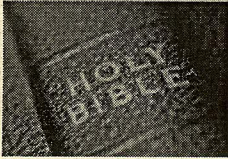


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Perry Hill Road Bulletin

One Solitary Life

He was born in an obscure village The child of a peasant woman
He grew up in another obscure village Where he worked in a carpenter shop
Until he was thirty

He never wrote a book He never held an office He never went to college
He never visited a big city He never travelled more than two hundred miles
From the place where he was born He did none of the things
Usually associated with greatness He had no credentials but himself

While still a young man The tide of popular opinion turned against him
His friends ran away One of them denied him He was turned over to his ene-
mies
And went through the mockery of a trial He was nailed to a cross between
two thieves
While dying, his executioners gambled for his clothing The only property he
had on earth
When he was dead He was laid in a borrowed grave Through the pity of a
friend

Nineteen centuries have come and gone
And today Jesus is the central figure of the human race
And the leader of mankind's progress All the armies that have ever marched
All the navies that have ever sailed All the parliaments that have ever sat
All the kings that ever reigned put together Have not affected the life of man-
kind on earth As powerfully as that one solitary life.

James Allen Francis

