

Improperia

Good Friday

Richard Rice

♩ = 90

My — peo - ple, what — have I done to you?

Or how have I grieved — you? An - swer me, an - swer me!

1 Be - cause I led — you out — of the land — of E - gypt,
you have pre - pared — a Cross — for your Sav - ior.

Ha - gi - os — o The - os, Ho - ly, — ho - ly is God,
Ha - gi - os — I - schy - ros, Ho - ly — and Might - y,

Ha - gi - os A - tha - na - tos, e - le - i - son hi - mas.
Ho - ly and Im - mor - tal One, have mer - cy on — us.

2 Be - cause I led ___ you out ___ through the des - ert
 for - ty years and fed ___ you with man - na
 and brought ___ you in - to a land ___ of plen - ty,
 you have pre - pared ___ a Cross ___ for your Sav - ior.

† *Hagios o Theos.*

3 What more ___ should I ___ have done ___ for you ___ and have not ___ done?
 In - deed, ___ I plant - ed you as my most ___ beau - ti - ful
 cho - sen vine and you ___ have turned ___ ver - y bit - ter for ___ me, ___
 for in my thirst ___ you gave ___ me vin - e - gar to drink
 and with a lance ___ you pierced ___ your Sav - ior's side.

† *Hagios o Theos.*

1 I _____ scourged _____ E - gypt for your _____ sake with its first - born sons,

and you scourged _____ me _____ and hand - ed me o - ver.

℞ My _____ peo - ple, what _____ have I done to you?

Or how have I grieved _____ you? An - swer me, an - swer me!

2 I _____ led _____ you out _____ from E - gypt

as Phar - aoh lay sunk _____ in the Red _____ Sea,

and you have hand - ed me _____ o - ver to the chief _____ priests.

℞ My people.

3 I _____ o - pened up _____ the sea _____ be - fore _____ you,

and you _____ o - pened my side _____ with a _____ lance.

℞ My people.

4 I _____ went _____ be - fore _____ you in a pil - lar of _____ cloud,
 and you _____ led _____ me in - to Pi - late's pal - ace. *R*

5 I _____ fed _____ you with man - na in _____ the des - ert,
 and on _____ me _____ you rained _____ blows _____ and lash - es. *R*

6 I _____ gave _____ you sav - ing wa - ter from the rock _____ to drink,
 and for drink _____ you gave me gall _____ and vin - e - gar. *R*

7 I struck _____ down _____ for you _____ the kings _____ of the Ca - naan - ites,
 and you struck _____ my head _____ with _____ a reed. *R*

8 I put _____ in - to your _____ hand _____ a roy - al scep - ter,
 and you put _____ on my _____ head _____ a crown _____ of thorns. *R*

9 I ex - alt - ed you _____ with great _____ pow'r,
 and you hung _____ me on the scaf - fold of the Cross. *R*