**CHAPTER** **29**

*Job relates his former happiness, and the respect that all men shewed him.*

**1** Job also added, taking up his parable, and said:

**2** Who will grant me, that I might be according to the months past, according to the days in which God kept me?

**3** When his lamp shined over my head, and I walked by his light in darkness?

**4** As I was in the days of my youth, when God was secretly in my tabernacle?

**5** When the Almighty was with me: and my servants round about me?

**6** When I washed my feet with butter, and the rock poured me out rivers of oil?

**7** When I went out to the gate of the city, and in the street they prepared me a chair?

**8** The young men saw me, and hid themselves: and the old men rose up and stood.

**9** The princes ceased to speak, and laid the finger on their mouth.

**10** The rulers held their peace, and their tongue cleaved to their throat.

**11** The ear that heard me blessed me, and the eye that saw me gave witness to me:

**12** Because I had delivered the poor man that cried out; and the fatherless, that had no helper.

**13** The blessing of him that was ready to perish came upon me, and I comforted the heart of the widow.

**14** I was clad with justice: and I clothed myself with my judgment, as with a robe and a diadem.

**15** I was an eye to the blind, and a foot to the lame.

**16** I was the father of the poor: and the cause which I knew not, I searched out most diligently.

**17** I broke the jaws of the wicked man, and out of his teeth I took away the prey.

**18** And I said: I shall die in my nest, and as a palm tree shall multiply my days.

**19** My root is opened beside the waters, and dew shall continue in my harvest.

**20** My glory shall always be renewed, and my bow in my hand shall be repaired.

**21** They that heard me, waited for my sentence, and being attentive held their peace at my counsel.

**22** To my words they durst add nothing, and my speech dropped upon them.

**23** They waited for me as for rain, and they opened their mouth as for a latter shower.

**24** If at any time I laughed on them, they believed not, and the light of my countenance fell not on earth.

**25** If I had a mind to go to them, I sat first, and when I sat as a king, with his army standing about him, yet I was a comforter of them that mourned.