

# Cædmon's Story

A learner's edition.



The following text is fitted with a grammatical and lexical apparatus to aid students of Old English. All unique vocabulary in each verse is provided in a vocabulary list on the right. In addition, the case system of Old English is highlighted with the following colour scheme (prepositions are highlighted the same colour as the noun/adjective they govern, and participles are both coloured & bold) :

[Yellow = Subject (aka. Nominative case) : eg, “The child kills a child with the child’s sword.”]

[Red = Object (aka. Accusative case) : eg, “The child kills a child with the child’s sword.”]

[Green = Possessive (aka. Genitive case) : eg, “The child kills a child with the child’s sword.”]

[Blue = Extra information (aka. Dative case) : eg, “The child kills a child with the child’s sword.”]

[Purple = Direct address (aka. Vocative case) : eg, “The child kills a child, o child!”]

[Bold = Indicative/Imperative/Optative Verb : eg, “The child kills a child with the child’s sword.”]

[Bold & Underlined = Infinitive Verb : eg “The child goes to kill a child with the child’s sword.”]

Text taken from : <https://heorot.dk/bede-caedmon.html#bede-oe>



# Cædmon's Story - Sentence 001

In ðeosse abbudissan mynstre wæs sum broðor syndriglice mid godcundre gife gemæred and geweorðad, forþon he gewunade gerisenlice leoð **wyrcean**, þa ðe to æfestnisse and to arfæstnisse belumpon, swa ðætte swa hwæt swa he of godcundum stafum þurh boceras geleornode, þæt he æfter med miclum fæce in scopgereorde mid þa mæstan swetnisse and inbryrdnisse geglængde and in Engliscgereorde wel **geworht** forþ brohte.



## Vocabulary

In ðeosse abbudissan mynstre = in this minster of the abbess  
wæs = [there] was  
sum broðor = some brother  
syndriglice = uniquely / singly / unusually  
mid godcundre gife = with a godly gift  
gemæred = [a] praised [one] / [an] exalted [one]  
ond = and  
geweorðad = [a] worthied [one]  
forþon = because  
he gewunade = he continued  
gerisenlice = becomingly / fittingly  
leoð = poetry / song  
wyrcean = to work / to create  
þa ðe = those which  
to æfestnisse = to devotion  
to arfæstnisse = to honour  
belumpon = they belonged  
swa ðætte = because  
swa hwæt swa = whatever  
he = he  
of godcundum stafum = from intelligent letters  
þurh boceras = through teachers / through writers  
geleornode = he / she / it learned  
þæt = that  
æfter = afterwards  
med miclum fæce = with a lot of time  
in scopgereorde = in poetry / in bard-speech / in music  
mid þa mæstan swetnisse = with the greatest sweetness  
inbryrdnisse = [with] appropriateness  
geglængde = he / she / it laid  
in Engliscgereorde = in the English language  
wel geworht = well-made / well-wrought  
forþ brohte = he / she / it brought forth

# Cædmon's Story - Sentence 002

Ond for his leopsongum monigra mona mod oft to  
worulde forhogdnisse ond to gepeodnisse þæs  
heofonlice lifes onbærnde wæron.

## Vocabulary

ond = and

for his leopsongum = due to his songs

monigra mona = of many men

mod = the minds

oft = often

to worulde forhogdnisse = to contempt  
of the world

to gepeodnisse = to communion

þæs heofonlice lifes = of heavenly life

onbærnde wæron = they were inflamed



# Cædmon's Story - Sentence 003

Ond eac swelce monige oðre æfter him in Ongelpeode  
ongunnon æfeste leoð wyrcan, ac nænig hwæðre him þæt  
gelice don ne meahte forþon he na læs from monnum ne  
þurh mon gelæred wæs þæt he þone leoðcræft leornade, ac  
he wæs godcundlice gefultumod ond þurh Godes gife þone  
songcræft onfeng.



## Vocabulary

ond = and

eac = also

swelce monige oðre = many such others

æfter him = after him

in Ongelpeode = in the English language

ongunnon = they began

æfeste leoð = honourable songs

wyrcan = to work / to create

ac = but

nænig hwæðre = none however

him = to him

þæt gelice = similar to that

don = to do

ne meahte = I / he / she / it could not

forþon = because

he na læs = he did not learn

from monnum = from men

ne = nor

þurh mon = through man

gelæred wæs = I / he / she / it was educated

þæt = so that

he = he

þone leoðcræft = the poetic skill

leornade = I / he / she / it learned

he wæs = he was

godcundlice gefultumod = [a] divinely assisted [one]

þurh Godes gife = through God's gift

þone songcræft = the songcraft

onfeng = I / he / she / it received



# Cædmon's Story - Sentence 004

Onð he forþon næfre noht leasunge ne idles leopes  
wyrca ne meahte, ac efne þa an þa ðe to æfæstnisse  
belumpon, onð his þa æfæstan tungan gedeofanade  
singan.



## Vocabulary

ond = and

he = he

forþon = therefore

næfre = never

noht = nothing

leasunge = of falseness

ne idles leopes = nor of idle song

wyrca = to work / to create

ne meahte = I / he / she / it could not

ac = but

efne = always

þa an þa ðe = one those ones which

to æfæstnisse = to piety / to holiness

belumpon = they belonged

his = his

þa æfæstan tungan = the pious tongue

gedeofanade = [the] appropriate [things]

singan = to sing

# Cædmon's Story - Sentence 005

**Wæs** he se mon in weoruldhade **geseted** oð þa tide þe  
**he** **wæs** gelyfdre ylde, ond næfre **nænig** leoð  
**geleornade**.

## Vocabulary

wæs he = he was

se mon = the man

in weoruldhade = in worldliness

geseted = [a] constituted [one]

oð þa tide þe = until the time in which

he wæs = he was

gelyfdre ylde = of old age

ond = and

næfre = never

nænig leoð = no song

geleornade = I / he / she / it learned



# Cædmon's Story - Sentence 006

Onð he forþon oft in gebeorscipe, þonne þær wæs blisse intinga gedemed, þæt heo ealle sceoldon þurh endebyrdnesse be hearpan singan, þonne he geseah þa hearpan him nealecan þonne aras he for scome from þæm symble onð ham eode to his huse.



## Vocabulary

onð = and

he = he

forþon = therefore

oft = often

in gebeorscipe = in the fellowship

þonne þær wæs = when he was there

blisse = of bliss

intinga = the business / the matter

gedemed = [it was] ordained

þæt = that

heo ealle sceoldon = they all should

þurh endebyrdnesse = through duty

be hearpan singan = sing with the harp

þonne = when

he geseah = he perceived / he saw

þa hearpan = the harp

him = to him

nealecan = to approach

aras he = he arose

for scome = for shame / because of shame

from þæm symble = from the feast

ham = homeward

eode = he / she / it went

to his huse = to his house



# Cædmon's Story - Sentence 007

Þa he ða þæt ða sumre tide dyde, þæt he forlet þæt hus  
þæs gebeorscipe ond ut wæs gongende to neata  
scipene, þara heord him wæs þære neahte beboden.



## Vocabulary

þa he ða = then when he

þæt ða = then that

sumre tide = at some time

dyde = he / she / it did

þæt = that

he forlet = he abandoned / he left

þæt hus = that house

þæs gebeorscipe = of the fellowship

ond = and

ut wæs gongende = he was going out

to neata scipene = to the oxen's stall

þara = of the [ones] / of those [ones]

heord = a herd

him = to him

wæs = he / she / it was

þære neahte = for the night

beboden = [a] bidden [thing]

# Cædmon's Story - Sentences 008-009

Þa he ða þær in gelimlice tide his leomu on reste  
gesette ond onslepte, þa stod him sum mon æt þurh  
swefn ond hine halette ond grette ond hine be his  
noman nemnde : “Cedmon, sing me hwæthwugu”.



## Vocabulary

þa he ða = then when he

þær = there

in gelimlice tide = in an appropriate time

his = his

leomu = limbs

on reste = in rest / into rest

gesette = he / she / it set

ond = and

onslepte = he / she / it fell asleep

þa = then

stod = he / she / it stood

him = [by] him

sum mon = some man

æt = by [him]

þurh swefn = through a dream / in a dream

hine = him

halette = he / she / it hailed

grette = he / she / it greeted

be his noman = by his name

nemnde = he / she / it named

Cedmon = Caedmon

sing = sing!

me = to / with / by / in / at / from / for me

hwæthwugu = something

# Cædmon's Story - Sentences 010-011

Þa ondswarede he ond cwæð : “Ne con ic noht singan ond ic forþon of þeossum gebeorscipe uteode ond hider gewat, forþon ic naht singan ne cuðe”.

## Vocabulary

þa = then

ondswarede he = he answered

ond = and

cwæð = he said

ne con ic noht = I do not know anything

singan = to sing

ic = I

forþon = therefore

of þeossum gebeorscipe = from this fellowship

uteode = [I] exited

hider gewat = [I] ended up hither

ic naht ne cuðe = I knew nothing



# Cædmon's Story - Sentences 012-18

Eft he cwæð, se ðe wið hine sprecende wæs :  
“Hwæðre þu meaht singan”. Þa cwæð he : “Hwæt  
sceal ic singan?” Cwæð he : “Sing me frumsceaft”.

## Vocabulary

eft = afterward

he cwæð = he said

se ðe = he who

wið hine = with him

sprecende wæs = [he] was speaking

hwæðre = whether

þu meaht = you might

singan = to sing

þa = then

hwæt = anything / what

sceal ic = should I

sing = sing!

me = to me / for me

frumsceaft = creation



# Cædmon's Story - Sentence 019

Þa he ða þas andsware onfeng, þa ongon he sona  
singan in herenesse Godes Scyppends þa fers ond þa  
word þe he næfre gehyrde, þara endebyrdnisse þis is :

## Vocabulary

þa he ða = then when he

þas andsware = this answer

onfeng = [he] received

þa = then

ongon he = he began

sona = soon

singan = to sing

in herenesse = in praise

Godes Scyppends = of God the Creator

þa fers = the verse

ond = and

þa word þe = those words which

he næfre gehyrde = he never heard

þara = of those

endebyrdnisse = the translation

þis is = is this





# Cædmon's Hymn In Old English

Nu we sculon herigean  
meotodes meahte  
weorc wuldorfæder  
ece drihten  
He ærest sceop  
heofon to hrofe  
þa middangeard  
ece drihten  
firum foldan

heofonrices weard,  
ond his modgeþanc,  
swa he wundra gehwæs  
or onstealde.  
eorðan bearnum  
halig scyppend  
moncynnes weard  
æfter teode  
frea ælmihtig.



## Vocabulary

Nu = now  
we sculon = we should / we must  
herigean = to praise  
heofonrices = of heaven / heaven's  
weard = a protector  
meotodes = of the creator / the creator's  
meahte = might  
ond = and  
his = his  
modgeþanc = an intent / a thought  
weorc = a work  
wuldorfæder = of the wonder-father  
swa = just as / like / as  
he = he  
wundra gehwæs = of each of the wonders  
ece drihten = the eternal lord  
or = a beginning  
onstealde = he / she / it instituted  
he ærest sceop = he first shaped  
eorðan = of the earth  
bearnum = for the children  
heofon = heaven / the sky  
to hrofe = as a roof  
halig scyppend = the holy shaper  
þa = then  
middangeard = middle-earth / the world  
moncynnes = of mankind / mankind's  
æfter = afterwards  
teode = he / she / it produced  
firum = for the men  
foldan = land  
frea ælmihtig = the almighty lord

# Cædmon's Story - Sentence 022

Þa aras he from þæm slæpe, ond eal þa þe he slæpende song, fæste in gemynde hæfde, ond þæm wordum sona monig word in þæt ilce gemet Gode wyrðes songes to geþeodde.



## Vocabulary

þa = then

aras he = he arose

from þæm slæpe = from sleep

ond = and

eal þa þe = all those [things] which

he slæpende song = he, sleeping, sung

fæste = firmly

in gemynde = in memory

hæfde = he / she / it had

þæm wordum = with those words

sona = soon

monig word = many words

in þæt ilce gemet = into that same style

Gode = [to] God

wyrðes songes = of a worthy song

to = to [God]

geþeodde = he / she / it joined

# Cædmon's Story - Sentences 023-024

Þa com he on morgenne to þæm tungerefan, þe his ealdormon wæs. Sægde him hwylc gife he onfeng, ond he hine sona to þære abbudissan gelædde ond hire þæt cyððe ond sægde.



## Vocabulary

þa = then

com he = he came

on morgenne = in the morning

to þæm tungerefan = to the town sherrif

þe = who

his ealdormon = his aldorman

wæs = he / she / it was

sægde him = he / she / it said to him

hwylc gife = which gift

he onfeng = he received

ond = and

he = he

hine = him

sona = soon

to þære abbudissan = to the abbess

gelædde = he / she / it led

hire = to her

þæt = that

cyððe = he / she / it told

sægde = he / she / it said

# Cædmon's Story - Sentence 025

Þa heht heo gesomnian ealle þa gelæredestan men ond  
þa leorneras, ond him ondweardum het secgan þæt  
swefn ond þæt leoð singan, þæt ealra heora dome  
gecoren wære, hwæt oððe hwonon þæt cumen wære.



## Vocabulary

þa = then

heht heo = she commanded

gesomnian = to be gathered

ealle þa gelæredestan men = all of the  
most learned men

ond = and

þa leorneras = the teachers

him ondweardum = with him in front

het = he / she / it ordered

secgan = to say

þæt swefn = that dream

þæt leoð = that poem

singan = to sing

þæt = so that

ealra heora dome = in all their opinion

gecoren wære = would be beloved

hwæt oððe hwonon = what or whence

þæt cumen wære = that were come



# Cædmon's Story - Sentence 026-027

Þa wæs him eallum **gesegen** swa swa hit wæs, þæt him  
wære from Drihtne sylfum heofonlic gifu **forgifen**. Þa  
rehton heo him ond sægdon sum halig spell ond  
godcundre lare word ; bubudon him þa, gif he meahte,  
þæt he in swinsunge leopsonges þæt gehwyrfde.



## Vocabulary

þa = then

wæs = he / she / it was

him eallum = by them all

gesegen = [it was] seen / [a] seen [thing]

swa swa hit wæs = just as it was

þæt = that / so that

him = to him

wære = he / she / it was

from Drihtne sylfum = from the Lord  
himself

heofonlic gifu forgifen = the heavenly gift  
granted

rehton heo him = they reached out to him  
ond = and

sægdon = they said / they told

sum halig spell = some holy story

godcundre lare word = words of holy lore

bubudon him = they beseeched him

gif he meahte = if he might

he = he

in swinsunge leopsonges = into the song's  
harmony

þæt = that

gehwyrfde = he / she / it convert



# Cædmon's Story - Sentence 028

Þa he ða hæfde þa wisan onfongne, þa eode he ham to his huse, and cwom eft on morgenne, and þy betstan leoðe geglenged him asong ond ageaf þæt him beboden wæs.



## Vocabulary

þa he ða hæfde = then when he had

þa wisan = that manner

onfongne = [he had] received

þa = then

eode he ham = he went home

to his huse = to his house

ond = and

cwom = he / she / it came

eft = again

on morgenne = in the morning

þy betstan leoðe = with the best poetry

geglenged = [a] composed [thing]

him = to him / to them

asong = he sung out

ageaf = he donated / he gave

þæt = that [thing]

him = to him

beboden wæs = [that] was entrusted

# Cædmon's Story - Sentence 029

Ða **ongan** seo abbudisse **clyppan** ond **lufigean** **þa**  
**Godes** **gife** in þæm men; ond **heo** **hine** **þa** **monade** ond  
**lærde** þæt **he** **woruldhad** **anforlete** ond **munuchad**  
**onfenge**, ond **he** **þæt** wel **þafode**.

## Vocabulary

þa = then

ongan seo abbudisse = the abbess began

clyppan = to address

ond = and

lufigean = to love / to adore

þa Godes gife = that gift of God

in þæm men = in the men

heo hine monade = she advised him

lærde = [she] taught

þæt = that / so that

he = he

woruldhad = worldliness

anforlete = he / she / it would forsake

munuchad = monkhood / monasticism

onfenge = he / she / it would take up

he þæt wel þafode = he agreed to that

well



# Cædmon's Story - Sentence 030

Ond heo hine in þæt mynster onfeng mid his godum  
ond hine gepeodde to gesomnunge þara Godes þeowa;  
ond heht hine læran þæt getæl þæs halgan stæres ond  
spelles.



## Vocabulary

ond = and

heo = she

hine = him

in þæt mynster = in that minster

onfeng = he / she / it took [him] in

mid his godum = with his goods

hine = he

gepeodde = he / she / it connected

to gesomnunge = for a gathering

þara Godes þeowa = of God's servants

heht hine læran = ordered him to teach

þæt getæl = that part

þæs halgan stæres = of the holy history

spelles = of the gospel / of a story

# Cædmon's Story - Sentence 031

Ond he eal þa he in gehærnesse **geleornian** meahte  
mid hine **gemyndgade**, ond swa swa clæne neten  
**eodorcende** in þæt sweteste leoð **gehwerfde**.

## Vocabulary

ond = and

he = he

eal þa = all those [things which]

in gehærnesse = in hearing

geleornian = to learn

meahte = he / she / it was able

mid hine = with him

gemyndgade = he / she / it remembered

swa swa = just as / as if

clæne neten = with a clean net

eodorcende = [the one] chewing

in þæt sweteste leoð = into the sweetest  
poetry

gehwerfde = he / she / it converted



# Cædmon's Story - Sentence 032

Ond his song ond his leoð wæron swa wynsumu to  
gehæranne þætte þa seolfan his lareowas æt his muðe  
wreoton ond leornodon.



## Vocabulary

ond = and

his song = his song

his leoð = his poetry

wæron = they were

swa wynsumu = so winsome / so joyful

to gehæranne = to hear

þætte = that

þa seolfan his lareowas = his teachers  
themselves

æt his muðe = at his mouth

wreoton = they turned up their noses

leornodon = they learned



# Cædmon's Story - Sentence 033

**Song** he ærest be middangeardes gesceape and bi fruman moncynnes and eal þæt stær genesis þæt is seo æreste Moyses boc, and eft bi utgonge Israhela folces of Ægypta londe and bi ingonge þæs gehatlandes, and bi oðrum monegum spellum þæs halgan gewrites canones boca, and bi Cristes menniscnesse and bi his þrowunge and bi his upastignesse in heofonas, and bi þæs Halgan Gastes cyme and þara apostola lare, and eft bi þæm dæge þæs toweardan domes and bi fyrhtu þæs tintreglican wites, and bi swetnesse þæs heofonlecan rices he monig leoð geworhte.



## Vocabulary

song he ærest = he sung first of all

be middangeardes gesceape = about earth's creation

and = and

bi fruman moncynnes = about mankind's origin

eal þæt stær genesis = all the story of Genesis

þæt is seo æreste Moyses boc = that is Moses' first book

eft = again

bi utgonge Israhela folces = about the Hebrew people's exodus

of Ægypta londe = from the land of Egypt

bi ingonge þæs gehatlandes = about their entrance into Sigelwaraland / about their entrance into Ethiopia

bi oðrum monegum spellum = about many other stories

þæs halgan gewrites canones boca = of the holy writ of canon law books

bi Cristes menniscnesse = about Christ's humanity

bi his þrowunge = about his suffering

bi his upastignesse = about his ascension

in heofonas = into the heavens

bi þæs Halgan Gastes cyme = about the Holy Spirit's arrival

þara apostola lare = [about] the apostles' lore

bi þæm dæge = about the day

þæs toweardan domes = of the future judgement

bi fyrhtu = about the fright / about the fear

þæs tintreglican wites = of that torturous torment

bi swetnesse = about the sweetness

þæs heofonlecan rices = of the heavenly kingdom

he monig leoð geworhte = he made many songs

# Cædmon's Story - Sentence 034

Onð swelce eac oðer monig be þæm godcundan  
fremsumnessum onð domum he geworhte. In eallum þæm  
he geornlice gemde þæt he men atuge from synna lufan  
onð mandæda, onð to lufan onð to geornfulnesse awehte  
godra dæda, for þon he wæs se mon swiþe æfest onð  
regollecum þeodscipum eaðmodlice underþeoded.



## Vocabulary

onð = and

swelce eac = such also

oðer monig = many other [poems]

be þæm godcundan fremsumnessum =  
about the holy kindness

domum = [about the] judgements

he geworhte = he worked / he created

in eallum þæm = in all of them

he geornlice gemde = he eagerly sought

þæt = that

he men atuge = he might pull men

from synna lufan = from love of sins

mandæda = of man-deeds / of crimes

to lufan = towards love

to geornfulnesse = towards devotion

awehte = he / she / it awakened

godra dæda = of good deeds

for þon he wæs = because he was

se mon swiþe æfest = the man very pious

regollecum þeodscipum = in monastic  
fellowships

eaðmodlice = easily

underþeoded = [a] subjugated [one]

# Cædmon's Story - Sentence 035

Ond wið þæm þa ðe in oðre wisan **don** woldon **he** wæs  
mid welme micelre ellenwodnisse **onbærned**, ond **he**  
for ðon fægre ænde **his** **lif** betænde ond geendade.



## Vocabulary

ond = and

wið þæm = with those [ones]

þa ðe = those [things] which

in oðre wisan = in another manner

don = to do / to put / to render / to make

woldon = they wished

he wæs = he was

mid welme = with a welling

micelre ellenwodnisse = of mighty

stoutheartedness

onbærned = [an] inflamed [one]

he = he

for ðon = therefore

fægre ænde = with a fair ending

his lif = his life

betænde = he / she / it closed

geendade = he / she / it ended

# Cædmon's Story - Sentence 036

For þon þa ðære tide nealæcte his gewitenesse ond  
forðfore, þa wæs he feowertænum dagum ær þæt he  
wæs lichomlicre untrymnesse prycced ond hefgad,  
hwæðre to þon gemetlice þæt he ealle þa tid meahte ge  
sprecan ge gongan.



## Vocabulary

for þon = because

þa = when

ðære tide = to that time

nealæcte = he / she / it approached

his gewitenesse = of his witness

ond = and

forðfore = of [his] departure

wæs he = he was

feowertænum dagum = for fourteen days

ær þæt he wæs = before that he was

lichomlicre untrymnesse = with bodily

illness / with bodily sickness

prycced = [a] troubled [one]

hefgad = [a] burdened [one]

hwæðre = whether

to þon = to that / for that purpose

gemetlice = appropriately

þæt = that / so that

he = he

ealle þa tid = the whole time

meahte = he / she / it might

ge sprekan ge gongan = both speak & walk



# Cædmon's Story - Sentence 037

Wæs þær in neaweste untrumra monna hus, in þæm heora þeaw wæs þæt heo þa untruman ond þa ðe æt forðfore wæron in lædan sceoldon ond him þær ætsomne þegnian.



## Vocabulary

wæs = he / she / it was

þær = there

in neaweste = in the newest

untrumra monna = of unwell men

hus = [in the] house

in þæm = in that [one] / in which

heora þeaw = their duty / their mission

þæt = that / so that

heo = they

þa untruman = the unwell / the poorly

ond = and

þa ðe = those which / those who

æt forðfore = at their departure

wæron = they were

in lædan = to lead in

sceoldon = they had to

him = to him / to them / for him

ætsomne = together

þegnian = to serve / to attend to



# Cædmon's Story - Sentence 038

Þa bæd he his þegn on æfenne þære neahte þe he of  
worulde gongende wæs þæt he in þæm huse him stowe  
gegearwode, þæt he gerestan meahte.



## Vocabulary

þa = then

bæd he = he asked / he bade

his þegn = his thegn / his retainer

on æfenne = in the evening

þære neahte þe = of the night in which  
he = he

of worulde = out of the world

gongende wæs = he / she / it was going

þæt = that / so that

in þæm huse = in that house

him = for him

stowe = a place

gegearwode = he / she / it prepared

gerestan = to rest / to relax

meahte = he / she / it might be able to

# Cædmon's Story - Sentence 039

Þa wundrode se þegn for hwon he ðæs bæde, for þon him þuhte þæt his forðfor swa neah ne wære; dyde hwæðre swa swa he cwæð ond bibead.

## Vocabulary

þa = then

wundrode se þegn = the thegn wondered

for hwon = why / for what reason

he ðæs bæde = he asked for this

for þon = since / because

him þuhte = it seemed to him

þæt = that

his forðfor = his departure

swa neah ne wære = [it] was not so near

dyde hwæðre = he / she / it did however

swa swa = just as

he cwæð = he said

ond = and

bibead = [he] ordered



# Cædmon's Story - Sentence 040

Ond mid þæm he ða þær on reste eode ond he gefeonde  
mode sumu þing mid him sprecende ætgædere ond  
gleowiende wæs þe þær ær inne wæron, þa wæs ofer  
midde neaht þæt he frægn hwæðer heo ænig husl inne  
hæfdon.



## Vocabulary

ond = and  
mid þæm = with them  
he = he  
ða = then  
þær = there  
on reste = in rest  
eode = [he] went  
gefeonde mode = with an exulting mood  
sumu þing = some things  
mid him = with them  
sprecende = [a] speaking [one]  
ætgædere = togethere  
gleowiende = [a] singing [one]  
wæs = he / she / it was  
þe þær ær inne wæron = who were  
therein  
ofer midde neaht = past midnight  
þæt he frægn = so that he asked  
hwæðer = whether  
heo = they  
ænig husl = any [eucharistic] host  
inne hæfdon = they had therein

# Cædmon's Story - Sentences 041-046

Þa ondsvarodon heo ond cwædon: "Hwylc þearf is ðe huslesæ. Ne þinre forþfore swa neah is, nu þu þus rotlice ond þus glædlice to us sprecende eart." Cwæð he eft: "Berað me husl to."



## Vocabulary

þa = then

ondsvarodon heo = they answered

ond = and

cwædon = they spoke

hwylc þearf is ðe = what use for you is

huslesæ = of a eucharistic host

ne = not

þinre forþfore = to your departure

swa neah is = [it] is [not] so near

nu = now

þu = you

þus = thus

rotlice = cheerfully / merrily

glædlice = gladly / happily

to us = to us

sprecende eart = you are speaking

cwæð he eft = he said again

berað me husl to = bring a host to me

# Cædmon's Story - Sentence 047

Þa he hit þa on honda hæfde, þa frægn he hwæper heo ealle smolt mod ond, buton eallum incan, bliðe to him hæfdon.



## Vocabulary

þa  
he  
hit  
þa  
on honda  
hæfde  
frægn he  
hwæper  
heo  
ealle smolt mod  
ond  
buton eallum incan  
bliðe  
to him  
hæfdon =



# Cædmon's Story - Sentence 048

Þa ondswaredon hæ ealle ond cwædon þæt heo  
nænigne incan to him wiston, ac heo ealle him swiðe  
bliðemode wæron; ond heo wrixendlice hine bædon  
þæt he him eallum bliðe wære.



## Vocabulary

þa = then

ondswaredon hæ ealle = they answered

ealle ond cwædon = all and said

þæt = that / so that

heo = they

nænigne incan = no ill-will

to him = to him / for him / against him

wiston = they knew

ac = but

ealle = [they] all

him = to him

swiðe bliðemode = very glad-minded

wæron = they were

ond = and

wrixendlice = mutually / reciprocally

hine bædon = they asked him

he = he

him eallum = with them all

bliðe wære = [he] were happy

# Cædmon's Story - Sentences 049-050

Þa ondsvarade he ond cwæð: "Mine broðor, mine þa leofan, ic eom swiðe bliðemod to eow ond to eallum Godes monnum."

## Vocabulary

þa = then

ondsvarade he = he answered

ond = and

cwæð = he / she / it spoke

mine broðor = my brothers

mine þa leofan = my loves

ic eom = I am

swiðe bliðemod = truly glad-minded

to eow = with you all / to you all

to eallum Godes monnum = with all of

God's men / to all of God's men



# Cædmon's Story - Sentence 051

Onð he swa wæs hine getrymmende mid þæ  
heofonlecan wegneste onð him oðres lifes ingong  
gegearwode.

## Vocabulary

onð = and

he swa wæs = he was so

hine = him / himself

getrymmende = [a] strengthening [one]

mid þæ heofonlecan wegneste = with the  
heavenly waybread

him = for him / for himself

oðres lifes = of the other life

ingong = the entrance

gegearwode = he / she / it prepared



# Cædmon's Story - Sentences 052-057

Þa gæt he frægn hu neah þære tide wære þætte þa  
broðor arisan scolden ond Godes lof ræran ond heora  
uhtsong singan. Þa ondswardon heo: "Nis hit feor to  
þon." Cwæð he : "Teala : wuton we wel þære tide  
bidan."



## Vocabulary

þa gæt he frægn = then he starts asking

hu neah = how near

þære tide wære = to that time [it] were

þætte = that

þa broðor = the brothers

arisan = to arise / to get up / to rise

scolden = they [would] have to

ond = and

Godes lof = God's praise

ræran = to rear / to raise / to shout

heora uhtsong = their evensong

singan = to sing

þa ondswardon heo = then they  
answered

nis hit feor to þon = it's not far from that

cwæð he = he said

teala = alright then

wuton we wel = we know well

þære tide bidan = to await the hour

# Cædmon's Story - Sentence 058

Onð þa him gebæd onð hine gesegnode mid Cristes  
rodetacne onð his heafod onhylde to þam bolstre onð  
med micel fæc onslepte, onð swa mid stilnesse his lif  
geendade.



## Vocabulary

onð = and

þa = then

him gebæd = he prayed for himself

hine gesegnode = he signed himself

mid Cristes rodetacne = with the sign of  
the cross

his heafod = his head

onhylde = he / she / it opened

to þam bolstre = to the pillow

medmicel fæc = for a long time

onslepte = he / she / it fell asleep

swa = just as / thus / like / as if

mid stilnesse = with stillness

his lif = his life

geendade = he / she / it ended



# Cædmon's Story - Sentence 059

Onð swa wæs geworden þætte swa swa he hluttre  
mode onð bilwitre onð smyltre wilsumnesse Drihtne  
þeode, þæt he eac swylce swa smylte deaðe  
middangeard wæs forlætende onð to his gesihðe  
becwom.



## Vocabulary

onð = and

swa = thus

wæs geworden = it came to pass

þætte = that

swa swa = just as

he = he

hluttre mode = with clean intention

bilwitre = [with] [a] mild [one]

smyltre wilsumnesse = with serene  
devotion

drihtne = to the Lord / with the Lord

þeode = he / she / it joined

þæt = that / so that

he = he

eac = also

swylce swa smylte deaðe = thus in such  
a serene death

middangeard = middle-earth

wæs forlætende = he / she / it was  
leaving

to his gesihðe = to his journey

becwom = he / she / it came

# Cædmon's Story - Sentence 060

Ond seo tunge þe swa monig halwende word in þæs  
Scyppendes lof gesette, he ða swelce eac þa ætmæstan  
word in his herenisse, hine seolfne segniende ond his  
gast in his honda bebeodende, betynde.



## Vocabulary

ond = and

seo tunge þe = that tongue which

swa monig = so many

halwende word = hallowing words

in þæs Scyppendes lof = in praise of the  
Shaper / in praise of the Creator

gesette = he / she / it set

he ða = he then

swelce eac þa ætmæstan word = such

final words also

in his herenisse = in praise of him

hine seolfne = himself

segniende = [a] signing [one]

his gast = his ghost / his spirit

in his honda = in his hand

bebeodende = [a] commanding [one]

betynde = he / she / it enclosed

# Cædmon's Story - Sentence 061

Eac swelce þæt is **gesegen** þæt he **wære** **gewis** **his**  
**seolfes forðfore** **of þæm þe** **we** nu **secgan** **hærdon**.

## Vocabulary

eac = also

swelce þæt is gesegen = this such is said

þæt = that

he wære gewis = he was wise

his seolfes forðfore = of his own

departure

of þæm þe = from that [one] which

we = we

nu = how

secgan = to be told / to be said

hærdon = [we] heard

