

GOD IS HOLY

by Cathy Spurr
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CHARACTERS - PEOPLE:

WORSHIP LEADER
STORY TELLER (CATHY)
HOLY PRIEST
TWO PEOPLE TO HOLD VEIL TOGETHER
MOSES
CROWD THAT RUNS FROM MOSES' FACE
TWO ISRAELITES TO CARRY SACRIFICE OF FIRST FRUITS
TWO ISRAELITES TO CARRY SACRIFICIAL LAMB

CHARACTERS - PUPPETS:

SNOWEY THE LAMB
3 ISRAELITE PUPPETS
NIV

PROPS:

STORYBOOK
SILVER TRAYS & PRIEST UTENSILS
FRUIT FOR TRAY
LAMB FOR SACRIFICE
TRAY TABLES (2)
MOUNTAIN FOAM
BRIGHT LIGHT WITH CUE SPOT FOR MOSES
TWO PIECES OF PURPLE FABRIC FOR HOLY OF HOLIES
PRIEST'S WASH BOWL & TOWEL
ROPE
PRIEST'S ROBE
MOSES' COSTUME
"SHINING RADIANCE" FOR MOSES' FACE
CLOTH TO WIPE FACE
ISRAELITE COSTUMES
PUPPET STAGE

SPECIAL EFFECTS:

MUSIC "CAN'T TOUCH THIS" BY HAMMER

GOD IS HOLY

LIGHT CUE - UP ON SINGERS

CUE SONG - "I'M IN THE LORD'S ARMY",
"JESUS IS A FRIEND NEXT TO YOU",
"FOREVER FRIEND, "PRAY, PRAY"

LIGHT CUE - LOW ON SINGERS, UP ON STAGE RIGHT

WORSHIP LEADER: IT'S STORY TIME!

CATHY: YOU KNOW WHAT, JIM? I HAVE A STORY. THE LAST TIME THAT SOMEONE READ YOU GUYS A STORY, GUESS WHO IT WAS? AND DO YOU REMEMBER WHAT THAT STORY WAS ABOUT? I REMEMBER. IT WAS ABOUT A LITTLE LOST LAMB AND HER NAME WAS . . . IT WASN'T RAINY, IT WASN'T WINDY, WHAT WAS THAT LAMB'S NAME? IT WAS SNOW . . . SNOW SOMETHING . . . (*kids respond Snowey*) I WONDER HOW THAT LITTLE LAMB IS TODAY? I WONDER IF WE'LL EVER SEE HER AGAIN? I MISS THAT LITTLE LAMB (*Snowey pops up behind Cathy*) WHAT? SOMETHING OVER HERE? OVER HERE? I DON'T SEE ANYTHING! THESE GUYS . . . ANYWAY, I WANT TO READ YOU A STORY ABOUT GOD IS HOLY, BUT YOU SEEM TO KEEP TELLING ME THERE'S SOMETHING BACK HERE . . . OVER HERE? WHAT? OVER HERE? WHERE, HERE? WHERE, THERE? OH, I REMEMBER, YOU GUYS DID THIS LAST WEEK WITH SNOWEY. YOU'RE TRYING TO MAKE ME REMEMBER SNOWEY AND MAKE ME FEEL BETTER. THANK YOU SO MUCH, I WAS MISSING SNOWEY. O.K., I'M GONNA TURN AROUND REALLY FAST AND MAYBE CATCH WHATEVER'S BACK THERE . . . HELP ME OUT . . . ONE . . . TWO . . . THREE! . . . **OH, IT'S SNOWEY!**

SNOWEY: I'M BACK!

CATHY: YOU'RE AWFULLY CUTE! WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN?

SNOWEY: I'VE BEEN AROUND. BUT MY SHEPHERD SAID I COULD COME VISIT YOU.

CATHY: YOU CAME TO VISIT ME. BOYS AND GIRLS, ISN'T THAT NICE.
SNOWEY CAME TO VISIT. (*to Snowey*) YOU'RE NOT LOST, ARE YOU?

SNOWEY: NO, MY SHEPHERD TOLD ME I COULD COME.

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CATHY: WELL LISTEN, I HAVE A STORY, AND YOU'RE SUCH A GOOD LISTENER. BOYS AND GIRLS, ISN'T SNOWEY A GOOD LISTENER? DO YOU THINK YOU COULD LISTEN LIKE SNOWEY? THIS STORY IS ABOUT HOW GOD IS HOLY.

SNOWEY: WELL, WHY DOES GOD HAVE A BUNCH OF HOLES? WE NEED TO FIX HIM.

CATHY: NOT HOLEY LIKE A HOLE IN A SOCK . . . I MEAN HOLY . . . CLEAN AND PURE . . . WITHOUT ONE SPOT OF SIN . . . SPOTLESS.

SNOWEY: OHHHHH! LIKE MY BEAUTIFUL WOOL . . . SPOTLESS . . . MY MOM SAYS I HAVE TO STAY NICE AND CLEAN.

LIGHT CUE - UP ON PORTABLE STAGE

Priest enters from off stage left and proceeds to wash hands in bowl

CATHY: THAT'S RIGHT. AND BOYS AND GIRLS, YOU PROBABLY HAVE TO WASH YOUR HANDS A LOT, AND THAT HAS TO DO WITH THIS FIRST SECTION OF THE STORY . . . DO YOU SEE THIS MAN? HE IS THE HIGH PRIEST. (*Israelites carrying tray of fruit slowly start down center aisle, and during dialogue **after priest has washed & dried hands**, reverently hand tray to priest, and exit down opposite side aisles*) AND THESE PEOPLE, THE ISRAELITES, ARE BRINGING HIM THEIR FIRST FRUITS, THE BEST FRUIT OFF THE TREE, THE BEST LITTLE LAMB . . . AND THESE WILL BE SACRIFICES TO THE LORD.

LIGHT CUE - UP ON STAGE LEFT

CATHY: AND OVER HERE IS THE HOLY OF HOLIES. . . THIS BEAUTIFUL PURPLE VEIL . . . AND BEHIND THIS, BOYS AND GIRLS, IS THE HOLY OF HOLIES AND THAT IS WHERE GOD DWELLS. ONLY THE HIGH PRIEST CAN GO THROUGH THE VEIL TO THE HOLY OF HOLIES. BUT WHAT IS HE DOING BOYS AND GIRLS AND SNOWEY? HE IS WASHING HIS HANDS. DO YOU WASH YOUR HANDS? I'LL BET YOU DO. BUT THIS IS VERY SPECIAL. HE HAS TO MAKE SURE THAT EVERYTHING IS SO CLEAN AND EVERYTHING IS JUST THE WAY THAT GOD SAYS IT SHOULD BE BEFORE HE CAN GO IN THROUGH THE VEIL TO THE HOLY OF HOLIES. OH LOOK WHAT HE'S DOING NOW. HE'S TAKING SUCH GOOD CARE TO DRY HIS HANDS. (*Priest takes tray of first fruits, holds to heavens and sits tray on stage.*)

CATHY: YOU KNOW THIS PARTICULAR HIGH PRIEST IS FROM A SPECIAL

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TRIBE CALLED THE LEVITES.

SNOWEY: OHHH, DOES HE WEAR LEVIS?

Second pair of Israelites bring lamb down center aisle, give lamb reverently to priest, and wait with head bowed reverently, standing to side of priest so view of audience is not blocked.

CATHY: *(quietly laughs)* WELL, I THINK HE IS WEARING LEVIS BUT THAT'S NOT WHY HE'S CALLED A LEVITE. NOW, LET'S LISTEN AND SEE WHAT HE DOES NEXT . . . LET'S WATCH

HIGH PRIEST: BARUCH ADONEI! BARUCH ADONEI!

During next section of dialogue, priest then takes lamb, holds up to heavens, goes up stairs stage left, followed by Israelites. Priest stops in front of veil where Israelites tie rope to his leg.

CATHY: WOW! HE JUST PRAISED THE LORD IN ANOTHER LANGUAGE CALLED HEBREW! AND HE'S TAKING THE LITTLE LAMB . . . DID YOU HEAR THAT BELL? THERE'S A BELL TIED AROUND HIS WAIST & EVERY TIME HE WALKS, THE BELL RINGS. THE ISRAELITE PEOPLE STAY OUTSIDE THE VEIL AND THEY TIE A ROPE TO HIS LEG. THEN HE GOES IN THROUGH THE VEIL. IF HE DOES SOMETHING WRONG OR DOES NOT FOLLOW GOD'S INSTRUCTIONS FOR MAKING HIMSELF CLEAN, GOD WILL SMOTE HIM AND THE PEOPLE WOULD HAVE TO PULL HIM OUT WITH THE ROPE. OH LOOK WHAT HE'S DOING . . .
(Priest holds lamb to heavens) HE'S OFFERING THE PERFECT SACRIFICE OF THAT LITTLE LAMB WITH NO BLEMISHES ON IT. IT'S FUR IS JUST LIKE YOURS SNOWEY. *(Priest goes through veil)* AND LOOK, HE WENT THROUGH THE VEIL INTO THE HOLY OF HOLIES. BUT YOU KNOW, THERE'S ANOTHER STORY SNOWEY. IT HAPPENED A LONG TIME AGO. WOULD YOU LIKE TO HEAR IT?

SNOWEY: YAAHH!

LIGHT CUE - DOWN ON STAGE LEFT, UP CENTER STAGE. YELLOW SPOT ON MOUNTAIN

GOD IS HOLY

CATHY: LOOK BOYS AND GIRLS, UP HERE, THIS IS THE MOUNTAIN WHERE MOSES WENT. SEE THE GLOW OF GOD? SEE THE YELLOW? I CAN'T GET TOO CLOSE. UP THERE IS WHERE GOD IS TALKING TO MOSES AND THE LIGHT, THE GLORY OF GOD IS SHINING UP THERE SO BRIGHT. IN FACT, GOD IS TELLING MOSES HIS NAME. DO YOU KNOW WHAT GOD'S NAME IS? (*kid's respond*) YES, THAT'S RIGHT. HE'S TELLING MOSES WHAT HIS OTHER NAME IS . . .

VOICE OF GOD: "I AM THAT I AM".

CATHY: MOSES IS UP THERE TALKING TO HIM AND THE ISRAELITES ARE AT THE BOTTOM OF THE MOUNTAIN AND THEY'RE REALLY WORRIED AND WONDERING WHAT'S GOING ON UP THERE. LET'S LISTEN TO THEM AND SEE WHAT THEY'RE SAYING.

PUPPET #1: WOW! SOMETHING'S GOING ON UP THERE . . . LOOK AT THAT LIGHT!

PUPPET #2: I THINK WE SHOULD GO UP THERE, WHAT DO YOU THINK?

PUPPET #1: YAH, YAH, LET'S GO UP THERE.

CATHY: NO! NO! YOU CAN'T GO UP THERE!

PUPPET #2: NO? WHY NOT? WHAT'S THE MATTER?

CATHY: YOU CAN'T GO UP THERE! IN FACT, YOU CAN'T EVEN TOUCH THE MOUNTAIN WITH YOUR SHOE! YOU KNOW WHY? BECAUSE GOD IS SO HOLY, WHEN HE RESTS ON THAT MOUNTAIN, THE MOUNTAIN BECOMES HOLY AND WE ARE NOT HOLY AND SO WE CANNOT TOUCH THAT MOUNTAIN. IN FACT, THERE'S A SONG ABOUT THAT!

Puppets dance during ditty.

CUE SONG - "CAN'T TOUCH THAT" SNIPPET

CATHY: DON'T TOUCH THAT!

PUPPETS TOGETHER: WHY:

CATHY: DON'T TOUCH THAT!
BECAUSE . . . YOU DIE! (*End of ditty*)

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CATHY: SO PLEASE, DON'T TOUCH THAT MOUNTAIN!

PUPPETS: O.K.!!!

CATHY: SNOWEY, LISTEN UP! WHEN MOSES CAME DOWN FROM THAT MOUNTAIN AFTER TALKING TO GOD, HE WAS SO TIRED! LOOK HOW TIRED HE IS. THAT'S A BIG MOUNTAIN TO CLIMB. HERE HE COMES. OH, HE'S WIPING HIS FACE.

MOSES: OH, THAT MOUNTAIN'S HARDER TO CLIMB DOWN THAN TO CLIMB UP!

CATHY: LOOK AT THE TOWNSPEOPLE . . . THE ISRAELITES ARE GOING TO SAY SOMETHING! (*Israelites huddling together, averting their faces, talking and pointing at Moses*)

CATHY: HIS FACE? MOSES, THEY SEEM TO BE AFRAID TO LOOK AT YOU!

MOSES: WHAT'S WRONG WITH MY FACE?

CATHY: I DON'T KNOW, I'M SURE THERE'S NOTHING WRONG WITH YOUR FACE. LET ME TAKE A GOOD LOOK . . . MY GOODNESS, YOUR FACE!!! . . . SNOWEY, DON'T LOOK (*Snowey and other puppets bow heads and don't look at Moses until he puts on veil*) . . . YOUR FACE, IT'S SO BRIGHT IT BLINDS MY EYES! . . . WHY MOSES, WHY?

MOSES: OH, I REMEMBER! GOD'S GLORY IS REFLECTING OFF ME! OH, I HAVE AN IDEA . . . BE RIGHT BACK (*exits stage left to put on veil*)

CATHY: (*says while Moses is gone*) OH, I SEE. HIS FACE IS SO BRIGHT BECAUSE HE WAS SPEAKING TO GOD AND GOD IS SO HOLY AND BRIGHT THAT THE GLORY CAME UPON MOSES' FACE. NOW HIS FACE IS SO BRIGHT THE PEOPLE CAN'T EVEN LOOK AT IT. I WONDER WHAT HE'S GOING TO DO. (*Moses returns wearing veil*) OH, LOOK WHAT HE'S GOT! A VEIL!

MOSES: I'VE PUT A VEIL ON SO THAT NOBODY WILL BE BLINDED.

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CATHY: OH, MUCH BETTER. SNOWEY, NOW YOU CAN LOOK. THERE YOU GO. WELL, YOU KNOW THAT VEIL THAT WE WERE TALKING ABOUT EARLIER . . . YOU KNOW THAT VEIL THAT THE HIGH PRIEST WENT INTO . . . DON'T YOU WISH THAT WE COULD HAVE GONE IN THERE TOO? GUESS WHAT!! REMEMBER WHEN JESUS DIED ON THE CROSS? THEY CALLED HIM A LOT OF NAMES. SOME PEOPLE SAID HE WAS CRAZY, SOME PEOPLE SAID HE WAS KING OF THE JEWS. BUT YOU KNOW WHAT? THERE'S ANOTHER NAME FOR JESUS. DO YOU KNOW IT, SNOWEY? JESUS IS CALLED GOD'S LAMB. HE WAS SACRIFICED FOR US, HE DIED ON THE CROSS FOR OUR SINS. AND BECAUSE JESUS WAS THE LAMB OF GOD, THE MINUTE HE DIED ON THAT CROSS, YOU KNOW WHAT HAPPENED TO THE VEIL?!! IT WAS RIPPED APART!!! (*veil is ripped apart*)

SNOWEY & PUPPETS: WOW! LOOK AT THAT!

CATHY: GUESS WHAT? FOR THOSE OF US WHO BELIEVE IN JESUS, WE ARE SPRINKLED WITH THE SAVING BLOOD OF JESUS. AND NOW, WE'RE HOLY. SO GUESS WHO CAN GO IN BEFORE GOD'S HOLY THRONE AND TALK TO HIM ANY TIME WE WANT? GUESS WHO? (*kids respond*) US! ANY OF US WHO LOVE JESUS! ISN'T THAT WONDERFUL, SNOWEY? IN FACT, THERE'S A SONG ABOUT THAT. LET'S TEACH IT TO THEM. THIS SONG IS CALLED "BE HOLY".

CUE SONG - BE HOLY

WORSHIP LEADER - THAT REMINDS ME OF A VERSE. A VERSE IN THE BIBLE. LET'S GET NIV OUT HERE TO HELP US. KIDS, HELP ME CALL HIM. ONE . . . TWO . . . THREE . . . NIV!

NIV: (*comes up in puppet stage*) WOW! I LOVE IT WHEN THE KIDS CALL ME!

WORSHIP LEADER: GOOD MORNING NIV! NIV, THERE'S A VERSE ABOUT "BE HOLY" . . . I CAN'T REMEMBER IT . . . DO YOU KNOW WHERE IT'S AT, NIV?

NIV: YOU BET I DO!

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WORSHIP LEADER: ALL RIGHT! LET'S SHARE IT WITH THE KIDS,
NIV.

NIV: REPEAT AFTER ME:

FOR IT IS WRITTEN:
BE HOLY BECAUSE I AM HOLY.

1ST PETER 1:16

WORSHIP LEADER: LET'S SING "BE HOLY" AGAIN

CUE SONG - BE HOLY

WORSHIP LEADER: Closing Prayer

CUE SONG - BLESSED HOPE