

O Lord the Gentiles doe inuade

The Whole Booke of Psalms (1621) - Psalme 79

Thomas RAVENSCROFT (1590-1633)

CANTVS

MEDIVS

TENOR
or Playnsong

BASSVS

Carleyl Tune

O Lord the Gen - tiles do in - vade thine he - ri - tage to spoil:

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A.

T.

B.

Je - ru - sa - lem an heap_ is made thy tem - ple they de - file.

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Je - ru - sa - lem an heap is made thy tem - ple they de - file.

Je - ru - sa - lam an heap is made thy tem - ple they de - file.

2. The bodies of thy Saints so dear
abroad to birds they cast:
The flesh of them that do thee fear
the beasts devour and wast.

3. Their blood throughout Jerusalem
as water spilled they have:
So that there is not one of them
to lay their dead in grave.

4. Thus are we made a laughing flock
almost the world throughout:
The enemies at us jest and mock
which dwell our coasts about

5. Wilt thou O Lord thus in thine ire
against us ever fume ?
And shew thy wrath as hot as fire,
thy folk for to consume ?

6. Upon those people pour the same
which did thee never know:
All realms which call not on thy name
consume and overthrow.

7. For they have got the upper hand,
and Jacobs seed destroyed:
His habitation and his land
they have left waste and void.

8. Bear not in mind our former faults,
with speed some pittie show:
And aid us Lord in all assaults,
for we are weak and low.

9. O God that givest all health and grace
on us declare the same:
Weigh not our works, our sins deface
for honour of thy name.

10. Why shall the wicked still alway
to us as people dumb:
In toy reproach rejoyce and say,
where is their God become ?

11. Require O Lord as thou seest good
before our eyes and sight
Of all these folk thy servants blood
which they spilled in despite.
12. Receive into thy sight in haste
the clamor, grief and wrong
Of such as are in prison cast,
sustaining irons strong.

Thy force and strength to celebrate
Lord set them out of band,
Which unto death are destinate,
and in their enemies hand.

13. The nations which have been so bold
as to blasphem thy name:
Into their laps with seavenfold
repay aigain the same.

14. So we thy folk and pasture sheep,
will praise thee evermore:
And teach all ages for to keep
for thee like praise in store.

Critical notes:

Editorial natural added in Cantus bar 2, note 6;
this setting is similar to the one of Psalm 29;
text somewhat modernised.