

4 Having first shewn that you are forgers of lies, and maintainers of perverse opinions.

5 And I wish you would hold your peace, that you might be thought to be wise men.

6 Hear ye therefore my reproof, and attend to the judgment of my lips.

7 Hath God any need of your lie, that you should speak deceitfully for him?

8 Do you accept this person, and do you endeavour to judge for God?

9 Or shall it please him, from whom nothing can be concealed? or shall he be deceived as a man, with your deceitful dealings?

10 He shall reprove you, because in secret you accept his person.

11 As soon as he shall move himself, he shall trouble you: and his dread shall fall upon you.

12 Your remembrance shall be compared to ashes, and your necks shall be brought to clay.

13 Hold your peace a little while, that I may speak whatsoever my mind shall suggest to me.

14 Why do I tear my flesh with my teeth, and carry my soul in my hands?

15 Although he should kill me, I will trust in him: but yet I will reprove my ways in his sight.

16 And he shall be my saviour: for no hypocrite shall come before his presence.

17 Hear ye my speech, and receive with your ears hidden truths.

18 If I shall be judged, I know that I shall be found just.

19 Who is he that will plead against me? let him come: why am I consumed holding my peace?

20 Two things only do not to me, and then from thy face I shall not be hid:

21 Withdraw thy hand far from me, and let not thy dread terrify me.

22 Call me, and I will answer thee: or else I will speak, and do thou answer me.

23 How many are my iniquities and sins? make me know my crimes and offenses.

24 Why hidest thou thy face, and thinkest me thy enemy?

25 Against a leaf, that is carried away with the wind, thou shewest thy power, and thou pursuest a dry straw.

26 For thou writest bitter things against me, and wilt consume me for the sins of my youth.

27 Thou hast put my feet in the stocks, and hast observed all my paths, and hast considered the steps of my feet:

28 Who am to be consumed as rottenness, and as a garment that is moth-eaten.

Chapter 14

Man born of a woman, living for a short time, is filled with many miseries.

2 Who cometh forth like a flower, and is destroyed, and fleeth as a shadow, and never continueth in the same state.

3 And dost thou think it meet to open thy eyes upon such an one, and to bring him into judgment with thee?

4 Who can make him clean that is conceived of unclean seed? is it not thou who only art?

5 The days of man are short, and the number of his months is with thee: thou hast appointed his bounds which cannot be passed.

6 Depart a little from him, that he may rest until his wished for day come, as that of the hireling.

7 A tree hath hope: if it be cut, it groweth green again, and the boughs thereof sprout.

8 If its roots be old in the earth, and its stock be dead in the dust:

9 At the scent of water, it shall spring, and bring forth leaves, as when it was first planted.

10 But man when he shall be dead, and stripped and consumed, I pray you where is he?

11 As if the waters should depart out of the sea, and an emptied river should be dried up;

12 So man when he is fallen asleep shall not rise again; till the heavens be broken, he shall not awake, nor rise up out of his sleep.

13 Who will grant me this, that thou mayst protect me in hell, and hide me till thy wrath pass, and appoint me a time when thou wilt remember me?

14 Shall man that is dead, thinkest thou, live again? all the days in which I am now in warfare, I expect until my change come.

15 Thou shalt call me, and I will answer thee: to the work of thy hands thou shalt reach out thy right hand.

16 Thou indeed hast numbered my steps, but spare my sins.

17 Thou hast sealed up my offences as it were in a bag, but hast cured my iniquity.

18 A mountain falling cometh to nought, and a rock is removed out of its place.

19 Waters wear away the stones, and with inundation the ground by little and little is washed away: so in like manner thou shalt destroy man.

20 Thou hast strengthened him for a little while, that he may pass away for ever: thou shalt change his face, and shalt send him away.

21 Whether his children come to honour or dishonour, he shall not understand.

22 But yet his flesh, while he shall live, shall have pain, and his soul shall mourn over him.

Chapter 15

And Eliphaz the Themanite, answered, and said:

2 Will a wise man answer as if he were speaking in the wind, and fill his stomach with burning

heat?

3 Thou reprovest him by words, who is not equal to thee, and thou speakest that which is not good for thee.

4 As much as is in thee, thou hast made void fear, and hast taken away prayers from before God.

5 For thy iniquity hath taught thy mouth, and thou imitatest the tongue of blasphemers.

6 Thy own mouth shall condemn thee, and not I: and thy own lips shall answer thee.

7 Art thou the first man that was born, or wast thou made before the hills?

8 Hast thou heard God's counsel, and shall his wisdom be inferior to thee?

9 What knowest thou that we are ignorant of? what dost thou understand that we know not?

10 There are with us also aged and ancient men, much elder than thy fathers.

11 Is it a great matter that God should comfort thee? but thy wicked words hinder this.

12 Why doth thy heart elevate thee, and why dost thou stare with thy eyes, as if they were thinking great things?

13 Why doth thy spirit swell against God, to utter such words out of thy mouth?

14 What is man that he should be without spot, and he that is born of a woman that he should appear just?

15 Behold among his saints none is unchangeable, and the heavens are not pure in his sight.

16 How much more is man abominable, and unprofitable, who drinketh iniquity like water?

17 I will shew thee, hear me: and I will tell thee what I have seen.

18 Wise men confess and hide not their fathers.

19 To whom alone the earth was given, and no stranger hath passed among them.

20 The wicked man is proud all his days, and the number of the years of his tyranny is uncertain.

21 The sound of dread is always in his ears: and when there is peace, he always suspecteth treason.

22 He believeth not that he may return from darkness to light, looking round about for the sword on every side.

23 When he moveth himself to seek bread, he knoweth that the day of darkness is ready at his hand.

24 Tribulation shall terrify him, and distress shall surround him, as a king that is prepared for the battle.

25 For he hath stretched out his hand against God, and hath strengthened himself against the Almighty.

26 He hath run against him with his neck raised up, and is armed with a fat neck.

27 Fatness hath covered his face, and the fat hangeth down on his sides.

28 He hath dwelt in desolate cities, and in desert houses that are reduced into heaps.

29 He shall not be enriched, neither shall his substance continue, neither shall he push his root in the earth.

30 He shall not depart out of darkness: the flame shall dry up his branches, and he shall be taken away by the breath of his own mouth.

31 He shall not believe, being vainly deceived by error, that he may be redeemed with any price.

32 Before his days be full he shall perish: and his hands shall wither away.

33 He shall be blasted as a vine when its grapes are in the first flower, and as an olive tree that casteth its flower.

34 For the congregation of the hypocrite is barren, and fire shall devour their tabernacles,

who love to take bribes.

35 He hath conceived sorrow, and hath brought forth iniquity, and his womb prepareth deceits.

Chapter 16

Then Job answered, and said:

2 I have often heard such things as these: you are all troublesome comforters.

3 Shall windy words have no end? or is it any trouble to thee to speak?

4 I also could speak like you: and would God your soul were for my soul.

5 I would comfort you also with words, and would wag my head over you.

6 I would strengthen you with my mouth, and would move my lips, as sparing you.

7 But what shall I do? If I speak, my pain will not rest: and if I hold my peace, it will not depart from me.

8 But now my sorrow hath oppressed me, and all my limbs are brought to nothing.

9 My wrinkles bear witness against me, and a false speaker riseth up against my face, contradicting me.

10 He hath gathered together his fury against me, and threatening me he hath gnashed with his teeth upon me: my enemy hath beheld me with terrible eyes.

11 They have opened their mouths upon me, and reproaching me they have struck me on the cheek, they are filled with my pains.

12 God hath shut me up with the unjust man, and hath delivered me into the hands of the wicked.

13 I that was formerly so wealthy, am all on a sudden broken to pieces: he hath taken me by