The Whole Booke of Psalms (1621), Psalm 7



- 2. Lest like a Lion he me tear, and rend in pieces small: Whilst there is none to succor me and rid me out of thrall.
- 3. O Lord my God if I have done the thing that is not right:
 Or else if I be found in fault, or guilty in thy sight.
 4. Or to my friend rewarded ill, or left him in distress
 Which me pursued most cruelly, and hated me causeless.
- 5. Then let my foes pursue my soul, and eke my life down thrust Unto the earth, and also lay mine honor in the dust.6. Start up O Lord now in the wrath, and put my foes to pain:Performe the kingdom promised to me, which wrong sustain.
- 7. Then shall great nations come to thee and know thee by this thing:
 If you declare for love of them thyself as Lord and King.
 8. And thou that art of all men Judge O Lord now judge thou me:
 According to thy righteousness, and mine integrity.

The Second part.

- 9. Lord cease the hate of wicked men, and be the just man's guide:
 10. By whom the secrets of all hearts are searched and descried.
 11. I take my help to come of God in all my grief and smart:
 That doth preserve all those that be of pure and perfect heart.
- 12. The just man and the wicked both God judgeth by his pow'r:
 So that he feels his mighty hand e'en ev'ry day and hour.

 13. Except he change his mind I die, for e'en as he should smite:
 He whets his sword, his bow he bends, aiming where he may hit.

- 14. And doth prepare his mortals darts his arrows keen and sharp:
 For them that do me persecute, whilst he doth mischief warp.
 15. But lo though he in travel be of his divellish forecast:
 And of his mischief once conciev'd yet brings forth nought at last.
- 16. He digs a ditch and delves it deep, in hope to hurt his brother.But he shall fall into the pit that he digged up for other.17. Thus wrong returneth to the hurt of him in whom it bred:And all the mischief that he wrought shall fall upon his head.
- 18. I will give thanks to God therefore, that judgeth righteously:
 And with my song will praise the name of him that is most high.

Critical notes:

this setting is similar to the one of Psalms 56 & 142; the notion "The Second part" is not in the original, but in the edition of Sternhold & Hopkins; the poor numbering of the verses is in the original; text somewhat modernised.