

Christ lag in Todesbanden, Verse 3 (BWV 4.4)

Text: Martin Luther (1524)

Music: J. S. Bach (1707)

Jesus Christus, Gottes Sohn, <i>Jesus Christ, God's Son,</i>
An unser Statt ist kommen <i>In our Stead is come [1]</i>
Und hat die Sünde weggetan, <i>And has the Sin put-away, [2]</i>
Damit dem Tod genommen <i>Thus from Death has-taken</i>
All sein Recht und sein Gewalt, <i>All its Rights and its Power, [3]</i>
Da bleibt nichts denn Todsgestalt, <i>There remains nothing but Death's-form,</i>
Den Stach'l hat er verloren. <i>The Sting has it lost. [4]</i>
Halleluja! <i>HalleLujah!</i>

[1] "For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many" (Mark 10:45).

[2] "But as it is, he has appeared once for all at the end of the ages to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself" (Hebrews 9:26b).

[3] "Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, he himself likewise partook of the same things, that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong slavery" (Hebrews 2:14-15).

[4] "When the perishable puts on the imperishable, and the mortal puts on immortality, then shall come to pass the saying that is written: "Death is swallowed up in victory." "O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?" The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ" (1 Corinthians 15:54-57).