

Let God arise in majesty

Archbishop Matthew Parker (1504-1575), Psalm 68

Thomas Tallis (c.1505-1585)

The Whole Psalter translated into English meter (John Daye press, London, 1567)

Meane

Contratenor

Tenor

Base

Let God a - rise, in ma - je - sty, and scat - t'red be His foes:
But let the just be glad in this, and joy in God His sight;
O blest be God, who day by day doth heap His gifts on us;

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yea, flee they all his sight in face, to him which hate-ful goes. As smoke is
for God's great pow'r, and sta - ble truth in mirth let them de-light. O sing to
this God is God of all our health, in pow'r most glo - ri - ous. He is our

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 God, sound out His Name, see him ye mag - ni - fy; He rid'th on
 God, ev'n God, I say, all health and wealth to shape; yea death is

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fire as war doth melt, God's face the bad might flee. 1-2 3
 heav'ns, His name is God, in him re - joice ye high.
 ruled, by God the Lord, whose dint by him we scape.

fire as war doth melt, God's face the bad might flee.
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1. Let God arise in majesty,
and scattered be His foes:
Yea, flee they all His sight in face,
To him which hateful goes.
As smoke is driven, and comes to naught,
repulse their tyranny;
At face of fire as war doth melt,
God's face the bad might flee.
2. But let the just be glad in this,
and joy in God his sight;
for God's great power and stable truth
in mirth let them delight.
O sing to God, sound out his Name,
see him ye magnify;
he rideth on heavens, his name is God,
in him rejoice ye high.
3. He father is to fatherless,
of widows, judge he is,
even God himself, which ever dwell'th
in holy place of his.
This God, he maketh the desolate
in households great to grow;
he loseth the thrall quite out of bands,
and bring'th the wicked low.
4. O God, when thou went'st forth as guide,
before the people, out,
when thou didst walk in wilderness,
which thing thou didst, no doubt,
the Earth then shook at face of God,
the heavens did drop and swell;
Mount Sinai God's face did fear,
God's face of Israël.
5. Thou pour'dst, O God, thy fruitful showers
on thine inheritance,
when faint they were with ease again,
their strength ye didst advance.
Thy Church and flock to dwell therein,
thou shalt it thus refresh;
so thou preparedst for all thy poor,
O God, in gentleness.
6. Such good effect God gave his word,
to them it shew'd his might;
they did out preach, his armies strong,
how they excell'd in sight.
How kings with hosts most fiercely set,
yet fled discomfited,
and households whole that kept at home,
the spoil they did divide.
7. Though ye have lain among the pots,
as black as coal in sight,
ye shall be white as dove with wings
milk white, and feathers bright.
When God great kings threw out of land,
though erst his flock was black,
then gan they look as white as snow,
as lieth on salmon's back.
8. God's Hill is fat as Basan Hill,
a mount that stately stand'th,
with cliffs on high; like Basan Mount
it riseth, it is so grand.
Why leap ye so, to spite this mount,
ye toppy hillocks gay?
this is God's mount, where God hath dwelt:
he there shall dwell for aye.
9. God's chariots be ten thousands twice,
of angels millions;
with them is God with his good grace,
as God loved Synai, once.
Thou fliedst on high, ye thralldom caught'st,
receiving gifts in men;
yea faithless eke thou took'st to grace,
that God might dwell in them.
10. O blest be God, who day by day
doth heap his gifts on us;
this God is God of all our health,
in power most glorious.
He is our God, even God, I say,
all health and wealth to shape;
yea, death is ruled by God the Lord,
whose dint by him we scape.
11. This God shall wound his enemies' heads,
he shall their worthies quell,
their hairy scalps to pare full nigh,
that still in sin will dwell.
God said: I will restore as once
from Basan, mine I did;
I will return all mine, as once
from seas most deep I rid.
12. That dipp'd thy feet in all their blood,
may read, appear, at eye,
that dogs might lick their enemies' blood,
so read to be thereby.
Who list did see, O puissant God,
thy great proceedings high;
the goings just of thee, my God,
my King in Sanctuary.
13. When thanks were sung, first singers went,
then minstrels moved their feet;
in midst were set the damsel maids,
who play'd with timbrels sweet.
When they in one were jointly met,
thus God they praised well;
from heart, the ground, they bless'd the Lord,
who sprang of Israël.
14. Small Benjamin their ruler went,
so Judas tribe, their stone,
so went the peers of Zebulun
and Naphtali, came on.
Thus God hath bid all strength and power
for thee full nigh to be;
with strength, O God, confirm this work,
that ye hast wrought so free.
15. From thy sweet house, Jerusalem,
make this, thy strength, proceed;
then kings shall bring their offerings
to thee, to praise thy deed.
The lance-men's routs once scatter'd wide
the people's calves, once tamed;
when they shall stoop, and presents bring,
and warring folk, once shamed.
16. Then shall the peers of Egypt Land
for this come, meek in sight;
then Ethiopes full soon shall yield
to God their hands and might.
O all ye realms of all the Earth,
sing ye to God of bliss;
sing psalms and hymns to testify
how worthy praise he is.
17. To him that rideth on heaven of heavens,
as he hath done of old;
lo, he his voice hath utter'd forth,
a voice most strong and bold,
Ascribe to God all strength and might,
to Israël so showed,
on whom his power no less is wrought
than is on Heaven bestowed.
18. O God, thou art full terrible,
from out thy Sanctuary;
this, Jacob's God, his people aid'th:
O bless'd be God thereby.