### Job

## Chapter 20

1Then Zophar the Minaean spoke, saying:  
  
 2‘So far, I’ve not disagreed  
 With any of the words that you’ve spoken,  
 Since we both view things in much the same way.  
 3So I’ll heed your instructions that shame me,  
 And note the spirit of your reply.  
  
 4‘But, haven’t you known about all these things…  
 That since man was put on this earth,  
 5The irreverent one’s glee brings his downfall,  
 And the joy of lawbreakers brings their destruction?  
  
 6‘For, even if his gifts should ascend to the heavens,  
 And his offerings should reach to the clouds;  
 7When he thinks that all’s going well,  
 That’s when he’ll meet with his end.  
  
 ‘Then, those who know him will ask where he is.  
 8But like dreams, he’ll no longer be found.  
 9From then on, all eyes will overlook him,  
 And no one will note where he’s been.  
  
 10‘Even though his sons once destroyed weaker [peoples],  
 And their hands lit fires that brought others grief…  
 11Their bones that once held the vigor of youth  
 Will make their beds under the ground.  
  
 12‘For, evil was sweet in their mouths,  
 So they hid it under their tongues.  
 13It wasn’t left or abandoned,  
 But they brought it up from their throats.  
  
 14‘So, now they can’t help themselves;  
 For, the poison of asps is inside of their guts.  
 15And all the wealth that they’ve unjustly gained  
 Will be collected and vomited out,  
 As angels drag them out of their homes.  
  
 16‘May they have to endure the rage of wild beasts…  
 May the tongues of snakes now destroy them.  
 17May they never again see cows being milked,  
 Or see pastures of butter and honey.  
  
 18‘Then their wealth will seem empty and vain,  
 And for such things, they’ll lose all their taste,  
 Since they’ll become too tough to be chewed,  
 And they’ll find that they can’t take it with them.  
  
 19‘And although they once crushed the homes of the mighty,  
 And by force, took their houses;  
 What they have will no longer be theirs…  
 20For, what they owned, will no longer be safe,  
 And they won’t keep the things that they loved.  
  
 21‘For them, there’ll be no more food,  
 And good things will no longer blossom.  
 22Even though they once had [all they desired],  
 Problems arose and then it was cursed.  
  
 23‘When they’ve had enough to fill up their bellies,  
 God sends someone else to succeed them.  
 So, may He now send His anger and rage,  
 And upon them, pour out floods of grief.  
  
 24‘From hands of iron, may they not be saved…  
 May they be shot through by a brass bow.  
 25May the arrows go clean through their bodies,  
 And may fear then walk through their homes.  
  
 26‘May they have to wait in the darkness,  
 To be burned by the fire of the ages.  
 May strangers bring what’s bad to their homes;  
 27May the heavens uncover all their lawless deeds;  
 And may the ground rise up against them.  
  
 28‘May their homes be destroyed ‘til the end,  
 And may the day of rage come upon them.  
 29For, this is what the irreverent get…  
 It’s their reward from the One who keeps watch.’