



# KING SAUL

An Oratorio in Four Acts  
*For Soloists, Mixed Chorus & Orchestra*

Words by  
Hubert Parry and the Holy Bible (Old Testament)

Music by  
**C. Hubert H. Parry**  
Composed for the Birmingham Musical Festival - 1894

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TIMPANI

COVER IMAGE

**“David Playing the Harp before Saul”**

Rembrandt Harmenszoon van Rijn, c.1629

Stadelsches Kunstinstitut, Frankfurt



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The “renaissance” in English music is generally agreed to have started in the late Victorian period, beginning roughly in 1880. Public demand for major works in support of the annual choral festivals held throughout England at that time was considerable which led to the creation of many large scale works for orchestra with soloists and chorus.

Although a number of those works were engraved, printed and are regularly performed today, performance scores for a considerable number of compositions, both large-scale and more intimate works, are not available. These works were either never engraved or were engraved and printed but are no longer available in the publishers’ catalogues. While the existence of these works is documented in biographies of the composers, the ability to study and, most importantly, to perform these compositions is not possible.

Changes in the International copyright laws, coupled with changing musical tastes, played a pivotal role in creating this void. As a result, music publishers lost the ability to generate revenue from the sale/rental of such music. In 1964, holograph and copyist scores from both Novello and from publishers it represented were offered to the British Library and the Royal College of Music Library (see The RCM Novello Library – The Musical Times, Feb. 1983 by Jeremy Dibble ).

These autograph full score manuscripts along with copies of engraved vocal scores, widely available through various online library sources, are now the only resources available for studying and performing these works.

The English Heritage Music Series has been created to ensure that these compositions are preserved, are accessible for scholarly research and, most importantly, are available for performance by future generations. Its mission is to:

- Source non-engraved/out-of-print English composer compositions that are in the U.S. public domain
- Preserve these compositions through the preparation of performance scores using notation software
- Provide open Internet access to the scores to facilitate study, performance and sharing of performance material (program notes, audio, reviews, etc.)

In preparing the English Heritage Music Series editions, every effort has been made to adhere strictly to the notation contained in the manuscripts. Because of the passage of time and its effect on the condition of the manuscript, the absence of clear information often times by the composer in notating divided instruments, and with emendations in the composer and other hands resulting from use of the manuscript in performance, there were numerous circumstances which required interpretation and decisions for notes, accidentals, dynamics, articulations and tempi. Should questions arise in the use of these editions, the composers’ autograph manuscripts and the Novello vocal scores should be consulted for clarification.

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### Source Information

<i>Autograph Manuscript:</i>	Royal College of Music Library, London: MS 4247
<i>Vocal Score:</i>	Novello’s Original Octavo Edition no. 8207, Novello, Ewer & Co., 1894
<i>Royal College of Music Library</i>	Jonathan Frank, Ass’t. Librarian - jonathan.frank@rcm.ac.uk
<i>Manuscript Transcription &amp; Score Preparation</i>	David Fielding - dhcfielding@charter.net

### Reference Material and Software

*Notation Software:* Dorico Pro Version 5.1.81.2225    *Audio Software:* NotePerformer 4    *Graphic Software:* Affinity Photo 2  
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IMAGE: Samuel Blessing Saul Book of Samuel 9;21 Illustration by Gustave Doré 1891

Timpani

# KING SAUL

C. Hubert H. Parry

## Act I - Introduction

Andante

8

1 (-6)

2

3

4

5

6

A

*tr*

*p*

*ff*

*dim. subito*

17

9

12

B

Più motto.

16

18-26

27-38

39-54

55

1 (-10)

*tr*

2

3

4

5

*mf*

Vln I

63

*tr*

6

7

8

9

10

D

1

Animando.

7

69-75

Tempo primo

11

E

14

Meno mosso.

2

76-86

87-100

101-102

Act I - Scene I

Allegro maestoso

**12**

*f*

*tr*

*tr*

**2**

1-12

19-20

**F**

**10**

*mf*

*tr*

**1**

**G**

**12**

21-30

37-48

**H**

**12**

**J**

**12**

**K** rit.

**12**

49-60

61-72

74-85

Vln I

87

meno mosso

**4**

*ppp*

94-97

Allegro moderato

*tr*

**3**

*ff*

101-103

Allegro moderato

**14**

105-118

Poco più mosso

**23**

120-142

poco animando.

**9**

**L**

meno mosso, ad. lib.

**3**

a tempo

**18**

meno mosso, allargando

Samuel

And in that day—

175

colla voce.

a tempo animato.

— shall ye cry un - to God, be - cause of the King— that ye have cho - sen, and the Lord shall not

## Allegro molto

181 *fr* 1 (-4) 2 3 4 **12** **M** **6** *S.*  
*f* 186-197 198-203 He shall do

205 **2**  
 jus - tice, him will we fol - low, death\_\_\_\_\_ shall he deal to those that op - press us. 213-214

215 rit..... Lento **3** Allegro moderato. *fr* rit.  
*f* *mf* 218-220 *f*

Lento **6** sostenuto. **4** Samuel  
 225-230 231-234 through good and e - vil days, for God hath

238 rit. a tempo 1 (-12) 2 3 4 5  
 call - ed him to be your *mf* sempre cresc.

244 *fr* 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

Act I - Scene II

Allegretto grazioso

**20** **A** **22** **B** **23** **C** **28**

1-20 21-42 43-65 66-93

Allegro vivace

**15** **D** **14** **3** **E** **21** **F** **8**

94-108 109-122 123-125 126-146 147-154

Poco allargando.

**8** **G** **12** **H** **12** **18**

155 156-163 164-175 176-187 188-205

L'istesso tempo [Allegretto grazioso]

**J** **9** **K** **10** **32** **4** **sostenuto**

206-214 215-224 225-256 257-260

**L** **4** Samuel

262-265

Though thou wert low - est a - mong the low - ly, To thee the van - quished shall **f**

Meno mosso

**M** **2** **8** **4** **N** **allargando**

270 271-272 273-280 281-284 Samuel

Go thou, do jus - tice,

287

and de - stroy the hea - then who **rit** **tr** **Tempo ed animando.** **7**

**mf** 294-300



**O** Allegro vivace. Alla breve.

**2** *tr* *tr* **11** **P** **7**

301-302 *f* 306-316 317-323

324 **Q** *tr* **15** **R** **16**

Tpt 2 *f* 329-343 344-359

**S** **14** *s.* **T** *tr*

360-373 Hail, Saul! — great lord and lead - er! *f*

380 *tr* *tr* **9**

386-394

**U** 395 B. Tbn. *tr* *f*

**3** rit. **1** **W** a tempo - poco meno mosso. *tr* *f*

405-407

**5** rit. **2** a tempo *tr* **2** *f*

414-418 419-420 423-424

425 *tr* 1 (- 4) 2 3 4 *tr* 1 (- 9) 2

*f*

431 *tr* 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

Con fuoco poco rit.

## Act II - Scene I

Recitative

Allegro moderato

13 1 14 4

1-13 15-28 29-32

33 Vln I

1 2 3

*p* *poco* *f*

A 13

41-53

B 19 C 13 D 9 E

poco rit. a tempo

54-72 73-85 86-94 97-109

F 2 2 Vln I

Allargando rit

G a tempo, animato

110-111 112-113 119-125

*mf*

126 1 9 T. 8ba

H

127-135

Great King, migh - ty Saul, We come at thy call,

140

J K

Be - fore whose con - qu'ring arm The

*ff*

143-149 150-156

L

157 S.

When the King, migh - y Saul, On our he - - roes shall call, Be - fore their on - ward rush The

162 *tr* **3** **M** **10** **O** **5**

*mf* 164-166 167-176 177-181

182 s. **P**

From hea - then yoke have we won our li - ber - ty! The land shall re - sound with the song of vic - to - ry!

186 **1** *tr* rit. **8** **Q** Vln I

*f* 189-196

200 *tr* **1** *tr* *tr* Animando.

*ff*

207 Allargando. **1** **1** *tr* *tr*

*f*

## Act II - Scene II

Maestoso. **4** poco rit. **2** a tempo **11** **A** **10** poco animando. **3**

1-4 5-6 7-17 18-27 28-30

**B** animando. **1** **1** Tempo I

31 Saul!\_ art thou King in - deed? Where is thy might? Who\_shall dare hin - der thee\_

Evil Spirit

39 animando. **2** **3**

from what is thy right? *f* 46-47

48 Allegro moderato. **2** **C** **1** Vivace. **12** B. Tbn.

49-50 52-63

67 **D** **9** **1** **14**

*p* 69-77 *mf* 83-96

97 poco rit. **E** a tempo Moderato. **10**

*f* 103-112

**8** Animato. **10** con mosso. **F** **1** Allegro. **4**

113-120 121-130 131-132 135-138



Vivacissimo.

**6** *tr* **7** **O** **7**

274-279 *f* 283-289 290-296

297

Hn 1

**P** 1 (-8) *tr* *f*

307 *tr* 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 *tr* *ff*

317 *tr* **4** 1 (-18) *tr* 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 *mf*

318-321

330 *tr* 9 10 11 12 **Q** 13 14 15 16 17 18 **9**

340-348

Allegro moderato.

349 **1** *tr* **4** rit. **1** **R** a tempo **17** Allargando. **2**

*mf* 353-356 358-374 375-376

377 rit. colla voce **1** rit. **S** a tempo **4** rit. **2** Meno mosso. **T** animando. **12**

380-383 384-385 386-392 394-405

2 1 3 1 1 V 1 allargando. 6

406-407 409-411 416-421

422 Michal

But they that went forth will come not a - gain, for the sound of their boast - ing is si - lenced, and their

427 rit..... a tempo

cour - age is quench'd in the dust! \_\_\_\_\_

tr mf

435 W 1 tr mp 2 tr 439-440 443-446 4 4

rit..... animando.

Allegro non troppo. 5 X 3

447-451 455-457

460 1 2 3 3 1 2 3 Y 15

464-466 470-484

485 1 Tbn. 1 1 (-6) Animato 2

mf



494 *tr* 3 4 5 **Z** 6 **7** **1** **1** poco rit. a tempo

498-504 s. In the

508

hous - es of Gath shall be mourn - ing, there shall be mourn - ing and de - so - la - tion; but the land of Ju -

513 **AA** **1** *tr* **9** **BB**

- de - a *f* 519-527 *f*

529 *tr* **1** **9** Andante sostenuto.

536-544

545 Evil Spirit Allegro molto. ♩ = ♩

What shall he have more but thy king - dom? *ff*

550 *tr* Animato. **3** *tr*

552-554

**2** *tr* *tr*

558-559

Act III - Scene I

Andante

**15**

**A** Fl. 1

1-15

21 1(-13) 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

*pp* *cresc.*

33 13 **B** **13** **C** **16** **D** **15** **E** **1**

35-47 48-63 64-78

Animando. **4** più mosso. **4** Allegro moderato. **10** **F** **16** **G** **11**

80-83 85-88 89-98 99-114 115-125

**H** poco animando. **3** a tempo **6** poco allargando. **2** largamente. **12** Allargando. **3**

126-128 129-134 135-136 138-149 150-152

a tempo **4** **K** **9** Meno mosso. **14** Meno mosso. **2** **M** **8**

153-156 157-165 166-179 180-181 182-189

rit. **3** **O** a tempo **16** poco rit. **1** a tempo **3** **P** **8** poco rit. **2**

190-192 193-208 211-213 214-221 222-223



398

Michal

Z

For love is strong as death, love is strong as death, love is

408

*p*

416

1

*tr*

1 (-5)

2

rit...

3

4

5

*f*

## Act III - Scene II

Maestoso.

13 1 6 A 1 1 6

1-13 15-20 23-28

29

Allegro energico.

1 7 B 4 9 C 3

30-36 37-40 41-49 50-52

D

Più allegro.

Allegro.

Animando.

54 1 1 10 7 2

56-65 66-72 74-75

76

meno mosso.

rit....

Allegro tranquillo.

rit.

E 1 2 4 F 16 16 2

77-78 80-83 84-99 100-115 116-117

G

a tempo

H

David 8ba

24 13

118-141 142-154

fare - well, fare - well.

159

J

Animando.

Allegro con fuoco.

K

L

1 2 9 14 6

161-162 163-171 172-185 186-191

*mf*

M

192 1 (- 14) 2 3 4 5 6 7

199                      8                      9                      10                      11                      12                      13                      14                      **3**

206-208

Detailed description: This musical staff, labeled 199, is in bass clef and contains measures 199 through 208. Measures 199-205 are marked with numbers 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, and 14 above them, indicating specific drum patterns. Measure 206 is marked with a bold '3'. Measures 207 and 208 are marked with a bracket and the number 3 below them. The staff shows various rhythmic patterns and rests.

**O**                      12                       $\text{♩} = \text{♩}$                       16                      **P**                      8

209-220                      221-236                      237-244                      Vln I

Detailed description: This musical staff, labeled 209, is in bass clef and contains measures 209 through 244. Measures 209-220 are marked with a bold 'O' above them. Measures 221-236 are marked with a bold '12' above them. Measures 237-244 are marked with a bold '16' above them. Measures 245-246 are marked with a bold 'P' above them. Measures 247-248 are marked with a bold '8' above them. The staff shows various rhythmic patterns and rests. A measure rest is present in measure 249. The staff is labeled 'Vln I' at the end.

246

*tr* ~~~~~ *f*

Detailed description: This musical staff, labeled 246, is in bass clef and contains measures 246 through 252. Measures 246-252 show various rhythmic patterns and rests. A trill (tr) is marked above measure 247. A forte (f) dynamic marking is present in measure 248. The staff ends with a double bar line.

**3**                      1 (-5)                      2                      3                      4                      5

253-255                      *p*

Detailed description: This musical staff, labeled 253, is in bass clef and contains measures 253 through 255. Measures 253-255 are marked with a bold '3' above them. Measures 256-257 are marked with a bold '1 (-5)' above them. Measures 258-259 are marked with a bold '2' above them. Measures 260-261 are marked with a bold '3' above them. Measures 262-263 are marked with a bold '4' above them. Measures 264-265 are marked with a bold '5' above them. The staff shows various rhythmic patterns and rests. A piano (p) dynamic marking is present in measure 256. The staff ends with a double bar line.

## Act III - Scene III

Allegro vivace

19 20 8 13

A B

1-19 20-39 40-47 48-60

C D E

15 23 2 7 20

61-75 76-98 99-100 102-108 109-128

rit..... a tempo

F G

16 33 6 10

129-144 145-177 179-184 185-194

L'istesso tempo  
Maestoso ma non troppo Lento

H K

1 11 13 5

195 197-207 209-221 223-227

poco rit. a tempo, e poco più mosso poco agitato con fuoco

M

7 1 5 2 7

228-234 236-240 242-243 244-250

Più mosso - animando allargando. rit. Meno mosso.

251 Saul

Animando. > poco rit.....

That I might writhe with - in his power, And hear that whis - pered e - vil word What wert thou, and what

O a tempo 1 2 3 Animato.

257 art ? f 263-268

395 ..... a tempo **1** **7** **35** rit..... a tempo **2** **8**

397-403 404-438 439-440 441-448

The musical score for the bass line of 'The Rose Tree' is shown. It begins at measure 395 with a dotted line indicating a tempo change to 'a tempo'. The first measure (395) contains a whole note '1'. The second measure (396) contains a whole note '7'. The third measure (397) contains a whole note '35'. The fourth measure (404) contains a whole note '2'. The fifth measure (439) contains a whole note '8'. The tempo changes back to 'a tempo' after measure 438. The measures are grouped into four sections: 397-403, 404-438, 439-440, and 441-448.



**Y**

accelerando..... Allegro moderato. **Z**

**3** **4** **21** **13** **16**

449-451 452-455 456-476 477-489 490-505

506 **AA** rit. a tempo **3** Animato. **1** **5** animando. **5** **BB** **10**

507-509 511-515 517-521 522-531

532 poco rit. a tempo **1** **9** **5** animando **5** S. thy be - lov - ed\_\_

534-542 543-547 548-552

554

\_\_ is in the hand of the Lord, \_\_\_\_\_ there shall no e - vil touch him, there shall no e - vil touch him, no

**CC** **DD** S. bless - ed up - on earth, be bless -

560 *p* 6 4 564-569 570-573

576

- ed up - on earth, be bless - ed, be - bless - ed, be bless - - - ed on

582 1 (-5) 2 3 4 5 **EE** animando. **2**

*mf* 591-592

17

FF

17

2

GG

Animato.

23

593-609 610-626 627-628 629-651

he

653

HH

shall not be a - fraid, he shall not be a - fraid for ten thou - sands, that have set them - selves a -

660

- gainst him, that set them - selves a - gainst him round a - bout.

668

tr 4

2

JJ

8

S.

the seed of them that hate him shall

683

tr 1(-4)

2

3

4

tr 1(-4)

2

3

4

KK

per - ish, shall

12

LL

14

692-703 704-717

718

tr 1(-4)

2

3

4

tr 1(-4)

2

3

tr

per - ish, shall

728

rit. molto.....

**1**

*tr* <sup>b</sup> 1 2 3

*ff*

728

Act IV - Scene I

Maestoso

1 2 3 4

*p* *cresc.* *p*

3-4 8-11

12

**A**

Animando.

*mf* 9 13-21

The land shall be waste thro' them, men's hearts shall be faint thro' them ;  
Evil Spirit

24

**B**

*p* *p* 1 *p*

And who shall go forth\_\_\_ their on - set to bar ?

**C**

Evil Spirit

Più moto accelerando

5 33-37

Saul,\_\_\_\_\_ Saul,\_\_\_\_\_ the hour of thy doom is *p cresc.*

**D**

Change to C<sub>4</sub> & F<sub>4</sub>

Allegro

1 3 2 47-50 51-52 *f*

58

**E**

*tr* *< sf* *< sf* 2 63-64

66

**F**

8 *tr* 3 *tr* 5 69-76 78-80 82-86 *ff*

87 *meno mosso* *allargando*

*ff* **2** **1** *tr*

90-91

**G** *a tempo* **2** *tr* **10** **H** *rit.* *a tempo* **8**

94-95 98-107 109-116

**2** **1** *Più mosso animando* **6** **J** **8** **L** *Meno mosso.* **8**

117-118 120-125 126-133 135-142

143 *rit..* *rit....*

she shall re - veal to thee what God with - holds. Fare - well! O Saul, my  
Evil Spirit

149 *colla voce* **# 1 (-8)** **2** **3** **4** **5** **6**

*p* *cresc.*

mis - sion is ac

**M** **# 7** **8** **# 1** **2** **..... 3** **3**

156 *f* *161-163*

Act IV - Scene II [Endor]

Maestoso 8 G.P. 1 *tr* *tr* *tr* *tr* *tr* *p*

1-8

16 A 5 10 B 1 Saul Di -

19-23 24-33

36 - vine un - to me, and bring up whom - so - ev - er I shall name.

45 1 (- 13) 2 3 4 5 6 7 *tr* *p dim.* *pp*

Bring up for me, Sam - u - el!

56 8 9 10 11 C 12 13 *tr* D 25 16 *cresc.* *f* *p* 64-88 89-104

Allegro 3 largamente 2 Animato. 4 E 1 Animando. 8

105-107 108-109 110-113 116-123

124 Samuel poco allargando Vivace. *mf cresc.*

There - fore hath He rent the king - dom from thee, and hath giv'n it to thy neigh - bour, e'en to

130

136-139 140-141

142

*tr* *f* *Meno mosso.*

144-152 Samuel  $E\flat, C, G$

and to - mor - row shalt thou and thy

158

*Lento espressivo*  $\text{♩} = \text{♩}$

1 2 3

sons be with me in the

*pp* 166-168

169

1 (-4) 2 3 4 1 (-4) 2 3 4

*cresc.*

179

*Molto Allegro*

1 (-7) 2 3 4 5 6 7

187-189 193-202

203 *tr* *f* *Largo.* 1 1

211 *tr* K 1 *tr* 7 218-224

225 *tr* rit L 1 *pp* < *p* > *f*

Più mosso. 2 *tr* 3 3 1(-6) 3 2 3 3 3 4 3 *p* 233-234

241 5 3 6 3 5 M 1 rit. 1 Animato 1(-4) 2 3 4 *pp* *cresc.* 243-247

9 7 Vln I O 254-262 263-269

274 1(-5) 2 3 4 5 2 P 5 poco animando 2 279-280 281-285 287-288



289 Tpt 1 Animando. 1 1 (-4) 2 3 4

*p*

6 **Q** 7 *tr* 1

299-304 305-311 *f* *f*

317 *tr* **R** molto rit. a tempo 1 6 **S** 1 (-5) 2

317 *tr* *f* *ff* *f*

329 *tr* 3 4 5 15

329 *tr* *mp* *p* 334-348

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Meno mosso.

349

Vc.

pizz.

arco

1

1

1

1

358 T Tranquillo

*mf* Hn 1

meno mosso, ad lib. Largamente.

368

meno mosso, ad lib. Largamente.

377

*p* *Lento.* **6** *Maestoso, sostenuto.* **3** *p*

381-386 387-389

392

**2** *tr* 1 2 3 **2** **V** **5** Tbn. 1

393–394 398–399 400–404

406

3

409-411

*mf*

414 rit..... *tr* *p* **3** *f* *tr* 418-420

Act IV - Scene III

Maestoso energico.

1-4 4 *f* 9-10 2 1 *p* 1(-4) *p*

13 2 3 4 *f* 19-20 2 1 2 3 *p*

24 1 2 3 1 *p*

31 7 *ff* *f*

43 1 *p* *dim.* *pp* 47-53 7 54-56 3 1 58-67 10 *poco rit.* *a tempo*

E 11 68-78 F 11 79-89 David 8ba they were swift - er than ea - gles, The

92 *poco rit.* 3 kings of the Gen - tiles bow - ed down be - fore them, the gods of the hea - - - - then

**G** a tempo  
1 (-9)

96 *tr* 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

*f* *mf* *dim.* *p* *pp* *dim.*

**H** poco rit. a tempo

6

106-111 Tba

*pp*

119 1 (-5) 2 3 4

123 5 **J** 1 (-4) 2 3 4

*p*

rit. **K** tempo tranquillo.

7 2 1 1 (-6) 2 3 4

130-136 137-138 *p* *cresc.*

144 *tr* 5 6 rit. 1 1 *tr* 1 2 3

*mf* *mf* *p*



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