

Christmas reflections

*O Little Town of Bethlehem's home
Where shepherd boys would roam
A despised David honed his skill*

*One day the mighty Goliath to kill
God of thunder and awesome glory
Incarnate human history His story*

*Helpless Christ Babe of Bethlehem
Matched against Herod's mayhem
Profit makes every child the target
Digital toxicity floods the market
There were three trees by the Sea of Galilee.*

First said - I want to serve the humble.

It grew to be an ugly log and was cut and made into a trough to feed animals.

While in a stable in Bethlehem feeding the animals, one cold night, a strange couple laid their dirty poor clothes and laid a Baby "Away in a Manger".

The second was long - was dug out and turned into a canoe.

It went on the Sea of Galilee handled by a rough fisherman called Simeon.

Jesus of Nazareth came to Peter's boat and it became the kneeling Altar of the Big Fisherman - "Lord I am a sinful man".

The Third tree was handsome and proud - full of knots - it said, "I want be by a king - His throne". Long neglected it laid in a timber yard in Jerusalem.

Full of knots nothing useful could be done.

One day rough Roman soldiers came to the yard and demanded two logs.

The mill owner gave the knotty ones.

Soldiers tied the two and made a cross for the Saviour - its wish granted - a Tragic Throne for a Shepherd King.

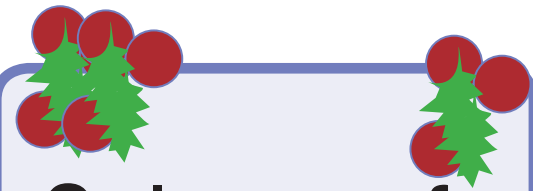
*St. Joseph did protect the God bearing Mother
Innkeeper did economically renting the Stable
Shepherds did believingly and quickly hear, run, worship and spread the Evangel
Magi did magnanimously Gold, myrrh and frankincense offer
The priest did cunningly support the despot king
Herod did terribly - tyrant terrorised by a Liberator born a Baby.
Creation did gloriously proclaim with starry echelons the Messiah's Incarnation
Angels did magnificently manifest Messiah's Glorious Advent
Magi brought Baby King Gold.*

*Myrrh signified the sorrows He will face and the frankincense said - In victory He will rise.
Incarnation fulfilled the Desire of Every Nation for Justice and Peace.*

To His Government their will be no barrier as we make Him the King of our life.

That would be Christmas for me. Christmas - God came to earth to be One like us - that we might be one like Him.

- Dr Lalith Mendis



Colours of Christmas

Red, Santa's outfit fur-edged in white
The all-consuming colour of Christmas tide
Holly, baubles, balloons, decorations galore
Echoing the jollity, the ostentation, the glow.
Evergreen the Christmas Tree with a myriad colours decked
The neo-white exquisite, simulatingly snow-flecked
Silver the tail-star sparkingly bright
Atop the tree, above the stable radiating light.
Within, the sombre colours of a stable décor
Drab cattle, grey donkeys, a muted rapport
Perfect backdrop, the night sky of inky blue
Colours of Christmas contrasting hues.

- Jeannette Cabraal

