Leader: 1 Hear this, all ye peoples;

Give ear, all ye inhabitants of the world,

Response: **2 Both low and high,**

**Rich and poor together.**

Leader: 3 My mouth shall speak wisdom;

And the meditation of my heart shall be of understanding.

Response: **4 I will incline mine ear to a parable:**

**I will open my dark saying upon the harp.**

Leader: 5 Wherefore should I fear in the days of evil,

When iniquity at my heels compasseth me about?

Response: **6 They that trust in their wealth,**

**And boast themselves in the multitude of their riches;**

Leader: 7 None *of them* can by any means redeem his brother,

Nor give to God a ransom for him

Response: **8 (For the redemption of their life is costly,**

**And it faileth for ever),**

Leader: 9 That he should still live alway,

That he should not see corruption.

Response: **10 For he shall see it. Wise men die;**

**The fool and the brutish alike perish,**

**And leave their wealth to others.**

Leader: 11 Their inward thought is, *that* their houses *shall continue* for ever,

*And* their dwelling-places to all generations;

They call their lands after their own names.

Response: **12 But man *being* in honor abideth not:**

**He is like the beasts that perish.**

Leader: 13 This their way is their folly:

Yet after them men approve their sayings.

Response: **14 They are appointed as a flock for Sheol;**

**Death shall be their shepherd:**

**And the upright shall have dominion over them in the morning;**

**And their beauty shall be for Sheol to consume,**

**That there be no habitation for it.**

Leader: 15 But God will redeem my soul from the power of Sheol;

For He will receive me.

Response: **16 Be not thou afraid when one is made rich,**

**When the glory of his house is increased:**

Leader: 17 For when he dieth he shall carry nothing away;

His glory shall not descend after him.

Response: **18 Though while he lived He blessed his soul**

**(And men praise thee, when thou doest well to thyself),**

Leader: 19 He shall go to the generation of his fathers;

They shall never see the light.

Response: **20 Man that is in honor, and understandeth not,**

**Is like the beasts that perish.**