

# JESUS, THE ANOINTED ONE

The Original Stageplay



**CHRISTIAN PLAYWRIGHT**

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## Sample Script



**Setting: Empty Stage. There can be a few palm trees around.**

**LIGHTS UP**

*JESUS is standing CS, his head bowed, his hands bound with pieces of chord. He lifts his head for only a moment and stares at the audience. Then bows his head again.*

**VOICES (Male & Female):** It is better that one man die for the people! Crucify him! If you release him, you are no friend of Caesars. Crucify him. Release Barabbas. Give us Barabbas. Let his blood be on us, and on our children. We want him dead. He is nothing but trouble. Blasphemer — calls himself God. Can a man be equal to God?! Imposter. Counterfeit. The world is better off without him. Crucify him.

*Long pause — the voices decrease until there is just silence.*

**VOICE:** The virgin will conceive and bear a son, and they will call him 'Immanuel.'

*MARY enters holding a young child wrapped in swaddling clothes. She is rocking the baby in her arms, singing a sweet lullaby as she crosses the stage in front of Jesus. This is like a scene replaying from his past.*

*Jesus glances up, looks at Mary, and smiles.*

**JESUS:** (whispers) Mother!

*Mary continues to stroll across the stage, gleefully, and exits.*

**VOICE:** And you, Beit-Lechem in the land of Y'udah, are by no means the least among the rulers of Y'udah: for from you will come a Ruler who will shepherd my people Isra'el.

*A MAN enters, walks up to Jesus, and looks at him from head to toe with disdain.*

**MAN:** Can anything good come from Nazareth? *(pauses as if waiting for an answer)* I say no.

*Man spits at Jesus.*

**MAN:** We know who you are — son of a mere carpenter. What gives you the right to try and elevate yourself as being equal with God. You are nothing!

*Man scoffs at Jesus and exits.*

*Slight pause.*

**VOICE:** Out of Egypt, I called my son.

*JOSEPH and MARY enter carrying their YOUNG CHILD.*

**JOSEPH:** Hurry, Mary. We must move with a sense of urgency. The Angel spared no words in instructing us to leave this place.

**MARY:** Why can't we go back home? Herod is dead.

**JOSEPH:** His son has taken his place. Is a son any different from his father?

**MARY:** But Egypt?

**JOSEPH:** I know this is right, Mary. I feel the same peace I felt when the angel told me to take you as my wife.

*Pause.*

**MARY:** I will follow you, dear husband, my priest.

*They quickly exit.*

*Slight pause.*

**VOICE:** A voice was heard in Ramah, sobbing and lamenting loudly. It was Rachel sobbing for her children and refusing to be comforted, because they are no longer alive.

*SOUNDS of loud wailing can be heard, MOTHERS and FATHERS crying — Shuffling, Swords swiping, cutting flesh, destroying lives — feet marching — a massacre of epic proportions.*

*Then silence.*

**VOICE:** The voice of someone crying out in the desert, prepare the way of Adonai! Make straight paths for him.

*JOHN enters wearing a robe of camel's hair. He looks disheveled, but strong. He points at Jesus with both hands, excitedly.*

**JOHN:** (as if speaking to the Audience) This is Him. The One I told you about. He is greater than me. I am not even worthy to tie the sandals on his feet. He has come to take away the sins of the whole world. (to Audience) Follow him, not me. I must become less, He must increase.

*John nods a matter of factly, bows at Jesus' feet, adjusts the lace on his sandals, and then leaves.*

*Slight pause.*

*Satan enters, walks menacingly around Jesus with a smirk on his face. He holds a rock to Jesus' face.*

**SATAN:** If you are the Son of God, order these stones to become bread.

**JESUS:** (glares at him, weakly) It is written, man does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of Adonai.

*Satan sneers, slides to the other side of Jesus, pushes Jesus to the edge of the stage, and points out over the audience.*

**SATAN:** If you are the Son of God, jump, for it is written, He will order his angels to be responsible for you. They will support you with their hands, so that you will not hurt your feet on stones.

**JESUS:** (gaining strength) It is also written, do not put Adonai your God to the test.

*Satan's anger boils. He slides behind Jesus, points to the vast space before them.*

**SATAN:** All this I will give you if you will bow down and worship me.

**JESUS:** Away with you Satan, for it is written, worship Adonai your God, and serve Him only.

*There is a loud crack of thunder. Satan shivers and quickly makes his way through the exit.*

**SATAN:** (O.S.) I will be back.

*Slight pause.*

*TWO ANGELS appear and gently tap Jesus' shoulder in support and comfort.*

*ANOTHER ANGEL walks forward, unrolling a scroll that he/she reads from.*

**ANGEL:** Land of Z'vulun and land of Naftali, toward the lake, beyond the Yarden, Galil-of-the-Goyim – the people living in darkness have seen a great light; upon those living in the region, in the shadow of death, light has dawned.

*The Angels bow to Jesus and exit. Jesus smiles.*

*Several people with various illnesses appear onstage and crawl towards Jesus, touching the hem of his garments. The moment they touch his garment, a surge of strength enters their body causing them to stand up straight, dancing and running around Jesus with excitement. They kiss his hands and leave.*

*Slight Pause.*

*A SOLDIER comes on and strips Jesus of His outer garments. He presses down on his shoulder, and Jesus falls to his knees.*

*ANOTHER SOLDIER appears and hands the first soldier a WHIP. They both take turns to whip Jesus on his back.*

**VOICE:** He himself took our weaknesses and bore our diseases.

*They continue to beat him. The loud cries of women wailing in the background can be heard.*

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