Of mercy and of judgement both

Of mercy and of judgement both, O Lord my song shall be: and it so oft as I do sing, O Lord shall be to thee.

I will my ways with wisdom guide, till thou my state erect: and walk uprightly in thine house, as one of thine elect.

No wicked thing will I attempt, but from this same refrain: I hate the sins of faithless folk, no such will I maintain.

The froward heart may take his leave, such shall not with me dwell. As for the proud and wicked men, I will with force expel.

Whoso his neighbour doth back-bite, that man will I destroy. And whoso hath a proud high look, this same will I annoy.

But such as lead a godly life, and wickedness forsake, I will defend and more than that, my servants will them make.

Whoso is bent to use deceit, my house is not for such: the liar I may not abide; his lies I hate so much.

The ungodly soon will I destroy, which dwell the land about: and from the city of the Lord, all wicked men root out.

Text is a metrical paraphrase of Psalm 101



