

I. The Reality of Their Bondage (10)

“Some sat in darkness and in the shadow of death, prisoners in affliction and in irons...”

II. The Reason for Their Bondage (11-12)

A. A rebellious heart (11a) – “...for they had rebelled against the words of God...”
Contempt for God's word

B. A prideful heart (11b) – “...and spurned the counsel of the Most High.”
Contempt for God's ways

C. A sobered heart (12) – “So He bowed their hearts down with hard labor; they fell down, with none to help.”

III. The Response in Their Bondage (13)

“Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble, and He delivered them from their distress.”

IV. The Release from Their Bondage (13b-16)

A. Redeemed by grace & mercy (14) – “He brought them out of darkness and the shadow of death, and burst their bonds apart.”

B. Renewed in gratitude & joy (15) - “Let them thank the LORD for His steadfast love, for His wondrous works to the children of man!”

C. Released in freedom & possibility (16) – “For He shatters the doors of bronze and cuts in two the bars of iron.”