Leader: 1 Surely Godis good to Israel,

to those who are pure in heart.

Response: **2 But as for me, my feet were almost gone.**

**My steps had nearly slipped.**

Leader: 3 For I was envious of the arrogant,

when I saw the prosperity of the wicked.

Response: **4 For there are no struggles in their death,**

**but their strength is firm.**

Leader: 5 They are free from burdens of men,

neither are they plagued like other men.

Response: **6 Therefore pride is like a chain around their neck.**

**Violence covers them like a garment.**

Leader: 7 Their eyes bulge with fat.

Their minds pass the limits of conceit.

Response: **8 They scoff and speak with malice.**

**In arrogance, they threaten oppression.**

Leader: 9 They have set their mouth in the heavens

Their tongue walks through the earth.

Response: **10 Therefore their people return to them,**

**and they drink up waters of abundance.**

Leader: 11 They say, “How does God know?

Is there knowledge in the Most High?”

Response: **12 Behold, these are the wicked.**

**Being always at ease, they increase in riches.**

Leader: 13 Surely I have cleansed my heart in vain,

and washed my hands in innocence,

Response: **14 For all day long I have been plagued,**

**and punished every morning.**

Leader: 15 If I had said, “I will speak thus”;

behold, I would have betrayed the generation of Your children.

Response: **16 When I tried to understand this,**

**it was too painful for me,**

Leader: 17 until I entered God’s sanctuary,

and considered their latter end.

Response: **18 Surely You set them in slippery places.**

**You throw them down to destruction.**

Leader: 19 How they are suddenly destroyed!

They are completely swept away with terrors.

Response: **20 As a dream when one wakes up,**

**so, Lord, when You awake, You will despise their fantasies.**

Leader: 21 For my soul was grieved.

I was embittered in my heart.

Response: **22 I was so senseless and ignorant.**

**I was a brute beast before You.**

Leader: 23 Nevertheless, I am continually with You.

You have held my right hand.

Response: **24 You will guide me with Your counsel,**

**and afterward receive me to glory.**

Leader: 25 Whom do I have in heaven?

There is no one on earth whom I desire besides You.

Response: **26 My flesh and my heart fails,**

**but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever.**

Leader: 27 For, behold, those who are far from you shall perish.

You have destroyed all those who are unfaithful to You.

Response: **28 But it is good for me to come close to God.**

**I have made the Lord Yahwehmy refuge,**

**that I may tell of all your works.**