

18th May 1991

NEBUCHASIAH THE SECOND

Lord of Israel

Words by Michael Green

Music by Harold Britton

Solo: And it came to pass a child was born unto King Nebuchasiah in Jerusalem.

And on the fifth day he was circumcised.

Choir: And it came to pass a child was born unto King Nebuchasiah in Jerusalem. And on the fifth day he was circumcised.

Solo: And the Chief Priest held aloft his foreskin.

Choir: His foreskin. He held aloft his foreskin. Yes, it was held aloft.

Solo: And the people shouted. And the child found favour in the sight of the Lord and waxed exceeding strong.

And it came to pass when he was eighteen his father being full of years died and was buried and Nebuchasiah became King of the Jews in his stead. And the people raised a great shout and cried: "King Nebuchasiah live for ever!"

Choir: King Nebuchasiah live for ever!

Solo: And Nebuchasiah one day was out riding when his eye chanced upon a maiden. And her name was Gaspah. And she appeared beautiful in his eyes. And he lay with her. And he knew her. And she grew great with child.

Choir: He lay with her. He knew her. And she grew great with child.

Solo: So Nebuchasiah begat Sot; and Sot begat Rot; and Rot begat Not; and Not begat Hot; and Hot begat Blot; And Blot begat Cot.

And after this he was sore tired and rested.

And it came to pass that the Chief Priest made an edict that none should eat of the fruit of the fig tree for 40 days. That there might be penance done in the land.

And Nebuchasiah was wroth and swore, "Who is to tell me I shall not eat of the fruit of the fig tree?" And he went out and ate freely of the figs that grew. Yea, he drank of the syrup of the figs that he might be cleansed.

And the Lord took his face away from Nebuchasiah so that he was cast out of the palace by the priests and his brother reigned in his stead.

And they cast him forth so that he lived on a dunghill.

And he was covered in scabs and boils.

Continued overleaf



Choir: Scabs and boils. Yea, they covered him. And carbuncles.

Solo: And he took a piece of flint with which to burst his boils. But they would not burst, for he had sinned.

And Nebuchasiah was hungered, so much so that he ate of the pieces of fat the dogs had licked.

Choir: And Nebuchasiah was hungered. And ate the pieces of fat the dogs had licked. Even unto the gristle.

Solo: And Nebuchasiah rendered up his soul and died. And they buried him. In a grave. Thus ends the story of Nebuchasiah.

Choir: Amen.

IN ACCORDANCE WITH TRADITIONAL PRACTICE, THE CONDUCTOR WILL INVITE THE AUDIENCE TO STAND DURING THE CHORUS "SCABS, BOILS AND CARBUNCLES".

Director: Michael Green

Musical Directors: Don Kincaid and Christine Waite.

Soloists: Kay Barwick and John Hines.

Choir: Jonathan Haswell, Tim Godfrey, Bill Musker, Lorna Duval, Grace Craddock, Renata Nash, Tony Worth, Tony Barber, Malcom Lauder, Robin Gwym, Iain Reid, Lindsay Udell, Ann Bevan, Gillian Kerswell, Caroline Bleakley, Barbara Neville, Ann Renn.

Conductor: David Pearson

Orchestra: Don Kincaid (leader), Christine Waite, Georgia Reid, Julia Cooke, Mary Brunston, Matthew Hart Dyke, Luke Mcfadyean, Katie Ellis, Sarah Robinson, Mari King.

Stage Manager: Jim Caithness

Deputy Stage Manager: Rona Christie

Lighting: Alan B. Smith

Special thanks to Robin Duval, Jim Craddock and stage staff of The Rivals.