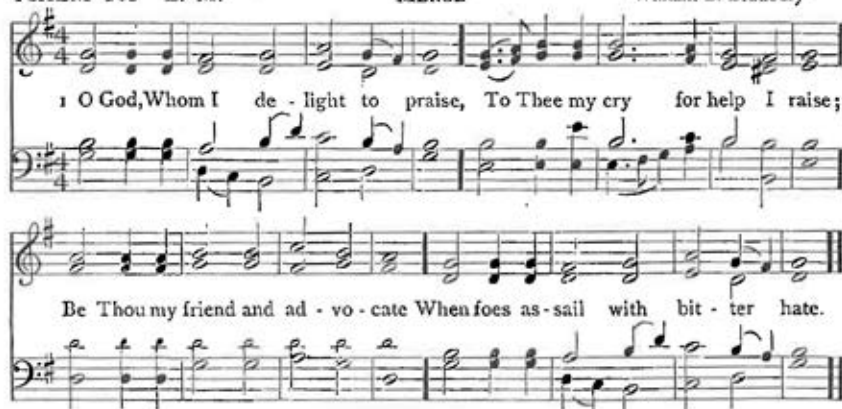




- 2 Against me slanderous words are flung
From many a false and lying tongue;
Without a cause men hurl at me
The shafts of deadly enmity.
- 3 My good with evil they repay,
My love turns not their hate away;
The part of vengeance, Lord, is Thine,
To pray, and only pray, is mine.
- 4 Since love appeals to him in vain,
The slave of sin let him remain;
Against him let his foe be turned,
His sin be judged, his prayer be spurned.
- 5 Let sudden death upon him break,
His office let another take,
His children and his widowed wife
Pursue the homeless beggar's life.
- 6 Let creditors consume his toil
And strangers make his wealth their spoil;
Let none in pity heed his claim,
Cut off his race, blot out his name.
- 7 His parents' sins be not forgot
Till Thou from earth his memory blot,
Since he remembered not to show
Compassion to the sons of woe.
- 8 He cursing loved and blessing loathed;
Unblest, with cursing he is clothed;
For thus the justice of the Lord
My adversaries will reward.
- 9 O God, the Lord, for Thy Name's sake
Let me of Thy good grace partake;
My need is great, and great Thou art
To heal my wounded, stricken heart.
- 10 With failing strength I fast and pine,
Like shadows swift my days decline,
And when my foes my weakness see
They shake the head in scorn at me.
- 11 O Lord my God, Thy help I crave,
In Thy great loving-kindness save;
Before my foes Thy mercy show;
That Thou dost help me make them know.
- 12 What though they curse, if Thou wilt bless?
Then joy shall banish my distress,
And shame shall overwhelm the foes
Who would Thy servant's way oppose.
- 13 Thanksgiving to the Lord I raise,
The multitude shall hear my praise,
For by the needy God will stand
To save them from oppression's hand.