



That unfair trial of Nazarene

In a valley in Nazareth lived a divine Rabbi
Who contrary to laws of nature born from a
virgin's seed
A humble carpenter was His foster father and
mother graceful
A life of poverty, obscurity and obedience He led
Foreign travels He had none, in babyhood with
His parents fled
In childhood, He puzzled Mosaic lawyers on
questions asked
In manhood, He showed the people the way,
truth and light
His kinfolds around Nazareth belittle His good work.
Education He had none, in babyhood, with
his parents fled
He ruled over nature – woke the dead, maim cured,
calmed the noisy sea
Changed water to tasty wine; few loaves of bread
and fish thousands fed
The blind, lepers and mute healed, demons fled
in ease
For the good He did, vile High priest and Pharisees
desired His blood
Phew! Judas Iscariot greased with thirty shekels
for Rabbi's night arrest
Nazarene broke no penal code; was to explain
one's opinion justify crucifixion
Warrant for night arrest none; taken bounded
for Pharisees' delight
Was to state seated on right hand of God
a crime deserving death?
The witnesses coaxed to lie to prove Rabbi's guilt
Trial by jury and lawyers to defend none
Being looped, His disciples took to heels to beat
Judgement of Pilate and Caiaphas on death penalty
malfeide
Appeal to Caesar non-exist breach of Roman
law unright
A trial where human rights watered down –
clearly ultra vires
Will annals of justice and judgement ever forget
an unfair trial so tight?

- H.L.D.E. Perera

A New Year



The uncharted way
Of a three hundred and sixty five day route
Spreads ahead;
Glimmering, shimmering, sparkling bright
Invitingly, alluringly, beckoning
Commandeering exploration
Detours there may be
Lush lands that flourish
Peaceful, meandering streams and rushing falls
Volcanic eruptions, hurricanes, yawning chasms
Whatever they be,
This road needs to be traversed.
Travel light then.
That the journey be not tedious
Lighten then, the burden of fellow travellers
Traversing alongside.
That at the end of the journey
One may experience the satisfaction
Of an uncertain, unknown journey, well made
An uncharted road well-explored

- Jeannette Cabraal