

Petition

Text

selected portions from
The Community Rule, Dead Sea Scroll (1QS)

Who can endure your glory,
and what is the son of man
in the midst of your wonderful deeds?
Kneaded from the dust,
his abode is the nourishment of worms.
He is but a shape, but molded clay,
and decays into dust.
What shall hand-molded clay reply?
What counsel will it understand?

Blessed are you, my God,
who opens up the heart of your servant to
knowledge!
Establish all his deeds in righteousness,
and as it pleases you to do for the elect of
mankind,
grant that the son of your handmaid
may stand before you for ever.

Who can endure?