Psalm 55  

Exaudi, Deus  

tone I8

HEAR my prayer, O God: and hide not thyself from my petition. 2. Take heed unto me, and hear me: how I mourn in my prayer, and am vexed. 3. The enemy crieth so, and the ungodly cometh on so fast: for they are minded to do me some mischief; so maliciously are they set against me. 4. My heart is disquieted within me: and the fear of death is fallen upon me. 5. Fearfulness and trembling are come upon me: and an horrible dread hath overwhelmed me. 6. And I said, O that I had wings like a dove: for then would I flee away, and be at rest. 7. Lo, then would I get me away far off: and remain in the wilderness. 8. I would make haste to escape: because of the stormy wind and tempest. 9. Destroy their tongues, O Lord, and divide them: for I have spied unrighteousness and strife in the city. 10. Day and night they go about within the walls thereof: mischief also and sorrow are in the midst of it. 11. Wickedness is therein: deceit and guile go not out of
their streets. 12. For it is not an open ene-my, that hath done me this
dishonour: for then I could have borne it. 13. Neither was it mine adversary,
that did magnify himself against me: for then peradventure I would have hid
myself from him. 14. But it was ev-en thou, my companion: my guide, and
mine own famil- iar friend. 15. We took sweet counsel together: and walked
in the house of God as friends. 16. Let death come hast-ily upon them, and
let them go down quick in-to hell: for wickedness is in their dwellings, and
among them. 17. As for me, I will call upon God: and the Lord shall save
me. 18. In the evening, and morning, and at noonday will I pray, and that
instantly: and he shall hear my voice. 19. It is he that hath deliv-ered my
soul in peace from the battle that was against me: for there were many
with me. 20. Yea, even God, that endureth for ever, shall hear me, and
bring them down: for they will not turn, nor fear God. 21. He laid his hands up-
on such as be at peace with him: and he brake his co- venant. 22. The words of his mouth were softer than butter, having war in his heart: his words were smoother than oil, and yet be they very swords. 23. O cast thy burden upon the Lord, and he shall nourish thee: and shall not suffer the righteous to fall for ever. 24. And as for them: thou, O God, shalt bring them into the pit of destruction. 25. The blood-thirsty and deceitful men shall not live out half their days: nevertheless, my trust shall be in thee, O Lord. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son: and to the Ho-ly Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: world without end. A - men