

Blessed be God

(Zacharias's song from the musical 'Cousin John')

John Earwaker

Unison 3

1. Bles - sed be God, the God of Is - rael, With his
 2. Pro - phets of old fore - told his com - ing, Now the
 3. This was the oath he swore to A - bra'am, He would
 4. This lit - tle child will one day wit - ness And will
 5. Ten - der com - pas - sion, gen - tly warm us! Sun from

3

3

peo ple to set them free, Rai - sing up a pow - er - ful Sav - iour,
 e - ne - my can - not win. God will keep his pro - mi - ses al - ways
 res - cue us from our foes. We'd be free to worship him safe - ly,
 help to pre - pare the way, Show ing peo - ple how to es - cape from
 hea ven, your day be - gin! Shine on those who live in the dark - ness;

Born from Da - vid's fam - 'ly tree. _____
 And will bring his king - dom in. _____
 Know - ing we're the ones he chose. _____
 All that's lead - ing us as - stray. _____
 Light the way we're walk - ing in. _____

Blessed be God (Round)

(from the musical 'Cousin John')

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The musical score is written for a 5-part round. It consists of five vocal staves and a piano accompaniment. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 2/4. The lyrics are: "Blessed be God, the God of Israel, With his people to set them free, Rai - sing up a pow - er - ful Sa - viour, Born from Da - vid's fam - - 'ly tree." The score includes first and second endings for each line, with first endings marked with a '1.' and second endings marked with a '2.'. The piano accompaniment is written in the bass clef and provides harmonic support for the vocal lines.

To sing this 5-part round, each of 5 groups of people sings all 5 lines in order repeatedly. The groups start one after another, each starting with line 1 at the same time as the previous group is starting line 2.

It is advisable to begin with everyone singing once through the whole piece. To end, someone has to give directions, or there must be an agreed number of runs through the round.

The accompaniment is best used only to set the pitch and to help the singers get started.

In the musical the chorus sing this 5-part round after Zacharias has recovered his speech and sung his full version.