

Ye Rulers which are put in trust

The Whole Booke of Psalmes (1621) - *Psalm 58*

Thomas RAVENSCROFT (1590 - 1633)

CANTVS
MEDIVS
TENOR
or Playnsong
BASSVS

Lichfield Tune

3

S.
A.
T.
B.

Ye Ru - lers which are put in trust to judge of wrong and right:
Ye Ru - lers which are put in trust to judge of wrong and right:
Ye Ru - lers which are put in trust to judge of wrong and right:
Ye Ru - lers which are put in trust to judge of wrong and right:
Be all your judge - ments true and just, not know - ing meed or might?
Be all your judge - ments true and just, not know - ing meed or might?
Be all your judge - ments true and just, not know - ing meed or might?
Be all your judge - ments true and just, not know - ing meed or might?

2. Nay in your hearts you mark and muse
in mischief to consent:
And where you should true justice use,
your hands to bribes are bent.

3. The wicked sort from their birth-day,
have erred on this wise:
And from their mother's womb always
have used craft and lies.

4. In them the poison and the breath
of Serpents did appear:
Yea, like the Adder that is deaf,
and fast doth stop his ear.

5. Because he will not hear the voice
of one that charmeth well:
No though he were the chief of choice
and did therein excel.

6. O God break thou their teeth at once
within their mouths throughout:
The tusks that in their great jawbones
like Lions welps hang out.

7. Let them consume away and waste,
as water run'th throughout:
The shafts that they do shoot in haste,
let them be broke in flight.

8. As Snails do waste within the shell
and unto slime do run:
As one before his time that fell,
and never saw the Sun.

9. Before the thorns that now are young
to bushes big shall grow:
The storms of anger waxing strong,
shall take them ere they know.

10. The just shall joy, it doth them good,
that God doth vengeance take:
And they shall wash their feet in blood
of them that him forsake.

11. Then shall the earth shew forth and tell
that good men have reward:
And that a God on earth doth dwell,
that justice doth regard.

Critical notes:

The sharps in Cantus bar 1, notes 4 & 5 are in the original, but have been set 'editorial' by comparison with Psalm 9;
Medius bar 1, note 5: editorial sharp added (going along with the sharps in the Cantus part);
all sharps have been applied in the midi file;
Text somewhat modernised.