

# I With my voyce to God doe cry

The Whole Booke of Psalmes (1621) - *Psalm 77*

Richard ALLISON (ca. 1560 - ca. 1610)

CANTVS  
MEDIVS  
TENOR  
or *Playnsong*  
BASS

2  
I with my voyce to God do cry, with heart and hear - ty cheer:  
My voice to God I lift on high, and he my suit doth hear.

3  
In time of grief I sought to God, by night no rest I took:  
In time of grief I sought to God, by night no rest I took:  
In time of grief I sought to God, by night no rest I took:

4  
but stretched my hands to him a - broad, my soul com - fort for - sook.  
but stretched my hands to him a - broad, my soul com - fort for - sook.  
but stretched my hands to him a - broad, my soul com - fort for - sook.  
but stretched my hands to him a - broad, my soul com - fort for - sook.

3. When I to think on God intend,  
my trouble then is more:  
I spake but could not make an end,  
my breath was stopped so sore.

4. Thou holdst mine eyes always from rest  
that I always awake:  
With fear I am so sore oppressed,  
my speech doth me forsake.

5. The days of old in mind I cast,  
and oft did think upon  
The times and ages that are past,  
full many years agone.

6. By night my songs I call to mind,  
once made thy praise to shew:  
And with my heart much talk I find,  
my spirits do search to know.

7. Will God (said I) at once for all,  
call off his people thus ?  
So that henceforth no time he shall  
be friendly unto us ?

8. What is his goodness clean decayed  
for ever and a day ?  
Or is his promise now delayed ?  
or doth his truth decay ?

## Critical notes:

Tenor bar 3, note 13 is minim in the original;

editorial natural added in Medius bar 4, note 10;

bar 1: the Cantus part says "did" in the original, all the others say "doe";  
this setting is similar to the one of Psalms 81, 105 & 135;

text somewhat modernised.

9. And will the Lord our God forget,  
his mercies manifold ?

Or shall his wrath increase so hot,  
his mercy to with-hold ?

10. At last I said my weakness is  
the cause of my distrust:

Gods mighty hand can help all this,  
and change it when he lust.

*The Second part.*

11. I will regard and think upon  
the working of the Lord:  
Of all his wonders past and gone,  
I gladly will record.

12. Yea, all his works I will declare,  
and what he did devise:  
To tell his facts I will not spare,  
and eke his counsel wise.

13. Thy works O Lord are all upright,  
and holy all abroad:  
What one hath strength to match the might  
of thee O Lord our God ?

14. Thou art a God that oft dost shew  
thy wonders every hour:  
And so dost make thy people know  
thy vertue and thy power.

15. And thine own folk thou dost defend  
with strength and stretched arm:  
The sons of Jacob that descend,  
and Joseph's seed from harm.

16. The waters Lord perceived thee,  
the waters saw thee well:  
And they for fear aside did flee,  
the depths on trembling fell.

17. The clouds that were both thick and black  
did rain full plenteously:  
The thunder in the air did crack,  
thy shafts abroad did fly.

18. Thy thunder in the earth was heard,  
thy lightning from above:  
With flashes great made men afraid,  
the earth did quake and move.

19. Thy wav's within the sea doth lie,  
thy paths in waters deep:  
Yet none can there thy steps espy,  
not know thy paths to keep.

20. Thou led'st thy folk upon the land,  
as sheep on every side:  
Through Moses and through Aaron's hand  
thou didst them safely guide.