

## When as we at in Babylon

Psalm 137

Thomas Ravenscroft (c.1592-c.1635)

*The Whole Booke of Psalmes* (London, 1621)

Cantus

When as we sat in Ba - by - lon, the ri - vers\_  
 Then they to whom we priso - ners were said to us  
 But yet if I Je - ru - sa - lem out of my

Medius

When as we sat in Ba - by - lon, the ri - vers\_  
 Then they to whom we priso - ners were said to us  
 But yet if I Je - ru - sa - lem out of my

Tenor

When as we sat in Ba - by - lon, the ri - vers  
 Then they to whom we priso - ners were said to us  
 But yet if I Je - ru - sa - lem out of my

Bassus

When as we sat in Ba - by - lon, the ri - vers  
 Then they to whom we priso - ners were said to us  
 But yet if I Je - ru - sa - lem out of my

5

round a - bout, and in re - mem - brance of Si - on, the tears for grief  
 taun - ting - ly: Now let us hear your He - brew songs, and plea - sant me -  
 heart be slide, then let my fin - gers quite for - get the war - bling harp

10

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8

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 - lo - dy. A - las said we who can once frame his sorrow-ful heart to  
 - to guide; And let my tongue wi - thin my mouth be tide for e - ver -

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20  
 6  
 2  
 1-2 | 3

pon. For in that place men for their use had plant-ed ma - ny one.  
 sing the prai-ses of our li - ving God thus un - der a strange king?  
 last, if that I joy be - fore I see thy full de - li - verance past.

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## When as we at in Babylon: (score)

1. When as we sat in Babylon,  
the rivers round about,  
and in remembrance of Sion,  
the tears for grief burst out.  
We hang'd our harps and instruments  
the willow trees upon.  
For in that place men for their use  
had planted many one.
2. Then they to whom we prisoners were  
said to us tauntingly:  
Now let us hear your Hebrew songs,  
and pleasant melody.  
Alas said we who can once frame  
his sorrowful heart to sing  
the praises of our living God  
thus under a strange King?
3. But yet if I Jerusalem  
out of my heart be slide,  
then let my fingers quite forget  
the warbling harp to guide;  
And let my tongue within my mouth  
be tide for everlast,  
if that I joy before I see  
thy full deliverance past.
4. Therefore O Lord remember now  
the cursed noise and cry:  
That Edom's sons against us made  
when they razed our city.  
Remember Lord their cruel words,  
when as with one accord:  
They cried on, sack and raze their walls  
in despite of the Lord.
5. Even so shalt thou O Babylon  
at length to dust be brought:  
And happy shall that man be called  
that our revenge is wrought.  
Yea blessed shall that man be called  
that takes thy children young,  
to dash their bones against hard stones  
which lie the streets among.