### Job

## Chapter 28

1‘There’s a place where silver is mined,  
 And a place where gold is refined.  
 2Men take iron out of the ground,  
 And copper is quarried like stones.  
 3This is how He’s established an order for darkness,  
 And precisely set all its limits.  
  
 ‘Like the darkness [that’s inside a mine]…  
 So is the shadow of death...  
 4And as they [pan for gold] in fast-running streams,  
 The ways of the just are discovered…  
 By mortal men, they’re sifted.  
 5Even our bread comes out of the ground  
 As if roasted in fires down below.  
  
 6‘There are places where sapphires are found,  
 And places where gold may be mined.  
 7There are also roads that birds don’t know…  
 By the eyes of eagles, they’re overlooked.  
 8They haven’t been walked by sons of the rich,  
 Nor have lions ever been there.  
  
 9‘For He sticks out His hand and chisels a place,  
 And the roots of mountains, He overturns.  
 10The banks of rivers, He’s destroyed…  
 And my eyes have beheld such great things.  
  
 11‘The depths of rivers, He’s laid bare,  
 And in the [day]light, He’s shown all their might.  
 12But where can wisdom be found?  
 And what’s the source of great knowledge?  
  
 13‘For no man really knows of its ways,  
 Since such ways can’t be found among men.  
 14Says the abyss, ‘It’s not found in me,’  
 And says the sea, ‘Nor in me!’  
 15So, nobody can invest in it,  
 And with silver, it can’t be bought.  
  
 16‘It can’t be compared to all Ophir’s gold,  
 Nor to precious onyx or sapphires.  
 17With [diamonds] and gold, it can’t be compared,  
 And it can’t be bought with gold coins.  
  
 18‘I won’t compare it to crystals or coral,  
 For wisdom is higher than everything we could want.  
 19To topaz from Etheopia, it can’t be compared,  
 Nor can it be equaled by the finest gold.  
  
 20‘So, where can wisdom be found?  
 And where does great understanding come from?  
 21It escapes the notice of every man,  
 And it’s hidden from the birds in the skies.  
  
 22‘Thus says the days of destruction and death:  
  
 ‘We’ve heard of its fame,  
 23For, God well speaks its ways,  
 And He alone knows where it’s found.’  
  
 24‘He looks down from the heavens above,  
 And from there, He passes inspection…  
 For He sees all that happens throughout the earth.  
  
 25‘He also weighs the things that He makes…  
 He’s measured the wind and the water…  
 26When He made them, He saw them and counted it all,  
 Then He made a way for the thunder.  
  
 27‘He saw [what He made] and described it…  
 The One who prepared it has tracked all its ways,  
 28And this is what He’s concluded:  
  
 ‘{Look!} [Having] wisdom is being like God,  
 And [having] higher knowledge is staying away from what’s bad.’