



Heaven On Their Minds (Jesus Christ Superstar) Notes



This song is from the 1970 musical *Jesus Christ Superstar* by Andrew Lloyd Webber and Tim Rice . It highlights the political and interpersonal struggles between Judas Iscariot and Jesus during the last week of Jesus' life. In this musical monologue Judas is concerned about Jesus' rising popularity as a "king" and its negative repercussions. Judas still loves Jesus but he believes he is a man, not God and worries that Jesus' followers will be seen as a threat to the Roman Empire, which will punish both Jesus and his followers. (based on Wikipedia). The 1973 film version of the song is sung by Carl Anderson.

Pre-listening activity

List the words below in the correct column according to their final vowel sounds.

alarm	chest	harm	Messiah	today						
along	crowd	how	mind	true						
are	died	lied	place	way						
away	far	live	race	wood						
began	fire	loud	say	wrong						
best	give	man	see	you						
blind	good	me	sour							
/ɑ:/	/e/	/ɪ/	/i:/	/ʊ/	/u:/	/æ/	/aɪ/	/aʊ/	/eɪ/	/ɒŋ/
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____						_____	_____	_____		
_____						_____	_____	_____		
						_____		_____		
						_____		_____		

Phonetics: There is a Phonetic Chart on the Teachers' Area of www.tuneintoenglish.com

Listening activities

- Play the song and tick each word above as you hear it (the form of some words may be different, e.g. from singular to plural). Note that you will hear **far**, **give** and **live** twice.
- Before listening again, complete the lyrics with the given words based on your answers to the previous activity as well as context and rhyming words (remember, some forms are different).
- Play the song and check your answers, then sing along!

Post-listening activity

Read the definitions below and find the corresponding words in the lyrics – these are in the order they appear in the song, and the first letters are given.

1. remove	_____ s _____ a _____
2. be important	_____ m _____
3. assistant	_____ r _____ h _____ m _____
4. since the beginning	_____ a _____ a _____
5. excited them all	_____ s _____ t _____ a _____ o _____ f _____
6. gets distorted	_____ g _____ t _____ a _____
7. cutting stone or wood, sculpting	_____ c _____
8. large heavy boxes usually made of wood	_____ c _____
9. have been appropriate	_____ h _____ s _____
10. injury, damage (noun)	_____ h _____
11. suppressed	_____ p _____ d _____
12. advice, caution	_____ w _____
13. diminishing, decreasing	_____ w _____
14. gone wrong	_____ g _____ s _____



Heaven On Their Minds (Jesus Christ Superstar)



My mind is clearer now,
At last all too well
I can see where we all soon will be.
If you strip away the myth from the man,
You will see where we all soon will be.
Jesus!

You've started to believe
The things they say of _____.
You really do believe
This talk of God is _____.
And all the good you've done
Will soon get swept _____.
You've begun to matter more
Than the things you _____.

Listen, Jesus, I don't like what I _____.
All I ask is that you listen to _____.
And remember, I've been your right-hand man all _____.
You have set them all on _____.
They think they've found the new _____.
And they'll hurt you when they find they're _____.

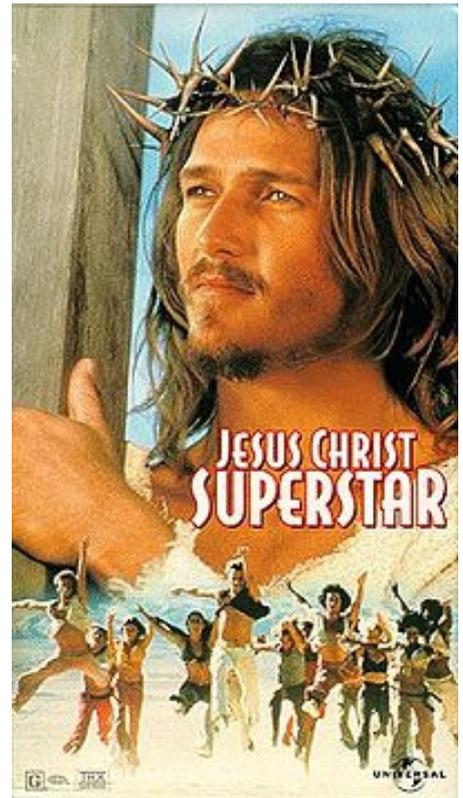
I remember when this whole thing _____.
No talk of God then, we called you a _____.
And believe me, my admiration for you hasn't _____.
But every word you say _____
Gets twisted 'round some other _____.
And they'll hurt you if they think you've _____.

Nazareth, your famous son should have stayed a great unknown
Like his father carving _____
He'd have made _____.
Tables, chairs and oaken _____
Would have suited Jesus _____.
He'd have caused nobody _____,
No one _____.

Listen, Jesus, do you care for your _____?
Don't you see we must keep in our _____?
We are occupied: have you forgotten how put down we _____?
I am frightened by the _____
For we are getting much too _____
And they'll crush us if we go too _____,
If we go too _____.

Listen, Jesus, to the warning I _____.
Please remember that I want us to _____.
But it's sad to see our chances weakening with every _____.
Your followers are _____.
Too much heaven on their _____.
It was beautiful, but now it's _____.
Yes, it's all gone _____.

Listen, Jesus to the warning I _____.
Please remember that I want us to _____.
So, c'mon, c'mon, he won't listen to me, ah
C'mon, listen, listen to me, c'mon, listen to me, ah.





Heaven On Their Minds (Jesus Christ Superstar) Complete and Keys



My mind is clearer now,
At last all too well
I can see where we all soon will be.
If you strip away the myth from the man,
You will see where we all soon will be.
Jesus!
You've started to believe
The things they say of **you**.
You really do believe
This talk of God is **true**.
And all the good you've done
Will soon get swept **away**.
You've begun to matter more
Than the things you **say**.

Listen, Jesus, I don't like what I **see**.
All I ask is that you listen to **me**.
And remember, I've been your right-hand man all **along**
You have set them all on **fire**.
They think they've found the new **Messiah**
And they'll hurt you when they find they're **wrong**.

I remember when this whole thing **began**.
No talk of God then, we called you a **man**.
And believe me, my admiration for you hasn't **died**.
But every word you say **today**
Gets twisted 'round some other **way**.
And they'll hurt you if they think you've **lied**.

Nazareth, your famous son should have stayed a great unknown
Like his father carving **wood**
He'd have made **good**.
Tables, chairs and oaken **chests**
Would have suited Jesus **best**.
He'd have caused nobody **harm**,
No one **alarm**.

Listen, Jesus, do you care for your **race**?
Don't you see we must keep in our **place**?
We are occupied: have you forgotten how put down we **are**?
I am frightened by the **crowd**
For we are getting much too **loud**
And they'll crush us if we go too **far**.
If we go too **far**.

Listen, Jesus, to the warning I **give**.
Please remember that I want us to **live**.
But it's sad to see our chances weakening with every **hour**.
All your followers are **blind**.
Too much heaven on their **minds**.
It was beautiful, but now it's **sour**.
Yes, it's all gone **sour**.

Listen, Jesus to the warning I **give**.
Please remember that I want us to **live**.
So, C'mon, c'mon, he won't listen to me, ah
C'mon, listen, listen to me, c'mon, listen to me, ah.

Pre-listening activity

/aɪ/	/e/	/i:/	/ɪz/
harm	chest	give	see
alarm	best	live	me
are			
far			

/o/	/u:/	/æ/
wood	you	began
good	true	man

/aɪ/	/aʊ/	/eɪ/	/ɒŋ/
fire	crowd	away	along
Messiah	loud	say	wrong
died	hour	today	
lied	sour	way	
blind		race	
mind		place	

Post-listening activity

1. strip away
2. matter
3. right-hand man
4. all along
5. set them all on fire
6. gets twisted around
7. carving
8. chests
9. have suited
10. harm
11. put down
(to crush is also possible)
12. warning
13. weakening
14. gone sour