

Psalm 49.1-12

George Black

Introduction. Cantor sings refrain. All repeat refrain. Cantor sings verses. All sing refrain after each group of verses. In the psalm-tone the singer leaves the reciting note on the underlined word or syllable.

**The intonation could be repeated after the last refrain as a coda.*

Introduction



My heart shall meditate on understanding.

1 2 3 4 5 6

- (1) Hear this, all you peoples; hearken, all you who dwell in the world,
- (2) you of high degree and low, rich and poor together.
- (3) My mouth shall speak of wisdom,
- (4) and my heart shall meditate on understanding.
- (5) I will incline my ear to a proverb
- (6) and set forth my riddle upon the harp. **R.**

- (1) Why should I be afraid in evil days,
- (4) when the wickedness of those at my heels surrounds me,
- (5) the wickedness of those who put their trust in their goods,
- (6) and boast of their great riches? **R.**

- (1) We can never ransom ourselves,
- (2) or deliver to God the price of our life;
- (3) for the ransom of our life is so great,
- (4) that we should never have enough to pay it,
- (5) in order to live for ever and ever,
- (6) and never see the grave. **R.**

- (1) For we see that the wise die also; like the dull and stupid they perish
- (2) and leave their wealth to those who come after them.
- (1) Their graves shall be their homes for ever, their dwelling place from generation to generation,
- (2) though they call the lands after their own names.
- (3) Even though honored, they cannot live for ever;
- (4) they are like the beasts that perish.
- (5) Such is the way of those who foolishly trust in themselves,
- (6) and the end of those who delight in their own words. **R.**

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