

Be light and glad in God reioyce

The Whole Booke of Psalms (1621) - Psalme 81

Richard ALLISON (ca. 1560 - ca. 1610)

CANTVS
MEDIVS
TENOR
or Playnsong
BASS

Be light and glad in God re - joice, which is our strength and stay:
Be light and glad in God re - joice, which is our strength and stay:
Be light and glad in God re - joice, which is our strength and stay:
Be light and glad in God re - joice, wich is our strength and stay:

2
S.
A.
T.
B.

Be joy - ful and lift up your voice to Ja - cobs God I say.
Be joy - ful and lift up your voice to Ja - cobs God I say.
Be joy - ful and lift up your voice to Ja - cobs God I say.
Be joy - ful and lift up your voice to Ja - cobs God I say.

3
S.
A.
T.
B.

Pre - pare your in - stru - ments most meet, some joy - ful Psalm to sing.
Pre - pare your in - stru - ments most meet, some joy - ful Psalm to sing.
Pre - pare your in - stru - ments most meet, some joy - ful Psalm to sing.
Pre - pare your in - stru - ments most meet, some joy - ful Psalm to sing.

4
S.
A.
T.
B.

Strike up with Harp and Lute so sweet, on eve - ry plea - sant string.
Strike up with Harp and Lute so sweet, on eve - ry plea - sant string.
Strike up with Harp and Lute so sweet, on eve - ry plea - sant string.
Strike up with Harp and Lute so sweet, on eve - ry plea - sant string.

3. Blow as it were in the new Moon
with Trumpets of the best:
As it is used to be done
at any solemn feast.
4. For this is unto Isreal
a statute and a trade:
A law that must be kept full well,
which Jacobs God hath made.

5. This law with Joseph was decreed
when he from Egypt came:
That as a witness all his seed
should still observe the same.
6. When God I say had thus prepar'd
to bring him from the land:
Whereas the speech which he had heard
he did not understand.

7. I from his shoulders took, said he,
the burden clean away:
And from the furnace set him free
from burning brick of clay.
8. When thou in grief didst cry and call
I help thee by and by:
And I did answer thee withall
in thunder secretly.

9. Yea, at the waters of discord
I did thee tempt and prove:
Whereas the goodness of the Lord
with muttering thou didst move.
10. Hear O my folk, O Isreal
and I assure it thee:
Regard and mark my words full well,
if thou wilt cleave to me.

Critical notes:

Editorial natural added in Medius bar 4, note 10;
this setting is similar to the one of Psalms 77, 105 & 135;
text somewhat modernised.

The second part.

11. Thou shalt no God in thee reserve,
of any land abroad:

Nor in no wise to bow or serve
a strange or foreign God.

12. I am the Lord thy God, and I
from Egypt set thee free:
Then ask of me abundantly,
and I shall give it thee.

13. And yet my people would not hear
my voice when that I spake:

Nor Israel would not abay,
but did me quite forsake.

14. Then did I leave them to their will,
in hardness of their heart:
To walk in their own counsel still
themselves they might pervert.

15. O that my people would have heard
the words that I did say:

And eke that Israel would regard
to walk within my way.

16. How soon would I confound their foes,
and bring them down full low:
And turn my hand upon all those
that would them overthrow ?

17. And they that at the Lord do rage,
as slaves should seek them till:

But of his folk the time and age
should flourish ever still.

18. I would have fed them with the crop
and finest of the wheat:

And made the rock with honey drop,
that they their fills should eat.