ONCE IN ROYAL DAVID'S CITY

TUNE: IRBY, 87. 87. 77.; Henry J. Gauntlett (1805-1876), 1858
Text: Cecil Frances Alexander (1818-1895) in Hymns for Little Children, 1848

1. Once in royal David's city
2. He came down to earth from heaven,
3. And through all His wondrous childhood
4. For he is our childhood's pattern;

Stood a lowly cattle shed, Where a mother
Who is God and Lord of all, And His shelter
He would honor and obey, Love and watch the
Day by day, like us He grew; He was little,

laid her Baby In a manger for His bed;
was a stable, And His cradle was a stall;
lowly maiden, In whose gentle arms He lay:
weak and helpless, Tears and smiles like us He knew;

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TEXT:
Mary was that mother mild,
With the poor, and mean, and lowly,
Christian children all must be
And He feeleth for our sadness,

Jesus Christ her little Child.
Lived on earth our Savior holy.
Mild, obedient, good as He.
And He shareth in our gladness.

5. And our eyes at last shall see Him,
Through His own redeeming love;
For that Child so dear and gentle
Is our Lord in heaven above,
And He leads His children on
To the place where He is gone.

6. Not in that poor lowly stable,
With the oxen standing by,
We shall see Him; but in heaven,
Set at God's right hand on high;
Where like stars His children crowned
All in white shall wait around.