

which perish, than of them which shall be saved:

{9:16} Like as a wave is greater than a drop.

{9:17} And he answered me, saying, Like as the field is, so is also the seed; as the flowers be, such are the colours also; such as the workman is, such also is the work; and as the husbandman is himself, so is his husbandry also: for it was the time of the world.

{9:18} And now when I prepared the world, which was not yet made, even for them to dwell in that now live, no man spake against me.

{9:19} For then every one obeyed: but now the manners of them which are created in this world that is made are corrupted by a perpetual seed, and by a law which is unsearchable rid themselves.

{9:20} So I considered the world, and, behold, there was peril because of the devices that were come into it.

{9:21} And I saw, and spared it greatly, and have kept me a grape of the cluster, and a plant of a great people.

{9:22} Let the multitude perish then, which was born in vain; and let my grape be kept, and my plant; for with great labour have I made it perfect.

{9:23} Nevertheless, if thou wilt cease yet seven days more, (but thou shalt not fast in them,

{9:24} But go into a field of flowers, where no house is builded, and eat only the flowers of the field; taste no flesh, drink no wine, but eat flowers only;)

{9:25} And pray unto the Highest continually, then will I come and talk with thee.

{9:26} So I went my way into the field which is called Ardath, like as he commanded me; and there I sat among the flowers, and did eat of the herbs of the field, and the meat of the same satisfied me.

{9:27} After seven days I sat upon the grass, and my heart was vexed within me, like as before:

{9:28} And I opened my mouth, and began to talk before the most High, and said,

{9:29} O Lord, thou that shewest thyself unto us, thou wast shewed unto our fathers in the wilderness, in a place where no man treadeth, in a barren place, when they came out of Egypt.

{9:30} And thou spakest saying, Hear me, O Israel; and mark my words, thou seed of Jacob.

{9:31} For, behold, I sow my law in you, and it shall bring fruit in you, and ye shall be honoured in it for ever.

{9:32} But our fathers, which received the law, kept it not, and observed not thy ordinances: and though the fruit of thy law did not perish, neither could it, for it was thine;

{9:33} Yet they that received it perished, because they kept not the thing that was sown in them.

{9:34} And, lo, it is a custom, when the ground hath

received seed, or the sea a ship, or any vessel meat or drink, that, that being perished wherein it was sown or cast into,

{9:35} That thing also which was sown, or cast therein, or received, doth perish, and remaineth not with us: but with us it hath not happened so.

{9:36} For we that have received the law perish by sin, and our heart also which received it

{9:37} Notwithstanding the law perisheth not, but remaineth in his force.

{9:38} And when I spake these things in my heart, I looked back with mine eyes, and upon the right side I saw a woman, and, behold, she mourned and wept with a loud voice, and was much grieved in heart, and her clothes were rent, and she had ashes upon her head.

{9:39} Then let I my thoughts go that I was in, and turned me unto her,

{9:40} And said unto her, Wherefore weepest thou? why art thou so grieved in thy mind?

{9:41} And she said unto me, Sir, let me alone, that I may bewail myself, and add unto my sorrow, for I am sore vexed in my mind, and brought very low.

{9:42} And I said unto her, What aileth thee? tell me.

{9:43} She said unto me, I thy servant have been barren, and had no child, though I had an husband thirty years,

{9:44} And those thirty years I did nothing else day and night, and every hour, but make my, prayer to the Highest.

{9:45} After thirty years God heard me thine handmaid, looked upon my misery, considered my trouble, and gave me a son: and I was very glad of him, so was my husband also, and all my neighbours: and we gave great honour unto the Almighty.

{9:46} And I nourished him with great travail.

{9:47} So when he grew up, and came to the time that he should have a wife, I made a feast.

{10:1} And it so came to pass, that when my son was entered into his wedding chamber, he fell down, and died.

{10:2} Then we all overthrew the lights, and all my neighbours rose up to comfort me: so I took my rest unto the second day at night.

{10:3} And it came to pass, when they had all left off to comfort me, to the end I might be quiet; then rose I up by night and fled, and came hither into this field, as thou seest.

{10:4} And I do now purpose not to return into the city, but here to stay, and neither to eat nor drink, but continually to mourn and to fast until I die.

{10:5} Then left I the meditations wherein I was, and spake to her in anger, saying,

{10:6} Thou foolish woman above all other, seest thou not our mourning, and what happeneth unto us?

{10:7} How that Sion our mother is full of all heaviness, and much humbled, mourning very sore?

{10:8} And now, seeing we all mourn and are sad, for we are all in heaviness, art thou grieved for one son?

{10:9} For ask the earth, and she shall tell thee, that it is she which ought to mourn for the fall of so many that grow upon her.

{10:10} For out of her came all at the first, and out of her shall all others come, and, behold, they walk almost all into destruction, and a multitude of them is utterly rooted out.

{10:11} Who then should make more mourning than she, that hath lost so great a multitude; and not thou, which art sorry but for one?

{10:12} But if thou sayest unto me, My lamentation is not like the earth's, because I have lost the fruit of my womb, which I brought forth with pains, and bare with sorrows;

{10:13} But the earth not so: for the multitude present in it according to the course of the earth is gone, as it came:

{10:14} Then say I unto thee, Like as thou hast brought forth with labour; even so the earth also hath given her fruit, namely, man, ever since the beginning unto him that made her.

{10:15} Now therefore keep thy sorrow to thyself, and bear with a good courage that which hath befallen thee.

{10:16} For if thou shalt acknowledge the determination of God to be just, thou shalt both receive thy son in time, and shalt be commended among women.

{10:17} Go thy way then into the city to thine husband.

{10:18} And she said unto me, That will I not do: I will not go into the city, but here will I die.

{10:19} So I proceeded to speak further unto her, and said,

{10:20} Do not so, but be counselled. by me: for how many are the adversities of Sion? be comforted in regard of the sorrow of Jerusalem.

{10:21} For thou seest that our sanctuary is laid waste, our altar broken down, our temple destroyed;

{10:22} Our psaltery is laid on the ground, our song is put to silence, our rejoicing is at an end, the light of our candlestick is put out, the ark of our covenant is spoiled, our holy things are defiled, and the name that is called upon us is almost profaned: our children are put to shame, our priests are burnt, our Levites are gone into captivity, our virgins are defiled, and our wives ravished; our righteous men carried away, our little ones destroyed, our young men are brought in bondage, and our strong men are become weak;

{10:23} And, which is the greatest of all, the seal of Sion hath now lost her honour; for she is delivered into the hands of them that hate us.

{10:24} And therefore shake off thy great heaviness, and put away the multitude of sorrows, that the Mighty may be merciful unto thee again, and the Highest shall give thee

rest and ease from thy labour.

{10:25} And it came to pass while I was talking with her, behold, her face upon a sudden shined exceedingly, and her countenance glistened, so that I was afraid of her, and mused what it might be.

{10:26} And, behold, suddenly she made a great cry very fearful: so that the earth shook at the noise of the woman.

{10:27} And I looked, and, behold, the woman appeared unto me no more, but there was a city builded, and a large place shewed itself from the foundations: then was I afraid, and cried with a loud voice, and said,

{10:28} Where is Uriel the angel, who came unto me at the first? for he hath caused me to fall into many trances, and mine end is turned into corruption, and my prayer to rebuke.

{10:29} And as I was speaking these words behold, he came unto me, and looked upon me.

{10:30} And, lo, I lay as one that had been dead, and mine understanding was taken from me: and he took me by the right hand, and comforted me, and set me upon my feet, and said unto me,

{10:31} What aileth thee? and why art thou so disquieted? and why is thine understanding troubled, and the thoughts of thine heart?

{10:32} And I said, Because thou hast forsaken me, and yet I did according to thy words, and I went into the field, and, lo, I have seen, and yet see, that I am not able to express.

{10:33} And he said unto me, Stand up manfully, and I will advise thee.

{10:34} Then said I, Speak on, my lord, in me; only forsake me not, lest I die frustrate of my hope.

{10:35} For I have seen that I knew not, and hear that I do not know.

{10:36} Or is my sense deceived, or my soul in a dream?

{10:37} Now therefore I beseech thee that thou wilt shew thy servant of this vision.

{10:38} He answered me then, and said, Hear me, and I shall inform thee, and tell thee wherefore thou art afraid: for the Highest will reveal many secret things unto thee.

{10:39} He hath seen that thy way is right: for that thou sorrowest continually for thy people, and makest great lamentation for Sion.

{10:40} This therefore is the meaning of the vision which thou lately sawest:

{10:41} Thou sawest a woman mourning, and thou beganest to comfort her:

{10:42} But now seest thou the likeness of the woman no more, but there appeared unto thee a city builded.

{10:43} And whereas she told thee of the death of her

son, this is the solution:

{10:44} This woman, whom thou sawest is Sion: and whereas she said unto thee, even she whom thou seest as a city builded,

{10:45} Whereas, I say, she said unto thee, that she hath been thirty years barren: those are the thirty years wherein there was no offering made in her.

{10:46} But after thirty years Solomon builded the city and offered offerings: and then bare the barren a son.

{10:47} And whereas she told thee that she nourished him with labour: that was the dwelling in Jerusalem.

{10:48} But whereas she said unto thee, That my son coming into his marriage chamber happened to have a fail, and died: this was the destruction that came to Jerusalem.

{10:49} And, behold, thou sawest her likeness, and because she mourned for her son, thou beganest to comfort her: and of these things which have chanced, these are to be opened unto thee.

{10:50} For now the most High seeth that thou art grieved unfeignedly, and sufferest from thy whole heart for her, so hath he shewed thee the brightness of her glory, and the comeliness of her beauty:

{10:51} And therefore I bade thee remain in the field where no house was builded:

{10:52} For I knew that the Highest would shew this unto thee.

{10:53} Therefore I commanded thee to go into the field, where no foundation of any building was.

{10:54} For in the place wherein the Highest beginneth to shew his city, there can no man's building be able to stand.

{10:55} And therefore fear not, let not thine heart be affrighted, but go thy way in, and see the beauty and greatness of the building, as much as thine eyes be able to see:

{10:56} And then shalt thou hear as much as thine ears may comprehend.

{10:57} For thou art blessed above many other, and art called with the Highest; and so are but few.

{10:58} But to morrow at night thou shalt remain here;

{10:59} And so shall the Highest shew thee visions of the high things, which the most High will do unto them that dwell upon the earth in the last days. So I slept that night and another, like as he commanded me.

{11:1} Then saw I a dream, and, behold, there came up from the sea an eagle, which had twelve feathered wings, and three heads.

{11:2} And I saw, and, behold, she spread her wings over all the earth, and all the winds of the air blew on her, and were gathered together.

{11:3} And I beheld, and out of her feathers there grew

other contrary feathers; and they became little feathers and small.

{11:4} But her heads were at rest: the head in the midst was greater than the other, yet rested it with the residue.

{11:5} Moreover I beheld, and, lo, the eagle flew with her feathers, and reigned upon earth, and over them that dwelt therein.

{11:6} And I saw that all things under heaven were subject unto her, and no man spake against her, no, not one creature upon earth.

{11:7} And I beheld, and, lo, the eagle rose upon her talons, and spake to her feathers, saying,

{11:8} Watch not all at once: sleep every one in his own place, and watch by course:

{11:9} But let the heads be preserved for the last.

{11:10} And I beheld, and, lo, the voice went not out of her heads, but from the midst of her body.

{11:11} And I numbered her contrary feathers, and, behold, there were eight of them.

{11:12} And I looked, and, behold, on the right side there arose one feather, and reigned over all the earth;

{11:13} And so it was, that when it reigned, the end of it came, and the place thereof appeared no more: so the next following stood up. and reigned, and had a great time;

{11:14} And it happened, that when it reigned, the end of it came also, like as the first, so that it appeared no more.

{11:15} Then came there a voice unto it, and said,

{11:16} Hear thou that hast borne rule over the earth so long: this I say unto thee, before thou beginnest to appear no more,

{11:17} There shall none after thee attain unto thy time, neither unto the half thereof.

{11:18} Then arose the third, and reigned as the other before, and appeared no more also.

{11:19} So went it with all the residue one after another, as that every one reigned, and then appeared no more.

{11:20} Then I beheld, and, lo, in process of time the feathers that followed stood up upon the right side, that they might rule also; and some of them ruled, but within a while they appeared no more:

{11:21} For some of them were set up, but ruled not.

{11:22} After this I looked, and, behold, the twelve feathers appeared no more, nor the two little feathers:

{11:23} And there was no more upon the eagle's body, but three heads that rested, and six little wings.

{11:24} Then saw I also that two little feathers divided themselves from the six, and remained under the head that was upon the right side: for the four continued in their place.

{11:25} And I beheld, and, lo, the feathers that were under the wing thought to set up themselves and to have the rule.

{11:26} And I beheld, and, lo, there was one set up, but shortly it appeared no more.

{11:27} And the second was sooner away than the first.

{11:28} And I beheld, and, lo, the two that remained thought also in themselves to reign:

{11:29} And when they so thought, behold, there awaked one of the heads that were at rest, namely, it that was in the midst; for that was greater than the two other heads.

{11:30} And then I saw that the two other heads were joined with it.

{11:31} And, behold, the head was turned with them that were with it, and did eat up the two feathers under the wing that would have reigned.

{11:32} But this head put the whole earth in fear, and bare rule in it over all those that dwelt upon the earth with much oppression; and it had the governance of the world more than all the wings that had been.

{11:33} And after this I beheld, and, lo, the head that was in the midst suddenly appeared no more, like as the wings.

{11:34} But there remained the two heads, which also in like sort ruled upon the earth, and over those that dwelt therein.

{11:35} And I beheld, and, lo, the head upon the right side devoured it that was upon the left side.

{11:36} Then I heard a voice, which said unto me, Look before thee, and consider the thing that thou seest.

{11:37} And I beheld, and lo, as it were a roaring lion chased out of the wood: and I saw that he sent out a man's voice unto the eagle, and said,

{11:38} Hear thou, I will talk with thee, and the Highest shall say unto thee,

{11:39} Art not thou it that remainest of the four beasts, whom I made to reign in my world, that the end of their times might come through them?

{11:40} And the fourth came, and overcame all the beasts that were past, and had power over the world with great fearfulness, and over the whole compass of the earth with much wicked oppression; and so long time dwelt he upon the earth with deceit.

{11:41} For the earth hast thou not judged with truth.

{11:42} For thou hast afflicted the meek, thou hast hurt the peaceable, thou hast loved liars, and destroyed the dwellings of them that brought forth fruit, and hast cast down the walls of such as did thee no harm.

{11:43} Therefore is thy wrongful dealing come up unto the Highest, and thy pride unto the Mighty.

{11:44} The Highest also hath looked upon the proud

times, and, behold, they are ended, and his abominations are fulfilled.

{11:45} And therefore appear no more, thou eagle, nor thy horrible wings, nor thy wicked feathers nor thy malicious heads, nor thy hurtful claws, nor all thy vain body:

{11:46} That all the earth may be refreshed, and may return, being delivered from thy violence, and that she may hope for the judgment and mercy of him that made her.

{12:1} And it came to pass, whiles the lion spake these words unto the eagle, I saw,

{12:2} And, behold, the head that remained and the four wings appeared no more, and the two went unto it and set themselves up to reign, and their kingdom was small, and full of uproar.

{12:3} And I saw, and, behold, they appeared no more, and the whole body of the eagle was burnt so that the earth was in great fear: then awaked I out of the trouble and trance of my mind, and from great fear, and said unto my spirit,

{12:4} Lo, this hast thou done unto me, in that thou searchest out the ways of the Highest.

{12:5} Lo, yet am I weary in my mind, and very weak in my spirit; and little strength is there in me, for the great fear wherewith I was afflicted this night.

{12:6} Therefore will I now beseech the Highest, that he will comfort me unto the end.

{12:7} And I said, Lord that bearest rule, if I have found grace before thy sight, and if I am justified with thee before many others, and if my prayer indeed be come up before thy face;

{12:8} Comfort me then, and shew me thy servant the interpretation and plain difference of this fearful vision, that thou mayest perfectly comfort my soul.

{12:9} For thou hast judged me worthy to shew me the last times.

{12:10} And he said unto me, This is the interpretation of the vision:

{12:11} The eagle, whom thou sawest come up from the sea, is the kingdom which was seen in the vision of thy brother Daniel.

{12:12} But it was not expounded unto him, therefore now I declare it unto thee.

{12:13} Behold, the days will come, that there shall rise up a kingdom upon earth, and it shall be feared above all the kingdoms that were before it.

{12:14} In the same shall twelve kings reign, one after another:

{12:15} Whereof the second shall begin to reign, and shall have more time than any of the twelve.

{12:16} And this do the twelve wings signify, which thou sawest.

{12:17} As for the voice which thou heardest speak, and that thou sawest not to go out from the heads but from the midst of the body thereof, this is the interpretation:

{12:18} That after the time of that kingdom there shall arise great strivings, and it shall stand in peril of failing: nevertheless it shall not then fall, but shall be restored again to his beginning.

{12:19} And whereas thou sawest the eight small under feathers sticking to her wings, this is the interpretation:

{12:20} That in him there shall arise eight kings, whose times shall be but small, and their years swift.

{12:21} And two of them shall perish, the middle time approaching: four shall be kept until their end begin to approach: but two shall be kept unto the end.

{12:22} And whereas thou sawest three heads resting, this is the interpretation:

{12:23} In his last days shall the most High raise up three kingdoms, and renew many things therein, and they shall have the dominion of the earth,

{12:24} And of those that dwell therein, with much oppression, above all those that were before them: therefore are they called the heads of the eagle.

{12:25} For these are they that shall accomplish his wickedness, and that shall finish his last end.

{12:26} And whereas thou sawest that the great head appeared no more, it signifieth that one of them shall die upon his bed, and yet with pain.

{12:27} For the two that remain shall be slain with the sword.

{12:28} For the sword of the one shall devour the other: but at the last shall he fall through the sword himself.

{12:29} And whereas thou sawest two feathers under the wings passing over the head that is on the right side;

{12:30} It signifieth that these are they, whom the Highest hath kept unto their end: this is the small kingdom and full of trouble, as thou sawest.

{12:31} And the lion, whom thou sawest rising up out of the wood, and roaring, and speaking to the eagle, and rebuking her for her unrighteousness with all the words which thou hast heard;

{12:32} This is the anointed, which the Highest hath kept for them and for their wickedness unto the end: he shall reprove them, and shall upbraid them with their cruelty.

{12:33} For he shall set them before him alive in judgment, and shall rebuke them, and correct them.

{12:34} For the rest of my people shall he deliver with mercy, those that have been pressed upon my borders, and he shall make them joyful until the coming of the day of judgment, whereof I have spoken unto thee from the the beginning.

{12:35} This is the dream that thou sawest, and these are

the interpretations.

{12:36} Thou only hast been meet to know this secret of the Highest.

{12:37} Therefore write all these things that thou hast seen in a book, and hide them:

{12:38} And teach them to the wise of the people, whose hearts thou knowest may comprehend and keep these secrets.

{12:39} But wait thou here thyself yet seven days more, that it may be shewed thee, whatsoever it pleaseth the Highest to declare unto thee. And with that he went his way.

{12:40} And it came to pass, when all the people saw that the seven days were past, and I not come again into the city, they gathered them all together, from the least unto the greatest, and came unto me, and said,

{12:41} What have we offended thee? and what evil have we done against thee, that thou forsakest us, and sittest here in this place?

{12:42} For of all the prophets thou only art left us, as a cluster of the vintage, and as a candle in a dark place, and as a haven or ship preserved from the tempest.

{12:43} Are not the evils which are come to us sufficient?

{12:44} If thou shalt forsake us, how much better had it been for us, if we also had been burned in the midst of Sion?

{12:45} For we are not better than they that died there. And they wept with a loud voice. Then answered I them, and said,

{12:46} Be of good comfort, O Israel; and be not heavy, thou house of Jacob:

{12:47} For the Highest hath you in remembrance, and the Mighty hath not forgotten you in temptation.

{12:48} As for me, I have not forsaken you, neither am I departed from you: but am come into this place, to pray for the desolation of Sion, and that I might seek mercy for the low estate of your sanctuary.

{12:49} And now go your way home every man, and after these days will I come unto you.

{12:50} So the people went their way into the city, like as I commanded them:

{12:51} But I remained still in the field seven days, as the angel commanded me; and did eat only in those days of the flowers of the field, and had my meat of the herbs

{13:1} And it came to pass after seven days, I dreamed a dream by night:

{13:2} And, lo, there arose a wind from the sea, that it moved all the waves thereof.

{13:3} And I beheld, and, lo, that man waxed strong with the thousands of heaven: and when he turned his countenance to look, all the things trembled that were seen under him.

{13:4} And whensoever the voice went out of his mouth, all they burned that heard his voice, like as the earth faileth when it feeleth the fire.

{13:5} And after this I beheld, and, lo, there was gathered together a multitude of men, out of number, from the four winds of the heaven, to subdue the man that came out of the sea

{13:6} But I beheld, and, lo, he had graved himself a great mountain, and flew up upon it.

{13:7} But I would have seen the region or place whereout the hill was graven, and I could not.

{13:8} And after this I beheld, and, lo, all they which were gathered together to subdue him were sore afraid, and yet durst fight.

{13:9} And, lo, as he saw the violence of the multitude that came, he neither lifted up his hand, nor held sword, nor any instrument of war:

{13:10} But only I saw that he sent out of his mouth as it had been a blast of fire, and out of his lips a flaming breath, and out of his tongue he cast out sparks and tempests.

{13:11} And they were all mixed together; the blast of fire, the flaming breath, and the great tempest; and fell with violence upon the multitude which was prepared to fight, and burned them up every one, so that upon a sudden of an innumerable multitude nothing was to be perceived, but only dust and smell of smoke: when I saw this I was afraid.

{13:12} Afterward saw I the same man come down from the mountain, and call unto him another peaceable Multitude.

{13:13} And there came much people unto him, whereof some were glad, some were sorry, and some of them were bound, and other some brought of them that were offered: then was I sick through great fear, and I awaked, and said,

{13:14} Thou hast shewed thy servant these wonders from the beginning, and hast counted me worthy that thou shouldest receive my prayer:

{13:15} Shew me now yet the interpretation of this dream.

{13:16} For as I conceive in mine understanding, woe unto them that shall be left in those days and much more woe unto them that are not left behind!

{13:17} For they that were not left were in heaviness.

{13:18} Now understand I the things that are laid up in the latter days, which shall happen unto them, and to those that are left behind.

{13:19} Therefore are they come into great perils and many necessities, like as these dreams declare.

{13:20} Yet is it easier for him that is in danger to come into these things, than to pass away as a cloud out of the world, and not to see the things that happen in the last days. And he answered unto me, and said,

{13:21} The interpretation of the vision shall I shew thee, and I will open unto thee the thing that thou hast required.

{13:22} Whereas thou hast spoken of them that are left behind, this is the interpretation:

{13:23} He that shall endure the peril in that time hath kept himself: they that be fallen into danger are such as have works, and faith toward the Almighty.

{13:24} Know this therefore, that they which be left behind are more blessed than they that be dead.

{13:25} This is the meaning of the vision: Whereas thou sawest a man coming up from the midst of the sea:

{13:26} The same is he whom God the Highest hath kept a great season, which by his own self shall deliver his creature: and he shall order them that are left behind.

{13:27} And whereas thou sawest, that out of his mouth there came as a blast of wind, and fire, and storm;

{13:28} And that he held neither sword, nor any instrument of war, but that the rushing in of him destroyed the whole multitude that came to subdue him; this is the interpretation:

{13:29} Behold, the days come, when the most High will begin to deliver them that are upon the earth.

{13:30} And he shall come to the astonishment of them that dwell on the earth.

{13:31} And one shall undertake to fight against another, one city against another, one place against another, one people against another, and one realm against another.

{13:32} And the time shall be when these things shall come to pass, and the signs shall happen which I shewed thee before, and then shall my Son be declared, whom thou sawest as a man ascending.

{13:33} And when all the people hear his voice, every man shall in their own land leave the battle they have one against another.

{13:34} And an innumerable multitude shall be gathered together, as thou sawest them, willing to come, and to overcome him by fighting.

{13:35} But he shall stand upon the top of the mount Sion.

{13:36} And Sion shall come, and shall be shewed to all men, being prepared and builded, like as thou sawest the hill graven without hands.

{13:37} And this my Son shall rebuke the wicked inventions of those nations, which for their wicked life are fallen into the tempest;

{13:38} And shall lay before them their evil thoughts, and the torments wherewith they shall begin to be tormented, which are like unto a flame: and he shall destroy them without labour by the law which is like unto me.

{13:39} And whereas thou sawest that he gathered another peaceable multitude unto him;

{13:40} Those are the ten tribes, which were carried away prisoners out of their own land in the time of Osea the king, whom Salmanasar the king of Assyria led away captive, and