

Be light and glad, in God rejoice

Psalm 81

Richard Alison (c.1560-c.1610)

The Whole Booke of Psalmes (London, 1621)

5

Cantus
Medius
Tenor
Bassus

Be light and glad, in God re - joice, which is our strength and
as it were in the new moon with trum - pets of the

10 15

stay:
best:

Be joy - ful and lift up your voice to Ja - cob's God I say.
As it is u - sed to be done at a - ny so - lemn feast.

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20

Pre - pare your in - stru - ments most mete some joy - ful psalm to sing Strike
For this is un - to Is - ra - ël a sta - tute and a trade, a

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25 30 1. 2.

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of four staves of music, each with a vocal line and a corresponding lyric line. The music is in a common time signature (C) and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are: 'up with harp and lute so sweet, on e - very plea-sant string. Blow law that must be kept full well which Ja - cob's God hath made.' The score includes a first ending (1.) and a second ending (2.).

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1. Be light and glad, in God rejoice,
which is our strength and stay:
Be joyful and lift up your voice
to Jacob's God I say.
Prepare your instruments most mete
some joyful psalm to sing
Strike up with harp and lute so sweet,
on every pleasant string.

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

7. And yet my people would not hear
my voice when that I spake:
Nor Israëel would not obey,
but did me quite forsake.
Then did I leave them to their will
in hardness of their heart,
to walk in their own counsel still,
themselves they might pervert.

2. Blow as it were in the new moon
with trumpets of the best:
As it is used to be done
at any solemn feast.
For this is unto Israëel
a statute and a trade,
a law that must be kept full well
which Jacob's God hath made.

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

8. O that my people would have heard
the words that I did say:
And eke that Israëel would regard
to walk within my way.
How soon would I confound their foes
and bring them down full low:
And turn my hand upon all those
that would them overthrow.

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

6. Thou shalt no God in thee reserve
of any land abroad:
Nor in no wise to bow or serve
a strange and foreign God.
I am the Lord thy God, and I
from Egypt set thee free:
Then ask of me abundantly
and I shall give it thee.

9. And they that at the Lord do rage,
as slaves should seek him till:
But of his folk the time and age
should flourish ever still.
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.