The onely Lord of Israel

Thomas RAVENSCROFT (1592-1633)



In Davids house his servant true According to his mind, and also his annointed King, As we in Scripture find. As by his hole Prophets all Oft times he did declare, The which were since the world began His ways for to prepare.

That we might be delivered From those that make debate: Our enemies, and from the hands Of all that do us hate. The mercy which he promised Our Fathers to fulfill: And think upon his covenant made According to his will.

And also to perform the oath Which he before had sworne To Abraham our father dear, For us that were forlorne. That he would give himself for us, And us from bondage bring Out of the hands of all our foes to serve our heavenly King.

And that without all manner fear, And eke in righteousness: And also for to lead our lives In stedfast holiness. And thou O child which now art born, And of the Lord elect Shalt be the Prophet of the highest His ways for to direct.

For thou shalt go before his face, For to prepare his ways: And also for to teach his will, And pleasure all thy days. To give the knowledge how that their Salvation is near: And that remission of their sins Is through his mercy mere.

Whereby the Day-spring from on high As come us for to visit: And those for to illuminate, which do in darkness sit. To lighten those that shadowed be with death, and eke oppressed: And also for to guide our feet The way to peace and rest.