### Job

## Chapter 22

1Then EliPhaz the Temanite spoke, saying:  
  
 2‘Doesn’t wisdom and understanding come from the Lord?  
 3So, why should He be concerned  
 If what you’ve been doing is pure?  
  
 ‘What good [do you think] it would do Him  
 If all of your ways had been clean?  
 4Will He discipline you for the things that you say,  
 Or join with you in your judgments?  
  
 5‘Haven’t you done many bad things…  
 Could anyone count all your sins?  
 6Haven’t you taken what your brothers need  
 Without any justification?  
 Haven’t you claimed the clothes of the naked…  
 7Refused to give water to the thirsty…  
 And taken scraps of food from the famished?  
  
 8‘You’ve shown favor to the faces of some,  
 While you removed the poor from their land.  
 9You’ve sent away widows with nothing at all,  
 And orphans, you’ve treated badly.  
 10So, the snares that you’ve set have now captured you,  
 And this is why such a war has arrived.  
  
 11‘So, light for you is now darkness,  
 And when you sleep, you’re covered in dew.  
 12For the Living One is paying attention,  
 And He humbles those who think themselves high.  
  
 13‘You’ve asked, What does the Almighty know?  
 And, Can He judge what happens in darkness?  
 14He’s concealed by the clouds, so He can’t be seen  
 As He travels across the arc of the sky!  
  
 15‘You can’t guard the roads of the ages,  
 Which have been walked by the righteous  
 16Who were taken away in untimely [deaths],  
 Like rivers overflowing their banks!  
 17Yet, even they had once asked:  
  
 ‘What will God do to us…  
 Yes, what will the Almighty bring?’  
  
 18‘He’s the One who filled their homes with good things,  
 While the council of the the Godless, He’s pushed away.  
 19The righteous all laugh when they see this,  
 And the blameless sneer at such ones.  
 20For, their supports will soon vanish,  
 And their clothes will be burned up in fire.  
  
 21‘So you must be strong if you want to survive,  
 And then you’ll receive your reward  
 For all the good things that you’ve done.  
 22Remove all the [bad] from your mouth,  
 And keep His words in your heart!  
  
 23‘Turn back and be humbled by God,  
 And stay away from wrongdoing!  
 24Then you’ll lay away gold as though it were dust  
 From the rivers of Ophir…  
 25The Almighty will then watch over you,  
 And you’ll have plenty of silver.  
  
 26‘So, confess [your sins] to Jehovah,  
 And look to the heavens in joy.  
 27Make vows to Him and He’ll listen to you,  
 Then He’ll give you the strength to do as you’ve vowed  
 28And restore you to a righteous condition,  
 So your ways can be bright once again.  
  
 29‘For, those who humble themselves  
 Will admit that they’ve been too proud;  
 And [God] will save those who are humble.  
 30Yes, He’ll rescue those free from guilt…  
 But first, you must keep your hands clean!’