Leader: 1 Truly God is good to Israel, even to such as are of a clean heart.

Response: **2 But as for me, my feet were almost gone; my steps had well nigh slipped.**

Leader: 3 For I was envious at the foolish, when I saw the prosperity of the wicked.

Response: **4 For there are no bands in their death: but their strength is firm.**

Leader: 5 They are not in trouble as other men; neither are they plagued like other men.

Response: **6 Therefore pride compasseth them about as a chain; violence covereth them as a garment.**

Leader: 7 Their eyes stand out with fatness: they have more than heart could wish.

Response: **8 They are corrupt, and speak wickedly concerning oppression: they speak loftily.**

Leader: 9 They set their mouth against the heavens, and their tongue walketh through the earth.

Response: **10 Therefore His people return hither: and waters of a full cup are wrung out to them.**

Leader: 11 And they say, How doth God know? and is there knowledge in the most High?

Response: **12 Behold, these are the ungodly, who prosper in the world; they increase in riches.**

Leader: 13 Verily I have cleansed my heart in vain, and washed my hands in innocency.

Response: **14 For all the day long have I been plagued, and chastened every morning.**

Leader: 15 If I say, I will speak thus; behold, I should offend against the generation of Thy children.

Response: **16 When I thought to know this, it was too painful for me;**

Leader: 17 Until I went into the sanctuary of God; then understood I their end.

Response: **18 Surely Thou didst set them in slippery places: Thou castedst them down into destruction.**

Leader: 19 How are they brought into desolation, as in a moment! they are utterly consumed with terrors.

Response: **20 As a dream when one awaketh; so, O Lord, when Thou awakest, Thou shalt despise their image.**

Leader: 21 Thus my heart was grieved, and I was pricked in my reins.

Response: **22 So foolish was I, and ignorant: I was as a beast before Thee.**

Leader: 23 Nevertheless I am continually with Thee: Thou hast holden me by my right hand.

Response: **24 Thou shalt guide me with Thy counsel, and afterward receive me to glory.**

Leader: 25 Whom have I in heaven but Thee? and there is none upon earth that I desire beside Thee.

Response: **26 My flesh and my heart faileth: but God is the strength of my heart, and my portion for ever.**

Leader: 27 For, lo, they that are far from Thee shall perish: Thou hast destroyed all them that go a whoring from Thee.

Response: **28 But it is good for me to draw near to God: I have put my trust in the Lord God, that I may declare all Thy works.**