

Incline thine ears unto my words

The Whole Booke of Psalms (1621), Psalm 5

John MILTON (fl. 1611-1621)

CABTVS
MEDIVS
TENOR
or Playnsong
BASSVS

Norwich Tune

In - cline thine ear(s) un - to my words, O Lord my plaint con - si - der:
In - cline thine ear(s) un - to my words, O Lord my plaint con - si - der:
In - cline thine ear(s) un - to my words, O Lord my plaint con - si - der:
In - cline thine ear(s) un - to my words, O Lord my plaint con - si - der:

3
S.
A.
T.
B.

And hear my voice, my King my God, to thee I make my pray - er.
And hear my voice, my King my God, to thee I make my pray - er.
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2. Hear me betime, Lord tarry not
for I will have respect:
3. My prayer early in the morne
to thee for to direct.

4. And I will trust through patience
in thee my God alone:
That art not pleas'd with wickedness,
and ill with thee dwells none.

5. And in thy sight shall never stand
those furious (*souls*) O Lord:
Vaine workers of iniquity,
thou hast always abhord.

6. The liars and the flatterers
thou shalt destroy them then
And thou wilt hate the bloodthirsty
and the deceitful man.

7. Therefore will I come to thy house,
trusting upon thy grace:
And reverently will worship thee
toward thine only place.

8. Lord lead me in thy righteousness,
for to confound my foes:
and eke the ways that I shall walk
before my face disclose.

9. For in their mouths there is no truth
their hearts are foul and vain:
10. Their throat an open sepulchre,
their tongues do ()

9. For in their mouths there is no truth
their hearts are foul and vain:
10. Their throat an open sepulchre,
their tongues doe (glofe) and (faine).

11. Destroy their false conspiracies,
that they may come so nought:
12. Subvert them in their heaps of sin
which have rebellion wrought.

13. But those that put their trust in thee
let them be glad always:
And render thanks for thy defence,
and give thy name the praise.

14. For thou with favour wilt increase
the just and righteous still:
And with thy grace as with a shield
defend them from all ill.

Critical notes:

Bar 1: Original Cantus & Tenor parts say 'eaers', Medius & Bassus says 'eare';

The wrong numbering of the original strophes 2 (& 3?), 9 (& 10) and 11 (& 12) has been adopted;

Editorial cross added in Cantus, bar 4, note 5 and and editorial natural in Cantus, bar 4, note 6;

Text somewhat modernised.