### Job

## Chapter 15

1Then EliPhaz the Temanite spoke. He said:  
  
 2‘May I reply to a man who’s so wise,  
 And in a spirit that he understands…  
 Who’s known misery since he came from the womb,  
 3But, who scolds with words that will never be true,  
 And with things that will never bring profit?  
  
 4‘Have you forgotten your fear  
 As you speak before God?  
 5What’s come from your mouth has proven your guilt;  
 For you’ve failed to examine the words of the great.  
 6So, may your own mouth now correct you (not me);  
 Since against your own lips, you’ve spoken.  
  
 7‘Were you the first man to ever be born  
 Before the hills had been piled?  
 8Did you hear how Jehovah arranged it,  
 And did God then ask your advice…  
 Did He gain all His wisdom from you?  
  
 9‘What do you know that we don’t know,  
 And what do you see that we’ve missed?  
 10For, we’re each much older than you,  
 And we’ve lived more days than your father!  
  
 11‘Because of your sins, you’ve been whipped just a bit,  
 And you’ve blown this all out of proportion!  
 12Dare you see with your eyes or examine with your heart,  
 How this rage has torn you away from the Lord,  
 13By spewing such things from your mouth?  
  
 14‘Which man do you know who’s free from all blame  
 Among those whom from women are born?  
 15For, [God] trusts not even the holy…  
 Before Him, the heavens aren’t pure!  
 16And the filth of man is disgusting…  
 For he sucks unrighteousness down like a drink!  
  
 17‘So now, pay attention and I’ll give my report…  
 Yes, I’ll announce what I’ve seen,  
 18And mention the things that the wise men have said…  
 Things that from their sons, they’ve not hidden.  
  
 19‘This land was once given to our fathers  
 When there were no strangers among them.  
 20And for the ungodly, there’s just been confusion,  
 While years have been added to the mighty.  
  
 21‘In times of peace, men listen in fear,  
 And this brings about their undoing.  
 22So, may they not hope to return from the dark  
 When they’re gripped by hands made of iron.  
  
 23‘For, the grain of vultures, they’ve now become,  
 As they await the death of their bodies…  
 The dark day that whisks them away,  
 24As by distress and disaster, they’re sucked down,  
 And they fall like generals in battle.  
  
 25‘It’s against Jehovah that they’ve raised their hands,  
 And before the Almighty, they’ve stiffened their necks.  
 26So, for their insolence, they’re forced to retreat,  
 And behind their shields, hide their thickness,  
 27Since their faces have been covered with fat,  
 And their thighs have become very flabby.  
  
 28‘So, in abandoned cities, may they now lodge,  
 And in houses where people no longer live…  
 Where all those who had once been found there  
 Have now been carried away.  
  
 29‘May they not be rich or keep what they own,  
 Or cast a shadow again on the ground,  
 30Nor may they flee from the darkness.  
  
 ‘May their buds soon wither away…  
 May their flowers be taken by the wind.  
 31May they not trust that they’ll survive,  
 For soon, they’ll have nothing at all.  
  
 32‘Corruption will prune them away,  
 So their branches won’t grow into trees.  
 33May they be gathered like unripened grapes,  
 And fall like blossoms that don’t become olives.  
  
 34‘For the unrighteous, the judgment is death;  
 And for those taking bribes, their homes will be burned.  
 35This is all that comes from the womb…  
 To all that are born, only comes grief.  
 Emptiness is all that they’ll receive,  
 And in their guts, they must live with their lies.’