

Lord God of Hosts, Within Whose Hand  
Laurence Housman, 1906.  
Henry Lawes(1596-1662)

Lord God of Hosts, within whose hand  
Dominion rests on sea and land,  
Before whose word of life or death  
The strength of nations is but breath:  
O King, enthroned all thrones above,  
Give strength unto the land we love.

Thou breath of life since time began,  
Breathing upon the lips of man,  
Hast taught each kindred race to raise  
United word to sound Thy praise:  
So, in this land, join, we beseech,  
All hearts and lips in single speech.

To George our saint Thou gavest grace  
Without one fear all foes to face,  
And to confess by faithful death  
That word of life which was his breath.  
O help us, helper of Saint George,  
To fear not bonds that man can forge.

Arm us like him, who in Thy trust  
Beat down the dragon in the dust;  
So that we too may tread down sin  
And with Thy saints a crown may win.  
Help us, O God, that we may be  
A land acceptable to Thee.