

## 2B.8 KINGDOM OF GOD: RESOURCE SHEET 2

# WHAT KIND OF KING? WHAT KIND OF KINGDOM?

This well-known song was written in 1963 by Sydney Carter, using the tune from the American Shaker song, 'Simple Gifts' (1848).

### I DANCED IN THE MORNING ('LORD OF THE DANCE')

I danced in the morning  
When the world was begun,  
And I danced in the moon  
And the stars and the sun,  
And I came down from heaven  
And I danced on the earth,  
At Bethlehem  
I had my birth.

*Dance, then, wherever you may be,  
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he,  
And I'll lead you all, wherever you may be,  
And I'll lead you all in the Dance, said he.*

I danced for the scribe  
And the Pharisee,  
But they would not dance  
And they wouldn't follow me.  
I danced for the fishermen,  
For James and John -  
They came with me  
And the Dance went on.

*Refrain*

I danced on the Sabbath  
And I cured the lame;  
The holy people  
Said it was a shame.  
They whipped and they stripped  
And they hung me on high  
And they left me there  
On a Cross to die.

*Refrain*

I danced on a Friday  
When the sky turned black -  
It's hard to dance  
With the Devil on your back.  
They buried my body  
And they thought I'd gone,  
But I am the Dance,  
And I still go on.

*Refrain*

They cut me down  
And I leapt up high;  
I am the life  
That'll never, never die;  
I'll live in you  
If you live in me -  
I am the Lord  
Of the Dance, said he.

*Refrain*

Sydney Carter (1915-2004)

*For Christians, this song expresses the excitement of a life following Jesus, who is not a king with a crown and lots of laws to keep, but a leader who makes people want to dance!*