



THE ACTS OF WALDO THE APOSTLE

MORNING STAR

A NEW MUSICAL BY RYAN MALONE

LINER NOTES • *Live premiere recording from Armstrong Auditorium • June 22, 2014*

SINGING CAST

**(from IMPERIAL ACADEMY OF EDMOND
and HERBERT W. ARMSTRONG COLLEGE)**

Waldo Zechariah Henderson (age 14)
Narrator/Teacher (soprano) Jessica Brandon (age 16)
Narrator/Teacher (alto) Lindsay Eagle (HWAC sophomore)
Lady Fair Jordy Rouzer (HWAC sophomore)
Bernard Jordan Ellis (HWAC freshman)
Stephen Gianni Welsh (age 16)
Religious Leader of Lyon Seth Malone (age 13)
Persecutor (tenor) Scott Heerma (age 12)
Persecutor (baritone) Caleb Heerma (age 15)
Trobairitz (vocalist, violinist) Vienna Flurry (age 14)
Troubador (vocalist, guitarist) Michael Davis (age 16)

Chorus Erica Amos, Erica Anderson, Chrissie Dattolo,
 Aaron J. Eagle, Cami Eagle, Jude Flurry, Ethan Hensley, Ellie Hilliker,
 Zoe Hilliker, Leah Hyde, Audrey Locher, Victoria Locher,
 Isaac Macdonald, Savannah Macdonald, Ezekiel Malone,
 Ashlynn McLain, Mitchell McLain, Ariana Saranga, Eliesha Saranga,
 Jordan Saranga, Alexa Turgeon, Micah Turgeon, Paris Turgeon,
 Ansley Welsh, Samuel Welsh, Zachary Williams

Executive Producer Gerald Flurry
Executive Producers Stephen Flurry, Andrew Locher
Producer Ryan Malone
Audio Engineer Benjamin Tauer
Keyboard Ryan Malone
Percussion Mark Jenkins
Logo Design Elyssia Lancaster

ACT ONE: THE CALLING
Town Square, Lyon, France

PROLOGUE: THE VAUDOIS TEACHER

(poem by John Greenleaf Whittier)

(Waldo)

O Lady fair, these silks of mine are beautiful and rare,
The richest web of the Indian loom, which beauty's queen might wear;
And my pearls are pure as thy own fair neck,
with whose radiant light they vie;
I have brought them with me a weary way—
will my gentle lady buy?

(Narrator Alto)

The lady smiled on the worn old man
through dark and clustering curls
Which veiled her brow, as she bent to view
his silks and glittering pearls;

(Narrator Soprano)

And she placed their price in the old man's hand
and lightly turned away,
But she paused at the wanderer's earnest call

(Waldo)

My gentle lady, stay!
O lady fair, I have yet a gem which a purer lustre flings,
Than the diamond flash of the jewelled crown
on the lofty brow of kings;
A wonderful pearl of exceeding price,
whose virtue shall not decay,
Whose light shall be as a spell to thee
and a blessing on thy way!

(Narrator Alto)

The lady glanced at the mirroring steel
where her form of grace was seen,

(Narrator Soprano)

Where her eye shone clear, and her dark locks
waved their clasping pearls between;

(Lady Fair)

Bring forth thy pearl of exceeding worth,
thou traveller gray and old,
And name the price of thy precious gem,
and my page shall count thy gold.

(Narrator Alto)

The cloud went off from the pilgrim's brow,
as a small and meagre book,
Unchased with gold or gem of cost,
from his folding robe he took!

(Waldo)

Here, lady fair, is the pearl of price,
may it prove as such to thee
Nay, keep thy gold—I ask it not,
for the word of God is free!

(Narrator Alto)

The hoary traveller went his way,
but the gift he left behind
Hath had its pure and perfect work
on that high-born maiden's mind,

(Narrator Soprano, Lady Fair)

And she hath turned from the pride of sin
to the lowliness of truth,
And given her human heart to God
in its beautiful hour of youth

(Lady Fair)

And she hath left the gray old halls,
where an evil faith had power,
The courtly knights of her father's train,
and the maidens of her bower;

(Waldo)

And she hath gone to the Vaudois vales
by lordly feet untrod,

(All)

Where the poor and needy of earth
are rich in the perfect love of God!

NO TIME LIKE THE PRESENT

(Trobairitz)

Life is like the flowers
Which bloom a few short hours,
Only to be cut down in their prime,
Life is like the vapor,
Which in the air will taper,
Till snuffed out by the measure we call time.

Fleeting as a shadow,
Or withering as a meadow
Whose blades of grass the wind will drive away.
Though vibrant at the dawn,
By evening they are gone.
All life on Earth is doomed to this decay.
There's ...

No time like the present.
No instant to waste.
No cause like the moment,
No spirit like haste.

**No second to squander,
No hour to delay.
No time like the present.
No day like today.**

Full of vast uncertainties
The future holds no guarantees
Who knows what tasks tomorrow will allow?
Yesterday has vanished;
To history it is banished.
The time that matters most — is now!

DANCE BREAK

(Waldo)
I look on all my toils,
And all my profit's spoils,
Their value fades in company of death.
No riches can regain
The time I've spent in vain.
So answers I must find while I have breath!

THE WORD IS NOT BOUND

(Stephen)
Since the godless time of Babel's tower,
All have been divided by their speech.

(Bernard)
Worship has been voiced with great confusion,
Truth has been diminished in its reach.

(Stephen)
Vast arrays of sounds fill every land,
Making our communities quite small.

(Bernard)
Words take many forms in every language
Yet one Word must be the same for all...

(Both)
**The Word of God
Is not bound by earthly borders
Or bound by mortal walls.
The Word of God
Is not bound to priestly orders
Or bound to cloistered halls.
The Word of God
Must be found in every corner,
Renowned and read by all,
So every man can understand
When God our Father calls.**

(Bernard)
Five words of understanding
can make the Scriptures plain.

(Stephen)
But ten thousand in an unknown tongue
will make the Scriptures vain.

(Bernard) The mystery has been hidden
(Stephen) So line by line we strain,
(Bernard) So precept upon precept

(Both)
The answers of the ages at last can be attained.

(Stephen) Soon a godly light will fill the Earth;
(Bernard) All will be united in their speech.

(Stephen)
Worship will be voiced in one, pure language;

(Both)
Plain will be the truth from those who preach.

TRUE RICHES

(Narrator Soprano)
A rich young man once came to The Lord
To seek the path of light.
Though He knew many truths
Since the days of his youth,
One virtue he could not cite.
Christ said perfection would be found
In what he must forsake.
But to sell all he had
And make the poor glad
Was more than the young man could take.
But another rich man would not resign
To the same covetous end.
He took God at His Word
And applied what he'd heard,
On Heaven he would depend,

**For true riches are a heavenly treasure,
Eternal wealth beyond every measure.
Stored where nothing waxes old:
Immortal jewels and lasting gold,**

When searching for the finest pearls,
He found one of great price.
So all he possessed
He now would invest
In lasting merchandise.
In poverty he found new wealth
In lack he found new joy.
For his riches accrued
Where no thief can intrude

Where moth can never destroy.
He set his heart on lofty goals
That money can't obtain.
Increasing in worth,
Awaiting rebirth,
Godliness was his gain.

How we came into this world
Is how we shall return,
Unclothed from the womb,
Undone by the tomb,
There is nothing more we earn.

Yet some who claim to serve The Lord
And represent His truth
Are slaves unto their worldly wealth—
Increased in earthly goods.
In need of nothing past this life
Their treasures soon will rust.
Corrupted by their opulence,
They fall to their own lust.

PROVE IT FOR YOURSELF

(Waldo)
Search these Scriptures daily,
Discover what is true.
Masses follow blindly;
Does that apply to you?
Scrutinize this product
Much like the goods I sell,
Verify its value: Prove it for yourself.

Faith should not be faulty;
Religion is no guess.
Claims of men are paltry

So put them to the test.
Trust not in assertions
That human lips may tell;
Find it in the Scriptures: Prove it for yourself!

This truth can make you wiser
Than any king's adviser,
More noble than the rulers of the land.
You all have this ability
If God provides the will to see.
Your mind can hold the power to understand.

Hold to this instruction,
And never let it go.
Keep it from destruction
True life these words bestow.
Have it always ready,
Not resting on a shelf;
See it with your own eyes: Prove it for yourself!

OUR CHRISTIAN DUTY

(Religious Leader of Lyon)
Be not deceived by these clever crooks;
They seduce with silks just to force their books.
Such methods by which many have been vexed.
As crafty merchants of the "textile" trade,
They weave their words in a keen charade:
It's all a front for goods that they call "text."
Who can bear the words these impostors spout?
We must wear them down!
We must chase them out!

This is our Christian duty
Our holy obligation:
To silence and stop

This ungodly aberration.
This is our Christian duty:
To hinder and hush.
To frustrate and foil,
To quench and to crush!

These weak and base would have you think
Salvation lies in page and ink.

(Persecutor Baritone)
Can they discern the truth without a guide?

(Leader)
We must walk by faith, not just prove by sight!
Can so many be wrong, and so few be right—

(Persecutor Tenor) With the law,
(Persecutor B.) the wealth
(Leader) and custom on our side?

(Persecutor B.)
They are smug and pious Pharisees.

(Persecutor T.)
We must blot out all their heresies.

(Leader)
They have no right or authority
To preach against our majority.

(Persecutor B.)
What credentials can these lowly, poor men claim?

(Leader) We must now regain the flock they took.

(Persecutor T.)
Do they think they only own this book?

(Leader)
We must stamp out all dissension they inflame.

(Persecutor B.) We must torch their texts;
(Leader) we must squelch their skill.
(Persecutor T.) We must drain them dry;
(All) we must waste their will!

WHAT TO SAY

(Narrator Alto)
God promised to His preachers,
When called before their foes,
To give them words of wisdom
Which no one can oppose.
He was with the mouth of Moses,
And cleansed Isaiah's lips;
Touched the tongue of Jeremiah,
So that they all spoke from Heavenly scripts.

When called before a ruler
To defend what you opined,
This fearful confrontation
Can shake the surest mind.
Fear not, for this encounter
Is just another way
To bear witness of the message
In everything you say.

**Take no thought how you should answer,
Or the words you must convey.
Open your mouth and He will fill it.
He will teach you what to say.**

Perhaps these words will be welcome,
Who knows if they will heed?

Even God gave Jezebel space to change,
So let him go and plead.
He knows the depths of Satan
This burden he must bear,
To expose this great seduction
In the words he must declare.

Whether pharaoh, lord or priest,
In whatever form this beast,
Your testimony comes from past the stars.
Your Father speaks in you
Through the Spirit He imbues,
This message from the Heavens, how it roars!

OBEY GOD RATHER THAN MEN

(Trobairitz) We all feel a pressure follow the
crowd.
So many entice with the easy way out.

(Solo: Eleisha Saranga)
They come well-disguised as angels of light.
But they in true form are dragons of night,

(Troubador) Deceiving to get our convictions to
bend,

(Waldo) But we must obey God rather than men.

(Stephen)
When Daniel was outlawed from worshiping God
He would not show conformity as a facade.

(Bernard)
He kneeled to The Lord never caring who saw:
For he was devoted to much higher law.

(Both)
He knew that in spite of the fierce lion's den,
He must obey God rather than men.

(Narrator Alto)
These words of our Lord are now ringing true:
If they persecute me, they will persecute you.

(Narrator Soprano)
Shake the dust off our feet
From where we now trod,
Though we might feel alone, w
We walk with our God,

(Trobairitz)
Though it stings to be scorned
By those once called our friends.

(Leads) We must obey God rather than men.

(All)
We must take a stand
With mighty hand
Allow no fear to take command!
Let the Spirit of courage remind us again:
We must obey God rather than men!

ACT TWO: THE SCHOOLS
La Torre, Lucerna, Italy (Valley of Light)

ENTRACTE / WRITE IT ON OUR HEARTS

(Chorus)
The Word of God
Is not bound by earthly borders

Or bound by mortal walls.
The Word of God
Must be found in every corner
Renowned and read by all,
So every man can understand
When God our Father calls.

Write it on our hearts.

Etch it on our minds.

Mark it on our memories,

Fixed there for all time.

Put it in our inward parts.

Write it on our hearts!

(Soprano 1)

In the beginning God said:
“Let there be light,”
He divided it from the darkness
And called it Day and Night.

(Alto 1)

Reuben, Simeon, Levi, Judah,
Zebulun, Issachar, Dan, Gad,
Asher, Naphtali, Joseph, Benjamin,
These are the sons Jacob had.

(Alto 2)

The Ten Commandments of our God
That He wrote in Horeb’s rock,
You shall have no other gods before our Lord,
No graven idols shall you serve,
And God’s holy name preserve.
Guard and keep His Sabbath day forevermore
You shall show the highest honor
To your mother and your father.
You shall not kill or be unfaithful to your spouse.
You shall not steal, You shall not lie

Nor look with lustful eye
At your neighbor’s wife, possessions or his house.

(Tenor 1)

The proverbs are for wisdom and instruction,
The words of understanding to perceive,
To know interpretations of the wise,
Equity and judgment to receive.

(Baritone 2)

Blest are the poor in spirit,
For the kingdom shall be theirs.
Blest are those who mourn,
Great comfort they will share.
Blest are the meek, of the Earth they are heirs.
Blest are those who hunger,
Blest are those who thirst;
If righteousness they crave,
In this they’ll be immersed.
Blest are the merciful,
For mercy they obtain,
Blest are the pure in heart,
for God their eyes shall gain.
Blest are the peacemakers,
God’s children they are named.
Blest are the persecuted,
For the righteousness they bear,
The kingdom of God will be theirs.

(Baritone 1)

The Spirit’s fruits are love,
Joy, peace and patience
Kindness, goodness, faith,
Meekness and moderation.

(Tenor 2)

To stand we must wear the whole armor of God.

With the gospel of peace our feet will be shod.
A breastplate of righteousness covers our hearts
And faith shields us from Satan’s fiery darts.
Loins girded with truth, we can mightily stand,
With the sword of the Spirit—
God’s Word—in our hands,
The helmet we wear is salvation and hope,
While praying God’s servants may always be bold.

(Soprano 2)

Seven Churches, seven seals,
Seven trumpets God reveals.
Three are woes, then seven plagues,
Before the Lamb’s great wedding day.
One thousand years will all inspire,
Great judgment, then a lake of fire.
The holy city will descend,
It all comes quickly. Amen.

(Trobairitz) Prepared to answer we must be,

(Solo: Ansley Welsh)

For soon the eyes of all will see.

(Solo: Jordan Saranga)

The errors on their hearts God will erase.

(Solo: Zoe Hilliker) His Word we then will etch

(Solo: Ellie Hilliker) On ready hearts of flesh;

(Solo: Ezekiel Malone)

The stubborn hearts of stone God will replace,

(All)

And we will...

Write it on their hearts.

Etch it on their minds

Mark it on their memories,
Fixed there for all time.
Put it in their inward parts,
Write it on their hearts!

LARGEST AUDIENCE POSSIBLE

(Chorus)

Two by two with fiery zeal,
He sends us forth to preach and heal,
City by city we cleanse and we raise,
Till every land can finally hear God's praise!

Though starting small like mustard seeds,
We blossom full with righteous deeds.
What He told us in darkness
Will spread like a flame;
What He said in our ears we will loudly proclaim!

This good news

Must be unstoppable.

This good news

Must clear every obstacle.

This good news

Must reach the largest audience possible!

Like sheep among wolves,
Like fires in the dark,
We sagely tread to make our mark—
As wise as the serpent,
As harmless as doves,
Performing God's will
Until His Kingdom comes!

All peoples, nations, tongues and kings,
Must hear the tidings we will bring.

We will knock on each door,
And go through every gate.
An innumerable multitude awaits!

Our God wants all men saved,
To turn to Him and live.
So freely we received,
Now freely we will give.
This good news!

FACE THE FLAME

(Lady Fair)

An elder went before us,
Enraged by pagan ways,
The relics that they cherished,
He set them all ablaze,
So mobs would quickly seize him,
Peter Bruys was his name.
They brought him to the town square,
And made him face the flame.

Now how do we respond
When a worldly king decrees
That people should be burned
For the truth that they believe?
Do we regard it strange—
All the fiery trials we face?
The heat contained within them
For us is commonplace.

**Each day we face the flame,
Our faith it tests and tries
Each day we face the flame,
In our Savior's fiery eyes
Each day we face the flame,**

**Like pure gold we are refined.
Each day we face the flame,
Will we melt or will we shine?**

If plunged into the furnace
We shall escape unharmed
For the Son of God goes with us,
With His courage we are armed.
See His pillar goes before us,
All the light that we require,
If an army would pursue us
At our backs He stands as fire!

Our foes will face the flame
In the fiery eyes of Christ.
Our foes will face the flame,
For the blood they sacrificed.
And this world will face the flame
Dissolving like the chaff,
This world will face the flame,
And wither into ash.

But our flame as in Israel's tabernacle
Will remain as a true eternal candle.
We are the children of the light,
For brightness we will strive.
So ignite the torch, and pass it on,
And keep our flame alive!

THE END OF THE BOOK

(Waldo)

Outnumbered,
Overpowered,
And feeling we are up against all odds,
Encumbered

And devoured
By every fear that taunts the Church of God.

But to death our cause will never be condemned.
For there are more with us than with them!

**It's more how we finish
Than how we begin
So I looked at the end of the book,
I looked at the end of the book,
And we win.**

The gates of hell will never overtake us.
No instrument of death can ever break us.
Our lamp will always burn
Until our Lord's return
And no power confined to this Earth
will ever shake us!

No weapons formed against us shall prosper!
And flames will only make our zeal burn hotter
and hotter!
More than conquerors are we,
Laying hold on our eternal victory!

Outnumbered,
Overpowered,
Yes, they are up against all odds.
Unencumbered,
We are empowered:
For on our side is our Almighty God.

One of us can put a thousand men to flight
So ready your armor,
And fight the good fight!

THE MORNING STAR

(Waldo)
The time is coming soon
When night will pass away,
The glow of this horizon
Brings everlasting day.
When all will be revealed,
God promised this reward
To those who overcome:
He will give the morning star.

(Chorus)
**The morning star,
A light to guide all nations.
The morning star,
It shines to show the way.
The morning star,
A flame to chase all shadows,
The morning star,
It brings a brighter day.**

He clothes us with the sun—
A dazzling, brilliant gown,
The moon reflects beneath us,
Twelve stars provide our crown.
When glory is revealed
All kings will see our rise.
All nations seek our brightness
To sparkle in their eyes.

This valley of light shall be exalted
To stand as a city on a hill.
No more will we be bound to Earth's dark corners,
For all will see the world now filled
With the morning star:
It brings a brighter, everlasting day!

LARGEST AUDIENCE POSSIBLE (REPRISE)

DANCE BREAK

(Chorus)
Our God wants all men saved,
To turn to Him and live.
So freely we received,
Now freely we will give.

**This good news
Must be unstoppable.
This good news
Must clear every obstacle.
This good news
Must reach the largest audience possible!**