

Isaac Watts

Henry Tolhurst of Deal

Treble

5 Death, like an o - ver - flow - ing stream, Sweeps  
 6 *Our* *age* *to* *sev'n - ty* *years* *is* *set;* *How*  
 7 But, oh, how oft thy wrath ap - pears, And  
 8 *Teach* *us,* *O* *Lord,* *how* *frail* *is* *man;* *And*

Alto

5 Death, like an o - ver - flow - ing stream, Sweeps  
 6 *Our* *age* *to* *sev'n - ty* *years* *is* *set;* *How*  
 7 But, oh, how oft thy wrath ap - pears, And  
 8 *Teach* *us,* *O* *Lord,* *how* *frail* *is* *man;* *And*

Tenor

5 Death, like an o - ver - flow - ing stream, Sweeps  
 6 *Our* *age* *to* *sev'n - ty* *years* *is* *set;* *How*  
 7 But, oh, how oft thy wrath ap - pears, And  
 8 *Teach* *us,* *O* *Lord,* *how* *frail* *is* *man;* *And*

Bass

5 Death, like an o - ver - flow - ing stream, Sweeps  
 6 *Our* *age* *to* *sev'n - ty* *years* *is* *set;* *How*  
 7 But, oh, how oft thy wrath ap - pears, And  
 8 *Teach* *us,* *O* *Lord,* *how* *frail* *is* *man;* *And*

Tr.

5  
 us a - way, our life's a dream,  
*short the term, how frail the state!*  
 cuts off our ex - pec - ted years!  
*kind - ly leng - then out our span,*

A.

us a - way, our life's a dream, An emp - ty  
*short the term, how frail the state!* *And if to*  
 cuts off our ex - pec - ted years! Thy wrath a -  
*kind - ly leng - then out our span,* *Till a wise*

T.

us a - way, our life's a dream, An emp - ty  
*short the term, how frail the state!* *And if to*  
 cuts off our ex - pec - ted years! Thy wrath a -  
*kind - ly leng - then out our span,* *Till a wise*

B.

us a - way, our life's a dream,  
*short the term, how frail the state!*  
 cuts off our ex - pec - ted years!  
*kind - ly leng - then out our span,*

10

Tr.  An emp - ty tale, a morn - ing flower, Cut down and  
*And if to eigh - ty we ar - rive, We ra - ther*  
 Thy wrath a - wakes our hum - ble dread; We fear the  
*Till a wise care of pi - e - ty Fit us to*

A.  tale, a morn - ing flower, Cut  
*eigh - ty we ar - rive, We*  
 wakes our hum - ble dread; We  
*care of pi - e - ty Fit*

T.  tale, a morn - ing flower, Cut down and  
*eigh - ty we ar - rive, We ra - ther*  
 wakes our hum - ble dread; We fear the  
*care of pi - e - ty Fit us to*

B.  An emp - ty tale, a morn - ing flower, Cut  
*And if to eigh - ty we ar - rive, We*  
 Thy wrath a - wakes our hum - ble dread; We  
*Till a wise care of pi - e - ty Fit*

14

Tr.  with - er'd in an hour.  
*sigh and groan than live.*  
 pow'r that strikes us dead.  
*die and dwell with thee.*

A.  down and with - er'd in an hour.  
*ra - ther sigh and groan than live.*  
 fear the pow'r that strikes us dead.  
*us to die and dwell with thee.*

T.  with - er'd in an hour.  
*sigh and groan than live.*  
 pow'r that strikes us dead.  
*die and dwell with thee.*

B.  down and with - er'd in an hour.  
*ra - ther sigh and groan than live.*  
 fear the pow'r that strikes us dead.  
*us to die and dwell with thee.*

The tune Beer first appeared as Ps. 39 in Henry Tolhurst's Church Music, Book 4th, 1807, the only known publication of the tune before 1820. This setting is taken from the Lade Ms, by kind permission of the Royal School of Church Music.

Original transcription by Sheila Girling Smith 1994.

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