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ISA - - TaNaKH - A New Translation of THE HOLY SCRIPTURES (NJPS corrections 2021)

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Isaiah

1

1 The prophecies of Isaiah son of Amoz, who prophesied concerning Judah and Jerusalem in the reigns of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, kings of Judah.

2 Hear, O heavens, and give ear, O earth,

For God has spoken:

“I reared children and brought them up—

And they have rebelled against Me!

3 An ox knows its owner,

An ass its master's crib:

Israel does not know,

My people takes no thought.”

4 Ah, sinful nation!

People laden with iniquity!

Brood of evildoers!

Depraved children!

They have forsaken God,

Spurned the Holy One of Israel,

Turned their backs.

5 Why do you seek further beatings,

That you continue to offend?

Every head is ailing,

And every heart is sick.

6 From head to foot

No spot is sound:

All bruises, and welts,

And festering sores—

Not pressed out, not bound up,

Not softened with oil.

7 Your land is a waste,

Your cities burnt down;

Before your eyes, the yield of your soil

Is consumed by strangers—

A wasteland as overthrown by strangers![[1]](#footnote-1)a

8 Fair[[2]](#footnote-2)b Zion is left

Like a booth in a vineyard,

Like a hut in a cucumber field,

Like a city beleaguered.

9 Had not God of Hosts

Left us some survivors,

We should be like Sodom,

Another Gomorrah.

10 Hear the word of God,

You chieftains of Sodom;

Give ear to our God's instruction,

You folk of Gomorrah!

11 “What need have I of all your sacrifices?”

Says God.

“I am sated with burnt offerings of rams,

And suet of fatlings,

And blood of bulls;

And I have no delight

In lambs and he-goats.

12 That you come to appear before Me—

Who asked that of you?

Trample My courts 13 no more;

Bringing oblations is futile,[[3]](#footnote-3)c

Incense is offensive to Me.

New moon and sabbath,

Proclaiming of solemnities,

Assemblies with iniquity[[4]](#footnote-4)d

I cannot abide.

14 Your new moons and fixed seasons

Fill Me with loathing;

They are become a burden to Me,

I cannot endure them.

15 And when you lift up your hands,

I will turn My eyes away from you;

Though you pray at length,

I will not listen.

Your hands are stained with crime—

16 Wash yourselves clean;

Put your evil doings

Away from My sight.

Cease to do evil;

17 Learn to do good.

Devote yourselves to justice;

Aid the wronged.[[5]](#footnote-5)e

Uphold the rights of the orphan;

Defend the cause of the widow.

18 “Come, let us reach an understanding,[[6]](#footnote-6)f

—says God.

Be your sins like crimson,

They can turn snow-white;

Be they red as dyed wool,

They can become like fleece.”

19 If, then, you agree and give heed,

You will eat the good things of the earth;

20 But if you refuse and disobey,

You will be devoured [by] the sword.[[7]](#footnote-7)g—

For it was God who spoke.

21 Alas, she has become a harlot,

The faithful city

That was filled with justice,

Where righteousness dwelt—

But now murderers.

22 Your[[8]](#footnote-8)h silver has turned to dross;

Your wine is cut with water.[[9]](#footnote-9)i

23 Your rulers are rogues

And cronies of thieves,

Every one avid for presents

And greedy for gifts;

They do not judge the case of the orphan,

And the widow's cause never reaches them.

24 Assuredly, this is the declaration

Of the Sovereign, God of Hosts,

The Mighty One of Israel:

“Ah, I will get satisfaction from My foes;

I will wreak vengeance on My enemies!

25 I will turn My hand against you,

And smelt out your dross as with lye,[[10]](#footnote-10)j

And remove all your slag:

26 I will restore your magistrates as of old,

And your counselors as of yore.

After that you shall be called

City of Righteousness, Faithful City.”

27 [[11]](#footnote-11)kZion shall be saved in the judgment;

Her repentant ones, in the retribution.[[12]](#footnote-12)l

28 But rebels and sinners shall all be crushed,

And those who forsake God shall perish.

29 Truly, you[[13]](#footnote-13)m shall be shamed

Because of the terebinths you desired,

And you shall be confounded

Because of the gardens you coveted.

30 For you shall be like a terebinth

Wilted of leaf,

And like a garden

That has no water,

31 Stored wealth[[14]](#footnote-14)n shall become as tow,

And he who amassed it a spark;

And the two shall burn together,

With none to quench.

2

1 The word that Isaiah son of Amoz prophesied concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

2 In the days to come,

The Mount of God's House

Shall stand firm above the mountains

And tower above the hills;

And all the nations

Shall gaze on it with joy.

3 And the many peoples shall go and say:

“Come,

Let us go up to the Mount of God,

To the House of the God of Jacob;

That we may be instructed in God's ways,

And that we may walk in God's paths.”

For instruction shall come forth[[15]](#footnote-15)o from Zion,

The word of God from Jerusalem.

4 Thus [God] will judge among the nations

And arbitrate for the many peoples,

And they shall beat their swords into plowshares[[16]](#footnote-16)p

And their spears into pruning hooks:

Nation shall not take up

Sword against nation;

They shall never again know[[17]](#footnote-17)q war.

5 O House of Jacob!

Come, let us walk

By the light of God.

6 For you have forsaken [the ways of] your people,

O House of Jacob!

For they are full [of practices] from the East,

And of soothsaying like the Philistines;

They abound in customs[[18]](#footnote-18)r of the aliens.[[19]](#footnote-19)s

7 Their land is full of silver and gold,

There is no limit to their treasures;

Their land is full of horses,

There is no limit to their chariots.

8 And their land is full of idols;

They bow down to the work of their hands,

To what their own fingers have wrought.

9 But human shall be humbled,

And mortal brought low—

Oh, do not forgive them![[20]](#footnote-20)t

10 Go deep into the rock,

Bury yourselves in the ground,

Before the terror of God

And God's dread majesty!

11 The haughty look of humans shall be brought low,

And the pride of mortals shall be humbled.

None but God shall be

Exalted in that day.

12 For God of Hosts has ready a day

Against all that is proud and arrogant,

Against all that is lofty—so that it is brought low:

13 Against all the cedars of Lebanon,

Tall and stately,

And all the oaks of Bashan;

14 Against all the high mountains

And all the lofty hills;

15 Against every soaring tower

And every mighty wall;

16 Against all the ships of Tarshish[[21]](#footnote-21)u

And all the gallant barks.

17 Then human haughtiness shall be humbled

And the pride of mortals brought low.

None but God shall be

Exalted in that day.

18 As for idols, they shall vanish completely.

19 And people shall enter caverns in the rock

And hollows in the ground—

Before the terror of God

And God's dread majesty,

When [the Holy One] comes forth to overawe the earth.

20 On that day, humans shall fling away,

To the flying foxes[[22]](#footnote-22)v and the bats,

The idols of silver

And the idols of gold

Which they made for worshiping.

21 And they shall enter the clefts in the rocks

And the crevices in the cliffs,

Before the terror of God

And God's dread majesty,

When [the Holy One] comes forth to overawe the earth.

22 Oh, cease to glorify human beings,

Who have only a breath in their nostrils!

For by what do they merit esteem?

3

1 For lo!

The Sovereign God of Hosts

Will remove from Jerusalem and from Judah

Prop and stay,

Every prop of food

And every prop of water:[[23]](#footnote-23)w

2 Soldier and warrior,

Magistrate and prophet,

Augur and elder;

3 Captain of fifty,

Magnate and counselor,

Skilled artisan and expert enchanter;[[24]](#footnote-24)x

4 And I[[25]](#footnote-25)y will make boys their rulers,

And babes shall govern them.

5 So the people shall oppress one another—

Each man oppressing his fellow:

The youth shall bully the elder;

And the despised [shall bully] the honored.

6 For should a man seize his brother,[[26]](#footnote-26)°

In whose father's house there is clothing:[[27]](#footnote-27)z

“Come, be a chief over us,

And let this ruin[[28]](#footnote-28)a be under your care,”

7 The other will thereupon protest,

“I will not be a dresser of wounds,

With no food or clothing in my own house.

You shall not make me chief of a people!”

8 Ah, Jerusalem has stumbled,

And Judah has fallen,

Because by word and deed

They insult God,

Defying God's majestic glance.

9 Their partiality in judgment[[29]](#footnote-29)b accuses them;

They avow their sins like Sodom,

They do not conceal them.

Woe to them! For ill

Have they served themselves.

10 (Hail[[30]](#footnote-30)c the righteous, for they shall fare well;

They shall eat the fruit of their works.

11 Woe to the wicked, for they shall fare ill;

As their hands have dealt, so shall it be done to them.)

12 My people's rulers are babes,

It is governed by women.[[31]](#footnote-31)d

O my people!

Your leaders are misleaders;

They have confused the course of your paths.

13 God stands up to plead a cause,

And rises to champion peoples.[[32]](#footnote-32)e

14 God will bring this charge

Against the elders and officers of this covenanted people:

“It is you who have ravaged the vineyard;

That which was robbed from the poor is in your houses.

15 How dare you crush My people

And grind the faces of the poor?”

—says my Sovereign God of Hosts.

16 God said:

“Because the daughters of Zion

Are so vain

And walk with heads thrown back,[[33]](#footnote-33)f

With roving eyes,

And with mincing gait,

Making a tinkling with their feet”—

17 My Sovereign will bare[[34]](#footnote-34)g the pates

Of the daughters of Zion,

God will uncover their heads.

18 In that day, my Sovereign will strip off the finery[[35]](#footnote-35)h of the anklets, the fillets, and the crescents; 19 of the eardrops, the bracelets, and the veils; 20 the turbans, the armlets, and the sashes; of the talismans and the amulets; 21 the signet rings and the nose rings; 22 of the festive robes, the mantles, and the shawls; the purses, 23 the lace gowns, and the linen vests; and the kerchiefs and the capes.

24 And then—

Instead of perfume, there shall be rot;

And instead of an apron, a rope;

Instead of a diadem of beaten-work,

A shorn head;

Instead of a rich robe,

A girding of sackcloth;

A burn instead of beauty.[[36]](#footnote-36)i

25 Her[[37]](#footnote-37)j men shall fall by the sword,

Her force, in battle;

26 And her gates shall lament and mourn,

And she shall be emptied,[[38]](#footnote-38)k

Shall sit on the ground.

4

1 In that day, seven women shall take hold of one man, saying,

“We will eat our own food

And wear our own clothes;

Only let us be called by your name—

Take away our disgrace!”

2 [[39]](#footnote-39)lIn that day,

The radiance of God

Will lend beauty and glory,

And the splendor of the land[[40]](#footnote-40)m

[Will give] dignity and majesty,

To the survivors of Israel.

3 And those who remain in Zion

And are left in Jerusalem—

All who are inscribed for life in Jerusalem—

Shall be called holy.

4 When God[[41]](#footnote-41)° has washed away

The filth of the daughters of Zion,[[42]](#footnote-42)n

And from Jerusalem's midst

Has rinsed out her infamy—

In a spirit of judgment

And in a spirit of purging—

5 God will create[[43]](#footnote-43)o over the whole shrine and meeting place of Mount Zion cloud by day and smoke with a glow of flaming fire by night. Indeed, over all the glory[[44]](#footnote-44)p shall hang a canopy, 6 which shall serve as a pavilion for shade from heat by day and as a shelter for protection against drenching rain.

5

1 Let me sing for my beloved

A song of my lover about his vineyard.

My beloved had a vineyard

On a fruitful hill.[[45]](#footnote-45)q

2 He broke the ground, cleared it of stones,

And planted it with choice vines.

He built a watchtower inside it,

He even hewed a wine press in it;

For he hoped it would yield grapes.

Instead, it yielded wild grapes.

3 “Now, then,

Dwellers of Jerusalem

And citizenry of Judah,

You be the judges

Between Me and My vineyard:

4 What more could have been done for My vineyard

That I failed to do in it?

Why, when I hoped it would yield grapes,

Did it yield wild grapes?

5 “Now I am going to tell you

What I will do to My vineyard:

I will remove its hedge,

That it may be ravaged;

I will break down its wall,

That it may be trampled.

6 And I will make it a desolation;[[46]](#footnote-46)r

It shall not be pruned or hoed,

And it shall be overgrown with briers and thistles.

And I will command the clouds

To drop no rain on it.”

7 For the vineyard of God of Hosts

Is the House of Israel,

And the seedlings he lovingly tended

Is the citizenry of Judah.

[[47]](#footnote-47)sAnd [God] hoped for justice,

But behold, injustice;

For equity,

But behold, iniquity!

8 Ah,

Those who add house to house

And join field to field,

Till there is room for none but you

To dwell in the land!

9 In my hearing [said] God of Hosts:

Surely, great houses

Shall lie forlorn,

Spacious and splendid ones

Without occupants.

10 For ten acres of vineyard

Shall yield just one bath,[[48]](#footnote-48)t

And a field sown with a ḥomer of seed

Shall yield a mere ephah.

11 Ah,

Those who chase liquor

From early in the morning,

And till late in the evening

Are inflamed by wine!

12 Who, at their banquets,

Have[[49]](#footnote-49)u lyre and lute,

Timbrel, flute, and wine;

But who never give a thought

To the divine plan,

And take no note

Of God's design.

13 Assuredly,

My people will suffer exile

For not giving heed,

Its multitude victims of hunger

And its masses parched with thirst.

14 Assuredly,

Sheol has opened wide its gullet

And parted its jaws in a measureless gape;

And down into it shall go,

That splendor and tumult,

That din and revelry.

15 Yea, human is bowed,

And mortal brought low;

Brought low is the pride of the haughty.

16 And God of Hosts is exalted by judgment,

The Holy God proved holy by retribution.

17 [[50]](#footnote-50)vThen lambs shall graze

As in their meadows,

And strangers shall feed

On the ruins of the stout.

18 Ah,

Those who haul sin with cords of falsehood

And iniquity as with cart ropes!

19 Who say,[[51]](#footnote-51)w

“Let [God] speed, let God's purpose be hastened,

If we are to give thought;

Let the plans of the Holy One of Israel

Be quickly fulfilled,

If we are to give heed.”

20 Ah,

Those who call evil good

And good evil;

Who present darkness as light

And light as darkness;

Who present bitter as sweet

And sweet as bitter!

21 Ah,

Those who are so wise—

In their own opinion;

So clever—

In their own judgment!

22 Ah,

Those who are so doughty—

As drinkers of wine,

And so valiant—

As mixers of drink!

23 Who vindicate the one who is in the wrong

In return for a bribe,

And withhold vindication

From those who are in the right.

24 Assuredly,

As straw is consumed by a tongue of fire

And hay shrivels as it burns,[[52]](#footnote-52)x

Their stock shall become like rot,

And their buds shall blow away like dust.

For they have rejected the instruction of God of Hosts,

Spurned the word of the Holy One of Israel.

25 That is why

God's anger was roused

Against this covenanted people,

Why God's arm was stretched out against it

And struck it,

So that the mountains quaked,[[53]](#footnote-53)y

And its corpses lay

Like refuse in the streets.

Yet God's anger has not turned back,

And a divine arm is outstretched still.

26 [God] will raise an ensign to a nation[[54]](#footnote-54)z afar,

Whistle to one at the end of the earth.

There it comes with lightning speed!

27 In its ranks, none is weary or stumbles,

They never sleep or slumber;

The belts on their waists do not come loose,

Nor do the thongs of their sandals break.

28 Their arrows are sharpened,

And all their bows are drawn.

Their horses' hoofs are like flint,

Their chariot wheels like the whirlwind.

29 Their roaring is like a lion's,

They roar like the great beasts;

When they growl and seize a prey,

They carry it off and none can recover it.

30 But in that day, a roaring shall resound over My people[[55]](#footnote-55)° like that of the sea;[[56]](#footnote-56)a and then they shall look below and, behold,

Distressing darkness, with light;

Darkness, in its lowering clouds.[[57]](#footnote-57)b

6

1 In the year that King Uzziah died, I beheld my Sovereign seated on a high and lofty throne; and the skirts of God's robe filled the Temple. 2 Seraphs stood in attendance, each with six wings—two covering the face, two covering the body, and two to fly with.

3 And one would call to the other,

“Holy, holy, holy!

God of Hosts—

Whose presence fills all the earth!”

4 The doorposts[[58]](#footnote-58)c would shake at the sound of the one who called, and the House kept filling with smoke. 5 I cried,

“Woe is me; I am lost!

For I am a man of unclean lips[[59]](#footnote-59)d

And I live among a people

Of unclean lips;

Yet my own eyes have beheld

The Sovereign God of Hosts.”

6 Then one of the seraphs—who had taken a live coal from the altar with a pair of tongs—flew over to me, 7 touched it to my lips, and declared,

“Now that this has touched your lips,

Your guilt shall depart

And your sin be purged away.”

8 Then I heard the voice of my Sovereign saying, “Whom shall I send? Who will go for us?” And I said, “Here am I; send me.” 9 And [God] said, “Go, say to that people:

‘Hear, indeed, but do not understand;

See, indeed, but do not grasp.’

10 Dull that people's mind,

Stop its ears,

And seal its eyes—

Lest, seeing with its eyes

And hearing with its ears,

It also grasp with its mind,

And repent and save[[60]](#footnote-60)e itself.”

11 I asked, “How long, my Sovereign?” And [God] replied:

“Till towns lie waste without inhabitants

And houses without people,

And the ground lies waste and desolate—

12 For God will banish the population—

And deserted sites are many

In the midst of the land.

13 “But while a tenth part yet remains in it, it shall repent. It shall be ravaged like the terebinth and the oak, of which stumps are left even when they are felled: its stump shall be a holy seed.”

7

1 In the reign of Ahaz son of Jotham son of Uzziah, king of Judah, King Rezin of Aram and King Pekah son of Remaliah of Israel marched upon Jerusalem to attack it; but they were not able to attack it.

2 Now, when it was reported to the House of David that Aram had allied itself with Ephraim, their hearts and the hearts of their people trembled as trees of the forest sway before a wind. 3 But God said to Isaiah, “Go out with your son Shear-jashub[[61]](#footnote-61)f to meet Ahaz at the end of the conduit of the Upper Pool, by the road of the Fuller's Field. 4 And say to him: Be firm and be calm. Do not be afraid and do not lose heart on account of those two smoking stubs of firebrands, on account of the raging of Rezin and his Arameans and the son of Remaliah.[[62]](#footnote-62)g 5 Because the Arameans—with Ephraim and the son of Remaliah—have plotted against you, saying, 6 ‘We will march against Judah and invade and conquer it, and we will set up as king in it the son of Tabeel,’[[63]](#footnote-63)h 7 thus said my Sovereign God:

It shall not succeed,

It shall not come to pass.

8 For the chief city of Aram is Damascus,

And the chief of Damascus is Rezin;

9 The chief city of Ephraim is Samaria,

And the chief of Samaria is the son of Remaliah.[[64]](#footnote-64)i

And in another sixty-five years,

Ephraim shall be shattered as a people.[[65]](#footnote-65)j

If you will not believe, for you cannot be trusted[[66]](#footnote-66)k…”

10 God spoke further[[67]](#footnote-67)° to Ahaz: 11 “Ask for a sign from the Eternal your God, anywhere down to Sheol or up to the sky.” 12 But Ahaz replied, “I will not ask, and I will not test God.” 13 “Listen, House of David,” [Isaiah] retorted, “is it not enough for you to treat the agents[[68]](#footnote-68)° as helpless that you also treat my God as helpless?[[69]](#footnote-69)l 14 Assuredly, God[[70]](#footnote-70)° will give you a sign nonetheless! Look, the young woman is with child and about to give birth to a son. Let her name him Immanuel.[[71]](#footnote-71)m 15 (By the time he learns to reject the bad and choose the good, people will be feeding on curds and honey.) 16 For before the lad knows to reject the bad and choose the good, the ground whose two kings you dread shall be abandoned. 17 God will cause to come upon you and your people and your ancestral house such days as have not come since Ephraim turned away from Judah—that selfsame king of Assyria![[72]](#footnote-72)n

18 “In that day, God will whistle to the flies at the ends of the water channels of Egypt and to the bees in the land of Assyria; 19 and they shall all come and alight in the rugged wadis, and in the clefts of the rocks, and in all the thornbrakes, and in all the watering places.

20 “In that day, God[[73]](#footnote-73)° will cut away with the razor that is hired beyond the Euphrates—with the king of Assyria[[74]](#footnote-74)o—the hair of the head and the hair of the legs,[[75]](#footnote-75)p and it shall clip off the beard as well. 21 And in that day, each household shall save alive a heifer of the herd and two animals of the flock. 22 (And they shall obtain so much milk that they shall eat curds.) Thus everyone who is left in the land shall feed on curds and honey.

23 “For in that day, every spot where there could stand a thousand vines worth a thousand shekels of silver[[76]](#footnote-76)q shall become a wilderness of thornbush and thistle. 24 One will have to go there with bow and arrows,[[77]](#footnote-77)r for the country shall be all thornbushes and thistles. 25 But the perils of thornbush and thistle shall not spread to any of the hills that could only be tilled with a hoe;[[78]](#footnote-78)s and here cattle shall be let loose, and sheep and goats[[79]](#footnote-79)t shall tramp about.”

8

1 God said to me, “Get yourself a large sheet and write on it in common script[[80]](#footnote-80)u ‘For Maher-shalal-hash-baz’;[[81]](#footnote-81)v 2 and call reliable witnesses, the priest Uriah and Zechariah son of Jeberechiah, to witness for Me.” 3 I was intimate with the prophetess,[[82]](#footnote-82)w and she conceived and bore a son; and God said to me, “Name him Maher-shalal-hash-baz.[[83]](#footnote-83)x 4 For before the boy learns to call ‘Father’ and ‘Mother,’ the wealth of Damascus and the spoils of Samaria, and the delights of Rezin and of the son of Remaliah,[[84]](#footnote-84)y shall be carried off before the king of Assyria.”

5 Again God spoke to me, thus:

6 “Because that people has spurned

The gently flowing waters of Siloam”[[85]](#footnote-85)z—

7 Assuredly,

God[[86]](#footnote-86)° will bring up against them

The mighty, massive waters of the Euphrates,

The king of Assyria and all his multitude.

It shall rise above all its channels,

And flow over all its beds,

8 And swirl through Judah like a flash flood

Reaching up to the neck.[[87]](#footnote-87)a

[[88]](#footnote-88)bBut with us is God,

Whose wings are spread

As wide as your land is broad!

9 Band together, O peoples—you shall be broken!

Listen to this, you remotest parts of the earth:

Gird yourselves—you shall be broken;

Gird yourselves—you shall be broken!

10 Hatch a plot—it shall be foiled;

Agree on action—it shall not succeed.

For with us is God!

11 For this is what God said to me, when taking me by the hand[[89]](#footnote-89)c and charging me not to walk in the path of that people:

12 [[90]](#footnote-90)d“You must not call conspiracy[[91]](#footnote-91)e

All that that people calls conspiracy,[[92]](#footnote-92)f

Nor revere what it reveres,

Nor hold it in awe.

13 None but God of Hosts

Shall you account holy;

Give reverence to [God] alone,

Hold [God] alone in awe.

14 [God] shall become a sanctuary,

A stone[[93]](#footnote-93)g people strike against:

A rock people stumble over

For the two Houses of Israel,

And a trap and a snare for those

Who dwell in Jerusalem.

15 The masses shall trip over these

And shall fall and be injured,

Shall be snared and be caught.

16 Bind up the message,

Seal the instruction with My disciples.”

17 So I will wait for God, whose face is hidden from the House of Jacob, and in whom I will trust. 18 Here stand I and the children God has given me as signs and portents in Israel from God of Hosts, who dwells on Mount Zion.

19 Now, should people say to you, “Inquire of the ghosts and familiar spirits that chirp and moan; for a people may inquire of its divine beings[[94]](#footnote-94)h—of the dead on behalf of the living— 20 for instruction and message,” surely, for those who speak thus there shall be no dawn. 21 [[95]](#footnote-95)iAnd they shall go about in it wretched and hungry; and when they are hungry, they shall rage and revolt against their king and their divine beings. They may turn their face upward 22 or they may look below, but behold

Distress and darkness, with no daybreak;[[96]](#footnote-96)j

Straitness and gloom, with no dawn.[[97]](#footnote-97)k

23 For if there were to be[[98]](#footnote-98)l any break of day for that [land] which is in straits, only the former [king] would have brought abasement to the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali—while the later one would have brought honor to the Way of the Sea, the other side of the Jordan, and Galilee of the Nations.[[99]](#footnote-99)m

9

1 [[100]](#footnote-100)nThe people that walked in darkness

Have seen a brilliant light;

On those who dwelt in a land of gloom

Light has dawned.

2 You have magnified that nation,

Have given it great joy;

They have rejoiced before You

As they rejoice at reaping time,

As they exult

When dividing spoil.

3 For the yoke that they bore

And the stick on their back—

The rod of their taskmaster—

You have broken as on the day of Midian.[[101]](#footnote-101)o

4 Truly, all the boots put on to stamp with[[102]](#footnote-102)p

And all the garments donned in infamy

Have been fed to the flames,

Devoured by fire.

5 For a child has been born to us,

A son has been given us.

And authority has settled on his shoulders.

He has been named

“The Mighty God is planning grace;[[103]](#footnote-103)q

The Eternal Father, a peaceable ruler”—

6 In token of abundant authority

And of peace without limit

Upon David's throne and kingdom,

That it may be firmly established

In justice and in equity

Now and evermore.

The zeal of God of Hosts

Shall bring this to pass.

7 God[[104]](#footnote-104)°

Let loose a word[[105]](#footnote-105)r against Jacob

And it fell upon Israel.

8 But all the people noted[[106]](#footnote-106)s—

Ephraim and the inhabitants of Samaria—

In arrogance and haughtiness:

9 “Bricks have fallen—

We'll rebuild with dressed stone;

Sycamores have been felled—

We'll grow cedars instead!”

10 So God let the enemies of Rezin[[107]](#footnote-107)t

Triumph over it

And stirred up its foes—

11 Aram from the east

And Philistia from the west—

Who devoured Israel

With greedy mouths.

Yet God's anger has not turned back,

And the divine arm is outstretched still.

12 For this people has not turned back

To the One who struck it;

They have not sought

God of Hosts.

13 So God will cut off from Israel

Head and tail,

Palm branch and reed,

In a single day.

14 Elders and magnates[[108]](#footnote-108)u—

Such are the heads;

Prophets who give false instruction,

Such are the tails[[109]](#footnote-109)v

15 That people's leaders have been misleaders,

So those who are led have been confused.

16 That is why God[[110]](#footnote-110)°

Will not spare[[111]](#footnote-111)w their youths,

Nor show compassion

To their orphans and widows;

For all are ungodly and wicked,

And every mouth speaks impiety.

17 Already wickedness has blazed forth like a fire

Devouring thorn and thistle.

It has kindled the thickets of the wood,

Which have turned into billowing smoke.[[112]](#footnote-112)x

Yet God's anger has not turned back,

And the divine arm is outstretched still.[[113]](#footnote-113)y

18 By the fury of God of Hosts,

The earth was shaken.[[114]](#footnote-114)z

Next, the people became like devouring fire:

Not one of them spared the others.

19 They snatched on the right, but remained hungry,

And consumed on the left without being sated.

Each devoured the flesh of its own kindred[[115]](#footnote-115)a—

20 Manasseh Ephraim's, and Ephraim Manasseh's,[[116]](#footnote-116)b

And both of them against Judah![[117]](#footnote-117)c

Yet God's anger has not turned back,

And the divine arm is outstretched still.

10

1 Ha!

Those who write out evil writs

And compose iniquitous documents,

2 To subvert the cause of the poor,

To rob of their rights the needy of My people;

That widows may be their spoil,

And fatherless children their booty!

3 What will you do on the day of punishment,

When the calamity comes from afar?

To whom will you flee for help,

And how will you save your carcasses[[118]](#footnote-118)d

4 From collapsing under [fellow] prisoners,

From falling beneath the slain?

Yet God's anger has not turned back,

And the divine arm is outstretched still.

5 Ha!

Assyria, rod of My anger,

In whose hand, as a staff, is My fury![[119]](#footnote-119)e

6 I send him against an ungodly nation,

I charge him against a people that provokes Me,

To take its spoil and to seize its booty

And to make it a thing trampled

Like the mire of the streets.

7 But he has evil plans,

His mind harbors evil designs;

For he means to destroy,

To wipe out nations, not a few.

8 For he thinks,

“After all, I have kings as my captains![[120]](#footnote-120)f

9 Was Calno any different from Carchemish?

Or Hamath from Arpad?

Or Samaria from Damascus?

10 Since I was able to seize

The insignificant kingdoms,

Whose images exceeded

Jerusalem's and Samaria's,[[121]](#footnote-121)g

11 Shall I not do to Jerusalem and her images

What I did to Samaria and her idols?”

12 But when all of my Sovereign's purpose has been carried out on Mount Zion and in Jerusalem, the majestic pride and overbearing arrogance of the king of Assyria will be punished.[[122]](#footnote-122)h 13 For he thought,

“By the might of my hand have I wrought it,

By my skill, for I am clever:

I have erased the borders of peoples;

I have plundered their treasures,

And exiled their vast populations.[[123]](#footnote-123)i

14 I was able to seize, like a nest,

The wealth of peoples;

As one gathers abandoned eggs,

So I gathered all the earth:

Nothing so much as flapped a wing

Or opened a mouth to peep.”

15 Does an ax boast over one who hews with it,

Or a saw magnify itself above one who wields it?

As though the rod raised one who lifts it,

As though the staff lifted the person![[124]](#footnote-124)j

16 [[125]](#footnote-125)kAssuredly,

The Sovereign God of Hosts will send

A wasting away in its[[126]](#footnote-126)l fatness;

And under its body[[127]](#footnote-127)m shall burn

A burning like that of fire,

Destroying frame and flesh.

It shall be like an invalid who pines away.[[128]](#footnote-128)n

17 The Light of Israel will be fire

And its Holy One flame.

It will burn and consume its thorns

And its thistles in a single day,

18 And the mass of its scrub and its farm land.

19 What trees remain of its scrub

Shall be so few that a child may record them.

20 And in that day,

The remnant of Israel

And the escaped of the House of Jacob

Shall lean no more upon him that beats it,[[129]](#footnote-129)o

But shall lean sincerely

On God, the Holy One of Israel.

21 Only a remnant shall return,

Only a remnant of Jacob,

To Mighty God.

22 Even if your people, O Israel,

Should be as the sands of the sea,

Only a remnant of it shall return.

Destruction is decreed;

Retribution comes like a flood!

23 For my Sovereign God of Hosts is carrying out

A decree of destruction upon all the land.

24 Assuredly, thus said my Sovereign God of Hosts: “O My people that dwells in Zion, have no fear of Assyria, who beats you with a rod and wields his staff over you as did the Egyptians. 25 For very soon My wrath will have spent itself, and My anger that was bent on wasting them.”[[130]](#footnote-130)p 26 God of Hosts will brandish a scourge over Assyria[[131]](#footnote-131)° as when Midian was beaten at the Rock of Oreb,[[132]](#footnote-132)q and will wield a staff [over him] as was done to the Egyptians by the sea.

27 And in that day,

His burden shall drop from your back,

And his yoke from your neck;

The yoke shall be destroyed because of fatness.

28 He advanced upon Aiath,[[133]](#footnote-133)r

He proceeded to Migron,

At Michmas he deposited his baggage.

29 They made the crossing;

“Geba is to be our night quarters!”[[134]](#footnote-134)s

Ramah was alarmed;

Gibeah of Saul took to flight.

30 “Give a shrill cry, O Bath-gallim!

Hearken, Laishah!

Take up the cry, Anathoth!”

31 Madmenah ran away;

The dwellers of Gebim sought refuge.

32 This same day at Nob

He shall stand and wave his hand.[[135]](#footnote-135)t

O mount of Fair Zion!

O hill of Jerusalem!

33 Lo! The Sovereign God of Hosts

Will hew off the tree-crowns with an ax:

The tall ones shall be felled,

The lofty ones cut down:

34 The thickets of the forest shall be hacked away with iron,

And the Lebanon trees shall fall in their majesty.[[136]](#footnote-136)u

11

1 But a shoot shall grow out of the stump of Jesse,

A twig shall sprout from his stock.

2 The spirit of God shall alight upon him:

A spirit of wisdom and insight,

A spirit of counsel and valor,

A spirit of devotion and reverence for God.

3 He shall sense the truth[[137]](#footnote-137)v by his reverence for God:

He shall not judge by what his eyes behold,

Nor decide by what his ears perceive.

4 Thus he shall judge the poor with equity

And decide with justice for the lowly of the land.

He shall strike down a land[[138]](#footnote-138)w with the rod of his mouth

And slay the wicked with the breath of his lips.

5 Justice shall be the girdle of his loins,

And faithfulness the girdle of his waist.

6 The wolf shall dwell with the lamb,

The leopard lie down with the kid;

The calf, the beast of prey, and the fatling[[139]](#footnote-139)x together,

With a little boy to herd them.

7 The cow and the bear shall graze,

Their young shall lie down together;

And the lion, like the ox, shall eat straw.

8 A babe shall play

Over a viper's hole,

And an infant pass[[140]](#footnote-140)y its hand

Over an adder's den.

9 In all of My sacred mount[[141]](#footnote-141)z

Nothing evil or vile shall be done;

For the land shall be filled with devotion to God

As water covers the sea.

10 In that day,

The stock of Jesse that has remained standing

Shall become a standard to peoples—

Nations shall seek his counsel

And his abode shall be honored.

11 In that day, God will apply a divine hand again to redeeming the other part[[142]](#footnote-142)a of this people from Assyria—as also from Egypt, Pathros, Nubia, Elam, Shinar, Hamath, and the coastlands.

12 [God] will hold up a signal to the nations

And assemble the banished of Israel,

And gather the dispersed of Judah

From the four corners of the earth.

13 Then Ephraim's envy shall cease

And Judah's harassment shall end;

Ephraim shall not envy Judah,

And Judah shall not harass Ephraim.

14 They shall pounce on the back of Philistia to the west,

And together plunder the peoples of the east;

Edom and Moab shall be subject to them

And the children of Ammon shall obey them.

15 God will dry up the tongue of the Egyptian sea—and will raise a hand over the Euphrates with a mighty wind[[143]](#footnote-143)b and break it into seven wadis, so that it can be trodden dry-shod. 16 Thus there shall be a highway for the other part[[144]](#footnote-144)c of this people out of Assyria, such as there was for Israel when it left the land of Egypt.

12

1 In that day, you shall say:

“I give thanks to You, O God!

Although You were wroth with me,

Your wrath has turned back and You comfort me,

2 Behold the God who gives me triumph!

I am confident, unafraid;

For Yah—God—is my strength and might,[[145]](#footnote-145)d

And has been my deliverance.”

3 Joyfully shall you draw water

From the fountains of triumph,

4 And you shall say on that day:

“Praise God, proclaim the divine name.

Make God's deeds known among the peoples;

Declare that the divine name is exalted.

5 Hymn God,

For [God] has done gloriously;

Let this be made known

In all the world!

6 Oh, shout for joy,

You who dwell in Zion!

For great in your midst

Is the Holy One of Israel.”

13

1 The “Babylon” Pronouncement, a prophecy of Isaiah son of Amoz.

2 “Raise a standard upon a bare hill,

Cry aloud to them;

Wave a hand, and let them enter

The gates of the nobles!

3 I have summoned My purified guests

To execute My wrath;

Behold, I have called My stalwarts,

My proudly exultant ones.”[[146]](#footnote-146)e

4 Hark! a tumult on the mountains—

As of[[147]](#footnote-147)f a mighty force;

Hark! an uproar of kingdoms,

Nations assembling!

God of Hosts is mustering

A host for war.

5 They come from a distant land,

From the end of the sky—

God with the weapons of divine wrath—

To ravage all the earth!

6 Howl!

For the day of God is near;

It shall come like havoc from Shaddai.[[148]](#footnote-148)g

7 Therefore all hands shall grow limp,

And every human heart shall sink;

8 And, overcome by terror,

They shall be seized by pangs and throes,

Writhe like a woman in travail.

All shall gaze at each other in horror,

Their faces livid with fright.[[149]](#footnote-149)h

9 Lo! The day of God is coming

With pitiless fury and wrath,

To make the earth a desolation,

To wipe out the sinners upon it.

10 The stars and constellations of heaven

Shall not give off their light;

The sun shall be dark when it rises,

And the moon shall diffuse no glow.

11 “And I will requite to the world its evil,

And to the wicked their iniquity;

I will put an end to the pride of the arrogant

And humble the haughtiness of tyrants.

12 I will make people scarcer than fine gold,

And mortals [more scarce] than gold of Ophir.”

13 Therefore shall heaven be shaken,[[150]](#footnote-150)i

And earth leap out of its place,

At the fury of God of Hosts

On the day of God's burning wrath.

14 Then like gazelles that are chased,

And like sheep that no man gathers,

Each man shall turn back to his people,

They shall flee every one to his land.

15 All who remain shall be pierced through,

All who are caught[[151]](#footnote-151)j

Shall fall by the sword.

16 And their babes shall be dashed to pieces in their sight,

Their homes shall be plundered,

And their wives shall be raped.

17 “Behold,

I stir up the Medes against them,

Who do not value silver

Or delight in gold.

18 Their bows shall shatter the young;

They shall show no pity to infants,

They shall not spare the children.”

19 And Babylon, glory of kingdoms,

Proud splendor of the Chaldeans,

Shall become like Sodom and Gomorrah

Overturned by God.

20 Nevermore shall it be settled

Nor dwelt in through all the ages.

No Arab shall pitch his tent there,

No shepherds make flocks lie down there.

21 But beasts[[152]](#footnote-152)k shall lie down there,

And the houses be filled with owls;[[153]](#footnote-153)l

There shall ostriches make their home,

And there shall satyrs dance.

22 And jackals[[154]](#footnote-154)m shall abide in its castles

And dragons[[155]](#footnote-155)n in the palaces of pleasure.

Her hour is close at hand;

Her days will not be long.

14

1 But God will pardon Jacob, and will again choose Israel, and will settle them on their own soil. And strangers shall join them and shall cleave to the House of Jacob. 2 For peoples shall take them[[156]](#footnote-156)o and bring them to their homeland; and the House of Israel shall possess them[[157]](#footnote-157)p as slaves and handmaids on the soil of God. They shall be captors of their captors and masters to their taskmasters.

3 And when God has given you rest from your sorrow and trouble, and from the hard service that you were made to serve, 4 you shall recite this song of scorn over the king of Babylon:

How is the taskmaster vanished,

How is oppression[[158]](#footnote-158)q ended!

5 God has broken the staff of the wicked,

The rod of tyrants,

6 That smote peoples in wrath

With stroke unceasing,

That belabored nations in fury

In relentless pursuit.

7 All the earth is calm, untroubled;

Loudly it cheers.

8 Even pines rejoice at your fate,

And cedars of Lebanon:

“Now that you have lain down,

None shall come up to fell us.”

9 Sheol below was astir

To greet your coming—

Rousing for you the shades

Of all earth's chieftains,

Raising from their thrones

All the kings of nations.

10 All speak up and say to you,

“So you have been stricken as we were,

You have become like us!

11 Your pomp is brought down to Sheol,

And the strains of your lutes!

Worms are to be your bed,

Maggots your blanket!”

12 How are you fallen from heaven,

O Shining One, son of Dawn![[159]](#footnote-159)r

How are you felled to earth,

O vanquisher of nations!

13 Once you thought in your heart,

“I will climb to the sky;

Higher than the stars of God

I will set my throne.

I will sit in the mount of assembly,[[160]](#footnote-160)s

On the summit of Zaphon:[[161]](#footnote-161)t

14 I will mount the back of a cloud—

I will match the Most High.”

15 Instead, you are brought down to Sheol,

To the bottom of the Pit.[[162]](#footnote-162)u

16 They who behold you stare;

They peer at you closely:

“Is this the man

Who shook the earth,

Who made realms tremble,

17 Who made the world like a waste

And wrecked its towns,

Who never released his prisoners to their homes?”

18 All the kings of nations

Were laid, every one, in honor[[163]](#footnote-163)v

Each in his tomb;

19 While you were left lying unburied,

Like loathsome carrion,[[164]](#footnote-164)w

Like a trampled corpse

[In] the clothing of slain gashed by the sword

Who sink to the very stones of the Pit.

20 You shall not have a burial like them;

Because you destroyed your country,

Murdered your people.[[165]](#footnote-165)x

Let the breed of evildoers

Nevermore be named!

21 Prepare a slaughtering block for his sons[[166]](#footnote-166)°

Because of the guilt of their father.[[167]](#footnote-167)y

Let them not arise to possess the earth!

Then the world's face shall be covered with towns.

22 I will rise up against them—declares God of Hosts—and will wipe out from Babylon name and remnant, kith and kin—declares God— 23 and I will make it a home of bitterns,[[168]](#footnote-168)z pools of water. I will sweep it with a broom of extermination—declares God of Hosts.

24 God of Hosts has sworn this oath:

“As I have designed, so shall it happen;

What I have planned, that shall come to pass:

25 To break Assyria in My land,

To crush him on My mountain.”[[169]](#footnote-169)a

And his yoke shall drop off them,

And his burden shall drop from their[[170]](#footnote-170)b backs.[[171]](#footnote-171)c

26 That is the plan that is planned

For all the earth;

That is why an arm is poised

Over all the nations.

27 For God of Hosts has planned,

Who then can foil it?

It is the divine arm that is poised,

And who can stay it?

28 This pronouncement was made in the year that King Ahaz died:

29 Rejoice not, all Philistia,

Because the staff of him that beat you is broken.

For from the stock of a snake there sprouts an asp,

A flying seraph[[172]](#footnote-172)d branches out from it.

30 The first-born of the poor shall graze[[173]](#footnote-173)e

And the destitute lie down secure.[[174]](#footnote-174)f

I will kill your stock by famine,[[175]](#footnote-175)g

And it shall slay the very last of you.

31 Howl, O gate; cry out, O city;

Quake, all Philistia!

For a stout one is coming from the north

And there is no straggler in his ranks.[[176]](#footnote-176)h

32 And what will he answer the messengers of any nation?

That Zion has been established by God:

In it, the needy of this covenanted people shall find shelter.

15

1 The “Moab” Pronouncement.

Ah, in the night Ar was sacked,

Moab was ruined;

Ah, in the night Kir was sacked,

Moab was ruined.

2 He went up to the temple to weep,

Dibon[[177]](#footnote-177)i [went] to the outdoor shrines.

Over Nebo and Medeba

Moab is wailing;

On every head is baldness,

Every beard is shorn.

3 In its streets, they are girt with sackcloth;

On its roofs, in its squares,

Everyone is wailing,

Streaming with tears.

4 Heshbon and Elealeh cry out,

Their voice carries to Jahaz.

Therefore,

The shock troops of Moab shout,[[178]](#footnote-178)j

His body is convulsed.

5 My heart cries out for Moab—

His fugitives flee down to Zoar,

To Eglath-shelishiyah.

For the ascent of Luhith

They ascend with weeping;

On the road to Horonaim

They raise a cry of anguish.

6 Ah, the waters of Nimrim

Are become a desolation;

The grass is sear,

The herbage is gone,

Vegetation is vanished.

7 Therefore,

The gains they have made, and their stores,

They carry to the Wadi of Willows.

8 Ah, the cry has compassed

The country of Moab:

All the way to Eglaim her wailing,

Even at Beer-elim her wailing!

9 Ah, the waters of Dimon are full of blood[[179]](#footnote-179)k

For I pour added [water] on Dimon;

I drench[[180]](#footnote-180)l it—for Moab's refugees—

With soil[[181]](#footnote-181)m for its remnant.

16

1 [[182]](#footnote-182)nDispatch as messenger

The ruler of the land,

From Sela in the wilderness

To the mount of Fair Zion:

2 “Like fugitive birds,

Like nestlings driven away,

Moab's villagers linger

By the fords of the Arnon.

3 Give advice,

Offer counsel.[[183]](#footnote-183)o

At high noon make

Your shadow like night:

Conceal the outcasts,

Betray not the fugitives.

4 Let Moab's outcasts[[184]](#footnote-184)p

Find asylum in you;

Be a shelter for them

Against the despoiler.”

For violence has vanished,

Rapine is ended,

And marauders have perished from this land.

5 And a throne shall be established in goodness

In the tent of David,

And on it shall sit in faithfulness

A ruler devoted to justice

And zealous for equity.[[185]](#footnote-185)q

6 “We have heard of Moab's pride—

Most haughty is he—

Of his pride and haughtiness and arrogance,

And of the iniquity in him.”[[186]](#footnote-186)r

7 Ah, let Moab howl;

Let all in Moab howl!

For the raisin-cakes[[187]](#footnote-187)s of Kir-hareseth

You shall moan most pitifully.

8 The vineyards of Heshbon are withered,

And the vines of Sibmah;

Their tendrils spread

To Baale-goiim,[[188]](#footnote-188)t

And reached to Jazer,

And strayed to the desert;

Their shoots spread out

And crossed the sea.

9 Therefore,

As I weep for Jazer,

So I weep for Sibmah's vines;

O Heshbon and Elealeh,

I drench you with my tears.

Ended are the shouts

Over your fig and grain harvests.[[189]](#footnote-189)u

10 Rejoicing and gladness

Are gone from the farm land;

In the vineyards no shouting

Or cheering is heard.

No more does the treader

Tread wine in the presses—

The shouts have been silenced.[[190]](#footnote-190)v

11 Therefore,

Like a lyre my heart moans for Moab,

And my very soul for Kir-heres.

12 And when it has become apparent that Moab has gained nothing in the outdoor shrine, he shall come to pray in his temple—but to no avail.

13 That is the word that God spoke concerning Moab long ago. 14 And now God has spoken: In three years, fixed like the years of a hired laborer, Moab's population, with all its huge multitude, shall shrink. Only a remnant shall be left, of no consequence.

17

1 The “Damascus” Pronouncement.

Behold,

Damascus shall cease to be a city;

It shall become a heap of ruins.

2 The towns of Aroer shall be deserted;[[191]](#footnote-191)w

They shall be a place for flocks

To lie down, with none disturbing.

3 Fortresses shall cease from Ephraim,[[192]](#footnote-192)x

And sovereignty from Damascus;

The remnant of Aram shall become

Like the mass of Israelites

—declares God of Hosts.

4 In that day,

The mass of Jacob shall dwindle,

And the fatness of his body become lean:

5 After being like the standing grain

Harvested by the reaper—

Who reaps ears by the armful—

He shall be like the ears that are gleaned

In the Valley of Rephaim.

6 Only gleanings shall be left of him,

As when one beats an olive tree:

Two berries or three on the topmost branch,

Four or five on the boughs of the crown[[193]](#footnote-193)y

—declares the Eternal, the God of Israel.

7 In that day, people shall turn to their Maker, their eyes look to the Holy One of Israel; 8 they shall not turn to the altars that their own hands made, or look to the sacred posts and incense stands that their own fingers wrought.

9 In that day, their fortress cities shall be like the deserted sites which the Horesh and the Amir[[194]](#footnote-194)z abandoned because of the Israelites; and there shall be desolation.

10 Truly, you have forgotten the God who saves you

And have not remembered the Rock who shelters you;

That is why, though you plant a delightful[[195]](#footnote-195)a sapling,

What you sow proves a disappointing slip.

11 On the day that you plant, you see it grow;

On the morning you sow, you see it bud—

But the branches wither away

On a day of sickness and mortal agony.

12 Ah, the roar of many peoples

That roar as roars the sea,

The rage of nations that rage

As rage the mighty waters—

13 Nations raging like massive waters!

But [God] shouts at them, and they flee far away,

Driven like chaff before winds in the hills,

And like tumbleweed before a gale.

14 At eventide, lo, terror!

By morning, it is no more.

Such is the lot of our despoilers,

The portion of them that plunder us.

18

1 Ah,

land in the deep shadow of wings,[[196]](#footnote-196)b

Beyond the rivers of Nubia!

2 Go, swift messengers,

To a nation far and remote,

To a people thrust forth and away[[197]](#footnote-197)c—

A nation of gibber and chatter[[198]](#footnote-198)d—

Whose land is cut off by streams;

Which sends out envoys by sea,

In papyrus vessels upon the water![[199]](#footnote-199)e

3 [Say this:]

“All you who live in the world

And inhabit the earth,

When a flag is raised in the hills, take note!

When a ram's horn is blown, give heed!”

4 For thus God said to me:

“I rest calm and confident[[200]](#footnote-200)f in My habitation—

Like a scorching heat upon sprouts,

Like a rain-cloud in the heat of reaping time.”[[201]](#footnote-201)g

5 For before the harvest,[[202]](#footnote-202)h yet after the budding,

When the blossom has hardened into berries,

[God] will trim away the twigs with pruning hooks,

And lop off the trailing branches.[[203]](#footnote-203)i

6 They shall all be left

To the kites of the hills

And to the beasts of the earth;

The kites shall summer on them

And all the beasts of the earth shall winter on them.

7 In that time,

Tribute shall be brought to God of Hosts

[From] a people far and remote,

From a people thrust forth and away—

A nation of gibber and chatter,

Whose land is cut off by streams—

At the place where the name of God of Hosts abides,

At Mount Zion.

19

1 The “Egypt” Pronouncement.

Mounted on a swift cloud,

God will come to Egypt;

Egypt's idols shall tremble in response,

And the heart of the Egyptians shall sink within them.

2 “I will incite Egyptian against Egyptian:

They shall war with each other,

Neighbor with neighbor,

City with city

And kingdom with kingdom.[[204]](#footnote-204)j

3 Egypt shall be drained of spirit,

And I will confound its plans;

So they will consult the idols and the shades

And the ghosts and the familiar spirits.

4 And I will place the Egyptians

At the mercy of a harsh master,

And a ruthless king shall rule them”

—declares the Sovereign, God of Hosts.

5 Water shall fail from the seas,

Rivers dry up and be parched,

6 Channels turn foul as they ebb,

And Egypt's canals run dry.

Reed and rush shall decay,

7 And the Nile papyrus by the Nile-side[[205]](#footnote-205)k

And everything sown by the Nile

Shall wither, blow away, and vanish.

8 The fishermen shall lament;

All who cast lines in the Nile shall mourn,

And those who spread nets on the water shall languish.

9 The flax workers, too, shall be dismayed,

Both carders and weavers chagrined.[[206]](#footnote-206)l

10 [[207]](#footnote-207)mHer foundations shall be crushed,

And all who make dams shall be despondent.

11 Utter fools are the nobles of Tanis;

The sagest of Pharaoh's advisers

[Have made] absurd predictions.

How can you say to Pharaoh,

“I am a scion of sages,

A scion of Kedemite kings”?[[208]](#footnote-208)n

12 Where, indeed, are your sages?

Let them tell you, let them discover

What God of Hosts has planned against Egypt.

13 The nobles of Tanis have been fools,

The nobles of Memphis deluded;

Egypt has been led astray

By the chiefs of her tribes.

14 God has mixed within her

A spirit of distortion,

Which shall lead Egypt astray in all her undertakings

As a vomiting drunkard goes astray;

15 Nothing shall be achieved in Egypt

By either head or tail,

Palm branch or reed.[[209]](#footnote-209)o

16 In that day, the Egyptians shall be like women, trembling and terrified because God of Hosts will raise a divine hand against them. 17 And the land of Judah shall also be the dread of the Egyptians; they shall quake whenever anybody mentions it to them, because of what God of Hosts is planning against them. 18 In that day, there shall be several[[210]](#footnote-210)p towns in the land of Egypt speaking the language of Canaan and swearing loyalty to God of Hosts; one[[211]](#footnote-211)q shall be called Town of Heres.[[212]](#footnote-212)r

19 In that day, there shall be an altar to God inside the land of Egypt and a pillar to God at its border.[[213]](#footnote-213)s 20 They shall serve as a symbol and reminder of God of Hosts in the land of Egypt, so that when [the Egyptians] cry out to God against oppressors, a savior and champion will be sent to deliver them. 21 For the Egyptians will be made to know God, and the Egyptians shall acknowledge God in that day, and they shall serve with sacrifice and oblation and shall make vows to God and fulfill them. 22 God will first afflict and then heal the Egyptians: when they turn back to God, [the Holy One ] will respond to their entreaties and heal them.

23 In that day, there shall be a highway from Egypt to Assyria. The Assyrians shall join with the Egyptians and Egyptians with the Assyrians, and then the Egyptians together with the Assyrians shall serve [God].

24 In that day, Israel shall be a third partner with Egypt and Assyria as a blessing[[214]](#footnote-214)t on earth; 25 for God of Hosts will bless them, saying, “Blessed be My people Egypt, My handiwork Assyria, and My very own Israel.”

20

1 It was the year that the Tartan[[215]](#footnote-215)u came to Ashdod—being sent by King Sargon of Assyria—and attacked Ashdod and took it. 2 Previously,[[216]](#footnote-216)v God had spoken to Isaiah son of Amoz, saying, “Go, untie the sackcloth from your loins and take your sandals off your feet,” which he had done, going naked and barefoot. 3 And now God said, “It is a sign and a portent for Egypt and Nubia. Just as My servant Isaiah has gone naked and barefoot for three years, 4 so shall the king of Assyria drive off the captives of Egypt and the exiles of Nubia, young and old, naked and barefoot and with bared buttocks—to the shame of Egypt! 5 And they shall be dismayed and chagrined because of Nubia their hope and Egypt their boast. 6 In that day, the dwellers of this coastland shall say, ‘If this could happen to those we looked to, to whom we fled for help and rescue from the king of Assyria, how can we ourselves escape?’”

21

1 The “Desert of the Sea” Pronouncement.[[217]](#footnote-217)w

Like the gales

That race through the Negeb,

It comes from the desert,

The terrible land.

2 A harsh prophecy

Has been announced to me:

“The betrayer is betraying,

The ravager ravaging.[[218]](#footnote-218)x

Advance, Elam!

Lay siege, Media!

I have put an end

To all her sighing.”[[219]](#footnote-219)y

3 Therefore my loins

Are seized with trembling;

I am gripped by pangs

Like a woman in travail,

Too anguished to hear,

Too frightened to see.

4 My mind is confused,

I shudder in panic.

My night of pleasure

He has turned to terror:

5 “Set the table!”

To “Let the watchman watch!”

“Eat and drink!”

To “Up, officers! Grease[[220]](#footnote-220)z the shields!”

6 For thus God[[221]](#footnote-221)° said to me:

“Go, set up a sentry;

Let him announce what he sees.

7 He will see mounted men,

Horsemen in pairs—

Riders on asses,

Riders on camels—

And he will listen closely,

Most attentively.”

8 And [like] a lion he[[222]](#footnote-222)a called out:

“On my Sovereign's lookout[[223]](#footnote-223)b I stand

Ever by day,

And at my post I watch

Every night.

9 And there they come, mounted men—

Horsemen in pairs!”

Then he spoke up and said,

“Fallen, fallen is Babylon,

And all the images of her gods

Have crashed to the ground!”

10 My threshing, the product of my threshing floor:[[224]](#footnote-224)c

What I have heard from God of Hosts,

The God of Israel—

That I have told to you.

11 The “Dumah”[[225]](#footnote-225)d Pronouncement.

A call comes to me from Seir:

“Watchman, what of the night?

Watchman, what of the night?”

12 The watchman replied,

“Morning came, and so did night.

If you would inquire, inquire.

Come back again.”

13 The “In the Steppe” Pronouncement.

In the scrub, in the steppe, you will lodge,

O caravans of the Dedanites!

14 Meet the thirsty with water,

You who dwell in the land of Tema;

Greet the fugitive with bread.

15 For they have fled before swords:

Before the whetted sword,

Before the bow that was drawn,

Before the stress of war.

16 For thus my Sovereign has said to me: “In another year, fixed like the years of a hired laborer, all the multitude of Kedar shall vanish; 17 the remaining bows of Kedar's warriors shall be few in number; for the Eternal, the God of Israel, has spoken.”

22

1 The “Valley of Vision”[[226]](#footnote-226)e Pronouncement.

[[227]](#footnote-227)fWhat can have happened to you

That you have gone, all of you, up on the roofs,

2 O you who were full of tumult,

You clamorous town,

You city so exultant?

Your slain are not the slain of the sword

Nor the dead of battle.[[228]](#footnote-228)g

3 Your officers have all departed,

They fled far away;

Your survivors were all taken captive,

Taken captive without their bows.[[229]](#footnote-229)h

4 That is why I say, “Let me be,

I will weep bitterly.

Press not to comfort me

For the ruin of my poor people.”[[230]](#footnote-230)i

5 For my Sovereign God of Hosts had a day

Of tumult and din and confusion—

Kir raged in the Valley of Vision,

And Shoa on the hill;[[231]](#footnote-231)j

6 While Elam bore the quiver

In troops of mounted men,

And Kir bared the shield—

7 And your choicest lowlands

Were filled with chariots and riders:

They stormed at Judah's[[232]](#footnote-232)k gateway[[233]](#footnote-233)l

8 And pressed beyond its screen.[[234]](#footnote-234)m

You gave thought on that day

To the arms in the Forest House,[[235]](#footnote-235)n

9 And you took note of the many breaches

In the City of David.

And you collected the water of the Lower Pool;[[236]](#footnote-236)o 10 and you counted the houses of Jerusalem and pulled houses down to fortify the wall; 11 and you constructed a basin between the two walls for the water of the old pool.

But you gave no thought to the One who planned it,

You took no note of the One who designed it long before.

12 My Sovereign God of Hosts summoned on that day

To weeping and lamenting,

To tonsuring and girding with sackcloth.

13 Instead, there was rejoicing and merriment,

Killing of cattle and slaughtering of sheep,

Eating of meat and drinking of wine:

“Eat and drink, for tomorrow we die!”

14 Then God of Hosts was revealed to my ears:

“This iniquity shall never be forgiven you

Until you die,” said my Sovereign God of Hosts.

15 Thus said my Sovereign God of Hosts: Go in to see that steward, that Shebna, in charge of the palace:

16 What have you here, and whom have you here,

That you have hewn out a tomb for yourself here?—

O you who have hewn your[[237]](#footnote-237)p tomb on high;

O you who have hollowed out for yourself[[238]](#footnote-238)q an abode in the cliff!

17 God is about to shake you

Severely, fellow,[[239]](#footnote-239)r and then wear you like a wrap.[[240]](#footnote-240)s

18 Indeed, [God] will wind you about as a headdress, a turban.[[241]](#footnote-241)t

Off to a broad land!

There shall you die, and there shall be the chariots bearing your body,[[242]](#footnote-242)u

O shame of your master's house!

19 For I will hurl you from your station

And you shall be torn down from your stand.

20 And in that day, I will summon My servant Eliakim son of Hilkiah, 21 and I will invest him with your tunic, gird him with your sash, and deliver your authority into his hand; and he shall be a father to the inhabitants of Jerusalem and the men of Judah. 22 I will place the keys of David's palace on his shoulders; and what he unlocks none may shut, and what he locks none may open. 23 He shall be a seat of honor to his father's[[243]](#footnote-243)v household. I will fix him as a peg in a firm place, 24 on which all the substance of his father's[[244]](#footnote-244)w household shall be hung: the sprouts and the leaves[[245]](#footnote-245)x—all the small vessels, from bowls to all sorts of jars.

25 [[246]](#footnote-246)yIn that day—declares God of Hosts—the peg fixed in a firm place shall give way: it shall be cut down and shall fall, and the weight it supports shall be destroyed. For it is God who has spoken.

23

1 The “Tyre” Pronouncement.

Howl, you ships of Tarshish![[247]](#footnote-247)z

For havoc has been wrought, not a house is left;

As they came from the land of Kittim,

This was revealed to them.

2 Moan, you coastland dwellers,

You traders of Sidon,

Once thronged by seafarers,

3 Over many waters

Your[[248]](#footnote-248)a revenue came:

From the trade of nations,

From the grain of Shihor,

The harvest of the Nile.

4 Be ashamed, O Sidon!

For the sea—this stronghold of the sea—declares,

“I am as one who has[[249]](#footnote-249)b never labored,

Never given birth,

Never raised youths

Or reared maidens!”

5 When the Egyptians heard it, they quailed

As when they heard about Tyre.

6 Pass on to Tarshish—

Howl, you coastland dwellers!

7 Was such your merry city

In former times, of yore?

Did her feet carry her off

To sojourn far away?

8 Who was it that planned this

For crown-wearing Tyre,

Whose merchants were nobles,

Whose traders the world honored?

9 God of Hosts planned it—

To defile all glorious beauty,

To shame all the honored of the world.

10 Traverse your land like the Nile,

Fair Tarshish;[[250]](#footnote-250)c

This is a harbor[[251]](#footnote-251)d no more.

11 God poised an arm o'er the sea

And made kingdoms quake—

Decreeing destruction

For Phoenicia's[[252]](#footnote-252)e strongholds,

12 And said,

“You shall be exultant no more,

O plundered one, Fair Maiden Sidon.

Up, cross over to Kittim—

Even there you shall have no rest.”

13 [[253]](#footnote-253)fBehold the land of Chaldea—

This is the people that has ceased to be.

Assyria, which founded it for ships,

Which raised its watchtowers,

Erected its ramparts,

Has turned it into a ruin.

14 Howl, O ships of Tarshish,

For your stronghold is destroyed!

15 In that day, Tyre shall remain forgotten for seventy years, equaling the lifetime of one king. After a lapse of seventy years, it shall go with Tyre as with the harlot in the ditty:

16 Take a lyre, go about the town,

Harlot long forgotten;

Sweetly play, make much music,

To bring you back to mind.

17 For after a lapse of seventy years, God will take note of Tyre, and she shall resume her “fee-taking” and “play the harlot”[[254]](#footnote-254)g with all the kingdoms of the world, on the face of the earth. 18 But her profits and “hire” shall be consecrated to God. They shall not be treasured or stored; rather shall her profits go to those who abide before God, that they may eat their fill and clothe themselves elegantly.

24

1 Behold,

God will strip the earth bare,

And lay it waste,

And twist its surface,

And scatter its inhabitants.

2 Laity and priest shall fare alike,

Slave and master,

Handmaid and mistress,

Buyer and seller,

Lender and borrower,

Creditor and debtor.

3 The earth shall be bare, bare;

It shall be plundered, plundered;

For it is God who spoke this word.

4 The earth is withered, sear;

The world languishes, it is sear;

The most exalted people of the earth[[255]](#footnote-255)h languish.

5 For the earth was defiled

Under its inhabitants;

Because they transgressed teachings,

Violated laws,

Broke the ancient covenant.[[256]](#footnote-256)i

6 That is why a curse consumes the earth,

And its inhabitants pay the penalty;

That is why earth's dwellers have dwindled,

And but few people are left.

7 The new wine fails,

The vine languishes;

And all the merry-hearted sigh.

8 Stilled is the merriment of timbrels,

Ended the clamor of revelers,

Stilled the merriment of lyres.

9 They drink their wine without song;

Liquor tastes bitter to the drinker.

10 Towns are broken,[[257]](#footnote-257)j empty;

Every house is shut, none enter;

11 Even over wine, a cry goes up in the streets:

The sun has set on all joy,

The gladness of the earth is banished.

12 Desolation is left in the town

And the gate is battered to ruins.

13 For thus shall it be among the peoples

In the midst of the earth:

As when the olive tree is beaten out,

Like gleanings when the vintage is over.

14 These shall lift up their voices,

Exult in the majesty of God.

They shall shout from the sea:

15 Therefore, honor God with lights

In the coastlands of the sea—

The name of the Eternal, the God of Israel.

16 From the end of the earth

We hear singing:

Glory to the righteous!

And I said:[[258]](#footnote-258)k

I waste away! I waste away! Woe is me!

The faithless have acted faithlessly;

The faithless have broken faith![[259]](#footnote-259)l

17 Terror, and pit, and trap[[260]](#footnote-260)m

Upon you who dwell on earth!

18 Whoever flees at the report of the terror

Shall fall into the pit;

And whoever climbs out of the pit

Shall be caught in the trap.

For sluices are opened on high,

And earth's foundations tremble.

19 The earth is breaking, breaking;

The earth is crumbling, crumbling.

The earth is tottering, tottering;

20 The earth is swaying like a drunkard;

It is rocking to and fro like a hut.

Its iniquity shall weigh it down,

And it shall fall, to rise no more.

21 In that day, God will punish

The host of heaven in heaven

And the kings of the earth on earth.

22 They shall be gathered in a dungeon

As captives are gathered;

And shall be locked up in a prison.

But after many days they shall be remembered.

23 Then the moon shall be ashamed,

And the sun shall be abashed.

For God of Hosts will reign

On Mount Zion and in Jerusalem,

And the Presence will be revealed to God's elders.

25

1 O Eternal One, You are my God;

I will extol You, I will praise Your name.

For You planned graciousness[[261]](#footnote-261)n of old,

Counsels of steadfast faithfulness.

2 For You have turned a city into a stone heap,

A walled town into a ruin,

The citadel of strangers[[262]](#footnote-262)o into rubble,[[263]](#footnote-263)p

Never to be rebuilt.

3 Therefore a fierce people must honor You,

A city of cruel nations must fear You.

4 For You have been a refuge for the pauper,

A shelter for the needy person in distress—

Shelter from rainstorm, shade from heat.

When the fury of tyrants was like a winter[[264]](#footnote-264)q rainstorm,

5 The rage of strangers[[265]](#footnote-265)r like heat in the desert,

You subdued the heat with the shade of clouds,

The singing[[266]](#footnote-266)s of the tyrants was vanquished.

6 God of Hosts will make on this mount[[267]](#footnote-267)t

For all the peoples

A banquet of rich viands,

A banquet of choice wines—

Of rich viands seasoned with marrow,

Of choice wines[[268]](#footnote-268)u well refined.

7 And on this mount[[269]](#footnote-269)v will be destroyed the shroud

That is drawn over the faces of all the peoples,

And the covering that is spread

Over all the nations:

8 Death[[270]](#footnote-270)w will be destroyed forever.

My Sovereign God will wipe the tears away

From all faces

And will put an end to the reproach of God's people[[271]](#footnote-271)x

Over all the earth—

For it is God who has spoken.

9 In that day they shall say:

This is our God;

We trusted in the One who delivered us.

This is God, in whom we trusted;

Let us rejoice and exult in God's deliverance!

10 For the hand of God shall descend

Upon this mount,[[272]](#footnote-272)y

And Moab[[273]](#footnote-273)z shall be trampled underfoot

As straw is threshed to bits at Madmenah.[[274]](#footnote-274)a

11 Then [God's] hands will be spread out in their homeland,[[275]](#footnote-275)b

As a swimmer's hands are spread out to swim,

And their pride will be humbled

Along with the emblems of their power.[[276]](#footnote-276)c

12 Yea, the secure fortification of their[[277]](#footnote-277)d walls

Will be laid low and humble—

Will be razed to the ground, to the very dust.

26

1 In that day, this song shall be sung

In the land of Judah:

Ours is a mighty city;

[God] makes victory our inner and outer wall.

2 Open the gates, and let

A righteous nation enter,

[A nation] that keeps faith.

3 The confident mind You guard in safety,

In safety because it trusts in You.

4 Trust in God for ever and ever,

For in Yah—God— you have an everlasting Rock.

5 For [God] has brought low those who dwelt high up,

Has humbled the secure city,

Humbled it to the ground,

Leveled it with the dust—

6 To be trampled underfoot,

By the feet of the needy,

By the soles of the poor.

7 The path is level for the righteous;

O Just One, You make smooth the course of the righteous.

8 For Your just ways, O Eternal One, we look to You;

We long for the name by which You are called.

9 At night I yearn for You with all my being,

I seek You with all the spirit within me.[[278]](#footnote-278)e

For when Your judgments are wrought on earth,

The inhabitants of the world learn righteousness.

10 But the scoundrel, when spared, learns not righteousness;

Doing wrong in a place of integrity—

Ignoring the majesty of God.

11 O Eternal One!

They see not Your hand exalted.

Let them be shamed as they behold

Your zeal for Your people

And fire consuming Your adversaries.

12 [[279]](#footnote-279)fO Eternal One!

May You appoint well-being for us,

Since You have also requited all our misdeeds.

13 O Eternal One our God!

Rulers other than You possessed us,

But only Your name shall we utter.

14 They are dead, they can never live;

Shades, they can never rise;

Of a truth, You have dealt with them and wiped them out,

Have put an end to all mention of them.

15 [[280]](#footnote-280)gWhen You added to the nation, O Eternal One—

When You added to the nation,

Extending all the boundaries of the land,

You were honored.

16 O Eternal One! In their distress, they sought You;

Your chastisement reduced them

To anguished[[281]](#footnote-281)h whispered prayer.

17 Like a woman with child

Approaching childbirth,

Writhing and screaming in her pangs,

So are we become because of You, O Eternal One.

18 We were with child, we writhed—

It is as though we had given birth to wind;

We have won no victory on earth;

The inhabitants of the world have not come to life![[282]](#footnote-282)i

19 Oh, let Your dead revive!

Let corpses[[283]](#footnote-283)j arise!

Awake and shout for joy,

You who dwell in the dust!—

For Your dew is like the dew on fresh growth;

You make the land of the shades come to life.[[284]](#footnote-284)k

20 Go, my people, enter your chambers,

And lock your doors behind you.

Hide but a little moment,

Until the indignation passes.

21 For lo!

God shall come forth from seclusion[[285]](#footnote-285)°

To punish the dwellers of the earth

For their iniquity;

And the earth shall disclose its bloodshed

And shall no longer conceal its slain.

27

1 In that day God will punish

With a great, cruel, mighty sword

Leviathan the Elusive[[286]](#footnote-286)l Serpent—

Leviathan the Twisting[[287]](#footnote-287)m Serpent;

The Dragon of the sea[[288]](#footnote-288)n will be slain.

2 In that day,

They shall sing of it:[[289]](#footnote-289)o

“Vineyard of Delight.”[[290]](#footnote-290)p

3 I God keep watch over it,

I water it every moment;

That no harm may befall it,[[291]](#footnote-291)q

I watch it night and day.

4 There is no anger in Me:

If it offers Me thorns and thistles,[[292]](#footnote-292)°

I will march to battle against it,

And set it all on fire.[[293]](#footnote-293)r

5 But if it holds fast to My refuge,

It makes peace with Me;

It makes peace with Me.[[294]](#footnote-294)s

6 [In days] to come Jacob shall strike root,

Israel shall sprout and blossom,

And the face of the world

Shall be covered with fruit.

7 Was he beaten as his beater has been?

Did he suffer such slaughter as his slayers?

8 Assailing them[[295]](#footnote-295)t with fury unchained,

His pitiless blast bore them off

On a day of gale.

9 [[296]](#footnote-296)uAssuredly, by this alone

Shall Jacob's sin be purged away;

This is the only price

For removing his guilt:

That he make all the altar-stones

Like shattered blocks of chalk—

With no sacred post left standing,

Nor any incense altar.

10 Thus fortified cities lie desolate,

Homesteads deserted, forsaken like a wilderness;

There calves graze, there they lie down

And consume its boughs.

11 When its crown is withered, they break;[[297]](#footnote-297)v

Women come and make fires with them.

For they are a people without understanding;

That is why

Their Maker will show them no mercy,

Their Creator will deny them grace.

12 And in that day, God will beat out [the peoples like grain] from the channel of the Euphrates to the Wadi of Egypt; and you shall be picked up one by one, O children of Israel!

13 And in that day, a great ram's horn shall be sounded; and the strayed who are in the land of Assyria and the expelled who are in the land of Egypt shall come and worship God on the holy mount, in Jerusalem.

28

1 Ah, the proud crowns of the drunkards of Ephraim,

Whose glorious beauty is but wilted flowers

On the heads of those bloated[[298]](#footnote-298)w with rich food,

Who are overcome by wine!

2 Lo, God[[299]](#footnote-299)° has something strong and mighty,

Like a storm of hail,

A shower of pestilence.

Something like a storm of massive, torrential rain[[300]](#footnote-300)x

Shall be hurled with force to the ground.

3 Trampled underfoot shall be

The proud crowns of the drunkards of Ephraim,

4 The wilted flowers—

On the heads of those bloated[[301]](#footnote-301)y with rich food—

That are his glorious beauty.

They shall be like an early fig

Before the fruit harvest;

Whoever sees it devours it

While it is still in his hand.[[302]](#footnote-302)z

5 In that day, God of Hosts shall become a crown of beauty and a diadem of glory for the remnant of this people, 6 and a spirit of judgment for the one who sits in judgment and of valor for those who repel attacks at the gate.

7 But these are also muddled by wine

And dazed by liquor:

Priest and prophet

Are muddled by liquor;

They are confused by wine,

They are dazed by liquor;

They are muddled in their visions,

They stumble in judgment.

8 Yea, all tables are covered

With vomit and filth,

So that no space is left.

9 [[303]](#footnote-303)a“To whom would he give instruction?

To whom expound a message?

To those newly weaned from milk,

Just taken away from the breast?

10 That same mutter upon mutter,

Murmur upon murmur,

Now here, now there!”

11 Truly, as one who speaks to that people in a stammering jargon and an alien tongue 12 is he who declares to them, “This is the resting place, let the weary rest;[[304]](#footnote-304)b this is the place of repose.” They refuse to listen. 13 To them the word of God is:

“Mutter upon mutter,

Murmur upon murmur,

Now here, now there.”

And so they will march,[[305]](#footnote-305)c

But they shall fall backward,

And be injured and snared and captured.

14 Hear now the word of God,

You scoffers,

Who govern that people[[306]](#footnote-306)d

In Jerusalem!

15 For you have said,

“We have made a covenant with Death,

Concluded a pact with Sheol.

When the sweeping flood passes through,

It shall not reach us;

For we have made falsehood our refuge,

Taken shelter in treachery.”

16 Assuredly,

Thus said the Sovereign God:

“Behold, I will found in Zion,

Stone by stone,

A tower of precious cornerstones,[[307]](#footnote-307)e

Exceedingly firm;

One who trusts need not fear.

17 But I will apply judgment as a measuring line

And retribution[[308]](#footnote-308)f as weights;[[309]](#footnote-309)g

Hail shall sweep away the refuge of falsehood,

And flood-waters engulf your shelter.

18 Your covenant with Death shall be annulled,

Your pact with Sheol shall not endure;

When the sweeping flood passes through,

You shall be its victims.

19 It shall catch you

Every time it passes through;

It shall pass through every morning,

Every day and every night.

And it shall be sheer horror

To grasp the message.”

20 The couch is too short for stretching out,

And the cover too narrow for curling up!

21 For God will arise

As on the hill of Perazim;

[God] will be roused

As in the vale of Gibeon,

To do godly work—

Strange is this work!

And to perform God's task—

Astounding is this task![[310]](#footnote-310)h

22 Therefore, refrain from mockery,

Lest your bonds be tightened.

For I have heard a decree of destruction

From my Sovereign God of Hosts

Against all the land.

23 Give diligent ear to my words,

Attend carefully to what I say.

24 Do those who plow to sow

Plow all the time,

Breaking up and furrowing their land?

25 When they have smoothed its surface,

Do they not rather broadcast black cumin

And scatter cumin,

Or set wheat in a row,[[311]](#footnote-311)i

Barley in a strip,

And emmer in a patch?

26 For they are taught the right manner,

Their God instructs them.

27 So, too, black cumin is not threshed with a threshing board,

Nor is the wheel of a threshing sledge rolled over cumin;

But black cumin is beaten out with a stick

And cumin with a rod.

28 It is cereal that is crushed.[[312]](#footnote-312)j

For even if[[313]](#footnote-313)k it is threshed thoroughly,

And overwhelmed by the wheel of a sledge and horses,[[314]](#footnote-314)l

It will not be crushed.

29 That, too, is ordered by God of Hosts—

Whose counsel is unfathomable,

And whose wisdom is marvelous.

29

1 “Ah, Ariel,[[315]](#footnote-315)m Ariel,

City where David camped!

Add year to year,

Let festivals come in their cycles!

2 And I will harass Ariel,

And there shall be sorrow and sighing.

She shall be to Me like Ariel.[[316]](#footnote-316)n

3 And I will camp against you round about;[[317]](#footnote-317)o

I will lay siege to you with a mound,[[318]](#footnote-318)p

And I will set up siegeworks against you.

4 And you shall speak from lower than the ground,

Your speech shall be humbler than the sod;

Your speech shall sound like a ghost's from the ground,

Your voice shall chirp from the sod.

5 And like fine dust shall be

The multitude of your strangers;[[319]](#footnote-319)q

And like flying chaff,

The multitude of tyrants.”

And suddenly, in an instant,

6 She shall be remembered of God of Hosts

With roaring, and shaking, and deafening noise,

Storm, and tempest, and blaze of consuming fire.

7 Then, like a dream, a vision of the night,

Shall be the multitude of nations

That war upon Ariel,

And all her besiegers, and the siegeworks against her,

And those who harass her.

8 Like someone hungry who dreams of eating,

But wakes up still hungry;

And like someone thirsty who dreams of drinking,

But wakes faint

And utterly parched—

So shall be all the multitude of nations

That war upon Mount Zion.

9 Act stupid and be stupefied!

Act blind and be blinded!

(They are drunk, but not from wine,

They stagger, but not from liquor.)

10 For God has spread over you

A spirit of deep sleep,

And has shut your eyes, the prophets,

And covered your heads, the seers;

11 So that all prophecy has been to you

Like the words of a sealed document.

If it is handed to one who can read with a request to read it, the response will be, “I can't, because it is sealed”; 12 and if the document is handed with the same request to one who cannot read, the response will be, “I can't read.”

13 God[[320]](#footnote-320)° said:

Because that people has approached [Me] with its mouth

And honored Me with its lips,

But has kept its heart far from Me,

And its worship of Me has been

A social obligation,[[321]](#footnote-321)° learned by rote—

14 Truly, I shall further baffle that people

With bafflement upon bafflement;

And the wisdom of its wise shall fail,

And the prudence of its prudent shall vanish.

15 Ha! Those who would hide their plans

Deep from God!

Who do their work in dark places

And say, “Who sees us, who takes note of us?”

16 How perverse of you!

Should the potter be accounted as the clay?[[322]](#footnote-322)r

Should what is made say of its Maker,

“This One did not make me,”

And what is formed say of the One who formed it,

“That One did not understand”?[[323]](#footnote-323)s

17 Surely, in a little while,

Lebanon will be transformed into farm land,

And farm land accounted as mere brush.

18 In that day, the deaf shall hear even written words,

And the eyes of the blind shall see

Even in darkness and obscurity.

19 Then the humble shall have increasing joy through God,

And the neediest of people shall exult

In the Holy One of Israel.

20 For the tyrant shall be no more,

The scoffer shall cease to be;

And those diligent for evil shall be wiped out,

21 Who cause people to lose their lawsuits,

Laying a snare for the arbiter at the gate,

And wronging by falsehood

One who was in the right.

22 Assuredly, thus said God to the House of Jacob, Who redeemed Abraham:[[324]](#footnote-324)t

No more shall Jacob be shamed,

No longer his face grow pale.

23 For when he—that is, his progeny—behold what My hands have wrought in his midst, they will hallow My name.

They will hallow the Holy One of Jacob

And stand in awe of the God of Israel.

24 And the confused shall acquire insight

And grumblers accept instruction.

30

1 Oh, disloyal children!

—declares God—

Making plans

Against My wishes,

Weaving schemes

Against My will,

Thereby piling

Guilt on guilt—

2 Who set out to go down to Egypt

Without asking Me,

To seek refuge with Pharaoh,

To seek shelter under the protection of Egypt.

3 The refuge with Pharaoh shall result in your shame;

The shelter under Egypt's protection, in your chagrin.

4 Though his officers are present in Zoan,[[325]](#footnote-325)u

And his messengers[[326]](#footnote-326)v reach as far as Hanes,

5 They all shall come to shame

Because of a people that does not avail them,

That is of no help or avail,

But [brings] only chagrin and disgrace.

6 The “Beasts of the Negeb” Pronouncement.

Through a[[327]](#footnote-327)w land of distress and hardship,

Of lion and roaring[[328]](#footnote-328)x king-beast,

Of viper and flying seraph,[[329]](#footnote-329)y

They convey their wealth on the backs of asses,

Their treasures on camels' humps,

To a people of no avail.

7 For the help of Egypt

Shall be vain and empty.

Truly, I call this,

“They are a threat that has ceased.”[[330]](#footnote-330)z

8 Now,

Go, write it down on a tablet

And inscribe it in a record,

That it may be with them for future days,

A witness[[331]](#footnote-331)a forever.

9 For it is a rebellious people,

Faithless children,

Children who refused to heed

The instruction of God;

10 Who said to the seers,

“Do not see,”

To the prophets, “Do not prophesy truth to us;

Speak to us falsehoods,

Prophesy delusions.

11 Leave the way!

Get off the path!

Let us hear no more

About the Holy One of Israel!”

12 Assuredly,

Thus said the Holy One of Israel:

Because you have rejected this word,

And have put your trust and reliance

In that which is fraudulent and tortuous—

13 Of a surety,

This iniquity shall work on you

Like a spreading breach that occurs in a lofty wall,

Whose crash comes sudden and swift.

14 It is smashed as one smashes an earthen jug,

Ruthlessly shattered

So that no shard is left in its breakage

To scoop coals from a brazier,

Or ladle water from a puddle.

15 For thus said my Sovereign God,

The Holy One of Israel,

“You shall triumph by stillness and quiet;

Your victory shall come about

Through calm and confidence.”

But you refused.

16 “No,” you declared.

“We shall flee on steeds”—

Therefore you shall flee!

“We shall ride on swift mounts”—

Therefore your pursuers shall prove swift!

17 One thousand before the shout of one—

You shall flee at the shout of five;

Till what is left of you

Is like a mast on a hilltop,

Like a pole upon a mountain.

18 Truly, God is waiting to show you grace,

Truly, to arise and pardon you.

For God is a God of justice;

Happy are all who wait, in turn.[[332]](#footnote-332)°

19 Indeed, O people in Zion, dwellers of Jerusalem, you shall not have cause to weep. Divine favor will be granted at the sound of your cry; upon hearing it, [God] will respond. 20 God will provide for you meager bread and scant water. Then your Guide will no more be ignored,[[333]](#footnote-333)b but your eyes will watch your Guide; 21 and, whenever you deviate to the right or to the left, your ears will heed the command from behind you: “This is the road; follow it!” 22 And you will treat as unclean the silver overlay of your images and the golden plating of your idols. You will cast[[334]](#footnote-334)c them away like a menstruous woman. “Out!” you will call to them.

23 So rain shall be provided for the seed with which you sow the ground, and the bread that the ground brings forth shall be rich and fat. Your livestock, in that day, shall graze in broad pastures; 24 as for the cattle and the asses that till the soil, they shall partake of salted fodder that has been winnowed with shovel and fan.

25 And on every high mountain and on every lofty hill, there shall appear brooks and watercourses—on a day of heavy slaughter, when towers topple. 26 And the light of the moon shall become like the light of the sun, and the light of the sun shall become sevenfold, like the light of the seven days, when God binds up the wounds of this people and heals the injuries it has suffered.

27 Behold God's eminent might[[335]](#footnote-335)d

Comes from afar

In blazing wrath,

With a heavy burden[[336]](#footnote-336)e—

With lips full of fury,

With tongue like devouring fire,

28 And breath like a raging torrent

Reaching halfway up the neck—

To set a misguiding yoke[[337]](#footnote-337)f upon nations

And a misleading bridle upon the jaws of peoples.

29 For you, there shall be singing

As on a night when a festival is hallowed;

There shall be rejoicing as when they march

With flute, with timbrels, and with lyres[[338]](#footnote-338)g

To the Rock of Israel on the Mount of God.

30 For God will project a majestic voice

And display the sweep of an arm

In raging wrath,

In a devouring blaze of fire,

In tempest, and rainstorm, and hailstones.

31 Truly, Assyria, who beats with the rod,

Shall be cowed by the voice of God;

32 [[339]](#footnote-339)hAnd each time the appointed staff passes by,

God will bring down [an arm] upon him

And will do battle with him as he waves it.

33 The Topheth[[340]](#footnote-340)i has long been ready for him;

He too is destined for Melech[[341]](#footnote-341)j—

His firepit has been made both wide and deep,

With plenty of fire and firewood,

And with the breath of God

Burning in it like a stream of sulfur.

31

1 Ha!

Those who go down to Egypt for help

And rely upon horses!

They have put their trust in abundance of chariots,

In vast numbers of riders,

And they have not turned to the Holy One of Israel,

They have not sought God.

2 But [God] too is wise—

Having brought on misfortune

And not having canceled the pronouncements.

[God] shall rise against the house of evildoers,

And the allies[[342]](#footnote-342)k of the workers of iniquity.

3 For the Egyptians are human, not God,

And their horses are flesh, not spirit;

And when God stretches out a divine arm,

The helper shall trip

And the helped one shall fall,

And both shall perish together.

4 For thus God has said to me:

As a lion—a great beast—

Growls over its prey

And, when the shepherds gather

In force against it,

Is not dismayed by their cries

Nor cowed by their noise—

So God of Hosts will descend to make war

Against the mount and the hill of Zion.

5 Like the birds that fly, even so will God of Hosts shield Jerusalem, shielding and saving, protecting and rescuing.

6 Return, O children of Israel,[[343]](#footnote-343)l to the One to whom they have been so shamefully false; 7 for in that day everyone will reject their idols of silver and idols of gold, which your hands have made for your guilt.

8 Then Assyria shall fall,

Not by the sword of mortals;

A sword not of humans shall devour him.

He shall shrivel[[344]](#footnote-344)m before the sword,

And his young men pine away.[[345]](#footnote-345)n

9 His rock shall melt with terror,

And his officers shall collapse from weakness[[346]](#footnote-346)o—

Declares God, who has a fire in Zion,

Who has an oven in Jerusalem.[[347]](#footnote-347)p

32

1 Behold, a king shall reign in righteousness,

And ministers shall govern with justice;

2 Every one of them shall be

Like a refuge from gales,

A shelter from rainstorms—

Or like brooks of water in a desert,

Like the shade of a massive rock

In a languishing land.

3 Then the eyes of those who have sight shall not be sealed,

And the ears of those who have hearing shall listen;

4 And the minds of the thoughtless shall attend and note,

And the tongues of mumblers shall speak with fluent eloquence.

5 No more shall a villain be called noble,

Nor shall “honorable” be said of a knave.

6 For the villains speak villainy

And plot treachery;

To act impiously

And to preach disloyalty against God;

To leave the hungry unsatisfied

And deprive the thirsty of drink.

7 As for the knaves, their tools are knavish.

They forge plots

To destroy the poor with falsehoods

And the needy when they plead their cause.

8 But the noble have noble intentions

And are constant in noble acts.

9 You carefree women,

Attend, hear my words!

You confident ladies,

Give ear to my speech!

10 In little more than a year,[[348]](#footnote-348)q

You shall be troubled, O confident ones,

When the vintage is over

And no ingathering takes place.

11 Tremble, you carefree ones!

Quake, O confident ones!

Strip yourselves naked,

Put the cloth about your loins!

12 Lament upon the breasts,[[349]](#footnote-349)r

For the pleasant fields,

For the spreading grapevines,

13 For my people's soil—

It shall be overgrown with briers and thistles—

Aye, and for all the houses of delight,

For the city of mirth.

14 For the castle shall be abandoned,

The noisy city forsaken;

Citadel and tower shall become

Bare places[[350]](#footnote-350)s forever,

A stamping ground for wild asses,

A pasture for flocks[[351]](#footnote-351)t—

15 Till a spirit from on high is poured out on us,

And wilderness is transformed into farm land,

While farm land rates as mere brush.[[352]](#footnote-352)u

16 Then justice shall abide in the wilderness

And righteousness shall dwell on the farm land.

17 For the work of righteousness shall be peace,

And the effect of righteousness, calm and confidence forever.

18 Then my people shall dwell in peaceful homes,

In secure dwellings,

In untroubled places of rest.

19 [[353]](#footnote-353)vAnd the brush shall sink and vanish,

Even as the city is laid low.

20 Happy shall you be who sow by all waters,

Who send out cattle and asses to pasture.[[354]](#footnote-354)w

33

1 Ha, you ravager who are not ravaged,

You betrayer who have not been betrayed!

When you have done ravaging, you shall be ravaged;

When you have finished betraying, you shall be betrayed.

2 O Eternal One, be gracious to us!

It is to You we have looked;

Be their arm[[355]](#footnote-355)x every morning,

Also our deliverance in time of stress.

3 At [Your] roaring, peoples have fled,

Before Your majesty nations have scattered;

4 And spoil[[356]](#footnote-356)y was gathered as locusts are gathered,

It[[357]](#footnote-357)z was amassed[[358]](#footnote-358)a as grasshoppers are amassed.[[359]](#footnote-359)b

5 God is exalted,

Dwelling on high—

[Of old] filling Zion

With justice and righteousness.

6 Faithfulness to Your charge[[360]](#footnote-360)c was [her] wealth,

Wisdom and devotion [her] triumph,

Reverence for God—that was her[[361]](#footnote-361)d treasure.

7 Hark! The Arielites[[362]](#footnote-362)e cry aloud;

Shalom's[[363]](#footnote-363)f messengers weep bitterly.

8 Highways are desolate,

Wayfarers have ceased.

A covenant has been renounced,

Cities[[364]](#footnote-364)g rejected

Mortals[[365]](#footnote-365)h despised.

9 The land is wilted and withered;

Lebanon disgraced and moldering,

Sharon is become like a desert,

And Bashan and Carmel are stripped bare.

10 “Now I will arise,” says God,

“Now I will exalt Myself, now raise Myself high.

11 You shall conceive hay,

Give birth to straw;

My[[366]](#footnote-366)i breath will devour you like fire.

12 Peoples shall be burnings of lime,[[367]](#footnote-367)j

Thorns cut down that are set on fire.

13 Hear, you who are far, what I have done;

You who are near, note My might.”

14 Sinners in Zion are frightened,

The godless are seized with trembling:

“Who of us can dwell with the devouring fire:

Who of us can dwell with the never-dying blaze?”

15 Whoever walks in righteousness,

Speaks uprightly,

Spurns profit from fraudulent dealings,

Waves away a bribe instead of grasping it,

Stops their ears against listening to infamy,

Shuts their eyes against looking at evil—

16 Such a one shall dwell in lofty security,

With inaccessible cliffs for a stronghold,

With food supplied

And drink assured.

17 When your eyes behold a king in his beauty,[[368]](#footnote-368)k

When they contemplate the land round about,

18 Your throat[[369]](#footnote-369)l shall murmur in awe,

“Where is one who could count? Where is one who could weigh?

Where is one who could count [all these] towers?”

19 No more shall you see the barbarian folk,

The people of speech too obscure to comprehend,

So stammering of tongue that they are not understood.

20 When you gaze upon Zion, our city of assembly,

Your eyes shall behold Jerusalem

As a secure homestead,

A tent not to be transported,

Whose pegs shall never be pulled up,

And none of whose ropes shall break.

21 For there God in divine greatness shall be for us

Like a region of rivers, of broad streams,

Where no floating vessels can sail

And no mighty craft can travel—

Their[[370]](#footnote-370)m ropes are slack,

They cannot steady the sockets of their masts,

They cannot spread a sail.[[371]](#footnote-371)n

22 For God shall be our ruler,

God shall be our monarch,

God shall be our sovereign

And shall deliver us.

23 Then shall indeed much spoil be divided,[[372]](#footnote-372)o

Even the lame shall seize booty.

24 And no one who lives there shall say, “I am sick”;

It shall be inhabited by folk whose sin has been forgiven.

34

1 Approach, O nations, and listen,

Give heed, O peoples!

Let the earth and those in it hear;

The world, and what it brings forth.

2 For God is angry at all the nations,

Furious at all their host;

They have been doomed, consigned to slaughter.

3 Their slain shall be left lying,

And the stench of their corpses shall mount;

And the hills shall be drenched with their blood,

4 All the host of heaven shall molder.[[373]](#footnote-373)p

The heavens shall be rolled up like a scroll,

And all their host shall wither

Like a leaf withering on the vine,

Or shriveled fruit on a fig tree.

5 For My sword shall be drunk[[374]](#footnote-374)q in the sky;

Lo, it shall come down upon Edom,

Upon the people I have doomed,

To wreak judgment.

6 God has a sword; it is sated with blood,

It is gorged with fat—

The blood of lambs and he-goats,

The kidney fat of rams.

For God holds a sacrifice in Bozrah,

A great slaughter in the land of Edom.

7 Wild oxen shall fall with them,[[375]](#footnote-375)r

Young bulls with mighty steers;

And their land shall be drunk with blood,

Their soil shall be saturated with fat.

8 For it is God's day of retribution,

The year of vindication for Zion's cause.

9 Its[[376]](#footnote-376)s streams shall be turned to pitch

And its soil to sulfur.

Its land shall become burning pitch,

10 Night and day it shall never go out;

Its smoke shall rise for all time.

Through the ages it shall lie in ruins;

Through the aeons none shall traverse it.

11 Jackdaws and owls[[377]](#footnote-377)t shall possess it;

Great owls and ravens shall dwell there.

[God] shall measure it with a line of chaos

And with weights of emptiness.[[378]](#footnote-378)u

12 It shall be called “No kingdom is there,”[[379]](#footnote-379)v

Its nobles and all its lords shall be nothing.

13 Thorns shall grow up in its palaces,

Nettles and briers in its strongholds.

It shall be a home of jackals,

An abode of ostriches.

14 [[380]](#footnote-380)wWildcats shall meet hyenas,

Goat-demons shall greet each other;

There too the lilith[[381]](#footnote-381)x shall repose

And find herself[[382]](#footnote-382)° a resting place.

15 There the arrow-snake shall nest and lay eggs,

And shall brood and hatch in its shade.

There too the buzzards shall gather

With one another.

16 Search and read it in the scroll of God:

Not one of these shall be absent,

Not one shall miss its fellow.

For God's[[383]](#footnote-383)y mouth has spoken,

It is God's spirit that has assembled them—

17 The One who apportioned it to them by lot,

Whose hand divided it for them with the line.

They shall possess it for all time,

They shall dwell there through the ages.

35

1 The arid desert shall be glad,

The wilderness shall rejoice

And shall blossom like a rose.[[384]](#footnote-384)z

2 It shall blossom abundantly,

It shall also exult and shout.

It shall receive the glory of Lebanon,

The splendor of Carmel and Sharon.

They shall behold the glory of God,

The splendor of our God.

3 Strengthen the hands that are slack;

Make firm the tottering knees!

4 Say to the anxious of heart,

“Be strong, fear not;

Behold your God!

Requital is coming,

The recompense of God—

Who is indeed coming to give you triumph.”

5 Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,

And the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped.

6 Then the lame shall leap like a deer,

And the tongue of the dumb shall shout aloud;

For waters shall burst forth in the desert,

Streams in the wilderness.

7 Torrid earth shall become a pool;

Parched land, fountains of water;

The home of jackals, a pasture;[[385]](#footnote-385)a

The abode [of ostriches],[[386]](#footnote-386)b reeds and rushes.

8 And a highway shall appear there,

Which shall be called the Sacred Way.

No one unclean shall pass along it,

But it shall be for them.[[387]](#footnote-387)c

No traveler, not even fools, shall go astray.[[388]](#footnote-388)d

9 No lion shall be there,

No ferocious beast shall set foot on it—

These shall not be found there.

But the redeemed shall walk it;

10 And the ransomed of God shall return,

And come with shouting to Zion,

Crowned with joy everlasting.

They shall attain joy and gladness,

While sorrow and sighing flee.

36

1 [[389]](#footnote-389)eIn the fourteenth year of King Hezekiah, King Sennacherib of Assyria marched against all the fortified towns of Judah and seized them. 2 From Lachish, the king of Assyria sent the Rabshakeh,[[390]](#footnote-390)f with a large force, to King Hezekiah in Jerusalem. [The Rabshakeh] took up a position near the conduit of the Upper Pool, by the road of the Fuller's Field; 3 and Eliakim son of Hilkiah who was in charge of the palace, Shebna the scribe, and Joah son of Asaph the recorder went out to him.

4 The Rabshakeh said to them, “You tell Hezekiah: Thus said the Great King, the king of Assyria: What makes you so confident? 5 I suppose[[391]](#footnote-391)g mere talk makes counsel and valor for war! Look, on whom are you relying, that you have rebelled against me? 6 You are relying on Egypt, that splintered reed of a staff, which enters and punctures the palm of anyone who leans on it. That's what Pharaoh king of Egypt is like to all who rely on him. 7 And if you tell me that you are relying on the Eternal your God, this is the very one whose shrines and altars Hezekiah did away with, telling Judah and Jerusalem, ‘You must worship only at this altar!’ 8 Come now, make this wager with my master, the king of Assyria: I'll give you two thousand horses, if you can produce riders to mount them. 9 So how could you refuse anything, even to the deputy of one of my master's lesser servants, relying on Egypt for chariots and riders? 10 And do you think I have marched against this land to destroy it without God? It was God who told me: Go up against that land and destroy it.”

11 Eliakim, Shebna, and Joah replied to the Rabshakeh, “Please, speak to your servants in Aramaic, since we understand it; do not speak to us in Judean in the hearing of the people on the wall.” 12 But the Rabshakeh replied, “Was it to your master and to you that my master sent me to speak those words? It was precisely to the men who are sitting on the wall—who will have to eat their dung and drink their urine with you.” 13 And the Rabshakeh stood and called out in a loud voice in Judean: 14 “Hear the words of the Great King, the king of Assyria! Thus said the king: Don't let Hezekiah deceive you, for he will not be able to save you. 15 Don't let Hezekiah make you rely on God, saying, ‘God will surely save us; this city will not fall into the hands of Assyria!’ 16 Don't listen to Hezekiah. For thus said the king of Assyria: Make your peace with me and come out to me,[[392]](#footnote-392)h so that you may all eat from your vines and your fig trees and drink water from your cisterns, 17 until I come and take you away to a land like your own, a land of bread and wine, of grain [fields] and vineyards. 18 Beware of letting Hezekiah mislead you by saying, ‘God will save us.’ Did any of the gods of the other nations save their land from the king of Assyria? 19 Where were the gods of Hamath and Arpad? Where were the gods of Sepharvaim? And did they[[393]](#footnote-393)i save Samaria from me? 20 Which among all the gods of those countries saved their countries from me, that God should save Jerusalem from me?” 21 But they were silent and did not answer him with a single word; for the king's order was: “Do not answer him.”

22 And so Eliakim son of Hilkiah who was in charge of the palace, Shebna the scribe, and Joah son of Asaph the recorder came to Hezekiah with their clothes rent, and they reported to him what the Rabshakeh had said.

37

1 When King Hezekiah heard this, he rent his clothes and covered himself with sackcloth and went into the House of God. 2 He also sent Eliakim, who was in charge of the palace, Shebna, the scribe, and the senior priests, covered with sackcloth, to the prophet Isaiah son of Amoz. 3 They said to him, “Thus said Hezekiah: This day is a day of distress, of chastisement, and of disgrace. The babes have reached the birthstool, but the strength to give birth is lacking.[[394]](#footnote-394)j 4 Perhaps the Eternal your God will take note of the words of the Rabshakeh, whom his master the king of Assyria has sent to blaspheme the living God, and will mete out judgment for the words that the Eternal your God has heard—if you will offer up prayer for the surviving remnant.”

5 When King Hezekiah's ministers came to Isaiah, 6 Isaiah said to them, “Tell your master as follows: Thus said God: Do not be frightened by the words of blasphemy against Me that you have heard from the minions of the king of Assyria. 7 I will delude[[395]](#footnote-395)k him: He will hear a rumor and return to his land, and I will make him fall by the sword in his land.”

8 The Rabshakeh, meanwhile, heard that [the king] had left Lachish; he turned back and found the king of Assyria attacking Libnah. 9 But [the king of Assyria] learned that King Tirhakah of Nubia had come out to fight him; and when he heard it, he sent messengers to Hezekiah, saying, 10 “Tell this to King Hezekiah of Judah: Do not let your God, on whom you are relying, mislead you into thinking that Jerusalem will not be delivered into the hands of the king of Assyria. 11 You yourself have heard what the kings of Assyria have done to all the lands, how they have annihilated them; and can you escape? 12 Were the nations that my predecessors[[396]](#footnote-396)l destroyed—Gozan, Haran, Rezeph, and the Bethedenites in Telassar—saved by their gods? 13 Where is the king of Hamath? and the king of Arpad? and the kings of Lair, Sepharvaim, Hena, and Ivvah?”

14 Hezekiah received the letter from the messengers and read it. Hezekiah then went up to the House of God and spread it out before God. 15 And Hezekiah prayed to God: 16 “O God of Heaven's Hosts, Enthroned on the Cherubim! You alone are God of all the kingdoms of the earth. You made the heavens and the earth. 17 O Eternal One, incline Your ear and hear, open Your eye and see. Hear all the words that Sennacherib has sent to blaspheme the living God! 18 True, O Eternal One, the kings of Assyria have annihilated all the nations[[397]](#footnote-397)m and their lands 19 and have committed their gods to the flames and have destroyed them; for they are not gods, but the handiwork of mere mortals, wood and stone. 20 But now, O Eternal One our God, deliver us from his hands, and let all the kingdoms of the earth know that You, O Eternal One, alone [are God].”[[398]](#footnote-398)n

21 Then Isaiah son of Amoz sent this message to Hezekiah: “Thus said God, the God of Israel, to whom you have prayed, concerning King Sennacherib of Assyria— 22 this is the word that God has spoken concerning him:

Fair Maiden Zion despises you,

She mocks at you;

Fair Jerusalem shakes

Her head at you.

23 Whom have you blasphemed and reviled?

Against whom made loud your voice

And haughtily raised your eyes?

Against the Holy One of Israel!

24 Through your servants you have blasphemed God.[[399]](#footnote-399)°

Because you thought,

‘Thanks to my vast chariotry,

It is I who have climbed the highest mountains,

To the remotest parts of the Lebanon,

And have cut down its loftiest cedars,

Its choicest cypresses,

And have reached its highest peak,

Its densest forest.[[400]](#footnote-400)o

25 It is I who have drawn[[401]](#footnote-401)p

And drunk water.

I have dried up with the soles of my feet

All the streams of Egypt.’

26 Have you not heard? Of old

I planned that very thing,

I designed it long ago,

And now have fulfilled it.

And it has come to pass,

Laying fortified towns waste in desolate heaps.

27 Their inhabitants are helpless,

Dismayed and shamed.

They were but grass of the field

And green herbage,

Grass of the roofs that is blasted

Before the east wind.[[402]](#footnote-402)q

28 I know your stayings

And your goings and comings,

And how you have raged against Me,

29 Because you have raged against Me,

And your tumult has reached My ears,

I will place My hook in your nose

And My bit between your jaws;

And I will make you go back by the road

By which you came.

30 “And this is the sign for you:[[403]](#footnote-403)r This year you eat what grows of itself, and the next year what springs from that, and in the third year sow and reap and plant vineyards and eat their fruit. 31 And the survivors of the House of Judah that have escaped shall renew its trunk below and produce boughs above.

32 For a remnant shall come forth from Jerusalem,

Survivors from Mount Zion.

The zeal of God of Hosts

Shall bring this to pass.

33 “Assuredly, thus said God concerning the king of Assyria:

He shall not enter this city;

He shall not shoot an arrow at it,

Or advance upon it with a shield,

Or pile up a siegemound against it.

34 He shall go back

By the way he came,

He shall not enter this city

—declares God;

35 I will protect and save this city for My sake

And for the sake of My servant David.”

36 [That night][[404]](#footnote-404)s an angel of God went out and struck down one hundred and eighty-five thousand in the Assyrian camp, and the following morning they were all dead corpses.

37 So King Sennacherib of Assyria broke camp and retreated, and stayed in Nineveh. 38 While he was worshiping in the temple of his god Nisroch, he was struck down with the sword by his sons Adrammelech and Sarezer. They fled to the land of Ararat, and his son Esarhaddon succeeded him as king.

38

1 In those days Hezekiah fell dangerously ill. The prophet Isaiah son of Amoz came and said to him, “Thus said God: Set your affairs in order, for you are going to die; you will not get well.” 2 Thereupon Hezekiah turned his face to the wall and prayed to God. 3 “Please, O Eternal One,” he said, “remember how I have walked before You sincerely and wholeheartedly, and have done what is pleasing to You.” And Hezekiah wept profusely.

4 Then the word of God came to Isaiah: 5 “Go and tell Hezekiah: Thus said God, the God of your father David: I have heard your prayer, I have seen your tears. I hereby add fifteen years to your life. 6 I will also rescue you and this city from the hands of the king of Assyria. I will protect this city. 7 And this is the sign for you from God that God will do the thing that was promised: 8 I am going to make the shadow on the steps, which has descended on the dial[[405]](#footnote-405)t of Ahaz because of the sun, recede ten steps.” And the sun['s shadow] receded ten steps, the same steps as it had descended.

9 A poem by King Hezekiah of Judah when he recovered from the illness he had suffered:

10 [[406]](#footnote-406)uI had thought:

I must depart in the middle of my days;

I have been consigned to the gates of Sheol

For the rest of my years.

11 I thought, I shall never see Yah,[[407]](#footnote-407)v

Yah in the land of the living,

Or ever behold humans again

Among those who inhabit the earth.[[408]](#footnote-408)°

12 My dwelling is pulled up and removed from me

Like a tent of shepherds;

My life is rolled up like a web

And cut from the thrum.

Only from daybreak to nightfall

Was I kept whole,

13 Then it was as though a lion

Were breaking all my bones;

I cried out until morning.

(Only from daybreak to nightfall

Was I kept whole.)[[409]](#footnote-409)w

14 I piped like a swift or a swallow,

I moaned like a dove,

As my eyes, all worn, looked to heaven:

“My Sovereign, I am in straits;

Be my surety!”

15 What can I say? It had been promised me,[[410]](#footnote-410)x

By the One who has wrought it.

All my sleep had fled

Because of the bitterness of my soul.

16 My Sovereign, for all that and despite it

My life-breath is revived;[[411]](#footnote-411)y

You have restored me to health and revived me.

17 Truly, it was for my own good

That I had such great bitterness:

You saved my life

From the pit of destruction,

For You have cast behind Your back

All my offenses.

18 For it is not Sheol that praises You,

Not [the Land of] Death that extols You;

Nor do they who descend into the Pit

Hope for Your grace.

19 The living, only the living

Can give thanks to You

As I do this day;

Fathers[[412]](#footnote-412)z relate to children

Your acts of grace:

20 “[It has pleased] God to deliver us,[[413]](#footnote-413)a

That is why we offer up music[[414]](#footnote-414)b

All the days of our lives

At the House of God.”

21 When Isaiah said, “Let them take a cake of figs and apply it to the rash, and he will recover,” 22 Hezekiah asked, “What will be the sign that I shall go up to the House of God?”

39

1 At that time, Merodach-baladan son of Baladan, the king of Babylon, sent [envoys with] a letter and a gift to Hezekiah, for he had heard about his illness and recovery. 2 Hezekiah was pleased by their coming, and he showed them his treasure house—the silver, the gold, the spices, and the fragrant oil—and all his armory, and everything that was to be found in his storehouses. There was nothing in his palace or in all his realm that Hezekiah did not show them. 3 Then the prophet Isaiah came to King Hezekiah. “What,” he demanded of him, “did those men say to you? Where have they come to you from?” “They have come to me,” replied Hezekiah, “from a far country, from Babylon.” 4 Next he asked, “What have they seen in your palace?” And Hezekiah replied, “They have seen everything there is in my palace. There was nothing in my storehouses that I did not show them.”

5 Then Isaiah said to Hezekiah, “Hear the word of God of Hosts: 6 A time is coming when everything in your palace, which your ancestors have stored up to this day, will be carried off to Babylon; nothing will be left behind, said God. 7 And some of your sons, your own issue, whom you will have fathered, will be taken to serve as eunuchs in the palace of the king of Babylon.” 8 Hezekiah declared to Isaiah, “The word of God that you have spoken is good.” For he thought, “It means that safety is assured for[[415]](#footnote-415)c my time.”

40

1 Comfort, oh comfort My people,

Says your God.

2 Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,

And declare to her

That her term of service is over,

That her iniquity is expiated;

For she has received at the hand of God

Double for all her sins.

3 A voice rings out:

“Clear in the desert

A road for God!

Level in the wilderness

A highway for our God!

4 Let every valley be raised,

Every hill and mount made low.

Let the rugged ground become level

And the ridges become a plain.

5 The Presence of God shall appear,

And all flesh, as one, shall behold—

For God[[416]](#footnote-416)° has spoken.”

6 A voice rings out: “Proclaim!”

Another asks,[[417]](#footnote-417)d “What shall I proclaim?”

“All flesh is grass,

All its goodness like flowers of the field:

7 Grass withers, flowers fade

When the breath of God blows on them.

Indeed, people are but grass:

8 Grass withers, flowers fade—

But the word of our God is always fulfilled!”

9 Ascend a lofty mountain,

O herald of joy to Zion;

Raise your voice with power,

O herald of joy to Jerusalem—

Raise it, have no fear;

Announce to the cities of Judah:

Behold your God!

10 Behold, my Sovereign God comes in might—

Whose arm wins triumph;

See, [God] has brought along the reward,

The recompense[[418]](#footnote-418)e is in view.

11 Like a shepherd who pastures the flock,

[God] gathers up the lambs

And carries them in the divine bosom,

While gently driving the mother sheep.

12 Who measured the waters with a hand's hollow,

And gauged the skies with a span,

And meted earth's dust with a measure,[[419]](#footnote-419)f

And weighed the mountains with a scale

And the hills with a balance?

13 Who has plumbed the mind of God,

What party could disclose God's plan?

14 Whom did [God] consult, and who bestowed understanding,

Providing guidance in the way of right?

Who guided [God] in knowledge

And made known the path of wisdom?

15 The nations are but a drop in a bucket,

Reckoned as dust on a balance;

The very coastlands are lifted like motes.

16 Lebanon is not fuel enough,

Nor its beasts enough for sacrifice.

17 All nations are as naught in God's sight,

Who accounts them as less than nothing.

18 To whom, then, can you liken God,

With what form can you make comparison?

19 The idol? A woodworker shaped it,

And a smith overlaid it with gold,

Forging links of silver.[[420]](#footnote-420)g

20 As a gift, someone chooses the mulberry[[421]](#footnote-421)h—

A wood that does not rot—

Then seeks a skillful woodworker

To make a firm idol,

That will not topple.

21 Do you not know?

Have you not heard?

Have you not been told

From the very first?

Have you not discerned

How the earth was founded?[[422]](#footnote-422)i

22 It is [God] who is enthroned above the vault of the earth,

So that its inhabitants seem as grasshoppers;

Who spread out the skies like gauze,

Stretched them out like a tent to dwell in—

23 Bringing potentates to naught,

Making rulers of the earth as nothing.

24 Hardly are they planted,

Hardly are they sown,

Hardly has their stem

Taken root in earth,

When [God] blows upon them and they dry up,

And the storm bears them off like straw.

25 To whom, then, can you liken Me,

To whom can I be compared?

—says the Holy One.

26 Lift high your eyes and see:

Who created these?

The One who sends out their host by count,

Who calls them each by name:

Given such great might and vast power,

Not a single one fails to appear.

27 Why do you say, O Jacob,

Why declare, O Israel,

“My way is hid from God,

My cause is ignored by my God”?

28 Do you not know?

Have you not heard?

The Eternal is God from of old,

Creator of the earth from end to end,

Who never grows faint or weary,

Whose wisdom cannot be fathomed—

29 Who gives strength to the weary,

Fresh vigor to the spent.

30 Youths may grow faint and weary,

And young men stumble and fall;

31 But they who trust in God shall renew their strength

As eagles grow new plumes:[[423]](#footnote-423)j

They shall run and not grow weary,

They shall march and not grow faint.

41

1 Stand silent before Me, coastlands,

And let nations renew their strength.[[424]](#footnote-424)k

Let them approach to state their case;

Let us come forward together for argument.

2 Who has roused a victor[[425]](#footnote-425)l from the East,

Summoned him to God's service?

Has delivered up nations to him,

And trodden sovereigns down?

Has rendered their[[426]](#footnote-426)m swords like dust,

Their[[427]](#footnote-427)n bows like wind-blown straw?

3 He pursues them, he goes on unscathed;

No shackle[[428]](#footnote-428)o is placed on his feet.

4 Who has wrought and achieved this?

The One who announced the generations from the start—

I, God, who was first

And will be with the last as well.

5 The coastlands look on in fear,

The ends of earth tremble.

The craftsmen[[429]](#footnote-429)° draw near and come;

6 Each one helps the other,

Saying to his fellow, “Take courage!”

7 The woodworker encourages the smith;

He who flattens with the hammer

[Encourages] him who pounds the anvil.

He says of the riveting, “It is good!”

And he fixes it with nails,

That it may not topple.

8 But you, Israel, My servant,

Jacob, whom I have chosen,

Seed of Abraham My friend—

9 You whom I drew from the ends of the earth

And called from its far corners,

To whom I said: You are My servant;

I chose you, I have not rejected you—

10 Fear not, for I am with you,

Be not frightened, for I am your God;

I strengthen you and I help you,

I uphold you with My victorious right hand.

11 Shamed and chagrined shall be

All who contend with you;

They who strive with you

Shall become as naught and shall perish.

12 You may seek, but shall not find

Those who struggle with you;

Less than nothing shall be

The men who battle against you.

13 For I the Eternal One am your God,

Who grasped your right hand,

Who say to you: Have no fear;

I will be your help.

14 Fear not, O worm Jacob,

O men of[[430]](#footnote-430)p Israel:

I will help you

—declares God—

I your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel.

15 I will make of you a threshing board,

A new thresher, with many spikes;

You shall thresh mountains to dust,

And make hills like chaff.

16 You shall winnow them

And the wind shall carry them off;

The whirlwind shall scatter them.

But you shall rejoice in God,

And glory in the Holy One of Israel.

17 The poor and the needy

Seek water,[[431]](#footnote-431)q and there is none;

Their tongue is parched with thirst.

I God will respond to them.

I, the God of Israel, will not forsake them.

18 I will open up streams on the bare hills

And fountains amid the valleys;

I will turn the desert into ponds,

The arid land into springs of water.

19 I will plant cedars in the wilderness,

Acacias and myrtles and oleasters;

I will set cypresses in the desert,

Box trees and elms as well—

20 That all may see and know,

Consider and comprehend

That God's hand has done this,

That the Holy One of Israel has wrought it.

21 Submit your case, says God;

Offer your pleas, says the King of Jacob.

22 Let them approach[[432]](#footnote-432)r and tell us what will happen.

Tell us what has occurred,[[433]](#footnote-433)s

And we will take note of it;

Or announce to us what will occur,

That we may know the outcome.

23 Foretell what is yet to happen,

That we may know that you are gods!

Do anything, good or bad,

That we may be awed and see.[[434]](#footnote-434)t

24 Why, you are less than nothing,

Your effect is less than nullity;

One who chooses you is an abomination.

25 I have roused him from the north, and he has come,

From the sunrise, one who invokes My name;

And he has trampled rulers like mud,

Like a potter treading clay.

26 Who foretold this from the start, that we may note it;

From aforetime, that we might say, “You are[[435]](#footnote-435)° right”?

Not one foretold, not one announced;

No one has heard your utterance!

27 The things once predicted to Zion—

Behold, here they are![[436]](#footnote-436)u

And again I send a herald to Jerusalem.

28 But I look and no one is participating;[[437]](#footnote-437)°

Not one of them can predict

Or can respond when I question them.

29 See, they are all nothingness,

Their works are nullity,

Their statues are naught and nil.

42

1 This is My servant, whom I uphold,

My chosen one, in whom I delight.

I have put My spirit upon him,

He shall teach the true way to the nations.

2 He shall not cry out or shout aloud,

Or make his voice heard in the streets.

3 He shall not break even a bruised reed,

Or snuff out even a dim wick.[[438]](#footnote-438)v

He shall bring forth the true way.

4 He shall not grow dim or be bruised

Till he has established the true way on earth;

And the coastlands shall await his teaching.

5 Thus said the Eternal God,

Who created the heavens and stretched them out,

Who spread out the earth and what it brings forth,

Who gave breath to the people upon it

And life to those who walk thereon:

6 I God, in My grace, have summoned you,

And I have grasped you by the hand.

I created you, and appointed you

A covenant people,[[439]](#footnote-439)w a light of nations[[440]](#footnote-440)x—

7 Opening eyes deprived of light,[[441]](#footnote-441)y

Rescuing prisoners from confinement,

From the dungeon those who sit in darkness.

8 I am God, that is My name;

I will not yield My glory to another,

Nor My renown to idols.

9 See, the things once predicted have come,

And now I foretell new things,

Announce to you ere they sprout up.

10 Sing to God a new song,

Praise from the ends of the earth—

You who sail the sea and you creatures in it,

You coastlands[[442]](#footnote-442)z and their inhabitants!

11 Let the desert and its towns cry aloud,

The villages where Kedar dwells;

Let Sela's inhabitants shout,

Call out from the peaks of the mountains.

12 Let them do honor to God,

And tell God's glory in the coastlands.

13 God goes forth like a warrior,

Whipping up rage like a fighter—

Yelling, roaring aloud,

Then charging upon the enemy.

14 “I have kept silent far too long,[[443]](#footnote-443)a

Kept still and restrained Myself;

Now I will scream like a woman in labor,

I will pant and I will gasp.

15 Hills and heights will I scorch,

Cause all their green to wither;

I will turn rivers into isles,[[444]](#footnote-444)b

And dry the marshes up.

16 I will lead the blind

By a road they did not know,

And I will make them walk

By paths they never knew.

I will turn darkness before them to light,

Rough places into level ground.

These are the promises—

I will keep them without fail.

17 Driven back and utterly shamed

Shall be those who trust in an image,

Those who say to idols,

‘You are our gods!’”

18 Listen, you who are deaf;

You blind ones, look up and see!

19 Who is so blind as My servant,

So deaf as the messenger I send?

Who is so blind as the chosen[[445]](#footnote-445)c one,

So blind as the servant of God?

20 Seeing many things, he gives[[446]](#footnote-446)d no heed;

With ears open, he hears nothing.

21 [[447]](#footnote-447)eGod desires his vindication,

That he may magnify and glorify the Teaching.

22 Yet it is a people plundered and despoiled:

All of them are trapped in holes,

Imprisoned in dungeons.

They are given over to plunder, with none to rescue them;

To despoilment, with none to say “Give back!”

23 If only you would listen to this,

Attend and give heed from now on!

24 Who was it gave Jacob over to despoilment

And Israel to plunderers?

Surely, God—against whom they[[448]](#footnote-448)f sinned,

In whose ways they would not walk,

And whose Teaching they would not obey—

25 Who poured out wrath,

Anger, and the fury of war upon them.

It blazed upon them all about, but they heeded not;

It burned among them, but they gave it no thought.

43

1 But now thus said God—

Who created you, O Jacob,

Who formed you, O Israel:

Fear not, for I will redeem you;

I have singled you out by name,

You are Mine.

2 When you pass through water,

I will be with you;

Through streams,

They shall not overwhelm you.

When you walk through fire,

You shall not be scorched;

Through flame,

It shall not burn you.

3 For I the Eternal am your God,

The Holy One of Israel, your Savior.

I give Egypt as a ransom for you,

Nubia and Saba in exchange for you.

4 Because you are precious to Me,

And honored, and I love you,

I give people in exchange for you

And nations in your stead.

5 Fear not, for I am with you:

I will bring your folk from the East,

Will gather you out of the West;

6 I will say to the North, “Give back!”

And to the South, “Do not withhold!

Bring My sons from afar,

And My daughters from the end of the earth—

7 All who are linked to My name,

Whom I have created,

Formed, and made for My glory—

8 Setting free that people,

Blind though it has eyes

And deaf though it has ears.”

9 All the nations assemble as one,

The peoples gather.

Who among them declared this,

Foretold to us the things that have happened?

Let them produce their witnesses and be vindicated,

That people, hearing them, may say, “It is true!”[[449]](#footnote-449)g

10 My witnesses are you

—declares God—

My servant, whom I have chosen.

To the end that you[[450]](#footnote-450)h may take thought,

And believe in Me,

And understand that I am the One:

Before Me no god was formed,

And after Me none shall exist—

11 None but me, God;

Beside Me, none can grant triumph.

12 I alone foretold the triumph

And I brought it to pass;

I announced it,

And no strange god was among you.

So you are My witnesses

—declares God—

And I am God.

13 Ever since day was, I am the One;

None can deliver from My hand.

When I act, who can reverse it?

14 Thus said God,

Your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel:

For your sake I send to Babylon;

I will bring down all [her] bars,

And the Chaldeans shall raise their voice in lamentation.[[451]](#footnote-451)i

15 I am your Holy One, God,

Your Ruler, the Creator of Israel.

16 Thus said God,

Who made a road through the sea

And a path through mighty waters,

17 Who destroyed[[452]](#footnote-452)j chariots and horses,

And all the mighty host—

They lay down to rise no more,

They were extinguished, quenched like a wick:

18 Do not recall what happened of old,

Or ponder what happened of yore!

19 I am about to do something new;

Even now it shall come to pass,

Suddenly you shall perceive it:

I will make a road through the wilderness

And rivers[[453]](#footnote-453)k in the desert.

20 The wild beasts shall honor Me,

Jackals and ostriches,

For I provide water in the wilderness,

Rivers in the desert,

To give drink to My chosen people,

21 The people I formed for Myself

That they might declare My praise.

22 But you have not worshiped Me, O Jacob,

That you should be weary of Me, O Israel.

23 You have not brought Me your sheep for burnt offerings,

Nor honored Me with your sacrifices.

I have not burdened you with meal offerings,

Nor wearied you about frankincense.

24 You have not bought Me fragrant reed with money,

Nor sated Me with the fat of your sacrifices.

Instead, you have burdened Me with your sins,

You have wearied Me with your iniquities.

25 It is I, I who—for My own sake[[454]](#footnote-454)l—

Wipe your transgressions away

And remember your sins no more.

26 Help me remember!

Let us join in argument,

Tell your version,

That you may be vindicated.

27 Your earliest ancestor sinned,

And your spokesmen transgressed against Me.

28 So I profaned the holy princes;[[455]](#footnote-455)m

I abandoned Jacob to proscription[[456]](#footnote-456)n

And Israel to mockery.

44

1 But hear, now, O Jacob My servant,

Israel whom I have chosen!

2 Thus said God, your Maker,

Your Creator who has helped you since birth:

Fear not, My servant Jacob,

Jeshurun[[457]](#footnote-457)o whom I have chosen,

3 Even as I pour water on thirsty soil,

And rain upon dry ground,

So will I pour My spirit on your offspring,

My blessing upon your posterity.

4 And they shall sprout like[[458]](#footnote-458)p grass,

Like willows by watercourses.

5 One shall say, “I am God's,”

Another shall use the name of “Jacob,”

Another shall mark his arm “of God”[[459]](#footnote-459)q

And adopt the name of “Israel.”

6 Thus said God, the Ruler of Israel,

Their Redeemer, God of Hosts:

I am the first and I am the last,

And there is no god but Me.

7 [[460]](#footnote-460)rWho like Me can announce,

Can foretell it—and match Me thereby?

Even as I told the future to an ancient people,

So let anyone foretell coming events to them.

8 Do not be frightened, do not be shaken!

Have I not from of old predicted to you?

I foretold, and you are My witnesses.

Is there any god, then, but Me?

“There is no other rock; I know none!”

9 The makers of idols

All work to no purpose;

And the things they treasure

Can do no good,

As they themselves can testify.

They neither look nor think,

And so they shall be shamed.

10 Who would fashion a god

Or cast a statue

That can do no good?

11 Lo, all its adherents shall be shamed;

They are craftsmen, are merely human.

Let them all assemble and stand up!

They shall be cowed, and they shall be shamed.

12 [[461]](#footnote-461)sThe craftsman in iron, with his tools,

Works it[[462]](#footnote-462)t over charcoal

And fashions it by hammering,

Working with the strength of his arm.

Should he go hungry, his strength would ebb;

Should he drink no water, he would grow faint.

13 The craftsman in wood measures with a line

And marks out a shape with a stylus;

He forms it with scraping tools,

Marking it out with a compass.

He gives it the form of a person—

Human beauty, to dwell in a shrine.

14 For his use he cuts down cedars;

He chooses plane trees and oaks.

He sets aside trees of the forest;

Or plants firs, and the rain makes them grow.

15 All this serves a mortal for fuel:

He takes some to warm himself,

And he builds a fire and bakes bread.

He also makes a god of it and worships it,

Fashions an idol and bows down to it!

16 Part of it he burns in a fire:

On that part he roasts meat,

He eats the roast[[463]](#footnote-463)u and is sated;

He also warms himself and cries, “Ah,

I am warm! I can feel[[464]](#footnote-464)v the heat!”

17 Of the rest he makes a god—his own carving!

He bows down to it, worships it;

He prays to it and cries,

“Save me, for you are my god!”

18 They have no wit or judgment:

Their eyes are besmeared, and they see not;

Their minds, and they cannot think.

19 They do not give thought,

They lack the wit and judgment to say:

“Part of it I burned in a fire;

I also baked bread on the coals,

I roasted meat and ate it—

Should I make the rest an abhorrence?

Should I bow to a block of wood?”

20 He pursues[[465]](#footnote-465)w ashes!

A deluded mind has led him astray,

And he cannot save himself;

He never says to himself,

“The thing in my hand is a fraud!”

21 Remember these things, O Jacob

For you, O Israel, are My servant:

I fashioned you, you are My servant—

O Israel, never forget Me.[[466]](#footnote-466)x

22 I wipe away your sins like a cloud,

Your transgressions like mist—

Come back to Me, for I redeem you.

23 Shout, O heavens, for God has acted;

Shout aloud, O depths of the earth!

Shout for joy, O mountains,

O forests with all your trees!

For God has redeemed Jacob,

Has gained glory through Israel.

24 Thus said God, your Redeemer,

Who formed you in the womb:

It is I, God, who made everything,

Who alone stretched out the heavens

And unaided[[467]](#footnote-467)y spread out the earth;

25 Who annul the omens of diviners,

And make fools of the augurs;

Who turn sages back

And make nonsense of their knowledge;

26 But confirm the word of My[[468]](#footnote-468)z servant

And fulfill the prediction of My[[469]](#footnote-469)a messengers.

It is I who say of Jerusalem, “It shall be inhabited,”

And of the towns of Judah, “They shall be rebuilt;

And I will restore their ruined places.”

27 [I,] who said to the deep, “Be dry;

I will dry up your floods,”

28 Am the same who says of Cyrus, “He is My shepherd;[[470]](#footnote-470)b

He shall fulfill all My purposes!

He shall say of Jerusalem, ‘She shall be rebuilt,’

And to the Temple: ‘You shall be founded again.’”

45

1 Thus said God to Cyrus, the anointed one—

Having[[471]](#footnote-471)c grasped his right hand,[[472]](#footnote-472)d

Treading down nations before him,

Ungirding the loins of kings,[[473]](#footnote-473)e

Opening doors before him

And letting no gate stay shut:

2 I will march before you

And level the hills that loom up;[[474]](#footnote-474)f

I will shatter doors of bronze

And cut down iron bars.

3 I will give you treasures concealed in the dark

And secret hoards—

So that you may know that it is I the Eternal One,

The God of Israel, who call you by name.

4 For the sake of My servant Jacob,

Israel My chosen one,

I call you by name,

I hail you by title, though you have not known Me.

5 I am God and there is none else;

Beside Me, there is no god.

I engird you, though you have not known Me,

6 So that they may know, from east to west,

That there is none but Me.

I am God and there is none else,

7 I form light and create darkness,

I make weal and create woe—

I God do all these things.

8 Pour down, O skies, from above!

Let the heavens rain down victory!

Let the earth open up and triumph sprout,

Yes, let vindication spring up:

I God have created it.

9 Shame on anyone who argues with their Maker,

Though naught but a potsherd of earth!

Shall the clay say to the potter, “What are you doing?

Your work has no handles”?[[475]](#footnote-475)g

10 Shame on anyone who asks a father, “What are you begetting?”

Or a woman, “What are you bearing?”

11 Thus said God,

Israel's Holy One and Maker:

Will you question Me[[476]](#footnote-476)h on the destiny of My children,

Will you instruct Me about the work of My hands?

12 It was I who made the earth

And created humankind upon it;

My own hands stretched out the heavens,

And I marshaled all their host.

13 It was I who roused him[[477]](#footnote-477)i for victory

And who level all roads for him.

He shall rebuild My city

And let My exiled people go

Without price and without payment

—said God of Hosts.

14 Thus said God:

Egypt's wealth and Nubia's gains

And Sabaites, long of limb,[[478]](#footnote-478)j

Shall pass over to you and be yours,

Pass over and follow you in fetters,

Bow low to you

And reverently address you:

“Only among you is God,

There is no other god at all!

15 You are indeed a God who hides in concealment,

O God of Israel, who brings victory!

16 Those who fabricate idols—

All are shamed and disgraced;

They slink away in disgrace together.

17 But Israel has won through God

Triumph everlasting.

You shall not be shamed or disgraced

In all the ages to come!”

18 For thus said God,

The Creator of heaven who alone is God,

Who formed the earth and made it,

Who alone established it—

Who did not create it a waste,

But formed it for habitation:

I am God, and there is none else.

19 I did not speak in secret,

At a site in a land of darkness;

I did not say to the stock of Jacob,

“Seek Me out in a wasteland”—

I God, who foretell reliably,

Who announce what is true.

20 Come, gather together,

Draw nigh, you remnants of the nations!

No foreknowledge had they who carry their wooden images

And pray to a god who cannot give success.

21 Speak up, compare testimony—

Let them even take counsel together!

Who announced this aforetime,

Foretold it of old?

Was it not I the Eternal One?

Then there is no god beside Me,

No God exists beside Me

Who foretells truly and grants success.

22 Turn to Me and gain success,

All the ends of earth!

For I am God, and there is none else.

23 By Myself have I sworn,

From My mouth has issued truth,

A word that shall not turn back:

To Me every knee shall bend,

Every tongue swear loyalty.

24 They shall say: “Only through God

Can I find victory and might.[[479]](#footnote-479)k

When people trust in[[480]](#footnote-480)l [God],

All their adversaries are put to shame.

25 It is through God that all the offspring of Israel

Have vindication and glory.”

46

1 Bel[[481]](#footnote-481)m is bowed, Nebo[[482]](#footnote-482)n is cowering,

Their images are a burden for beasts and cattle;

The things you[[483]](#footnote-483)o would carry [in procession]

Are now piled as a burden

On tired [beasts].

2 They cowered, they bowed as well,

They could not rescue the burden,[[484]](#footnote-484)p

And they themselves went into captivity.

3 Listen to Me, O House of Jacob,

All that are left of the House of Israel,

Who have been carried since birth,

Supported since leaving the womb:

4 Till you grow old, I will still be the same;

When you turn gray, it is I who will carry;

I was the Maker, and I will be the Bearer;

And I will carry and rescue [you].

5 To whom can you compare Me

Or declare Me similar?

To whom can you liken Me,

So that we seem comparable?

6 Those who squander gold from the purse

And weigh out silver on the balance,[[485]](#footnote-485)q

They hire a metal worker to make it into a god,

To which they bow down and prostrate themselves.

7 They must carry it on their backs and transport it;

When they put it down, it stands,

It does not budge from its place.

If they cry out to it, it does not answer;

It cannot save them from their distress.

8 Keep this in mind, and stand firm![[486]](#footnote-486)r

Take this to heart, you sinners!

9 Bear in mind what happened of old;

For I am God, and there is none else,

I am divine, and there is none like Me.

10 I foretell the end from the beginning,

And from the start, things that had not occurred.

I say: My plan shall be fulfilled;

I will do all I have purposed.

11 I summoned that swooping bird from the East;[[487]](#footnote-487)s

From a distant land, the man for My purpose.

I have spoken, so I will bring it to pass;

I have designed it, so I will complete it.

12 Listen to Me, you stubborn of heart,[[488]](#footnote-488)t

Who are far from victory:

13 I am bringing My victory close;

It shall not be far,

And My triumph shall not be delayed.

I will grant triumph in Zion

To Israel, in whom I glory.

47

1 Get down, sit in the dust,

Fair Maiden Babylon;

Sit, dethroned, on the ground,

O Fair Chaldea;

Nevermore shall they call you

The tender and dainty one.

2 Grasp the handmill and grind meal.

Remove your veil,

Strip off your train, bare your leg,

Wade through the rivers.

3 Your nakedness shall be uncovered,

And your shame shall be exposed.

I will take vengeance,

And let no one intercede.

4 Our Redeemer—whose name is God of Hosts—

Is the Holy One of Israel.[[489]](#footnote-489)u

5 Sit silent; retire into darkness,

O Fair Chaldea;

Nevermore shall they call you

Mistress of Kingdoms.

6 I was angry at My people,

I defiled My heritage;

I put them into your hands,

But you showed them no mercy.

Even upon the aged you made

Your yoke exceedingly heavy.

7 You thought, “I shall always be

The mistress still.”

You did not take these things to heart,

You gave no thought to the end of it.

8 And now hear this, O pampered one—

Who dwell in security,

Who think to yourself,

“I am, and there is none but me;

I shall not become a widow

Or know loss of children”—

9 These two things shall come upon you,

Suddenly, in one day:

Loss of children and widowhood

Shall come upon you in full measure,

Despite your many enchantments

And all your countless spells.

10 You were secure in your wickedness;

You thought, “No one can see me.”

It was your skill and your science

That led you astray.

And you thought to yourself,

“I am, and there is none but me.”

11 Evil is coming upon you

Which you will not know how to charm away;[[490]](#footnote-490)v

Disaster is falling upon you

Which you will not be able to appease;

Coming upon you suddenly

Is ruin of which you know nothing.

12 Stand up, with your spells and your many enchantments

On which you labored since youth!

Perhaps you'll be able to profit,

Perhaps you will find strength.[[491]](#footnote-491)w

13 You are helpless, despite all your art.

Let them stand up and help you now,

The scanners[[492]](#footnote-492)x of heaven, the star-gazers,

Who announce, month by month,

Whatever will come upon you.

14 See, they are become like straw,

Fire consumes them;

They cannot save themselves

From the power of the flame;

This is no coal for warming oneself,

No fire to sit by!

15 This is what they have profited you—

The traders you dealt with since youth—

They have all wandered off on separate paths,

There is none to save you.

48

1 Listen to this, O House of Jacob,

Who bear the name Israel

And have issued from the waters[[493]](#footnote-493)y of Judah,

Who swear by the name of God

And invoke the God of Israel—

Though not in truth and sincerity—

2 For you[[494]](#footnote-494)z are called after the Holy City[[495]](#footnote-495)a

And you[[496]](#footnote-496)b do lean on the God of Israel,

Whose name is God of Hosts:

3 Long ago, I foretold things that happened,

From My mouth they issued, and I announced them;

Suddenly I acted, and they came to pass.

4 Because I know how stubborn you are

(Your neck is like an iron sinew

And your forehead bronze),

5 Therefore I told you long beforehand,

Announced things to you ere they happened—

That you might not say, “My idol caused them,

My carved and molten images ordained them.”

6 You have heard all this; look, must you not acknowledge it?[[497]](#footnote-497)c

As of now, I announce to you new things,

Well-guarded secrets you did not know.

7 Only now are they created, and not of old;

Before today[[498]](#footnote-498)d you had not heard them;

You cannot say, “I knew them already.”

8 You had never heard, you had never known,

Your ears were not opened of old.

Though I know that you are treacherous,

That you were called a rebel from birth,

9 For the sake of My name I control My wrath;

To My own glory, I am patient[[499]](#footnote-499)e with you,

And I will not destroy you.

10 See, I refine you, but not as silver;

I test you in the furnace of affliction.

11 For My sake, My own sake, do I act—

Lest [My name][[500]](#footnote-500)f be dishonored!

I will not give My glory to another.

12 Listen to Me, O Jacob,

Israel, whom I have called:

I am the One—I am the first,

And I am the last as well.

13 My own hand founded the earth,

My right hand spread out the skies.

I call unto them, let them stand up.

14 Assemble, all of you, and listen!

Who among you[[501]](#footnote-501)g foretold these things:

“He whom God loves

Shall work the divine will against Babylon,

And, with divine might, against Chaldea”?[[502]](#footnote-502)h

15 I, I predicted, and I called him;

I have brought him and he shall succeed in his mission.

16 Draw near to Me and hear this:

From the beginning, I did not speak in secret;

From the time anything existed, I was there.[[503]](#footnote-503)i

“And now the Sovereign God has sent me, endowed with divine spirit.”[[504]](#footnote-504)j

17 Thus said God your Redeemer,

The Holy One of Israel:

I the Eternal One am your God,

Instructing you for your own benefit.

Guiding you in the way you should go.

18 If only you would heed My commands!

Then your prosperity would be like a river,

Your triumph like the waves of the sea.

19 Your offspring would be as many as the sand,

Their issue as many as its grains.[[505]](#footnote-505)k

Their name would never be cut off

Or obliterated from before Me.

20 Go forth from Babylon,

Flee from Chaldea!

Declare this with loud shouting,

Announce this,

Bring out the word to the ends of the earth!

Say: “God has redeemed

Jacob—God's servant!”

21 They have known no thirst,

Though they were led through parched places;

[God] made water flow for them from the rock,

Cleaving the rock so that water gushed forth.

22 There is no safety—said God—for the wicked.

49

1 Listen, O coastlands, to me,

And give heed, O nations afar:

God appointed me before I was born,

Naming me while I was in my mother's womb.

2 My mouth was made to be like a sharpened blade,

While I was hidden in the shadow of a divine hand,

So that I was like a polished arrow—

Concealed in God's quiver.

3 And [God] said to me, “You are My servant,

Israel in whom I glory.”

4 I thought, “I have labored in vain,

I have spent my strength for empty breath.”

But my case rested with God,

My recompense was in the hands of my God.

5 And now God has resolved—

The One who formed me in the womb to be of service—

To bring back Jacob

And restore[[506]](#footnote-506)° Israel.

And I have been honored in the sight of God,

My God has been my strength.

6 And [God] has said:

“It is too little that you should be My servant

In that I raise up the tribes of Jacob

And restore the survivors of Israel:

I will also make you a light[[507]](#footnote-507)l of nations,

That My salvation may reach the ends of the earth.”

7 Thus said God,

The Redeemer of Israel, his Holy One,

To the despised one,

To the abhorred nations,[[508]](#footnote-508)m

To the slave of rulers:

Kings shall see and stand up;

Nobles, and they shall prostrate themselves—

To the honor of God, who is faithful,

To the Holy One of Israel who chose you.

8 Thus said God:

In an hour of favor I answer you,

And on a day of salvation I help you—

I created you and appointed you a covenant people[[509]](#footnote-509)n—

Restoring the land,

Allotting anew the desolate holdings,

9 Saying to the prisoners, “Go free,”

To those who are in darkness, “Show yourselves.”

They shall pasture along the roads,

On every bare height shall be their pasture.

10 They shall not hunger or thirst,

Hot wind and sun shall not strike them;

For the One who loves them will lead them

And will guide them to springs of water.

11 I will make all My mountains a road,

And My highways shall be built up.

12 Look! These are coming from afar,

These from the north and the west,

And these from the land of Sinim.[[510]](#footnote-510)o

13 Shout, O heavens, and rejoice, O earth!

Break into shouting, O hills!

For God has comforted this people,

And has taken back its afflicted ones in love.

14 Zion says,

“God has forsaken me,

My Sovereign has forgotten me.”

15 Can a woman forget her baby,

Or disown the child of her womb?

Though she might forget,

I never could forget you.

16 See, I have engraved you

On the palms of My hands,

Your walls are ever before Me.

17 Swiftly your children are coming;

Those who ravaged and ruined you shall leave you.

18 Look up all around you and see:

They are all assembled, are come to you!

As I live

—declares God—

You shall don them all like jewels,

Deck yourself with them like a bride.

19 As for your ruins and desolate places

And your land laid waste—

You shall soon be crowded with settlers,

While destroyers stay far from you.

20 The children you thought you had lost[[511]](#footnote-511)p

Shall yet say in your hearing,

“The place is too crowded for me;

Make room for me to settle.”

21 And you will say to yourself,

“Who bore these for me

When I was bereaved and barren,

Exiled and disdained[[512]](#footnote-512)q—

By whom, then, were these reared?

I was left all alone—

And where have these been?”

22 Thus said my Sovereign God:

I will raise My hand to nations

And lift up My ensign to peoples;

And they shall bring your sons in their bosoms,

And carry your daughters on their backs.

23 Kings shall tend your children,

Their queens shall serve you as nurses.

They shall bow to you, face to the ground,

And lick the dust of your feet.

And you shall know that I am God—

Those who trust in Me shall not be shamed.

24 Can spoil be taken from a warrior,

Or captives retrieved from a victor?

25 Yet thus said God:

Captives shall be taken from a warrior

And spoil shall be retrieved from a tyrant;

For I will contend with your adversaries,

And I will deliver your children.

26 I will make your oppressors eat their own flesh,

They shall be drunk with their own blood as with wine.

And all mankind shall know

That I God am your Savior,

The Mighty One of Jacob, your Redeemer.

50

1 Thus said God:

[[513]](#footnote-513)rWhere is the bill of divorce

Of your mother whom I dismissed?

And which of My creditors was it

To whom I sold you off?

You were only sold off for your sins,

And your mother dismissed for your crimes.

2 Why, when I came, was no one there,[[514]](#footnote-514)°

Why, when I called, would none respond?

Is my arm, then, too short to rescue,

Have I not the power to save?

With a mere rebuke I dry up the sea,

And turn rivers into desert.

Their fish stink from lack of water;

They lie dead of thirst.[[515]](#footnote-515)s

3 I clothe the skies in blackness

And make their raiment sackcloth.

4 My Sovereign God gave me a skilled tongue,

To know how to speak timely words to the weary.[[516]](#footnote-516)t

Morning by morning, [God] rouses me,

Rousing my ear

To give heed like disciples.

5 My Sovereign God opened my ears,

And I did not disobey,

I did not run away.

6 I offered my back to the floggers,

And my cheeks to those who tore out my hair.

I did not hide my face

From insult and spittle.

7 But my Sovereign God will help me—

Therefore I feel no disgrace;

Therefore I have set my face like flint,

And I know I shall not be shamed.

8 My Vindicator is at hand—

Who dares contend with me?

Let us stand up together![[517]](#footnote-517)u

Who would be my opponent?

Let them approach me!

9 Lo, my Sovereign God will help me—

Who can get a verdict against me?

They shall all wear out like a garment,

The moth shall consume them.

10 Who among you reveres God

And heeds the voice of the appointed[[518]](#footnote-518)° servant?—

Though walking in darkness

And having no light,

Let them trust in the name of God

And rely upon his[[519]](#footnote-519)° God.

11 But you are all kindlers of fire,

Girding on[[520]](#footnote-520)v firebrands.

Walk by the blaze of your fire,

By the brands that you have lit!

This has come to you from My hand:

You shall lie down in pain.[[521]](#footnote-521)w

51

1 Listen to Me, you who pursue justice,

You who seek God:

Look to the rock you were hewn from,

To the quarry you were dug from.

2 Look back to Abraham your father

And to Sarah who brought you forth.

For he was only one when I called him,

But I blessed him and made him many.

3 Truly God has comforted Zion,

Comforted all her ruins—

Made her wilderness like Eden,

Her desert like the Garden of God.

Gladness and joy shall abide there,

Thanksgiving and the sound of music.

4 Hearken to Me, My people,[[522]](#footnote-522)x

And give ear to Me, O My nation,[[523]](#footnote-523)y

For teaching shall go forth[[524]](#footnote-524)z from Me,

My way for the light of peoples.

In a moment I will bring it:

5 The triumph I grant is near,

The success I give has gone forth.

My arms shall provide for[[525]](#footnote-525)a the peoples;

The coastlands shall trust in Me,

They shall look to My arm.

6 Raise your eyes to the heavens,

And look upon the earth beneath:

Though the heavens should melt away like smoke,

And the earth wear out like a garment,

And its inhabitants die out as well,[[526]](#footnote-526)b

My victory shall stand forever,

My triumph shall remain unbroken.

7 Listen to Me, you who care for the right,

O people who lay My instruction to heart!

Fear not mortals' insults,

And be not dismayed at their jeers;

8 For the moth shall eat them up like a garment,

The worm[[527]](#footnote-527)c shall eat them up like wool.

But My triumph shall endure forever,

My salvation through all the ages.

9 Awake, awake, clothe yourself with splendor.

O arm of the Eternal One!

Awake as in days of old,

As in former ages!

It was you that hacked Rahab[[528]](#footnote-528)d in pieces,

That pierced the Dragon.[[529]](#footnote-529)e

10 It was you that dried up the Sea,

The waters of the great deep;

That made the abysses of the Sea

A road the redeemed might walk.

11 So let the ransomed of God return,

And come with shouting to Zion,

Crowned with joy everlasting.

Let them attain joy and gladness,

While sorrow and sighing flee.

12 I, I am the One who comforts you!

What ails you that you fear

Man who must die,

Mortals who fare like grass?

13 You have forgotten God your Maker,

Who stretched out the skies and made firm the earth!

And you live all day in constant dread

Because of the rage of an oppressor

Who is aiming to cut [you] down.

Yet of what account is the rage of an oppressor?

14 [[530]](#footnote-530)fQuickly the crouching one is freed;

He is not cut down and slain,

And he shall not want for food.

15 For I the Eternal your God—

Who stirs up the sea into roaring waves,

Whose name is God of Hosts—

16 Have put My words in your mouth

And sheltered you with My hand;[[531]](#footnote-531)g

I, who planted[[532]](#footnote-532)h the skies and made firm the earth,

Have said to Zion: You are My people!

17 Rouse, rouse yourself!

Arise, O Jerusalem,

You who from God's hand

Have drunk God's wrath-filled cup,

You who have drained to the dregs

The bowl, the cup of reeling!

18 She has none to guide her

Of all the sons she bore;

None takes her by the hand,

Of all the sons she reared.[[533]](#footnote-533)i

19 These two things have befallen you:

Wrack and ruin—who can console you?

Famine and sword—how shall I[[534]](#footnote-534)j comfort you?

20 Your sons lie in a swoon

At the corner of every street—

Like an antelope caught in a net—

Drunk with the wrath of God,

With the rebuke of your God.

21 Therefore,

Listen to this, unhappy one,

Who are drunk, but not with wine!

22 Thus said God, your Sovereign,

Your God who champions this people:

Herewith I take from your hand

The cup of reeling,[[535]](#footnote-535)k

The bowl, the cup of My wrath;

You shall never drink it again.

23 I will put it in the hands of your tormentors,

Who have commanded you,

“Get down, that we may walk over you”—

So that you made your back like the ground,

Like a street for passersby.

52

1 Awake, awake, O Zion!

Clothe yourself in splendor;

Put on your robes of majesty,

Jerusalem, holy city!

For the uncircumcised and the unclean

Shall never enter you again.

2 Arise, shake off the dust,

Sit [on your throne], Jerusalem!

Loose the bonds from your neck,

O captive one, Fair Zion!

3 For thus said God:

You were sold for no price,

And shall be redeemed without money.

4 For thus said my Sovereign God:

Of old, My people went down

To Egypt to sojourn there;

But Assyria has robbed them,

Giving nothing in return.[[536]](#footnote-536)l

5 What therefore do I gain here?

—declares God—

For My people has been carried off for nothing,

Their mockers howl

—declares God—

And constantly, unceasingly,

My name is reviled.

6 Assuredly, My people shall learn My name,

Assuredly [they shall learn] on that day

That I, the One who promised,

Am now at hand.

7 How welcome on the mountain

Are the footsteps of the herald

Announcing happiness,

Heralding good fortune,

Announcing victory,

Telling Zion, “Your God reigns!”

8 Hark!

Your lookouts raise their voices,

As one they shout for joy;

For every eye shall behold

God's return to Zion.

9 Raise a shout together,

O ruins of Jerusalem!

For God will comfort this people,

Will redeem Jerusalem.

10 God will bare a holy arm

In the sight of all the nations,

And the very ends of earth shall see

The victory of our God.

11 Turn, turn away, touch naught unclean

As you depart from there;

Keep pure, as you go forth from there,

You who bear the vessels of God![[537]](#footnote-537)m

12 For you will not depart in haste,

Nor will you leave in flight;

For God is marching before you,

The God of Israel is your rear guard.

13 “Indeed, My servant shall prosper,

Be exalted and raised to great heights.

14 Just as the many were appalled at him[[538]](#footnote-538)n—

So marred was his appearance, unlike that of a person,

His form, beyond human semblance—

15 Just so he shall startle[[539]](#footnote-539)o many nations.

Kings shall be silenced because of him,

For they shall see what has not been told them,

Shall behold what they never have heard.”

53

1 “Who can believe what we have heard?

Upon whom has the arm of God[[540]](#footnote-540)p been revealed?

2 For he has grown, by God's favor, like a tree crown,

Like a tree trunk out of arid ground.

He had no form or beauty, that we should look at him:

No charm, that we should find him pleasing.

3 He was despised, shunned by others,[[541]](#footnote-541)q

A man of suffering, familiar with disease.

As one who hid his face from us,[[542]](#footnote-542)r

He was despised, we held him of no account.

4 Yet it was our sickness that he was bearing,

Our suffering that he endured.

We accounted him plagued,

Smitten and afflicted by God;

5 But he was wounded because of our sins,

Crushed because of our iniquities.

He bore the chastisement that made us whole,

And by his bruises we were healed.

6 We all went astray like sheep,

Each of us going our own way;

And God visited upon him

The guilt of all of us.”

7 He was maltreated, yet he was submissive,

He did not open his mouth;

Like a sheep being led to slaughter,

Like a ewe, dumb before those who shear her,

He did not open his mouth.

8 By oppressive judgment he was taken away,

Who could describe his abode?[[543]](#footnote-543)s

For he was cut off from the land of the living

Through the sin of my people, who deserved the punishment.

9 And his grave was set among the wicked,

And with the rich, in his death[[544]](#footnote-544)t—

Though he had done no injustice

And had spoken no falsehood.

10 But God chose to crush him by disease,

That, if he made himself an offering for guilt,[[545]](#footnote-545)u

He might see offspring[[546]](#footnote-546)v and have long life,

And that through him God's purpose might prosper.

11 Out of his anguish he shall see it;[[547]](#footnote-547)w

He shall enjoy it to the full through his devotion.[[548]](#footnote-548)x

“My righteous servant makes the many righteous,

It is their punishment that he bears;

12 Assuredly, I will give him the many as his portion,

He shall receive the multitude as his spoil.

For he exposed himself to death

And was numbered among the sinners,

Whereas he bore the guilt of the many

And made intercession for sinners.”

54

1 Shout, O barren one,

You who bore no child!

Shout aloud for joy,

You who did not travail!

For the children of the wife forlorn

Shall outnumber those of the espoused

—said God.

2 Enlarge the site of your tent,

Extend the size of your dwelling,[[549]](#footnote-549)y

Do not stint!

Lengthen the ropes, and drive the pegs firm.

3 For you shall spread out to the right and the left;

Your offspring shall dispossess nations[[550]](#footnote-550)z

And shall people the desolate towns.

4 Fear not, you shall not be shamed;

Do not cringe, you shall not be disgraced.

For you shall forget

The reproach of your youth,

And remember no more

The shame of your widowhood.

5 For the One who made you—whose name is “God of Hosts”—

Will espouse you.

The Holy One of Israel—who is called “God of all the Earth”—

Will redeem you.

6 God has called you back

As a wife forlorn and forsaken.

Can one cast off the wife of his youth?

—said your God.

7 For a little while I forsook you,

But with vast love I will bring you back.

8 In slight anger, for a moment,

I hid My face from you;

But with kindness everlasting

I will take you back in love

—said God your Redeemer.

9 For this to Me is like the waters[[551]](#footnote-551)a of Noah:

As I swore that the waters of Noah

Nevermore would flood the earth,

So I swear that I will not

Be angry with you or rebuke you.

10 For the mountains may move

And the hills be shaken,

But my loyalty shall never move from you,

Nor My covenant of friendship be shaken

—said God, who takes you back in love.

11 Unhappy, storm-tossed one, uncomforted!

I will lay carbuncles[[552]](#footnote-552)b as your building stones

And make your foundations of sapphires.

12 I will make your battlements of rubies,

Your gates of precious stones,

The whole encircling wall of gems.

13 And all your children shall be disciples of God,

And great shall be the happiness of your children;

14 You shall be established through righteousness.

You shall be safe from oppression,

And shall have no fear;

From ruin, and it shall not come near you.

15 [[553]](#footnote-553)cSurely no harm can be done

Without My consent:

Whoever would harm you

Shall fall because of you.

16 It is I who created the smith

To fan the charcoal fire

And produce tools for each purpose;

So it is I who create

The instruments of havoc.

17 No weapon formed against you

Shall succeed,

And every tongue that contends with you at law

You shall defeat.

Such is the lot of the servants of God,

Such their triumph through Me

—declares God.

55

1 Ho, all who are thirsty,

Come for water,

Even if you have no money;

Come, buy food and eat:

Buy food without money,

Wine and milk without cost.

2 Why do you spend money for what is not bread,

Your earnings for what does not satisfy?

Give heed to Me,

And you shall eat choice food

And enjoy the richest viands.

3 Incline your ear and come to Me;

Hearken, and you shall be revived.

And I will make with you an everlasting covenant,

The enduring loyalty promised to David.

4 As I made him a leader[[554]](#footnote-554)d of peoples,

A prince and commander of peoples,

5 So you shall summon a nation you did not know,

And a nation that did not know you

Shall come running to you[[555]](#footnote-555)e—

For the sake of the Eternal your God,

The Holy One of Israel who has glorified you.

6 Seek God while you can,

Call out to [God] while [God] is near.[[556]](#footnote-556)°

7 Let the wicked give up their ways,

The sinful, their plans;

Let each one turn back to God

So as to be pardoned;

To our God,

Who freely forgives.

8 For My plans are not your plans,

Nor are My ways[[557]](#footnote-557)f your ways[[558]](#footnote-558)g

—declares God.

9 But as the heavens are high above the earth,

So are My ways[[559]](#footnote-559)h high above your ways[[560]](#footnote-560)i

And My plans above your plans.

10 For as the rain or snow drops from heaven

And returns not there,

But soaks the earth

And makes it bring forth vegetation,

Yielding seed for sowing and bread for eating,[[561]](#footnote-561)j

11 So is the word that issues from My mouth:

It does not come back to Me unfulfilled,

But performs what I purpose,

Achieves what I sent it to do.

12 Yea, you shall leave[[562]](#footnote-562)k in joy and be led home secure.

Before you, mount and hill shall shout aloud,

And all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.

13 Instead of the brier, a cypress shall rise;

Instead of the nettle, a myrtle shall rise.

These shall stand as a testimony to God,

As an everlasting sign that shall not perish.

56

1 Thus said God:

Observe what is right and do what is just;

For soon My salvation shall come,

And my deliverance be revealed.

2 Happy is the mortal who does this,

The one who holds fast to it:

Who keeps the sabbath and does not profane it,

And holds back from doing any evil.

3 Let not the foreigner say,

Who is joined to God,

“God will keep me apart from this covenanted people”;

And let not the eunuch say,

“I am a withered tree.”

4 For thus said God:

“As for the eunuchs who keep My sabbaths,

Who have chosen what I desire

And hold fast to My covenant—

5 I will give them, in My House

And within My walls,

A monument and a name

Better than sons or daughters.

I will give them an everlasting name

Which shall not perish.

6 As for the foreigners

Who are joined to God,

To render service,

And to love the name of God,

To be devoted servants—

All who keep the sabbath and do not profane it,

And who hold fast to My covenant—

7 I will bring them to My sacred mount

And let them rejoice in My house of prayer.

Their burnt offerings and sacrifices

Shall be welcome on My altar;

For My House shall be called

A house of prayer for all peoples.”

8 Thus declares my Sovereign God,

Who gathers the dispersed of Israel:

“I will gather still more to those already gathered.”

9 All you wild beasts, come and devour,

All you beasts of the forest!

10 The[[563]](#footnote-563)l lookouts are blind, all of them,

They perceive nothing.

They are all dumb dogs

That cannot bark;

They lie sprawling,[[564]](#footnote-564)m

They love to drowse.

11 Moreover, the dogs are greedy;

They never know satiety.

As for the shepherds,[[565]](#footnote-565)° they know not

What it is to give heed.[[566]](#footnote-566)n

Everyone has turned their own way,

Every last one seeks their own advantage.

12 “Come, I'll get some wine;

Let us swill liquor.

And tomorrow will be just the same,

Or even much grander!”

57

1 A righteous person perishes,

And no one considers;

The pious are taken away,

And no one gives thought

That because of evil

The righteous one was taken away.

2 Yet one who walked straightforward

Shall come to peace,

Shall have rest on their couch.[[567]](#footnote-567)o

3 But as for you, come closer,

You children of a sorceress,

You offspring of an adulterer and a harlot![[568]](#footnote-568)p

4 With whom do you act so familiarly?

At whom do you open your mouth

And stick out your tongue?

Why, you are children of iniquity,

Offspring of treachery—

5 You who inflame[[569]](#footnote-569)q yourselves

Among the terebinths,

Under every verdant tree;

Who slaughter children in the wadis,

Among[[570]](#footnote-570)r the clefts of the rocks.

6 With such[[571]](#footnote-571)s are your share and portion,[[572]](#footnote-572)t

They, they are your allotment;

To them you have poured out libations,

Presented offerings.

Should I relent in the face of this?

7 On a high and lofty hill

You have set your couch;

There, too, you have gone up

To perform sacrifices.

8 Behind the door and doorpost

You have directed your thoughts;

Abandoning Me, you have gone up

On the couch you made so wide.

You have made a covenant with them;[[573]](#footnote-573)u

You have loved bedding with them;[[574]](#footnote-574)v

You have chosen lust.[[575]](#footnote-575)w

9 You have approached[[576]](#footnote-576)x the king[[577]](#footnote-577)y with oil,

You have provided many perfumes.

And you have sent your envoys afar,

Even down to the netherworld.[[578]](#footnote-578)z

10 Though wearied by much travel,

You never said, “I give up!”

You found gratification for your lust,

And so you never cared.

11 Whom do you dread and fear,

That you tell lies?[[579]](#footnote-579)a

But you gave no thought to Me,

You paid no heed.

It is because I have stood idly by so long[[580]](#footnote-580)b

That you have no fear of Me.

12 I hereby pronounce judgment upon your deeds:[[581]](#footnote-581)c

Your assorted [idols][[582]](#footnote-582)d shall not avail you,

13 Shall not save you when you cry out.

They shall all be borne off by the wind,

Snatched away by a breeze.

But those who trust in Me shall inherit the land

And possess My sacred mount.

14 [God] says:

Build up, build up a highway!

Clear a road!

Remove all obstacles

From the road of My people!

15 For thus said the One who high aloft

Forever dwells, whose name is holy:

I dwell on high, in holiness;

Yet with the contrite and the lowly in spirit—

Reviving the spirits of the lowly,

Reviving the hearts of the contrite.

16 For I will not always contend,

I will not be angry forever:

Nay, I who make spirits flag,[[583]](#footnote-583)e

Also create the breath of life.

17 For their[[584]](#footnote-584)f sinful greed I was angry;

I struck them and turned away in My wrath.

Though stubborn, they follow the way of their hearts,[[585]](#footnote-585)g

18 I note how they fare and will heal them:

I will guide them and mete out solace to them,

And to the mourners among them 19 heartening,[[586]](#footnote-586)h comforting[[587]](#footnote-587)i words:

It shall be well,

Well with the far and the near

—said God—

And I will heal them.

20 But the wicked are like the troubled sea

Which cannot rest,

Whose waters toss up mire and mud.

21 There is no safety

—said my God—

For the wicked.

58

1 Cry with full throat, without restraint;

Raise your voice like a ram's horn!

Declare to My people their transgression,

To the House of Jacob their sin.

2 To be sure, they seek Me daily,

Eager to learn My ways.

Like a nation that does what is right,

That has not abandoned the laws of its God,

They ask Me for the right way,

They are eager for the nearness of God:

3 “Why, when we fasted, did You not see?

When we starved our bodies, did You pay no heed?”

Because on your fast day

You see to your business

And oppress all your laborers!

4 Because you fast in strife and contention,

And you strike with a wicked fist!

Your fasting today is not such

As to make your voice heard on high.

5 Is such the fast I desire,

A day for people to starve their bodies?

Is it bowing the head like a bulrush

And lying in sackcloth and ashes?

Do you call that a fast,

A day when God is favorable?

6 No, this is the fast I desire:

To unlock fetters of wickedness,

And untie the cords of the yoke[[588]](#footnote-588)j

To let the oppressed go free;

To break off every yoke.

7 It is to share your bread with the hungry,

And to take the wretched poor into your home;

When you see the naked, to clothe them,

And not to ignore your own kin.

8 Then shall your light burst through like the dawn

And your healing spring up quickly;

Your Vindicator shall march before you,

The Presence of God shall be your rear guard.

9 Then, when you call, God will answer;

When you cry, [God] will say: Here I am.

If you banish the yoke[[589]](#footnote-589)k from your midst,

The menacing hand,[[590]](#footnote-590)l and evil speech,

10 And you offer your compassion[[591]](#footnote-591)m to the hungry

And satisfy the famished creature—

Then shall your light shine in darkness,

And your gloom shall be like noonday.

11 God will guide you always—

Slaking your thirst in parched places[[592]](#footnote-592)n

And giving strength to your bones.

You shall be like a watered garden,

Like a spring whose waters do not fail.

12 Some from your midst shall rebuild ancient ruins,

You shall restore foundations laid long ago.

And you shall be called

“Repairer of fallen walls,

Restorer of lanes for habitation.”

13 If you refrain from trampling[[593]](#footnote-593)o the sabbath,

From pursuing your affairs on My holy day;

If you call the sabbath “delight,”

God's holy day “honored”;

And if you honor it and go not your ways

Nor look to your affairs, nor strike bargains—

14 Then you can seek the favor of God.[[594]](#footnote-594)p

I will set you astride the heights of the earth,

And let you enjoy the heritage of your father Jacob—

For the mouth of God has spoken.

59

1 No, God's arm is not too short to save,

Or God's ear too dull to hear;

2 But your iniquities have been a barrier

Between you and your God—

Your sins have made the divine face turn away

As [God] refuses to hear you.

3 For your hands are defiled with crime[[595]](#footnote-595)q

And your fingers with iniquity.

Your lips speak falsehood,

Your tongue utters treachery.

4 No one sues justly

Or pleads honestly;

They rely on emptiness and speak falsehood,

Conceiving wrong and begetting evil.

5 They hatch adder's eggs

And weave spider webs;

Whoever eats of those eggs will die,

And if one is crushed, it hatches out a viper.

6 Their webs will not serve as a garment,

What they make cannot serve as clothing;

Their deeds are deeds of mischief,

Their hands commit lawless acts,

7 Their feet run after evil,

They hasten to shed the blood of the innocent.

Their plans are plans of mischief,

Destructiveness and injury are on their roads.

8 They do not care for the way of integrity,

There is no justice on their paths.

They make their courses crooked,

No one who walks in them cares for integrity.

9 “That is why redress is far from us,

And vindication does not reach us.

We hope for light, and lo! there is darkness;

For a gleam, and we must walk in gloom.

10 We grope, like the blind along a wall;

Like those without eyes we grope.

We stumble at noon, as if in darkness;

Among the sturdy, we are[[596]](#footnote-596)r like the dead.

11 We all growl like bears

And moan like doves.

We hope for redress, and there is none;

For victory, and it is far from us.

12 For our many sins are before You,

Our guilt testifies against us.

We are aware of our sins,

And we know well our iniquities:

13 Rebellion, faithlessness to God,

And turning away from our God,

Planning fraud and treachery,

Conceiving lies and uttering them with the throat.[[597]](#footnote-597)s

14 And so redress is turned back

And vindication stays afar,

Because honesty stumbles in the public square

And uprightness cannot enter.

15 Honesty has been lacking,

Whoever turns away from evil is despoiled.”

God saw and was displeased

That there was no redress.

16 [God] saw that there was nobody else,[[598]](#footnote-598)°

Gazing long, but no one intervened.

Then God's own arm did win triumph,

The victorious right hand[[599]](#footnote-599)t gave support.

17 [God] donned victory like a coat of mail,

Wearing a helmet of triumph—

Dressing in garments of retribution,

Wrapped in zeal like a robe.

18 According to their deserts,

So shall fury be repaid[[600]](#footnote-600)u to God's foes;

Requital shall be made to God's enemies,

Requital to the distant lands.

19 From the west, they shall revere[[601]](#footnote-601)v the name of God,

And from the east, the divine Presence.

For [God] shall come like a hemmed-in stream

Which the wind of the Eternal drives on;

20 [God] shall come as redeemer to Zion,

To those in Jacob who turn back from sin

—declares God.

21 And this shall be My covenant with them, said God: My spirit[[602]](#footnote-602)w which is upon you, and the words which I have placed in your mouth, shall not be absent from your mouth, nor from the mouth of your children, nor from the mouth of your children's children—said God—from now on, for all time.[[603]](#footnote-603)x

60

1 Arise, shine, for your light has dawned;

The Presence of God has shone upon you!

2 Behold! Darkness shall cover the earth,

And thick clouds the peoples;

But upon you God will shine,

And God's Presence be seen over you.

3 And nations shall walk by your light,

Kings, by your shining radiance.

4 Raise your eyes and look about:

They have all gathered and come to you.

Your sons shall be brought from afar,

Your daughters like babes on shoulders.

5 As you behold, you will glow;

Your heart will throb and thrill—

For the wealth of the sea[[604]](#footnote-604)y shall pass on to you,

The riches of nations shall flow to you.

6 Dust clouds of camels shall cover you,

Dromedaries of Midian and Ephah.

They all shall come from Sheba;

They shall bear gold and frankincense,

And shall herald the glories of God.

7 All the flocks of Kedar shall be assembled for you,

The rams of Nebaioth shall serve your needs;

They shall be welcome offerings on My altar,

And I will add glory to My glorious House.

8 Who are these that float like a cloud,

Like doves to their cotes?

9 Behold, the coastlands await me,[[605]](#footnote-605)z

With ships of Tarshish[[606]](#footnote-606)a in the lead,

To bring your children from afar,

And their[[607]](#footnote-607)b silver and gold as well—

For the name of the Eternal your God,

For the Holy One of Israel, who has glorified you.

10 Aliens shall rebuild your walls,

Their kings shall wait upon you—

For in anger I struck you down,

But in favor I take you back.

11 Your gates shall always stay open—

Day and night they shall never be shut—

To let in the wealth of the nations,

With their kings in procession.

12 For the nation or the kingdom

That does not serve you shall perish;

Such nations shall be destroyed.

13 The majesty of Lebanon shall come to you—

Cypress and pine and box—

To adorn the site of My Sanctuary,

To glorify the place where My feet rest.

14 Bowing before you, shall come

The children of those who tormented you;

Prostrate at the soles of your feet

Shall be all those who reviled you;

And you shall be called

“City of God,

Zion of the Holy One of Israel.”

15 Whereas you have been forsaken,

Rejected, with none passing through,

I will make you a pride everlasting,

A joy for age after age.

16 You shall suck the milk of the nations,

Suckle at royal breasts.[[608]](#footnote-608)c

And you shall know

That I God am your Savior,

I, The Mighty One of Jacob, am your Redeemer.

17 Instead of copper I will bring gold,

Instead of iron I will bring silver;

Instead of wood, copper—

And instead of stone, iron.

And I will appoint Well-being as your government,

Prosperity as your officials.

18 The cry “Violence!”

Shall no more be heard in your land,

Nor “Wrack and ruin!”

Within your borders.

And you shall name your walls “Victory”

And your gates “Renown.”

19 No longer shall you need the sun

For light by day,

Nor the shining of the moon

For radiance [by night];[[609]](#footnote-609)d

For God shall be your light everlasting,

Your God shall be your glory.

20 Your sun shall set no more,

Your moon no more withdraw;

For God shall be a light to you forever,

And your days of mourning shall be ended.

21 And your people, all of them righteous,

Shall possess the land for all time;

They are the shoot that I planted,

My handiwork in which I glory.

22 The smallest shall become a clan;

The least, a mighty nation.

I God will speed it in due time.

61

1 The spirit of my Sovereign God is upon me,

Because God has anointed me.

I have been sent as a herald of joy to the humble,

To bind up the wounded of heart,

To proclaim release to the captives,

Liberation to the imprisoned;

2 To proclaim a year of God's favor

And a day of vindication by our God;

To comfort all who mourn—

3 To provide for[[610]](#footnote-610)e the mourners in Zion—

To give them a turban instead of ashes,

The festive ointment instead of mourning,

A garment of splendor instead of a drooping spirit.

They shall be called terebinths of victory,

Planted by God for glory's sake.

4 And they shall build the ancient ruins,

Raise up the desolations of old,

And renew the ruined cities,

The desolations of many ages.

5 Strangers shall stand and pasture your flocks,

Aliens shall be your plowers and vine-trimmers;

6 While you shall be called “Priests of God,”

And termed “Servants of our God.”

You shall enjoy the wealth of nations

And revel[[611]](#footnote-611)f in their riches.

7 Because your shame was double—

Men cried, “Disgrace is their portion”[[612]](#footnote-612)g—

Assuredly,

They shall have a double share in their land;

Joy shall be theirs for all time.

8 For I God love justice,

I hate robbery with a burnt offering.[[613]](#footnote-613)h

I will pay them their wages faithfully,

And make a covenant with them for all time.

9 Their offspring shall be known among the nations,

Their descendants in the midst of the peoples.

All who see them shall recognize

That they are a stock God has blessed.

10 I greatly rejoice in God,

My whole being exults in my God—

Who has clothed me with garments of triumph,

Wrapped me in a robe of victory,

Like a bridegroom adorned with a turban,

Like a bride bedecked with her finery.

11 For as the earth brings forth her growth

And a garden makes the seed shoot up,

So my Sovereign God will make

Victory and renown shoot up

In the presence of all the nations.

62

1 For the sake of Zion I will not be silent,

For the sake of Jerusalem I will not be still,

Till her victory emerge resplendent

And her triumph like a flaming torch.

2 Nations shall see your victory,

And every king your majesty;

And you shall be called by a new name

Which God[[614]](#footnote-614)° shall bestow.

3 You shall be a glorious crown

In the hand of God,

And a royal diadem

In the palm of your God.

4 Nevermore shall you be called “Forsaken,”

Nor shall your land be called “Desolate”;

But you shall be called “I delight in her,”

And your land “Espoused.”

For God takes delight in you,

And your land shall be espoused.

5 As a youth espouses a maiden,

Your sons[[615]](#footnote-615)i shall espouse you;

And as a bridegroom rejoices over his bride,

So will your God rejoice over you.

6 Upon your walls, O Jerusalem,

I have set sentries,

Who shall never be silent

By day or by night.

O you, the Eternal One's remembrancers,[[616]](#footnote-616)j

Take no rest

7 And give no rest to [God],

Until Jerusalem is established

And she is made renowned on earth.

8 God has sworn with the divine right hand,

With a mighty arm:

Nevermore will I give your new grain

To your enemies for food,

Nor shall foreigners drink the new wine

For which you have labored.

9 But those who harvest it shall eat it

And give praise to God;

And those who gather it shall drink it

In My sacred courts.

10 Pass through, pass through the gates!

Clear the road for the people;

Build up, build up the highway,

Remove the rocks!

Raise an ensign over the peoples!

11 See, God has proclaimed

To the end of the earth:

Announce to Fair Zion,

Your Deliverer is coming!

See, [God] has brought along the reward,

The recompense[[617]](#footnote-617)k is in view.

12 And they shall be called, “The Holy People,

The Redeemed of God,”

And you shall be called, “Sought Out,

A City Not Forsaken.”

63

1 Who is this coming from Edom,

In crimsoned garments from Bozrah—

Who is this, majestic in attire,

Pressing forward[[618]](#footnote-618)l with great might?

“It is I, who contend victoriously,

Powerful to give triumph.”[[619]](#footnote-619)m

2 Why is your clothing so red,

Your garments like those of someone who treads grapes?[[620]](#footnote-620)n

3 “I trod out a vintage alone;

Of the peoples[[621]](#footnote-621)o nobody was with Me.[[622]](#footnote-622)°

I trod them down in My anger,

Trampled them in My rage;

Their life-blood[[623]](#footnote-623)p bespattered My garments,

And all My clothing was stained.

4 For I had planned a day of vengeance,

And My year of redemption arrived.

5 Then I looked, but there was none to help;

I stared, but there was none to aid—

So My own arm wrought the triumph,

And My own rage[[624]](#footnote-624)q was My aid.

6 I trampled peoples in My anger,

I made them drunk with[[625]](#footnote-625)r My rage,

And I hurled their glory to the ground.”

7 I will recount the kind acts of God,

The praises of God—

For all that God has wrought for us,

The vast bounty to the House of Israel

That was bestowed upon them

According to God's mercy and great kindness.

8 [God] thought: Surely they are My people,

Children who will not play false.

So [God] was their Deliverer.

9 In all their troubles [God] was troubled,

And the angel of the divine Presence delivered them.[[626]](#footnote-626)s

In love and pity

It was [God] who redeemed them,

Raised them, and exalted them

All the days of old.

10 But they rebelled, and grieved

God's holy spirit;

Then it was [God] who became their enemy,

And made war against them.

11 Then they[[627]](#footnote-627)t remembered the ancient days,

The One who pulled God's people[[628]](#footnote-628)u out [of the water]:

“Where is the One who brought them up from the Sea

Along with the shepherd[[629]](#footnote-629)v of this flock?

Where is the One whose holy spirit

Was placed in their midst,

12 Whose glorious arm was made

To march at the right hand of Moses,

Who divided the waters before them

To make a name for the Eternal One[[630]](#footnote-630)° for all time,

13 Who led them through the deeps

So that they did not stumble—

As a horse in a desert,

14 Like a beast descending to the plain?”

’Twas the spirit of God gave them rest;[[631]](#footnote-631)w

Thus did You shepherd Your people

To win for Yourself a glorious name.

15 Look down from heaven and see,

From Your holy and glorious height!

Where is Your zeal, Your power?

[[632]](#footnote-632)xYour yearning and Your love

Are being withheld from us![[633]](#footnote-633)y

16 Surely You are our Father:[[634]](#footnote-634)°

Though Abraham regard us not,

And Israel recognize us not,

You, O Eternal One, are our Father;

From of old, Your name is “Our Redeemer.”

17 Why, Eternal One, do You make us stray from Your ways,

And turn our hearts away from revering You?

Relent for the sake of Your servants,

The tribes that are Your very own!

18 Our foes have trampled Your Sanctuary,

Which Your holy people possessed but a little while.[[635]](#footnote-635)z

19 We have become as a people You never ruled,

To which Your name was never attached.

If You would but tear open the heavens and come down,

So that mountains would quake before You—

64

1 [[636]](#footnote-636)aAs when fire kindles brushwood,

And fire makes water boil—

To make Your name known to Your adversaries

So that nations will tremble at Your Presence,

2 When You did wonders we dared not hope for,

You came down

And mountains quaked before You.

3 Such things had never been heard or noted.

No eye has seen [them], O God, but You,

Who act for those who trust in You.[[637]](#footnote-637)b

4 Yet You have struck those who would gladly do justice,

And remember You in Your ways.

It is because You are angry that we have sinned;

We have been steeped in them from of old,

And can we be saved?[[638]](#footnote-638)c

5 We have all become like an unclean thing,

And all our virtues like a filthy rag.

We are all withering like leaves,

And our iniquities, like a wind, carry us off.

6 Yet no one invokes Your name,

Rouses themselves to cling to You.

For You have hidden Your face from us,

And made us melt because of[[639]](#footnote-639)d our iniquities.

7 But now, O Eternal One, You are our Source;[[640]](#footnote-640)°

We are the clay, and You are the Potter,

We are all the work of Your hands.

8 Be not implacably angry, O Eternal One,

Do not remember iniquity forever.

Oh, look down to Your people, to us all!

9 Your holy cities have become a desert:

Zion has become a desert,

Jerusalem a desolation.

10 Our holy Temple, our pride,

Where our ancestors praised You,

Has been consumed by fire:

And all that was dear to us is ruined.

11 At such things will You restrain Yourself, O Eternal One,

Will You stand idly by and let us suffer so heavily?

65

1 I responded to[[641]](#footnote-641)e those who did not ask,

I was at hand to those who did not seek Me;

I said, “Here I am, here I am,”

To a nation that did not invoke My name.

2 I constantly spread out My hands

To a disloyal people,

Who walk the way that is not good,

Following their own designs;

3 The people who provoke My anger,

Who continually, to My very face,

Sacrifice in gardens and burn incense on tiles;

4 Who sit inside tombs

And pass the night in secret places;

Who eat the flesh of swine,

With broth of unclean things in their bowls;

5 Who say, “Keep your distance! Don't come closer!

For I would render you consecrated.”[[642]](#footnote-642)f

Such things make My anger rage,

Like fire blazing all day long.

6 See, this is recorded before Me;

I will not stand idly by, but will repay,

Deliver their[[643]](#footnote-643)g sins[[644]](#footnote-644)h into their bosom,

7 And the sins of their ancestors as well

—said God—

For they made offerings upon the mountains

And affronted Me upon the hills.

I will count out their recompense in full,[[645]](#footnote-645)i

Into their bosoms.

8 Thus said God:

As, when new wine is present in the cluster,

One says, “Don't destroy it; there's good in it,”

So will I do for the sake of My servants,

And not destroy everything.

9 I will bring forth offspring from Jacob,

From Judah heirs to My mountains;

My chosen ones shall take possession,

My servants shall dwell thereon.

10 Sharon[[646]](#footnote-646)j shall become a pasture for flocks,

And the Valley of Achor a place for cattle to lie down,

For My people who seek Me.

11 But as for you who forsake God,

Who ignore My holy mountain,

Who set a table for Luck[[647]](#footnote-647)k

And fill a mixing bowl for Destiny:[[648]](#footnote-648)l

12 I will destine you for the sword,

You will all kneel down, to be slaughtered—

Because, when I called, you did not answer,

When I spoke, you would not listen.

You did what I hold evil,

And chose what I do not want.

13 Assuredly, thus said my Sovereign God:

My servants shall eat, and you shall hunger;

My servants shall drink, and you shall thirst;

My servants shall rejoice, and you shall be shamed;

14 My servants shall shout in gladness,

And you shall cry out in anguish,

Howling in heartbreak.

15 You shall leave behind a name

By which My chosen ones shall curse:

“So may our Sovereign God slay you!”

But My[[649]](#footnote-649)° servants shall be given a different name.[[650]](#footnote-650)m

16 For whoever blesses themselves in the land

Shall bless themselves by the true God;

And whoever swears in the land

Shall swear by the true God.

The former troubles shall be forgotten,

Shall be hidden from My eyes.

17 For behold! I am creating

A new heaven and a new earth;

The former things shall not be remembered,

They shall never come to mind.

18 Be glad, then, and rejoice forever

In what I am creating.

For I shall create Jerusalem as a joy,

And her people as a delight;

19 And I will rejoice in Jerusalem

And delight in her people.

Never again shall be heard there

The sounds of weeping and wailing.

20 No more shall there be an infant or graybeard

Who does not live out their lifetime.

Someone who dies at a hundred years

Shall be reckoned a youth,

And one who fails to reach a hundred

Shall be reckoned accursed.

21 They shall build houses and dwell in them,

They shall plant vineyards and enjoy their fruit.

22 They shall not build for others to dwell in,

Or plant for others to enjoy.

For the days of My people shall be

As long as the days of a tree,

My chosen ones shall outlive[[651]](#footnote-651)n

The work of their hands.

23 They shall not toil to no purpose;

They shall not bear children for terror,[[652]](#footnote-652)o

But they shall be a people blessed by God,

And their offspring shall remain with them.

24 Before they pray, I will answer;

While they are still speaking, I will respond.

25 The wolf and the lamb shall graze together,

And the lion shall eat straw like the ox,

And the serpent's food shall be earth.

In all My sacred mount[[653]](#footnote-653)p

Nothing evil or vile shall be done

—said God.

66

1 Thus said God:

The heaven is My throne

And the earth is My footstool:

Where could you build a house for Me,

What place could serve as My abode?

2 All this was made by My hand,

And thus it all came into being

—declares God.

Yet to such a one I look:

To the poor and brokenhearted,

Who is concerned about My word.

3 [[654]](#footnote-654)qAs for those who slaughter oxen and slay humans,

Who sacrifice sheep and immolate[[655]](#footnote-655)r dogs,

Who present as oblation the blood of swine,

Who offer[[656]](#footnote-656)s incense and worship false gods—

Just as they have chosen their ways

And take pleasure in their abominations,

4 So will I choose to mock them,

To bring on them the very thing they dread.

For I called and none responded,

I spoke and none paid heed.

They did what I deem evil

And chose what I do not want.

5 Hear the word of God,

You who are concerned about God's word!

Your own kindred who hate you,

Who spurn you because of Me,[[657]](#footnote-657)t are saying,

“Let God manifest the divine Presence,

So that we may look upon your joy.”

But theirs shall be the shame.

6 Hark, tumult from the city,

Thunder from the Temple!

It is the thunder of God

As retribution is dealt to the foe.

7 Before she labored, she was delivered;

Before her pangs came, she bore a son.[[658]](#footnote-658)°

8 Who ever heard the like?

Who ever witnessed such events?

Can a land pass through travail

In a single day?

Or is a nation born

All at once?

Yet Zion travailed

And at once bore her children!

9 Shall I who bring on labor not bring about birth?

—says God.

Shall I who cause birth shut the womb?

—said your God.

10 Rejoice with Jerusalem and be glad for her,

All you who love her!

Join in her jubilation,

All you who mourned over her—

11 That you may suck from her breast

Consolation to the full,

That you may draw from her bosom[[659]](#footnote-659)u

Glory to your delight.

12 For thus said God:

I will extend to her

Prosperity like a stream,

The wealth of nations

Like a wadi in flood;

And you shall drink of it.

You shall be carried on shoulders

And dandled upon knees

13 Like one whom a mother comforts.

So I will comfort you:

You shall find comfort in Jerusalem.

14 You shall see and your heart shall rejoice,

Your limbs shall flourish like grass.

The power of God shall be revealed

On behalf of those who render service;

But [God] shall rage against all foes.

15 See, God is coming with fire—

With chariots like a whirlwind—

To vent anger in fury,

And rebuke in flaming fire.

16 For with fire will God contend,

With the sword, against all flesh;

And many shall be the slain of God.

17 Those who sanctify and purify themselves to enter the groves, imitating one in the center,[[660]](#footnote-660)v eating the flesh of the swine, the reptile, and the mouse, shall one and all come to an end—declares God. 18 [[661]](#footnote-661)wFor I [know] their deeds and purposes.

[The time] has come to gather all the nations and tongues; they shall come and behold My glory. 19 I will set a sign among them, and send from them survivors to the nations: to Tarshish, Pul, and Lud—that draw the bow—to Tubal, Javan, and the distant coasts, that have never heard My fame nor beheld My glory. They shall declare My glory among these nations. 20 And out of all the nations, said God, they shall bring all your kindred on horses, in chariots and drays, on mules and dromedaries, to Jerusalem My holy mountain as an offering to God—just as the Israelites bring an offering in a pure vessel to the House of God. 21 And from them likewise I will take some to be levitical priests,[[662]](#footnote-662)x said God.

22 For as the new heaven and the new earth

Which I will make

Shall endure by My will

—declares God—

So shall your seed and your name endure.

23 And new moon after new moon,

And sabbath after sabbath,

All flesh shall come to worship Me

—said God.

24 They shall go out and gaze

On the corpses of those who rebelled against Me:

Their worms shall not die,

Nor their fire be quenched;

They shall be a horror

To all flesh.

Repeated verse in printed editions; it should be marked as smaller type.

And new moon after new moon,

And sabbath after sabbath,

All flesh shall come to worship Me

—said God.

1. a1.7 as overthrown by strangers Emendation yields “like Sodom overthrown.” [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. b1.8 Fair Lit. “Daughter.” [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. c1.12–13 of you? / Trample My courts no more; / Bringing oblations is futile Others “To trample My courts? / 13Bring no more vain oblations.” [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. d1.13 Assemblies with iniquity Septuagint “Fast and assembly”; cf. Joel 1.14. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. e1.17 Aid the wronged Meaning of Heb. uncertain. [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. f1.18 let us reach an understanding Meaning of Heb. uncertain. [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
7. g1.20 You will be devoured [by] the sword Or “you will be fed the sword.” [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
8. h1.22 Your I.e., Jerusalem's. [↑](#footnote-ref-8)
9. i1.22 Your wine is cut with water Meaning of Heb. uncertain. [↑](#footnote-ref-9)
10. j1.25 as with lye Emendation yields “in a crucible”; cf. 48.10. [↑](#footnote-ref-10)
11. k1.27 Others “Zion shall be saved by justice, / Her repentant ones by righteousness.” [↑](#footnote-ref-11)
12. l1.27 retribution For this meaning cf. 5.16; 10.22. [↑](#footnote-ref-12)
13. m1.29 you Heb. “they.” [↑](#footnote-ref-13)
14. n1.31 Stored wealth Connecting *ḥason* with *ḥasan* “to store” (23.18), and *ḥosen* “treasure” (33.6). [↑](#footnote-ref-14)
15. o2.3 instruction shall come forth I.e., oracles will be obtainable. [↑](#footnote-ref-15)
16. p2.4 plowshares More exactly, the iron points with which wooden plows were tipped. [↑](#footnote-ref-16)
17. q2.4 know Cf. Judg. 3.2. [↑](#footnote-ref-17)
18. r2.6 customs Cf. Targum; lit. “children.” [↑](#footnote-ref-18)
19. s2.6 For they are full [of practices] from the East, / And of soothsaying like the Philistines; / They abound in customs of the aliens Emendation yields “For they are full of divination / and have abundance of soothsaying, / Like Philistines / And like alien folk.” [↑](#footnote-ref-19)
20. t2.9 Oh, do not forgive them Meaning of Heb. uncertain. Emendation yields “And their idols with them”; cf. vv. 17–21. [↑](#footnote-ref-20)
21. u2.16 ships of Tarshish Probably a type of large ship. [↑](#footnote-ref-21)
22. v2.20 flying foxes Exact meaning of Heb. uncertain. [↑](#footnote-ref-22)
23. w3.1 water Emendation yields “clothing”; cf. v. 7; 4.1. [↑](#footnote-ref-23)
24. x3.3 enchanter Emendation yields “craftsman.” [↑](#footnote-ref-24)
25. y3.4 I I.e., God. [↑](#footnote-ref-25)
26. °3.6 brother Or “kinsman.” [↑](#footnote-ref-26)
27. z3.6 In whose father's house there is clothing Emendation yields “His father's son, saying…” [↑](#footnote-ref-27)
28. a3.6 ruin Meaning of Heb. uncertain. Emendation yields “wound.” [↑](#footnote-ref-28)
29. b3.9 judgment So Targum; cf. Deut. 1.17; 16.19. [↑](#footnote-ref-29)
30. c3.10 Hail Emendation yields “Happy is.” [↑](#footnote-ref-30)
31. d3.12 babes … women Emendation yields “the parallel terms “babes … boys”; cf. v. 4 (and v. 5). Alternatively, emendation yields “oppressors … usurers”; cf. LXX. [↑](#footnote-ref-31)
32. e3.13 peoples Septuagint “His people”; cf. vv. 14, 15. [↑](#footnote-ref-32)
33. f3.16 heads thrown back Lit. “throats bent back.” [↑](#footnote-ref-33)
34. g3.17 bare So Saadia. To bare a woman's head in public was an intolerable humiliation; cf. Mishnah Baba Kamma 8.6. [↑](#footnote-ref-34)
35. h3.18 finery Many of the articles named in vv. 18–24 cannot be identified with certainty. [↑](#footnote-ref-35)
36. i3.24 A burn instead of beauty The complete Isaiah scroll from Qumran, hereafter 1QIsᵃ, reads “For shame shall take the place of beauty”; cf. note at v. 17. [↑](#footnote-ref-36)
37. j3.25 Her I.e., Zion's; cf. vv. 16, 17; Heb. “your.” [↑](#footnote-ref-37)
38. k3.26 she shall be emptied Meaning of Heb. uncertain. Emendation yields “her wall”; cf. Lam. 2.8. [↑](#footnote-ref-38)
39. l4.2 For the interpretation of this verse, cf. 28.5. For “radiance,” cf. Septuagint and the Syriac *ṣemḥa*, and for “splendor,” cf. the meaning of *peri* in 10.12. [↑](#footnote-ref-39)
40. m4.2 the land Emendation yields “my Sovereign”; cf. the parallelism (in reverse order) in 3.17. [↑](#footnote-ref-40)
41. °4.4 God Lit. “my Sovereign.” [↑](#footnote-ref-41)
42. n4.4 the daughters of Zion Emendation yields “Daughter Zion,” i.e., Zion personified; cf. 1.8 and note. [↑](#footnote-ref-42)
43. o4.5 create Emendation yields “spread”; cf. Ps. 105.39. [↑](#footnote-ref-43)
44. p4.5 all the glory Emendation yields “God's whole shrine.” [↑](#footnote-ref-44)
45. q5.1 On a fruitful hill Meaning of Heb. uncertain. [↑](#footnote-ref-45)
46. r5.6 make it a desolation Meaning of Heb. uncertain. [↑](#footnote-ref-46)
47. s5.7 This sentence contains two word-plays: “And [God] hoped for *mishpaṭ*, And there is *mispaḥ* [exact meaning uncertain]; / For *ṣedaqah*, But there is *ṣeʻaqah* [lit. ‘outcry’].” [↑](#footnote-ref-47)
48. t5.10 just one bath I.e., of wine. The *bath* was the liquid equivalent of the *ephah*; and the *ḥomer* was ten *bath*s or *ephah*s (Ezek. 45.11). [↑](#footnote-ref-48)
49. u5.12 Who, at their banquets, / Have Emendation yields “whose interests are” (*mishʻehem*, from *shaʻah* “to turn to,” 17.7, 8; 31.1). [↑](#footnote-ref-49)
50. v5.17 Meaning of verse uncertain. Emendation yields “The lambs shall graze / In the pasture of the fat [rams], / And the kids shall feed / On the ranges of the stout [bucks].” The lambs and the kids are the poor and the rams and bucks are the rich oppressors (cf. Ezek. 34.17–22). [↑](#footnote-ref-50)
51. w5.19 Who say By way of retort to v. 12. [↑](#footnote-ref-51)
52. x5.24 shrivels as it burns Emendation yields “is burned by flame”; cf. 33.11–12; 47.14. [↑](#footnote-ref-52)
53. y5.25 quaked An allusion to the destructive earthquake in the reign of King Uzziah: Amos 1.1; Zech. 14.5; cf. Isa. 9.18a. [↑](#footnote-ref-53)
54. z5.26 a nation Heb. “nations.” [↑](#footnote-ref-54)
55. °5.30 My people Lit. “it.” [↑](#footnote-ref-55)
56. a5.30 a roaring shall resound … of the sea I.e., God will intervene and come to Israel's aid. Cf. 29.6–7; 30.27. This verse may constitute a transition between chaps. 8 and 9. [↑](#footnote-ref-56)
57. b5.30 in its lowering clouds Meaning of Heb. uncertain. [↑](#footnote-ref-57)
58. c6.4 doorposts Meaning of Heb. uncertain. [↑](#footnote-ref-58)
59. d6.5 of unclean lips I.e., speaking impiety; cf. 9.16, and contrast “pure of speech [lit. ‘lip’]” in Zeph. 3.9. [↑](#footnote-ref-59)
60. e6.10 save Lit. “heal.” [↑](#footnote-ref-60)
61. f7.3 Shear-jashub Meaning “[only] a remnant will turn back,” i.e., repent; cf. 6.13; 10.21. [↑](#footnote-ref-61)
62. g7.4 the son of Remaliah To refer to a person only as “the son of—” is slighting; cf. note at 1 Sam. 10.11. [↑](#footnote-ref-62)
63. h7.6 the son of Tabeel Cf. note at v. 4. [↑](#footnote-ref-63)
64. i7.9 The thought is continued by 8.8b–10; cf. 2 Chron. 13.8–12. [↑](#footnote-ref-64)
65. j7.9 And in another sixty-five years, / Ephraim shall be shattered as a people Brought down from v. 8 for clarity. [↑](#footnote-ref-65)
66. k7.9 cannot be trusted Others “surely, you shall not be established.” [↑](#footnote-ref-66)
67. °7.10 God spoke further I.e., Isaiah continued to speak in God's name; cf. Rashi, Ibn Ezra, Kimhi, and note at Gen. 18.13. [↑](#footnote-ref-67)
68. °7.13 the agents I.e., the prophets; cf. Targum, Rashi, Kimhi. [↑](#footnote-ref-68)
69. l7.13 as helpless By insisting on soliciting the aid of Assyria (see 2 Kings 16.7ff.; cf. below, v. 20). “Treat as helpless” follows the translation of Saadia; cf. Gen. 19.11. [↑](#footnote-ref-69)
70. °7.14 God Lit. “my Sovereign.” [↑](#footnote-ref-70)
71. m7.14 Immanuel Meaning “with us is God.” [↑](#footnote-ref-71)
72. n7.17 Assyria Cf. note at v. 13. [↑](#footnote-ref-72)
73. °7.20 God Lit. “my Sovereign.” [↑](#footnote-ref-73)
74. o7.20 king of Assyria Who was hired by Ahaz; cf. notes at vv. 13 and 17. [↑](#footnote-ref-74)
75. p7.20 the hair of the legs I.e., the pubic hair. [↑](#footnote-ref-75)
76. q7.23 every spot where … silver I.e., all the best farm land, corresponding to the hairiest parts of the body; v. 20. [↑](#footnote-ref-76)
77. r7.24 with bow and arrows Because of dangerous beasts. [↑](#footnote-ref-77)
78. s7.25 hills that could only be tilled with a hoe Marginal farm land, too rocky for the plow, corresponding to areas of the body with scant hair. [↑](#footnote-ref-78)
79. t7.25 sheep and goats See note at Exod. 12.3. [↑](#footnote-ref-79)
80. u8.1 in common script Meaning of Heb. uncertain. [↑](#footnote-ref-80)
81. v8.1 Maher-shalal-hash-baz I.e., “Pillage hastens, looting speeds,” indicating that two cities are to be pillaged at an early date; see v. 4. [↑](#footnote-ref-81)
82. w8.3 the prophetess I.e., Isaiah's wife. [↑](#footnote-ref-82)
83. x8.3 Maher-shalal-hash-baz See note at v. 1. [↑](#footnote-ref-83)
84. y8.4 and the delights of Rezin and of the son of Remaliah Brought up from v. 6 for clarity. [↑](#footnote-ref-84)
85. z8.6 flowing waters of Siloam The conduit—and later the tunnel—of Siloam conveyed into Jerusalem the waters of Gihon, which symbolize “God of Hosts who dwells on Mount Zion” (v. 18). For the nature of the rejection see note at 7.13. [↑](#footnote-ref-85)
86. °8.7 God Lit. “my Sovereign.” [↑](#footnote-ref-86)
87. a8.8 up to the neck I.e., Judah shall be imperiled, but, in contrast to Aram and Ephraim (v. 4), not destroyed. [↑](#footnote-ref-87)
88. b8.8 See note at 7.9. [↑](#footnote-ref-88)
89. c8.11 took me by the hand I.e., singled me out; cf. 41.9, 13; 42.6; 45.1; Jer. 31.32 [31]. [↑](#footnote-ref-89)
90. d8.12 The Heb. forms here and in vv. 13 and 19 are plural to include the disciples (v. 16) and the children (v. 18). [↑](#footnote-ref-90)
91. e8.12 conspiracy Meaning of Heb. uncertain. Emendation yields “holy”; cf. v. 13. [↑](#footnote-ref-91)
92. f8.12 conspiracy See preceding note. [↑](#footnote-ref-92)
93. g8.14 for a sanctuary, / A stone Emendation yields “…for God's holy domain [cf. Ps. 114.2] / A stone…” [↑](#footnote-ref-93)
94. h8.19 divine beings I.e., the shades of the dead; cf. 1 Sam. 28.13. [↑](#footnote-ref-94)
95. i8.21 This sentence would read well after v. 22. [↑](#footnote-ref-95)
96. j8.22 with no daybreak Meaning of Heb. uncertain. [↑](#footnote-ref-96)
97. k8.22 with no dawn Meaning of Heb. uncertain. [↑](#footnote-ref-97)
98. l8.23 if there were to be So 1QIsᵃ; the others have “there is not.” [↑](#footnote-ref-98)
99. m8.23 Meaning of verse uncertain. The rendering here assumes that “the former [king]” refers to Pekah and “the later” to Hoshea (cf. 2 Kings 15.29–30). For the construction *lu…kaʻeth*, see Judg. 13–23. [↑](#footnote-ref-99)
100. n9.1 See the first note at 5.30. [↑](#footnote-ref-100)
101. o9.3 the day of Midian See Judg. 7–8. [↑](#footnote-ref-101)
102. p9.4 to stamp with Meaning of Heb. uncertain; emendation yields “in wickedness”; cf. Targum. [↑](#footnote-ref-102)
103. q9.5 grace As in 25.1. [↑](#footnote-ref-103)
104. °9.7 God Lit. “my Sovereign.” [↑](#footnote-ref-104)
105. r9.7 Let loose a word Septuagint reads “Let loose pestilence”; cf. Amos 4.10. In vv. 7–20 Isaiah alludes to and builds upon Amos 4.10–12. [↑](#footnote-ref-105)
106. s9.8 noted 1QIsᵃ reads “shouted.” [↑](#footnote-ref-106)
107. t9.10 the enemies of Rezin Emendation yields “its enemies.” [↑](#footnote-ref-107)
108. u9.14 and magnates Emendation yields “who practice partiality.” [↑](#footnote-ref-108)
109. v9.14 tails Emendation yields “palm branches”; the elders and the prophets are the leaders, the people are the led; cf. 3.1–2, 12. [↑](#footnote-ref-109)
110. °9.16 God Lit. “my Sovereign.” [↑](#footnote-ref-110)
111. w9.16 spare Cf. Arabic *samuḥa*. 1QIsᵃ reads *yḥmw*. [↑](#footnote-ref-111)
112. x9.17 Which have turned into billowing smoke Meaning of Heb. uncertain. [↑](#footnote-ref-112)
113. y9.17 Yet God's anger has not turned back, / And the divine arm is outstretched still Moved down from v. 16 for clarity. [↑](#footnote-ref-113)
114. z9.18 earth was shaken Cf. note at 5.25. [↑](#footnote-ref-114)
115. a9.19 own kindred Meaning of Heb. uncertain. Emendation yields “fellow”; cf. Targum. [↑](#footnote-ref-115)
116. b9.20 Manasseh … Manasseh's Alludes to the civil wars of 2 Kings 15.10, 14–16, 25. [↑](#footnote-ref-116)
117. c9.20 against Judah Cf. 7.1–9. [↑](#footnote-ref-117)
118. d10.3 carcasses Meaning of Heb. uncertain; for “carcasses,” compare the rendering of *kabod* in v. 16; 22.18. [↑](#footnote-ref-118)
119. e10.5 In whose hand, as a staff, is My fury Emendation yields “Who is a staff in the hand of my fury.” [↑](#footnote-ref-119)
120. f10.8 I have kings as my captains! Emendation yields “all the kingdoms fared alike!” [↑](#footnote-ref-120)
121. g10.10 Since I was able to seize / The insignificant kingdoms, / Whose images exceeded / Jerusalem's and Samaria's Emendation yields “Since I was able to seize / those kingdoms and their images, / Why is Jerusalem better than Samaria?” [↑](#footnote-ref-121)
122. h10.12 will be punished Heb. “I will punish.” [↑](#footnote-ref-122)
123. i10.13 and exiled … populations According to vv. 6–7, Assyria was to plunder, but not to exile. [↑](#footnote-ref-123)
124. j10.15 the person Lit. “not-wood.” [↑](#footnote-ref-124)
125. k10.16–19 These verses would read well after 9.16 [↑](#footnote-ref-125)
126. l10.16 its Presumably Israel's. [↑](#footnote-ref-126)
127. m10.16 body Cf. note at v. 3. [↑](#footnote-ref-127)
128. n10.16 Destroying frame and flesh. / It shall be like a sick man who pines away Brought up from v. 18 for clarity. [↑](#footnote-ref-128)
129. o10.20 upon him that beats it I.e., upon Assyria (see v. 24). Ahaz's reliance on Assyria was interpreted by Isaiah as lack of faith in God; see 7.13 with note. [↑](#footnote-ref-129)
130. p10.25 My anger that was bent on wasting them Presumably Assyria; meaning of Heb. uncertain. Emendation yields “My anger against the world shall cease.” [↑](#footnote-ref-130)
131. °10.26 Assyria Heb. “him.” [↑](#footnote-ref-131)
132. q10.26 when Midian was beaten at the Rock of Oreb See Judg. 7.25. [↑](#footnote-ref-132)
133. r10.28 Aiath Elsewhere called Ai. [↑](#footnote-ref-133)
134. s10.27–29 And his yoke … night quarters Emendation yields “And his yoke shall leave your neck. / He came up from Jeshimon / 28By the ascent of Aiath, / He proceeded to Migron; / At Michmas he commanded his forces: / 29‘Make the crossing; / Geba is to be our night quarters!’” Jeshimon is the southeast corner of the Jordan Valley, Num. 21.20; 23.28. [↑](#footnote-ref-134)
135. t10.32 I.e., the Assyrian king, arriving at Nob (close to Jerusalem), shall beckon his army onward; cf. 13.2. [↑](#footnote-ref-135)
136. u10.34 in their majesty Or “by the bronze,” connecting Heb. *ʼaddir* with Akkadian *urudu*, “bronze.” [↑](#footnote-ref-136)
137. v11.3 He shall sense the truth Lit. “His sensing [shall be]”; meaning of Heb. uncertain. [↑](#footnote-ref-137)
138. w11.4 a land Emendation yields “the ruthless.” [↑](#footnote-ref-138)
139. x11.6 The calf, the beast of prey, and the fatling 1QIsᵃ reads: “The calf and the beast of prey shall feed”; so too the Septuagint. [↑](#footnote-ref-139)
140. y11.8 pass Meaning of Heb. uncertain. [↑](#footnote-ref-140)
141. z11.9 My sacred mount I.e., the Holy Land; cf. Exod. 15.17; Ps. 78.54. [↑](#footnote-ref-141)
142. a11.11 the other part I.e., the part outside the Holy Land; lit. “the rest that will remain.” [↑](#footnote-ref-142)
143. b11.15 a mighty wind Lit. “the might of His wind.” Meaning of Heb. uncertain. [↑](#footnote-ref-143)
144. c11.16 the other part See note at v. 11. [↑](#footnote-ref-144)
145. d12.2 might Others “song.” [↑](#footnote-ref-145)
146. e13.3 The impending slaughter is spoken of as a sacrificial meal, for which the guests were notified to purify themselves ritually; cf. Zeph. 1.7. [↑](#footnote-ref-146)
147. f13.4 As of Meaning of Heb. uncertain. [↑](#footnote-ref-147)
148. g13.6 Shaddai Traditionally rendered “the Almighty.” [↑](#footnote-ref-148)
149. h13.8 livid with fright Taking the root *lhb* as a variant of *bhl*: others “shall be faces of flame.” [↑](#footnote-ref-149)
150. i13.13 shall heaven be shaken Lit. “I will shake heaven.” [↑](#footnote-ref-150)
151. j13.15 are caught Meaning of Heb. uncertain; emendation yields “flee.” [↑](#footnote-ref-151)
152. k13.21 beasts Meaning of Heb. uncertain. [↑](#footnote-ref-152)
153. l13.21 owls Meaning of Heb. uncertain. [↑](#footnote-ref-153)
154. m13.22 jackals Meaning of Heb. uncertain. [↑](#footnote-ref-154)
155. n13.22 dragons Meaning of Heb. uncertain. [↑](#footnote-ref-155)
156. o14.2 them I.e., the House of Jacob. [↑](#footnote-ref-156)
157. p14.2 them I.e., the peoples. [↑](#footnote-ref-157)
158. q14.4 oppression Reading *marhebah* with 1QIsᵃ (cf. Septuagint). The traditional reading *madhebah* is of unknown meaning. [↑](#footnote-ref-158)
159. r14.12 Shining One, son of Dawn A character in some lost myth. [↑](#footnote-ref-159)
160. s14.13 assembly I.e., the assembly of the gods in council. [↑](#footnote-ref-160)
161. t14.13 the summit of Zaphon The abode of the gods; cf. Ps. 48.3. [↑](#footnote-ref-161)
162. u14.15 the bottom of the Pit A region of the netherworld reserved for those who have not received decent burial; cf. Ezek. 32.21ff. [↑](#footnote-ref-162)
163. v14.17–18 Who never released … in honor Emendation yields “Who chained to his palace gate / All the kings of nations? / Yet they were all laid in honor…” The practice of chaining captive chieftains to gates is attested in Mesopotamia. [↑](#footnote-ref-163)
164. w14.19 carrion So several ancient versions; cf. postbiblical *neṣel*, “putrefying flesh or blood.” [↑](#footnote-ref-164)
165. x14.20 your country, / Murdered your people Emendation yields “…countries, / Murdered peoples.” [↑](#footnote-ref-165)
166. °14.21 his sons As potential heirs to the throne; cf. Kimhi. [↑](#footnote-ref-166)
167. y14.21 father Heb. “fathers.” [↑](#footnote-ref-167)
168. z14.23 bitterns Meaning of Heb. uncertain. [↑](#footnote-ref-168)
169. a14.25 My mountain Heb. “My mountains”; for the designation of the entire land of Israel as God's mountain, cf. 11.9. [↑](#footnote-ref-169)
170. b14.25 their Heb. “his.” [↑](#footnote-ref-170)
171. c14.25 And his yoke … backs These lines would read well after v. 26. [↑](#footnote-ref-171)
172. d14.29 seraph Others “fiery serpent”; cf. Num. 21.6, 8. [↑](#footnote-ref-172)
173. e14.30 The first-born of the poor shall graze Emendation yields “The poor shall graze in his pasture.” [↑](#footnote-ref-173)
174. f14.30 The first-born … lie down secure These lines would read well after v. 32. [↑](#footnote-ref-174)
175. g14.30 I will kill your stock by famine Emendation yields “It shall kill your offspring with its venom (*zarʻekh berosho*).” [↑](#footnote-ref-175)
176. h14.31 For a stout one … in his ranks Meaning of Heb. uncertain; the rendering “stout one” is suggested by the Syriac *ʻashshīn*. [↑](#footnote-ref-176)
177. i15.2 Dibon Regarded as the principal city of Moab. [↑](#footnote-ref-177)
178. j15.4 The shock troops of Moab shout Change of vocalization yields “The loins of Moab are trembling.” [↑](#footnote-ref-178)
179. k15.9 blood Emendation yields “tears.” [↑](#footnote-ref-179)
180. l15.9 drench Cf. 16.9. [↑](#footnote-ref-180)
181. m15.9 soil Emendation yields “tears”; cf. Ugaritic *ʼdmʻt*. [↑](#footnote-ref-181)
182. n16.1–2 Meaning of these verses uncertain. [↑](#footnote-ref-182)
183. o16.3 Offer counsel Meaning of Heb. uncertain. [↑](#footnote-ref-183)
184. p16.4 Moab's outcasts Heb. “my outcasts, Moab.” [↑](#footnote-ref-184)
185. q16.5 Here 14.32 would read well. [↑](#footnote-ref-185)
186. r16.6 in him *Baddaw* is a suffixed form of the preposition *bede*: Nah. 2.13; Hab. 2.13; Job 39.25; with suffixes, Job 11.3; 41.4. [↑](#footnote-ref-186)
187. s16.7 raisin-cakes Cf. Jer. 48.36 “men.” [↑](#footnote-ref-187)
188. t16.8 Their tendrils spread / To Baale-goiim Meaning of Heb. uncertain. [↑](#footnote-ref-188)
189. u16.9 Ended are the shouts / Over your fig and grain harvests Cf. Jer. 48.32 “A ravager has come down / Upon your fig and grape harvests.” [↑](#footnote-ref-189)
190. v16.10 have been silenced Lit. “I have silenced.” [↑](#footnote-ref-190)
191. w17.2 The towns of Aroer shall be deserted Emendation yields (cf. Septuagint) “Its towns shall be deserted forevermore.” [↑](#footnote-ref-191)
192. x17.3 Ephraim Emendation yields “Aram.” [↑](#footnote-ref-192)
193. y17.6 on the boughs of the crown Lit. “on her boughs, the many-branched one.” [↑](#footnote-ref-193)
194. z17.9 the Horesh and the Amir Septuagint reads “the Amorites and the Hivites.” [↑](#footnote-ref-194)
195. a17.10 delightful Emendation yields “true.” So Vulgate (cf. Septuagint); cf. Jer. 2.21. [↑](#footnote-ref-195)
196. b18.1 land in the deep shadow of wings Or “Most sheltered land”; cf., e.g., 30.2, 3; Ps. 36.8; 57.2; 61.5. [↑](#footnote-ref-196)
197. c18.2 far and remote, / To a people thrust forth and away Meaning of Heb. uncertain. [↑](#footnote-ref-197)
198. d18.2 chatter Meaning of Heb. uncertain; cf. 28.10. Biblical writers often characterize distant nations by their unintelligible speech; cf. 33.19; Deut. 28.49; Jer. 5.15. [↑](#footnote-ref-198)
199. e18.2 Which sends out envoys by sea, / In papyrus vessels upon the water Brought down from beginning of verse for clarity. The Hebrew verb for “sends” agrees in gender with “nation,” not with “land.” [↑](#footnote-ref-199)
200. f18.4 confident Cf. *hibbiṭ* “to rely” (Job 6.19). The related noun *mabbaṭ* occurs with similar meaning in Isa. 20.5, 6. [↑](#footnote-ref-200)
201. g18.4 Like a rain-cloud in the heat of reaping time I.e., like a threat of disaster; cf. Eccl. 11.4. [↑](#footnote-ref-201)
202. h18.5 harvest Emendation yields “vintage.” [↑](#footnote-ref-202)
203. i18.5 trailing branches A figure of speech for the defeated enemy. [↑](#footnote-ref-203)
204. j19.2 kingdom … kingdom I.e., the various districts of Egypt, which in Isaiah's time were governed by hereditary princes. [↑](#footnote-ref-204)
205. k19.7 And the Nile papyrus by the Nile-side Meaning of Heb. uncertain. [↑](#footnote-ref-205)
206. l19.9 chagrined Meaning of Heb. uncertain. [↑](#footnote-ref-206)
207. m19.10 Meaning of verse uncertain; emendation yields “Her drinkers shall be dejected, / And all her brewers despondent.” [↑](#footnote-ref-207)
208. n19.11 kings Or “advisers.” The wisdom of the Kedemites was proverbial; cf. 1 Kings 5.10. [↑](#footnote-ref-208)
209. o19.15 Palm branch or reed I.e., a man of either high or low station; cf. 9.13, 14. [↑](#footnote-ref-209)
210. p19.18 several Lit. “five.” [↑](#footnote-ref-210)
211. q19.18 one Or “each one.” [↑](#footnote-ref-211)
212. r19.18 Heres Meaning uncertain. Many Heb. mss. read *ḥeres*, “sun,” which may refer to Heliopolis, i.e., Sun City, in Egypt. Targum's “Beth Shemesh” (cf. Jer. 43.13) has the same meaning. [↑](#footnote-ref-212)
213. s19.19 border As a symbol of God's sovereignty over Egypt. [↑](#footnote-ref-213)
214. t19.24 as a blessing I.e., a standard by which blessing is invoked; cf. Gen. 12.2 with note. [↑](#footnote-ref-214)
215. u20.1 Tartan An Assyrian title meaning “General”; cf. 2 Kings 18.17 and note. [↑](#footnote-ref-215)
216. v20.2 Previously Lit. “At that time.” [↑](#footnote-ref-216)
217. w21.1 The “Desert of the Sea” Pronouncement Emendation yields “The ‘From the Desert’ Pronouncement,” agreeing with the phrase farther on in the verse. [↑](#footnote-ref-217)
218. x21.2 betraying, / The ravager ravaging Emendation yields “betrayed…ravaged”; cf. 33.1. [↑](#footnote-ref-218)
219. y21.2 I have put an end / To all her sighing Emendation yields “Put an end to all her merrymaking!” [↑](#footnote-ref-219)
220. z21.5 Grease Emendation yields “Grasp.” [↑](#footnote-ref-220)
221. °21.6 God Lit. “my Sovereign.” [↑](#footnote-ref-221)
222. a21.8 [like] a lion he 1QIsᵃ reads “The watcher.” [↑](#footnote-ref-222)
223. b21.8 On God's lookout Or “On a lookout, my sovereign,…” [↑](#footnote-ref-223)
224. c21.10 My threshing, the product of my threshing floor Connection of Heb. uncertain. [↑](#footnote-ref-224)
225. d21.11 Dumah Name of a people; cf. Gen. 25.14. [↑](#footnote-ref-225)
226. e22.1 Valley of Vision Meaning of Heb. uncertain. [↑](#footnote-ref-226)
227. f22.1–3 These verses describe a scene of mourning to take place in Jerusalem in the near future. In the ancient Near East, public weeping took place on the low flat roofs as well as in the streets and squares; cf. above, 15.3; Jer. 48.38. [↑](#footnote-ref-227)
228. g22.2 Your slain are … battle I.e., executed, instead of dying in battle. [↑](#footnote-ref-228)
229. h22.3 Taken captive without their bows Meaning of Heb. uncertain. [↑](#footnote-ref-229)
230. i22.4 my poor people Lit. “the young woman, my people.” [↑](#footnote-ref-230)
231. j22.5 Kir … Shoa on the hill Meaning of Heb. uncertain. On Kir see 2 Kings 16.9; Amos 1.5; 9.7; on Shoa see Ezek. 23.23. [↑](#footnote-ref-231)
232. k22.7 Judah's Brought up from v. 8a for clarity. [↑](#footnote-ref-232)
233. l22.7 gateway Judah's gateway is the upper course of the Valley of Elah. [↑](#footnote-ref-233)
234. m22.8 screen I.e., the fortress Azekah, at the mouth of the gateway, which was captured by the Assyrians. [↑](#footnote-ref-234)
235. n22.8 Forest House See 1 Kings 7.2–5; 10.16–17. [↑](#footnote-ref-235)
236. o22.9 And you collected the water of the Lower Pool This clause would read well after the prose part of v. 11a. [↑](#footnote-ref-236)
237. p22.16 your Heb. “his.” [↑](#footnote-ref-237)
238. q22.16 yourself Heb. “himself.” [↑](#footnote-ref-238)
239. r22.17 Severely, fellow Emendation yields “as a garment is shaken out.” [↑](#footnote-ref-239)
240. s22.17 wear you like a wrap I.e., walk off with you; cf. Jer. 43.12. [↑](#footnote-ref-240)
241. t22.18 as a headdress, a turban Emendation yields “as a turban is wound about.” [↑](#footnote-ref-241)
242. u22.18 chariots bearing your body Emendation yields “abode [cf. v. 16] of your body” [cf. 10.3, 16]. [↑](#footnote-ref-242)
243. v22.23 father's Emendation yields “master's”; cf. v. 18 end. [↑](#footnote-ref-243)
244. w22.24 father's See note at verse 23 end. [↑](#footnote-ref-244)
245. x22.24 the sprouts and the leaves Meaning of Heb. uncertain. [↑](#footnote-ref-245)
246. y22.25 Apparently continues v. 19. [↑](#footnote-ref-246)
247. z23.1 ships of Tarshish See note at 2.16. [↑](#footnote-ref-247)
248. a23.3 Your Heb. “Her.” [↑](#footnote-ref-248)
249. b23.4 I am as one who has Lit. “I have.” [↑](#footnote-ref-249)
250. c23.10 Traverse your land like the Nile, / Fair Tarshish Meaning of Heb. uncertain. Emendation yields “Pass on to the land of Kittim, / You ships of Tarshish.” [↑](#footnote-ref-250)
251. d23.10 harbor Meaning of Heb. uncertain; taking *mezaḥ* as a by-form of *maḥoz*: cf. Ps. 107.30. [↑](#footnote-ref-251)
252. e23.11 Phoenicia's Heb. “Canaan's.” [↑](#footnote-ref-252)
253. f23.13 Meaning of verse uncertain. Emendation yields “The land of Kittim itself— / Which the Sidonian people founded, / Whose watchtowers they raised, / Whose citadels they erected— / Exists no more; / Assyria has turned it into a ruin.” [↑](#footnote-ref-253)
254. g23.17 “fee-taking” and “play the harlot” I.e., “trading…trade.” [↑](#footnote-ref-254)
255. h24.4 The most exalted people of the earth Change of vocalization yields “both sky and earth.” [↑](#footnote-ref-255)
256. i24.5 the ancient covenant I.e., the moral law, which is binding on all men (cf. Gen. 9.4–6). [↑](#footnote-ref-256)
257. j24.10 broken Emendation yields “left.” [↑](#footnote-ref-257)
258. k24.16 And I said Change of vocalization yields “They shall say.” [↑](#footnote-ref-258)
259. l24.16 I waste … faith Meaning of Heb. uncertain. Emendation yields “Villain [Arabic *razīl*], foolish villain! / The faithless who acted faithlessly / Have been betrayed in turn.” [↑](#footnote-ref-259)
260. m24.17 Terror, and pit, and trap Heb. *paḥad wa-paḥath, wa-paḥ*. [↑](#footnote-ref-260)
261. n25.1 graciousness See 9.5. [↑](#footnote-ref-261)
262. o25.2 strangers Emendation yields “arrogant men.” [↑](#footnote-ref-262)
263. p25.2 rubble Meaning of Heb. uncertain. [↑](#footnote-ref-263)
264. q25.4 winter Meaning of Heb. uncertain. [↑](#footnote-ref-264)
265. r25.5 strangers See note at v. 2. [↑](#footnote-ref-265)
266. s25.5 singing Meaning of Heb. uncertain. Emendation yields “rainstorm”; cf. 4d. [↑](#footnote-ref-266)
267. t25.6 this mount I.e., the Holy Land, as in 11.9; 14.25; 57.13. [↑](#footnote-ref-267)
268. u25.6 rich viands … / Of choice wines Meaning of Heb. uncertain. [↑](#footnote-ref-268)
269. v25.7 this mount See note at v. 6. [↑](#footnote-ref-269)
270. w25.8 death Perhaps an allusion to the mass killings committed by the Assyrians; cf. 10.7; 14.20. [↑](#footnote-ref-270)
271. x25.8 God's people Emendation yields “peoples.” [↑](#footnote-ref-271)
272. y25.10 this mount See note at v. 6. [↑](#footnote-ref-272)
273. z25.10 Moab Emendation yields “Assyria”; cf. 14.25. [↑](#footnote-ref-273)
274. a25.10 Madmenah A village near Jerusalem; see 10.31. Emendation yields “As straw gets shredded in the threshing.” [↑](#footnote-ref-274)
275. b25.11 homeland Lit. “midst.” [↑](#footnote-ref-275)
276. c25.11 the emblems of their power Meaning of Heb. uncertain. Emendation yields “their citadels”; cf. the next verse. [↑](#footnote-ref-276)
277. d25.12 their Heb. “your.” [↑](#footnote-ref-277)
278. e26.9 the spirit within me Emendation yields “my spirit in the morning.” [↑](#footnote-ref-278)
279. f26.12 Meaning of verse uncertain. [↑](#footnote-ref-279)
280. g26.15–16 Meaning of verses uncertain. [↑](#footnote-ref-280)
281. h26.16 anguished Lit. “anguish”; taking *ṣaqun* as a noun formed like *zadon* and *sason*. [↑](#footnote-ref-281)
282. i26.18 come to life Meaning of Heb. uncertain. [↑](#footnote-ref-282)
283. j26.19 corpses Grammar of Heb. unclear. [↑](#footnote-ref-283)
284. k26.19 come to life Meaning of Heb. uncertain. [↑](#footnote-ref-284)
285. °26.21 from seclusion Heb. “from His place.” [↑](#footnote-ref-285)
286. l27.1 Elusive Meaning of Heb. uncertain. [↑](#footnote-ref-286)
287. m27.1 Twisting Meaning of Heb. uncertain. [↑](#footnote-ref-287)
288. n27.1 Dragon of the sea The monster that God vanquished of old (cf. 51.9; Ps. 74.13–14) was the embodiment of chaos; here it stands for the forces of evil in the present world. [↑](#footnote-ref-288)
289. o27.2 it Apparently the earth; cf. 26.21. [↑](#footnote-ref-289)
290. p27.2 Delight So some mss. (cf. Amos 5.11); other mss. and the editions have “Wine.” [↑](#footnote-ref-290)
291. q27.3 That no harm may befall it Meaning of Heb. uncertain; emendation yields “My eye is open upon it.” [↑](#footnote-ref-291)
292. °27.4 If it offers Me thorns and thistles I.e., if the people through their misconduct fail to tend the vineyard. [↑](#footnote-ref-292)
293. r27.4 If one offers … on fire Meaning of Heb. uncertain. [↑](#footnote-ref-293)
294. s27.5 It makes peace with Me; / It makes peace with Me Meaning of Heb. uncertain. [↑](#footnote-ref-294)
295. t27.8 Assailing them Lit. “Striving with her”; meaning of verse uncertain. [↑](#footnote-ref-295)
296. u27.9 This verse would read well before v. 6; the thought of vv. 7–8, dealing with the punishment of Israel's enemies, is continued in vv. 10–11. [↑](#footnote-ref-296)
297. v27.10–11 And consume its boughs. / When its crown is withered, they break Meaning of Heb. uncertain. Emendation yields “Or like a terebinth whose boughs / Break when its crown is withered.” [↑](#footnote-ref-297)
298. w28.1 bloated *Ge* is contracted from *geʼe*; cf. Ibn Ezra. [↑](#footnote-ref-298)
299. °28.2 God Lit. “my Sovereign.” [↑](#footnote-ref-299)
300. x28.2 rain Lit. “water.” [↑](#footnote-ref-300)
301. y28.4 bloated See note at v. 1. [↑](#footnote-ref-301)
302. z28.4 in his hand Emendation yields “on the bough.” [↑](#footnote-ref-302)
303. a28.9 This is the drunkards' reaction to Isaiah's reproof. [↑](#footnote-ref-303)
304. b28.12 let the weary rest I.e., do not embark on any political adventure at this time. [↑](#footnote-ref-304)
305. c28.13 march I.e., embark on the political adventure. [↑](#footnote-ref-305)
306. d28.14 Who govern that people Or “composers of taunt-verses for that people.” [↑](#footnote-ref-306)
307. e28.16 A tower of precious cornerstones Meaning of Heb. uncertain. [↑](#footnote-ref-307)
308. f28.17 retribution As in 1.27; 5.16; 10.22. [↑](#footnote-ref-308)
309. g28.17 I will apply … as weights I.e., I will make judgment and retribution My plan of action; cf. 34.11; 2 Kings 21.13. [↑](#footnote-ref-309)
310. h28.21 Strange is … God's task Instead of giving victory, as at Baal-perazim and Gibeon (cf. 2 Sam. 5.19–25; 1 Chron. 14.9–16), God will inflict punishment. [↑](#footnote-ref-310)
311. i28.25 set wheat in a row In some Near Eastern countries, wheat is actually planted rather than scattered. [↑](#footnote-ref-311)
312. j28.28 crushed Emendation yields “threshed.” [↑](#footnote-ref-312)
313. k28.28 even if Taking *loʼ* as equivalent to *lu*. [↑](#footnote-ref-313)
314. l28.28 and his horses overwhelm it Meaning of Heb. uncertain. [↑](#footnote-ref-314)
315. m29.1 Ariel A poetic name of Jerusalem; cf. 33.7. [↑](#footnote-ref-315)
316. n29.2 She shall be to Me like Ariel Meaning of Heb. uncertain. [↑](#footnote-ref-316)
317. o29.3 round about Meaning of Heb. uncertain. Septuagint reads “like David”; cf. v. 1. [↑](#footnote-ref-317)
318. p29.3 with a mound Meaning of Heb. uncertain. [↑](#footnote-ref-318)
319. q29.5 your strangers Manuscript 1QIsᵃ reads “those insolent toward you.” [↑](#footnote-ref-319)
320. °29.13 God Lit. “my Sovereign.” [↑](#footnote-ref-320)
321. °29.13 social obligation Lit. “commandment of [human] participants in the situation.” [↑](#footnote-ref-321)
322. r29.16 How perverse of you! / Should the potter be accounted as the clay? Meaning of first line uncertain; emendation yields “Should the potter be accounted / Like the jugs or like the clay?” [↑](#footnote-ref-322)
323. s29.16 That One did not understand Emendation yields “That One did not fashion me.” [↑](#footnote-ref-323)
324. t29.22 Who redeemed Abraham Emendation yields “Whose fathers were redeemed.” [↑](#footnote-ref-324)
325. u30.4 Zoan Or “Tanis.” [↑](#footnote-ref-325)
326. v30.4 messengers Emendation yields “kings”; cf. 19.2 with note. [↑](#footnote-ref-326)
327. w30.6 The “Beasts of the Negeb” Pronouncement. / Through a Meaning of Heb. uncertain; emendation yields “Through the wasteland of the Negeb / Through a…” [↑](#footnote-ref-327)
328. x30.6 roaring Meaning of Heb. uncertain. [↑](#footnote-ref-328)
329. y30.6 seraph See note at 14.29. [↑](#footnote-ref-329)
330. z30.7 They are a threat that has ceased Meaning of Heb. uncertain. Emendation yields “Disgrace and chagrin”; cf. v. 5. [↑](#footnote-ref-330)
331. a30.8 witness Understanding *ʻad*, with Targum, as a variant of *ʻed*. [↑](#footnote-ref-331)
332. °30.18 in turn Lit. “for Him.” [↑](#footnote-ref-332)
333. b30.20 be ignored Meaning of Heb. uncertain. [↑](#footnote-ref-333)
334. c30.22 cast Change of vocalization yields “keep.” [↑](#footnote-ref-334)
335. d30.27 eminent might Lit. “name.” Cf. Ps. 20.2; 54.3; Rashi, Luzzatto. [↑](#footnote-ref-335)
336. e30.27 With a heavy burden Presumably with a heavy load of punishment. Meaning of Heb. uncertain. [↑](#footnote-ref-336)
337. f30.28 yoke Interpreting *naphath* like Arabic *nāf*; meaning of line uncertain. [↑](#footnote-ref-337)
338. g30.29 with timbrels, and with lyres Brought from v. 32 for clarity. [↑](#footnote-ref-338)
339. h30.32 Meaning of verse uncertain. [↑](#footnote-ref-339)
340. i30.33 Topheth A site near Jerusalem at which human beings were sacrificed by fire in periods of paganizing; see 2 Kings 23.10. [↑](#footnote-ref-340)
341. j30.33 Melech Cf. Molech, Lev. 18.21; 20.2–5. [↑](#footnote-ref-341)
342. k31.2 allies Lit. “help.” [↑](#footnote-ref-342)
343. l31.6 Return, O children of Israel Emendation yields “Then the children of Israel shall return.” [↑](#footnote-ref-343)
344. m31.8 shrivel From root *nss*; cf. 10.18; others “flee.” [↑](#footnote-ref-344)
345. n31.8 pine away From root *mss*; cf. 10.18; others “become tributary.” [↑](#footnote-ref-345)
346. o31.9 collapse from weakness Cf. first note at v. 8; meaning of Heb. uncertain. [↑](#footnote-ref-346)
347. p31.9 Jerusalem Cf. 30.33. [↑](#footnote-ref-347)
348. q32.10 In little more than a year Meaning of Heb. uncertain. [↑](#footnote-ref-348)
349. r32.12 upon the breasts Emendation yields “for the fields.” [↑](#footnote-ref-349)
350. s32.14 Bare places Meaning of Heb. uncertain; emendation yields “Brushland, desert.” [↑](#footnote-ref-350)
351. t32.14 flocks Emendation yields “onagers”; cf. Job 39.5. [↑](#footnote-ref-351)
352. u32.15 farm land rates as mere brush I.e., the transformed wilderness will surpass in fertility what is now used as farm land. [↑](#footnote-ref-352)
353. v32.19 Meaning of verse uncertain. [↑](#footnote-ref-353)
354. w32.20 send out cattle and asses to pasture Lit. “let loose the feet of cattle and asses”; cf. 7.25 end. [↑](#footnote-ref-354)
355. x33.2 Be their arm Emendation yields “You have been our help.” [↑](#footnote-ref-355)
356. y33.4 spoil Heb. “your spoil.” [↑](#footnote-ref-356)
357. z33.4 It Meaning of Heb. uncertain. Emendation yields “booty”; cf. v. 23. [↑](#footnote-ref-357)
358. a33.4 amassed Taking *šqq* as a cognate of *qšš*. [↑](#footnote-ref-358)
359. b33.4 as grasshoppers are amassed Apparently for food; cf. Lev. 11.22. [↑](#footnote-ref-359)
360. c33.6 Your charge Meaning of Heb. uncertain. [↑](#footnote-ref-360)
361. d33.6 her Heb. “his.” [↑](#footnote-ref-361)
362. e33.7 Arielites So a few manuscripts; cf. 29.1. [↑](#footnote-ref-362)
363. f33.7 Shalom's I.e., Jerusalem's; cf. Salem (Heb. *Shalem*), Ps. 76.3. [↑](#footnote-ref-363)
364. g33.8 Cities 1QIsᵃ reads “A pact.” [↑](#footnote-ref-364)
365. h33.8 Mortals Emendation yields “an obligation.” [↑](#footnote-ref-365)
366. i33.11 My Heb. “your.” [↑](#footnote-ref-366)
367. j33.12 lime Emendation yields “brambles”; cf. 32.13. [↑](#footnote-ref-367)
368. k33.17 a king in his beauty Emendation yields “perfection of beauty”; cf. Ps. 50.2. [↑](#footnote-ref-368)
369. l33.18 throat As in 59.13 and elsewhere; others “heart.” [↑](#footnote-ref-369)
370. m33.21 Their Heb. “your.” [↑](#footnote-ref-370)
371. n33.21 Their ropes … spread a sail Brought up from v. 23 for clarity. The passage means that God will render Jerusalem as inaccessible to enemies as if it were surrounded by an impassable sea. [↑](#footnote-ref-371)
372. o33.23 shall indeed much spoil be divided Meaning of Heb. uncertain; emendation yields “even a blind man shall divide much spoil.” [↑](#footnote-ref-372)
373. p34.4 All the host of heaven shall molder 1QIsᵃ reads “And the valleys shall be cleft, / And all the host of heaven shall wither.” [↑](#footnote-ref-373)
374. q34.5 be drunk 1QIsᵃ reads “be seen”; cf. Targum. [↑](#footnote-ref-374)
375. r34.7 with them Emendation yields “with fatted calves.” [↑](#footnote-ref-375)
376. s34.9 Its I.e., Edom's. [↑](#footnote-ref-376)
377. t34.11 Jackdaws and owls Meaning of Heb. uncertain. [↑](#footnote-ref-377)
378. u34.11 He shall measure it … weights of emptiness I.e., He shall plan chaos and emptiness for it; cf. 28.17; Lam. 2.8. [↑](#footnote-ref-378)
379. v34.12 It shall be called “No kingdom is there” Meaning of Heb. uncertain. [↑](#footnote-ref-379)
380. w34.14–15 Most of the creatures in these verses cannot be identified with certainty. [↑](#footnote-ref-380)
381. x34.14 lilith A kind of demon. [↑](#footnote-ref-381)
382. °34.14 Goat-demons … lilith … herself Or “Owls … night-bird … itself.” [↑](#footnote-ref-382)
383. y34.16 God's Heb. “My.” [↑](#footnote-ref-383)
384. z35.1 rose Lit. “crocus.” [↑](#footnote-ref-384)
385. a35.7 pasture Meaning of Heb. uncertain; emendation yields “marsh.” [↑](#footnote-ref-385)
386. b35.7 [of ostriches] Cf. 34.13. [↑](#footnote-ref-386)
387. c35.8 for them Emendation yields “for [God's] people.” [↑](#footnote-ref-387)
388. d35.8 No traveler, not even fools, shall go astray Meaning of Heb. uncertain. [↑](#footnote-ref-388)
389. e36.1–39.8 This passage occurs also as 2 Kings 18.13–20.19, with a number of variants, some of which will be cited here in the footnotes. [↑](#footnote-ref-389)
390. f36.2 Rabshakeh An Assyrian title; cf. “Tartan,” 20.1. [↑](#footnote-ref-390)
391. g36.5 I suppose Cf. 2 Kings 18.20 “You must think.” [↑](#footnote-ref-391)
392. h36.16 to me I.e., to my representative the Rabshakeh. [↑](#footnote-ref-392)
393. i36.19 they I.e., the gods of Samaria. [↑](#footnote-ref-393)
394. j37.3 The babes have reached the birthstool, but the strength to give birth is lacking I.e., the situation is desperate, and we are at a loss. [↑](#footnote-ref-394)
395. k37.7 delude Lit. “put a spirit in.” [↑](#footnote-ref-395)
396. l37.12 predecessors Lit. “fathers.” [↑](#footnote-ref-396)
397. m37.18 nations So 2 Kings 19.17, and 13 mss. here; most mss. and editions read “lands.” [↑](#footnote-ref-397)
398. n37.20 [are God] Supplied from 2 Kings 19.19. [↑](#footnote-ref-398)
399. °37.24 God Lit. “my Sovereign.” [↑](#footnote-ref-399)
400. o37.24 Its densest forest Lit. “Its farmland forest”; exact meaning of Heb. uncertain. [↑](#footnote-ref-400)
401. p37.25 drawn Or “dug”; meaning of Heb. uncertain. [↑](#footnote-ref-401)
402. q37.27 that is blasted / Before the east wind So ms. 1QIsᵃ; cf. 2 Kings 19.26. The usual reading in our passage means, literally, “and a field [?] before standing grain.” [↑](#footnote-ref-402)
403. r37.30 you I.e., Hezekiah. [↑](#footnote-ref-403)
404. s37.36 [That night] Supplied from 2 Kings 19.35. [↑](#footnote-ref-404)
405. t38.8 dial Heb. “steps.” A model of a dial with steps has been discovered in Egypt. [↑](#footnote-ref-405)
406. u38.10 Meaning of verse uncertain in part. [↑](#footnote-ref-406)
407. v38.11 see Yah I.e., visit God's Temple. For “Yah” see 12.2; 26.4. [↑](#footnote-ref-407)
408. °38.11 earth Or “underworld”; cf. Rashi. [↑](#footnote-ref-408)
409. w38.12–13 Only from daybreak … all my bones … Was I kept whole Meaning of Heb. uncertain. [↑](#footnote-ref-409)
410. x38.15 It had been promised Meaning of Heb. uncertain. [↑](#footnote-ref-410)
411. y38.15–16 All my sleep … revived Meaning of Heb. uncertain. [↑](#footnote-ref-411)
412. z38.19 Fathers Heb. singular. [↑](#footnote-ref-412)
413. a38.20 deliver us Meaning of Heb. uncertain. [↑](#footnote-ref-413)
414. b38.20 music *Neginothai* is a poetic form of *neginoth*. [↑](#footnote-ref-414)
415. c39.8 safety is assured for Lit. “there shall be safety and faithfulness in.” [↑](#footnote-ref-415)
416. °40.5 God Heb. “the mouth of God.” [↑](#footnote-ref-416)
417. d40.6 Another asks 1QIsᵃ and Septuagint read “And I asked.” [↑](#footnote-ref-417)
418. e40.10 the reward … / The recompense To present to the cities of Judah; cf. Jer. 31.14, 16. [↑](#footnote-ref-418)
419. f40.12 measure Heb. *shalish* “third,” probably a third of an *ephah*. [↑](#footnote-ref-419)
420. g40.19 Forging links of silver Meaning of Heb. uncertain. [↑](#footnote-ref-420)
421. h40.20 mulberry Heb. *mesukkan*; according to a Jewish tradition, preserved by Jerome, a kind of wood; a similar word denotes a kind of wood in Akkadian. [↑](#footnote-ref-421)
422. i40.21 How the earth was founded Meaning of Heb. uncertain. [↑](#footnote-ref-422)
423. j40.31 As eagles grow new plumes Alluding to a popular belief that eagles regain their youth when they molt; cf. Ps. 103.5. [↑](#footnote-ref-423)
424. k41.1 renew their strength Connection of Heb. uncertain. [↑](#footnote-ref-424)
425. l41.2 victor Lit. “victory.” [↑](#footnote-ref-425)
426. m41.2 their Heb. “his.” [↑](#footnote-ref-426)
427. n41.2 their Heb. “his.” [↑](#footnote-ref-427)
428. o41.3 shackle *ʼrḥ* has this meaning in Old Aramaic. [↑](#footnote-ref-428)
429. °41.5 The craftsmen Heb. “They.” [↑](#footnote-ref-429)
430. p41.14 men of Emendation yields “maggot.” [↑](#footnote-ref-430)
431. q41.17 Seek water I.e., on the homeward march through the desert. [↑](#footnote-ref-431)
432. r41.22 approach Taking *yaggishu* intransitively; cf. *hiqriv*. Exod. 14.10. [↑](#footnote-ref-432)
433. s41.22 occurred I.e., former prophecies by your gods which have been fulfilled. [↑](#footnote-ref-433)
434. t41.23 see Change of vocalization yields “fear”; cf. v. 10. [↑](#footnote-ref-434)
435. °41.26 You are Heb. “He is.” [↑](#footnote-ref-435)
436. u41.27 The things … here they are Meaning of Heb. uncertain. [↑](#footnote-ref-436)
437. °41.28 no one is participating In the proposed legal contest; see v. 21. [↑](#footnote-ref-437)
438. v42.3 He shall not break even a bruised reed, / Or snuff out even a dim wick Or “A bruised reed, he shall not be broken; / A dim wick, he shall not be snuffed out.” [↑](#footnote-ref-438)
439. w42.6 covenant people Lit. “covenants of a people”; meaning of Heb. uncertain. [↑](#footnote-ref-439)
440. x42.6 a light of nations See 49.6 and note. [↑](#footnote-ref-440)
441. y42.7 Opening eyes deprived of light An idiom meaning “freeing the imprisoned”; cf. 61.1. [↑](#footnote-ref-441)
442. z42.10 You who sail the sea and you creatures in it, / You coastlands Emendation yields “Let the sea roar and its creatures, / The coastlands…” Cf. Ps. 98.7. [↑](#footnote-ref-442)
443. a42.14 far too long Lit. “from of old.” [↑](#footnote-ref-443)
444. b42.15 isles Emendation yields “desert.” [↑](#footnote-ref-444)
445. c42.19 chosen Meaning of Heb. uncertain. [↑](#footnote-ref-445)
446. d42.20 he gives Heb. “you give.” [↑](#footnote-ref-446)
447. e42.21 Meaning of verse uncertain; cf. 43.9–12. [↑](#footnote-ref-447)
448. f42.24 they Heb. “we.” [↑](#footnote-ref-448)
449. g43.9 It is true I.e., that the other nations' gods are real. [↑](#footnote-ref-449)
450. h43.10 you Emendation yields “they.” [↑](#footnote-ref-450)
451. i43.14 I send to Babylon … in lamentation Meaning of Heb. uncertain. [↑](#footnote-ref-451)
452. j43.17 destroyed Understanding *hoṣi*, here, as equivalent to Aramaic *sheṣi*. [↑](#footnote-ref-452)
453. k43.19 rivers 1QIsᵃ reads “paths”; cf. v. 16. [↑](#footnote-ref-453)
454. l43.25 sake I.e., in order to put an end to the profanation of My holy name; cf. 48.9–11. [↑](#footnote-ref-454)
455. m43.28 the holy princes Emendation yields “My holy name”; see preceding note. [↑](#footnote-ref-455)
456. n43.28 proscription Emendation yields “insult.” [↑](#footnote-ref-456)
457. o44.2 Jeshurun A name for Israel; see note at Num. 23.10; cf. Deut. 32.15; 33.5, 26. [↑](#footnote-ref-457)
458. p44.4 like Lit. “in among.” [↑](#footnote-ref-458)
459. q44.5 of God It was customary to mark a slave with the owner's name. [↑](#footnote-ref-459)
460. r44.7 Meaning of verse uncertain. [↑](#footnote-ref-460)
461. s44.12–13 The meaning of parts of these verses is uncertain. [↑](#footnote-ref-461)
462. t44.12 it I.e., the image he is making. [↑](#footnote-ref-462)
463. u44.16 he roasts meat, / He eats the roast Transposing the Heb. verbs for clarity. [↑](#footnote-ref-463)
464. v44.16 feel Lit. “see.” [↑](#footnote-ref-464)
465. w44.20 pursues Lit. “shepherds.” [↑](#footnote-ref-465)
466. x44.21 Me Emendation yields “them,” these things. [↑](#footnote-ref-466)
467. y44.24 unaided Lit. “with none beside me,” or (following many Heb. mss., *kethib*, and ancient versions) “who was with me?” [↑](#footnote-ref-467)
468. z44.26 My Heb. “His.” [↑](#footnote-ref-468)
469. a44.26 My See previous note. [↑](#footnote-ref-469)
470. b44.28 shepherd I.e., the king whom I have designated. [↑](#footnote-ref-470)
471. c45.1 Having Heb. “I have.” [↑](#footnote-ref-471)
472. d45.1 grasped his … hand Cf. note at 8.11. [↑](#footnote-ref-472)
473. e45.1 Ungirding the loins of kings I.e., I made them helpless; one who wished to move freely belted his garment around the waist; cf. “engird,” v. 5. [↑](#footnote-ref-473)
474. f45.2 the hills that loom up Meaning of Heb. uncertain. [↑](#footnote-ref-474)
475. g45.9 Your work has no handles Emendation yields “To its maker, ‘You have no hands’?” [↑](#footnote-ref-475)
476. h45.11 Will you question Me Heb. imperative. [↑](#footnote-ref-476)
477. i45.13 him I.e., Cyrus. [↑](#footnote-ref-477)
478. j45.14 long of limb Emendation yields “bearing tribute.” For “tribute” cf. Ezra 4.20; 6.8; Neh. 5.4. [↑](#footnote-ref-478)
479. k45.24 They shall say: “Only through God / Can I find victory and might…” Emendation yields “Only in God / Are there victory and might for mortals.” [↑](#footnote-ref-479)
480. l45.24 trust in Lit. “come to”; for this idiom cf. Ps. 65.3; Job 6.20. [↑](#footnote-ref-480)
481. m46.1 Bel A Babylonian deity. [↑](#footnote-ref-481)
482. n46.1 Nebo Another Babylonian deity. [↑](#footnote-ref-482)
483. o46.1 you Emendation yields “they.” [↑](#footnote-ref-483)
484. p46.2 burden Emendation yields “him who carried [them]”; cf. Targum. [↑](#footnote-ref-484)
485. q46.6 balance Lit. “beam [of the balance].” [↑](#footnote-ref-485)
486. r46.8 stand firm Meaning of Heb. uncertain. [↑](#footnote-ref-486)
487. s46.11 that swooping bird from the East I.e., Cyrus; cf. 41.2–3; 44.28–45.1. [↑](#footnote-ref-487)
488. t46.12 stubborn of heart Septuagint reads, “who have lost heart.” [↑](#footnote-ref-488)
489. u47.3–4 And let no one intercede. / Our Redeemer—whose name is God of Hosts— / Is the Holy One of Israel Meaning of Heb. uncertain; emendation yields “And not be appeased, / Says our Redeemer, whose name is God of Hosts, / The Holy One of Israel.” [↑](#footnote-ref-489)
490. v47.11 charm away Meaning of Heb. uncertain. Emendation yields “bribe.” [↑](#footnote-ref-490)
491. w47.12 will find strength Taking *ʻaraṣ* as a variant of *ʻaṣar*; cf. 2 Chron. 20.37. [↑](#footnote-ref-491)
492. x47.13 scanners Meaning of Heb. uncertain. [↑](#footnote-ref-492)
493. y48.1 waters Emendation yields “loins.” [↑](#footnote-ref-493)
494. z48.2 you Heb. “they.” [↑](#footnote-ref-494)
495. a48.2 the Holy City Emendation yields “the holy people.” [↑](#footnote-ref-495)
496. b48.2 you Heb. “they.” [↑](#footnote-ref-496)
497. c48.6 heard all this; look, must you not acknowledge it Meaning of Heb. uncertain. [↑](#footnote-ref-497)
498. d48.7 Before today Meaning of Heb. uncertain. [↑](#footnote-ref-498)
499. e48.9 I am patient Meaning of Heb. uncertain. [↑](#footnote-ref-499)
500. f48.11 [My name] These words are supplied in some ancient versions; cf. v. 9. [↑](#footnote-ref-500)
501. g48.14 you Heb. “them.” [↑](#footnote-ref-501)
502. h48.14 He whom … Chaldea Meaning of Heb. uncertain. [↑](#footnote-ref-502)
503. i48.16 there I.e., I foretold it through prophets. [↑](#footnote-ref-503)
504. j48.16 endowed with divine spirit Lit. “and His spirit.” [↑](#footnote-ref-504)
505. k48.19 grains Meaning of Heb. uncertain. [↑](#footnote-ref-505)
506. °49.5 bring back … restore I.e., both to the land of Israel and to a state of closeness with God. [↑](#footnote-ref-506)
507. l49.6 light I.e., the agent of good fortune; cf. 42.1–4; 51.4–5. [↑](#footnote-ref-507)
508. m49.7 To the despised one, / To the abhorred nations Meaning of Heb. uncertain. Emendation yields “Whose being is despised, / Whose body is detested”; cf. 51.23. [↑](#footnote-ref-508)
509. n49.8 a covenant people See the first note at 42.6. [↑](#footnote-ref-509)
510. o49.12 Sinim 1QIsᵃ reads “the Syenians”; cf. Ezek. 30.6. [↑](#footnote-ref-510)
511. p49.20 you thought you had lost Lit. “of your bereavement.” [↑](#footnote-ref-511)
512. q49.21 disdained Meaning of Heb. uncertain. [↑](#footnote-ref-512)
513. r50.1 I.e., the mother (the country) has not been formally divorced, nor the children (the people) sold because of poverty. Therefore there is no obstacle to their restoration. [↑](#footnote-ref-513)
514. °50.2 no one there I.e., as a covenantal partner. [↑](#footnote-ref-514)
515. s50.2 of thirst Change of vocalization yields “on the parched ground”; cf. 44.3. [↑](#footnote-ref-515)
516. t50.4 My Sovereign God gave me … words to the weary Meaning of Heb. uncertain. [↑](#footnote-ref-516)
517. u50.8 Let us stand up together I.e., as opponents in court; cf. Num. 35.12. [↑](#footnote-ref-517)
518. °50.10 the appointed Lit. “His”; cf. 49.1, 5. [↑](#footnote-ref-518)
519. °50.10 his I.e., the servant's. [↑](#footnote-ref-519)
520. v50.11 Girding on Emendation yields “Lighters of.” [↑](#footnote-ref-520)
521. w50.11 You shall lie down in pain Meaning of Heb. uncertain. [↑](#footnote-ref-521)
522. x51.4 My people Several mss. read “O peoples”; cf. next note. [↑](#footnote-ref-522)
523. y51.4 O My nation Several mss. read “O nations”; cf. end of this verse and v. 5. [↑](#footnote-ref-523)
524. z51.4 teaching shall go forth I.e., through My servant Israel; cf. 42.1–4; 49.6. [↑](#footnote-ref-524)
525. a51.5 provide for Lit. “judge.” [↑](#footnote-ref-525)
526. b51.6 as well Emendation yields “like gnats.” [↑](#footnote-ref-526)
527. c51.8 worm Heb. *sas*, another word for “moth.” [↑](#footnote-ref-527)
528. d51.9 Rahab The name of a primeval monster. [↑](#footnote-ref-528)
529. e51.9 Dragon Another primeval monster. [↑](#footnote-ref-529)
530. f51.14 Meaning of verse uncertain. Emendation yields (cf. Jer. 11.19; Job 14.7–9) “Quickly the tree buds anew; / It does not die though cut down, / And its sap does not fail.” [↑](#footnote-ref-530)
531. g51.16 Have put My words in your mouth / And sheltered you with My hand I.e., I have chosen you to be a prophet-nation; cf. 49.2; 59.21. [↑](#footnote-ref-531)
532. h51.16 planted Emendation yields “stretched out”; cf. Syriac version and v. 13. [↑](#footnote-ref-532)
533. i51.18 To guide a drunken parent home was a recognized filial duty in ancient Canaan and Egypt. [↑](#footnote-ref-533)
534. j51.19 how shall I Several ancient versions render “who can.” [↑](#footnote-ref-534)
535. k51.22 cup of reeling A figure of speech for a dire fate; cf. Jer. 25.15ff. [↑](#footnote-ref-535)
536. l52.4 Whereas the Israelites themselves sought hospitality in Egypt, Assyria (i.e., the Chaldean Empire) has exiled them by force. [↑](#footnote-ref-536)
537. m52.11 Cf. Ezra 1.7–8; 5.14–15. [↑](#footnote-ref-537)
538. n52.14 him Heb. “you.” [↑](#footnote-ref-538)
539. o52.15 startle Meaning of Heb. uncertain. [↑](#footnote-ref-539)
540. p53.1 the arm of God I.e., the vindication which the arm of God effects. [↑](#footnote-ref-540)
541. q53.3 shunned by others Meaning of Heb. uncertain. [↑](#footnote-ref-541)
542. r53.3 As one who hid his face from us I.e., as a leper; cf. Lev. 13.45ff. [↑](#footnote-ref-542)
543. s53.8 Who could describe his abode? Meaning of Heb. uncertain. [↑](#footnote-ref-543)
544. t53.9 And with the rich, in his death Emendation yields “And his tomb with evildoers.” [↑](#footnote-ref-544)
545. u53.10 by disease … for guilt Meaning of Heb. uncertain. [↑](#footnote-ref-545)
546. v53.10 offspring Emendation yields “His arm,” i.e., God's vindication; cf. v. 1 with note. [↑](#footnote-ref-546)
547. w53.11 it I.e., the arm of God; see preceding note. [↑](#footnote-ref-547)
548. x53.11 devotion For this sense of *daʻath* see 11.2, 9. [↑](#footnote-ref-548)
549. y54.2 Extend the size of your dwelling Lit. “Let the cloths of your dwelling extend.” [↑](#footnote-ref-549)
550. z54.3 nations I.e., the foreigners who had occupied regions from which Israelites had been exiled; cf. 2 Kings 17.24. [↑](#footnote-ref-550)
551. a54.9 waters Other Heb. mss. and the ancient versions read “days.” [↑](#footnote-ref-551)
552. b54.11 carbuncles Taking *pukh* as a byform of *nophekh*; so already Rashi. [↑](#footnote-ref-552)
553. c54.15 Meaning of verse uncertain. [↑](#footnote-ref-553)
554. d55.4 leader Cf. Targum; others “witness.” [↑](#footnote-ref-554)
555. e55.4–5 As I made him … to you Cf. 2 Sam. 22.44–45 (Ps. 18.44–45). [↑](#footnote-ref-555)
556. °55.6 while [God] is near Lit. “while He can be found.” [↑](#footnote-ref-556)
557. f55.8 ways Emendation yields “words”; cf. v. 11 and 40.8. [↑](#footnote-ref-557)
558. g55.8 ways See preceding note. [↑](#footnote-ref-558)
559. h55.9 ways See first note in v. 8. [↑](#footnote-ref-559)
560. i55.9 ways See preceding note. [↑](#footnote-ref-560)
561. j55.10 seed for sowing and bread for eating Lit. “seed for the sower and bread for the eater.” [↑](#footnote-ref-561)
562. k55.12 leave I.e., leave the Babylonian exile. [↑](#footnote-ref-562)
563. l56.10 The Heb. “his.” [↑](#footnote-ref-563)
564. m56.10 sprawling Meaning of Heb. uncertain. [↑](#footnote-ref-564)
565. °56.11 shepherds I.e., the community leaders. [↑](#footnote-ref-565)
566. n56.11 As for the shepherds, they know not / What it is to give heed Meaning of Heb. uncertain. Emendation yields “Neither do the shepherds ever know sufficiency *(hon)*.” Cf. *hon* in Prov. 30.15, 16. [↑](#footnote-ref-566)
567. o57.2 Shall have rest on their couch Heb. “they … shall have rest on their couches.” Here, “couch” is a euphemism for the grave; cf. 2 Chron. 16.14. [↑](#footnote-ref-567)
568. p57.3 a harlot Lit. “she acts the harlot.” [↑](#footnote-ref-568)
569. q57.5 inflame I.e., in some frenzied idolatrous rite. [↑](#footnote-ref-569)
570. r57.5 Among Heb. “under.” [↑](#footnote-ref-570)
571. s57.6 such The cult-trees referred to in v. 5. [↑](#footnote-ref-571)
572. t57.6 With such are your share and portion Meaning of Heb. uncertain. [↑](#footnote-ref-572)
573. u57.8 them The cult-trees referred to in v. 5. [↑](#footnote-ref-573)
574. v57.8 them The objects behind door and doorpost. [↑](#footnote-ref-574)
575. w57.8 lust Like Ugaritic *yd*, from root *ydd*, “to love.” [↑](#footnote-ref-575)
576. x57.9 Abandoning Me … You have approached Meaning of Heb. uncertain. [↑](#footnote-ref-576)
577. y57.9 the king Or “Molech.” [↑](#footnote-ref-577)
578. z57.9 I.e., you have brought tribute to alien cults as to a king. [↑](#footnote-ref-578)
579. a57.11 Whom do you dread and fear, / That you tell lies? Emendation yields “Them you dreaded and feared, / And so you gave them thought.” [↑](#footnote-ref-579)
580. b57.11 so long Emendation yields “and shut My eyes.” [↑](#footnote-ref-580)
581. c57.12 judgment upon your deeds: Lit. “your retribution and your deeds.” [↑](#footnote-ref-581)
582. d57.12 Your assorted [idols] Brought up from v. 13 for clarity. [↑](#footnote-ref-582)
583. e57.16 who make spirits flag Meaning of Heb. uncertain. [↑](#footnote-ref-583)
584. f57.17 their I.e., Israel's. Cf. “My people,” v. 14. [↑](#footnote-ref-584)
585. g57.17 Though stubborn, they follow the way of their hearts Meaning of Heb. uncertain. Emendation yields “When they have walked broken in the contrition of their hearts.” [↑](#footnote-ref-585)
586. h57.19 heartening Lit. “the vigor of”; cf. Eccl. 12.1 and postbiblical *bori*. [↑](#footnote-ref-586)
587. i57.19 comforting The Heb. *nib* is otherwise unknown; its meaning is inferred from that of *nid* (cf. the verb *nad* “to condole”) in the parallel expression in Job 16.5. [↑](#footnote-ref-587)
588. j58.6 the yoke Change of vocalization yields “lawlessness”; cf. *muṭṭeh*, Ezek. 9.9. [↑](#footnote-ref-588)
589. k58.9 the yoke See note at v. 6. [↑](#footnote-ref-589)
590. l58.9 The menacing hand Lit. “Extending the finger.” [↑](#footnote-ref-590)
591. m58.10 compassion Some Heb. mss. and ancient versions read “bread.” [↑](#footnote-ref-591)
592. n58.11 parched places Meaning of Heb. uncertain. [↑](#footnote-ref-592)
593. o58.13 refrain from trampling Lit. “turn back your foot from.” [↑](#footnote-ref-593)
594. p58.14 can seek the favor of God Cf. Ps. 37.4; Job 22.26–27; 27.10. [↑](#footnote-ref-594)
595. q59.3 crime Or “blood.” [↑](#footnote-ref-595)
596. r59.10 Among the sturdy, we are Meaning of Heb. uncertain. Emendation yields “In the daytime…” [↑](#footnote-ref-596)
597. s59.13 throat Lit. “heart”; see note at 33.18 and frequently elsewhere. [↑](#footnote-ref-597)
598. °59.16 nobody else I.e., ready to step into the breach; cf. Rashi. [↑](#footnote-ref-598)
599. t59.16 victorious right hand Cf. Ps. 98.1–2. [↑](#footnote-ref-599)
600. u59.18 According to … repaid Meaning of Heb. uncertain. [↑](#footnote-ref-600)
601. v59.19 revere Or (with a number of mss. and editions) “see.” [↑](#footnote-ref-601)
602. w59.21 My spirit I.e., the gift of prophecy; cf., e.g., 61.1. [↑](#footnote-ref-602)
603. x59.21 I.e., Israel is to be a prophet-nation; cf. 51.16. [↑](#footnote-ref-603)
604. y60.5 sea Emendation yields “coastlands.” [↑](#footnote-ref-604)
605. z60.9 Behold, the coastlands await me Emendation yields “The vessels of the coastlands are gathering.” [↑](#footnote-ref-605)
606. a60.9 ships of Tarshish See note at 2.16. [↑](#footnote-ref-606)
607. b60.9 their I.e., of the people of the coastlands. [↑](#footnote-ref-607)
608. c60.16 royal breasts Lit. “breasts of kings” or “breasts of kingdoms.” [↑](#footnote-ref-608)
609. d60.19 [by night] So 1QIsᵃ, Septuagint, and Targum. [↑](#footnote-ref-609)
610. e61.3 To provide for Meaning of Heb. uncertain. [↑](#footnote-ref-610)
611. f61.6 revel Meaning of Heb. uncertain. [↑](#footnote-ref-611)
612. g61.7 Men cried, “Disgrace is their portion” Emendation yields “They inherited disgrace as their portion.” [↑](#footnote-ref-612)
613. h61.8 robbery with a burnt offering Emendation yields “the robbing of wages.” [↑](#footnote-ref-613)
614. °62.2 God Heb. “the mouth of God.” [↑](#footnote-ref-614)
615. i62.5 Your sons Change of vocalization yields “The One who rebuilds you.” [↑](#footnote-ref-615)
616. j62.6 remembrancers I.e., the sentries just mentioned. [↑](#footnote-ref-616)
617. k62.11 the reward … / The recompense See note at 40.10. [↑](#footnote-ref-617)
618. l63.1 Pressing forward Meaning of Heb. uncertain; emendation yields “striding.” [↑](#footnote-ref-618)
619. m63.1 give triumph Change of vocalization yields “Who contest triumphantly”; cf. 19.20. [↑](#footnote-ref-619)
620. n63.2 grapes Lit. “in a press.” [↑](#footnote-ref-620)
621. o63.3 Of the peoples Emendation yields “Peoples, and…” [↑](#footnote-ref-621)
622. °63.3 nobody was with Me Cf. the first note at 59.16. [↑](#footnote-ref-622)
623. p63.3 life-blood Meaning of Heb. uncertain. [↑](#footnote-ref-623)
624. q63.5 My own rage Many mss. read *weṣidqathi* “My victorious [right hand]”; cf. 59.16. [↑](#footnote-ref-624)
625. r63.6 I made them drunk with Many mss. and Targum read “I shattered them in”; cf. 14.25. [↑](#footnote-ref-625)
626. s63.8–9 So [God] was … delivered them Ancient versions read “So [God] was their Deliverer / 9In all their troubles. / No [so *kethib*] angel or messenger, / God's own Presence delivered them.” Cf. Deut. 4.37 and note. [↑](#footnote-ref-626)
627. t63.11 they Heb. “he.” [↑](#footnote-ref-627)
628. u63.11 The One, who pulled God's people Heb. *moshe ʻammo*, a play on the name Moshe (Moses). [↑](#footnote-ref-628)
629. v63.11 shepherd So many mss. and ancient versions; other texts “shepherds.” [↑](#footnote-ref-629)
630. °63.12 the Eternal One Heb. “Him.” [↑](#footnote-ref-630)
631. w63.14 gave them rest Emendation yields “guided them.” [↑](#footnote-ref-631)
632. x63.15 Emendation yields “[Where are] Your yearning and Your love? / Let them not be restrained!” [↑](#footnote-ref-632)
633. y63.15 us Heb. “me.” [↑](#footnote-ref-633)
634. °63.16 Father See note at Deut. 32.6. [↑](#footnote-ref-634)
635. z63.18 possessed but a little while Meaning of Heb. uncertain. [↑](#footnote-ref-635)
636. a64.1–4 Meaning of these verses uncertain. [↑](#footnote-ref-636)
637. b64.3 You Heb. “Him.” [↑](#footnote-ref-637)
638. c64.4 We have been steeped in them from of old, / And can we be saved? Emendation yields “Because You have hidden Yourself we have offended.” For the thought cf. 63.17. [↑](#footnote-ref-638)
639. d64.6 made us melt because of Emendation yields “delivered us into the hands of…” [↑](#footnote-ref-639)
640. °64.7 Source Lit. “Father.” [↑](#footnote-ref-640)
641. e65.1 I responded to Lit. “I let Myself be inquired of…” [↑](#footnote-ref-641)
642. f65.5 For I would render you consecrated Taking *qedashtikha* as equivalent to *qiddashtikha*, cf. Ezek. 44.19; others “For I am holier than thou.” [↑](#footnote-ref-642)
643. g65.6 their Heb. “your.” [↑](#footnote-ref-643)
644. h65.6 their sins Brought up from v. 7 for clarity. [↑](#footnote-ref-644)
645. i65.7 full Taking *rishonah* as equivalent to *beroshah*; cf. Lev. 5.24; Jer. 16.18. Meaning of Heb. uncertain. [↑](#footnote-ref-645)
646. j65.10 Sharon Emendation yields “Jeshimon,” the bleak southeast corner of the Jordan Valley; cf. Num. 21.20; 23.8. [↑](#footnote-ref-646)
647. k65.11 Luck Name of a heathen deity. [↑](#footnote-ref-647)
648. l65.11 Destiny Name of another heathen deity. [↑](#footnote-ref-648)
649. °65.15 My Heb. “His.” [↑](#footnote-ref-649)
650. m65.15 different name I.e., a name to be used in blessing. [↑](#footnote-ref-650)
651. n65.22 outlive Lit. “wear out.” [↑](#footnote-ref-651)
652. o65.23 for terror Emendation yields “in vain.” [↑](#footnote-ref-652)
653. p65.25 My sacred mount See note at 11.9. [↑](#footnote-ref-653)
654. q66.3–4 These verses refer to practitioners of idolatrous rites; cf. v. 17 and 57.5–8; 65.1–12. [↑](#footnote-ref-654)
655. r66.3 immolate Lit. “break the necks of.” [↑](#footnote-ref-655)
656. s66.3 offer Heb. *mazkir* refers to giving the “token portion” (*ʼazkarah*); cf. Lev. 2.2, etc. [↑](#footnote-ref-656)
657. t66.5 Me Lit. “My name.” [↑](#footnote-ref-657)
658. °66.7 son In ancient Israel, a son typically remained in the household and thus assured its continuity. [↑](#footnote-ref-658)
659. u66.11 bosom Cf. Akkadian *zīzu*, Arabic *zīzat*, “udder.” [↑](#footnote-ref-659)
660. v66.17 imitating one in the center Meaning of Heb. uncertain. [↑](#footnote-ref-660)
661. w66.18 Exact construction of this verse uncertain; for the insertions in brackets, cf. Kimhi. [↑](#footnote-ref-661)
662. x66.21 levitical priests Some Heb. mss. read “priests and Levites.” [↑](#footnote-ref-662)