

O God give ear and do apply

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

William Byrd (c.1540-1623)

Contratenor (part 3 of 5)

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

O God give ear and do ap - ply, to hear me when I pray:
and when to thee I call and cry, hide not thy self a-way, hide not thy self a -
way. Take heed to me, take heed to me, grant my re-quest, and an-swer me a -
gain: With plaints I pray full sore op - prest, full sore op - prest, great
grief doth me con - strain. Be-cause my foes with threats and cries, op-press me
through de - spite: and so the wick-ed sort like-wise, to vex me have de - light.
For they in coun-cil do con-spire, to charge me with some ill, to charge me with some
ill, So in their ha - sty wrath and ire, they do pur-sue me still, they do pur-
sue me still, they do pur-sue me still, they do pur-sue me still. For still.