

Thou heard that Israel dost keepe

The Whole Booke of Psalmes (1621) - *Psalm 80*

John BENNET (ca. 1570 - 1614)

CANTVS

MEDIVS

TENOR
or Playnsong

BASSVS

Cheshire Tune

3

S.

A.

T.

B.

Thou herd that Is - ra - el dost keep, give ear and take good heed:

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Thou herd that Is - ra - el dost keep, give ear and take good heed:

Thou herd that Is - ra - el dost keep, give ear and take good heed:

which lead - est Jo - seph like a sheep, and dost him watch and feed.

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2. Thou Lord I say whose seat is set
on Cherubins most bright,
Shew forth thy self and do not let
send down thy beams of light.

3. Before Ephraim and Benjamin,
Manasses eke likewise
To shew thy power do thou begin,
come help us Lord, arise.

4. Direct our hearts unto thy grace,
convert us Lord to thee:
Shew us the brightness of thy face,
and then full safe are we.

5. Lord God of hosts of Israel
how long wilt thou (I say)
Against thy folk in anger dwell,
and wilt not hear them pray.

6. Thou dost them feed with sorrows deep,
their bread with tears they eat:
And drink the tears that they do weep
in measure full and great.

7. Thou hast us made a very strife
to those that dwell about:

And that our foes do love of life,
they laugh and jest it out.

8. O take us Lord unto thy grace,
convert our mind to thee:
Shew forth to us thy joyful face,
and we full safe shall be.

9. From Egypt where it grew not well
thou brougest a Vine full dear:
The heathen folk thou didst expel,
and then didst plant it there.

10. Thou didst prepare for it a place
and set her roots full fast,
That it did grow and spring apace,
and filled the land at last.

The Second part.

11. The hills were covered round about
with shade that from it came:

And eke the Cedars high and stout
with branches of the same.

12. Why then didst thou her wall destroy ?
her hedge plucked up thou hast:
That all the folk that pass thereby
thy Vine may spoil and waste.

13. The Boar out of the wood so wild
doth dig and root it out:
The furious beasts out of the fields
devour it all about.

14. O Lord of hosts return again
from heaven look betime:
Behold, and with thy help sustain
this poor vineyard of thine.

15. Thy plaint I say, thine Israel,
whom thy right hand hat set:
The same which thou didst love so well
O Lord do not forget.

16. They lop and cut it down apace,
they burn it eke with fire
And through the frowning of thy face,
we perish in thine ire.

17. Let thy right hand be with them now
whom thou hast kept so long:

And with the son of man, whom thou
to thee hast made so strong.

18. And so when thou hast set us free,
and saved us from shame:
Then will we never fail from thee,
but call upon thy name.

19. O Lord of hosts of thy good grace,
convert us unto thee:
Behold us with a pleasant face
and then full safe are we.

Critical notes:

Medius & Bassus, bar 2, notes 3 & 4: there is a (forbidden) parallel 5th;
this setting is similar to the one of Psalms 31, 129 & 146;
text somewhat modernised.