

ALL

(variously)

GOD SAVE THE PEOPLE!
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(At the very end of the song, JESUS leaps onto the table, completing a stage picture with the OTHERS who are already perched on the table.)

[NOTE: From this point on, the actor playing JOHN THE BAPTIST will be referred to as JUDAS. This is for convenience sake. In GODSPELL, the characters of John and Judas are combined into one role, that of Jesus's right-hand man who ultimately betrays him. The fact that they have the preceding early one-on-one scene between them helps to establish their special relationship and differentiate it from JESUS' relationships with the other disciples.]

(During the following, JUDAS gets a cardboard shoebox containing tubes of colorful greasepaint and gives it to JESUS. JESUS takes one of the tubes and paints a couple of symbols onto JUDAS' face. In the original, the symbols were lightning bolts, but the specifics are unimportant. The OTHERS watch, and then JESUS indicates that he would like them to follow suit. THEY all paint each other's faces.)

[NOTE: While it is not necessary to follow this direction literally, it is important that, at JESUS' instigation, ALL don some sort of symbol that shows that they have separated themselves from society and that they are members of a tribe following this particular leader. In lieu of make-up, it could be a piece of clothing or a badge or whatever. In the 2012 Broadway revival, bright red bows were passed out, which were pinned on their costumes. But the symbolic point must be made. Towards the end of the Second Act, this make-up or badge or special piece of clothing or whatever will be removed.]

JESUS

Now, do not suppose that I have come to abolish the Law and the prophets. I did not come to abolish, but to complete. I tell you this: so long as heaven and earth endure, not a letter, not a stroke, will disappear from the Law until all that must happen has happened. Therefore, whoever sets aside even the least of the Law's demands will have the lowest place in the kingdom of Heaven. But whoever keeps the law and teaches others so will have the highest place in the kingdom of Heaven.

(By now, the face-painting is complete.)

Unless you show yourselves far better men than the Pharisees and the doctors of the Law...