Yee righteous in the Lord reioyce

The Whole Booke of Psalms (1621), Psalme 33

Thomas RAVENSCROFT (1590-1633)



2. Praise ye the Lord with Harp and song in Psalms and pleasant things: With Lute and Instruments among, that soundeth with ten strings.

3. Sing to the Lord a song most new, with courage give him praise:4. For why, his word is ever true, his works and all his ways.5. To judgement, equity, and right he hath a great good will:And with his gifts he doth delight the earth throughout to fill.

6. For by the word of God alone the heavens all were wrought: Their hosts and powers every one his breath to pass hath brought.7. The waters great gathered hath he on heaps within the shore: And hid them in the depth to be as in a house of stone.

8. All men on earth both least and most fear God and keep his law:
Ye that inhabite in each coast, dread him and stand in awe.
9. What he commanded wrought it was at once with present speed:
What he doth will is brought to pass with full effect indeed.

10. The councils of the nationes rude the Lord doth bring to nought: He doth defeat the multitude of their devise and thought.11. But his decrees continue still, they never slake or swage: The motions of his mind and will, take place in every age.

The Second part.

12. And blessed are they to whom the Lord as God and guide is known:Whom he doth choose of mere accord to take them as his own.13. The Lord from heaven cast his sight on men mortal by birth:Considering from his seat of might the dwellers on the earth.

14. The Lord (I say) whose hand hath wrought mans heart and doth is frame15. For he alone doth know the thought, and working of the same.16. A King that trusteth in his host shall nought prevail at length: The man that of his might doth boast shall fall for all his strength.

17. The troops of horsemen eke shall fail their sturdy Steeds shall sterve:The strength of horse shall not prevail the rider to preserve.18. But lo thee eyes of God intend, ans watch to aid the just:With such as fear him to offend, and on his goodness trust.

19. That he of death and all distress may set their souls from dread:And if that death their land oppress, in hunger them to feed.Wherefor our souls do still depend on God our strength and stay:He is the shield us to defend, and drive all darts away.

21. Our soul in God hath joy and game, rejoicing in his might:For why? in his most holy name we hope and have delight.22. Therefor let thy goodness O Lord, still present with us be:As we always with one accord, do only trust in thee.

Critical notes: This setting is similar to the one of Psalm 87; text somewhat modernised.