

He the most holy One,
 First for the sons of men
 Gave as a covering
 Heaven o'er arching.
 Then to the sons of men,
 All this bright lower world
 Gave for a dwelling.
 Lord of humanity,
 Lord of eternity,
 Lord God Almighty !

In the midst of this Caedmon awoke and recalled the words that he had sung and all the events of the dream. He went on the following day to the monastery of Whitby and told his story. In order to test him they gave him a passage in the Bible to paraphrase. Caedmon performed the task and the result was perfectly successful. Thereupon he embraced the religious life and composed those sublime poems which are now regarded as the greatest production of Anglo Saxon literature.

One of the most characteristic passages of Beda's history is the account of the death of Caedmon. "When it was past midnight he asked them whether they had the Eucharist there." They answered, "What need of the Eucharist. You are not likely to die since you talk so pleasantly with us." Nevertheless," said he, "bring me the Eucharist." Having received the same into his hand, he asked whether they were all in charity with him, and without any enmity or rancor. They answered