

Oft they, now Israel may say

The Whole Booke of Psalmes (1621) - Psalme 129

John BENNET (ca. 1570-1614)

CANTVS

MEDIVS

TENOR
or Playnsong

BASSVS

Cheshire Tune

Oft they, now Is - ra - el may say, me from my youth as - sailed:

Oft they, now Is - ra - el may say, me from my youth as - sailed:

Oft they, now Is - ra - el may say, me from my youth as - sailed:

Oft they, now Is - ra - el may say, me from my youth as - sailed:

3

S.

A.

T.

B.

Oft they as-sailed me from my youth, yet ne - ver they pre - vailed.

Oft they as-sailed me from my youth, yet ne - ver they pre - vailed.

Oft they as-sailed me from my youth, yet ne - ver they pre - vailed.

Oft they as-sailed me from my youth, yet ne - ver they pre - vailed.

2. Upon my back the plowers plow'd
and furrows long did cast:
4. The righteous Lord hath cut the cords
of wicked foes at last.

5. They that hate me shall be ashamed
and turned back also.
6. And made as grass upon the house,
which withereth ere it grow.

7. Whereof the mower cannot find,
enough to fill his hand:
Nor he can fill his lap, that goeth
to gleam upon the land.

8. Nor passers-by pray God on them,
to let his blessing fall:
Nor say, we bless you in the name
of God the Lord at all.

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, 80 & 146;
text somewhat modernised; the poor numbering of the verses is in the original.