### Job

## Chapter 33

1‘Listen, O Job, to my words…  
 Give ear to what I’m saying!  
 2For, {Look!} I’ll now open my mouth  
 And use my tongue to instruct.  
 3These words are pure and come from my heart,  
 And what comes from my lips is all clean.  
  
 4‘By the Breath of [God], I was made;  
 And by the Almighty’s Spirit, I’ve been taught.  
 5So, if you’re able to answer,  
 Then, reply to me about these things!  
 Yes, wait… Just stand here [and face] me,  
 And I’ll now stand up to you!  
  
 6‘Both you and I were made from the clay…  
 From the same dirt, we were formed;  
 7So don’t twist against me in fear.  
  
 8‘Now, the things I heard you say,  
 And the claims I heard you make, are:  
  
 9‘I’m pure and I haven’t sinned…  
 I’m blameless and I’ve broken no laws.  
  
 10‘Yet, even though He doesn’t have a complaint,  
 God thinks me to be His opponent.  
  
 11‘For He’s put my feet into stocks made of wood,  
 Even though He’s watched all the [good] things I’ve done.’  
  
 ‘But, how can you claim to be righteous  
 And say that He’s paid no attention to you?  
 12For, He’s lived throughout the ages,  
 And He’s far above all us mortals.  
 13Yet, you ask:  
  
 ‘Why hasn’t He seen my just ways…  
 Why hasn’t He heard what I’ve said?’  
  
 14‘Jehovah may only speak once,  
 Or He may reply even twice.  
 15He may send a dream or a vision at night,  
 Bringing us fear as we lie in our beds.  
  
 16‘He uncovers the things that men think,  
 And He sees the things that we fear…  
 Then He uses such things just to scare us…  
 17To turn us away from our sins  
 And to rescue our bodies from downfall.  
 18From death, He’s saving our lives,  
 And protecting us from many battles.  
  
 19‘When we’re sick in our beds,  
 And when our bones can’t move;  
 This discipline is coming from Him!  
 20So, when we’re offered grain, we won’t take it,  
 Despite food being what we really need.  
  
 21‘Our flesh will just lie there and fester  
 Until our bones can be seen  
 22And death has finally approached…  
 Then it sends our lives down to the grave.  
  
 23‘But, even though thousands of [angelic] messengers may come to bring death,  
 No way will one pierce you through,  
 If in your heart, you’d just make a change,  
 And turn to Jehovah again.  
  
 ‘So, it’s about ourselves that we should complain…  
 We should speak of the laws that we’ve broken;  
 24For then, our God would support us…  
 Not allow us to fall into death.  
  
 ‘Then like someone who plasters a wall,  
 He’d make our bodies new once again,  
 Refilling our bones with their marrow,  
 25And renewing our flesh like a child,  
 To restore us to what we’d once been.  
  
 26‘If you make a vow to Jehovah,  
 And your vow is thereafter accepted,  
 You’ll walk away with a face that’s clean  
 And a mouth that’s speaking His praises…  
 For, He always deals justly with men.  
  
 27‘So, we each should blame ourselves and then say:  
  
 ‘What are the things that I’ve done?  
 What have I done to be disciplined,  
 And what are the sins I’ve committed?  
 28O save my soul from corruption,  
 So I can see light once again!’  
  
 29‘{Look!} This is how the Almighty deals with each one,  
 And there are three things that He does.  
 30For, from death, He’s rescued my soul,  
 So my life can go on to praise Him in light.  
  
 31‘O Job,  
  
 ‘Lend me an ear and hear what I say…  
 Be quiet, for I’m now speaking!  
 32But, if there are words you can use to reply,  
 Then speak! For you should be given your due!  
 33Yet, if you don’t, then just hear me out…  
 Be quiet, and I’ll tell you what’s wise!’