

The Mouth of Fools Doth God Confess

(also known as Although the Fools Say with Their Mouth)

REFORMATION

Words: Martin Luther, 1524. Translated by Richard Massie, 1854, alt.
 Music: 'Es spricht der Unweisen Mund' from Walter's Geistliche Gesangbüchlein, 1524. Setting: Michael Praetorius, 1610.
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♩ = 120

1. The mouth of fools doth God confess, But while their lips draw nigh Him,
 2. The Lord looked down from his high tow'r On all man-kind be - low Him,
 3. But none there was who walked with God, For all a - side had slid - den,
 4. How long, by fol - ly blind - ly led, Will ye oppress the need - y,
 5. There - fore their heart is ne - ver still, A fall - ing leaf dis - mayes them;

Their heart is full of wick - ed - - ness, And all their deeds de - - ny Him.
 To see if an - y owned His pow'r, And tru - ly sought to know Him;
 De - - lu - sive paths of fol - ly trod, And fo - lloved lusts for - - bid - den;
 And eat my peo - ple up like bread? So fierce are ye, and greed - y!
 God is with him who doth His will, Who trusts him and o - - beys Him;

Co - rrupt are they, and ev - - ery one A - - bom - in - ab - - le
 Who all their un - der - stand - - ing bent To search His ho - - ly
 Not one there was who prac - - ticed good, And yet they deemed, in
 In God they put no trust at all, Nor will on Him in
 But ye the poor man's hope des - - pise, And laugh at him, e'en

works hath done; There is not one well - do - - - er.
 Word, in - - tent To do his will in earn - - - est.
 haugh - ty mood, Their deeds must sure - ly please Him.
 trou - ble call, But be their own pro - - vi - - - ders.
 when he cries, That God is his sure com - - - fort.

6. Who shall to Israel's outcast race From Zion bring salvation?
 God will himself at length show grace, And loose the captive nation;
 That will he do by Christ their King; Let Jacob then be
 glad and sing, And Israel be joyful.