### Job

## Chapter 24

1‘Why hasn’t Jehovah noticed this time  
 2When the godless are overrunning our borders…  
 Those who seize both the shepherds and sheep?  
  
 3‘From the orphans, they’ve taken their burros,  
 And the cows upon which the widows relied.  
 4They keep the disabled from walking upright,  
 So the gentle of the land must run off and hide.  
  
 5‘They act like burros that stray into fields  
 And find the bread of infants delicious.  
 6They harvest in fields not their own,  
 And reap it before it’s ripe.  
  
 ‘The godless hire the disabled  
 And put them to work in their vineyards…  
 But then, they don’t pay them or feed them!  
 7They leave them naked, without any clothes,  
 And they take all they need to survive.  
 8So, in mountain mists, such poor ones must bathe,  
 And hide in the rocks for protection.  
  
 9‘They then snatch away babies…  
 They take them away from the breasts  
 In payment for debts that are owed.  
 10They mistreat and rest of the naked,  
 And take scraps of food from the famished.  
  
 11‘In alleys, they lie in wait to do harm,  
 And righteous ways, they don’t know.  
 12They throw people from their homes in the cities,  
 And bring groaning to the lives of their children.  
  
 13‘So, why does the One who’s watching  
 Fail to act on this earth,  
 While people like this just ignore Him,  
 Disregarding all that’s just  
 And taking the easiest way?  
  
 14‘In the cover of darkness, they murder,  
 And during the night, they break in and steal.  
  
 15‘The adulterer waits for darkness and says:  
  
 ‘They won’t know that my eyes will be watching!’  
  
 And as he keeps his face hidden,  
 He carves peepholes in homes in the night.  
  
 16‘Then, during the day, he locks himself in,  
 So he never comes to know light.  
 17For at dawn, he would see the shadow of death,  
 And observe the bad things that it brings…  
 18But when he looks in the [reflection of] water, he still sees a good face.  
  
 ‘May his portion on the earth be forever cursed,  
 And may all that he plants wither and dry…  
 19For he even grabs the arms of orphans!  
  
 20‘So, [please] remember his sins!  
 Like fog, may he soon pass away,  
 And may he vanish like dew.  
  
 ‘Please repay him for all that he’s done…  
 Like rotting wood, may he just waste away.  
 21For, those with no sons, he’s mistreated,  
 And he shows no mercy to those who need aid.  
  
 22‘The disabled, he’s knocked to the ground in his rage;  
 So, no man’s life can ever feel secure.  
 23Thus, may he get sick and never be healed…  
 And may his illness then lead to his death!  
  
 24‘Since many are harmed by his arrogant ways,  
 Like mallows, may he wither in heat…  
 Like an ear of grain that just falls on its own.  
  
 25‘If such things aren’t so, then say that I’ve lied,  
 And disregard everything I’ve said!’