

I Love the Lord, because my voyce

The Whole Booke of Psalmes (1621) - *Psalm 116*

Thomas RAVENSCROFT (1590 - 1633)

CANTVS

MEDIVS

TENOR
or Playnsong

BASSVS

Winchester Tune

3

S.

A.

T.

B.

I love the Lord, be - cause my voice and pray - er heard hath he:

When in my days I called on him, he bow'd his ear to me.

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3. Even when the snares of cruel death
about beset me round:
When pains of hell me caught, and when
I woe and sorrow found.

4. Upon the name of God the Lord
then did I call and say:
Deliver thou my soul O Lord,
I do thee humbly pray.

5. The Lord is very merciful,
and just he is also:
And in our God compassion
doth plentifully flow.

6. The Lord in safety doth preserve,
all those that simple be:
I was in woeful misery,
and he relieved me.

7. And now my soul sith thou art safe,
return unto thy rest:
For largely lo the Lord to thee,
his bounty hath expressed.

8. Because thou hast delivered,
my soul from deadly thrall:
My moistened eyes from mournful tears
my sliding feet from fall.

9. Before the Lord I in the land
of life will walk therefore:
10. I did believe therefore I speak,
for I was troubled sore.

The second part.

11. I said in my distress and fear
that all men liars be:
12. What shall I pay the Lord for all
his benefits to me?
13. The wholesome cup of saving health
I thankfully will take:
And on the Lord's name I will call,
when I my prayer make.

14. I to the Lord will pay the vows,
that I have him behighed:
Yea, even at this present time,
in all the people's sight.
15. Right dear and precious in his sight,
the Lord doth aye esteem
The death of all his holy ones,
whatever men do deem.

16. Thy servant Lord thy servant lo,
I do myself confess:
Son of thy handmaid, thou hast broke
the bonds of my distress.
17. And I will offer up to thee
a sacrifice of praise:
And I will call upon the name
of God the Lord always.

18. I to the Lord will pay the vows,
that I have him behighed:
Yea, even at this present time,
in all the peoples sight.
19. Yea, in the courts of God's own house,
and in the midst of thee,
O thou Jerusalem I say,
wherefore the Lord praise ye.

Critical notes:

This setting is similar to the one of Psalms 23a, 23b, 84, 98, 101, 133 & 150;
text somewhat modernised.