

# Psalm of Nephi

## Rhapsody, Op.79 No.2

Narrative arranged  
by David Van Alstyne  
from 1st Nephi 17 and 2nd Nephi 4, 32, 33

Johannes Brahms

1

4

7

10

m.s.

m.s.

f

(b)

(b)

mp



If we keep the commandments of God, He nourishes us and strengthens us

14

and provides the means for us to accomplish what he has commanded.

But our  
fathers

16

hardened their hearts, and blinded  
their minds,

and reviled against Moses and  
against the true and living God.

18

And he did straiten  
them in the wilderness.

21

He sent flying fiery serpents among them,

and after they were bitten, he prepared a way that they might be healed;

23

And the labor they had to perform was to look up.

25

But because of the simpleness of the way, or the easiness of it, there were many who perished.

27

29

33

m.s.

m.s.

m.s.

m.s.

m.s.

My brethren, ye are swift to do iniquity, but slow to remember the Lord.

37

p

You have heard his voice, and he hath spoken to you in a still, small voice,  
but you were past feeling that you could not feel his words.

41

p

m.s.

m.s.

m.s.

m.s.

45

p

49

*p*

I am left to mourn because of the unbelief and ignorance of those who will not search knowledge,

50

*p*

nor understand when it is given to them in plainness.

53

*ff*

I pray continually for them by day, and mine eyes water my pillow by night.

55

*p*

O wretched man that I am!

Yea, my heart sorroweth because of my flesh; my soul grieveth because of mine iniquities.

58

I am encompassed about because of the temptations and sins which so easily best me.

62

*cresc.*

And when I desire to rejoice, me heart groaneth because of my sins.

64

*sf decresc.*

66

*f*

Nevertheless, I know in whom I have trusted.

My God hath been my support;

70

*molto*

*ff*

He hath led me  
through mine afflictions;

He hath filled me  
with his love.

He hath heard my cry.

73

*p*

*8*

*pp*

Yea, my voice have I sent up on high  
and angels came down and ministered unto me.

76

*f*

*ff*

O then, if I have seen such great things,  
why should me heart weep, and my strenth slacken because of mine afflictions?

79

And why should I yield to temptation  
that the evil one have place in my heart to destroy my peace and afflict my soul?

83

Awake, my soul! No longer droop in sin.

87

Rejoice, my heart, and say, "Lord, I will praise thee forever;  
my soul will rejoice in thee, my God, and the rock of my salvation."

89

O Lord, wilt thou redeem my soul?

Wilt thou make me that I may  
shake at the appearance of sin?

Musical score for measures 92-93. The vocal line consists of eighth-note pairs and sixteenth-note patterns. The piano accompaniment provides harmonic support with sustained notes and eighth-note chords.

May the gates of hell be shut continually before me  
because my heart is broken and my spirit is contrite!

Musical score for measures 94-95. The vocal line features eighth-note pairs and sixteenth-note patterns. The piano accompaniment consists of eighth-note chords and bass line.

That I may walk in the path of the low valley,  
that I may be strict in the plain road!"

Musical score for measures 97-98. The vocal line includes eighth-note pairs and sixteenth-note patterns. The piano accompaniment features eighth-note chords and bass line, with dynamic markings like *p* (piano) and *f* (forte).

O Lord, wilt thou encircle me  
around in the robe of thy righteousness?

I have trusted  
in thee, and I will trust in thee forever.

99

Behold,  
my voice shall forever ascend up to thee,

my rock and my everlasting God!

103

*cresc.*

107

*ff*

*p*

110

*pp*

*ff*