

## Job

There was a man in the land of Uz, whose name was Job; and that man was blameless and upright, one who feared God, and turned away from evil.

There were born to him seven sons and three daughters. He had seven thousand sheep, three thousand camels, five hundred yoke of oxen, and five

5 hundred she-asses, and very many servants; so that this man was the greatest of all the people of the east. His sons used to go and hold a feast in the house of each on his day; and they would send and invite their three sisters to eat and drink with them. And when the days of the feast had run their course, Job would send and sanctify them, and he would rise early in the

10 morning and offer burnt offerings according to the number of them all; for Job said, "It may be that my sons have sinned, and cursed God in their

hearts." Thus Job did continually. Now there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the LORD, and Satan also came among them. The LORD said to Satan, "Whence have you come?" Satan

15 answered the LORD, "From going to and fro on the earth, and from walking up and down on it." And the LORD said to Satan, "Have you considered my servant Job, that there is none like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man, who fears God and turns away from evil?" Then Satan answered the

LORD, "Does Job fear God for nought? Hast thou not put a hedge about 20 him and his house and all that he has, on every side? Thou hast blessed the

work of his hands, and his possessions have increased in the land. But put forth thy hand now, and touch all that he has, and he will curse thee to thy face." And the LORD said to Satan, "Behold, all that he has is in your power; only upon himself do not put forth your hand." So Satan went forth

5 from the presence of the LORD. Now there was a day when his sons and daughters were eating and drinking wine in their eldest brother's house; and there came a messenger to Job, and said, "The oxen were plowing and the asses feeding beside them; and the Sabe'ans fell upon them and took them, and slew the servants with the edge of the sword; and I alone have escaped

10 to tell you." While he was yet speaking, there came another, and said, "The fire of God fell from heaven and burned up the sheep and the servants, and consumed them; and I alone have escaped to tell you." While he was yet speaking, there came another, and said, "The Chalde'ans formed three companies, and made a raid upon the camels and took them, and slew the

15 servants with the edge of the sword; and I alone have escaped to tell you." While he was yet speaking, there came another, and said, "Your sons and daughters were eating and drinking wine in their eldest brother's house; and behold, a great wind came across the wilderness, and struck the four corners of the house, and it fell upon the young people, and they are dead; and I

20 alone have escaped to tell you." Then Job arose, and rent his robe, and

shaved his head, and fell upon the ground, and worshiped. And he said,  
"Naked I came from my mother's womb, and naked shall I return; the LORD  
gave, and the LORD has taken away; blessed be the name of the LORD." In  
all this Job did not sin or charge God with wrong. Again there was a day  
5 when the sons of God came to present themselves before the LORD, and  
Satan also came among them to present himself before the LORD. And the  
LORD said to Satan, "Whence have you come?" Satan answered the LORD,  
"From going to and fro on the earth, and from walking up and down on it."  
And the LORD said to Satan, "Have you considered my servant Job, that  
10 there is none like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man, who fears  
God and turns away from evil? He still holds fast his integrity, although you  
moved me against him, to destroy him without cause." Then Satan answered  
the LORD, "Skin for skin! All that a man has he will give for his life. But  
put forth thy hand now, and touch his bone and his flesh, and he will curse  
15 thee to thy face." And the LORD said to Satan, "Behold, he is in your  
power; only spare his life." So Satan went forth from the presence of the  
LORD, and afflicted Job with loathsome sores from the sole of his foot to  
the crown of his head. And he took a potsherd with which to scrape himself,  
and sat among the ashes. Then his wife said to him, "Do you still hold fast  
20 your integrity? Curse God, and die." But he said to her, "You speak as one

of the foolish women would speak. Shall we receive good at the hand of  
God, and shall we not receive evil?" In all this Job did not sin with his lips.  
Now when Job's three friends heard of all this evil that had come upon him,  
they came each from his own place, Eli'phaz the Te'manite, Bildad the  
5 Shuhite, and Zophar the Na'amathite. They made an appointment together to  
come to condole with him and comfort him. And when they saw him from  
afar, they did not recognize him; and they raised their voices and wept; and  
they rent their robes and sprinkled dust upon their heads toward heaven. And  
they sat with him on the ground seven days and seven nights, and no one  
10 spoke a word to him, for they saw that his suffering was very great. After  
this Job opened his mouth and cursed the day of his birth. And Job said:  
"Let the day perish wherein I was born, and the night which said, 'A man-  
child is conceived.' Let that day be darkness! May God above not seek it,  
nor light shine upon it. Let gloom and deep darkness claim it. Let clouds  
15 dwell upon it; let the blackness of the day terrify it. That night--let thick  
darkness seize it! let it not rejoice among the days of the year, let it not  
come into the number of the months. Yea, let that night be barren; let no  
joyful cry be heard in it. Let those curse it who curse the day, who are  
skilled to rouse up Levi'athan. Let the stars of its dawn be dark; let it hope  
20 for light, but have none, nor see the eyelids of the morning; because it did

not shut the doors of my mother's womb, nor hide trouble from my eyes.

"Why did I not die at birth, come forth from the womb and expire? Why did the knees receive me? Or why the breasts, that I should suck? For then I should have lain down and been quiet; I should have slept; then I should

5 have been at rest, with kings and counselors of the earth who rebuilt ruins for themselves, or with princes who had gold, who filled their houses with silver. Or why was I not as a hidden untimely birth, as infants that never see the light? There the wicked cease from troubling, and there the weary are at rest. There the prisoners are at ease together; they hear not the voice  
10 of the taskmaster. The small and the great are there, and the slave is free from his master. "Why is light given to him that is in misery, and life to the bitter in soul, who long for death, but it comes not, and dig for it more than for hid treasures; who rejoice exceedingly, and are glad, when they find the grave? Why is light given to a man whose way is hid, whom God has  
15 hedged in? For my sighing comes as my bread, and my groanings are poured out like water. For the thing that I fear comes upon me, and what I dread befalls me. I am not at ease, nor am I quiet; I have no rest; but trouble comes." Then Eli'phaz the Te'manite answered: "If one ventures a word with you, will you be offended? Yet who can keep from speaking? Behold, you  
20 have instructed many, and you have strengthened the weak hands. Your

words have upheld him who was stumbling, and you have made firm the feeble knees. But now it has come to you, and you are impatient; it touches you, and you are dismayed. Is not your fear of God your confidence, and the integrity of your ways your hope? "Think now, who that was innocent  
5 ever perished? Or where were the upright cut off? As I have seen, those who plow iniquity and sow trouble reap the same. By the breath of God they perish, and by the blast of his anger they are consumed. The roar of the lion, the voice of the fierce lion, the teeth of the young lions, are broken. The strong lion perishes for lack of prey, and the whelps of the  
10 lioness are scattered. "Now a word was brought to me stealthily, my ear received the whisper of it. Amid thoughts from visions of the night, when deep sleep falls on men, dread came upon me, and trembling, which made all my bones shake. A spirit glided past my face; the hair of my flesh stood up. It stood still, but I could not discern its appearance. A form was before  
15 my eyes; there was silence, then I heard a voice: 'Can mortal man be righteous before God? Can a man be pure before his Maker? Even in his servants he puts no trust, and his angels he charges with error; how much more those who dwell in houses of clay, whose foundation is in the dust, who are crushed before the moth. Between morning and evening they are  
20 destroyed; they perish for ever without any regarding it. If their tent-cord is

plucked up within them, do they not die, and that without wisdom?" "Call  
now; is there any one who will answer you? To which of the holy ones will  
you turn? Surely vexation kills the fool, and jealousy slays the simple. I  
have seen the fool taking root, but suddenly I cursed his dwelling. His sons  
5 are far from safety, they are crushed in the gate, and there is no one to  
deliver them. His harvest the hungry eat, and he takes it even out of thorns;  
and the thirsty pant after his wealth. For affliction does not come from the  
dust, nor does trouble sprout from the ground; but man is born to trouble as  
the sparks fly upward. "As for me, I would seek God, and to God would I  
10 commit my cause; who does great things and unsearchable, marvelous things  
without number: he gives rain upon the earth and sends waters upon the  
fields; he sets on high those who are lowly, and those who mourn are lifted  
to safety. He frustrates the devices of the crafty, so that their hands achieve  
no success. He takes the wise in their own craftiness; and the schemes of  
15 the wily are brought to a quick end. They meet with darkness in the  
daytime, and grope at noonday as in the night. But he saves the fatherless  
from their mouth, the needy from the hand of the mighty. So the poor have  
hope, and injustice shuts her mouth. "Behold, happy is the man whom God  
reproves; therefore despise not the chastening of the Almighty. For he  
20 wounds, but he binds up; he smites, but his hands heal. He will deliver you

from six troubles; in seven there shall no evil touch you. In famine he will  
redeem you from death, and in war from the power of the sword. You shall  
be hid from the scourge of the tongue, and shall not fear destruction when it  
comes. At destruction and famine you shall laugh, and shall not fear the  
5 beasts of the earth. For you shall be in league with the stones of the field,  
and the beasts of the field shall be at peace with you. You shall know that  
your tent is safe, and you shall inspect your fold and miss nothing. You  
shall know also that your descendants shall be many, and your offspring as  
the grass of the earth. You shall come to your grave in ripe old age, as a  
10 shock of grain comes up to the threshing floor in its season. Lo, this we  
have searched out; it is true. Hear, and know it for your good." Then Job  
answered: "O that my vexation were weighed, and all my calamity laid in  
the balances! For then it would be heavier than the sand of the sea;  
therefore my words have been rash. For the arrows of the Almighty are in  
15 me; my spirit drinks their poison; the terrors of God are arrayed against me.  
Does the wild ass bray when he has grass, or the ox low over his fodder?  
Can that which is tasteless be eaten without salt, or is there any taste in the  
slime of the purslane? My appetite refuses to touch them; they are as food  
that is loathsome to me. "O that I might have my request, and that God  
20 would grant my desire; that it would please God to crush me, that he would



let loose his hand and cut me off! This would be my consolation; I would even exult in pain unsparing; for I have not denied the words of the Holy One. What is my strength, that I should wait? And what is my end, that I should be patient? Is my strength the strength of stones, or is my flesh

5 bronze? In truth I have no help in me, and any resource is driven from me.

"He who withholds kindness from a friend forsakes the fear of the Almighty.

My brethren are treacherous as a torrent-bed, as freshets that pass away, which are dark with ice, and where the snow hides itself. In time of heat they disappear; when it is hot, they vanish from their place. The caravans

10 turn aside from their course; they go up into the waste, and perish. The caravans of Tema look, the travelers of Sheba hope. They are disappointed because they were confident; they come thither and are confounded. Such you have now become to me; you see my calamity, and are afraid. Have I said, 'Make me a gift'? Or, 'From your wealth offer a bribe for me'? Or, 'Deliver

15 me from the adversary's hand'? Or, 'Ransom me from the hand of oppressors'? "Teach me, and I will be silent; make me understand how I have erred. How forceful are honest words! But what does reproof from you reprove? Do you think that you can reprove words, when the speech of a despairing man is wind? You would even cast lots over the fatherless, and

20 bargain over your friend. "But now, be pleased to look at me; for I will not

lie to your face. Turn, I pray, let no wrong be done. Turn now, my  
vindication is at stake. Is there any wrong on my tongue? Cannot my taste  
discern calamity? "Has not man a hard service upon earth, and are not his  
days like the days of a hireling? Like a slave who longs for the shadow,  
5 and like a hireling who looks for his wages, so I am allotted months of  
emptiness, and nights of misery are apportioned to me. When I lie down I  
say, 'When shall I arise?' But the night is long, and I am full of tossing till  
the dawn. My flesh is clothed with worms and dirt; my skin hardens, then  
breaks out afresh. My days are swifter than a weaver's shuttle, and come to  
10 their end without hope. "Remember that my life is a breath; my eye will  
never again see good. The eye of him who sees me will behold me no  
more; while thy eyes are upon me, I shall be gone. As the cloud fades and  
vanishes, so he who goes down to Sheol does not come up; he returns no  
more to his house, nor does his place know him any more. "Therefore I will  
15 not restrain my mouth; I will speak in the anguish of my spirit; I will  
complain in the bitterness of my soul. Am I the sea, or a sea monster, that  
thou settest a guard over me? When I say, 'My bed will comfort me, my  
couch will ease my complaint,' then thou dost scare me with dreams and  
terrify me with visions, so that I would choose strangling and death rather  
20 than my bones. I loathe my life; I would not live for ever. Let me alone,

for my days are a breath. What is man, that thou dost make so much of him, and that thou dost set thy mind upon him, dost visit him every morning, and test him every moment? How long wilt thou not look away from me, nor let me alone till I swallow my spittle? If I sin, what do I do

5 to thee, thou watcher of men? Why hast thou made me thy mark? Why have I become a burden to thee? Why dost thou not pardon my transgression and take away my iniquity? For now I shall lie in the earth; thou wilt seek me, but I shall not be." Then Bildad the Shuhite answered: "How long will you say these things, and the words of your mouth be a great wind? Does God

10 pervert justice? Or does the Almighty pervert the right? If your children have sinned against him, he has delivered them into the power of their transgression. If you will seek God and make supplication to the Almighty, if you are pure and upright, surely then he will rouse himself for you and reward you with a rightful habitation. And though your beginning was small,

15 your latter days will be very great. "For inquire, I pray you, of bygone ages, and consider what the fathers have found; for we are but of yesterday, and know nothing, for our days on earth are a shadow. Will they not teach you, and tell you, and utter words out of their understanding? "Can papyrus grow where there is no marsh? Can reeds flourish where there is no water? While

20 yet in flower and not cut down, they wither before any other plant. Such are

the paths of all who forget God; the hope of the godless man shall perish.

His confidence breaks in sunder, and his trust is a spider's web. He leans against his house, but it does not stand; he lays hold of it, but it does not endure. He thrives before the sun, and his shoots spread over his garden. His

5 roots twine about the stoneheap; he lives among the rocks. If he is destroyed from his place, then it will deny him, saying, 'I have never seen you.'

Behold, this is the joy of his way; and out of the earth others will spring.

"Behold, God will not reject a blameless man, nor take the hand of evildoers. He will yet fill your mouth with laughter, and your lips with

10 shouting. Those who hate you will be clothed with shame, and the tent of the wicked will be no more." Then Job answered: "Truly I know that it is so: But how can a man be just before God? If one wished to contend with him, one could not answer him once in a thousand times. He is wise in heart, and mighty in strength--who has hardened himself against him, and

15 succeeded? -- he who removes mountains, and they know it not, when he overturns them in his anger; who shakes the earth out of its place, and its pillars tremble; who commands the sun, and it does not rise; who seals up the stars; who alone stretched out the heavens, and trampled the waves of the sea; who made the Bear and Orion, the Pleiades and the chambers of

20 the south; who does great things beyond understanding, and marvelous things

without number. Lo, he passes by me, and I see him not; he moves on, but  
I do not perceive him. Behold, he snatches away; who can hinder him? Who  
will say to him, 'What doest thou'? "God will not turn back his anger;  
beneath him bowed the helpers of Rahab. How then can I answer him,  
5 choosing my words with him? Though I am innocent, I cannot answer him; I  
must appeal for mercy to my accuser. If I summoned him and he answered  
me, I would not believe that he was listening to my voice. For he crushes  
me with a tempest, and multiplies my wounds without cause; he will not let  
me get my breath, but fills me with bitterness. If it is a contest of strength,  
10 behold him! If it is a matter of justice, who can summon him? Though I am  
innocent, my own mouth would condemn me; though I am blameless, he  
would prove me perverse. I am blameless; I regard not myself; I loathe my  
life. It is all one; therefore I say, he destroys both the blameless and the  
wicked. When disaster brings sudden death, he mocks at the calamity of the  
15 innocent. The earth is given into the hand of the wicked; he covers the faces  
of its judges--if it is not he, who then is it? "My days are swifter than a  
runner; they flee away, they see no good. They go by like skiffs of reed,  
like an eagle swooping on the prey. If I say, 'I will forget my complaint, I  
will put off my sad countenance, and be of good cheer,' I become afraid of  
20 all my suffering, for I know thou wilt not hold me innocent. I shall be

condemned; why then do I labor in vain? If I wash myself with snow, and  
cleanse my hands with lye, yet thou wilt plunge me into a pit, and my own  
clothes will abhor me. For he is not a man, as I am, that I might answer  
him, that we should come to trial together. There is no umpire between us,  
5 who might lay his hand upon us both. Let him take his rod away from me,  
and let not dread of him terrify me. Then I would speak without fear of  
him, for I am not so in myself. "I loathe my life; I will give free utterance  
to my complaint; I will speak in the bitterness of my soul. I will say to  
God, Do not condemn me; let me know why thou dost contend against me.  
10 Does it seem good to thee to oppress, to despise the work of thy hands and  
favor the designs of the wicked? Hast thou eyes of flesh? Dost thou see as  
man sees? Are thy days as the days of man, or thy years as man's years,  
that thou dost seek out my iniquity and search for my sin, although thou  
knowest that I am not guilty, and there is none to deliver out of thy hand?  
15 Thy hands fashioned and made me; and now thou dost turn about and  
destroy me. Remember that thou hast made me of clay; and wilt thou turn  
me to dust again? Didst thou not pour me out like milk and curdle me like  
cheese? Thou didst clothe me with skin and flesh, and knit me together with  
bones and sinews. Thou hast granted me life and steadfast love; and thy care  
20 has preserved my spirit. Yet these things thou didst hide in thy heart; I

know that this was thy purpose. If I sin, thou dost mark me, and dost not  
acquit me of my iniquity. If I am wicked, woe to me! If I am righteous, I  
cannot lift up my head, for I am filled with disgrace and look upon my  
affliction. And if I lift myself up, thou dost hunt me like a lion, and again  
5 work wonders against me; thou dost renew thy witnesses against me, and  
increase thy vexation toward me; thou dost bring fresh hosts against me.  
"Why didst thou bring me forth from the womb? Would that I had died  
before any eye had seen me, and were as though I had not been, carried  
from the womb to the grave. Are not the days of my life few? Let me  
10 alone, that I may find a little comfort before I go whence I shall not return,  
to the land of gloom and deep darkness, the land of gloom and chaos, where  
light is as darkness." Then Zophar the Na'amathite answered: "Should a  
multitude of words go unanswered, and a man full of talk be vindicated?  
Should your babble silence men, and when you mock, shall no one shame  
15 you? For you say, 'My doctrine is pure, and I am clean in God's eyes.' But  
oh, that God would speak, and open his lips to you, and that he would tell  
you the secrets of wisdom! For he is manifold in understanding. Know then  
that God exacts of you less than your guilt deserves. "Can you find out the  
deep things of God? Can you find out the limit of the Almighty? It is  
20 higher than heaven--what can you do? Deeper than Sheol--what can you

know? Its measure is longer than the earth, and broader than the sea. If he passes through, and imprisons, and calls to judgment, who can hinder him? For he knows worthless men; when he sees iniquity, will he not consider it? But a stupid man will get understanding, when a wild ass's colt is born a

5 man. "If you set your heart aright, you will stretch out your hands toward him. If iniquity is in your hand, put it far away, and let not wickedness dwell in your tents. Surely then you will lift up your face without blemish; you will be secure, and will not fear. You will forget your misery; you will remember it as waters that have passed away. And your life will be brighter

10 than the noonday; its darkness will be like the morning. And you will have confidence, because there is hope; you will be protected and take your rest in safety. You will lie down, and none will make you afraid; many will entreat your favor. But the eyes of the wicked will fail; all way of escape will be lost to them, and their hope is to breathe their last." Then Job

15 answered: "No doubt you are the people, and wisdom will die with you. But I have understanding as well as you; I am not inferior to you. Who does not know such things as these? I am a laughingstock to my friends; I, who called upon God and he answered me, a just and blameless man, am a laughingstock. In the thought of one who is at ease there is contempt for

20 misfortune; it is ready for those whose feet slip. The tents of robbers are at



peace, and those who provoke God are secure, who bring their god in their hand. "But ask the beasts, and they will teach you; the birds of the air, and they will tell you; or the plants of the earth, and they will teach you; and the fish of the sea will declare to you. Who among all these does not know

5 that the hand of the LORD has done this? In his hand is the life of every living thing and the breath of all mankind. Does not the ear try words as the palate tastes food? Wisdom is with the aged, and understanding in length of days. "With God are wisdom and might; he has counsel and understanding. If he tears down, none can rebuild; if he shuts a man in, none can open. If he

10 withholds the waters, they dry up; if he sends them out, they overwhelm the land. With him are strength and wisdom; the deceived and the deceiver are his. He leads counselors away stripped, and judges he makes fools. He looses the bonds of kings, and binds a waistcloth on their loins. He leads priests away stripped, and overthrows the mighty. He deprives of speech those who

15 are trusted, and takes away the discernment of the elders. He pours contempt on princes, and looses the belt of the strong. He uncovers the deeps out of darkness, and brings deep darkness to light. He makes nations great, and he destroys them: he enlarges nations, and leads them away. He takes away understanding from the chiefs of the people of the earth, and makes them

20 wander in a pathless waste. They grope in the dark without light; and he

makes them stagger like a drunken man. "Lo, my eye has seen all this, my ear has heard and understood it. What you know, I also know; I am not inferior to you. But I would speak to the Almighty, and I desire to argue my case with God. As for you, you whitewash with lies; worthless

5 physicians are you all. Oh that you would keep silent, and it would be your wisdom! Hear now my reasoning, and listen to the pleadings of my lips.

Will you speak falsely for God, and speak deceitfully for him? Will you show partiality toward him, will you plead the case for God? Will it be well with you when he searches you out? Or can you deceive him, as one

10 deceives a man? He will surely rebuke you if in secret you show partiality.

Will not his majesty terrify you, and the dread of him fall upon you? Your maxims are proverbs of ashes, your defenses are defenses of clay. "Let me have silence, and I will speak, and let come on me what may. I will take my flesh in my teeth, and put my life in my hand. Behold, he will slay me;

15 I have no hope; yet I will defend my ways to his face. This will be my salvation, that a godless man shall not come before him. Listen carefully to my words, and let my declaration be in your ears. Behold, I have prepared my case; I know that I shall be vindicated. Who is there that will contend with me? For then I would be silent and die. Only grant two things to me,

20 then I will not hide myself from thy face: withdraw thy hand far from me,

and let not dread of thee terrify me. Then call, and I will answer; or let me speak, and do thou reply to me. How many are my iniquities and my sins? Make me know my transgression and my sin. Why dost thou hide thy face, and count me as thy enemy? Wilt thou frighten a driven leaf and pursue dry

5 chaff? For thou writest bitter things against me, and makest me inherit the iniquities of my youth. Thou putttest my feet in the stocks, and watchest all my paths; thou settest a bound to the soles of my feet. Man wastes away like a rotten thing, like a garment that is moth-eaten. "Man that is born of a woman is of few days, and full of trouble. He comes forth like a flower,

10 and withers; he flees like a shadow, and continues not. And dost thou open thy eyes upon such a one and bring him into judgment with thee? Who can bring a clean thing out of an unclean? There is not one. Since his days are determined, and the number of his months is with thee, and thou hast appointed his bounds that he cannot pass, look away from him, and desist,

15 that he may enjoy, like a hireling, his day. "For there is hope for a tree, if it be cut down, that it will sprout again, and that its shoots will not cease. Though its root grow old in the earth, and its stump die in the ground, yet at the scent of water it will bud and put forth branches like a young plant. But man dies, and is laid low; man breathes his last, and where is he? As

20 waters fail from a lake, and a river wastes away and dries up, so man lies

down and rises not again; till the heavens are no more he will not awake, or  
be roused out of his sleep. Oh that thou wouldest hide me in Sheol, that  
thou wouldest conceal me until thy wrath be past, that thou wouldest appoint  
me a set time, and remember me! If a man die, shall he live again? All the  
5 days of my service I would wait, till my release should come. Thou  
wouldest call, and I would answer thee; thou wouldest long for the work of  
thy hands. For then thou wouldest number my steps, thou wouldest not keep  
watch over my sin; my transgression would be sealed up in a bag, and thou  
wouldest cover over my iniquity. "But the mountain falls and crumbles away,  
10 and the rock is removed from its place; the waters wear away the stones; the  
torrents wash away the soil of the earth; so thou destroyest the hope of man.  
Thou prevailest for ever against him, and he passes; thou changest his  
countenance, and sendest him away. His sons come to honor, and he does  
not know it; they are brought low, and he perceives it not. He feels only the  
15 pain of his own body, and he mourns only for himself." Then Eli'phaz the  
Te'manite answered: "Should a wise man answer with windy knowledge, and  
fill himself with the east wind? Should he argue in unprofitable talk, or in  
words with which he can do no good? But you are doing away with the  
fear of God, and hindering meditation before God. For your iniquity teaches  
20 your mouth, and you choose the tongue of the crafty. Your own mouth

condemns you, and not I; your own lips testify against you. "Are you the first man that was born? Or were you brought forth before the hills? Have you listened in the council of God? And do you limit wisdom to yourself? What do you know that we do not know? What do you understand that is

5 not clear to us? Both the gray-haired and the aged are among us, older than your father. Are the consolations of God too small for you, or the word that deals gently with you? Why does your heart carry you away, and why do your eyes flash, that you turn your spirit against God, and let such words go out of your mouth? What is man, that he can be clean? Or he that is born

10 of a woman, that he can be righteous? Behold, God puts no trust in his holy ones, and the heavens are not clean in his sight; how much less one who is abominable and corrupt, a man who drinks iniquity like water! "I will show you, hear me; and what I have seen I will declare (what wise men have told, and their fathers have not hidden, to whom alone the land was given,

15 and no stranger passed among them). The wicked man writhes in pain all his days, through all the years that are laid up for the ruthless. Terrifying sounds are in his ears; in prosperity the destroyer will come upon him. He does not believe that he will return out of darkness, and he is destined for the sword. He wanders abroad for bread, saying, 'Where is it?' He knows that a day of

20 darkness is ready at his hand; distress and anguish terrify him; they prevail

against him, like a king prepared for battle. Because he has stretched forth  
his hand against God, and bids defiance to the Almighty, running stubbornly  
against him with a thick-bossed shield; because he has covered his face with  
his fat, and gathered fat upon his loins, and has lived in desolate cities, in  
5 houses which no man should inhabit, which were destined to become heaps  
of ruins; he will not be rich, and his wealth will not endure, nor will he  
strike root in the earth; he will not escape from darkness; the flame will dry  
up his shoots, and his blossom will be swept away by the wind. Let him not  
trust in emptiness, deceiving himself; for emptiness will be his recompense. It  
10 will be paid in full before his time, and his branch will not be green. He  
will shake off his unripe grape, like the vine, and cast off his blossom, like  
the olive tree. For the company of the godless is barren, and fire consumes  
the tents of bribery. They conceive mischief and bring forth evil and their  
heart prepares deceit." Then Job answered: "I have heard many such things;  
15 miserable comforters are you all. Shall windy words have an end? Or what  
provokes you that you answer? I also could speak as you do, if you were in  
my place; I could join words together against you, and shake my head at  
you. I could strengthen you with my mouth, and the solace of my lips  
would assuage your pain. "If I speak, my pain is not assuaged, and if I  
20 forbear, how much of it leaves me? Surely now God has worn me out; he

has made desolate all my company. And he has shriveled me up, which is a witness against me; and my leanness has risen up against me, it testifies to my face. He has torn me in his wrath, and hated me; he has gnashed his teeth at me; my adversary sharpens his eyes against me. Men have gaped at me with their mouth, they have struck me insolently upon the cheek, they mass themselves together against me. God gives me up to the ungodly, and casts me into the hands of the wicked. I was at ease, and he broke me asunder; he seized me by the neck and dashed me to pieces; he set me up as his target, his archers surround me. He slashes open my kidneys, and does not spare; he pours out my gall on the ground. He breaks me with breach upon breach; he runs upon me like a warrior. I have sewed sackcloth upon my skin, and have laid my strength in the dust. My face is red with weeping, and on my eyelids is deep darkness; although there is no violence in my hands, and my prayer is pure. "O earth, cover not my blood, and let my cry find no resting place. Even now, behold, my witness is in heaven, and he that vouches for me is on high. My friends scorn me; my eye pours out tears to God, that he would maintain the right of a man with God, like that of a man with his neighbor. For when a few years have come I shall go the way whence I shall not return. My spirit is broken, my days are extinct, the grave is ready for me. Surely there are mockers about me, and

my eye dwells on their provocation. "Lay down a pledge for me with  
thyselves; who is there that will give surety for me? Since thou hast closed  
their minds to understanding, therefore thou wilt not let them triumph. He  
who informs against his friends to get a share of their property, the eyes of  
5 his children will fail. "He has made me a byword of the peoples, and I am  
one before whom men spit. My eye has grown dim from grief, and all my  
members are like a shadow. Upright men are appalled at this, and the  
innocent stirs himself up against the godless. Yet the righteous holds to his  
way, and he that has clean hands grows stronger and stronger. But you,  
10 come on again, all of you, and I shall not find a wise man among you. My  
days are past, my plans are broken off, the desires of my heart. They make  
night into day; 'The light,' they say, 'is near to the darkness.' If I look for  
Sheol as my house, if I spread my couch in darkness, if I say to the pit,  
'You are my father,' and to the worm, 'My mother,' or 'My sister,' where  
15 then is my hope? Who will see my hope? Will it go down to the bars of  
Sheol? Shall we descend together into the dust?" Then Bildad the Shuhite  
answered: "How long will you hunt for words? Consider, and then we will  
speak. Why are we counted as cattle? Why are we stupid in your sight? You  
who tear yourself in your anger, shall the earth be forsaken for you, or the  
20 rock be removed out of its place? "Yea, the light of the wicked is put out,



and the flame of his fire does not shine. The light is dark in his tent, and his lamp above him is put out. His strong steps are shortened and his own schemes throw him down. For he is cast into a net by his own feet, and he walks on a pitfall. A trap seizes him by the heel, a snare lays hold of him.

5 A rope is hid for him in the ground, a trap for him in the path. Terrors frighten him on every side, and chase him at his heels. His strength is hunger-bitten, and calamity is ready for his stumbling. By disease his skin is consumed, the first-born of death consumes his limbs. He is torn from the tent in which he trusted, and is brought to the king of terrors. In his tent

10 dwells that which is none of his; brimstone is scattered upon his habitation. His roots dry up beneath, and his branches wither above. His memory perishes from the earth, and he has no name in the street. He is thrust from light into darkness, and driven out of the world. He has no offspring or descendant among his people, and no survivor where he used to live. They

15 of the west are appalled at his day, and horror seizes them of the east. Surely such are the dwellings of the ungodly, such is the place of him who knows not God." Then Job answered: "How long will you torment me, and break me in pieces with words? These ten times you have cast reproach upon me; are you not ashamed to wrong me? And even if it be true that I

20 have erred, my error remains with myself. If indeed you magnify yourselves

against me, and make my humiliation an argument against me, know then  
that God has put me in the wrong, and closed his net about me. Behold, I  
cry out, 'Violence!' but I am not answered; I call aloud, but there is no  
justice. He has walled up my way, so that I cannot pass, and he has set  
5 darkness upon my paths. He has stripped from me my glory, and taken the  
crown from my head. He breaks me down on every side, and I am gone,  
and my hope has he pulled up like a tree. He has kindled his wrath against  
me, and counts me as his adversary. His troops come on together; they have  
cast up siegeworks against me, and encamp round about my tent. "He has  
10 put my brethren far from me, and my acquaintances are wholly estranged  
from me. My kinsfolk and my close friends have failed me; the guests in  
my house have forgotten me; my maidservants count me as a stranger; I  
have become an alien in their eyes. I call to my servant, but he gives me  
no answer; I must beseech him with my mouth. I am repulsive to my wife,  
15 loathsome to the sons of my own mother. Even young children despise me;  
when I rise they talk against me. All my intimate friends abhor me, and  
those whom I loved have turned against me. My bones cleave to my skin  
and to my flesh, and I have escaped by the skin of my teeth. Have pity on  
me, have pity on me, O you my friends, for the hand of God has touched  
20 me! Why do you, like God, pursue me? Why are you not satisfied with my

flesh? "Oh that my words were written! Oh that they were inscribed in a book! Oh that with an iron pen and lead they were graven in the rock for ever! For I know that my Redeemer lives, and at last he will stand upon the earth; and after my skin has been thus destroyed, then from my flesh I shall

5 see God, whom I shall see on my side, and my eyes shall behold, and not another. My heart faints within me! If you say, 'How we will pursue him!' and, 'The root of the matter is found in him'; be afraid of the sword, for wrath brings the punishment of the sword, that you may know there is a judgment." Then Zophar the Na'amathite answered: "Therefore my thoughts

10 answer me, because of my haste within me. I hear censure which insults me, and out of my understanding a spirit answers me. Do you not know this from of old, since man was placed upon earth, that the exulting of the wicked is short, and the joy of the godless but for a moment? Though his height mount up to the heavens, and his head reach to the clouds, he will

15 perish for ever like his own dung; those who have seen him will say, 'Where is he?' He will fly away like a dream, and not be found; he will be chased away like a vision of the night. The eye which saw him will see him no more, nor will his place any more behold him. His children will seek the favor of the poor, and his hands will give back his wealth. His bones are

20 full of youthful vigor, but it will lie down with him in the dust. "Though

wickedness is sweet in his mouth, though he hides it under his tongue,  
though he is loath to let it go, and holds it in his mouth, yet his food is  
turned in his stomach; it is the gall of asps within him. He swallows down  
riches and vomits them up again; God casts them out of his belly. He will  
5 suck the poison of asps; the tongue of a viper will kill him. He will not  
look upon the rivers, the streams flowing with honey and curds. He will give  
back the fruit of his toil, and will not swallow it down; from the profit of  
his trading he will get no enjoyment. For he has crushed and abandoned the  
poor, he has seized a house which he did not build. "Because his greed  
10 knew no rest, he will not save anything in which he delights. There was  
nothing left after he had eaten; therefore his prosperity will not endure. In  
the fulness of his sufficiency he will be in straits; all the force of misery  
will come upon him. To fill his belly to the full God will send his fierce  
anger into him, and rain it upon him as his food. He will flee from an iron  
15 weapon; a bronze arrow will strike him through. It is drawn forth and comes  
out of his body, the glittering point comes out of his gall; terrors come upon  
him. Utter darkness is laid up for his treasures; a fire not blown upon will  
devour him; what is left in his tent will be consumed. The heavens will  
20 reveal his iniquity, and the earth will rise up against him. The possessions of  
his house will be carried away, dragged off in the day of God's wrath. This

is the wicked man's portion from God, the heritage decreed for him by God."

Then Job answered: "Listen carefully to my words, and let this be your consolation. Bear with me, and I will speak, and after I have spoken, mock on. As for me, is my complaint against man? Why should I not be

5 impatient? Look at me, and be appalled, and lay your hand upon your mouth. When I think of it I am dismayed, and shuddering seizes my flesh. Why do the wicked live, reach old age, and grow mighty in power? Their children are established in their presence, and their offspring before their eyes. Their houses are safe from fear, and no rod of God is upon them.

10 Their bull breeds without fail; their cow calves, and does not cast her calf. They send forth their little ones like a flock, and their children dance. They sing to the tambourine and the lyre, and rejoice to the sound of the pipe. They spend their days in prosperity, and in peace they go down to Sheol.

They say to God, 'Depart from us! We do not desire the knowledge of thy ways. What is the Almighty, that we should serve him? And what profit do we get if we pray to him?' Behold, is not their prosperity in their hand? The counsel of the wicked is far from me. "How often is it that the lamp of the wicked is put out? That their calamity comes upon them? That God

15 distributes pains in his anger? That they are like straw before the wind, and  
20 like chaff that the storm carries away? You say, 'God stores up their iniquity

for their sons.' Let him recompense it to themselves, that they may know it.

Let their own eyes see their destruction, and let them drink of the wrath of the Almighty. For what do they care for their houses after them, when the number of their months is cut off? Will any teach God knowledge, seeing

5 that he judges those that are on high? One dies in full prosperity, being wholly at ease and secure, his body full of fat and the marrow of his bones moist. Another dies in bitterness of soul, never having tasted of good. They lie down alike in the dust, and the worms cover them. "Behold, I know your thoughts, and your schemes to wrong me. For you say, 'Where is the house

10 of the prince? Where is the tent in which the wicked dwelt?' Have you not asked those who travel the roads, and do you not accept their testimony that the wicked man is spared in the day of calamity, that he is rescued in the day of wrath? Who declares his way to his face, and who requites him for what he has done? When he is borne to the grave, watch is kept over his

15 tomb. The clods of the valley are sweet to him; all men follow after him, and those who go before him are innumerable. How then will you comfort me with empty nothings? There is nothing left of your answers but falsehood." Then Eli'phaz the Te'manite answered: "Can a man be profitable to God? Surely he who is wise is profitable to himself. Is it any pleasure to

20 the Almighty if you are righteous, or is it gain to him if you make your

ways blameless? Is it for your fear of him that he reproves you, and enters into judgment with you? Is not your wickedness great? There is no end to your iniquities. For you have exacted pledges of your brothers for nothing, and stripped the naked of their clothing. You have given no water to the

5 weary to drink, and you have withheld bread from the hungry. The man with power possessed the land, and the favored man dwelt in it. You have sent widows away empty, and the arms of the fatherless were crushed. Therefore snares are round about you, and sudden terror overwhelms you; your light is darkened, so that you cannot see, and a flood of water covers you. "Is not

10 God high in the heavens? See the highest stars, how lofty they are! Therefore you say, 'What does God know? Can he judge through the deep darkness? Thick clouds enwrap him, so that he does not see, and he walks on the vault of heaven.' Will you keep to the old way which wicked men have trod? They were snatched away before their time; their foundation was

15 washed away. They said to God, 'Depart from us,' and 'What can the Almighty do to us?' Yet he filled their houses with good things--but the counsel of the wicked is far from me. The righteous see it and are glad; the innocent laugh them to scorn, saying, 'Surely our adversaries are cut off, and what they left the fire has consumed.' "Agree with God, and be at peace;

20 thereby good will come to you. Receive instruction from his mouth, and lay

up his words in your heart. If you return to the Almighty and humble  
yourself, if you remove unrighteousness far from your tents, if you lay gold  
in the dust, and gold of Ophir among the stones of the torrent bed, and if  
the Almighty is your gold, and your precious silver; then you will delight  
5 yourself in the Almighty, and lift up your face to God. You will make your  
prayer to him, and he will hear you; and you will pay your vows. You will  
decide on a matter, and it will be established for you, and light will shine  
on your ways. For God abases the proud, but he saves the lowly. He  
delivers the innocent man; you will be delivered through the cleanness of  
10 your hands." Then Job answered: "Today also my complaint is bitter, his  
hand is heavy in spite of my groaning. Oh, that I knew where I might find  
him, that I might come even to his seat! I would lay my case before him  
and fill my mouth with arguments. I would learn what he would answer me,  
and understand what he would say to me. Would he contend with me in the  
15 greatness of his power? No; he would give heed to me. There an upright  
man could reason with him, and I should be acquitted for ever by my judge.  
"Behold, I go forward, but he is not there; and backward, but I cannot  
perceive him; on the left hand I seek him, but I cannot behold him; I turn  
to the right hand, but I cannot see him. But he knows the way that I take;  
20 when he has tried me, I shall come forth as gold. My foot has held fast to



his steps; I have kept his way and have not turned aside. I have not  
departed from the commandment of his lips; I have treasured in my bosom  
the words of his mouth. But he is unchangeable and who can turn him?  
What he desires, that he does. For he will complete what he appoints for  
5 me; and many such things are in his mind. Therefore I am terrified at his  
presence; when I consider, I am in dread of him. God has made my heart  
faint; the Almighty has terrified me; for I am hemmed in by darkness, and  
thick darkness covers my face. "Why are not times of judgment kept by the  
Almighty, and why do those who know him never see his days? Men  
10 remove landmarks; they seize flocks and pasture them. They drive away the  
ass of the fatherless; they take the widow's ox for a pledge. They thrust the  
poor off the road; the poor of the earth all hide themselves. Behold, like  
wild asses in the desert they go forth to their toil, seeking prey in the  
wilderness as food for their children. They gather their fodder in the field  
15 and they glean the vineyard of the wicked man. They lie all night naked,  
without clothing, and have no covering in the cold. They are wet with the  
rain of the mountains, and cling to the rock for want of shelter. (There are  
those who snatch the fatherless child from the breast, and take in pledge the  
infant of the poor.) They go about naked, without clothing; hungry, they  
20 carry the sheaves; among the olive rows of the wicked they make oil; they

tread the wine presses, but suffer thirst. From out of the city the dying  
groan, and the soul of the wounded cries for help; yet God pays no attention  
to their prayer. "There are those who rebel against the light, who are not  
acquainted with its ways, and do not stay in its paths. The murderer rises in  
5 the dark, that he may kill the poor and needy; and in the night he is as a  
thief. The eye of the adulterer also waits for the twilight, saying, 'No eye  
will see me'; and he disguises his face. In the dark they dig through houses;  
by day they shut themselves up; they do not know the light. For deep  
darkness is morning to all of them; for they are friends with the terrors of  
10 deep darkness. "You say, "They are swiftly carried away upon the face of  
the waters; their portion is cursed in the land; no treader turns toward their  
vineyards. Drought and heat snatch away the snow waters; so does Sheol  
those who have sinned. The squares of the town forget them; their name is  
no longer remembered; so wickedness is broken like a tree.' "They feed on  
15 the barren childless woman, and do no good to the widow. Yet God  
prolongs the life of the mighty by his power; they rise up when they despair  
of life. He gives them security, and they are supported; and his eyes are  
upon their ways. They are exalted a little while, and then are gone; they  
wither and fade like the mallow; they are cut off like the heads of grain. If  
20 it is not so, who will prove me a liar, and show that there is nothing in

what I say?" Then Bildad the Shuhite answered: "Dominion and fear are with  
God; he makes peace in his high heaven. Is there any number to his armies?  
Upon whom does his light not arise? How then can man be righteous before  
God? How can he who is born of woman be clean? Behold, even the moon  
5 is not bright and the stars are not clean in his sight; how much less man,  
who is a maggot, and the son of man, who is a worm!" Then Job answered:  
"How you have helped him who has no power! How you have saved the  
arm that has no strength! How you have counseled him who has no wisdom,  
and plentifully declared sound knowledge! With whose help have you uttered  
10 words, and whose spirit has come forth from you? The shades below  
tremble, the waters and their inhabitants. Sheol is naked before God, and  
Abaddon has no covering. He stretches out the north over the void, and  
hangs the earth upon nothing. He binds up the waters in his thick clouds,  
and the cloud is not rent under them. He covers the face of the moon, and  
15 spreads over it his cloud. He has described a circle upon the face of the  
waters at the boundary between light and darkness. The pillars of heaven  
tremble, and are astounded at his rebuke. By his power he stilled the sea; by  
his understanding he smote Rahab. By his wind the heavens were made fair;  
his hand pierced the fleeing serpent. Lo, these are but the outskirts of his  
20 ways; and how small a whisper do we hear of him! But the thunder of his

power who can understand?" And Job again took up his discourse, and said:

"As God lives, who has taken away my right, and the Almighty, who has made my soul bitter; as long as my breath is in me, and the spirit of God is in my nostrils; my lips will not speak falsehood, and my tongue will not

5 utter deceit. Far be it from me to say that you are right; till I die I will not put away my integrity from me. I hold fast my righteousness, and will not let it go; my heart does not reproach me for any of my days. "Let my enemy be as the wicked, and let him that rises up against me be as the unrighteous. For what is the hope of the godless when God cuts him off,

10 when God takes away his life? Will God hear his cry, when trouble comes upon him? Will he take delight in the Almighty? Will he call upon God at all times? I will teach you concerning the hand of God; what is with the Almighty I will not conceal. Behold, all of you have seen it yourselves; why then have you become altogether vain? "This is the portion of a wicked man

15 with God, and the heritage which oppressors receive from the Almighty: If his children are multiplied, it is for the sword; and his offspring have not enough to eat. Those who survive him the pestilence buries, and their widows make no lamentation. Though he heap up silver like dust, and pile up clothing like clay; he may pile it up, but the just will wear it, and the

20 innocent will divide the silver. The house which he builds is like a spider's

web, like a booth which a watchman makes. He goes to bed rich, but will  
do so no more; he opens his eyes, and his wealth is gone. Terrors overtake  
him like a flood; in the night a whirlwind carries him off. The east wind  
lifts him up and he is gone; it sweeps him out of his place. It hurls at him  
5 without pity; he flees from its power in headlong flight. It claps its hands at  
him, and hisses at him from its place. "Surely there is a mine for silver, and  
a place for gold which they refine. Iron is taken out of the earth, and copper  
is smelted from the ore. Men put an end to darkness, and search out to the  
farthest bound the ore in gloom and deep darkness. They open shafts in a  
10 valley away from where men live; they are forgotten by travelers, they hang  
afar from men, they swing to and fro. As for the earth, out of it comes  
bread; but underneath it is turned up as by fire. Its stones are the place of  
sapphires, and it has dust of gold. "That path no bird of prey knows, and  
the falcon's eye has not seen it. The proud beasts have not trodden it; the  
15 lion has not passed over it. "Man puts his hand to the flinty rock, and  
overturns mountains by the roots. He cuts out channels in the rocks, and his  
eye sees every precious thing. He binds up the streams so that they do not  
trickle, and the thing that is hid he brings forth to light. "But where shall  
wisdom be found? And where is the place of understanding? Man does not  
20 know the way to it, and it is not found in the land of the living. The deep

says, 'It is not in me,' and the sea says, 'It is not with me.' It cannot be gotten for gold, and silver cannot be weighed as its price. It cannot be valued in the gold of Ophir, in precious onyx or sapphire. Gold and glass cannot equal it, nor can it be exchanged for jewels of fine gold. No mention

5 shall be made of coral or of crystal; the price of wisdom is above pearls.

The topaz of Ethiopia cannot compare with it, nor can it be valued in pure gold. "Whence then comes wisdom? And where is the place of understanding? It is hid from the eyes of all living, and concealed from the birds of the air. Abaddon and Death say, 'We have heard a rumor of it with

10 our ears.' "God understands the way to it, and he knows its place. For he looks to the ends of the earth, and sees everything under the heavens. When he gave to the wind its weight, and meted out the waters by measure; when he made a decree for the rain, and a way for the lightning of the thunder; then he saw it and declared it; he established it, and searched it out. And he

15 said to man, 'Behold, the fear of the Lord, that is wisdom; and to depart from evil is understanding.'" And Job again took up his discourse, and said:

"Oh, that I were as in the months of old, as in the days when God watched over me; when his lamp shone upon my head, and by his light I walked through darkness; as I was in my autumn days, when the friendship of God

20 was upon my tent; when the Almighty was yet with me, when my children

were about me; when my steps were washed with milk, and the rock poured  
out for me streams of oil! When I went out to the gate of the city, when I  
prepared my seat in the square, the young men saw me and withdrew, and  
the aged rose and stood; the princes refrained from talking, and laid their  
5 hand on their mouth; the voice of the nobles was hushed, and their tongue  
cleaved to the roof of their mouth. When the ear heard, it called me blessed,  
and when the eye saw, it approved; because I delivered the poor who cried,  
and the fatherless who had none to help him. The blessing of him who was  
about to perish came upon me, and I caused the widow's heart to sing for  
10 joy. I put on righteousness, and it clothed me; my justice was like a robe  
and a turban. I was eyes to the blind, and feet to the lame. I was a father  
to the poor, and I searched out the cause of him whom I did not know. I  
broke the fangs of the unrighteous, and made him drop his prey from his  
teeth. Then I thought, 'I shall die in my nest, and I shall multiply my days  
15 as the sand, my roots spread out to the waters, with the dew all night on  
my branches, my glory fresh with me, and my bow ever new in my hand.'  
"Men listened to me, and waited, and kept silence for my counsel. After I  
spoke they did not speak again, and my word dropped upon them. They  
waited for me as for the rain; and they opened their mouths as for the  
20 spring rain. I smiled on them when they had no confidence; and the light of

my countenance they did not cast down. I chose their way, and sat as chief,  
and I dwelt like a king among his troops, like one who comforts mourners.

"But now they make sport of me, men who are younger than I, whose  
fathers I would have disdained to set with the dogs of my flock. What could

5 I gain from the strength of their hands, men whose vigor is gone? Through  
want and hard hunger they gnaw the dry and desolate ground; they pick  
mallow and the leaves of bushes, and to warm themselves the roots of the  
broom. They are driven out from among men; they shout after them as after  
a thief. In the gullies of the torrents they must dwell, in holes of the earth

10 and of the rocks. Among the bushes they bray; under the nettles they huddle  
together. A senseless, a disreputable brood, they have been whipped out of  
the land. "And now I have become their song, I am a byword to them. They  
abhor me, they keep aloof from me; they do not hesitate to spit at the sight  
of me. Because God has loosed my cord and humbled me, they have cast

15 off restraint in my presence. On my right hand the rabble rise, they drive me  
forth, they cast up against me their ways of destruction. They break up my  
path, they promote my calamity; no one restrains them. As through a wide  
breach they come; amid the crash they roll on. Terrors are turned upon me;  
my honor is pursued as by the wind, and my prosperity has passed away

20 like a cloud. "And now my soul is poured out within me; days of affliction



have taken hold of me. The night racks my bones, and the pain that gnaws  
me takes no rest. With violence it seizes my garment; it binds me about like  
the collar of my tunic. God has cast me into the mire, and I have become  
like dust and ashes. I cry to thee and thou dost not answer me; I stand, and  
5 thou dost not heed me. Thou hast turned cruel to me; with the might of thy  
hand thou dost persecute me. Thou liftest me up on the wind, thou makest  
me ride on it, and thou tосsest me about in the roar of the storm. Yea, I  
know that thou wilt bring me to death, and to the house appointed for all  
living. "Yet does not one in a heap of ruins stretch out his hand, and in his  
10 disaster cry for help? Did not I weep for him whose day was hard? Was not  
my soul grieved for the poor? But when I looked for good, evil came; and  
when I waited for light, darkness came. My heart is in turmoil, and is never  
still; days of affliction come to meet me. I go about blackened, but not by  
the sun; I stand up in the assembly, and cry for help. I am a brother of  
15 jackals, and a companion of ostriches. My skin turns black and falls from  
me, and my bones burn with heat. My lyre is turned to mourning, and my  
pipe to the voice of those who weep. "I have made a covenant with my  
eyes; how then could I look upon a virgin? What would be my portion from  
God above, and my heritage from the Almighty on high? Does not calamity  
20 befall the unrighteous, and disaster the workers of iniquity? Does not he see

my ways, and number all my steps? "If I have walked with falsehood, and my foot has hastened to deceit; (Let me be weighed in a just balance, and let God know my integrity!) if my step has turned aside from the way, and my heart has gone after my eyes, and if any spot has cleaved to my hands; 5 then let me sow, and another eat; and let what grows for me be rooted out.

"If my heart has been enticed to a woman, and I have lain in wait at my neighbor's door; then let my wife grind for another, and let others bow down upon her. For that would be a heinous crime; that would be an iniquity to be punished by the judges; for that would be a fire which consumes unto 10 Abaddon, and it would burn to the root all my increase. "If I have rejected the cause of my manservant or my maidservant, when they brought a complaint against me; what then shall I do when God rises up? When he makes inquiry, what shall I answer him? Did not he who made me in the womb make him? And did not one fashion us in the womb? "If I have 15 withheld anything that the poor desired, or have caused the eyes of the widow to fail, or have eaten my morsel alone, and the fatherless has not eaten of it (for from his youth I reared him as a father, and from his mother's womb I guided him); if I have seen any one perish for lack of clothing, or a poor man without covering; if his loins have not blessed me, 20 and if he was not warmed with the fleece of my sheep; if I have raised my

hand against the fatherless, because I saw help in the gate; then let my  
shoulder blade fall from my shoulder, and let my arm be broken from its  
socket. For I was in terror of calamity from God, and I could not have  
faced his majesty. "If I have made gold my trust, or called fine gold my  
5 confidence; if I have rejoiced because my wealth was great, or because my  
hand had gotten much; if I have looked at the sun when it shone, or the  
moon moving in splendor, and my heart has been secretly enticed, and my  
mouth has kissed my hand; this also would be an iniquity to be punished by  
the judges, for I should have been false to God above. "If I have rejoiced at  
10 the ruin of him that hated me, or exulted when evil overtook him (I have  
not let my mouth sin by asking for his life with a curse); if the men of my  
tent have not said, 'Who is there that has not been filled with his meat?' (the  
sojourner has not lodged in the street; I have opened my doors to the  
wayfarer); if I have concealed my transgressions from men, by hiding my  
15 iniquity in my bosom, because I stood in great fear of the multitude, and the  
contempt of families terrified me, so that I kept silence, and did not go out  
of doors-- Oh, that I had one to hear me! (Here is my signature! let the  
Almighty answer me!) Oh, that I had the indictment written by my  
adversary! Surely I would carry it on my shoulder; I would bind it on me as  
20 a crown; I would give him an account of all my steps; like a prince I

would approach him. "If my land has cried out against me, and its furrows have wept together; if I have eaten its yield without payment, and caused the death of its owners; let thorns grow instead of wheat, and foul weeds instead of barley." The words of Job are ended. So these three men ceased to

5 answer Job, because he was righteous in his own eyes. Then Eli'hu the son of Bar'achel the Buzite, of the family of Ram, became angry. He was angry at Job because he justified himself rather than God; he was angry also at Job's three friends because they had found no answer, although they had declared Job to be in the wrong. Now Eli'hu had waited to speak to Job

10 because they were older than he. And when Eli'hu saw that there was no answer in the mouth of these three men, he became angry. And Eli'hu the son of Bar'achel the Buzite answered: "I am young in years, and you are aged; therefore I was timid and afraid to declare my opinion to you. I said, 'Let days speak, and many years teach wisdom.' But it is the spirit in a man,

15 the breath of the Almighty, that makes him understand. It is not the old that are wise, nor the aged that understand what is right. Therefore I say, 'Listen to me; let me also declare my opinion.' "Behold, I waited for your words, I listened for your wise sayings, while you searched out what to say. I gave you my attention, and, behold, there was none that confuted Job, or that

20 answered his words, among you. Beware lest you say, 'We have found

wisdom; God may vanquish him, not man.' He has not directed his words  
against me, and I will not answer him with your speeches. "They are  
discomfited, they answer no more; they have not a word to say. And shall I  
wait, because they do not speak, because they stand there, and answer no  
5 more? I also will give my answer; I also will declare my opinion. For I am  
full of words, the spirit within me constrains me. Behold, my heart is like  
wine that has no vent; like new wineskins, it is ready to burst. I must speak,  
that I may find relief; I must open my lips and answer. I will not show  
partiality to any person or use flattery toward any man. For I do not know  
10 how to flatter, else would my Maker soon put an end to me. "But now, hear  
my speech, O Job, and listen to all my words. Behold, I open my mouth;  
the tongue in my mouth speaks. My words declare the uprightness of my  
heart, and what my lips know they speak sincerely. The spirit of God has  
made me, and the breath of the Almighty gives me life. Answer me, if you  
15 can; set your words in order before me; take your stand. Behold, I am  
toward God as you are; I too was formed from a piece of clay. Behold, no  
fear of me need terrify you; my pressure will not be heavy upon you.  
"Surely, you have spoken in my hearing, and I have heard the sound of your  
words. You say, 'I am clean, without transgression; I am pure, and there is  
20 no iniquity in me. Behold, he finds occasions against me, he counts me as

his enemy; he puts my feet in the stocks, and watches all my paths.'

"Behold, in this you are not right. I will answer you. God is greater than man. Why do you contend against him, saying, 'He will answer none of my words'? For God speaks in one way, and in two, though man does not

5 perceive it. In a dream, in a vision of the night, when deep sleep falls upon men, while they slumber on their beds, then he opens the ears of men, and terrifies them with warnings, that he may turn man aside from his deed, and cut off pride from man; he keeps back his soul from the Pit, his life from perishing by the sword. "Man is also chastened with pain upon his bed, and  
10 with continual strife in his bones; so that his life loathes bread, and his appetite dainty food. His flesh is so wasted away that it cannot be seen; and his bones which were not seen stick out. His soul draws near the Pit, and his life to those who bring death. If there be for him an angel, a mediator, one of the thousand, to declare to man what is right for him; and he is  
15 gracious to him, and says, 'Deliver him from going down into the Pit, I have found a ransom; let his flesh become fresh with youth; let him return to the days of his youthful vigor'; then man prays to God, and he accepts him, he comes into his presence with joy. He recounts to men his salvation, and he sings before men, and says: 'I sinned and perverted what was right, and it  
20 was not requited to me. He has redeemed my soul from going down into the

Pit, and my life shall see the light.' "Behold, God does all these things,  
twice, three times, with a man, to bring back his soul from the Pit, that he  
may see the light of life. Give heed, O Job, listen to me; be silent, and I  
will speak. If you have anything to say, answer me; speak, for I desire to  
5 justify you. If not, listen to me; be silent, and I will teach you wisdom."  
Then Eli'hu said: "Hear my words, you wise men, and give ear to me, you  
who know; for the ear tests words as the palate tastes food. Let us choose  
what is right; let us determine among ourselves what is good. For Job has  
said, 'I am innocent, and God has taken away my right; in spite of my right  
10 I am counted a liar; my wound is incurable, though I am without  
transgression.' What man is like Job, who drinks up scoffing like water, who  
goes in company with evildoers and walks with wicked men? For he has  
said, 'It profits a man nothing that he should take delight in God.'  
"Therefore, hear me, you men of understanding, far be it from God that he  
15 should do wickedness, and from the Almighty that he should do wrong. For  
according to the work of a man he will requite him, and according to his  
ways he will make it befall him. Of a truth, God will not do wickedly, and  
the Almighty will not pervert justice. Who gave him charge over the earth  
and who laid on him the whole world? If he should take back his spirit to  
20 himself, and gather to himself his breath, all flesh would perish together, and

man would return to dust. "If you have understanding, hear this; listen to what I say. Shall one who hates justice govern? Will you condemn him who is righteous and mighty, who says to a king, 'Worthless one,' and to nobles, 'Wicked man'; who shows no partiality to princes, nor regards the rich more  
5 than the poor, for they are all the work of his hands? In a moment they die; at midnight the people are shaken and pass away, and the mighty are taken away by no human hand. "For his eyes are upon the ways of a man, and he sees all his steps. There is no gloom or deep darkness where evildoers may hide themselves. For he has not appointed a time for any man to go before  
10 God in judgment. He shatters the mighty without investigation, and sets others in their place. Thus, knowing their works, he overturns them in the night, and they are crushed. He strikes them for their wickedness in the sight of men, because they turned aside from following him, and had no regard for any of his ways, so that they caused the cry of the poor to come to  
15 him, and he heard the cry of the afflicted-- When he is quiet, who can condemn? When he hides his face, who can behold him, whether it be a nation or a man? -- that a godless man should not reign, that he should not ensnare the people. "For has any one said to God, 'I have borne chastisement; I will not offend any more; teach me what I do not see; if I  
20 have done iniquity, I will do it no more'? Will he then make requital to suit



you, because you reject it? For you must choose, and not I; therefore declare  
 what you know. Men of understanding will say to me, and the wise man  
 who hears me will say: 'Job speaks without knowledge, his words are  
 without insight.' Would that Job were tried to the end, because he answers  
 5 like wicked men. For he adds rebellion to his sin; he claps his hands among  
 us, and multiplies his words against God." And Eli'hu said: "Do you think  
 this to be just? Do you say, 'It is my right before God,' that you ask, 'What  
 advantage have I? How am I better off than if I had sinned?' I will answer  
 you and your friends with you. Look at the heavens, and see; and behold the  
 10 clouds, which are higher than you. If you have sinned, what do you  
 accomplish against him? And if your transgressions are multiplied, what do  
 you do to him? If you are righteous, what do you give to him; or what does  
 he receive from your hand? Your wickedness concerns a man like yourself,  
 and your righteousness a son of man. "Because of the multitude of  
 15 oppressions people cry out; they call for help because of the arm of the  
 mighty. But none says, 'Where is God my Maker, who gives songs in the  
 night, who teaches us more than the beasts of the earth, and makes us wiser  
 than the birds of the air?' There they cry out, but he does not answer,  
 because of the pride of evil men. Surely God does not hear an empty cry,  
 20 nor does the Almighty regard it. How much less when you say that you do

not see him, that the case is before him, and you are waiting for him! And now, because his anger does not punish, and he does not greatly heed transgression, Job opens his mouth in empty talk, he multiplies words without knowledge." And Eli'hu continued, and said: "Bear with me a little, and I

5 will show you, for I have yet something to say on God's behalf. I will fetch my knowledge from afar, and ascribe righteousness to my Maker. For truly my words are not false; one who is perfect in knowledge is with you.

"Behold, God is mighty, and does not despise any; he is mighty in strength of understanding. He does not keep the wicked alive, but gives the afflicted

10 their right. He does not withdraw his eyes from the righteous, but with kings upon the throne he sets them for ever, and they are exalted. And if they are bound in fetters and caught in the cords of affliction, then he declares to them their work and their transgressions, that they are behaving arrogantly.

He opens their ears to instruction, and commands that they return from

15 iniquity. If they hearken and serve him, they complete their days in prosperity, and their years in pleasantness. But if they do not hearken, they perish by the sword, and die without knowledge. "The godless in heart cherish anger; they do not cry for help when he binds them. They die in youth, and their life ends in shame. He delivers the afflicted by their

20 affliction, and opens their ear by adversity. He also allured you out of

distress into a broad place where there was no cramping, and what was set  
 on your table was full of fatness. "But you are full of the judgment on the  
 wicked; judgment and justice seize you. Beware lest wrath entice you into  
 scoffing; and let not the greatness of the ransom turn you aside. Will your  
 5 cry avail to keep you from distress, or all the force of your strength? Do not  
 long for the night, when peoples are cut off in their place. Take heed, do  
 not turn to iniquity, for this you have chosen rather than affliction. Behold,  
 God is exalted in his power; who is a teacher like him? Who has prescribed  
 for him his way, or who can say, 'Thou hast done wrong'? "Remember to  
 10 extol his work, of which men have sung. All men have looked on it; man  
 beholds it from afar. Behold, God is great, and we know him not; the  
 number of his years is unsearchable. For he draws up the drops of water, he  
 distils his mist in rain which the skies pour down, and drop upon man  
 abundantly. Can any one understand the spreading of the clouds, the  
 15 thunderings of his pavilion? Behold, he scatters his lightning about him, and  
 covers the roots of the sea. For by these he judges peoples; he gives food in  
 abundance. He covers his hands with the lightning, and commands it to strike  
 the mark. Its crashing declares concerning him, who is jealous with anger  
 against iniquity. "At this also my heart trembles, and leaps out of its place.  
 20 Hearken to the thunder of his voice and the rumbling that comes from his

mouth. Under the whole heaven he lets it go, and his lightning to the  
corners of the earth. After it his voice roars; he thunders with his majestic  
voice and he does not restrain the lightnings when his voice is heard. God  
thunders wondrously with his voice; he does great things which we cannot  
5 comprehend. For to the snow he says, 'Fall on the earth'; and to the shower  
and the rain, 'Be strong.' He seals up the hand of every man, that all men  
may know his work. Then the beasts go into their lairs, and remain in their  
dens. From its chamber comes the whirlwind, and cold from the scattering  
winds. By the breath of God ice is given, and the broad waters are frozen  
10 fast. He loads the thick cloud with moisture; the clouds scatter his lightning.  
They turn round and round by his guidance, to accomplish all that he  
commands them on the face of the habitable world. Whether for correction,  
or for his land, or for love, he causes it to happen. "Hear this, O Job; stop  
and consider the wondrous works of God. Do you know how God lays his  
15 command upon them, and causes the lightning of his cloud to shine? Do you  
know the balancings of the clouds, the wondrous works of him who is  
perfect in knowledge, you whose garments are hot when the earth is still  
because of the south wind? Can you, like him, spread out the skies, hard as  
a molten mirror? Teach us what we shall say to him; we cannot draw up  
20 our case because of darkness. Shall it be told him that I would speak? Did a

man ever wish that he would be swallowed up? "And now men cannot look on the light when it is bright in the skies, when the wind has passed and cleared them. Out of the north comes golden splendor; God is clothed with terrible majesty. The Almighty--we cannot find him; he is great in power and

5 justice, and abundant righteousness he will not violate. Therefore men fear him; he does not regard any who are wise in their own conceit." Then the LORD answered Job out of the whirlwind: "Who is this that darkens counsel by words without knowledge? Gird up your loins like a man, I will question you, and you shall declare to me. "Where were you when I laid the

10 foundation of the earth? Tell me, if you have understanding. Who determined its measurements--surely you know! Or who stretched the line upon it? On what were its bases sunk, or who laid its cornerstone, when the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy? "Or who shut in the sea with doors, when it burst forth from the womb; when I made

15 clouds its garment, and thick darkness its swaddling band, and prescribed bounds for it, and set bars and doors, and said, "Thus far shall you come, and no farther, and here shall your proud waves be stayed"? "Have you commanded the morning since your days began, and caused the dawn to know its place, that it might take hold of the skirts of the earth, and the

20 wicked be shaken out of it? It is changed like clay under the seal, and it is

dyed like a garment. From the wicked their light is withheld, and their  
uplifted arm is broken. "Have you entered into the springs of the sea, or  
walked in the recesses of the deep? Have the gates of death been revealed to  
you, or have you seen the gates of deep darkness? Have you comprehended  
5 the expanse of the earth? Declare, if you know all this. "Where is the way  
to the dwelling of light, and where is the place of darkness, that you may  
take it to its territory and that you may discern the paths to its home? You  
know, for you were born then, and the number of your days is great! "Have  
you entered the storehouses of the snow, or have you seen the storehouses of  
10 the hail, which I have reserved for the time of trouble, for the day of battle  
and war? What is the way to the place where the light is distributed, or  
where the east wind is scattered upon the earth? "Who has cleft a channel  
for the torrents of rain, and a way for the thunderbolt, to bring rain on a  
land where no man is, on the desert in which there is no man; to satisfy the  
15 waste and desolate land, and to make the ground put forth grass? "Has the  
rain a father, or who has begotten the drops of dew? From whose womb did  
the ice come forth, and who has given birth to the hoarfrost of heaven? The  
waters become hard like stone, and the face of the deep is frozen. "Can you  
bind the chains of the Plei'ades, or loose the cords of Orion? Can you lead  
20 forth the Maz'zaroth in their season, or can you guide the Bear with its

children? Do you know the ordinances of the heavens? Can you establish  
their rule on the earth? "Can you lift up your voice to the clouds, that a  
flood of waters may cover you? Can you send forth lightnings, that they may  
go and say to you, 'Here we are'? Who has put wisdom in the clouds, or  
5 given understanding to the mists? Who can number the clouds by wisdom?  
Or who can tilt the waterskins of the heavens, when the dust runs into a  
mass and the clods cleave fast together? "Can you hunt the prey for the lion,  
or satisfy the appetite of the young lions, when they crouch in their dens, or  
lie in wait in their covert? Who provides for the raven its prey, when its  
10 young ones cry to God, and wander about for lack of food? "Do you know  
when the mountain goats bring forth? Do you observe the calving of the  
hinds? Can you number the months that they fulfil, and do you know the  
time when they bring forth, when they crouch, bring forth their offspring,  
and are delivered of their young? Their young ones become strong, they  
15 grow up in the open; they go forth, and do not return to them. "Who has let  
the wild ass go free? Who has loosed the bonds of the swift ass, to whom I  
have given the steppe for his home, and the salt land for his dwelling place?  
He scorns the tumult of the city; he hears not the shouts of the driver. He  
ranges the mountains as his pasture, and he searches after every green thing.  
20 "Is the wild ox willing to serve you? Will he spend the night at your crib?

Can you bind him in the furrow with ropes, or will he harrow the valleys  
after you? Will you depend on him because his strength is great, and will  
you leave to him your labor? Do you have faith in him that he will return,  
and bring your grain to your threshing floor? "The wings of the ostrich wave  
5 proudly; but are they the pinions and plumage of love? For she leaves her  
eggs to the earth, and lets them be warmed on the ground, forgetting that a  
foot may crush them, and that the wild beast may trample them. She deals  
cruelly with her young, as if they were not hers; though her labor be in  
vain, yet she has no fear; because God has made her forget wisdom, and  
10 given her no share in understanding. When she rouses herself to flee, she  
laughs at the horse and his rider. "Do you give the horse his might? Do you  
clothe his neck with strength? Do you make him leap like the locust? His  
majestic snorting is terrible. He paws in the valley, and exults in his  
strength; he goes out to meet the weapons. He laughs at fear, and is not  
15 dismayed; he does not turn back from the sword. Upon him rattle the quiver,  
the flashing spear and the javelin. With fierceness and rage he swallows the  
ground; he cannot stand still at the sound of the trumpet. When the trumpet  
sounds, he says 'Aha!' He smells the battle from afar, the thunder of the  
captains, and the shouting. "Is it by your wisdom that the hawk soars, and  
20 spreads his wings toward the south? Is it at your command that the eagle



mounts up and makes his nest on high? On the rock he dwells and makes  
his home in the fastness of the rocky crag. Thence he spies out the prey; his  
eyes behold it afar off. His young ones suck up blood; and where the slain  
are, there is he." And the LORD said to Job: "Shall a faultfinder contend  
5 with the Almighty? He who argues with God, let him answer it." Then Job  
answered the LORD: "Behold, I am of small account; what shall I answer  
thee? I lay my hand on my mouth. I have spoken once, and I will not  
answer; twice, but I will proceed no further." Then the LORD answered Job  
out of the whirlwind: "Gird up your loins like a man; I will question you,  
10 and you declare to me. Will you even put me in the wrong? Will you  
condemn me that you may be justified? Have you an arm like God, and can  
you thunder with a voice like his? "Deck yourself with majesty and dignity;  
clothe yourself with glory and splendor. Pour forth the overflowings of your  
anger, and look on every one that is proud, and abase him. Look on every  
15 one that is proud, and bring him low; and tread down the wicked where they  
stand. Hide them all in the dust together; bind their faces in the world  
below. Then will I also acknowledge to you, that your own right hand can  
give you victory. "Behold, Be'hemoth, which I made as I made you; he eats  
grass like an ox. Behold, his strength in his loins, and his power in the  
20 muscles of his belly. He makes his tail stiff like a cedar; the sinews of his

thighs are knit together. His bones are tubes of bronze, his limbs like bars of iron. "He is the first of the works of God; let him who made him bring near his sword! For the mountains yield food for him where all the wild beasts play. Under the lotus plants he lies, in the covert of the reeds and in the marsh. For his shade the lotus trees cover him; the willows of the brook surround him. Behold, if the river is turbulent he is not frightened; he is confident though Jordan rushes against his mouth. Can one take him with hooks, or pierce his nose with a snare? "Can you draw out Levi'athan with a fishhook, or press down his tongue with a cord? Can you put a rope in his nose, or pierce his jaw with a hook? Will he make many supplications to you? Will he speak to you soft words? Will he make a covenant with you to take him for your servant for ever? Will you play with him as with a bird, or will you put him on leash for your maidens? Will traders bargain over him? Will they divide him up among the merchants? Can you fill his skin with harpoons, or his head with fishing spears? Lay hands on him; think of the battle; you will not do it again! Behold, the hope of a man is disappointed; he is laid low even at the sight of him. No one is so fierce that he dares to stir him up. Who then is he that can stand before me? Who has given to me, that I should repay him? Whatever is under the whole heaven is mine. "I will not keep silence concerning his limbs, or his mighty

strength, or his goodly frame. Who can strip off his outer garment? Who can  
penetrate his double coat of mail? Who can open the doors of his face?  
Round about his teeth is terror. His back is made of rows of shields, shut  
up closely as with a seal. One is so near to another that no air can come  
5 between them. They are joined one to another; they clasp each other and  
cannot be separated. His sneezings flash forth light, and his eyes are like the  
eyelids of the dawn. Out of his mouth go flaming torches; sparks of fire  
leap forth. Out of his nostrils comes forth smoke, as from a boiling pot and  
burning rushes. His breath kindles coals, and a flame comes forth from his  
10 mouth. In his neck abides strength, and terror dances before him. The folds  
of his flesh cleave together, firmly cast upon him and immovable. His heart  
is hard as a stone, hard as the nether millstone. When he raises himself up  
the mighty are afraid; at the crashing they are beside themselves. Though the  
sword reaches him, it does not avail; nor the spear, the dart, or the javelin.  
15 He counts iron as straw, and bronze as rotten wood. The arrow cannot make  
him flee; for him slingstones are turned to stubble. Clubs are counted as  
stubble; he laughs at the rattle of javelins. His underparts are like sharp  
potsherds; he spreads himself like a threshing sledge on the mire. He makes  
the deep boil like a pot; he makes the sea like a pot of ointment. Behind  
20 him he leaves a shining wake; one would think the deep to be hoary. Upon

earth there is not his like, a creature without fear. He beholds everything that is high; he is king over all the sons of pride." Then Job answered the

LORD: "I know that thou canst do all things, and that no purpose of thine can be thwarted. 'Who is this that hides counsel without knowledge?'

5 Therefore I have uttered what I did not understand, things too wonderful for me, which I did not know. 'Hear, and I will speak; I will question you, and you declare to me.' I had heard of thee by the hearing of the ear, but now my eye sees thee; therefore I despise myself, and repent in dust and ashes."

After the LORD had spoken these words to Job, the LORD said to Eli'phaz

10 the Te'manite: "My wrath is kindled against you and against your two friends; for you have not spoken of me what is right, as my servant Job has.

Now therefore take seven bulls and seven rams, and go to my servant Job, and offer up for yourselves a burnt offering; and my servant Job shall pray for you, for I will accept his prayer not to deal with you according to your

15 folly; for you have not spoken of me what is right, as my servant Job has."

So Eli'phaz the Te'manite and Bildad the Shuhite and Zophar the Na'amathite went and did what the LORD had told them; and the LORD accepted Job's prayer. And the LORD restored the fortunes of Job, when he had prayed for his friends; and the LORD gave Job twice as much as he had before. Then

20 came to him all his brothers and sisters and all who had known him before,

and ate bread with him in his house; and they showed him sympathy and comforted him for all the evil that the LORD had brought upon him; and each of them gave him a piece of money and a ring of gold. And the LORD blessed the latter days of Job more than his beginning; and he had

5 fourteen thousand sheep, six thousand camels, a thousand yoke of oxen, and a thousand she-asses. He had also seven sons and three daughters. And he called the name of the first Jemi'mah; and the name of the second Kezi'ah; and the name of the third Ker'en-hap'puch. And in all the land there were no women so fair as Job's daughters; and their father gave them inheritance

10 among their brothers. And after this Job lived a hundred and forty years, and saw his sons, and his sons' sons, four generations. And Job died, an old man, and full of days.\*

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