English Translation: Caterina Imperiale Pallavicina

including "Quid nam sit tempus? Se scire, aut dicere posse"

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Original Text:
Arcadum Carmina: Pars Prior. Rome: Antonius de Rubeis, 1721, p. 69.
https://www.google.com/books/edition/__/OuNfAAAAcAAJ?hl=en&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwjuiMvopvjsAhWBKs0KHZ2jD3IQ7_IDMAx6BAgQEAU

EPIGRAMMA.
Catarina Imperialis

Quid nam sit tempus? Se scire, aut dicere posse,

unâ omnes, sapiens, insipiensque negant.

Nempe animus noster vitam scit, tempora nescit:

Aeternum quid enim praetereuntis habet?

Sed cur tristatur de praetereuntibus annis?

Heu timet iratum sistier ante Deum!

Sistar ego: sed qualis ero? sons dicar, an insons?

Utraque, care Deus, si mihi parcis, ero.

Vocabulary
Animus,- i, m - soul
Careo, carere - to be without
Insipiens, insipientis- foolish
Insons, insontis - innocent
Nempe- nam, for, surely, certainly, certe, enim
Praetereuntis / praetereuntibus - participle of praetereo (to pass)
Una - at once, together
Utro - in which direction

Enodatio (Latin in English word order)

Quidnam sit tempus? Sapiens et insipiens omnes una negant se scire aut dicere posse.

Nempe noster animus scit vitam, (noster animus) nescit tempora:

Enim Quid praetereuntis aeternum habet?

Sed cur tristatur de praetereuntibus annis?

Heu timet sistier ante iratum Deum!

Ego sistar: sed qualis ero? Dicar sans, an insons?

Care deus, si parcis mihi, ero utraque

Translation

What even is time? The wise and unwise together deny that they know or can say.

Surely our soul knows life, and does not know time:

Indeed what eternally of the ephemeral does it know?

But why is it saddened by the passing years?

How afraid it is to be placed before an angry God!

I will be tried: but how will I be judged? Innocent or guilty?

Dear God, if you spare I will be both.