

How Long the Earth by Signs Perplexed?

Donald Bell and Maarten Ryder

♩=100

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#) and a 9/8 time signature. The tempo is marked as quarter note = 100. The score consists of four staves of music. The first staff contains the lyrics 'How long the earth by signs perplexed? And' with chords Em, A, and B7. The second staff contains 'states by fears and tumults vexed? By all the powers of heaven' with chords Em7, F#m7, G(maj7), G, and A. The third staff contains 'shaken, Your Word is spoken your living text.' with chords F, Em7, Bb, Am, C, and D. The fourth staff contains the chords G, A, F#m7, and G.

1. How long the earth by signs perplexed?
and states by fears and tumults vexed?
by all the powers of heaven shaken,
your Word is spoken,
your living text.

2. And tossed and carried to and fro,
our ventures fail, our systems fray;
from futile rage, from weary travail,
from wooing evil,
we would be free.

3. For all things new beneath the sun,
all works and wonders seen and done,
of trade and rule, of school and temple,
are vain, are empty,
except you come.

4. As watchers here your people rouse;
to glimpse redemption lift our eyes
to see beyond earth's tribulation
the fig tree's lesson,
our hope to raise.

5. That so your church may read our time,
may mark your justice, learn our doom,
till one who came fulfils our watching,
when this world's waiting
has run its term.