### Job

## Chapter 9

1Then Job spoke. He said:  
  
 2‘I know for a fact, what you’re saying is true;  
 For, how can a man say he’s righteous to God?  
 3So, if he wishes to argue this point,  
 He won’t prove God wrong with thousands of words.  
 4For, all of God’s thoughts are wise, strong, and great.  
  
 ‘Thus, who can approach Him in anger  
 And still have some hope of survival?  
 5Do the mountains know who destroys them in rage?  
  
 6‘All that’s under the sky,  
 He can shake to its core…  
 And then He can shake all its columns.  
 7He can speak to the sun and it won’t rise,  
 And He can also close up the stars.  
  
 8‘By Himself, He can stretch out the sky,  
 And walk on the sea like a floor.  
 9He’s the One who made the PleiAdes,  
 As well as Hesperus and ArcTurus…  
 He’s the One who arranged the skies in the south.  
  
 10‘He does things that are great and unfathomed…  
 Honorable things beyond number and odd.  
 If He passed over me, I’d not see it…  
 If He passed me by, I’d not be aware.  
  
 12‘When He sends someone away,  
 Who can thereafter return him,  
 And who can ask why He did it?  
  
 13‘For, God doesn’t turn back His rage…  
 To Him, even the whales bow under the skies!  
  
 14‘So, why should He ever obey me,  
 Or why should He judge all my problems?  
 15And if could I prove myself righteous,  
 He’d [have no reason to] hear men…  
 Although I’d still ask Him for His decisions.  
  
 16‘Thus, should I call, He may not give an ear,  
 Nor should I trust that He’s heard my voice.  
  
 17‘But He shouldn’t destroy me in darkness,  
 Nor bruise me without any reason.  
 18For, although He’s allowed me to breathe,  
 I’m now filled with what’s bitter.  
  
 19‘Because He’s so mighty and strong,  
 Who can stand and oppose Him?  
 20So, even if I’ve been righteous,  
 My mouth would still say wicked things.  
 And although I might [truly] be blameless,  
 I’d still produce what’s wrong.  
  
 21‘But, if I’m really ungodly,  
 In my soul, I remain unaware…  
 Even though my life has been taken away.  
  
 22‘I’ve said:  
  
 ‘The mighty kill in their rage;  
 23And for the vile, death isn’t uncommon.  
  
 ‘They’re the ones who laugh at the righteous  
 24When they’re handed to those who are Godless.  
  
 ‘For He covers the eyes of the judges…  
 And if He doesn’t do it, who does?’  
  
 25‘O that my soul was as light as a sprinter…  
 Yet, my days have passed by without notice.  
 26Can my ship still be seen on the horizon  
 By eagles in search of their prey?  
  
 27‘So to you here before me, I’ll say:  
 If I’d just forget about speaking,  
 Then bow my head and just groan;  
 28And if I’d just let my limbs shiver,  
 Wouldn’t you still find me guilty?  
  
 29‘But, if I’m someone who’s godless;  
 Why haven’t I already died?  
 30If I’d wash myself in the snow,  
 And if I scrubbed all the dirt from my hands,  
 31You’d still dip me in filth,  
 And even my clothes would detest me.  
  
 32‘Yet, you are men just like me  
 By whom I’m judged and compared.  
 Before His Judgment Seat, we all stand together…  
 33Before the lawyers and accusers,  
 And in front of the One [who] listens to both.  
  
 34‘So, may He set me free from the [whip],  
 And may I not be twisted in fear.  
 35Then, I’ll speak and I won’t be afraid,  
 For I’m still unaware of my crimes.’