Phil Ochs "The Ballad of The Carpenter"

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Pre>
Dm c dm
Jesus was a working man
C dm
And a hero you will hear
C dm am
Born in the town of bethlehem
Dm gm
At the turning of the year
A7 dm
At the turning of the year

When jesus was a little lad Streets rang with his name For he argued with the older men And put them all to shame He put them all to shame

He became a wandering journeyman
And he traveled far and wide
And he noticed how wealth and poverty
Live always side by side
Live always side by side

So he said "come you working men Farmers and weavers too If you would only stand as one This world belongs to you This world belongs to you"

When the rich men heard what the carpenter had done
To the roman troops they ran
Saying put this rebel jesus down
He's a menace to God and man
He's a menace to God and man

The commander of the occupying troops Just laughed and then he said "there's a cross to spare on calvaries hill By the weekend he'll be dead By the weekend he'll be dead" Now jesus walked among the poor For the poor were his own kind And they'd never let them get near enough To take him from behind To take him from behind

So they hired one of the traders trade
And an informer was he
And he sold his brother to the butchers men
For a fistful of silver money
For a fistful of silver money

And jesus sat in the prison cell
And they beat him and offered him bribes
To desert the cause of his fellow man
And work for the rich men's tribe,
To work for the rich men's tribe

And the sweat stood out on jesus' brow And the blood was in his eye When they nailed his body to the roman cross And they laughed as they watched him die They laughed as they watched him die

Two thousand years have passed and gone Many a hero too But the dream of this poor carpenter Remains in the hands of you Remains in the hands of you

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