### Job

## Chapter 31

1‘I’ve made a vow that my eyes  
 Won’t pay [inappropriate] attention to virgins.  
 2For, what I have, came from God up above…  
 It’s the inheritance of what the Almighty saw fit.  
  
 3‘To the godless comes woe and destruction,  
 And those who break laws are alone.  
 4So, why won’t He look at my ways  
 And count all the footsteps I’ve taken?  
 5For, I haven’t traveled with those who play jokes,  
 And my feet haven’t rushed to do evil.  
 6So, I can now step on a scale  
 And prove myself just in the balance.  
  
 ‘For, Jehovah knows that I haven’t done wrong  
 7And my feet haven’t turned from His way  
 (although my eyes often follow my heart),  
 And my hands have never touched bribes.  
 8Yet, what I’ve planted, others now eat…  
 I no longer have roots in the ground.  
  
 9‘If my heart had followed another man’s wife,  
 And if I had stood in wait at her door;  
 10May my wife then please other men,  
 And my babies be humbled thereafter.  
  
 11‘For, the One who dirties another man’s wife  
 Should receive [God’s] unrestrained anger.  
 12May a fire burn in all of his parts,  
 And may he be destroyed to his roots.  
  
 13‘If I’ve disregarded what I owe my servants,  
 And if my maids ever had to beg before me;  
 14What could I say to my God  
 When I’m beaten by Him…  
 When He visits, how could I reply?  
 15For, weren’t they also born from a womb…  
 Didn’t they come from the belly?  
  
 16‘But the disabled and needy never missed out,  
 And the eyes of the widows weren’t wasted.  
 17For, when I ate my food all alone,  
 I always set some aside for the orphans.  
 18Like a father, I fed them the food from my mouth,  
 And I led them as though from my own mother’s womb.  
  
 19‘If I hadn’t provided for those without clothes,  
 20Or to the disabled, failed to give aid,  
 Unless they gave me a blessing;  
 Or if I’d refused to take my lamb’s wool  
 And used it to warm up their shoulders;  
 21If I failed to lift a hand to aid orphans,  
 Or helped those who trusted in me to give aid;  
 22May my shoulders be pulled from my collars  
 And my arms be broken at the elbows.  
  
 23‘It was the fear of Jehovah that caused me to act;  
 For, without His care, I couldn’t endure.  
 24If I’d trusted in gold for my strength,  
 Or in gems, had put all my trust;  
 25If I [did these things] to make myself rich,  
 Or to get my hands on great treasure;  
 26May my eyes see the sun growing dim,  
 And the moon, as it’s starting to darken.  
  
 27‘So, if my heart has deceived me,  
 And if I’ve secretly [kissed] my own hand;  
 28May this be considered the worst of my crimes,  
 For I’ve lied to the Most High, Jehovah.  
  
 29‘If I rejoiced at my enemy’s fall,  
 And if I’d said in my heart, ‘Well done’;  
 30Then, let my ears hear the curses I’m due,  
 And may everyone speak of my badness.  
  
 31‘I’ve never said to my female attendants,  
 ‘Please give me some of your flesh!’  
 32Nor have I forgotten the need to be kind,  
 And to lodge strangers, my door was kept open.  
  
 33‘Unintentional sins, I’ve not hidden,  
 And I’ve never been swayed by the masses.  
 34The disabled, I’ve never turned from my door,  
 Or with empty stomachs, sent them away.  
  
 35‘So, please may I find a person to listen…  
 Someone in awe of the hand of the Lord!  
 For I’ve never sent anyone bills,  
 36Nor read what they owed me while wearing a crown.  
 37I just tore up [the debts] and returned them,  
 Without getting whatever they owed.  
  
 38‘Have I given the ground a reason to groan…  
 Have I given her furrows reasons to weep?  
 39If I’ve taken some of her strength,  
 40And ate it alone without paying;  
 Or, if I’ve made the land’s owner angry,  
 And he’s been bothered by this;  
 41May my wheat just become stinging nettles,  
 And may my barley be turned into weeds.’  
  
  
Well, with that, Job stopped speaking.