

# NAKED TRUTH AND PARABLE

(adapted from a Jewish parable by  
Rabbi Kranz, the Maggid of Dubno)

Old Naked Truth once strolled the street  
without a stitch from face to feet.  
All fled her dazzling form unclad,  
which made her weep and feel so sad.

When Parable, adorned with youth  
and colors bright, passed by poor Truth,  
he asked, “My sister, what is wrong?  
What causes such a mournful song?”

Truth answered with a bitter sigh,  
“O brother, none will venture nigh!  
My ancient wisdom’s light is scorned!”  
He said, “Try shining it adorned.

“My secret is as old as you:  
a well-wrapped story still is true.  
Just clothe your brightness in some wit  
and folks won’t fear and flee from it.”

Truth heeded Parable’s advice.  
In illustrations, dressed up nice,  
she journeyed at her brother’s side  
and both were welcomed, far and wide.

— *David L. Hatton, 1/1/2019*