

# O God of Earth and Altar

KING'S LYNN (7 6 . 7 6. D.)  
Traditional English melody  
arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906

G. K. Chesterton, 1906

The musical score consists of four staves of music in G clef, common time, and a key signature of one flat. The music is divided into four sections, each with a different set of lyrics. The first section starts with a treble staff and continues with a bass staff. The second section begins with a treble staff and continues with a bass staff. The third section starts with a treble staff and continues with a bass staff. The fourth section starts with a treble staff and continues with a bass staff.

1. O God of earth and al - tar, Bow down and hear our cry,  
2. From all that ter - ror teach - es, From lies and tontue and pen,  
3. Tie in a liv - ing teth - er, The prince and priest and thrall;

Our earth - ly rul - ers fal - ter, Our peo - ple drift and die.  
From all the eas - y speech - es That com - fort cru - el men;  
Bind all our lives to - geth - er, Smite us and save us all;

The walls of gold en - tomb us, The swords of scorn di - vide;  
From sale and prof - a - na - tion Of hon - or and the sword;  
In ire and ex - ul - ta - tion A - flame with faith and free,

Take not Thy thun - der from us, But take a - way our pride.  
From sleep and from dam - na - tion, De - liv - er us, good Lord!  
Lift up a liv - ing na - tion, A sin - gle sword to Thee.