

## O Sapientia

By *Malcolm Guite*

“I cannot think unless I have been thought,  
Nor can I speak unless I have been spoken.  
I cannot teach except as I am taught,  
Or break the bread except as I am broken.  
O Mind behind the mind through which I seek,  
O Light within the light by which I see,  
O Word beneath the words with which I speak,  
O founding, unfound Wisdom, finding me,  
O sounding Song whose depth is sounding me,  
O Memory of time, reminding me,  
My Ground of Being, always grounding me,  
My Maker’s Bounding Line, defining me,  
    Come, hidden Wisdom, come with all you bring,  
    Come to me now, disguised as everything.”

## The Pilgrimage

By *George Herbert*

I travelled on, seeing the hill, where lay  
    My expectation.  
    A long it was and weary way.  
    The gloomy cave of Desperation  
I left on the’ one, and on the other side  
    The rock of pride.  
  
And so I came to Fancy’s meadow strowed  
    With many a flower:  
    Fain would I here have made abode,  
    But I was quickened by my hour.  
So to Care’s copse I came, and there got through  
    With much ado.

*over --->*

## The Pilgrimage - *cont.*

That led me to the wild of Passion, which  
    Some call the wold;  
    A wasted place, but sometimes rich.  
    Here I was robbed of all my gold,  
Save one good Angel, which a friend had tied  
    Close to my side.

At length I got unto the gladsome hill,  
    Where lay my hope,  
    Where lay my heart; and climbing still,  
    When I had gained the brow and top,  
A lake of brackish waters on the ground  
    Was all I found.

With that abashed and struck with many a sting  
    Of swarming fears,  
    I fell, and cried, Alas my King;  
    Can both the way and end be tears?  
Yet taking heart I rose, and then perceived  
    I was deceived:

My hill was further: so I flung away,  
    Yet heard a cry,  
    Just as I went, None goes that way  
    And lives: If that be all, said I,  
After so foul a journey death is fair,  
    And but a chair.