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John Zinkand
Dordt College

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Good Friday, April Fools

by John Zinkand

How odd to note
on western calendars:
April Fool's Day
and Good Friday shared
the same slot in '88.

Shocking co-existence:
a holiday for fools
and
the cross-event of Christ.
Why not move the date
for whimsey
and avoid such sacrilege?

Good Friday—
is it really Good?
Or have we,
down deep
thought of
this day
as Bad Friday?

Ancient Greeks called the left
"well-named," thinking
a good name would right
the evils associated
with that sinister side.

And the Hebrews, no less,
used "bless" when
"curse"
was on their minds.

Such reversible coats
do not long cover objects
the tongue's loathe to name;
their half-life is short.

And Bad Friday
joins the Fool's Day.

The fools saw
a purple-robed king
carrying a cross
(hah!)
a Messiah exalted
on a tree
(hah! hah!)
a Savior who could not save himself
(hah! hah! hah!)

Bad Friday for him
but good for fools.