



for this preventing grace,<sup>4</sup>  
Which I unworthy have received  
in this most happy place. 40  
I fled from *thee* by many sins  
and *thou* didst follow me,  
As if my ruin would have caused  
some detriment<sup>5</sup> to *thee*.  
How can this choose but wound my heart 45  
When I remember it,  
And ever serve to humble me  
while at *thy* feet I sit?<sup>6</sup>  
From whence my *Lord*, my *God*, and all,  
permit me not to rise, 50  
till I do love thee as thou wouldst,  
the which doth all comprise.

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<sup>4</sup> A reference to the doctrine of prevenient grace, in which God's grace occurs before a human being takes any action.

<sup>5</sup> Loss.

<sup>6</sup> "And she had a sister called Mary, who sitting also at the Lord's feet, heard his word" (Luke 10:39, Douay-Rheims Bible).