

Save me O God

The Whole Booke of Psalms (1621) - Psalme 69

Richard ALLISON (ca 1560 - ca. 1610)

CANTVS
MEDIVS
TENOR
or *Playnsong*
BASSVS

Save me O God and that with speed the wa - ters flow full fast:
Save me O God and that with speed the wa - ters flow full fast:
Save me O God and that with speed, the wa - ters flow full fast:
Save me O God and that with speed, the wa - ters flow full fast:

3
S.
A.
T.
B.

So nie my soul do they pro - ceed, that I am sore a - gassed. I stick full deep in filth and clay,
So nie my soul do they pro - ceed, that I am sore a - gassed. I stick full deep in filth and clay,
So nie my soul do they pro - ceed, that I am sore a - gassed. I stick full deep in filth and clay,
So nie my soul do they pro - ceed, that I am sore a - gassed. I stick full deep in filth and clay,

6
S.
A.
T.
B.

where - as I feel no ground: I fall in - to such floods I say, that I am like be drow'ned.
where - as I feel no ground: I fall in - to such floods I say, that I am like be drow'ned.
where - as I feel no ground: I fall in - to such floods i say, that I am like be drow'ned.
where - as I feel no ground: I fall in - to such floods I say, that I am like be drow'ned.

3. With crying oft I faint and quail,
my throat is hoarse and dry:
With looking up my sight doth fail,
for help of God on high.
4. My foes that that guiltless dot oppress
my soul, with hate are led:
In number sure they are no less
then hairs are on my head.

5. Though for no cause they vex me sore,
they prosper and are glad:
They do compell me to restore
the things I never had.
6. What I have done for want of wit,
thou Lord all times canst tell:
And all the faults that I commit,
to thee are known full well.

7. O God of hosts defend and stay
all those that trust in thee:
Let no man doubt or shrink away
for ought that chanceth me.
8. It is for thee, and for thy sake
that I do bear this blame:
In spite of thee they would me make,
to hide my face for shame.

9. My mothers sons my brethren all
forsake me on a row:
And as a stranger they me call,
my face they will not know.
10. Unto thy house such zeal I bear,
that it doth pine me much:
Their checks and taunts at thee to hear
my very heart doth grutch.

Critical notes:

the poor numbering of the verses (second page) is in the original;
text somewhat modernised.

The second part

11. Though I do fast my flesh to chast,
yea if I weep and mone:
Yet in my teeth this gear is cast,
they pass not thereupon.
12. If I for grief and pain of heart,
in sackcloth use to walk:
Then they anone will it pervert,
thereof they (iest) and talk.

13. Both high and low, and all the throng,
that fit within the gate:
They have me ever in their tongue,
of me they talk and prate.
14. The drunkards which in wine delight
it is their chief pastime:
To seek which way to work me spite,
of me they sing and time.

14. But thee the while O Lord I pray,
that when it pleaseth thee:
For thy great truth thou wilt alway,
send down thine aid to me.
16. Pluck thou my feet out of the mire,
from drowning do mee keep:
From such as owe me wrath and ire,
and from the waters deep.

17. Least with the waves I should be drown'd,
and depth my soul devour:
And that the pit should me confound,
and shut me in her power.
18. O Lord of hosts to me give ear,
as thou art good and kind:
And as thy mercy is most dear,
Lord have me in thy mind.

19. And do not frown thy servant hide
nor turn thy face away:
I am oppressed on every side,
with hast give ear I say.
20. O Lord unto my soul draw high,
the same with aid repose:
Because of their great tyranny,
acquire me from my foes.

The third part

21. That I abide rebuke and shame,
thou knowest and thou canst tell:
For those that seek and work the same,
thou seest them all full well.
22. When they with brags do break my heart,
I seek for helpe anone:
But find no friends to ease my smart,
to comfort me not one.

23. But in my meat they gave me gall,
to cruel for to think:
and gave me in my thirst withall
strong vinegar to drink.
24. Lord turn their table to a snare,
to take themselves therein:
And when they think full-well to fare,
then trap them in the grin.

25. And let their eyes be dark and blind,
that they may nothing see:
Bow down their back and do them bend
in thralldom for to be.
26. Pour out thy wrath as hot as fire,
that it on them may fall:
Let thy displeasure in thine ire,
take hold upon them all.

27. As desert dry their house disgrace,
their offspring eke expell:
That none thereof possess their place,
nor in their tents do dwell.
28. If thou dost strike the man to tame,
on him they lie full sore:
And if that thou do wound the same,
they seek to hurt him more.

29. Then let them heap up mischief still
sith they are all pervert:
That of thy favour and good will,
they never have no part.
30. And dash them clean out of the book,
of life, of hope, of trust
That for their names they never look
in numbers of the just.

The fourth part

31. Though I O Lord, with woe and grief
have been full sore oppressed:
Thy help shall give me such relief,
that all shall be redressed.
32. That I may give thy name the praise,
and shew it with a song:
I will extoll the same always,
with hearty thanks among.

33. Which is more pleasant unto thee,
such mind thy grace hath born,
Then either Ox or Calf can be,
that hath both hoof and horn.
34. When simple folk do thiss behold,
it shall rejoice them sure:
All ye that seek the Lord behold,
your life for aye shall dure.

35. For why? the Lord of hosts doth hear
the poor when they complain:
His prisoners are to him full dear,
he doth them not disdain.
36. Wherefor the sky and earth below
the sea with flood and stream:
His praise they shall declare and shew,
with all that live in them.

37. For sure our God will Sion save,
and Juda's City build:
Much folk possessions there shall have,
her streets shall all be filled.
38. Her servants seed shall keep the same
all ages out of mind:
39. And there all they that love his name
a dwelling place shall find.