

# Doe not O God refraine thy tongue

The Whole Booke of Psalmes (1621) - *Psalm 83*

Thomas RAVENSCROFT (1590 - 1633)

CANTVS  
MEDIVS  
TENOR  
or Playnsong  
BASSVS

Doe not O God refraine thy tongue, in silence doe not stay:  
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Doe not O God refraine thy tongue, in silence doe not stay:

S.  
A.  
T.  
B.

With - hold not Lord thy - self so long, nor make no more de - lay.  
With - hold not Lord thy - self so long, nor make no more de - lay.  
With - hold not Lord thy - self so long, nor make no more de - lay.  
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2. For why, behold thy foes and see,  
how they do rage and cry:  
And those that bear an hate to thee  
hold up their heads on high.

3. Against thy folk they use deceit,  
and craftily thy enquire:  
For thine elect to lie in wait  
their councils doth conspire.  
4. Come on say they, let us expel,  
and pluck these folk away:  
So that the name of Israel  
may utterly decay.

5. They all conspire within their hearts,  
how they may thee withstand:  
Against the Lord to take a part  
they are in league and band.

6. The tents of all the Edomites  
the Israelites also:  
The Hagarens and Moabites,  
with divers other moe.

7. Gebal with Ammon, and likewise,  
doth Amaleck conspire:

The Philistines against thee rise,  
with them that dwell at Tyre.

8. And Assur eke is well apaid  
with them in league to be:  
and doth become a fence and aid  
to Lot's posterity.

9. As thou didst to the Midianites,  
so serve them Lord each one:  
And to Cicer and to Jabin  
beside the brook Kison.

10. Whom thou in Endor didst destroy,  
and waste them through thy might:  
That they like dung on earth did lie  
and that in open sight.

## *The second part.*

11. Make them now and their Lords appear  
like Zeb and Oreb then:

As Zeba and Zalmana were  
the Kings of Madian:

12. Which said, let us throughout the land  
in all the coasts abroad  
Possess, and take into our hand  
the fair houses of God.

13. Turn them O God with storms as fast  
as wheels that have no stay:  
Or like as chaff which men do cast  
with winds to fly away.

14. Like as fire with rage and fume,  
the mighty forests spills:  
And as the flame doth quite consume  
the mountains and the hills.

15. So let the tempest of thy wrath  
upon their necks be laid  
And of the stormy wind and shower,  
Lord make them all afraid.  
16. Lord bring them all I thee desire  
to such rebuke and shame:  
That it may cause them to enquire,  
and learn to seek thy name.

17. And let them evermore daily  
to shame and slander fall:  
And in rebuke and obloquy  
to perish eke withal.

18. That they may know and feel full well  
that thou art called Lord:  
And that alone thou didst excel  
and reign throughout the world.

### Critical notes:

Editorial natural added in Bassus bar 1, note 5; the (forbidden) parallel 5th in bar 2/notes 2 & 3 is in the original; this setting is similar to the one of Psalm 26; text somewhat modernised.