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| Wisdom  3:1-9  Selection A4  (Long Form) | **A Reading from the Book of Wisdom**  **The souls of the righteous are in the hand of God,**  **and no torment shall touch them.**  **They seemed, in the view of the foolish, to be dead;**  **and their passing away was thought an affliction**  **and their going forth from us, utter destruction.**  **But they are in peace.**  **For if to others, indeed, they seem punished,**  **yet is their hope full of immortality;**  **chastised a little, they shall be greatly blessed,**  **because God tried them**  **and found them worthy of himself.**  **As gold in the furnace, he proved them,**  **and as sacrificial offerings he took them to himself.**  **In the time of their judgment they shall shine**  **and dart about as sparks through stubble;**  **they shall judge nations and rule over peoples,**  **and the LORD shall be their King forever.**  **Those who trust in him shall understand truth,**  **and the faithful shall abide with him in love:**  **because grace and mercy are with his holy ones,**  **and his care is with the elect.**  **The Word of the Lord** |