Leader: 1 My heart overflows with a noble theme.

I recite my verses for the king.

My tongue is like the pen of a skillful writer.

Response: **2 You are the most excellent of the sons of men.**

**Grace has anointed your lips,**

**therefore God has blessed you forever.**

Leader: 3 Strap your sword on your thigh, mighty one:

your splendor and your majesty.

Response: **4 In your majesty ride on victoriously**

**on behalf of truth, humility, and righteousness.**

**Let your right hand display awesome deeds.**

Leader: 5 Your arrows are sharp.

The nations fall under you, with arrows in the heart of the king’s enemies.

Response: **6 Your throne, God, is forever and ever.**

**A scepter of equity is the scepter of your kingdom.**

Leader: 7 You have loved righteousness, and hated wickedness.

Therefore God, your God, has anointed you

with the oil of gladness above your fellows.

Response: **8 All your garments smell like myrrh, aloes, and cassia.**

**Out of ivory palaces stringed instruments have made you glad.**

Leader: 9 Kings’ daughters are among your honorable women.

At your right hand the queen stands in gold of Ophir.

Response: **10 Listen, daughter, consider, and turn your ear.**

**Forget your own people, and also your father’s house.**

Leader: 11 So the king will desire your beauty,

honor him, for he is your lord.

Response: **12 The daughter of Tyre comes with a gift.**

**The rich among the people entreat your favor.**

Leader: 13 The princess inside is all glorious.

Her clothing is interwoven with gold.

Response: **14 She shall be led to the king in embroidered work.**

**The virgins, her companions who follow her, shall be brought to you.**

Leader: 15 With gladness and rejoicing they shall be led.

They shall enter into the king’s palace.

Response: **16 Your sons will take the place of your fathers.**

**You shall make them princes in all the earth.**

**17 I will make your name to be remembered in all generations.**

**Therefore the peoples shall give you thanks forever and ever.**