Electric Christ

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Electric Christ

Electric Christ rides an elephant
preaching a gospel of greed.
He leads a dark procession:
parading elephants
trunk to tail
blind and following.
There are great numbers of the beasts,
in endless promenade.

"Miracles are too expensive today."
Just not cost effective.
30 pieces of silver serves as poor dividends
for the shareholders of Corporate Christi.
The moneychanger on the 15th floor
of the Solomon Towers Building
faxes demands to the coalition of the Electric Christ.
"Plug him in, and program a new parable!"
User friendly, PC compatible, fully upgradeable, Jesus 98.
Extolling the elephant’s sermon
at the altar of the high mass market.

The elephants thunder along
proud of their following.
Gaps widen under their terrible feet.
They don’t see what they trample
blinded in the glory of the Electric Christ.
Levities shivering, wet from the river,
are crushed underfoot.
Lazarus begs at the security gate.
"Get a job!" cries the Electric Christ.

“What a wondrous thing is our Electric Christ,”
the delighted elephants chant.
It twists words of compassion into hate.
Quotes Leviticus as the pork roast simmers.
Sits in judgement on the right of the father.
Casts stones.
Starves many times five thousand.

"Let us all march in step
to the rhythm of the words
of our wonderful Electric Christ."
He was very expensive
but well worth the price.
And so the parade thunders on
a million elephants long
trunk to tail
blind and following.
Their deafening footfalls
drown the soft words
of a poor man from Galilee.

—Sean O’Skea

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