

REVELATION 21 - 22

Enacted Scripture

Arranged by Jon DeVries

CHARACTERS:

NARRATOR
JOHN
CROWD (5+ ACTORS)
AUDIENCE

SYNOPSIS:

Revelation 21 - 22 returns to the imagery of the kingdom of God. The piece sees the beast's kingdom swept away and replaced by a new heaven and earth. God's kingdom, ushered in triumphant and glorious, has open arms to those caught in the kingdom of the beast.

The piece starts with the final image of the Revelation 13 drama transforming into a different image of the kingdom of God found in the Revelation 7 drama. Completing a cycle, the audience has now gone from the promise to the depths to the actualized: creation, fall, and redemption.

Throughout the piece, voices and optional instrumentation should be used for the song "Agnus Dei." Music should not overpower the verses being spoken, but it should swell underneath until there's no other option but for the entire AUDIENCE to burst into song at the drama's close.

Slides or handouts should be provided with the verses for AUDIENCE participation.

PROPS:

Large cross
Large black fabric
Gold fabric
White fabric
Assorted blue fabrics

REVELATION 21 - 22: SCRIPT/SONG

NARRATOR: Throughout this piece, please read and later sing aloud the words that appear in bold on the screen.

Now,

hear these words from the book of Revelation, chapters 21 and 22.

(The piece starts in the final image of the Revelation 13 Enacted Scripture: blackout, then spotlight up. Silence. JOHN is crouched in the center of the spotlight, praying. Three actors have the black BEAST fabric draped around the spotlight's perimeter.)

JOHN: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

(BEAST fabric swoops up and over JOHN, and out into the AUDIENCE to disappear. JOHN stands and looks behind him. Lights up on a large cross. One CROWD member slowly drapes gold fabric on the cross while beginning to hum the first full verse and chorus of "Agnus Dei.")

NARRATOR: Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

(The rest of the CROWD enters slowly from the audience, carrying in the white fabric to lay at the foot of the cross. Two or three more CROWD members join in the humming of "Agnus Dei.")

NARRATOR: And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

AUDIENCE: **"Behold, the dwelling place of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. He will wipe away every tear from their eyes and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away."**

(Throughout the above, all CROWD members have joined in the humming of "Agnus Dei." White

fabric

REVELATION 21 - 22: SCRIPT/SONG

has been laid, and the CROWD has assembled in various postures of worship around the cross.)

NARRATOR: And he who was seated on the throne said to me,

AUDIENCE: **"Behold, I am making all things new. It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end."**

(CROWD disperses to grab the assorted blue fabrics. One CROWD member descends to JOHN and greets him. This same CROWD member has started singing the words of "Agnus Dei" while the rest of the CROWD continues to hum.)

NARRATOR: Then came one of the seven angels, and he carried me away in the Spirit to a great high mountain and showed me the holy city, Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, having the glory of God, its radiance like a most rare jewel.

(The first CROWD member who greeted JOHN shows him around, then passes him off to another CROWD member. This repeats several times as JOHN is welcomed into fellowship in the kingdom. When not greeting JOHN, the CROWD is assembling the river of life, flowing from the cross with the blue fabrics. Two or three more CROWD members have joined in with the words to "Agnus Dei," while the rest continue humming.)

NARRATOR: And I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and its lamp is the Lamb. Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb through the middle of the street of the city. No longer will there be anything accursed, but the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him. And night will be no more. They will need no light of the lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever.

REVELATION 21 - 22: SCRIPT/SONG

(The river is fully assembled. JOHN has been greeted by everyone. Now JOHN and the CROWD all assume postures of worship around the river flowing from the cross. In unison they sing the words of the chorus of "Agnus Dei" once before

the

AUDIENCE joins in for three repetitions.)

ALL: *Holy, holy
Are you, Lord God Almighty
Worthy is the Lamb
Worthy is the Lamb*

AUDIENCE: ***You are Holy, holy
Are you, Lord God Almighty
Worthy is the Lamb
Worthy is the Lamb***

*(AUDIENCE repeats two more times, ending with
"Amen.")*

NARRATOR: This is the Word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

REVELATION 21 - 22: SCRIPT/SONG

FULL LYRICS TO *AGNUS DEI*:

ALLELUIA
ALLELUIA
FOR THE LORD GOD ALMIGHTY REIGNS

ALLELUIA
ALLELUIA
FOR THE LORD GOD ALMIGHTY REIGNS

ALLELUIA
HOLY
HOLY ARE YOU, LORD GOD ALMIGHTY
WORTHY IS THE LAMB
WORTHY IS THE LAMB

YOU ARE HOLY
HOLY ARE YOU, LORD GOD ALMIGHTY
WORTHY IS THE LAMB
WORTHY IS THE LAMB

AMEN