“A Life Beyond Life”
Celebrating John Milton’s 400th Anniversary

Sunday, 17 August 2008

Morning 10 am – 12 pm
Inspired “Utterance and Knowledge”
Milton 1628–1671

1628  (aged 19) *At A Vacation Exercise*  [pub. 1673]
      Lines 29 – 52

1629   Nativity Ode  [pub. 1645]

1629  *L’Allegro*  [pub. 1645]  Lines 25 – 56
      *Il Penseroso*  [pub. 1645]  Lines 1 – 14; 139 – 176.

1634   *A Maske (Comus)*  Lines 225 – 263; 705 – 743; 975 – 1022.

1637   *Lycidas*  [pub. 1638]

1642   *The Reason of Church Government*
      (“I should not choose this manner of writing
      . . . should not willingly let it die.”)

1644   *Areopagitica*
      (“Methinks I see in my mind a noble and puissant nation … schisms.”)

1652  (aged 43) Sonnet on his blindness  [pub. 1673]

1652   Sonnet to Cromwell  [pub. 1694]

1655   Sonnet “Avenge O Lord”  [pub. 1673]

1671   *Paradise Regained*
      Book 1, Lines 1 – 17
      Book 3, Lines 44 – 80

1671   *Samson Agonistes*
      Lines 1 – 98; 1596 – 1659; 1687 – 1758.

Lunch break 12 – 12.45 pm
Afternoon 12.45 pm – 4 pm

“Things Unattempted Yet in Prose or Rhyme”
Paradise Lost (1667, 2nd edition 1674)

Book 1
1 – 126 (Narrator; Satan)
209 – 263 (Narrator; Satan)

Book 2
Debate in hell:
51 – 64 (Moloch); 108 – 118 (Narrator)
119 – 151 (Belial); 226 – 228 (Narrator)
237 – 257 (Mammon); 284 – 309 (Narrator)
310 – 329, 344 – 378 (Beelzebub); 378 – 385 (Narrator)
910 – 919 (Satan on brink of chaos)
988 – 1009 (Chaos, decrepit voice)
1010 – 1055 (Satan on his way)

Book 3
1 – 55 (Invocation)
56 – 79 (Narrator); 80 – 134 (God)

Book 4
1 – 31 (Invocation; narrator)
32 – 113 (Satan’s soliloquy)
264 – 311 (paradise; Adam and Eve)
598 – 609 (“Now came still Ev’ning on . . .”)
639 – 656 (Eve: “With thee conversing I forget all time . . .”)

Book 5
219 – 245 (God to the Archangel Raphael)
469 – 503 (Raphael on the scale of creation)

Book 6
801 – 912 (the Son ends war in heaven)

Book 7
1 – 39 (Invocation)
339 – 363 (Creation of lights)

20-minute break
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<td>500 – 653</td>
<td>(Raphael and Adam on human and angelic love)</td>
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<td>1 – 47 (Invocation)</td>
<td>412 – 916 (Temptation and Fall)</td>
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<td>1 – 16 (the Fall reported in heaven)</td>
<td>720 – 746 (Adam’s despairing soliloquy)</td>
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<td>867 – 961 (Adam’s rejection of Eve, then their reconciliation)</td>
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<td>Book 11</td>
<td>251 – 292 (the Archangel Michael’s announcement; Eve’s lament)</td>
<td>824 – 835 (the Flood, destruction of the garden)</td>
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<td>Book 12</td>
<td>537 – 649 (Close of poem: vision of the future; departure from paradise. Michael, Adam, Eve, Narrator)</td>
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