

Stony Places

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Very bold,
I saw a star fall from heaven,
Kindle a fire in the valley of decision.
There could be nothing upon earth
So exquisite
Singing and making melody
From everlasting to everlasting—
I am of perfect beauty.
Then cometh the wicked one, and catcheth
Away any human soul, sore cursing
“The stars shall withdraw their shining.”
Dashed to pieces,
Heart fainted within many deep wounds
The stone shall cry out
Of the dust in the darkest abyss
Nothing in me like unto crystal.
Then cometh the Son of God to redeem all:
“What will ye that I should do
That ye may have light in your vessels?”
Touch these stones, O Lord, with thy finger.
The Lord stretched forth his hand and touched
The stones one by one, promising
Herein is glory and honor, and
Immortality and eternal life.
Dumb stone, what I tell you in darkness,
That speak ye in light.

Compass yourselves about with sparks
Out of the good treasure of the heart
For I am able to make you holy
When I make up my jewels
Draw near unto me and I will draw near unto you—

And as many as touched were molten matchless.¹

1. “Found poetry” incorporates words, phrases, and lines from other sources—in this case, the Bible, Book of Mormon and Doctrine & Covenants—in order to give them new meaning. The following is a list of scriptural references in the order that they appear in the poem: Matthew 13:5; Romans 10:20; Revelation 9:1; Jeremiah 49:27/Joel 3:14; 3 Nephi 19:25; Alma 36:21; Ephesians 5:19; Psalms 103:17; Ezekiel 27:3; Matthew 13:19/ Matthew 13:19; Mosiah 28:3; 2 Nephi 1:22/ Joel 2:10/ Isaiah 13:16/ Genesis 45:26; Jonah 2:7; Ether 14:30/ Habakkuk 2:11; Ecclesiastes 3:20; Mosiah 27:29/ John 14:30; Doctrine and Covenants 130:9/ Helaman 14:2/ Ether 2:23/ Ether 2:23/ Ether 3:4/ Ether 3:6/ Ether 3:6; Ezekiel 13:22/ Doctrine and Covenants 128:12/ Doctrine and Covenants 128:12/ Habakkuk 2:19; Matthew 10:27/ Matthew 10:27/ 2 Nephi 7:11/ Matthew 12:35/ Doctrine and Covenants 60:7/ Malachi 3:17/ Doctrine and Covenants 88:63/ Matthew 14:36 ; Job 37:18 ; Alma 26:15.