Leader: 1 Give ear, O my people, to my law:

Incline your ears to the words of my mouth.

Response: **2 I will open my mouth in a parable;**

**I will utter dark sayings of old,**

Leader: 3 Which we have heard and known,

And our fathers have told us.

Response: **4 We will not hide them from their children,**

**Telling to the generation to come the praises of Jehovah,**

**And His strength, and His wondrous works that He hath done.**

Leader: 5 For He established a testimony in Jacob,

And appointed a law in Israel,

Which He commanded our fathers,

That they should make them known to their children;

Response: **6 That the generation to come might know *them*,**

**even the children that should be born;**

**Who should arise and tell *them* to their children,**

Leader: 7 That they might set their hope in God,

And not forget the works of God,

But keep His commandments,

Response: **8 And might not be as their fathers,**

**A stubborn and rebellious generation,**

**A generation that set not their heart aright,**

**And whose spirit was not stedfast with God.**

Leader: 9 The children of Ephraim, being armed and carrying bows,

Turned back in the day of battle.

Response: **10 They kept not the covenant of God,**

**And refused to walk in His law;**

Leader: 11 And they forgat His doings,

And His wondrous works that He had showed them.

Response: **12 Marvellous things did He in the sight of their fathers,**

**In the land of Egypt, in the field of Zoan.**

Leader: 13 He clave the sea, and caused them to pass through;

And He made the waters to stand as a heap.

Response: **14 In the day-time also He led them with a cloud,**

**And all the night with a light of fire.**

Leader: 15 He clave rocks in the wilderness,

And gave them drink abundantly as out of the depths.

Response: **16 He brought streams also out of the rock,**

**And caused waters to run down like rivers.**

Leader: 17 Yet went they on still to sin against Him,

To rebel against the Most High in the desert.

Response: **18 And they tempted God in their heart**

**By asking food according to their desire.**

Leader: 19 Yea, they spake against God;

They said, Can God prepare a table in the wilderness?

Response: **20 Behold, he smote the rock, so that waters gushed out,**

**And streams overflowed;**

**Can he give bread also?**

**Will he provide flesh for his people?**

Leader: 21 Therefore Jehovah heard, and was wroth;

And a fire was kindled against Jacob,

And anger also went up against Israel;

Response: **22 Because they believed not in God,**

**And trusted not in His salvation.**

Leader: 23 Yet He commanded the skies above,

And opened the doors of heaven;

Response: **24 And He rained down manna upon them to eat,**

**And gave them food from heaven.**

Leader: 25 Man did eat the bread of the mighty:

He sent them food to the full.

Response: **26 He caused the east wind to blow in the heavens;**

**And by His power he guided the south wind.**

Leader: 27 He rained flesh also upon them as the dust,

And winged birds as the sand of the seas:

Response: **28 And He let it fall in the midst of their camp,**

**Round about their habitations.**

Leader: 29 So they did eat, and were well filled;

And He gave them their own desire.

Response: **30 They were not estranged from that which they desired,**

**Their food was yet in their mouths,**

Leader: 31 When the anger of God went up against them,

And slew of the fattest of them,

And smote down the young men of Israel.

Response: **32 For all this they sinned still,**

**And believed not in His wondrous works.**

Leader: 33 Therefore their days did He consume in vanity,

And their years in terror.

Response: **34 When He slew them, then they inquired after Him;**

**And they returned and sought God earnestly.**

Leader: 35 And they remembered that God was their rock,

And the Most High God their redeemer.

Response: **36 But they flattered Him with their mouth,**

**And lied unto Him with their tongue.**

Leader: 37 For their heart was not right with Him,

Neither were they faithful in His covenant.

Response: **38 But He, being merciful, forgave *their* iniquity, and destroyed *them* not:**

**Yea, many a time turned He His anger away,**

**And did not stir up all His wrath.**

Leader: 39 And He remembered that they were but flesh,

A wind that passeth away, and cometh not again.

Response: **40 How oft did they rebel against Him in the wilderness,**

**And grieve Him in the desert!**

Leader: 41 And they turned again and tempted God,

And provoked the Holy One of Israel.

Response: **42 They remembered not His hand,**

**Nor the day when He redeemed them from the adversary;**

Leader: 43 How He set His signs in Egypt,

And His wonders in the field of Zoan,

Response: **44 And turned their rivers into blood,**

**And their streams, so that they could not drink.**

Leader: 45 He sent among them swarms of flies, which devoured them;

And frogs, which destroyed them.

Response: **46 He gave also their increase unto the caterpillar,**

**And their labor unto the locust.**

Leader: 47 He destroyed their vines with hail,

And their sycomore-trees with frost.

Response: **48 He gave over their cattle also to the hail,**

**And their flocks to hot thunderbolts.**

Leader: 49 He cast upon them the fierceness of His anger,

Wrath, and indignation, and trouble,

A band of angels of evil.

Response: **50 He made a path for His anger;**

**He spared not their soul from death,**

**But gave their life over to the pestilence,**

Leader: 51 And smote all the first-born in Egypt,

The chief of their strength in the tents of Ham.

Response: **52 But He led forth His own people like sheep,**

**And guided them in the wilderness like a flock.**

Leader: 53 And He led them safely, so that they feared not;

But the sea overwhelmed their enemies.

Response: **54 And He brought them to the border of His sanctuary,**

**To this mountain, which His right hand had gotten.**

Leader: 55 He drove out the nations also before them,

And allotted them for an inheritance by line,

And made the tribes of Israel to dwell in their tents.

Response: **56 Yet they tempted and rebelled against the Most High God,**

**And kept not His testimonies;**

Leader: 57 But turned back, and dealt treacherously like their fathers:

They were turned aside like a deceitful bow.

Response: **58 For they provoked Him to anger with their high places,**

**And moved Him to jealousy with their graven images.**

Leader: 59 When God heard *this*, He was wroth,

And greatly abhorred Israel;

Response:**60 So that He forsook the tabernacle of Shiloh,**

**The tent which He placed among men;**

Leader:  61 And delivered His strength into captivity,

And His glory into the adversary’s hand.

Response:**62 He gave His people over also unto the sword,**

**And was wroth with His inheritance.**

Leader:  63 Fire devoured their young men;

And their virgins had no marriage-song.

Response:**64 Their priests fell by the sword;**

**And their widows made no lamentation.**

Leader:  65 Then the Lord awaked as one out of sleep,

Like a mighty man that shouteth by reason of wine.

Response:**66 And He smote His adversaries backward:**

**He put them to a perpetual reproach.**

Leader:  67 Moreover He refused the tent of Joseph,

And chose not the tribe of Ephraim,

Response:**68 But chose the tribe of Judah,**

**The mount Zion which He loved.**

Leader:  69 And He built His sanctuary like the heights,

Like the earth which He hath established for ever.

Response: **70 He chose David also His servant,**

**And took Him from the sheepfolds:**

Leader: 71 From following the ewes that have their young He brought Him,

To be the shepherd of Jacob His people, and Israel His inheritance.

Response: **72 So He was their shepherd according to the integrity of His heart,**

**And guided them by the skilfulness of His hands.**