**CHAPTER** **8**

*Baldad, under pretence of defending the justice of God, accuses Job and exhorts him to return to God.*

**1** Then Baldad the Suhite answered, and said:

**2** How long wilt thou speak these things, and how long shall the words of thy mouth be like a strong wind?

**3** Doth God pervert judgment, or doth the Almighty overthrow that which is just?

**4** Although thy children have sinned against him, and he hath left them in the hand of their iniquity:

**5** Yet if thou wilt arise early to God, and wilt beseech the Almighty:

**6** If thou wilt walk clean and upright, he will presently awake unto thee, and will make the dwelling of thy justice peaceable:

**7** Insomuch, that if thy former things were small, thy latter things would be multiplied exceedingly.

**8** For inquire of the former generation, and search diligently into the memory of the fathers:

**9** (For we are but of yesterday, and are ignorant that our days upon earth are but a shadow:)

**10** And they shall teach thee: they shall speak to thee, and utter words out of their hearts.

**11** Can the rush be green without moisture? or a sedge-bush grow without water?

**12** When it is yet in flower, and is not plucked up with the hand, it withereth before all herbs.

**13** Even so are the ways of all that forget God, and the hope of the hypocrite shall perish:

**14** His folly shall not please him, and his trust shall be like the spider’s web.

**15** He shall lean upon his house, and it shall not stand: he shall prop it up, and it shall not rise:

**16** He seemeth to have moisture before the sun cometh, and at his rising, his blossom shall shoot forth.

**17** His roots shall be thick upon a heap of stones, and among the stones he shall abide.

**18** If one swallow him up out of his place, he shall deny him, and shall say: I know thee not.

**19** For this is the joy of his way, that others may spring again out of the earth.

**20** God will not cast away the simple, nor reach out his hand to the evildoer:

**21** Until thy mouth be filled with laughter, and thy lips with rejoicing.

**22** They that hate thee, shall be clothed with confusion: and the dwelling of the wicked shall not stand.