

105.The Brevity of Human Life

The musical score is written for a single melodic line and a bass accompaniment. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 6/8. The melody is written on a treble clef staff, and the bass is on a bass clef staff. The lyrics are arranged in two systems, with the first system containing six numbered verses and the second system containing the concluding lines of the hymn. The music features a mix of eighth and sixteenth notes, with some measures containing rests. The overall mood is contemplative and somber, reflecting the theme of the hymn.

1.I con-stant care will take, Lest sin-ful words they hear; My
2.I dumb and si-lent stood, No words of mine were heard; I
3.My heart was all on fire, With bur-ning thoughts suppressed; My
4.My end, Lord, make me know, My days, how soon they fail; And
5.To Thy e-ter-nal thought My days are but a span; To
6.Man lives in emp-ty show, His anx-ious care is vain, He

lips their si-lence shall not break While wick-ed men are near.
e'en re-frained from speak-ing good, Till sor-row's deeps were stirred.
tongue was loosed, my soul's de-sire I then to God ad-dressed.
to my thought-ful spi-rit show How weak I am and frail.
Thee my years ap-pear as nought, A breath at best is man.
hoards his wealth, and does not know Who shall pos-sess his gain.