

BY THE RIVERS OF BABYLON

Ps 136(7): 1 – 6

*Music: Elvis Nsaikila,
17 May 2011*

By the rivers of Babylon, there we sat and wept, remembering Sion;
l₁ t₁ d t₁ l₁ t₁ l₁ s₁ - / d l₁ t₁ s₁ l₁ - / l₁ m r r d - /

On the poplars that grew there we hung up our harps.
d r m r d r t₁ - s₁ d t₁ s₁ l₁ - //

For it was there that they asked us, our captors, for songs, our oppressors, for joy.
l₁ l₁ t₁ d t₁ l₁ t₁ s₁ - / s₁ d t₁ s₁ l₁ - l₁ l₁ m r d d
- /

‘Sing to us,’ they said, ‘one of Sion’s songs.’
m r d r d l₁ t₁ - d l₁ t₁ s₁ l₁ - //
d t₁ l₁ l₁ - l₁ m₁ s₁ f₁ m₁ - //
s f m m - m d r r d - //

O how could we sing the song of the Lord on alien soil?
l₁ m r f m - / d l s f m s - / d f m r - //
l₁ d t₁ r d - / d m r r d r - / l₁ d d t₁ - //
/ m l s s - //

If I forget you Je—ru-salem, let my right hand wither!
l₁ s₁ s₁ d d l₁ r d t₁ - / d l₁ t₁ l₁ s₁ l₁ l₁ - /

O let my tongue cleave to my mouth if I remember you not,
l₁ m r m - f m r d r - / r r r f m r m - /

If I prize not Jeru-salem above all my joys!
d r m r d r d t₁ - / l₁ d t₁ s₁ l₁ - //