

Urbi et orbi.

Shtolts iz mayn gayst, shtreyng - mayn
geshalt.
Yorhunderter zibm-un-draysik kh'bin alt.
Fun ur-alter tsayt,
fun het-vayter vayt
kum ikh on.
Hinter mir zaynen Ur un Khevron,
Ber Sheve, Kharan, Pniel un Mitsraim,
der midber, Yerikhe un Yerusholayim.
Vu un ven kh'zol nit zayn,
in glik tsi in payn,
in freyd tsi in tsorn -
kh'leb un eybik kh'vel lebm mimeyle.
In mayn harts brent keseyder der flam funem
dorn,
in mayn zel zingt di harfe fun Dovid ha-
Meylekh.
Vi shomrim, mit mir tomid zaynen
di osyses firkantike mayne.
Vi a fayerzayl iz yeder os
in di veltishe midber un nakht.
S'iz mayn lebm an eybike shlakht,
un mir zis iz mayn biterer kos.
Kh'bin a yid,
un in ot der neviisher sho,
tsi gefelt es aykh, hern, tsi nit, -
ikh bin do!

Urbi Et Orbi*

Proud is my spirit,
stern is my demeanor.
I am thirty-seven centuries old.
From ancient times,
from faraway places
I come.
Behind me are Ur and Hebron,
Beersheba, Haran, Peniel, and Egypt,
and the desert, Jericho, and Jerusalem.
Wherever and whenever I am,
in happiness or in pain,
in joy or in rage,
I live and will eternally live in any case.
In my heart, there burns forever
the flame of the thorn-bush.
In my soul, King David's harp sings.
Like guardians, my square letters**
are always with me—
every letter is like a pillar of fire
in the global desert and the night.
My life is an eternal battle
and my bitter cup is sweet to me.
I am a Jew,
and in this prophetic hour,
whether you like hearing it or not,
I am here!

* Latin for "To the City and the World"—the name given to the Pope's traditional annual speech to the populace from the balcony of his house in St Peter's Square.

**An expression used to refer to the letters of the Hebrew alphabet.