

PSALM

49 Listen to me, all you peoples

A D A E⁷ A D A E⁷ A

1 Lis - ten to me, all you peo-ples, all who in the whole world dwell.
 2 Why should I fear days of e - vil, when the wick-ed hem me in -
 3 To re - deem a life is cost - ly - none suf - fi - cient price can pay

A D A E⁷ F^{#m} D A E⁷ A

Low and high, both rich and need - y, hear the mes-sage I will tell.
 those who boast of their pos - ses-sions? By their trust in wealth they sin.
 so that one should live im mor - tal, free for - ev - er from de - cay.

F^{#m} C[#] F^{#m} C^{#7} A D A E B⁷ E⁷

I will speak with un - der-stand-ing; wis-dom from the heart I'll preach.
 There is no one who is a - ble to re - deem a soul from death;
 For we all can see life end - ing; wise and fool - ish, all will die.

A D A E⁷ F^{#m} D A E⁷ A

I will lis - ten to a prov-erb; se - crets with the harp I'll teach.
 none can pay to God the ran - som to pro - long an-oth - er's breath.
 They must leave their wealth to oth - ers; none can death's de-mand de - fy.

Listen to me, all you peoples

- 4 So for endless generations
in their tombs they will remain,
though they owned, while they were living,
lands to which they gave their name.
Man despite his wealth is mortal;
like the beasts, he fades away.
Thus the self-assured will perish,
though renowned for what they say.
- 5 Death will feed upon their bodies;
just like sheep they meet their fate.
In the grave their forms will perish,
far from where they lived in state.
But the upright ones will rule them,
once the morning light has shone.
From the grave God will redeem me;
he will take me for his own.
- 6 Do not quake before a rich man,
though his fortune grows immense
and his outward state increases –
for he will take nothing hence.
He will soon descend with nothing
of the splendour he possessed,
though in life he prospered greatly
and they told him he was blest.

(to stanza 7 below)

7 He will go to join his fa-thers - nev-er see the light of day.

Those with wealth and no dis-cern-ment are like beasts that pass a - way.