### Job

## Chapter 21

1Then Job spoke, saying:  
  
 2‘Listen to me… Hear my words!  
 I don’t need such comfort from you!  
 3Now, please help me up, and I’ll speak;  
 For, I won’t accept such abuse!  
  
 4‘Since it’s by men that I’m being accused,  
 Don’t I have a good reason for rage?  
  
 5‘Why are you looking at me in such wonder,  
 As you put your hands under your jaws?  
 6When I try to think of a reason,  
 I tend to be a bit quick to conclude,  
 Because of the grief in my flesh.  
  
 7‘Why do the godless continue to live,  
 And why do they grow rich and old?  
 8For, they plant whatever their souls might desire,  
 And their children are there in front of their eyes.  
  
 9‘Their houses continue to prosper,  
 And they don’t seem to know any fear;  
 For they fail to feel the whip of the Lord.  
  
 10‘None of their cattle are stillborn,  
 And their pregnant are also protected;  
 So, none of them stumble or fall.  
  
 11‘Their sheep remain throughout the ages,  
 And their children are playing before them.  
 12They hold their flutes to their mouths,  
 And enjoy sacred hymns strummed on harps.  
  
 13‘For as long as they live, they have good things…  
 Then they lie down to rest in the grave.  
 14They say that God doesn’t see,  
 Since they’ve chosen not to know of His ways.  
  
 15‘So, why should we continue to serve Him…  
 For us, what good does it do,  
 16Since He doesn’t inspect godless hands;  
 So, they’re always filled with what’s good?  
  
 17‘But, their lamps will soon be extinguished…  
 Their reward is to feel the pain of His rage.  
 18They’ll be like straw that’s blown in the wind,  
 And as clouds of dust in a storm.  
  
 19‘May their possessions and sons all be lost,  
 And may they know that God has repaid them.  
 20May they see their slaughter with their own eyes,  
 When God won’t be there to save them.  
 21Then, what joy will they have in their homes  
 When they see that their months have been numbered?  
  
 22‘Doesn’t Jehovah send wisdom?  
 For who else gives people their insight…  
 Isn’t He the One who makes judges wise?  
  
 23‘Yet, this one dies doing just as he wished,  
 Enjoying prosperity and pleasure…  
 24Full, fat, and filled up with marrow.  
 25While another ends life with what’s bitter,  
 Having never tasted what’s good.  
 26Then they both go to sleep in the ground;  
 And with decay, they’re both covered.  
  
 27‘So, I know what you’ll say as you’re pressuring me:  
  
 28Where are the houses where princes will live  
 And safe tents where the godless will dwell?  
  
 29‘Ask those passing by on the roads, and you’ll see  
 That the signs are all very clear;  
 30For the day of destruction will come  
 When He will enlighten the wicked…  
 And in that day of His rage, they’ll be gone.  
  
 31‘Then, to their faces, He’ll accuse them,  
 And speak of the bad things they’ve done.  
 Yes, He will come to repay them  
 32As they lie awake upon heaps of trash,  
 And then, to their tombs, they’ll be led.  
  
 33‘In gravel, thereafter, they’ll be covered,  
 As other men come to see them…  
 Yes, they’ll come in great numbers to stand there.  
  
 34‘So, why waste your time to offer me comfort,  
 Since you’ve done nothing to bring any rest!’