

GOLGOTHA

The mound of Golgotha is where, it is told—
by legend so ancient, its origin's lost—
that Seth buried Adam, our parent of old,
whose theft of God's fruit came at terrible cost.
This "Place of the Skull" is where Jesus was led
to hang on a cross till His body was dead.

The soldiers had stripped Him before He was nailed
with two thieves condemned for the crimes they had done.
He hung in the middle, while both of them railed
in mockery's rage at God's innocent Son.
Those sinners, stark naked, with Him twixt the two
Were types of old Adam, and Christ was the New.

When one heard our Savior pray, "Pardon this throng,"
his conscience was pricked, and he scolded his mate,
"We're guilty as charged, but in Him there's no wrong!"
He turned to the Lord, "In the realm You await,
remember me, please!" And the Master replied,
"Today in lost Eden you'll be at My side."

The church fathers noticed these parallels meet:
this New Adam opened, for Adam's lost race,
the closed gates of Paradise—shut by deceit—
to bring fallen humans straight through them by grace.
If doubting such wisdom, O Christian, make room
for what, three days later, took place at the tomb.

Near Golgotha's hill, in the garden they found,
the gravesite was empty except for His clothes.
So, Mary mistook Him as Gardener, unbound:
His body still bare from His head to His toes,
like Adam in Eden! The fathers preached this!
By cultural scruples, it's something we miss.

— *David L. Hatton, 4/6/2018*