

# Why braggest in malice high?

*The seventh tune*

(alternative barring)

Archbishop Matthew Parker (1504-1575), Psalm 52

Thomas Tallis (c.1505-1585)

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

Meane

Contratenor

Tenor

Base

Why bragg'st in ma - lice high? O thou in mis - chief stout;  
Thou ma - lice lovedst to wry, a - bove all good - ness walk;  
But I as o - live green in God's sweet house shall lay;

Why bragg'st in ma - lice high? O thou in mis - chief stout;  
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5

God's good-ness yet is nigh, all day to me no doubt. Thy tongue to muse all evil,  
and more thou lov'st to lie than right - eous-ness to talk. Yea, lov'd thou hast no less  
my trust hath e - ver been in God's good grace for aye. I thee shall laud even still,

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1-2 | 3.  
10

it doth it self in - ure; as ra - zor sharp to spill, all guile it doth pro - cure.  
to speak one word for all, all words of naugh-ti-ness, thou tongue in fraud most thrall.  
for this thou didst say I; thy Name to wait I will, for good thy saints it spy.

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## 1. Why bragg'st in malice high?

O thou in mischief stout;  
God's goodness yet is nigh,  
all day to me, no doubt.  
Thy tongue to muse all evil,  
it doth it self inure;  
as razor sharp to spill,  
all guile it doth procure.

## 2. Thou malice lovedst to wry,

above all goodness walk;  
and more thou lovest to lie  
than righteousness to talk.  
Yea, loved thou hast no less  
to speak one word for all,  
all words of naughtiness,  
thou tongue in fraud most thrall.

## 3. But God once thee shall waste,

shall stroy and scrape by hand  
thy tent from thee at last,  
to root thee out of land.  
And righteous men shall see,  
and fear thereby shall take;  
but yet at him full free  
good laughter shall they make.

## 4. O lo, the man himself

that made not God his aid,  
that trust'd in riches, wealth,  
whose might in mischief laid.  
But I as olive green  
in God's sweet house shall lay;  
my trust hath ever been  
in God's good grace, for aye.

## 5. I thee shall laud even still,

for this thou didst, say I;  
thy Name to wait I will,  
for good thy saints it spy.