**CHAPTER** **6**

*Job maintains his innocence, and complains of his friends.*

**1** But Job answered, and said:

**2** O that my sins, whereby I have de-served wrath, and the calamity that I suffer, were weighed in a balance.

**3** As the sand of the sea this would appear heavier: therefore my words are full of sorrow:

**4** For the arrows of the Lord are in me, the rage whereof drinketh up my spirit, and the terrors of the Lord war against me.

**5** Will the wild ass bray when he hath grass? or will the ox low when he standeth before a full manger?

**6** Or can an unsavoury thing be eaten, that is not seasoned with salt? or can a man taste that which when tasted bringeth death?

**7** The things which before my soul would not touch, now, through anguish are my meats.

**8** Who will grant that my request may come: and that God may give me what I look for?

**9** And that he that hath begun may destroy me, that he may let loose his hand, and cut me off?

**10** And that this may be my comfort, that afflicting me with sorrow, he spare not, nor I contradict the words of the Holy One.

**11** For what is my strength, that I can hold out? or what is my end that I should keep patience?

**12** My strength is not the strength of stones, nor is my flesh of brass.

**13** Behold there is no help for me in myself, and my familiar friends also are departed from me.

**14** He that taketh away mercy from his friend, forsaketh the fear of the Lord.

**15** My brethren have passed by me, as the torrent that passeth swiftly in the valleys.

**16** They that fear the hoary frost, the snow shall fall upon them.

**17** At the time when they shall be scattered they shall perish: and after it groweth hot they shall be melted out of their place.

**18** The paths of their steps are entangled: they shall walk in vain, and shall perish.

**19** Consider the paths of Thema, the ways of Saba, and wait a little while.

**20** They are confounded, because I have hoped: they are come also even unto me, and are covered with shame.

**21** Now you are come: and now seeing my affliction you are afraid.

**22** Did I say: Bring to me, and give me of your substance?

**23** Or deliver me from the hand of the enemy, and rescue me out of the hand of the mighty?

**24** Teach me, and I will hold my peace: and if I have been ignorant in any thing, instruct me.

**25** Why have you detracted the words of truth, whereas there is none of you that can reprove me?

**26** You dress up speeches only to rebuke, and you utter words to the wind.

**27** You rush in upon the fatherless, and you endeavour to overthrow your friend.

**28** However finish what you have begun, give ear, and see whether I lie.

**29** Answer, I beseech you, without contention: and speaking that which is just, judge ye.

**30** And you shall not find iniquity in my tongue, neither shall folly sound in my mouth.