**CHAPTER** **2**

*The Israelites by their crying injustices provoke God to punish them. He shall at last restore Jacob.*

**1** Woe to you that devise that which is unprofitable, and work evil in your beds: in the morning light they execute it, because their hand is against God.

**2** And they have coveted fields, and taken them by violence, and houses they have forcibly taken away: and oppressed a man and his house, a man and his inheritance.

**3** Therefore thus saith the Lord: Behold, I devise an evil against this family: from which you shall not withdraw your necks, and you shall not walk haughtily, for this is a very evil time.

**4** In that day a parable shall be taken up upon you, and a song shall be sung with melody by them that say: We are laid waste and spoiled: the portion of my people is changed: how shall he depart from me, whereas he is returning that will divide our land?

**5** Therefore thou shalt have none that shall cast the cord of a lot in the assembly of the Lord.

**6** Speak ye not, saying: It shall not drop upon these, confusion shall not take them.

**7** The house of Jacob saith: Is the spirit of the Lord straitened, or are these histhoughts? Are not my words good to him that walketh uprightly?

**8** But my people, on the contrary, are risen up as an enemy: you have taken away the cloak off from the coat: and them that passed harmless you have turned to war.

**9** You have cast out the women of my people from their houses, in which they took delight: you have taken my praise for ever from their children.

**10** Arise ye, and depart, for there is no rest here for you. For that uncleanness of the land, it shall be corrupted with a grievous corruption.

**11** Would God I were not a man that hath the spirit, and that I rather spoke a lie: I will let drop to thee of wine, and of drunkenness: and it shall be this people upon whom it shall drop.

**12** I will assemble and gather together all of thee, O Jacob: I will bring together the remnant of Israel, I will put them together as a flock in the fold, as the sheep in the midst of the sheepcotes, they shall make a tumult by reason of the multitude of men.

**13** For he shall go up that shall open the way before them: they shall divide, and pass through the gate, and shall come in by it: and their king shall pass before them, and the Lord at the head of them.