### Job

## Chapter 4

1Then EliPhaz the Temanite decided to speak. He said:  
  
 2‘Do you often complain of your problems?  
 Who can stand such strong talk?  
  
 3‘To many people, you’ve given advice,  
 And to the hands of the weak, you’ve brought comfort;  
 4You’ve lifted the timid with words,  
 And encouraged the ones who had feeble knees.  
 5But now that this misery has arrived to touch you,  
 You tend to be in a hurry!  
  
 6‘Aren’t you rather in fear of your own foolish ways…  
 Your own wrong hopes and bad paths?  
 7Can you think of any who are truly pure  
 That [God has] ever destroyed,  
 Or any of the true who’ve been wiped away?  
  
 8‘I’ve seen people who plow in strange places,  
 And those who plant there, reap grief for themselves.  
 9Then, by [God’s] order, they perish…  
 With the spirit of His wrath, they’re then wiped away.  
  
 10‘So the strength of the lion and the lioness’ roar,  
 And the prancing of beasts is no more.  
 11Like the lion’s cubs that die without prey,  
 The young won’t come to each other’s aid.  
  
 12‘So, if the things that you said are all true,  
 And if they’ve all really happened;  
 Then, none of these things would’ve happened to you.  
  
 ‘Should my ears now start to believe  
 That He’s done something so strange?  
  
 13‘An echo in the night brings fear to all men…  
 14It stuns them, makes them tremble, and rattles their bones.  
 15But a spirit once came and looked in my face,  
 Which made my flesh shudder and my hair stand erect.  
 16I jumped, for I didn’t understand what I saw;  
 But, there it was in front of my eyes.  
  
 ‘Then I felt a breeze and I heard a voice say:  
  
 17Why should a man be pure before God?  
 For He doesn’t even trust His own servants,  
 And He thinks of His angels as crooked.  
  
 19‘Those who live in houses of clay  
 Are made from its very same mortar;  
 So, both are destroyed in the very same way.  
 20[They come] in the morning, then by evening, are gone…  
 And they die, if they can’t help themselves.  
  
 ‘He just breathes upon them and they wither…  
 They perish in their own foolish ways.’