

O God my God I watch betime

The Whole Booke of Psalms (1621) - Psalme 63

Thomas RAVENSCROFT (1590-1633)

CANTVS
MEDIVS
TENOR
or Playnsong
BASSVS

Welt or Glasenbury Tune

O God my God I watch be - time, to come to thee in haste:
O God my God I watch be - time, to come to thee in haste:
O God my God I watch be - time, to come to thee in haste:
O God my God I watch be - time, to come to thee in haste:

3
S.
A.
T.
B.

For why? my soul and bo - dy both, do thirst of thee to taste.
For why? my soul and bo - dy both, do thirst of thee to taste.
For why? my soul and bo - dy both, do thirst of thee to taste.
For why? my soul and bo - dy both, do thirst of thee to taste.

2. And in this barren wilderness,
where waters there are none:
My flesh is parched for thought of thee,
for thee I wish alone.
That I might see yet once again
thy glory, strength and might:
As I was wont it to behold,
within thy Temple bright.

3. For why? thy mercies far surmount
this life and wretched days:
My lips therefor shall give to thee
due honour, laud and praise.
4. And whilst I live I will not fail
to worship thee alway.
And in thy name I shall lift up,
my hands when I do pray.

5. My soul is filled as with marrow,
which is both fat and sweet:
My mouth therefor shall sing such songs
as are for thee most meet.

6. When as in bed I think on thee,
and eke all the night tide:
7. For under covert of thy wings
thou art my joyful guide.
8. My soul doth surely stick to thee,
thy right hand is my power.
9. And those that seek my soul to stroy
them death shall soon devour.

10. The sword shall them devour each one,
their carcasses shall feed
The hungry Foxes which do run,
their pray to seek at need.
11. The King and all men shall rejoyce,
that do profess Gods word:
For liers mouthes shall then be stopped,
which have the truth disturb'd.

Critical notes:

This setting is similar to the ones of Psalms 19 & 140;
Text somewhat modernised.