Psalm 73

4. They are so fed, that even for fat their eyes oft times out start:
   And as for worldly goods, they have, more than can wish their heart.
   Their life is most licentious, boasting much of their wrong,
   Which they have done to simple men, and ever pride among.

5. The heavens and the living Lord,
   they spare not to blaspHEME:
   And prate they do on worldly things, no wight they do esteem.
   The people of God oft times turn back,
   to see their prosperous state,
   And almost drink the self-same cup, and follow the same rate.

6. “How can it be that God,” say they, “should know and understand:
   these worldly things, since wicked men, be lords of sea and land?”
   For we may see how wicked men,
   in riches still increase:
   Rewarded well with worldly goods, and live in rest and peace.

7. Then why do I from wickedness my fantasy refrain?
   And wash mine hands with innocence,
   and cleanse mine heart in vain?
   And suffer scourges every day, as subject to all blame,
   And every morning from my youth, sustain rebuke and shame?

8. And I had almost said as they, mis-liking mine estate:
   But that I should thy children judge, as folk unfortunate.
   Then I bethought me how I might this matter understand:
   But yet the labour was too great, for me to take in hand.

9. Until the time I went into thine holy place: and then I understood right perfectly the end of all these men.
   And namely how thou settest them upon a slippery place,
   And at thy pleasure and thy will thou dost them all deface.

10. Then all men muse at that strange sight, to see how suddenly:
    They are destroyed, dispatched, consumed, and dead so horribly.
    Much like as a dream when one awaketh, so shall their wealth decay:
    Their famous names in all men’s sight, shall ebb and pass away.

11. Yet thus mine heart was grieved then:
    my mind was much oppressed:
    So fond was I, and ignorant, and in this point a beast.
    Yet nevertheless by my right hand, thou holdest me always fast,
    And with thy counsel dost me guide, to glory at the last.

12. What thing is there that I can wish, but thee in heaven above?
    And in the earth there is nothing, like thee that I can love.
    My flesh and eke mine heart do fail, but God doth fail me never:
    For of mine heart God is the strength, my portion eke forever.

13. And lo, all such as thee forsake, thou shalt destroy each one:
    And those that trust in anything, saving in thee alone.
    Therefore will I draw near to God, and ever with him dwell:
    In God alone I put my trust, thy wonders will I tell.

31 A human being.