

For solemn promises we broke,
For selfishness we tried to cloak,
For lessons we refused to learn,
For passions we allowed to burn,
For empty forms and hollow creeds
Which had no counterpart in deeds,

God be merciful!

For vain display and mental pride,
For sympathy to all denied,
For faults unchecked the livelong day,
For debts we did not try to pay,
For gratitude we did not feel,
For wounds we did not wish to heal,

God be merciful!

For leading no sad souls to Thee
That they might their salvation see,
For straw and chaff and withered
leaves,
Which should have been life's harvest
sheaves,
Thy people mourn their folly now,
And pray, as they in sorrow bow,

God be merciful!