

Let God arise

The Whole Booke of Psalmes (1621) - *Psalm 68*

Richard ALLISON (ca. 1560 - ca. 1610)

CANTVS
MEDIVS
TENOR
or Playnsong
BASSVS

Let God a - rise and then his foes will turn them-selves to flight:
 Let God a - rise, and then his foes will turn them-selves to flight:
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 Let God a - rise and then his foes will turn them-selves to flight:

3
 S. his ene-mies then will run a - broad, and scat-ter out of sight. And as the fire doth melt the wax,
 A. his ene-mies then will run a - broad, and scat-ter out of sight. And as the fire doth melt the wax,
 T. his ene-mies then will run a - broad, and scat-ter out of sight. And as the fire doth melt the wax,
 B. his ene-mies then will run a - broad, and scat-ter out of sight. And as the fire doth melt the wax,

6
 S. and wind blow smoke a - way: So in the pre-sence of the Lord the wick-ed shall de - cay.
 A. and wind blow smoke a - way: So in the pre-sence of the Lord the wick - ed shall de - cay.
 T. and wind blow smoke a - way: So in the pre-sence of the Lord the wick - ed shall de - cay.
 B. and wind blow smoke a - way: So in the pre-sence of the Lord the wick - ed shall de - cay.

3. But righteous men before the Lord shall heartily rejoice:

They shall be glad and merry all, and cheerful in their voice.

4. Sing praise, sing praise unto the Lord, who rideth on the sky: Extol the name of Jah our God, and him do magnify.

5. The same is he that is above within his holy place: That father is of fatherless, and judge of widows' case.

6. Houses he gives and issue both unto the comfortless: He bringeth bond-men out of thrall, and rebels to distress.

7. When thou didst march before thy folk the Egyptians from among:

And broughtest them through the wilderness down, which was both wide and long.

8. The earth did quake the rain poured heard were great claps of thunder: The mount Sinai shook in such sort, as it would cleave asunder.

9. Thine heritage with drops of rain abundantly was washed: And if so be it barren waxed, by thee it was refreshed.

10. Thy chosen flock doth there remain thou hast prepared that place: And for the poor thou dost provide of thine especial grace.

Critical notes:

Cantus bar 1 re-arranged for lack of note values total in the original;

Cantus bar 5, note 4: there is a sharp on the E in the original, but only to advise against an eventual flat; editorial ♯ added in Cantus bar 5/note 7;

Tenor bar 6, note 5: editorial natural added; text somewhat modernised.

The Second part.

11. God will give women causes just
to magnify his name:
When as the people triumph make,
and purchase brute and fame.
12. For puissant kings for all their power
shall fly (*flee*) and take the foil;
And women which remain at home,
shall help to part the spoil.

13. And though ye were as black as pots
your hue shall pass the Dove:
Whose wings and feathers seem to have
silver and gold above.
14. When in this land God shall triumph
ov'r Kings both high and low:
Then shall it be like Salmon hill,
as white as any snow.

15. Though Basan be a fruitful hill,
and in height other pass:
Yet Sion God's most holy hill,
doth far excel in grace.
16. Why brag ye thus ye hills most high,
and leap for pride together?
This hill of Sion God doth love,
and there will dwell for ever.

17. God's army is to millions
of warriors good and strong:
The Lord also in Sinai
is present them among
18. Thou didst O Lord ascend on high
and captive ledst them all:
Which in times past thy chosen flock,
in prison kept and thrall.

19. Thou madest them tribute for to pay
and such as did repine
Thou didst subdue that they might dwell
in thy Temple divine
20. Now praised be the Lord for that
he pours on us such grace:
From day to day he is the God
of our health and solace.

The Third part.

21. He is the God from whom alone
salvation cometh plain:
He is the God by whom we 'scape
all dangers, death, and pain.
22. Thus God will wound his enemies head,
and break the hairy scalpe,
Of those that in their wickedness
continually do walk.

23. From Basan I will bring saith he,
my people and my sheep:
And all mine own as I have done
from danger of the deep.
24. And make them dip their feet in blood
of those that hate my name:
And dogs shall have their tongues imbrued
with licking of the same.

25. All men may see how thou O God,
they enemies dost deface:
And how thou goest as God and King
into thy holy place.
26. The singers go before with joy,
the Minstrels follow after:
And in the midst the Damsels play,
with Timbrel and with Taber.

27. Now in the congregation
O Israel praise the Lord:
And Jacob's whole posterity,
give thanks with one accord.
28. Their chief was little Benjamin,
but Juda made their host:
With Zabulon and Nephtalim,
wich dwell about their coast.

29. As God hath given power to thee
so Lord make firm and sure:
The thing that thou hast wrought in us,
for ever to endure.
30. And in thy temple gifts will we
give unto thee (O Lord)
For thine unto Jerusalem
sure promise made by word.

The Fourth part.

Yea, and strange Kings to us subdued
shall do like in those days:
I mean to thee they shall present
their gifts of laud and praise.
31. He shall destroy the spearmen's ranks
their Calves and Bulls of might:
And cause them tribute pay, and daunt
all such as love to fight.

32. Then shall the Lord of Egypt come,
and presents to him bring:
The Moors most black shall stretch their hands
unto their Lord and king.
33. Therefore the kingdoms of the earth
give praise unto the Lord:
Sings Psalms to God with one consent,
thereto let all accord.

34. Who though he ride, and ever hath,
above the heavens bright:
Yet by his fearful thunderclaps
men may well know his might.
35. Therefore the strength of Israel
ascribe to God on high,
Whose might and power doth far extend
above the cloudy sky.

36. O Lord thy holiness and power
is dread for evermore:
The God of Israel gives us strength,
praised be God therefore.