

O God give ear and do apply

Psalm 55, metrical translation by Sternhold and Hopkins (1562)

William Byrd (c.1540-1623)

Psalmes, sonets and songs of sadnes and pietie (Thomas East press, London, 1588)

Superius

Medius

Contratenor

Tenor

Bassus

5

O God give ear and do ap-ply, to hear me when I pray: and when to

O God give ear and do ap-ply, to hear me when I pray: and when to thee I

O God give ear and do ap-ply, to hear me when I pray:

O God give ear and do ap-ply, to hear me when I pray:

O God give ear and do ap-ply, to hear me when I pray: and

10

thee I call and cry, hide not thy self, *hide not thy self* a - way. Take

call and cry, I call and cry, hide not thy self a - way. Take heed to

and when to thee I call and cry, hide not thy self a-way, hide not thy self a - way, a - way.

and when to thee I call and cry, hide not thy self a - way. Take heed to

when to thee I call and cry, hide not thy self a - way.

15

heed to me, grant my re - quest, and an - swer me a - gain: With plaints I

me, take heed to me, grant my re-quest, *grant my re - quest*, and an - swer me a-gain:

Take heed to me, take heed to me, grant my re - quest, and an - swer me a - gain: With

me, *take heed to me*, grant my re - quest, and an - swer me a - gain:—

Take heed to me, grant my re - quest, and an - swer me a - gain:—

20

pray full sore op - prest, great grief doth me con - strain, great grief doth me con -
 With plaints I pray_full sore op - - prest, great grief doth me con - strain, doth me
 plaints I pray full sore op - prest, full sore op - prest, great grief doth me con -
 With plaints I pray full sore op - prest, great grief doth me con-strain, great grief doth
 ith plaints I pray full sore op - prest, op - prest, great grief doth

25 30

strain. Be - cause my foes with threats and cries, op - press me through de -
 con-strain. Be-cause my foes with threats and cries, be-cause my foes with threats and cries, op -
 strain. Be - cause my foes with threats and cries, op-press me
 me con-strain. Be-cause my foes with threats and cries, and cries, op - press me
 me con-strain. Be - cause my foes with threats and cries, op-press

35

spite: and so the wick-ed sort like-wise, to vex me have de - light, have de -
 press me through de-spite: and so the wick - ed sort like - wise, to vex me have de - light. For
 through de - spite: and so the wick-ed sort like-wise, to vex me have de - light.
 through de - spite: and so the wick-ed sort like - wise, to vex me have de - light, have_de -
 me through de - spite: and so the wick-ed sort like - wise, to vex me have de - light.

40

light. For they in coun - cil do con - spire, to charge me with some
 they in coun - cil do con - spire, for they in coun - cil do con - spire, to charge me with some
 For they in coun - cil do con - spire, to charge me with some ill, to charge me with some
 light. For they in coun - cil do con - spire, do con - spire, to charge me with some ill, So
 For they in coun - cil do con - spire, for they in coun - cil do con - spire, to charge me with some

45

50

ill, So in their ha - sty wrath and ire, they do pur - sue me still, they
 ill, So in their ha - sty wrath and ire, and ire, they do pur - sue
 ill, So in their ha - sty wrath and ire, they do pur - sue me still, they do pur -
 in their ha - sty wrath, so in their ha - sty wrath and ire, they do pur - sue me still,
 ill, So in their ha - sty wrath and ire, they do pur - sue me still,

1
55

2

do pur - sue me still, they do pur - sue me still. still. still.
 me still, they do pur - sue me still. For they in coun - cil
 sue me still, they do pur - sue me still, they do pur - sue me still. For still.
 they do pur - sue me still, pur - sue me still, they do pur - sue me still. still.
 they do pur - sue me still, they do pur - sue me still. For they in still.

O God give ear and do apply: (score)
O God give ear and do apply,
to hear me when I pray:
and when to thee I call and cry,
hide not thy self away.

Take heed to me, grant my request,
and answer me again:
With plaints I pray full sore opprest,
great grief doth me constrain.

Because my foes with threats and cries,
oppress me through despite:
and so the wicked sort likewise,
to vex me have delight.

For they in council do conspire,
to charge me with some ill,
So in their hasty wrath and ire,
they do pursue me still.