

Johnny Cash, Here Was A Man

(Joy to the world the Lord is come)

Here was a man a man who was born in a small village the son of a peasant woman

He grew up in another small village

Until he reached the age of thirty he worked as a carpenter

Then for three years he was a traveling minister

But he never traveled more than two hundred miles from where he was born

And where he did go he usually walked

He never held political office he never wrote a book never bought a home

Never had a family he never went to college and he never set foot inside a big city

Yes here was a man

Though he never did one on the things usually associated with greatness

He had no credentials but himself he had nothing to do with this world

Except through the divine purpose that brought him to this world

While he was still a young man the tide of popular opinion turned against him

Most of his friends ran away one of them denied him

One of them betrayed him and turned him over to his enemies

Then he went through the mockery of a trial

And was nailed to a cross between two thieves

And even while he was dying his executioners gambled

For the only piece of property that he had in this world

And that was his robe his purple robe

When he was dead he was taken down from the cross

And laid in a borrowed grave provided by compassionate friends

More than nineteen centuries have come and gone

And today he's a centerpiece of the human race

Our leader in the column to human destiny

I think I'm well within the mark when I say that all of the armies that ever marched All of the navies

All of the legislative bodies that ever sat and all of the kings that ever reigned

All of them put together have not affected the life of man on this earth

So powerfully as that one solitary life

Here was a man (joy to the world the Lord is come)