

Refrain: The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom.

1 The fool has said in his heart, 'There is no God.' □

Corrupt are they, and abominable in their wickedness;

there is no one that does good.

2 God has looked down from heaven upon the children of earth, □

to see if there is anyone who is wise and seeks after God.

3 They are all gone out of the way;

all alike have become corrupt; □

there is no one that does good, no not one. [R]

4 Have they no knowledge, those evildoers, □

who eat up my people as if they ate bread,

and do not call upon God?

5 There shall they be in great fear,

such fear as never was; □

for God will scatter the bones of the ungodly.

6 They will be put to shame, □

because God has rejected them.

7 O that Israel's salvation would come out of Zion! □

When God restores the fortunes of his people

then will Jacob rejoice and Israel be glad.

Refrain: The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom.

Without you, O God, nothing is real,

all things are open to corruption

and we are deadened by deceit;

do not abandon us to our folly,

but give us hearts that seek you

and, at the last, joy in your heavenly city;

through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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