smiling and pointing back to the temple with his thumb)

IF I COULD TELL THE FUTURE

DATHAN: CHANCE OF THAT IS LESS THAN SLIM

(smiling and giving GADIAS a little shove)

GADIAS: IF I COULD TELL THE FUTURE

DATHAN: BUT YOU CAN'T TELL THE FUTURE (pointing at Gadius)

DATHAN

Unless you're going to tell me that swimming is in our future!
Let's go.

(GADIAS and DATHAN head off to the river.)

ACT ONE

Scene Four

Gadias and Dathan are on the street where there are houses on each side. Their hair is still wet from swimming. No one else is on the street.

(DATHAN is kicking small rocks, picking them up, tossing them into the air, and catching them.)

DATHAN

Hey Mr. Fortuneteller, let's play "Knock-em-out." It's easy and fun. Take this rock (pause) and throw it at that house (pointing to a house on the block).

GADIAS

Huh? But at the temple they were talking about being good to people and stuff like that. Remember?

(DATHAN' back is turned toward Gadias. He turns facing Gadias, smirks, and holds out a rock for Gadias to take, but GADIAS keeps moving away throughout the song, until the end. **5. I Dare You**)

DATHAN: I D - D - D - D DARE YOU

GADIAS: HEY ARE YOU NUTS?

DATHAN: I D - D DOUBLE DARE YOU

GADIAS: YEAH, I'M NO PUTZ

DATHAN: WE'RE GETTING OLD TICK-TOCK TICK-TOCK

DATHAN: YOUR FIRM RESISTANCE IS A BIG ROAD BLOCK

GADIAS: PLAIN AND SIMPLE I'M NOT GONNA' THROW THE ROCK

DATHAN: I D - D - D - D DARE YOU

GADIAS: THIS DON'T SEEM RIGHT

DATHAN: I D - D DOUBLE DARE YOU

GADIAS: WE SHOULDN'T FIGHT

DATHAN: I'VE HAD ENOUGH OF THIS SMALL TALK

DATHAN: THE STONE IS READY BUT WE'RE IN GRIDLOCK

GADIAS: DO YOU PROMISE THAT WE REALLY WON'T GET CAUGHT

DATHAN: ARE YOU AFRAID?

GADIAS: I AM NOT AFRAID

DATHAN: SEEMS LIKE YOU ARE

GADIAS: NO SIR, I AM NOT

DATHAN: YOU'RE FIRST UP FOR THE START OF THE SHOW

GADIAS: LET'S GO! LET'S GO! LET'S GO! LET'S GO!

DATHAN: LET'S GO! LET'S GO! LET'S GO!

DATHAN: I D - D - D - D DARE YOU

GADIAS: THIS WILL BE FUN

DATHAN: I D - D DOUBLE DARE YOU

GADIAS: WE'RE ONE AND DONE

DATHAN: I D - D - D - D DARE YOU

GADIAS: I WILL THROW THE ROCK

DATHAN: I D - D - D - D DARE YOU

GADIAS: I WILL THROW THE ROCK

DATHAN: I D - D - D - D DARE YOU

GADIAS: I WILL THROW THE ROCK

(GADIAS takes the rock during his last line and throws it at a nearby building exactly when they sing the last word of the song, "rock." A loud bang is heard from the rock hitting the building.)

DATHAN: I D - D - D - D DARE YOU - THROW THE ROCK

GADIAS: I WILL ---THROW THE ROCK

(GADIAS throws the rock and it hits one of the buildings).

DATHAN

Direct hit! I knew you could do it!

HOMEOWNER

(Audibly only - The Homeowner is not visible. Yelling loudly.)

Hey! I know who all three of you are!

(GADIAS and DATHAN run away down the street, laughing, jumping, and congratulating each other.)

(Satan's motif plays.)

SATAN

(As Gadias and Dathan disappear out of sight, the voice of Satan is heard - quiet, sinister, breathy and pleased.)

Well done, Dathan. Soon Gadias will be on our side.

(Lights down.)

ACT TWO

Scene One

Jesus, now an adult, is in a desolate area of the wilderness during the day, being tempted by Satan. Dathan and Gadias, also adults, stumble upon Satan and Jesus encounter.

(DATHAN and GADIAS are walking through the area on a path to town.)

GADIAS

Remind me again, why are we going into town?

DATHAN

I want to find out what's going on with the rebellion. You know, the Zealots. I've heard that they're gaining traction, and they need more help. There's a guy named Barabbas and he's the leader. We need to find him and make a good impression.

GADIAS

I don't like being under Roman rule, but I'm not sure that I'm ready to join them. It's dangerous.

DATHAN

Are you kidding me? Living under Roman rule is dangerous. Where are your loyalties anyway?

GADIAS

Is it really that (emphasizing "that") bad? I mean, we're not rich or anything, but we're alive.

DATHAN

Do you remember the guy in our neighborhood named Ezra? Do you know what he's doing now?

GADIAS

Um, no.

DATHAN

That's the point! I don't either! He rubbed the Romans the wrong way and poof! He's gone. Never to be seen again. Could be you or me or anyone next. Now that's dangerous.

GADIAS and DATHAN see Satan and Jesus, and quickly hide behind some boulders to watch.)

GADIAS

(Quietly)

Whoa, this looks weird. What are these guys doing out here? Is that Jesus? The other guy looks pretty creepy. Let's get a closer look.

(GADIAS and DATHAN move a little closer and knock a loose rock down which makes noise. They duck down as SATAN briefly scans the area where the falling rock was heard, but then returns his attention to Jesus.)

DATHAN

(Quietly)

Creepy? I find him, well, engaging. Shhh...Listen...

SATAN

(Off to one side Satan appears and walks up to Jesus, who is physically exhausted and slumped over, kneeling.)

Well, Jesus, here we are. Just You and me, all alone. Let's get to know each other a little better, shall we? **(6. Are You Really the Son of God?)**

(Satan walks around Jesus very confidently and mockingly.)

ARE YOU REALLY THE SON OF GOD?
RUMORS FLOURISH BUT ARE YOU A FRAUD?
TURN THESE STONES INTO TASTY BREAD
THEN YOU AND I CAN FEAST AND BE FED

ARE YOU REALLY THE SON OF GOD?
HUCKSTERS CUNNINGLY WEAR A FACADE
THROW YOURSELF OFF THE TEMPLE ROOF
(Satan points to the temple)
ANGELS WILL CATCH YOU, THERE IS THE PROOF

CAN YOU SHOW ME THE TRICKS THAT YOU'VE GOT?
I THOUGHT YOU COULD, BUT MAYBE NOT
RIGHT HERE RIGHT NOW DO ONE ON THE SPOT
NO, YOU CAN'T - THAT'S WHAT I THOUGHT

ARE YOU REALLY THE SON OF GOD?
WIN THIS CHALLENGE AND I WILL APPLAUD
IF YOU BOW KINGDOMS WILL BE YOURS
(Satan holds his arm out and moves it in a sweeping
motion.)
YOU WORSHIP ME, YOUR THRONE IS SECURED

JESUS

7. It Is Written.

(From a prone position on the ground.)

IT IS WRITTEN
SEEN BY ALL MEN
YOU SHALL NOT LIVE BY BREAD ALONE
BUT BY EACH WORD THAT COMES FROM THE MOUTH OF GOD

(JESUS struggles to stand. SATAN looks confident.)

IT IS WRITTEN
STRAIGHT FROM GOD'S PEN
YOU SHALL NOT TEST THE LORD YOUR GOD
DO NOT PROVOKE THE LORD FOR ONE MIRACLE

(JESUS moves slowly toward SATAN. SATAN is unsure of
what might happen and backs up slightly.)

SWORD OF THE SPIRIT
PERFECT, RIGHT, AND PURE
AGELESS AND ETERNAL
SCRIPTURE PREVAILS

(JESUS gains strength and exhibits His power and
authority moving closer to SATAN. SATAN begins to
cower.)

IT IS WRITTEN
ALWAYS AMEN
YOU SHALL WORSHIP THE LORD YOUR GOD
GIVE HIM THE HIGHEST PRAISE AND SERVE HIM ALONE

(JESUS slowly moves back to His original starting point. SATAN looks pleased.)

IT IS WRITTEN
I SAY AGAIN
YOU SHALL WORSHIP THE LORD YOUR GOD
HE IS THE ONE AND ONLY SOVEREIGN GOD

(JESUS goes back to His kneeling position as angels arrive to attend to Him. Satan walks off the stage, looking back at the location where GADIAS and DATHAN were observing.)

(As the angels are arriving, DATHAN and GADIAS cautiously back out of the place behind the boulders and make their way onto the path to town.)

DATHAN

Waaaaaay too much God-talk for me. Scripture? Worship? It's all just gibberish. My friend, "God," if there is one is not going to help us survive. That's obvious.

(DATHAN scans the area and sees Roman soldiers manhandling two Jewish citizens in the distance. He points to where the brutality is occurring.)

Where is God, Gadias? Where is He? Nowhere. And I've seen worse than that.

GADIAS

I have, too. So, why is all this happening to our people? God's chosen people? Chosen for what? God wants our worship, yet He leaves the boot of Rome squarely on our neck.

DATHAN

Something has to be done, and we may need to do it. We're not going to get help from anyone. Especially not some imaginary god.

(GADIAS briefly looks toward the sky. **8. You're Not a Good God**)

GOD ARE YOU VAGUELY AWARE?

I'M NOT SURE YOU EVEN CARE
LOTS OF POVERTY AND DESPAIR
YOU'RE NOT A GOOD GOD

I AM STUNNED BY WHAT I SEE
ANGER GROWS INSIDE OF ME
ROMAN RULE IS THE ENEMY
YOU'RE NOT A GOOD GOD

IN A TRANCE, HYPNOTIZED
TIMID OR OUT OF TOUCH
COULD BE YOU ARE DISORGANIZED
MAYBE THE JOB'S TOO MUCH
PERHAPS YOU'VE RUN OUT OF LUCK LUCK

(During the instrumental, GADIAS and DATHAN continue to look in the distance, still watching the manhandling of the Jewish citizens. GADIAS and DATHAN begin to look frustrated and angrier.)

ALL I HEAR IS MY VOICE
AM I TALKING TO ME
NOT A PEEP OR A LITTLE NOISE
THE SILENCE IS EXTREME
THIS COULD BE A BAD DREAM

I AM SURE YOU DON'T EXIST
YOU WON'T SEE ME SHAKE MY FIST
I'M FAREWELLING WITHOUT A KISS
YOU'RE NOT A GOOD GOD
YOU'RE NOT A GOOD GOD
YOU'RE NOT A GOOD GOD

(DATHAN and GADIAS leave the area and make their way into town.)

ACT TWO

Scene Two

Gadias and Dathan are in the marketplace near a vendor selling bread. There are other vendors there as well.

(GADIAS AND DATHAN are wandering around the market from vendor to vendor.)

DATHAN

We need to get some money. Hey, how's your mom, anyway?

GADIAS

She's not doing so well. Sometimes she'll go for a day or two without eating. Me, too. It's tough. I wish I could help her somehow.

DATHAN

She could use some money, too, yes? There's plenty of money all around the market. We just need to tap into these vast resources.

GADIAS

What? Take it? I...I don't know.

DATHAN

Look, it's for the greater good. Our greater good. And your mom's. "Gawd" (mockingly) sent manna from heaven, so this is our money-manna from the market. Besides, more money means more supplies for the rebellion, and this will prove our loyalty to them, to Barabbas. And have you already forgotten the beatings we've seen? The unfair treatment? We need to do this even if they don't let us join.

GADIAS

You're right. We need to help.

DATHAN

Good. Now just follow my lead.

(GADIAS complies and they inspect the loaves of bread as they walk around a Bread Vendor's table. They are trying to look inconspicuous.

(The BREAD VENDOR is arranging things on the table.

9. Find Me A Loaf)

DATHAN, WITH EXTRAS

(Addressing the Bread Vendor, insincerely)

I AM JUST A GUY
HUNGRY AND ALONE
SEARCHING FOR SOME SCRAPS, PERHAPS
YOUR KINDNESS COULD BE SHOWN

(Addressing the Audience, slyly with a smirk)

BUT EVEN IF HE WON'T
I'LL CONSIDER IT A PERMANENT LOAN

(Addressing the Bread Vendor.)

HEY THERE MISTER, CAN YOU FIND ME A LOAF?
(PEOPLE IN MARKET: "FIND HIM A LOAF")
WHATCHA' THINK GOES GOOD WITH GOAT
MAYBE STEEL-CUT OATS

HEY THERE MISTER, CAN YOU FIND ME A LOAF?
(PEOPLE IN MARKET: "FIND HIM A LOAF")
THERE'S TWO, COULD I PLEASE HAVE BOTH
MORE WILL BOOST MY GROWTH

YOU'RE AT THE TOP OF YOUR GAME
YOU REALLY KNOW YOUR STUFF
I DIDN'T CATCH YOUR NAME

(Instrumental Verse - During the instrumental, Dathan appears to continue asking questions of the bread vendor and pointing to bread on the cart)

YOU ARE CHIC AND DEBONAIR
A LADY'S MAN I SEE
THEY CRANE THEIR NECKS TO STARE

HEY THERE MISTER, CAN YOU FIND ME A LOAF?
(PEOPLE IN MARKET: "FIND HIM A LOAF")

LOOKS LIKE YOU'VE GOT ONE THAT'S BROKE

(SPOKEN)

"OVER THERE, SEE, NOT A JOKE"

(The BREAD VENDOR moves from side to side, straining to see where DATHAN is pointing, while GADIAS takes the money bag from under the cart. GADIAS pauses and looks at a loaf of bread and takes it, too. He tucks the bag and the bread under his shirt.)

(End Verse - Scat vocal: DATHAN shrugs his shoulders with a smirk, pats the BREAD VENDOR on the back, joins Gadius, and they begin to walk away nonchalantly from the BREAD VENDOR cart towards the exit to the market.)

(The BREAD VENDOR sees the spot on the table where a loaf of bread used to be. He also sees that his money bag is gone from a lower shelf on the cart. Flustered, he sees where Gadius and Dathan are exiting the market.)

BREAD VENDOR

(Agitated and urgently)

Hey! Stop! Come back here!

(DATHAN and GADIAS start to run. Gadius stops, turns, and throws the loaf of bread at the Bread Vendor. But it's too high for the Bread Vendor to catch, and he stumbles over his cart. GADIAS and DATHAN continue running as they exit the market while PEOPLE tend to the Bread Vendor.)

(Satan's motif plays.)

SATAN

(Pleased)

(Voice only) Ah, Gadius. We're almost there. Fine work, Dathan.

(Lights down.)

ACT TWO

Scene Three

Jesus is on the Mount of Olives delivering the Sermon on the Mount. Dathan and Gadias are in the crowd.

JESUS

(JESUS is sitting on a rock with a crowd of people, who are also seated, surrounding Him and listening intently.)

Don't think that I came to abolish the Law or the Prophets. I did not come to abolish but to fulfill. For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not the smallest letter or one stroke of a letter will pass away from the law until all things are accomplished. Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commands and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven. But whoever does and teaches these commands will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I tell you, unless your righteousness surpasses that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never get into the kingdom of heaven.

(The crowd of people look at each other in amazement as JESUS stands up. **10. Sin Begins in Your Heart.**)

YOU HAVE HEARD IT SAID
DO NOT COMMIT ADULTERY
BUT I SAY LUST IS JUST AS BAD
SIN BEGINS IN YOUR HEART

YOU HAVE HEARD IT SAID
FOREVER SWEAR VOWS TO THE LORD
BUT I SAY TELL THE TRUTH INSTEAD
SIN BEGINS IN YOUR HEART

RESIST TEMPTATION WITH PURITY
CONDUCT ALL THINGS WITH HONESTY
ADORN YOURSELF WITH HOLINESS
WALK THE PATH OF RIGHTEOUSNESS

(Instrumental Verse: During the instrumental verse, JESUS walks through the crowd smiling and touching people, and they touch His robe. JESUS makes his way over to Gadias and Dathan, with a look of loving disappointment on his face. As JESUS moves away to sit back down on the rock, DATHAN and GADIAS look at each other in amazement.)

PROTECT YOURSELF WITH GOD'S PERFECT POWER
HIS WORD IS STRONG, A MIGHTY TOWER
ATTACKS MAY COME TO NO AVAIL
TRUST THE ONE WHO NEVER FAILS

YOU HAVE HEARD IT SAID
A MURDER WILL BE HARSHLY JUDGED
BUT I SAY HATE IS LIKE BLOODSHED
SIN BEGINS IN YOUR HEART
SIN BEGINS IN YOUR HEART
SIN BEGINS IN YOUR HEART

(Jesus is talking to some of the people while GADIAS and DATHAN listen close by. As the crowd begins to disperse, a MAN urgently runs up to Gadias.)

MAN

Gadias, it's your mother. She's, (he slows his speech and lowers his voice) she's dead.

GADIAS

(In disbelief) What? (He pauses as he begins to hang his head. He looks up at the man again.) (Animated) When? How?

MAN

The Romans heard about some stolen money, and they went searching house to house for it, just this morning. There was an altercation, and they killed your mother.

GADIAS

(Incredulously) That's crazy talk. What's wrong with you! I just saw her yesterday!

MAN

(Retorting firmly) I can only tell you what I saw. Some Roman soldiers entered your house and there was a lot of yelling. I

heard your mother scream, "No! No!" Then I saw them carry her lifeless body into the street.

(Gadias collapses to his knees, wailing. He slowly gets up.)

GADIAS

(Softly with a cracking voice) Is this my fault? Did I cause this? Dathan! What have we done? The money. We took the money!

DATHAN

(DATHAN grabs Gadias and shakes him.)
Gadias! Get a hold of yourself! What's done is done. You didn't kill your mother. The Romans killed her. (Quietly) The poor woman.

GADIAS

(GADIAS has a glazed look and a blank stare.)
(Quietly, looking away from Dathan) I hate the Romans.
(Louder, turning toward Dathan) I hate the Romans.
(Louder still, turning toward Dathan) I hate the Romans!
(Screaming, looking directly at Dathan) I hate the Romans!

DATHAN

(DATHAN looks back at Gadias.)

(11. Revenge.)

DATHAN

THEY HAVE TAKEN ALL THAT'S DEAR FROM YOU
RIPPED YOUR HEART OUT CUTTING THROUGH AND THROUGH
SHE CRIES FROM THE GRAVE
WHAT'S YOUR NEXT MOVE?

GADIAS

THERE IS ONE CHOICE
HEAR HER VOICE
GET REVENGE, OH, OH

DATHAN

ARE YOU CERTAIN OF THE PATH YOU'RE ON
REACH THE END, THE DEED CAN'T BE WITHDRAWN
THERE'S NO TURNING BACK
YESTERDAY'S GONE

GADIAS

I WON'T FORGET
I AM SET
ON REVENGE, OH, OH
MY PLOT WON'T FAIL
CAN'T DERAILED
SWEET REVENGE, OH OH

DATHAN

I AM BEHIND YOU
LET ME REMIND YOU
WE ARE ALIGNED, TOO
I FEEL YOU'RE PAIN, MAN
WE'LL MAKE A GAME PLAN
ONE THING REMAINS AND
JUSTICE WILL PREVAIL

DATHAN AND GADIAS

STRIKE HARD AND SURE
NO DETOUR
FROM REVENGE, OH, OH
NOW IS THE TIME
WE ARE PRIMED
FOR REVENGE, OH, OH

GADIAS

(With determination) My blood is boiling, Dathan, but how do we make this happen? How?

DATHAN

I don't have all the answers, but the Zealots, yes, the Zealots are very good at what they do. Let's head to town and find Barabbas. He'll be furious. He'll know what to do.

GADIAS

What if he, they won't help us?

DATHAN

Trust me. When they hear about an innocent Jewish woman being murdered in her own home, they will give us all the help we need.

(Satan's motif plays as GADIAS and DATHAN leave the area.)

SATAN

(Pridefully.)
Gadiaz my son. Welcome to the family.

(Lights down.)

ACT TWO

Scene Four

Dathan and Gadias are on a path back to town. Boulders and vegetation are on both sides of the path.

DATHAN

An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth. The Lord says vengeance is yours. And the Lord provides. See, here come a couple of Romans - quick, get behind these rocks.

(Two Roman citizens are walking down the path toward Gadias and Dathan)

(DATHAN and GADIAS climb behind a boulder with a clear view of the path.)

GADIAS

(Still distraught and angry)
These people? Roman soldiers killed my mother, not these people.

DATHAN

Don't you get it? They are all part of the problem! They might as well have killed her. Do they help us?! No! Do they speak up for us?! No! They live their happy lives without a thought for our people! Yes!

GADIAS

(Once again burning with anger)
You're right. They don't help us. They never have.

(The two ROMAN CITIZENS pass by the boulders where Dathan and Gadias are hiding.)

(Unaware that Gadias and Dathan are there, the two ROMAN CITIZENS walk right by the concealed position.)

(DATHAN and GADIAS leap out and tackle the Roman Citizens, all disappearing behind the boulders.)

(There is a struggle and several loud thumps are heard. Then there is silence and several seconds go by. DATHAN AND GADIAS slowly emerge, bloody, and breathing hard. The bodies of the Roman citizens are not fully concealed.)

(As they take a deep breath, five ROMAN SOLDIERS appear from the same direction as the Roman Citizens.)

(DATHAN and GADIAS are surprised by the presence of the Roman Soldiers. The ROMAN SOLDIERS grab Dathan and Gadias with great force, and one ROMAN SOLDIER speaks loudly and with authority.)

ROMAN SOLDIER #1

What is this! (Pointing to the boulders, then looking back at Gadias and Dathan.)

(ROMAN SOLDIER #2 disappears behind the boulders to check.)

(The remaining ROMAN SOLDIERS manhandle Gadias and Dathan. Then ROMAN SOLDIER #2 returns.)

ROMAN SOLDIER #2

It's two of our citizens. They are both dead.

ROMAN SOLDIER #1

Shackle them!

(The ROMAN SOLDIERS push GADIAS and DATHAN to face the audience. GADIAS and DATHAN address ROMAN SOLDIER #1 during the song, while periodic scuffling ensues.
12. We're Not to Blame.)

DATHAN

YOU HAVE WRONGLY ACCUSED
THAT'S OUR ONLY EXCUSE
YOU SHOULD PUT ON THE BRAKES

PAL YOU'VE MADE A MISTAKE

DATHAN AND GADIAS

(Dathan is lead vocal, Gadias is harmony.)

WE'RE NOT TO BLAME
WE'RE NOT TO BLAME
WHY WON'T YOU LISTEN?
WE MUST HAVE BEEN FRAMED
THIS IS OUR CLAIM
WE'RE NOT TO BLAME

DATHAN

AFTER RENDERING AID
ALL HOPE STARTED TO FADE
OUR ATTEMPTS WERE IN VAIN
THEY WERE ALREADY SLAIN

DATHAN AND GADIAS

(Dathan is lead vocal, Gadias is harmony.)

WE'RE NOT TO BLAME
WE'RE NOT TO BLAME
YOU MUST NOT LIKE US
YOU WANT TO DEFAME
THIS IS A SHAME
WE'RE NOT TO BLAME

DATHAN: THE REAL KILLERS ARE GETTING AWAY NOW

GADIAS: ARE YOU BLIND, LOOK AT US, WE'RE PUNY AND FRAIL

DATHAN: I THINK YOU'RE HAVING A REALLY BAD DAY, WOW

GADIAS: LET'S CALL IT EVEN, DON'T TAKE US TO YOUR JAIL

DATHAN AND GADIAS

(Dathan is lead vocal, Gadias is harmony.)

WE'RE NOT TO BLAME
WE'RE NOT TO BLAME
DON'T YOU BELIEVE US
THE TRUTH IS OUR AIM
WHAT IS YOUR GAME
WE'RE NOT TO BLAME

WE'RE NOT TO BLAME
WE'RE NOT TO BLAME

CAN'T YOU RELEASE US
WE DON'T KNOW YOUR NAMES
WE ARE NOT LAME
WE'RE NOT TO BLAME

DATHAN

(GADIAS drops out and is looking at DATHAN in a way that seems to show remorse. DATHAN pokes at GADIAS and gives him a "come on" look. GADIAS joins back in on "We must have been framed.")

WE'RE NOT TO BLAME
WE'RE NOT TO BLAME
WHY WON'T YOU LISTEN?
WE MUST HAVE BEEN FRAMED
THIS IS OUR CLAIM
WE'RE NOT TO BLAME

ROMAN SOLDIER #1

Liars! Scum! You will pay for this with your lives!

(Satan's motif plays.)

SATAN

(Voice only - Sneering) Checkmate. I win.

(Lights down as the ROMAN SOLDIERS take Dathan and Gadias off stage.)

ACT THREE

Scene One

Jesus is on the middle cross (with "This Is The King Of The Jews" inscription), Gadias is on the cross to the left of Jesus, and Dathan is on the cross to the right of Jesus. Other people are milling around the middle cross, while yet others come and go. There are Roman Soldiers, Temple Teachers, Jewish citizens, and Roman citizens. Satan is also in the crowd, motionless between the crosses of Gadias and Jesus.

For additional information on the scene, see Matthew 27:38-44, Mark 15:27-32, Luke 23:32-43.

(The scene opens in daylight and the crowd shouts mockingly at Jesus, along with Dathan and Gadias. The mocking continues throughout the song intro. **13. Save Yourself**)

CHIEF PRIEST

LONG AGO OUR FATHERS REBUILT THE SANCTUARY TO COVER
BLOODGUILT
FORTY SIX YEARS WAS A VERY LONG TIME BUT WE NEEDED A PLACE
TO FORGIVE ALL CRIME
DESTROY THE TEMPLE AND I'LL MAKE ONE NEW
"I NEED THREE DAYS" WAS THE LIE YOU SPEWED
FIRST THINGS FIRST WE CAN ALL AGREE
REMOVE YOURSELF FROM THAT WOODEN TREE

ALL

CRY OUT TO GOD, HE'LL RESCUE YOU

[**CHIEF PRIEST SPOKEN: SON OF GOD**] [**ALL: SON OF GOD**]
[**CHIEF PRIEST SPOKEN: SAVE YOURSELF**] [**ALL: SAVE YOURSELF**]
[**CHIEF PRIEST SPOKEN: SAVE YOURSELF**] [**ALL: SAVE YOURSELF**]
[**CHIEF PRIEST SPOKEN: SON OF GOD**] [**ALL: SON OF GOD**]

ROMAN SOLDIER

YOU SURE DON'T LOOK LIKE THE CHOSEN ONE, MESSIAH, KING,
 YOUR REIGN IS UNDONE
 YOU SHOULD BE RIDING ON A ROYAL HORSE BUT YOU'RE UP THERE,
 SO YOU CAN'T OF COURSE
 THE SIGN WE WROTE SAYS KING OF THE JEWS
 WELL JESUS, I HAVE SOME REALLY BAD NEWS
 YOU'RE BEATEN BROKE AND AT DEATHS' DOOR
 THE JOKE'S ON YOU, HEAR THE LAUGHTER'S ROAR

ALL

GIVE US A REASON TO BELIEVE

[**CHIEF PRIEST SPOKEN:** *CLIMB ON DOWN*] [**ALL:** CLIMB ON DOWN]

[**CHIEF PRIEST SPOKEN:** *FROM THE CROSS*] [**ALL:** FROM THE
 CROSS]

[**CHIEF PRIEST SPOKEN:** *FROM THE CROSS*] [**ALL:** FROM THE
 CROSS]

[**CHIEF PRIEST SPOKEN:** *CLIMB ON DOWN*] [**ALL:** CLIMB ON DOWN]

(The entire crowd, including Dathan and Gadias,
 becomes silent. There are two spotlights, one on
 Jesus and one on Gadias. While JESUS sings the
 bridge, GADIAS is looking at Jesus in amazement and
 with sorrow.)

JESUS

FATHER FORGIVE THEM
 THEY DON'T KNOW WHAT THEY'RE DOING
 HAVE MERCY ON THEIR SOULS
 (Spotlight comes off Jesus and the crowd becomes vocal
 again.)

ROMAN SOLDIERS

(REPEAT "SAVE YOURSELF, SAVE YOURSELF" DURING EACH LINE OF
 THE CHORUS)

[**CHIEF PRIEST SPOKEN:** *IS IT TRUE*] [**ALL:** IS IT TRUE]

[**CHIEF PRIEST SPOKEN:** *WHAT YOU SAY*] [**ALL:** WHAT YOU SAY]

[**CHIEF PRIEST SPOKEN:** *WHAT YOU SAY*] [**ALL:** WHAT YOU SAY]

[**CHIEF PRIEST SPOKEN:** *IS IT TRUE*] [**ALL:** IS IT TRUE]

[**CHIEF PRIEST SPOKEN:** *CLIMB ON DOWN*] [**ALL:** CLIMB ON DOWN]

[**CHIEF PRIEST SPOKEN:** *FROM THE CROSS*] [**ALL:** FROM THE
 CROSS]

[**CHIEF PRIEST** SPOKEN: FROM THE CROSS] [**ALL:** FROM THE CROSS]

[**CHIEF PRIEST** SPOKEN: CLIMB ON DOWN] [**ALL:** CLIMB ON DOWN]

[**CHIEF PRIEST** SPOKEN: SON OF GOD] [**ALL:** SON OF GOD]

[**CHIEF PRIEST** SPOKEN: SAVE YOURSELF] [**ALL:** SAVE YOURSELF]

[**CHIEF PRIEST** SPOKEN: SAVE YOURSELF] [**ALL:** SAVE YOURSELF]

[**CHIEF PRIEST** SPOKEN: SON OF GOD] [**ALL:** SON OF GOD]

DATHAN

(Loudly and mockingly.)

Prove that You are the Messiah! (Hideous, cackling laugh.) Save Yourself and save us! You said...

(GADIAS interrupts with a shout.)

GADIAS

Dathan!

(Softly, looking at Dathan.)

Listen to me. This man, Jesus, has done nothing wrong, but we are justly punished for our crime.

(Softly and with repentance in his voice, looking at Jesus.)

Jesus...

(GADIAS bows his head briefly.)

14. Remember Me.)

I WOULD LIKE TO ERASE
MY LONG RECORD OF WRONGS
I DON'T DESERVE ANY GRACE
HELL IS THE PLACE I BELONG

SON OF GOD IS PROFANED
VILE TAUNTS DARKEN MY SOUL
NO LONGER FILLED WITH DISDAIN
JESUS, I GIVE YOU CONTROL

REMEMBER ME, OH LORD
WHEN YOU COME INTO YOUR KINGDOM
YOU HOLD THE KEY
FAST IN YOUR HAND
REMEMBER ME

YOUR LOVE SHINES LIKE THE SUN
KINDNESS VAST AS THE SEA
SALVATION BID TO EACH ONE
EVEN A KILLER LIKE ME

REMEMBER ME, OH LORD
WHEN YOU COME INTO YOUR KINGDOM
BY YOUR DECREE
YOUR WORDS GIVE LIFE
REMEMBER ME

YOU CAN FORGIVE THE WORST OF MANKIND
LIKE THOSE SURROUNDING YOU HERE
I WAS YOUR ENEMY FROM MY FIRST BREATH
BUT NOW YOU'RE MY HOPE AND MY REDEEMER

REMEMBER ME, OH LORD
WHEN YOU COME INTO YOUR KINGDOM
SET MY SOUL FREE
BREAK ALL THESE CHAINS
REMEMBER ME

REMEMBER ME, OH LORD
WHEN YOU COME INTO YOUR KINGDOM
MY FINAL PLEA
AS MY LIFE ENDS
REMEMBER ME

JESUS

(Struggling to speak and looking at Gadias.)
Gadias, today you will be with Me in paradise.

(Silence falls over the crowd and the set becomes
dark, dimly lit. JESUS looks heavenward.)

It is finished.

(JESUS' slumps on the cross and there is a massive
rumble from an earthquake. Satan falls to his knees
and crawls off the stage as the Lights down.)

ACT THREE

Scene Two

Gadias is at the gates of heaven, not really knowing how he got there. He and the Gatekeeper Angel are discussing the situation.

(The scene is moderately lit with a mist/fog covering the ground. This is the description of the entry to heaven, from Revelation 21:12-13: *The city had a massive high wall, with twelve gates. Twelve angels were at the gates; the names of the twelve tribes of Israel's sons were inscribed on the gates. There were three gates on the east, three gates on the north, three gates on the south, and three gates on the west* and Revelation 21:21 *The twelve gates are twelve pearls; each individual gate was made of a single pearl.*)

GATEKEEPER ANGEL

(Curiously.)
Greetings! May I help you?

GADIAS

(Unsure.)
Well, maybe. I don't know.

GATEKEEPER ANGEL

People don't just show up at heaven for no reason. How did you get here?

GADIAS

I don't know.

GATEKEEPER ANGEL

Hmmm. Let's try this...What is your name?

GADIAS

I think it's, um, Gadias. Yeah, that's it. Sorry, my brain's a little foggy.

GATEKEEPER ANGEL

(The GATEKEEPER ANGEL pages through a large book as he looks for the name.)

Gadias... (pause) Gadias...Oh, ok, here it...Oh, no it's not. Spell your name.

GADIAS

G-A-D-I-A-S.

GATEKEEPER ANGEL

(The GATEKEEPER ANGEL continues to look through the book briefly, then slams it shut.)

I don't see your name. You know, you're making this very difficult for me, more so than usual.

(GADIAS shrugs his shoulders and shakes his head. **15.**
Tell Me What You're Doing Here)

TELL ME WHAT YOU'RE DOING HERE, LAD
GIVE ME SOME CLUES, I'LL BE GLAD
THIS CASE IS QUITE RARE
PLEASE DO PULL UP A CHAIR
AND TELL ME WHAT YOU'RE DOING HERE

MY JOB IS IMPORTANT
I DO IT QUITE WELL
I'M THE ENFORCER OF RULES MY FRIEND
I MUST HEAR ONE REASON

TELL ME WHAT YOU'RE DOING HERE, CHAP
DID YOU PERUSE THE WRONG MAP
UNTIL WE ARE CLEARED
MOVE ON BACK TO THE REAR
OR TELL ME WHAT YOU'RE DOING HERE

I'D LIKE TO ADMIT YOU
YOU SEEM VERY NICE
BUT YOU'RE REMARKABLY AT A LOSS
I SHOULD CHECK WITH MY BOSS

TELL ME WHAT YOU'RE DOING HERE, MAN
GIVE ME THE SCOOP, WHAT'S THE PLAN
LOOKS LIKE YOU DON'T KNOW
MAYBE YOU SHOULD JUST GO

OR TELL ME WHAT YOU'RE DOING HERE

LOOKS LIKE YOU DON'T KNOW
MAYBE YOU SHOULD JUST GO
OR TELL ME WHAT YOU'RE DOING HERE

GATEKEEPER ANGEL

(Frustrated.)

Well...hmmm...uh. Hang on a second. Let's try this.

(GATEKEEPER ANGEL Speaks into what appears to be an intercom.)

GATEKEEPER ANGEL

Hello? This is the East Gate. There's someone here who seems a bit confused. Can you come down? (pause) OK, thanks. (addressing Gadias) My supervisor will be right down.

(The ANGEL SUPERVISOR approaches the gate.)

SUPERVISOR ANGEL

(Very seriously.)

Hello. We want to make sure that you are supposed to be here. We have a few questions for you so we can clear this up. Are you clear on what it means to be justified (pause) or sanctified?

GADIAS

(Unsure.)

Just - i - what??

SUPERVISOR ANGEL

(Very seriously.)

Well, ok then. Tell me about the importance of scripture.

GADIAS

(Unsure.)

Huh?

(GATEKEEPER ANGEL and SUPERVISOR ANGEL look at each other and have a frustrated and animated

conversation, turned away from Gadias. They both turn back to Gadias.)

SUPERVISOR ANGEL

(The SUPERVISOR ANGEL pauses then very seriously and slowly asks:)

Sir, on what basis are you here?

(GADIAS moves closer to the gates and looks at the GATEKEEPER ANGEL and SUPERVISOR ANGEL. **16. The Man on the Middle Cross.**)

I'VE NEVER BEEN TO SCHOOL, I DON'T HAVE A RELIGIOUS DEGREE
I'M NOT SURE HOW TO SPELL THEOLOGY
THESE QUESTIONS YOU ASK ARE BAFFLING TO ME
IS THIS AN ENTRANCE EXAM?

I DON'T KNOW THE MEANING OF JUSTIFIED
IT'S THE SAME WITH SANCTIFIED
I WAS TOLD ONE THING BEFORE I DIED
THE MAN ON THE MIDDLE CROSS SAID I CAN COME
THE MAN ON THE MIDDLE CROSS SAID I CAN COME

BEFORE I SHOWED UP HERE, I WAS NAILED TO A CRIMINAL'S
CROSS
I MOCKED THE MIDDLE MAN, THEN FELT REMORSE
NO SIN WAS IN HIM, BUT I BROKE THE LAW
THE SENTENCE FIT MY OFFENSE

I'M NOT CLEAR ON WHY YOU ARE MYSTIFIED
HIS PLAIN WORDS SHOULD SATISFY
I WAS TOLD ONE THING BEFORE I DIED
THE MAN ON THE MIDDLE CROSS SAID I CAN COME
THE MAN ON THE MIDDLE CROSS SAID I CAN COME

"TODAY YOU'LL BE WITH ME IN PARADISE"
THAT STATEMENT IS HIS
GO AND ASK HIM YOURSELF
I THINK HE'LL SAY THAT I PASSED THE QUIZ

(As the song continues, the SUPERVISOR ANGEL walks back into heaven and disappears from sight.)

I'M NO EXPERT I AM NOT CERTIFIED

THERE'S NO PLAQUE OR CLEVER SIGN
I WAS TOLD ONE THING BEFORE I DIED
THE MAN ON THE MIDDLE CROSS SAID I CAN COME
THE MAN ON THE MIDDLE CROSS SAID I CAN COME

IF LOVE COULD BE A FIELD STUDIED AT A UNIVERSITY
THE MIDDLE MAN'S BEYOND A PHD
YOU'RE THINKING TOO HARD SO YOU CANNOT SEE
THERE'S NOTHING LEFT TO EXPLAIN

(As the final chorus is finishing and the gates are opening, GADIAS moves back while JESUS is walking with the ANGEL SUPERVISOR to the gate from the inside. JESUS is wearing brilliantly white attire and a spotlight is on Him. You can see the scars in His hands.)

MY ASSERTION MUST HAVE BEEN VERIFIED
HEAVEN'S GATES ARE OPEN WIDE
I WAS TOLD ONE THING BEFORE I DIED
THE MAN ON THE MIDDLE CROSS SAID I CAN COME
THE MAN ON THE MIDDLE CROSS SAID I CAN COME

(GADIAS walks through the gates and falls at the feet of Jesus. JESUS helps Gadias to his feet, they embrace with a brotherly hug, then walk together into heaven.)

(Lights down.)

THE END