

Polemical Poetry

And that my wicked heart did prove¹ (Baker's *Life*, Stanbrook)

[238] And that my wicked heart did prove
 who after sins so many
 hath found such favor in thy eyes
 without deserving any.

O blessed ever be my God 5
 for his preventing grace,²
 which I unworthy have received
 in this most happy place.

¹ This poem is a fragment of "Amor Ordinem Nescit," lines 269-276.

² A reference to the doctrine of prevenient grace, in which God's grace occurs before a human being takes any action.