

## He Will Walk

He will walk  
a little in front of us  
towards Jerusalem.

He will not be scared  
though we are apprehensive.

If we try to discourage him,  
he will recognize the Devil in our  
voice,  
and he will tell us as much  
in no uncertain terms.

Then he will go on again,  
in faith,  
towards Jerusalem.

He will walk  
a little in front of us  
into controversy.

He will not be scared,  
though we are apprehensive.

He will argue with the intelligent,  
stop in their tracks the self-assured,  
touch the diseased,  
upset bank balances  
by his outlandish behaviour in the  
sanctuary,  
and weep in public.

Then he will go on again,  
in faith,  
towards Jerusalem.

He will walk  
a little in front of us  
into Gethsemane.

He will not be scared,  
though we are apprehensive.

He will sweat blood  
and ask God if there is another way.  
And when God says no,  
he will take the traitor's kiss,  
the soldiers' spit  
the bile and venom from the princes  
of religion.

Then he will go on again,  
in faith,  
towards the cross.

He will walk  
a little in front of us  
towards Calvary.

He will not be scared,  
no,  
he will not be scared.

He will feel the pain  
of wood and nails;  
but more than this  
he will feel the weight  
of all the evil,  
all the malice,  
all the pettiness,  
all the sin of the world  
heaped upon his shoulders.

He will not throw off that weight,  
though he could.

He will not give back evil for evil,  
return malice for malice,  
take revenge on the petty-minded,  
or spew out hate  
on all who have despised or rejected  
him.

He will not give back the sin of the  
world.  
he will take it away ...  
into death, into hell,  
so that he can lead us into heaven.

Then he will go on again,  
in faith,  
towards the resurrection.

He will walk  
a little behind us  
through the graveyard.

He will wait  
until we realize that he has died  
and admit our complicity in his life's  
ending.

Then he will come up behind us,  
and say our name,  
so that we can say his,  
forever.

~ John Bell