

Book of Job

Chapter 20

Douay-Rheims Bible

Job Chapter 20

Sophar declares the shortness of the prosperity of the wicked: and their sudden downfall.

20:1. Then Sophar the Naamathite answered, and said:

20:2. Therefore various thoughts succeed one another in me, and my mind is hurried away to different things.

20:3. The doctrine with which thou reprovest me, I will hear, and the spirit of my understanding shall answer for me.

20:4. This I know from the beginning, since man was placed upon the earth,

20:5. That the praise of the wicked is short, and the joy of the hypocrite but for a moment.

20:6. If his pride mount up even to heaven, and his head touch the clouds:

20:7. In the end he shall be destroyed like a dunghill, and they that had seen him, shall say: Where is he?

20:8. As a dream that fleeth away he shall not be found, he shall pass as a vision of the night:

20:9. The eyes that had seen him, shall see him no more, neither shall his place any more behold him.

20:10. His children shall be oppressed with want, and his hands shall render to him his sorrow.

20:11. His bones shall be filled with the vices of his youth, and they shall sleep with him in the dust.

20:12. For when evil shall be sweet in his mouth, he will hide it under his tongue.

20:13. He will spare it, and not leave it, and will hide it in his throat.

20:14. His bread in his belly shall be turned into the gall of asps within him,

20:15. The riches which he hath swallowed, he shall vomit up, and God shall draw them out of his belly.

20:16. He shall suck the head of asps, and the viper's tongue shall kill him.

20:17. Let him not see the streams of the river, the brooks of honey and of butter.

20:18. He shall be punished for all that he did, and yet shall not be consumed: according to the multitude of his devices so also shall he suffer.

20:19. Because he broke in and stripped the poor: he hath violently taken away a house which he did not build.

20:20. And yet his belly was not filled: and when he hath the things he coveted, he shall not be able to possess them.

20:21. There was nothing left of his meat, and therefore nothing shall continue of his goods:

20:22. When he shall be filled, he shall be straitened, he shall burn, and every sorrow shall fall upon him.

20:23. May his belly be filled, that God may send forth the wrath of his indignation upon him, and rain down his war upon him.

20:24. He shall flee from weapons of iron, and shall fall upon a bow of brass.

20:25. The sword is drawn out, and cometh forth from its scabbard, and glittereth in his bitterness: the terrible ones shall go and come upon him.

20:26. All darkness is hid in his secret places: a fire that is not kindled shall devour him, he shall be afflicted when left in his tabernacle.

20:27. The heavens shall reveal his iniquity, and the earth shall rise up against him.

20:28. The offspring of his house shall be exposed, he shall be pulled down in the day of God's wrath.

20:29. This is the portion of a wicked man from God, and the inheritance of his doings from the Lord.