**CHAPTER** **9**

*Job acknowledges God’s justice: although he often afflicts the innocent.*

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

**2** Indeed I know it is so, and thatman cannot be justified compared with God.

**3** If he will contend with him, he cannot answer him one for a thousand.

**4** He is wise in heart, and mighty in strength: who hath resisted him, and hath had peace?

**5** Who hath removed mountains, and they whom he overthrew in his wrath, knew it not.

**6** Who shaketh the earth out of her place, and the pillars thereof tremble.

**7** Who commandeth the sun and it riseth not: and shutteth up the stars as it were under a seal:

**8** Who alone spreadeth out the heavens, and walketh upon the waves of the sea.

**9** Who maketh Arcturus, and Orion, and Hyades, and the inner parts of the south.

**10** Who doth things great and incomprehensible, and wonderful, of which there is no number.

**11** If he come to me, I shall not see him: if he depart I shall not understand.

**12** If he examine on a sudden, who shall answer him? or who can say: Why dost thou so?

**13** God, whose wrath no man can resist, and under whom they stoop that bear up the world.

**14** What am I then, that I should answer him, and have words with him?

**15** I, who although I should have any just thing, would not answer, but would make supplication to my judge.

**16** And if he should hear me when I call, I should not believe that he had heard my voice.

**17** For he shall crush me in a whirlwind, and multiply my wounds even without cause.

**18** He alloweth not my spirit to rest, and he filleth me with bitterness.

**19** If strength be demanded, he is most strong: if equity of judgment, no man dare bear witness for me.

**20** If I would justify myself, my own mouth shall condemn me: if I would shew myself innocent, he shall prove me wicked.

**21** Although I should be simple, even this my soul shall be ignorant of, and I shall be weary of my life.

**22** One thing there is that I have spoken, both the innocent and the wicked he consumeth.

**23** If he scourge, let him kill at once, and not laugh at the pains of the innocent.

**24** The earth is given into the hand of the wicked, he covereth the face of the judges thereof: and if it be not he, who is it then?

**25** My days have been swifter than a post: they have fled away and have not seen good.

**26** They have passed by as ships carrying fruits, as an eagle flying to the prey.

**27** If I say: I will not speak so: I change my face, and am tormented with sorrow.

**28** I feared all my works, knowing that thou didst not spare the offender.

**29** But if so also I am wicked, why have I laboured in vain?

**30** If I be washed as it were with snow waters, and my hands shall shine ever so clean:

**31** Yet thou shalt plunge me in filth, and my garments shall abhor me,

**32** For I shall not answer a man that is like myself: nor one that may be heard with me equally in judgment.

**33** There is none that may be able to reprove both, and to put his hand between both.

**34** Let him take his rod away from me, and let not his fear terrify me.

**35** I will speak, and will not fear him: for I cannot answer while I am in fear.