

MYZTERY

TEMPUS FUGIT



Death Judgement Hell Heaven

MRPB77046

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Mystical Rose Press

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Introduction

by Pete Mason

“Tempus Fugit” is Latin for “Time flies.” “Tempus fugit memento mori” means “time flies, remember death.” Tempus Fugit, as an album and eventual video idea for Myztery, came to me sometime around 2006 in Burnaby, BC. I had been exposed to a classic spiritual book called “The Four Last Things” by Fr. Martin von Cochem, O.S.F.C. (Tan Books and Publishers, Inc) and the four last things are listed as “Death, Judgement, Hell and Heaven.”

The cover of the book quotes Hebrews 9:27: “. . . it is appointed unto men once to die, and after this the judgment.” In the opening pages it also quotes the book of Ecclesiasticus 7:40: “*In all thy works remember thy last end, and thou shalt never sin.*” I read the book and found it a powerful tool to use on monthly silent retreats, often bringing a copy of the book with me on mountain or monastery retreat days.

After Myztery released their debut self-titled album in 2005, we began to think about what our next album would be like. I shared with Cyndie, my girlfriend and bandmate, my idea of taking “the four last things” and making an album out of it and even a full-length video. Cyndie had a near-death experience when she was 13 years old when her appendix burst, so she was very interested in this idea and felt she could contribute a lot to it, especially for the song Death and Heaven. I would go on to focus more on Judgement and Hell.

The first piece of music written for the album, long before I even conceived of the idea of doing Tempus Fugit, was the introduction for the song Judgement. I estimate it was around 1981 or 1982 that I wrote the syncopated introduction to the song. Back then I was never able to complete the song, even after a couple of attempts to make it fit with other ideas I had. Clearly, it was meant to be recorded and released many years later when Myztery recorded Judgement around 2008, a whole 27 years or so after the part was written.

The second oldest piece of music composed that eventually ended up on Tempus Fugit was the introduction to the song Hell. I was on a forty day Ignatian silent retreat in 1993, including a three-day fast, in Pennsylvania and meditated on Hell for three days. I went to the piano and had the idea of playing the lowest six notes on the keyboard in a series of six, a total of six times, simulating the number 666 both in terms of the actual piano keys and the number of times this group of six keys were played. I felt that it would one day be part of some kind of an album that had a song about Hell on it. Years later, Myztery recorded the song Hell in the basement of Cyndie’s Father’s house in Penetanguishine, Ontario, in 2008 about 10 feet underground, in complete darkness. I recorded those six notes in a series of six times exactly as I had composed them back in 1993 with the added effect of sustaining all six notes when they were played last to the end of the 15 minute song, forming a deep and dissonant background to build upon for other sounds in Hell.

I took an interest around the time *Tempus Fugit* was being composed in building my own musical instruments out of wood, especially models of ancient harps and lyres, with various kinds of colourful stones. I built an Egyptian Lyre out of wood and put ten steel strings on it, but made a mistake in how I inserted the zither pins on the top of the instrument, with the effect that it could not be properly tuned. Feeling disappointed at first, I tried playing it “as is” and discovered a wonderfully dissonant sound that would fit perfectly for the song *Death*. I came up with a broken and ominous sounding part to start *Death* off on the right track, creating a mood of tension, fear and a breaking down of things as they were.

Cyndie completed the entire remaining sections of *Death* using her Fantom X-8 keyboard synthesizer. Three of the four songs on *Tempus Fugit* have this in common: three five minute sections with a noticeable musical change in style or arrangement in each of the five minute sections. *Hell* does not have this feature but simply remains constant, in many ways, for the whole 15 minutes. Cyndie went back in her heart, mind and spirit, to the time when she experienced her spirit depart from her body and her struggle with facing almost certain death due to her physical condition.

In keeping with the idea of “Time Flies,” we purposely wanted the album to be exactly 60 minutes, one hour, and each song to be exactly 15 minutes, thus forming a kind of musical “clock.” *Tempus Fugit* was recorded at our Mystical Rose Studio in Burnaby, BC (*Death* and *Judgement*), St. Ursula Church in Chatham, Ontario (*Heaven*), the basement of Cyndie’s Father’s house in Penetanguishine, Ontario (*Judgement*, *Hell*), and was mixed and mastered at Phase One studio, Toronto, Ontario by Mike Smith (Engineer) and Matt Snell (Assistant).

The animation for all four music videos of each song on *Tempus Fugit* was done by Davide Di Saro. We provided Davide with various materials on all four topics as well as written accounts of our various experiences as related to the songs and various meetings to share each other’s vision for what the video should look like. Davide also drew upon various sections of the Book of Revelation in the Bible for some of his visual and creative ideas.

Cyndie and I did an original painting for each of the songs. She painted *Judgment* and *Heaven* while I painted *Death* and *Hell*. Initially, *Judgement* had a gold money bag attached to it and was bound with rope. Acrylic paint was used. *Death* was painted on square canvas using only black paint in Burnaby, BC. *Judgement* was painted on rectangular canvas in Chatham, ON. *Hell* was painted on one of our cymbals which was intentionally dropped, struck with a golf club six times and stepped on prior to painting it to create a clearly warped cymbal in Chatham, ON. *Hell* incorporates mixed media: hooks, cables, a large screw and a small mirror. *Heaven* was painted on square canvas in Burnaby, BC.

During the recording of the drums for *Hell*, Nick Vulture, the drummer, played on all broken drum heads. Because the drum heads were fairly old, I decided to get a kitchen knife and pierce all the drum heads with it. We also sawed away at the snare head during the recording and you

can hear it at a certain part of Hell where Nick does this. It all creates a very strange and grating drum sound that you can only get by destroying the heads with a knife. I also placed our old family metronome, a wooden one, inside of the snare at an angle, to create an unsteady constant time for the song.

Tempus Fugit is no ordinary album or music video. It is prophetic, completely spiritual, bizarre at times, and very deep. At times it is very disturbing and at other times very beautiful and consoling. It is very much a “concept” album. It represents the culmination of a dream I had of doing an album on “The Four Last Things.” The album or video can be used in a variety of ways to deepen one’s spiritual life: e.g., listen to it once a month as a kind of mini-retreat on eschatological themes (end times); watch it once a year with a group of friends, church group or other group and meditate on each video for 15 minutes after each song. Then discuss the whole experience as a group when it is completed.

To those who may feel we are guilty of misrepresenting God, who is Love, by highlighting Death, Judgement and Hell, as well as Heaven, we can only say that the good news Jesus preached included numerous warnings about the danger of Hell and its horrible fires and everlasting nature. Only a false gospel strips it of sin, death, judgement and hell. The album and video ends on Heaven deliberately, for we want people to walk away with the hope of Heaven, not only the fear of falling into Hell. St. Faustina, the Apostle of Divine Mercy, herself was taken to Hell by an angel and wrote a powerful description of it in her Diary (741). Finally, trust in Jesus, reject sin and Satan and his lies and the corruption of the world and you have no need to fear for your salvation on your personal day of Judgement before the Throne of Almighty God. Tempus fugit, memento mori. Time flies, remember death. +



"Death" by Pete Mason. Acrylic on canvas, 2009.

Death

Commentary by Cyndie Mason

The song "Death" off of our album "Tempus Fugit" was written by both Pete and I. He wrote the first five minutes of the song and I wrote the remaining ten minutes. Pete built a lyre and it was out of tune. He painted it and glued some beautiful gems on it. However, it had this peculiar tuning that he just couldn't seem to fix. So he decided to use the lyre anyway on the first part of this song, which is the actual dying process of a person. At the very end they die and leave their body. The music exemplifies the final struggle between life and death. It is a very painful time and is all about the fight to stay alive and the battle in one's final hours here on earth.

I wrote the remaining part of the song based on my own near-death experience I had earlier in my life. I tried to express what I felt, heard and saw musically and David Di'Saro created the animation based on what I told him.

One evening after supper, when I was thirteen years old, I went and lied down on the couch in the living room. My older sister, Sharon, was bugging me and telling me to stop faking being

sick like I often did in order to get out of doing the dishes. Sometimes I pulled this stunt or more commonly I would lock myself in the bathroom with a book or magazine and come out twenty minutes later when the dishes were done by Sharon and Shelley (my younger sister). They would yell at me and my mom would tell us all to stop fighting.

However, on this particular day, I wasn't faking it. I really was sick. I had a sharp pain in the right side of my stomach. Sharon kept teasing me and it was beginning to really annoy me and I couldn't believe that she couldn't see how sick I really was. Actually, no one in my family was taking me seriously and I was too sick to fight with them. At one point in the middle of the night, I buckled over on the floor with sharp pain in my stomach when I was walking towards the washroom. This pain persisted throughout the night. Finally, in the morning, my parents drove me to the hospital as they finally realized that I wasn't faking anything, but I was actually sick and really very sick.

When I got to the hospital they did all sorts of tests and put me in a hospital bed in a room all to myself because I needed to be isolated from the other patients due to infection. Everyday the doctor would come into my room and conduct tests. I was given morphine to ease the pain. The doctors were perplexed about what was causing all of this pain which had moved over to the left side of my abdomen. This side also began to swell into a huge lump the size of a grapefruit. I had severe aches and pains all over my body and had a fever which needed constant attending to. I couldn't eat anything but was hooked up to an I.V. machine.

After nine days of this, the doctors decided to send me to Toronto Sick Children's Hospital which was about two hours north of our small town of Midland, Ontario. The ambulance ride to Toronto was extremely bumpy and painful considering the condition I was in. Even after arriving in Toronto at the hospital, I remember waiting to get in to see the doctors. When they brought me in it was only a matter of time before I was correctly diagnosed with having appendicitis, which had progressed to the point of a ruptured appendix and I had a huge abscess full of infection on the left side of my abdomen. This explained the mysterious lump that was growing on that side of my body, as well as all the fever and aches and pains from all of the infection in my body. It felt like a bad flu only a hundred times worse in terms of aches and pain all throughout my body.

The doctors and nurses immediately began to pump out my stomach of all of the infection and I started to feel a little bit better each day that followed. I was in the Toronto Sick Children's Hospital for over a month. The morphine helped to numb this severe pain in my body for a couple of hours until I was given another dose of this painkiller. I remember begging the nurse for more painkillers, but I had to wait until it was time to get the needle. This wait from the time the last injection wore off was extremely long and painful then I got some relief for a couple of hours again. This went on for days and days and days.

The nurses and Sharon or my mom kept cold, wet cloths all over my body to help get the fever down and keep it down. I was shivering between hot and cold, in severe pain and dropping

weight daily, not to mention the tubes that were constantly pumping my stomach of the infection and pumping in fluids to sustain me.

I was already pretty tall and thin for my age and weighed about 115 or 120 pounds. But over this month I dropped down to 80 pounds. My face was pale and my cheeks were hollowed out with big sunken in eyes and dark circles under my eyes. I looked like I was dressed up as a skeleton on Halloween Night.

One of the greatest difficulties I had was not being able to eat. I was hungry and understood hunger at a much deeper level than many people will ever experience in their lifetime. I now have a greater appreciation for people in our country and other countries who are dealing with hunger and poverty. It is an extremely horrible thing to experience and it saddens me greatly to know that there are people who go through this on a daily basis all over the world.

I remember watching TV and seeing over and over again advertisements for food - especially Subway Sub. For some reason, I really craved a big Subway Sub. I would salivate and imagine what it would be like to eat again. It felt like torture. There was something in me that I had never experienced before since I grew up in a home and a country where food was always available to me. This feeling I had was at a primal level. It was a basic instinct of the human being - the mammal level - like an animal, I felt this urge rise up more and more frequently - this need to eat. I thought to myself, I understand how someone could kill another person or at least hurt them badly in order to get some food to eat.

Like a ravenous wolf, I was afraid of this part of me that might actually pounce on the girl in the next room in order to grab her tuna fish sandwich and glazed doughnut. Or perhaps I might attack the visitor walking down the hallway nibbling on their nacho cheese Doritos. It was a good thing that I couldn't get out of bed and walk around. This torture grew greater and greater each day that I ate nothing, but could only suck on one ice cube if I was lucky just to wet my mouth. After some time, I was allowed fluids and eventually I could eat very bland food and finally much later I could eat a full diet. I was eventually released from the hospital about two months later. Like a prisoner set free - I was a free bird once again.

After being institutionalized in a hospital for a long period of time, it takes a while to get into step again with the pace and movement of the outside world. I was awkward and out of step for awhile. It was the summer, so I spent most of my time outside on a lawn chair in the sun. I ate lots of good home cooked meals and lots of snacks in an attempt to try to put some weight back on. I was still recovering from this serious illness and my mother especially kept very close watch on me. She was overly cautious of me, it seemed and was often asking me how I was or if I had any pain. I only found out later that she was instructed by the doctors that they would release me from the hospital for the summer to regain my health again, but only under the condition that my parents watched me very closely because at even the slightest mention of any pain in my stomach, I was to be immediately driven back to Toronto to the emergency room of Sick Children's Hospital.

One day, I did have a little pain on my left side again and I just mentioned it to my mom. She got very alarmed and in my opinion she was overreacting. She packed my suitcase and had me get into the car and my Dad drove me straight to Toronto to the hospital. I was feeling pretty healthy at the the time and couldn't understand why all the fuss over nothing. I was whisked quickly into the operating room as my appendix had not yet been taken out since there was too much infection in my body during my previous stay at in the hospital.

For this reason, I was extremely vulnerable to have my appendix rupture again. So the nurses, doctors and anesthesiologist cracked a few jokes. I laughed and got up onto the operating table. In a matter of minutes, I was out like a light. They operated on me and finally were able to remove my appendix. I found out much later in my life from my parents that my appendix actually burst again while I was on the operating table and I am very thankful to God that my parents acted so quickly to get me to the hospital. If they hadn't have done that, I would probably not be here today to write this book.

Once again, I was in the hospital and felt just as sick as the first time. I had lots of fever and pain and couldn't eat any food. I was hooked up to all sorts of machines and they were still pumping my stomach and by now I was suffering from severe dehydration which was critical at this point. I also felt like I was starving most of the time. All the joy of the summer fun I was having disappeared as I was locked up on a hospital ward with no food to eat. Every once in a while, a group of interns would come in to study my case, sometimes up to ten or more interns would be standing around my hospital bed and staring at my protruded stomach and each of them would tentatively give it a little or not so little poke. I actually looked forward to these intrusions because some of these interns were so handsome and most of them were friendly. I welcomed this bit of excitement from the dull routine of painkillers, soap operas, nurses tending to me and the occasional doctor's visits.

One thing I was truly amazed at was how many of my family members, aunts, uncles and friends drove all the way to Toronto to visit me with beautiful, expensive gifts such as stuffed animals and the most elegant night gowns and housecoats from expensive stores.

I was recovering quite well from the operation until one day the doctor came into my hospital room and whispered to my mom, who was so dedicated to me by staying there in Toronto most of the time I was there. I overheard him say to her that she would probably want to stay with me overnight in the hospital as I had a very slim chance of surviving through the night. There were some complications with my health. Somehow, the infection had moved throughout my body and into my bowels and bladder. I was unable to have a bowel movement for a couple of days and the infection was trapped. It was highly probable that it would move up into my lungs and if this happened, the doctors said I may not survive the night. I couldn't believe what I was hearing. How could this be? Hadn't I only weeks ago been loafing around in the sun and making an incredible recovery? Wasn't getting one's appendix out a fairly routine operation?

My mom grabbed my hand in a cold icy grip and I felt her desperation permeate throughout my fevered body. The sun had gone down for the day and the cool breeze of the summer leaves gave no consolation to my panicked soul. All of the sermons of hell fire and brimstone that I had heard so frequently on Sunday nights sitting on the hard wooden pews echoed through my brain in a frenzied circle of thoughts. Could this really be true that even at this young age of thirteen I was being whisked out of this world without a chance to experience all that I had dreamed my life would be.

What about the life that I had hoped to have lived? I had so many dreams and desires and felt like I was only just beginning my life. I wanted to be a career woman one day and dress in fancy clothes and high-heeled shoes like Miss James my Grade Seven Teacher. She was so beautiful with her pale, pink lipstick, stylish hair cut and neatly tailored suit. I loved the way she would sit at her desk and tap her pencil on the table while she sipped her coffee from her mug at her desk at the front of the classroom. Also, my piano teacher, Mrs. Crawford, was a class act. She would play her classical Sonatas and Minuets from her neatly manicured house with the miniature nick-knacks of glass and ceramics. Her fingers were bony and muscular with hints of the pains of arthritis and her silver, white hair shone in the light as she gracefully caressed the piano keys.

How about love? I thought to myself with a saddened sense of loss already pervading. I had barely kissed a boy. I wanted to love and be loved and go on romantic vacations and even just hang out with my future husband in our modern styled apartment or house. Maybe we would even have a few children running around the house.

What about travel? I had hardly travelled further than Sudbury, Ontario to family gatherings at my Uncle Albert and Aunt Dorothy's place. Why me? Why now? Why so soon? I was too young and I knew it. My life was about to be snuffed out and I didn't like it.

Then in a barrage of thoughts flying around now like saucers in my head jangling and clanking. I began to think of eternity - heaven and hell and which way I would go if I died. Growing up and hearing about this at church I had a fairly good knowledge of the Bible. Being a protestant at the Gospel Hall, I was not yet baptized. People at our church were baptized after conversion and only when they felt that they were ready take this step. Then they could sit in the inner circle of the meetings and not at the back with the backsliders and noisy children or teens jumping around like popcorn being cooked in a pot.

I had experienced a conversion and a rededication of my faith numerous times. I experienced conversion as early as five years old. I had heard so much about heaven and hell and certainly chose heaven as the destination of choice. Certainly a place with golden streets, beautiful angels and anything you wanted or desired including a mansion over the hillside which would be better than a place which is a lake of fire that burns and singes your skin right off - a place where everyone is screaming and crying and you can't even get one drop of water to drink in the heat and pain. These places would both go on for eternity which is forever.

Even at five years old, I could figure out the better choice. I chose heaven. Just tell me how to get there and I'll do it because I most certainly did not want to go to that other place called hell.

I heard many times how to do it. You simply had to say what is called the sinners prayer. It's actually quite simple and only takes a minute or two. This was pretty easy considering what you get (heaven) and what you are able to avoid (hell). I learned what to say from our Sunday School teacher and one day in the quiet of my bedroom I said the prayer. It went something like this: "Dear Lord Jesus. I am sorry for all of my sins that I have done. Please forgive me for all of my sins. Thank you for dying on the cross for my sins. Wash me clean and come into my heart. Jesus, be my Saviour. Amen."

It was done. I was a Christian and I felt great peace even at that age that I didn't have to worry about that awful place called hell ever again. I felt happy that this was taken care of. I went downstairs to tell my mom, dad, and two sisters. Everyone seemed happy and relieved also.

But here I was in the hospital room coming face to face with this reality. Was I really going to go to heaven and not hell? Of course, I was. I told myself. Don't you remember the sinners prayer that you recited so many times. But just to make sure, I said that prayer again. I also repented of any sins I'd done recently just to make sure I was really ready to die.

But I really didn't want to die so I prayed and prayed - more like I begged and begged. I begged and prayed like I have never begged before in my desperate cries - with the limited strength I had, I asked God not to take me yet, but please, please, please let me live longer. I told him how my life was too short and that I had only lived thirteen years. I had not experienced life yet. I had never grown up yet, or had a career, or travelled or gotten married - not much at all. Please! Please! I begged.

I really did not want to go to sleep either for I felt that if I had closed my eyes for a moment I would slip away and die just like the doctor said. The morphine was making my eyelids extremely heavy and I knew as long as my eyelids didn't close, I was alive. So I focused on this task between pleading for life with God and fighting sleep with all of my strength. Then I had an idea - I would make a plea bargain with God. I said, "Dear God: If you let me live and don't let me die now, then I promise you that I will be a Christian for my whole life. I will follow you and live a Christian life."

Some point later, I could fight sleep no longer and I drifted off into a deep sleep. What happened after this I can only explain as being completely out of this world. I remember that night as if it were yesterday. This experience is as real as if it just happened and is not simply a dream that would fade away over time. I had what is called a "near-death experience".

I was flying through space and time. It was as if I was in outer space and I was flying so fast that everything was a blur to my right and to my left. I just kept flying forward for what seemed like a very long time. The journey was far, but the speed was very fast. I sensed the presence of

someone alongside me as a guide, but I couldn't see this person. It felt like the presence of a man who knew where he was going.

The interesting thing about this journey was that the further I went on it the more desire I had to be at the final destination. This increased desire to be somewhere was overwhelming. The intensity of this feeling was billions of times greater than any human emotion here on earth.

It was so strong that all I wanted to do was be there. When I arrived at this location, I was still in space. I was hovering above the landing place again for quite a long time. The silence of this place was so beautiful and serene and there was a strong sense again of someone beside me in charge of me arriving.

After awhile, we slowly descended to the ground and softly landed. Everything was dark up to this point and I saw nothing but only heard the sound of beautiful quietness - like a gentle hush.

I walked with this other being toward a white trellis. It was now light and I could see and hear sounds. There were two elderly men on either side of the trellis. They each wore white robes and had snow white, long hair and snow white beards. I especially noticed the one to my left (he was to the right of the trellis facing out toward me). He had beautiful, kind eyes with such wisdom and gentleness. He seemed to be in charge of letting people through the gate. The other man stood silently.

I noticed at this point that I was dressed in a white wedding gown. It was a simple white dress, yet very beautiful and elegant.

I saw behind the trellis and the two men that there was a path like a wide paved path leading to a huge double door. It was a bit of a distance away. Also, there was a huge grey brick wall. The door gave entry past the huge wall. It was like a castle, but mostly I just saw this huge grey wall. I didn't see anything past the wall, but I heard loudly and clearly millions and millions even billions and billions of people beyond the wall. There was a very big party going on and I could hear certain voices clearly rise above the noise as they spoke. It was as if I had a way of zoning in on certain voices. They were saying to one another in excitement, "Cyndie's coming home, Cyndie's coming home, Cyndie's coming home" They were also proclaiming that the Bridegroom was waiting. He was behind the wall and waiting for me. They were very excited about this. I was surprised to know that so many people behind the wall knew me and were so excited to greet me.

Not only this, but I could hear the most beautiful music you could ever imagine. There were so many people singing and so many different instruments were being played. I heard guitars, keyboards, bass, drums, all sorts of stringed instruments, wind instruments and many more. It was loud, majestic and at the same time it totally rocked. It was so beautiful and it was such a grand party.

After taking all of this in, I looked back to the two men standing at both sides of the trellis.

I took a step forward so that I was standing under the white trellis to enter, but at that moment buckets of dung were dumped on my beautiful wedding dress. These buckets were hanging from the top of the trellis. I proclaimed, "My dress is soiled!" I was both shocked that this happened and upset. The man facing me who was to the left of the trellis, looked intently with great authority, and yet with such kindness and compassion in his eyes. He said with his soft voice, "Cyndie, I'm sorry you can not enter heaven to meet your Bridegroom because your dress is soiled. You have to go back to earth because you still have work to do there.

I turned around and walked away with my escort who I never did see. We ascended from this place and flew back to earth the way we came speeding through the darkness in space and time for a long time. I was continually overwhelmed throughout this whole experience with such a strong desire to be in this place of heaven and to be with my Bridegroom. Just like a bride being ripped away from her groom on her wedding day, I was devastated - only at a super, super intensified emotional level. Then when we arrived back to earth again, I came to a stop just above the level of the clouds with this escort and we waited for a very short time and then I was hurled like a stone down to land here again.

It was such an awful feeling to be hurled back here. It was as if I was being thrown into a garbage dumpster in a back alley of a city. I could sense the filth and dirt of this earthly destination and felt the degradation of this existence in comparison to the place I had been visiting. The contrast was so clear and vivid.

I was back in my hospital bed, doped up with morphine and high with fever. I took awhile to adjust to the reality of being back here on earth. I began to wail and weep in my hospital bed and shout out, "I don't want to be here! I don't want to be here! It's my wedding day. I am supposed to be married. It's my wedding day. I don't want to be here!" I shouted and sobbed through the tears. I longed to be back there in that beautiful place. The desire within me was so intense.

As I began to come to, I noticed that there were three or four nurses around my bed. They were trying to hush and comfort me. I continued to say to them over and over that I didn't want to be there and that it was supposed to be my wedding day. I had tears streaming down my face. They were rolling me over and changing my sheets and cleaning me and all the while telling me not to worry about what happened and that everything was going to be okay now and not to worry about this mess. Once I realized about the mess I made I began to apologize to them. They told me not to worry and that I couldn't help it. They looked relieved and happy that this explosion of a bowel movement was all over me and the bed.

The next day, I woke up and I started to feel much better. It was a matter of two or three days and I was up curling my hair with my curling iron, putting my clothes on, wearing make-up and running around the hospital to the games room for the children and the cafeteria.

Every once in a while, a nurse would pop her head into my room to say hello. The shock and dismay on their faces and their comments revealed that I was the talk of the ward. They could not believe that I was the same girl who had been lying on the bed so sick and so pale and so near to death only a few days earlier. Some of them exclaimed to me that it truly was a miracle how quickly I had recovered.

I also believe that a miracle took place that night in that hospital room. I had been granted from God more time on earth to work and to live out my purpose and dreams here as well as to do the work that I needed to do.

Since that time, I have heard that other people also had similar experiences and I know that this was not just a dream, but an actual out of this world experience.

One day, we will all face death and for some reason some of us are given another chance at life and as a result have been given a glimpse into heaven or hell. This will hopefully encourage you to get ready for death, because it is inevitable. It is going to happen, so get ready. Do you want to go to heaven or hell? They both exist and each and every one of us is going to end up in one place or the other.

In some ways I am thankful for this experience because now I am more peaceful about the thought of death since I have seen and heard with my own eyes and ears that there is a heaven and what I know is that it is a very beautiful place; people will recognize us; they speak to one another; they sing and play great music; and they are having a lot of fun there.



"Judgement" by Cyndie Mason. Acrylic on canvas, 2011.

Judgement

Commentary by Pete Mason

Judgement follows Death, both in reality and on our album. Judgement is not a pleasant topic for me. It evokes a feeling of terror, in a way, at the majesty of God, his great purity and holiness, and my own weak and sinful human condition. Still, I am not afraid of God's judgement for I trust in his great mercy. As much as it is true that God's justice is infinite, perfect and all-encompassing, so too is his mercy and love. God does not wish to "send" anyone to Hell and, in fact, He does not send anyone: only those who, by their own free choice, decided to reject God's love and not turn away from evil are lost in hell. A clap of thunder and blast of a shofar (ram's horn) signal the beginning of Judgement.

The lyrics for Judgement are entirely from the thirteenth century Latin hymn "Dies Irae" (Day of Wrath) said to be written by Thomas of Celano (1200 – c. 1265). I found this amazing piece of poetry in an old book I once bought at a retreat centre book sale called "The Raccolta," published in 1946 by Benziger Brothers, Inc. There are a total of 19 main verses, with some single lines "Dies Irae!" that I added. During the recording of Judgement I decided to mix Latin and English by singing the last five verses in English while all the preceding ones were in a Gregorian Chant style melody I came up with while reading the Latin. The violin part was recorded spontaneously, as I had nothing prepared on the violin for the song.

Visually, Judgement draws a lot of ideas and inspiration from various parts of the Book of Revelation. Christ is the Judge, and we believe that at his Second Coming he will judge the living and the dead. The good shall go to Heaven and the wicked shall be cast into Hell. Each of us, when we die, will face our personal judgement. We will be judged on our thoughts, words, actions and omissions. God's judgement is immediate after death and irrevocable, for he is an infinitely just Judge.

If you listen carefully you will hear the four horses of the Book of Revelation at various parts of Judgement. This song is very much a battle song: a call to arms to live a good life, reject evil and live for goodness, truth and love, which come from God. Judgement, as a song, focuses not simply on personal judgement, but on Judgement Day, i.e., the end of the world, when Christ will come in glory for His final triumph of good over evil, both of which have grown up beside each other throughout the history of the world. (Cf. Catechism of the Catholic Church, 681).

The Church points out that when the Risen Christ comes at the end of time he will “reveal the secret disposition of hearts” and give to each person what he or she deserves according to their deeds and their willingness to receive or reject the grace (i.e. supernatural help, life) of God (Cf. Ibid., 682). Not only will every person experience a total change during this time of Judgement but there will also take place at the same time a “final cosmic upheaval” of our world which is passing away (Cf. Ibid., 677). The best source of our understanding of the Last Judgement is the words of Christ Himself in John 5:28-29 and Matthew 25:31, 32, 46.

We will be judged on our every thought, word, action and omission that is in any way sinful. Of course, we will not be judged for sins we have already confessed. The practice of a daily examination of conscience is an excellent preparation for one’s personal judgement day as well as the General Judgement day.

St. John of the Cross, a Carmelite mystic, reformer and author, once wrote “In the evening of life we will be judged by love.” It reminds me of the words of St. Augustine, the former wild-man turned Christian and then Bishop: “Love, and do what you will.” Perfect love casts out all fear of judgement. Judgement brings to mind the image of scales or measuring. It is a kind of measuring up of our lives against what God has called us to be. Husbands will be judged also by what kind of a husband they were. Wives, the kind of wife they were. Parents will also be judged according to how they acted as parents, and so on.

The more that is given to a person the more that God expects from that person. An Archbishop has a great deal entrusted to him, much more than a common laborer in a wheat field, although that person too has responsibilities to God and others. We are not to pass judgement on others, for we cannot read their hearts or their consciences. We are to pass judgement on ourselves, on our evil thoughts, words, actions and omissions. The saints, like St. Francis of Assisi, were the first to see the evil of their own lives and were quick to reform and get up again and again whenever they had a moral failing.

Christ is the Judge of all human beings and the Father has entrusted all judgement to him. Christ judges justly and without any partiality and he sees all, knows all, penetrates all and has dominion over all. He is the King of kings, the Lord of Lords, the Judge of judges. All justice, all law, comes from God.



"Hell" by Pete Mason. Acrylic on brass (cymbal), 2011.

Hell

Commentary by Pete Mason

Without a doubt, the most horrifying experience of my life was during three days in Toronto. Just prior to those three days I was on a week of silent retreat, prayer and some fasting at Madonna House in Combermere, Ontario. It was my pre-ordination retreat, for I was about to be ordained a Catholic priest. My spiritual director, Fr. Tom Collins (now Archbishop Collins of Toronto, On) told me it was fine to go on this retreat as a self-directed retreat, for he was aware that I had made about four retreats of a week in length and had even made about a 40 day silent retreat in the USA, so he felt confident that I would have a good retreat by praying on my own, listening to the Spirit of the Lord and journaling my experiences.

It was, for sure, a great retreat. I felt rested, and was enjoying the great walk to my little poustinia cabin. One day, I made a poustinia during the retreat. This means that I would spend about 24 hours in a small wood cabin with nothing but a Bible, some water and a loaf of bread. There was a small bed there as well. Well into my silent retreat there I heard the Lord speak to me "*Fear not. I am with you.*" Now, it is tradition at Madonna House that the Lord always

speaks some word, even just one word, to people who made a poustinia. The Lord did not let me down. I liked the word I heard but did not understand what the Lord was talking about with respect to “fear not,” for I wasn’t afraid of anything at the time. Still, I cherished the word and pondered it in my heart on the bus ride back to Toronto on the last day of the retreat.

Then, as if out of nowhere, a small voice came into my mind accusing me:

“You blew it! You made the most important retreat of your life and did not have a proper director! You should have had a director! Now you will be ordained a be a terrible priest! In fact, you are too sinful to be a priest! Yes, you have sinned to much! Who do you think you are, becoming a priest?! In fact, God has not forgiven you all your sins. He is angry with you. In fact, He rejects you as unclean, a sinner and you will destroy the church if you become ordained a priest!”

This might sound ridiculous to you, but unless you were in my shoes on that bus you have no idea how this “voice” affected me. At first I tried to shut it off, to contradict it, to reason with it, but nothing worked. I began a rapid downward spiral to doubt God’s mercy and love for me and began to even doubt if God had actually forgiven me all of my grave sins from my whole life’s collection of serious sins. I began to despair, to even believe that the “voice,” whom I now knew was Satan, was actually right. God allowed all of this to take place and I now know that there was absolutely nothing I could have “done” to get out of this sifting by Satan. It was God’s will for me to go through an experience of being completely rejected by God, bound for Hell and belonging forever to Satan.

When I got to Toronto I eventually ended up staying a few days with the Basilian Fathers residence near Bathurst and St. Clair. It was in my small room at their residence that my “three days” of Hell took place. These thoughts and feelings of total rejection by God, constant taunting by the Devil and my own horrible remorse of conscience completely drained me. I was so exhausted I could barely walk and could not go to Sunday mass and frequently thought of death, murder and suicide whenever I looked at various objects: e.g. a shower head made me think of being gassed to death; telephone lines made me think of hanging and electrocution, knives and sharp objects made me thing of being stabbed, the subway made me think of suicide by jumping in front of it.

In my room, both in my bedroom and in the small toilet, Satan was telling me: *“Kill yourself! You are going to Hell anyways, so you might as well get it over with! If you prolong your life you will just pile up more sins and then deserve more torture in Hell, so it would be better if you died now, for you will have less torment in Hell.”*

Even though I knew this was Satan speaking, I felt, at the time, that there was some logic in what he was saying, even though it was a very twisted logic. Still, I never made any attempt at suicide but only had many thoughts of it. Eventually, I got so ill and weak that I had to be moved to my Aunt Alma Sternik’s house in Toronto and my mom and dad were there having recently come

from Vancouver, BC to visit me. I could barely eat anything in my Aunt's house and I still felt completely cut off from God's love and from everyone around me. Nothing could console me. My dad took me to the Emergency Department at a Toronto hospital, where I explained my thoughts and feelings to the workers there. I was only able to get about two hours of sleep a night and was getting really worn out from that, so they gave me some pills to help me sleep. I tried that and they worked a little but I had to be brought back to the hospital a second time to get even stronger pills and with them I was able to get more sleep, probably around six hours or so, which was a lot better.

During my ordeal those three days, the greatest and most painful suffering I felt was the loss of God. Nothing can even come close to describing how horrible this feeling is: to be forever separated from God, who is Love, to be rejected by Him and I even felt hated by God, which added to my pain. Secondly, the feeling of remorse of my conscience was such a great suffering as well: my sins were crying out to me: "Why?! Why did you do it?! Why did I reject God?! What was I thinking! Fool! What a fool I've been! Idiot!" Finally, one of the greatest sufferings was contemplating that this state of eternal separation from God would last forever, for all eternity. I began to ponder and feel intensely what eternity is like and how horrible my eternity would be at the moment of my death, for I somehow believed the devil's lies that I was indeed damned and would go to Hell immediately after death and suffer even more torments in Hell if I actually went ahead with getting ordained. (See the Diary of St. Faustina Kowalska, Divine Mercy in My Soul, 496 for a similar experience she had).

On the third day, sometime in the late afternoon I think, I was taken by my parents to a priest-psychologist, a Basilian, to get his opinion on my condition. I sat down in his office and told him what I was going through. He immediately read a text from St. Paul's Letter to the Ephesians 6:10-17 where it talks about putting on the armour of God to fight against the devil. As soon as he read that passage of Scripture I experienced a complete lifting of the dark veil I was under, felt joy, peace and happiness once again. It was truly an amazing experience of how powerful the words of Scripture are. That moment completely ended the three day experience I had of feeling completely rejected by God. The priest told me that I had been through a very violent diabolical attack and that Satan was "sifting me like wheat," just as Jesus said he would do to Peter, His disciple: "Simon, Simon, behold, Satan asked to have you, that he might sift you as wheat" (Luke 22:31).

About a month later I was indeed ordained a Catholic priest at Holy Rosary Cathedral in Vancouver, BC. I ministered as a priest for 10 years but was laicized by Pope John Paul II in 2004, met Cyndie a couple of weeks after that, started our band Myztery and was married to Cyndie in 2007.

When I recorded the words of the song Hell I had no idea of what I was going to say. I only prayed, sat in the basement in a completely dark concrete room and then hit record on the digital recorder. It ended up being the voice of a newly lost soul in Hell, bemoaning his new lot. At a certain point I shifted into the voice of Lucifer, with the odd dialogue with the lost soul. This

was not planned in any way but felt like a natural progression. I did, however, think about some of St. Faustina's writings prior to recording my vocal part, where she describes her actual visit to Hell, led there by an angel (Diary, 741).



"Heaven" by Cyndie Mason. Acrylic on canvas, 2009.

Heaven

Commentary by Pete Mason

The music for Heaven was written initially in our tour bus on a dulcimer. Cyndie and I were resting after a busy tour to Ontario and staying in a church parking lot area where our friend, Fr. Vincent Van Zuphten, was the pastor. I was noodling around on the dulcimer, trying to come up with music for "Heaven." I already had the lyrics set from an old prayer book I bought in Vancouver, BC called "The Raccolta." The lyrics are from the very first section of that book, under Title 1 THE MOST HOLY TRINITY - Chapter 1 THE TRIUNE GOD - Ejaculations and Invocations 1:

"To the King of Ages, immortal and invisible, the only God, be honor and glory for ever and ever. Amen. (Roman Breviary)." Cyndie sings the original Latin version just below the English: "Regi saeculorum immortalis et invisibili, soli Deo honor et gloria in saecula saeculorum. Amen."

These lyrics are part of the first five minute section of the song. In that section the dulcimer is played, initially as a solo instrument, but then other instruments build on it, including pipe organ, guitar and others.

The second five minute section of the song features the psaltery, another Biblical instrument. I composed this part of the song on my psaltery in a shopping centre parking lot near another Catholic church in Toronto, while preparing to do a concert there as the duo Song of the Lamb. It was a kind of odd place to come up with a beautiful piece of music for “Heaven,” but I also felt inspired at the time.

In this second section of “Heaven” Cyndie sings another set of lyrics that also come from the “Raccolta” book, this time directly after the “Regi saeculorum” section already used in the first section. The words are “Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of Hosts: the heavens and the earth are full of Thy glory (Roman Missal).” Again, Cyndie sings the Latin version of these words: “Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus Dominus Deus Sabaoth: pleni sunt caeli et terra gloria tua.”

David Sinclair added an interesting lead guitar part that I initially heard playing in my head. David and I worked it out and it is a very British or royal sounding part he came up with, with a certain amount of influence from Queen’s lead guitarist, Brian May. We didn’t copy May’s melodies in any way but I knew the song needed a kind of feel that I could only associate with Brian May’s style, especially on songs like “We are the Champions” and “Bohemian Rhapsody.”

The third five minute section of “Heaven” is where things really start to rock out. I ended up doing a spontaneous and totally unplanned lead vocal part at Phase One Studios in Toronto, where we enhanced the original quieter version of this section, which used to only have the kinnor harp, in three parts, playing. Cyndie and I felt it needed to rock out more, so we added both canned drums (digital) as well as the drumming of Nick Vulture, I played the electric bass and David Sinclair did a great job of just going crazy on lead guitar for five minutes. Cyndie, at one point, heard loud rock music playing in Heaven and we knew we needed to try to re-create that experience of hers as closely as possible. We also had keyboards playing. All the while you can still hear the three kinnor harps playing if you listen very carefully. The first was in an arpeggio style and the others were more like plucked spontaneous bits. When we completed Heaven Cyndie felt much better about the final section of the song and felt it more closely reflected her actual experience of the music she heard at that point.

We had originally done a lead vocal with David playing the same lead at our studio in Burnaby, BC, but Cyndie felt my choice of words did not reflect her experience properly when she arrived at “Heaven’s Gate,” as it were. So, we scrapped that first lead vocal and left what David did intact and much later, during the process of mixing and mastering in Toronto, ended up putting lead vocals back on. We were planning on completing the song without any lead vocals in the last section of the song, which we see now would have been a mistake.

The third part of Heaven was written by me in Chatham, Ontario, in the sanctuary of St. Ursula's church. We recorded the whole first mix of Heaven in St. Ursula's, thanks to the generosity of the pastor at that time whom we have learned has died. He let us spend a week parked in our tour bus in their parking lot, recording at first in the sanctuary and then, because there was a noisy "Hog" rally, i.e., motorcycle rally, in Chatham, we moved to record in the confessional room! It was nice and quiet there and had a peaceful vibe. I wrote the third section of Heaven on my kinnor harp, which is also known as a King David's harp, and is an ancient Biblical instrument as well. I played an arpeggio at first and then built on that.

Well over a year or so later, we recorded bass, lead guitar, drums and keyboards on the third section of "Heaven" at our studio in Burnaby, BC. The final recording of the lead vocal was done in Toronto, Ontario at Phase One Studios.

What is Heaven? Basically, it is the place where God, the Creator of all things and all people, "lives." Heaven itself is a creation of God. In it are angels and saints and many mansions and streets of gold, Living Water, perfect love, joy, peace, truth, harmony and justice. Every tear will be wiped away in Heaven. Death no longer exists in Heaven, for Christ's death has overcome it, through His glorious resurrection.

Heaven has many names on earth: Paradise, Eternal Life, the Kingdom of God, the Kingdom of Heaven, the Pearly Gates, the Next World and so on. Jesus taught a lot about both Heaven and Hell and how we need to strive hard to arrive at eternal life in Heaven, for many are called but few are chosen and the path to Life Eternal is hard, narrow and difficult, while the path to Perdition (Eternal Damnation, Hell, etc.) is broad, wide, easy and many travel on it. The choice where we still spend eternity is ours: Heaven or Hell.

Nothing unclean enters Heaven, which shows how important it is that we turn from all sin while still living on earth, trust in God and receive His mercy in Jesus His Son. Our daily decisions have an impact on where we will be for eternity: how honest we are, law-abiding, God-fearing, loving, kind, generous, forgiving, just, humble and full of faith and hope.

While Myztery has no problem in writing, recording and performing songs like Death, Judgement and Hell, we are certainly not a "Death-metal" band. Death is part of our human condition at this stage in human history and, as such, is legitimate material for artistic renderings, musically speaking, that explore this dark reality, along with Judgement and Hell. We hope all our fans and listeners and concert goers make the choice for Heaven, all the while, learning important lessons of what to avoid in life from the song Hell and Judgement.

Heaven is also a very beautiful place. There is really no way of us even coming close to the incredible visual beauty of Heaven. It is not some boring empty place with just clouds and people playing harps like in the cartoons. No, all the beauty we experience on earth will be in Heaven billions of times more in intensity, beauty, harmony and peace. The sounds of Heaven, too, are beyond belief in their harmony, purity and peacefulness.

For Christians, receiving the Eucharist, i.e, the Body and Blood of Christ in Holy Communion, is an experience, a foretaste of the Kingdom of Heaven, for Christ comes to dwell, literally, in the soul of that person who eats His Body and drinks His Blood. Jesus pledges eternal life, Heaven, to all who believe in him, turn away from sin, are baptized, and pray, persevere and receive the Bread of Life He offers, that is, himself, in the Eucharist. Baptism is like an initial door or gate to Eternal Life in Heaven, for it is in Baptism that we die to sin, reject the evil ways of the world, reject Satan and all his lies and empty promises, and profess belief in God, the Father Almighty, Jesus His Son, the Holy Spirit and the Church.

The Beatitudes that Jesus spoke of give us examples of how we have to live if we wish to eventually arrive in Heaven, e.g., “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the Kingdom of God.” Only those who “do the will of God” will arrive in Heaven. It is not enough, as Jesus says, to “say Lord, Lord,” to enter the kingdom of Heaven. Even performing miracles, feeding the poor, giving lots of money away, raising funds for charity, and so on will not lead to Heaven if we are not truly doing the will of God. We can’t earn our way into Heaven. It is the free gift of God through faith in Jesus Christ. This faith must be expressed outwardly through “good works” to others, as we see in the Last Judgement scene of Matthew’s gospel. “Faith without works is useless,” Scripture says. (James)

We pray in the “Lord’s Prayer,” that Jesus taught “Our Father, who art in Heaven, hallowed by Thy Name. Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven. . .” We see here again that God’s will is central for Jesus and God the Father and that God’s will is also always done in Heaven. It is God’s will that we, on earth, do God’s will as well. The alternative to Heaven is not a pleasant experience but it is an option for those who want nothing to do with God or His will. That will lead directly to Hell, where the poor damned soul will now be subject to the Father of Lies, Satan and experience the punishment destined for those who stubbornly reject God in place of self. All sin has “I” at the center, i.e., pride. The First sin, that of Lucifer, was pride. The Second sin, i.e. Eve in the garden (Fall of Man) was also from pride. Pride is at the center of all the sin we commit. Humility, which is really truth, is the foundation of the spiritual life of those on the way to Heaven.

Heaven, for us, is currently an “unseen world.” This does not mean it does not exist. Even astronomers will tell us that there exist billions of stars beyond the reach of our most powerful telescopes, but most of us would not bat an eye in professing that we believe their words to be true, even though we cannot see all these stars and galaxies at the present. Faith is needed to believe in Heaven and go to there after death. Without faith it is impossible to know, love, serve or please God. Faith is a gift that all can ask for if they struggle with it. “I believe, Lord, help my unbelief,” one man said to Jesus.

For those of us who have lost loved ones already, Heaven is a place of consolation for those we believe did know and love and serve the Lord and are now experiencing their reward in Heaven.

Another cool aspect of Heaven is that our “treasure is in Heaven.” God will not only make us completely happy in Himself, through our vision of the “Beatific Vision” (seeing God face to face), but the Lord also promises “treasure” in Heaven. What, exactly, is this treasure? I have no idea, but if the streets of Heaven are paved with gold, as Scripture tells us, and I believe they are, then this “treasure” must be pretty amazing too. Of course, we could care less about money, gold, gems, jewels, money and so on in Heaven because we won’t need any of those things, but maybe they will be fun conversation pieces, objects of trade with other saints and angels and things like that :) Jesus, God the Father, the Holy Spirit, are our greatest treasure, beyond all others infinitely.

I once had a moment while at St. Peter’s Seminary in London, Ontario that I would say was the closest I felt to an experience of “Heaven” while still on earth. During a time of prayer I felt the Lord totally take over my heart, my mind, my soul, my spirit and even my body. I felt great love, peace, energy, calm, rest, hope and healing all at the same time. It lasted only about 15 minutes and then it was over. Still, it was just a very pale foreshadowing of Heaven. God sometimes gives us little tokens of consolations to keep us on our toes and give us a sense of looking forward to much greater and deeper things from him in the future.

My vocal style in *Heaven* was pretty mixed. I didn’t say a whole lot in that section of the song, mainly “caeli,” “Heaven.” It is kind of a call to celebrate God in Heaven. I’d like to thank Robert Plant, Roger Daltry, the late Freddy Mercury, Bono and Axl Rose for their excellent examples of good vocal techniques over the years, all of which I incorporated, in varying ways, in my vocals on “*Heaven*” in the last section of the song.

One of the first reviews we received at our initial Tempus Fugit release back in 2009 was: *"Amazing! I'm going to tell all my students about you!"* - UBC Professor of Music. We did that CD release/DVD release at St. James Hall, Vancouver, BC. David Sinclair did not play lead guitar live with us because we didn’t ask him to, but was in the audience enjoying the show! Star and I wanted to get used to playing as a duo with computers and sequencers and for that reason we didn’t have David or anyone else, e.g. a drummer, play with us for the show. Musically, it was a great night. Everything went as scheduled: no power outs, broken strings or broken guitar necks and the sound was great. We used our 12’ x 12’ Da Lite projection screen, which is a front, not backward, projection screen, so we ended up with the visual images on our faces, clothing, costumes and instruments, but it all worked out well.

Musically, though, it was an incomplete show because we had yet to compose the other parts of the songs, especially Heaven and Hell, adding drums, guitars, bass, keyboards, etc. Still, even though the initial show lacked a big punch at the end it was a great experience, though premature. I found out that my handmade lyre, the Egyptian lyre, was broken in the moving process from the venue back to our studio. It was really beyond repair. I may build another one when I get some spare time, but it did serve us well in recording the intro to “Death” for Tempus Fugit. David Sinclair emailed me around that time and said that the song Judgement was *“quite the epic.”* David’s playing on that song helped it to be even more epic-like.

A Word of Thanks

Cyndie and I want to again express our gratitude, first of all, to the Lord. It was God who inspired us, who sustained us and enabled us to transform our spiritual experiences into audio and visual forms, as well as live on stage. We also thank Davide Di Saro, who so excellently developed our musical and lyrical ideas into a powerful collection of stunning visual realities that became the music video for Tempus Fugit, one song at a time. We enjoyed meeting Davide personally at least twice during this collaborative effort in making our Tempus Fugit audio album a visual album. Davide came through wonderfully, listening to all of our ideas and working with them as well as bringing to us many creative original ideas of his own to embellish our music and bring it even more to life on the stage and the screen at the same time. The response we have gotten to both our music and his visual adaptations of it have been more than encouraging, ranging from professors of music at major Canadian universities to music fans on the internet.

We are also very grateful to the musicians who helped us at various stages in the recording of our Tempus Fugit album: David Sinclair (lead guitar), Nick Vulture (drums) and our studio engineers Mike Smith (Engineer) and Matt Snell (Assistant) from Phase One Studios in Toronto, Ontario. Thanks also to Romeo Grozelle, Cyndie's father, who allowed us to record Hell in his basement for one month and put up with Pete's screams for three hours, Freda Mason, Pete's mother, who allowed us to record Death and Judgement in her basement for over two years and allowed Pete to store his coffin in her home and the former pastor of St. Ursula's, Chatham, Ontario, who allowed us to record "Heaven" in his church for one week. Thanks also to Cyndie's mom, Eunice Grozelle, for her prayers and encouragement.

We are grateful to Nick Vutskos for providing us with a live venue to premier Tempus Fugit, for the second time, (first in Vancouver, BC) in Chatham, Ontario; Mandy Jacobs-Protopapas of All Kindz of Kopies for her assistance with the design and printing of this booklet; Scott Meriano of Tony's Music Shoppe for special effects supplies, lighting supplies and guitar maintenance. Finally, thanks to all who came out to the show tonight at Mystical Rose, aka Cyber Stadium.

Bookings

To book Myztery in your venue email info@myztery.net

Scripture Verses

Source: Douay-Rheims Bible

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For those who wish to go much deeper into the meaning of each song in Tempus Fugit, we have provided below many excellent selections from the Bible, aka Scripture, for you to read. This can be done prior to listening to each song or after each song or after the whole album has been listened too and viewed. It is not an exhaustive list but it is fairly substantial and draws from both the Old and New Testaments. It also flows chronologically, from the earliest book of the Bible, Genesis, to the last, Revelation.

Death

And he commanded him, saying: Of every tree of paradise thou shalt eat: But of the tree of knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat. For in what day soever thou shalt eat of it, thou shalt die the death. (Genesis 2:16-17)

And when Jesus had heard that John was delivered up, he retired into Galilee: And leaving the city Nazareth, he came and dwelt in Capharnaum on the sea coast, in the borders of Zabulon and of Nephthalim; That it might be fulfilled which was said by Isaias the prophet: Land of Zabulon and land of Nephthalim, the way of the sea beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles: The people that sat in darkness, hath seen great light: and to them that sat in the region of the shadow of death, light is sprung up. From that time Jesus began to preach, and to say: Do penance, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand. (Matthew 4:12-17)

Behold we go up to Jerusalem, and the Son of man shall be betrayed to the chief priests and to the scribes and ancients. And they shall condemn him to death and shall deliver him to the Gentiles. (Mark 10:33)

The God of our fathers hath raised up Jesus, whom you put to death, hanging him upon a tree. Him hath God exalted with his right hand, to be Prince and Saviour. to give repentance to Israel and remission of sins. (Acts 5:30-31)

For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son: much more, being reconciled, shall we be saved by his life. (Romans 5:10)

But death reigned from Adam unto Moses, even over them also who have not sinned, after the similitude of the transgression of Adam, who is a figure of him who was to come. But not as the

offence, so also the gift. For if by the offence of one, many died: much more the grace of God and the gift, by the grace of one man, Jesus Christ, hath abounded unto many. And not as it was by one sin, so also is the gift. For judgment indeed was by one unto condemnation: but grace is of many offences unto justification. (Romans 5:14-16)

What shall we say, then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound? God forbid! For we that are dead to sin, how shall we live any longer therein? Know you not that all we who are baptized in Christ Jesus are baptized in his death? For we are buried together with him by baptism into death: that, as Christ is risen from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we also may walk in newness of life. (Romans 6:1-4)

For the wages of sin is death. But the grace of God, life everlasting in Christ Jesus our Lord. (Romans 6:23)

And as in Adam all die, so also in Christ all shall be made alive. But every one in his own order: the first fruits, Christ: then they that are of Christ, who have believed in his coming. Afterwards the end: when he shall have delivered up the kingdom to God and the Father: when he shall have brought to nought all principality and power and virtue. For he must reign, until he hath put all his enemies under his feet. And the enemy, death, shall be destroyed last: For he hath put all things under his feet. (1 Corinthians 15:22-26)

For I have received of the Lord that which also I delivered unto you, that the Lord Jesus, the same night in which he was betrayed, took bread, And giving thanks, broke and said: Take ye and eat: This is my body, which shall be delivered for you. This do for the commemoration of me. In like manner also the chalice, after he had supped, saying: This chalice is the new testament in my blood. This do ye, as often as you shall drink, for the commemoration of me. For as often as you shall eat this bread and drink the chalice, you shall shew the death of the Lord, until he come. (1 Corinthians 11:23-26)

But is now made manifest by the illumination of our Saviour Jesus Christ, who hath destroyed death and hath brought to light life and incorruption by the gospel. (2 Timothy 1:10)

Let no man, when he is tempted, say that he is tempted by God. For God is not a tempter of evils: and he tempteth no man. But every man is tempted by his own concupiscence, being drawn away and allured. Then, when concupiscence hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin. But sin, when it is completed, begetteth death. (James 1:13-15)

We know that we have passed from death to life, because we love the brethren. He that loveth not abideth in death. (1 John 3:14)

All iniquity is sin. And there is a sin unto death. (1 John 5:17)

And in the midst of the seven golden candlesticks, one like to the Son of man, clothed with a garment down to the feet, and girt about the paps with a golden girdle. And his head and his hairs were white as white wool and as snow. And his eyes were as a flame of fire: And his feet like unto fine brass, as in a burning furnace. And his voice as the sound of many waters. And he had in his right hand seven stars. And from his mouth came out a sharp two-edged sword. And his face was as the sun shineth in his power. And when I had seen him, I fell at his feet as dead. And he laid his right hand upon me, saying: Fear not. I am the First and the Last, And alive, and was dead. And behold I am living for ever and ever and have the keys of death and of hell. (Revelation 1:13-18)

Judgement

Therefore, ye men of understanding, hear me: far from God be wickedness, and iniquity from the Almighty. For he will render to a man his work, and according to the ways of every one he will reward them. For in very deed God will not condemn without cause, neither will the Almighty pervert judgment. (Job 34:10-12)

But the Lord remaineth for ever. He hath prepared his throne in judgment: And he shall judge the world in equity, he shall judge the people in justice. (Psalm 9:7-8)

Decline from evil and do good, and dwell for ever and ever. For the Lord loveth judgment, and will not forsake his saints: they shall be preserved for ever. The unjust shall be punished, and the seed of the wicked shall perish. But the just shall inherit the land, and shall dwell therein for evermore. (Psalm 37:28-29)

Evil men think not on judgment: but they that seek after the Lord, take notice of all things. (Proverbs 28:5)

And all things that are done, God will bring into judgment for every error, whether it be good or evil. (Ecclesiastes 12:14)

And I will come to you in judgment, and will be a speedy witness against sorcerers, and adulterers, and false swearers, and them that oppress the hireling in his wages, the widows, and the fatherless: and oppress the stranger, and have not feared me, saith the Lord of hosts. (Malachi 3:5)

You have heard that it was said to them of old: Thou shalt not kill. And whosoever shall kill, shall be in danger of the judgment. But I say to you, that whosoever is angry with his brother, shall be in danger of the judgment. And whosoever shall say to his brother, Raca, shall be in danger of the council. And whosoever shall say, Thou fool, shall be in danger of hell fire. (Matthew 5:21-22)

Judge not, that you may not be judged. For with what judgment you judge, you shall be judged: and with what measure you mete, it shall be measured to you again. (Matthew 7:1-2)

But I say unto you, that every idle word that men shall speak, they shall render an account for it in the day of judgment. For by thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned. (Matthew 12:36-37)

He that believeth in him is not judged. But he that doth not believe is already judged: because he believeth not in the name of the only begotten Son of God. And this is the judgment: Because the light is come into the world and men loved darkness rather than the light: for their works were evil. For every one that doth evil hateth the light and cometh not to the light, that his works may not be reproved. But he that doth truth cometh to the light, that his works may be made manifest: because they are done in God. (John 3:18-21)

For neither does the Father judge any man: but hath given all judgment to the Son. That all men may honour the Son, as they honour the Father. He who honoureth not the Son honoureth not the Father who hath sent him. Amen, amen, I say unto you that he who heareth my word and believeth him that sent me hath life everlasting: and cometh not into judgment, but is passed from death to life. Amen, amen, I say unto you, that the hour cometh, and now is, when the dead shall hear the voice of the Son of God: and they that hear shall live. For as the Father hath life in himself, so he hath given to the Son also to have life in himself. And he hath given him power to do judgment, because he is the Son of man. Wonder not at this: for the hour cometh wherein all that are in the graves shall hear the voice of the Son of God. And they that have done good things shall come forth unto the resurrection of life: but they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of judgment. I cannot of myself do any thing. As I hear, so I judge. And my judgment is just: because I seek not my own will. but the will of him that sent me. (John 5:22-30)

And Jesus said: For judgment I am come into this world: that they who see not may see; and they who see may become blind. (John 9:39)

Now is the judgment of the world: now shall the prince of this world be cast out. (John 12:31)

But I tell you the truth: it is expedient to you that I go. For if I go not, the Paraclete will not come to you: but if I go, I will send him to you. And when he is come, he will convince the world of sin and of justice and of judgment. Of sin: because they believed not in me. And of justice: because I go to the Father: and you shall see me no longer. And of judgment: because the prince of this world is already judged. (John 16:7-11)

Wherefore thou art inexcusable, O man, whosoever thou art that judgest. For wherein thou judgest another, thou condemnest thyself. For thou dost the same things which thou judgest. For we know that the judgment of God is, according to truth, against them that do such things. And

thinkest thou this, O man, that judgest them who do such things and dost the same, that thou shalt escape the judgment of God? Or despisest thou the riches of his goodness and patience and longsuffering? Knowest thou not that the benignity of God leadeth thee to penance? But according to thy hardness and impenitent heart, thou treasurest up to thyself wrath, against the day of wrath and revelation of the just judgment of God: Who will render to every man according to his works. To them indeed who, according to patience in good work, seek glory and honour and incorruption, eternal life: But to them that are contentious and who obey not the truth but give credit to iniquity, wrath and indignation. (Romans 2:1-8)

But thou, why judgest thou thy brother? Or thou, why dost thou despise thy brother? For we shall all stand before the judgment seat of Christ. For it is written: As I live, saith the Lord, every knee shall bow to me and every tongue shall confess to God. Therefore every one of us shall render account to God for himself. (Romans 14:10-12)

Therefore, whosoever shall eat this bread, or drink the chalice of the Lord unworthily, shall be guilty of the body and of the blood of the Lord. But let a man prove himself: and so let him eat of that bread and drink of the chalice. For he that eateth and drinketh unworthily eateth and drinketh judgment to himself, not discerning the body of the Lord. Therefore are there many infirm and weak among you: and many sleep. But if we would judge ourselves, we should not be judged. But whilst we are judged, we are chastised by the Lord, that we be not condemned with this world. (1 Corinthians 11:27-32)

For we must all be manifested before the judgment seat of Christ, that every one may receive the proper things of the body, according as he hath done, whether it be good or evil. (2 Corinthians 5:10)

And as it is appointed unto men once to die, and after this the judgment. (Hebrews 9:27)

The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly from temptation, but to reserve the unjust unto the day of judgment to be tormented. (2 Peter 2:9)

Knowing this first: That in the last days there shall come deceitful scoffers, walking after their own lusts, 4 Saying: Where is his promise or his coming? For since the time that the fathers slept, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation. 5 For this they are wilfully ignorant of: That the heavens were before, and the earth out of water and through water, consisting by the word of God: 6 Whereby the world that then was, being overflowed with water, perished. 7 But the heavens and the earth which are now, by the same word are kept in store, reserved unto fire against the day of judgment and perdition of the ungodly men. (2 Peter 3:3-7)

And I saw another angel flying through the midst of heaven, having the eternal gospel, to preach unto them that sit upon the earth and over every nation and tribe and tongue and people: 7 Saying with a loud voice: Fear the Lord and give him honour, because the hour of his judgment is come. And adore ye him that made heaven and earth, the sea and the fountains of waters. 8 And another

angel followed, saying: That great Babylon is fallen, is fallen; which made all nations to drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication. 9 And the third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice: If any man shall adore the beast and his image and receive his character in his forehead or in his hand, 10 He also shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is mingled with pure wine in the cup of his wrath: and shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the sight of the holy angels and in the sight of the Lamb. 11 And the smoke of their torments, shall ascend up for ever and ever: neither have they rest day nor night, who have adored the beast and his image and whoever receiveth the character of his name. 12 Here is the patience of the saints, who keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus. (Revelation 14:6-12)

And I saw seats. And they sat upon them: and judgment was given unto them. And the souls of them that were beheaded for the testimony of Jesus and for the word of God and who had not adored the beast nor his image nor received his character on their foreheads or in their hands. And they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years. (Revelation 20:4)

Hell

A fire is kindled in my wrath, and shall burn even to the lowest hell: and shall devour the earth with her increase, and shall burn the foundations of the mountains. (Deuteronomy 32:22)

The Lord shall be known when he executeth judgments: the sinner hath been caught in the works of his own hands. The wicked shall be turned into hell, all the nations that forget God. (Psalm 9:16-17)

How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, who didst rise in the morning? how art thou fallen to the earth, that didst wound the nations? And thou saidst in thy heart: I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God, I will sit in the mountain of the covenant, in the sides of the north. I will ascend above the height of the clouds, I will be like the most High. 15 But yet thou shalt be brought down to hell, into the depth of the pit. (Isaiah 14:12-15)

You have heard that it was said to them of old: Thou shalt not kill. And whosoever shall kill, shall be in danger of the judgment. But I say to you, that whosoever is angry with his brother, shall be in danger of the judgment. And whosoever shall say to his brother, Raca, shall be in danger of the council. And whosoever shall say, Thou fool, shall be in danger of hell fire. (Matthew 5:21-22)

You have heard that it was said to them of old: Thou shalt not commit adultery. But I say to you, that whosoever shall look on a woman to lust after her, hath already committed adultery with her in his heart. And if thy right eye scandalize thee, pluck it out and cast it from thee. For it is expedient for thee that one of thy members should perish, rather than thy whole body be cast into hell. And if thy right hand scandalize thee, cut it off, and cast it from thee: for it is expedient for

thee that one of thy members should perish, rather than that thy whole body go into hell. And it hath been said, Whosoever shall put away his wife, let him give her a bill of divorce. But I say to you, that whosoever shall put away his wife, excepting the cause of fornication, maketh her to commit adultery: and he that shall marry her that is put away, committeth adultery. (Matthew 5:27-32)

And fear ye not them that kill the body, and are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him that can destroy both soul and body in hell. (Matthew 10:28)

And thou Capharnaum, shalt thou be exalted up to heaven? thou shalt go down even unto hell. For if in Sodom had been wrought the miracles that have been wrought in thee, perhaps it had remained unto this day. But I say unto you, that it shall be more tolerable for the land of Sodom in the day of judgment than for thee. (Matthew 11:23-24)

Jesus saith to them: But whom do you say that I am? Simon Peter answered and said: Thou art Christ, the Son of the living God. And Jesus answering said to him: Blessed art thou, Simon Bar-Jona: because flesh and blood hath not revealed it to thee, but my Father who is in heaven. And I say to thee: That thou art Peter; and upon this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. And I will give to thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven. And whatsoever thou shalt bind upon earth, it shall be bound also in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth, it shall be loosed also in heaven. (Matthew 16:15-19)

And if thy hand scandalize thee, cut it off: it is better for thee to enter into life, maimed, than having two hands to go into hell, into unquenchable fire: Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not extinguished. And if thy foot scandalize thee, cut it off: it is better for thee to enter lame into life everlasting than having two feet to be cast into the hell of unquenchable fire: Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not extinguished. And if thy eye scandalize thee, pluck it out: it is better for thee with one eye to enter into the kingdom of God than having two eyes to be cast into the hell of fire: Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not extinguished. (Mark 9:43-48)

Even so the tongue is indeed a little member and boasteth great things. Behold how small a fire kindleth a great wood. And the tongue is a fire, a world of iniquity. The tongue is placed among our members, which defileth the whole body and inflameth the wheel of our nativity, being set on fire by hell. (James 3:5-6)

For if God spared not the angels that sinned, but delivered them, drawn down by infernal ropes to the lower hell, unto torments, to be reserved unto judgment. (2 Peter 2:4)

And when I had seen him, I fell at his feet as dead. And he laid his right hand upon me, saying: Fear not. I am the First and the Last, and alive, and was dead. And behold I am living for ever and ever and have the keys of death and of hell. (Revelation 1:17-18)

And behold a pale horse: and he that sat upon him, his name was Death. And hell followed him. And power was given to him over the four parts of the earth, to kill with sword, with famine and with death and with the beasts of the earth. (Revelation 6:8)

And the sea gave up the dead that were in it: and death and hell gave up their dead that were in them. And they were judged, every one according to their works. And hell and death were cast into the pool of fire. This is the second death. And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the pool of fire. (Revelation 20:13-15)

Heaven

In the beginning God created heaven, and earth. (Genesis 1:1)

And thou gavest them bread from heaven in their hunger, and broughtest forth water for them out of the rock in their thirst, and thou saidst to them that they should go in, and possess the land, upon which thou hadst lifted up thy hand to give it them. (Nehemiah 9:15)

Dost not thou think that God is higher than heaven, and is elevated above the height of the stars? (Job 22:12)

Why have the Gentiles raged, and the people devised vain things? The kings of the earth stood up, and the princes met together, against the Lord, and against his Christ. Let us break their bonds asunder: and let us cast away their yoke from us. 4 He that dwelleth in heaven shall laugh at them: and the Lord shall deride them. (Psalm 2:1-4)

O Lord, thy mercy is in heaven, and thy truth reacheth even to the clouds. (Psalm 36:5)

Thou art terrible, and who shall resist thee? from that time thy wrath. Thou hast caused judgment to be heard from heaven: the earth trembled and was still, When God arose in judgment, to save all the meek of the earth. (Psalm 76:7-9)

The lord hath prepared his throne in heaven: and his kingdom shall rule over all. Bless the Lord, all ye his angels: you that are mighty in strength, and execute his word, hearkening to the voice of his orders. Bless the Lord, all ye his hosts: you ministers of his that do his will. Bless the Lord, all his works: in every place of his dominion, O my soul, bless thou the Lord. (Psalm 103:19-22)

Heaven and earth shall pass away: but my words shall not pass away. (Luke 21:33)

And there appeared to him an angel from heaven, strengthening him. And being in an agony, he prayed the longer. (Luke 22:43)

And it came to pass, whilst he blessed them, he departed from them and was carried up to heaven. (Luke 24:51)

Jesus answered and said to him: Because I said unto thee, I saw thee under the fig tree, thou believest: greater things than these shalt thou see. And he saith to him: Amen, amen, I say to you, you shall see the heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of man. (John 1:50-51)

And no man hath ascended into heaven, but he that descended from heaven, the Son of man who is in heaven. And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so must the Son of man be lifted up: That whosoever believeth in him may not perish, but may have life everlasting. For God so loved the world, as to give his only begotten Son: that whosoever believeth in him may not perish, but may have life everlasting. (John 3:13-16)

John answered and said: A man cannot receive any thing, unless it be given him from heaven. (John 3:27)

He that cometh from above is above all. He that is of the earth, of the earth he is, and of the earth he speaketh. He that cometh from heaven is above all. (John 3:31)

Then Jesus said to them: Amen, amen, I say to you; Moses gave you not bread from heaven, but my Father giveth you the true bread from heaven. For the bread of God is that which cometh down from heaven and giveth life to the world. They said therefore unto him: Lord, give us always this bread. And Jesus said to them: I am the bread of life. He that cometh to me shall not hunger: and he that believeth in me shall never thirst. (John 6:32-35)

All that the Father giveth to me shall come to me: and him that cometh to me, I will not cast out. Because I came down from heaven, not to do my own will but the will of him that sent me. Now this is the will of the Father who sent me: that of all that he hath given me, I should lose nothing; but should raise it up again in the last day. And this is the will of my Father that sent me: that every one who seeth the Son and believeth in him may have life everlasting. And I will raise him up in the last day. (John 6:37-40)

I am the bread of life. Your fathers did eat manna in the desert: and are dead. This is the bread which cometh down from heaven: that if any man eat of it, he may not die. I am the living bread which came down from heaven. If any man eat of this bread, he shall live for ever: and the bread that I will give is my flesh, for the life of the world. (John 6:48-51)

But you shall receive the power of the Holy Ghost coming upon you, and you shall be witnesses unto me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and Samaria, and even to the uttermost part of the earth.

And when he had said these things, while they looked on, he was raised up: and a cloud received him out of their sight. And while they were beholding him going up to heaven, behold two men stood by them in white garments. Who also said: Ye men of Galilee, why stand you looking up to heaven? This Jesus who is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come as you have seen him going into heaven. (Acts 1:8-11)

For I am not ashamed of the gospel. For it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth: to the Jew first and to the Greek. For the justice of God is revealed therein, from faith unto faith, as it is written: The just man liveth by faith. For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and injustice of those men that detain the truth of God in injustice: (Romans 1:16-18)

For we know, if our earthly house of this habitation be dissolved, that we have a building of God, a house not made with hands, eternal in heaven. For in this also we groan, desiring to be clothed upon with our habitation that is from heaven. (2 Corinthians 5:1-2)

He humbled himself, becoming obedient unto death, even to the death of the cross. For which cause, God also hath exalted him and hath given him a name which is above all names: That in the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those that are in heaven, on earth, and under the earth: And that every tongue should confess that the Lord Jesus Christ is in the glory of God the Father. (Phillipians 2:8-11)

But our conversation is in heaven: from whence also we look for the Saviour, our Lord Jesus Christ, who will reform the body of our lowliness, made like to the body of his glory, according to the operation whereby also he is able to subdue all things unto himself. (Phillipians 3:20-21)

It is necessary therefore that the patterns of heavenly things should be cleansed with these: but the heavenly things themselves with better sacrifices than these. For Jesus is not entered into the Holies made with hands, the patterns of the true: but into Heaven itself, that he may appear now in the presence of God for us. (Hebrews 9:23-24)

This is he that came by water and blood, Jesus Christ: not by water only but by water and blood. And it is the Spirit which testifieth that Christ is the truth. And there are Three who give testimony in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost. And these three are one. And there are three that give testimony on earth: the spirit and the water and the blood. And these three are one. If we receive the testimony of men, the testimony of God is greater. For this is the testimony of God, which is greater, because he hath testified of his Son. (1 John 5:6-9)

And a great sign appeared in heaven: A woman clothed with the sun, and the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars. And being with child, she cried travailing in birth: and was in pain to be delivered. And there was seen another sign in heaven. And behold a great red dragon, having seven heads and ten horns and on his heads seven diadems. And his tail drew the third part of the stars of heaven and cast them to the earth. And the dragon stood before the

woman who was ready to be delivered: that, when she should be delivered, he might devour her son. And she brought forth a man child, who was to rule all nations with an iron rod. And her son was taken up to God and to his throne.

And the woman fled into the wilderness, where she had a place prepared by God, that there they should feed her, a thousand two hundred sixty days. And there was a great battle in heaven: Michael and his angels fought with the dragon, and the dragon fought, and his angels. And they prevailed not: neither was their place found any more in heaven. And that great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, who is called the devil and Satan, who seduceth the whole world. And he was cast unto the earth: and his angels were thrown down with him. And I heard a loud voice in heaven, saying: Now is come salvation and strength and the kingdom of our God and the power of his Christ: because the accuser of our brethren is cast forth, who accused them before our God day and night. And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of the testimony: and they loved not their lives unto death. (Revelation 12:1-11)

After these things, I heard as it were the voice of much people in heaven, saying: Alleluia. Salvation and glory and power is to our God. For true and just are his judgments, who hath judged the great harlot which corrupted the earth with her fornication and hath revenged the blood of his servants, at her hands. And again they said: Alleluia. And her smoke ascendeth for ever and ever. And the four and twenty ancients and the four living creatures fell down and adored God that sitteth upon the throne, saying: Amen. Alleluia. (Revelation 19:1-4)

I saw a new heaven and a new earth. For the first heaven and the first earth was gone: and the sea is now no more. And I, John, saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a great voice from the throne, saying: Behold the tabernacle of God with men: and he will dwell with them. And they shall be his people: and God himself with them shall be their God. And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes: and death shall be no more. Nor mourning, nor crying, nor sorrow shall be any more, for the former things are passed away. And he that sat on the throne, said: Behold, I make all things new. And he said to me: Write. For these words are most faithful and true. And he said to me: It is done. I am Alpha and Omega: the Beginning and the End. To him that thirsteth, I will give of the fountain of the water of life, freely. He that shall overcome shall possess these things. And I will be his God: and he shall be my son. But the fearful and unbelieving and the abominable and murderers and whoremongers and sorcerers and idolaters and all liars, they shall have their portion in the pool burning with fire and brimstone, which is the second death. (Revelation 21:1-8)

And there came one of the seven angels, who had the vials full of the seven last plagues, and spoke with me, saying: Come and I will shew thee the bride, the wife of the Lamb. And he took me up in spirit to a great and high mountain: and he shewed me the holy city Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, Having the glory of God, and the light thereof was like to a precious stone, as to the jasper stone even as crystal. And it had a wall great and high, having twelve gates, and in the gates twelve angels, and names written thereon, which are the names of

the twelve tribes of the children of Israel. On the east, three gates: and on the north, three gates: and on the south, three gates: and on the west, three gates. And the wall of the city had twelve foundations: And in them, the twelve names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb, and he that spoke with me had a measure of a reed of gold, to measure the city and the gates thereof and the wall.

And the city lieth in a four-square: and the length thereof is as great as the breadth. And he measured the city with the golden reed for twelve thousand furlongs: and the length and the height and the breadth thereof are equal. And he measured the wall thereof an hundred forty-four cubits, the measure of a man, which is of an angel. And the building of the wall thereof was of jasper stone: but the city itself pure gold like to clear glass. And the foundations of the wall of the city were adorned with all manner of precious stones. The first foundation was jasper: the second, sapphire: the third, a chalcedony: the fourth, an emerald: The fifth, sardonyx: the sixth, sardius: the seventh, chrysolite: the eighth, beryl: the ninth, a topaz: the tenth, a chrysoprasus: the eleventh, a jacinth: the twelfth, an amethyst.

And the twelve gates are twelve pearls, one to each: and every several gate was of one several pearl. And the street of the city was pure gold, as it were, transparent glass. And I saw no temple therein. For the Lord God Almighty is the temple thereof, and the Lamb. And the city hath no need of the sun, nor of the moon, to shine in it. For the glory of God hath enlightened it: and the Lamb is the lamp thereof. And the nations shall walk in the light of it: and the kings of the earth shall bring their glory and honour into it. And the gates thereof shall not be shut by day: for there shall be no night there. And they shall bring the glory and honour of the nations into it. There shall not enter into it any thing defiled or that worketh abomination or maketh a lie: but they that are written in the book of life of the Lamb.

(Revelation 21:9-27)

Notes

