

# Have mercy upon me O God

William Byrd (c.1540-1623)

*Versus*

Cantus Primus

Cantus Secundus

Contratenor

Tenor

Sextus

Bassus

5

Have

*Chorus*

10

mer - cy up - on me O God,

Have mer - cy up - on

Have mer - cy up - on me

Have mer - cy up - on

Have mer - cy up -

Have mer - cy up - on

Versus 15

have mer - cy up - on me O  
me O God,  
O God, O God,  
me O God,  
-on me O God,  
me O God,

Chorus 20

God, af - ter thy great good - - - ness,  
have mer -  
have mer -  
have mer -  
have mer - cy  
have mer - cy

-cy up - on me O God, af - ter thy great good -

-cy up - on me O God, af - ter thy

-cy up - on me O God, af - ter thy great good - ness, thy

up - on me O God,

-cy up - on me O God, af - ter thy great good - - - ness,

Versus

And ac - cord - ing to the mul - ti -

-ness, thy great good - ness.

great good - ness, good - ness.

great good - ness.

af - ter thy great good - ness.

af - ter thy great good - ness.

35

-tude of thy mer - cies wipe a - way, wipe a-way mine of - fen -

Chorus

40

- - - ces,

And ac - cord - ing to the mul - ti - tude of

And ac - cord - ing to the mul - ti - tude of thy

And ac - cord - ing to the mul - ti - tude of thy

And ac - cord - ing to the mul - ti - tude of thy

And ac - cord - ing to the mul - ti - tude

45

thy mer - cies wipe a - way, wipe a - way mine of - fen - ces, wipe a - way mine - mer - - cies wipe a - way mine of - fen - ces, wipe a - way mine - mer - - cies wipe a - way, wipe a - way mine of - fen - ces, of thy mer - cies wipe a - way, wipe a - way mine of - fen - ces, wipe a -

Versus

50

Wash me clean from my wick - ed - ces. of - fen - ces. mine of - fen - ces. mine of - fen - ces. - way mine of - fen - ces.

55

-ness, and purge me from my sins, and purge me from my\_\_\_\_\_

Chorus

60

sins, from my sins, Wash me clean from\_ Wash me clean, wash me clean from my Wash me clean, wash me clean from\_ Wash me clean, wash me clean from my Wash me clean, wash me clean from\_ Wash me clean, wash me clean from\_

— my wick - - ed - ness, and purge me from my sins,  
 wick - - - ed - ness, and purge me from my sins, from my \_\_\_\_\_  
 — my wick - - ed - ness, from my wick - ed - ness, and purge me  
 wick-ed - ness, from my wick-ed - ness, and purge me from my sins, from  
 — my wick - ed - ness, and purge me from my sins,  
 my wick - - ed - ness, and purge me from my sins, from my sins, and

and purge me from my sins, from my \_\_\_\_\_ sins.  
 sins, and purge me from my sins, from \_\_\_\_\_ my sins.  
 from my sins, from my sins, and purge me from my sins.  
 — my sins, and purge me, and purge me from my sins.  
 and purge me from my \_\_\_\_\_ sins.  
 purge me from my sins, and purge me from my sins, from my sins.

The image shows a musical score for six voices. The top five staves are vocal parts: Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass, and Bass. The bottom staff is a Bass part. Each staff has the lyrics 'A - - - - - men.' written below it. The music is in a key with two flats (B-flat and E-flat) and a common time signature. The notation includes various note values, rests, and bar lines.

Source: William Byrd, *Psalms, Songs, and Sonnets...* (London, 1611), no.25  
 Text: Psalm 51: 1-2; translation close to Coverdale's.

Indications of Verse and Chorus are complete only in Bassus part; the first pair are shown in the Tenor and Sextus books; absent elsewhere.

Prefatory bars: Ranges shown are for the vocal parts only. The instruments play throughout, doubling the voices in Chorus sections. Viol parts in C clefs are available on request from the editor.

IV.23-4: *me*  $\text{♩} \text{♩} \text{♩} \text{♩}$  *O*  $\text{♩}$

Part of my complete edition of the published vocal works of William Byrd made available through the Choral Public Domain Library (<http://www.cpd.org>). For general editorial notes, please visit my user page at <http://www.cpd.org/wiki/index.php/User:DaveF>. All scores are made freely available according to the CPDL Licence for downloading, printing, performing and recording. No further conditions are or can be attached, although it's always good to hear of any performances. Please do not, without consulting me, make copies of my scores available through other websites – there's no need, first of all, as CPDL is always here, and secondly by doing so you put these editions beyond my control and so will miss out on any updates and revisions.