Leader: 1 Hear My teaching, My people.

Turn 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 Yahweh,**

**His strength, and His wondrous deeds that He has done.**

Leader: 5 For He established a covenant in Jacob,

and appointed a teaching 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, even the children who should be born;**

**who should arise and tell their children,**

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

and not forget God’s deeds,

but keep His commandments,

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

**a stubborn and rebellious generation,**

**a generation that didn’t make their hearts loyal,**

**whose spirit was not steadfast with God.**

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

turned back in the day of battle.

Response: **10 They didn’t keep God’s covenant,**

**and refused to walk in His law.**

Leader: 11 They forgot His doings,

His wondrous deeds that He had shown them.

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

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

Leader: 13 He split the sea, and caused them to pass through.

He made the waters stand as a heap.

Response: **14 In the daytime He also led them with a cloud,**

**and all night with a light of fire.**

Leader: 15 He split 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 they still went on to sin against Him,

to rebel against the Most High in the desert.

Response: **18 They tempted God in their heart**

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

Leader: 19 Yes, they spoke against God.

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

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

**and streams overflowed.**

**Can he give bread also?**

**Will he provide meat for his people?”**

Leader: 21 Therefore Yahweh heard, and was angry.

A fire was kindled against Jacob,

anger also went up against Israel,

Response: **22 because they didn’t believe in God,**

**and didn’t trust in His salvation.**

Leader: 23 Yet He commanded the skies above,

and opened the doors of heaven.

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

**and gave them food from the sky.**

Leader: 25 Man ate the bread of angels.

He sent them food to the full.

Response: **26 He caused the east wind to blow in the sky.**

**By His power He guided the south wind.**

Leader: 27 He also rained meat on them as the dust,

winged birds as the sand of the seas.

Response: **28 He let them fall in the middle of their camp,**

**around their habitations.**

Leader: 29 So they ate, and were well filled.

He gave them their own desire.

Response: **30 They didn’t turn from their cravings.**

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

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

killed some of their fattest,

and struck down the young men of Israel.

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

**and didn’t believe in His wondrous works.**

Leader: 33 Therefore He consumed their days in vanity,

and their years in terror.

Response: **34 When He killed them, then they inquired after Him.**

**They returned and sought God earnestly.**

Leader: 35 They remembered that God was their rock,

the Most High God, their redeemer.

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

**and lied to 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 iniquity, and didn’t destroy them.**

**Yes, many times He turned his anger away,**

**and didn’t stir up all His wrath.**

Leader: 39 He remembered that they were but flesh,

a wind that passes away, and doesn’t come again.

Response: **40 How often they rebelled against Him in the wilderness,**

**and grieved Him in the desert!**

Leader: 41 They turned again and tempted God,

and provoked the Holy One of Israel.

Response: **42 They didn’t remember His hand,**

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

Leader: 43 how He set His signs in Egypt,

His wonders in the field of Zoan,

Response: **44 He 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 also gave their increase to the caterpillar,**

**and their labor to the locust.**

Leader: 47 He destroyed their vines with hail,

their sycamore fig trees with frost.

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

**and their flocks to hot thunderbolts.**

Leader: 49 He threw on them the fierceness of His anger,

wrath, indignation, and trouble,

and a band of angels of evil.

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

**He didn’t spare their soul from death,**

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

Leader: 51 and struck all the firstborn in Egypt,

the chief of their strength in the tents of Ham.

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

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

Leader: 53 He led them safely, so that they weren’t afraid,

but the sea overwhelmed their enemies.

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

**to this mountain, which His right hand had taken.**

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

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 didn’t keep His testimonies,**

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

They were twisted like a deceitful bow.

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

**and moved Him to jealousy with their engraved images.**

Leader: 59 When God heard this, He was angry,

and greatly abhorred Israel,

Response: **60 so that He abandoned the tent of Shiloh,**

**the tent which He placed among men,**

Leader: 61 and delivered His strength into captivity,

His glory into the adversary’s hand.

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

**and was angry with His inheritance.**

Leader: 63 Fire devoured their young men.

Their virgins had no wedding song.

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

**and their widows couldn’t weep**.

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

like a mighty man who shouts by reason of wine.

Response: **66 He struck His adversaries backward.**

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

Leader: 67 Moreover He rejected the tent of Joseph,

and didn’t choose the tribe of Ephraim,

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

**Mount Zion which He loved.**

Leader: 69 He built His sanctuary like the heights,

like the earth which He has established forever.

Response: **70 He also chose David 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 skillfulness of His hands.**