Genesis 18:17-19:29

And the Lord said, “Shall I hide from Abraham, My servant, what I intend to do? But Abraham will become a great and populous nation, and in him all the nations of the earth will be blessed. For I know that he will instructs his sons and his house after him, and they will keep the ways of the Lord by doing righteousness and justice, so that the Lord may bring all things upon Abraham that He has spoken to him. Thenthe Lord said, “The outcry concerning Sodom and Gomorrah has been completed, and their sins are very great.  Therefore, I will go down and see whether or not they are carrying out the outcry that comes to me concerning them, that I may know.”

Then the men turned away from there and went to Sodom, but Abraham remained standing before the Lord. And Abraham drew near and said, “Would you destroy the righteous with the ungodly? Will the righteous be as the ungodly? If there should be fifty righteous in the city, will You destroy them? Will You not spare the place for the sake of the fifty righteous, if they are in it? By no means will You do such a thing, to slay the righteous with the ungodly, so that the righteous will be as the wicked! By no means! Will not You, Who judges the whole earth do what is right?” And the Lord said, “If I find in Sodom fifty righteous within the city, I will spare the whole place for their sakes. And Abraham said in reply, “Now I who am earth and ashes have begun to speak to my Lord. But if the fifty righteous should be diminished to forty-five, will You destroy the whole city on account of five?” And He said, “I will not destroy it, if I find forty-five there.” And he continued to speak to Him, and said, “But if forty should be found there?” And He said, “I will not destroy it for the sake of forty.” And he said, “Pardon, Lord, if I should speak, but if thirty are found there?” And He said, “I will not destroy it for the sake of thirty.” And he said, “Since I am able to speak to the Lord, what if twenty are found there?” And He said, “I will not destroy it, if I should find twenty there.” And he said, “Pardon, Lord, if I speak once more, but if there ten should be found there?” And He said, “I will not destroy it for the sake of ten.” And the Lord departed, when He had finished speaking to Abraham, and Abraham returned to his place.

Now the two angels came to Sodom at evening, and Lot was sitting beside the gate of Sodom. And when Lot saw them, he rose to meet them, and he bowed with his face to the ground, and said, “Here, lords, turn aside to your servant’s house, and rest, and wash your feet; then you may rise early in the morning and depart on your way.” And they said, “No, but we will find lodging in the street.” And he insisted strongly, so they turned aside to him and entered his house, and he made a feast for them, and baked unleavened bread, and they ate.” But before they went to sleep, the men of the city, the Sodomites, both young and old, all the people together, surrounded the house. And they called Lot out, and said to him, “Where are the men who came to you tonight? Bring them out to us so that we may have relations with them.” And Lot went out to the doorway to them, and he shut the door after himself, and said to them, “By no means, brethren, do not act wickedly. I have two daughters, who have not known a man. I will bring them out to you, and you can use them as you wish, only not do anything to these men, since this is the reason they have come under the shelter of my roof.” And they said to him, “Stand aside! You came to reside as an alien, was it also to judge? Now then we will do worse to you than to them.” And they pressed hard against the man, Lot, and nearly broke down the door. And the men reached out their hands and pulled Lot into the house with them, and shut the door of the house. And they struck the men at the door of the house with blindness, from the smallest to the greatest, and they became exhausted trying to find the door.

And the men said to Lot, “Do you have anyone here, sons-in-law, or sons or daughters? Or if you have any other friend in the city, bring them out of this place. For we are going to destroy this place, because the outcry concerning them has been raised before the Lord, and the Lord has sent us to destroy it.” Then Lot went out and spoke to his sons-in-law, who had married his daughters, and said, “Rise, and get out of this place, for the Lord is about to destroy the city.” But to his sons-in-law he seemed to be joking.

Now when dawn was breaking, the angels urged Lot to hurry, saying, “Arise, take your wife, and your two daughters you have, and get out, lest you also be destroyed with the lawlessness of the city.” And they were thrown into confusion, and the angels took his hand, and his wife’s hand, and his two daughters’ hands, and the Lord spared him.

And it came to pass, when they had brought them outside, that they said, “Save your own life! Do not look back, or stay anywhere in the plain. Escape to the mountains, lest you be overtaken together with them.” And Lot said to them, “I pray, O Lord, since Your servant has found mercy before You, and you have magnified Your righteousness, which You showed me by saving my life, but I will not be able to escape to the mountain, for fear the disasters overtake me and I die. Look, this city, which is small, is near enough for me to flee to for refuge, and I will escape there. Is it not little? And my soul will live! And He said to him, “See, I have indulged you also in this matter, in that I will not overthrow this city, which you have spoken of. So hurry to escape there, for I will not be able to do anything until you arrive there.” Therefore he called the name of that city, Segor.

The sun rose upon the earth, when Lot entered into Segor. And the Lord rained brimstone and fire on Sodom and Gomorrah from the Lord out of heaven. And he overthrew these cities, and all the region around them, and all the inhabitants of the cities, and all that grew upon the earth. And his wife looked back, and she became a pillar of salt.

And Abraham rose early in the morning and went to the place where he had stood before the Lord. And he looked towards Sodom and Gomorrah, and towards the region around them, and he saw, and see, a flame went up from the land, like the smoke of a furnace. And it came to pass that when God destroyed all the cities of the surrounding region, God remembered Abraham, and sent Lot out of the midst of the destruction, when the Lord overthrew those cities in which Lot had lived.

Genesis 27:1-41a

Now it came to pass, when Isaac was old and his eyes were dim so that he could not see, that he called Esau, his older son, and said to him, “My son.” And he answered, “Here I am”. And he said, “See, I have grown old, and I do not know the day of my death. Now then, take your weapons, your quiver and your bow, and go out to the plain, and hunt game for me, and make me the savoury food that I like, and bring it to me that I may eat, that my soul may bless you, before I die.”

Now, Rebecca heard Isaac speaking to his son Esau. And Esau went into the plain to hunt game for his father. And Rebecca spoke to Jacob her younger son, saying, “Look, I heard your father speaking to your brother Esau, saying, ‘Bring me game and make savoury food for me, that I may eat and bless you in the presence of the Lord before I die.’ Now then, my son, listen to me, as I command you, and go to the flocks and take two kids, tender and good, and I will make savoury food for your father, as he likes. And you will bring them in to your father, and he will eat it and bless you before he dies.”

And Jacob said to his mother Rebecca, “My brother Esau is a hairy man, and I a smooth-skinned man. Perhaps my father will feel me, and I will be like a scorner before him, and I will bring a curse upon myself, and not a blessing.” But his mother said to him, “Your curse be upon me, my son; only listen to my voice, and go and bring *them* for me.” So he went and got them and brought them to his mother, and his mother made savoury food, as his father liked. Then Rebecca took the fine clothes of her elder son, Esau which were with her in the house, put them on Jacob, her younger son. And she put the skins of the kids on his arms the, and on the exposed part of his neck. And she gave the savoury food and the bread she had prepared into the hands of her son Jacob.

And he brought *them* to his father, and said, “Father.” And he said, “Here I am; who are you, son?” And Jacob said to his father, “I am Esau your firstborn; I have done as you told me; arise, sit, and eat of my game, that your soul may bless me.” And Isaac said to his son, “What is this that you have quickly found, my son?” And he said, “That which the Lord your God delivered up before me.” And Isaac said to Jacob, “Come near to me, that I may feel you, son, if you are my son Esau or not.” And Jacob went near to his father Isaac, and he felt him, and said, “The voice *is* Jacob’s voice, but the hands *are* Esau’s hands.” And he did not recognize him, because his hands were hairy like the hands of his brother Esau; and he blessed him. Then he said, “Are you my son Esau?” and he said, “I *am*.” And he said, “Bring it to me, and I will eat of your game, son, that my soul may bless you.” And he presented it to him, and he ate; and he brought him wine, and he drank. And Isaac his father said to him, “Come near to me, and kiss me, son.” And he came near and kissed him, and smelled the smell of his clothing, and blessed him, and said,

“See, the smell of my son

is like the smell of an abundant field that the Lord has blessed.

And may God give you of the dew of heaven,

and of the fatness of the earth,

and an abundance of grain and wine.

And let nations serve you,

and princes bow down to you,

and be lord over your brother,

and the sons of your father will bow down to you.

Accursed is he that curses you,

and blessed is he that blesses you.”

And it happened, as soon as Isaac had finished blessing his son Jacob, it happened just as Jacob had gone out from the presence of Isaac his father, that Esau his brother came in from his hunting. And he also had made savory food and brought it to his father, and said to his father, “Let my father arise and eat of his son’s game, that your soul may bless me.” And Isaac his father said to him, “Who are you?” And he said, “I am your firstborn son Esau.” And Isaac was amazed, and with very great amazement he said, “Who then hunted game for me, and brought it to me? I ate all of it before you came, and I have blessed him, and indeed—he shall be blessed.” When Esau heard the words of his father Isaac, he cried out with a great and very bitter cry, and said, “Bless me, also me, father.” And he said to him, “your brother has come with deceit, and taken you blessing.” And Esau said, “His name was rightly called Jacob, for he has supplanted me now this second time; he has taken both my birthright, and now he has taken my blessing.” and Esau said to his father, “Do you not have a blessing left a for me, father?” And Isaac answered and said to Esau, “I have made him your lord, and have made all his brethren his servants, and have sustained him with grain and wine, what shall I do for you, my son?” And Esau said to his father, “Have you *only* one blessing, my father? Bless me—me also, father. And Isaac was troubled, Esau cried aloud and wept. And Isaac his father answered and said to him,

Look, your dwelling will be of the fatness of the earth,

and of the dew of heaven from above.

And you will live by your sword,

and you will serve your brother;

and there will be *a time* when you will break his yoke from your neck.”

And Esau was angry with Jacob because of the blessing, with which his father had blessed him.

Genesis 28:10-22

And Jacob departed from the Well of the Oath, and went to Charran. And came to a certain place and slept there, for the sun had set. And he took *one* of the stones of the place and put it at his head, and lay down to sleep in that place. And he dreamed, and see, a ladder was set firmly on the earth, and its top reached to heaven, and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. And the Lord stood upon it, and said, “I am the God of your father Abraham, and the God of Isaac. Do not fear, I will give to you the land on which you lie, and to your offspring. And your offspring will be like the sand of the earth, and it will spread about to the sea, and to the south, and to the north, and to the east, and all the tribes of the earth will be blessed in you and in your offspring. And see, I am with you to preserve you wherever you go, and I will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done all that I have spoken to you.”

And Jacob woke from his sleep, and said, “The Lord is in this place, and I did not know it!” And he was afraid, and said, “How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven.” And Jacob arose in the morning, and took the stone he had put by his head, and he set it up as a pillar, and poured oil on the top of it. And Jacob called the name of that place, the House of God; and the name of the city was previously Oulam-luz.

And Jacob made a vow, saying, “If the Lord God will be with me, and guard me throughout on this journey, on the way I am going, and give me bread to eat, and clothing to put on, and bring me back in safety to my father’s house, then the Lord will be my God. And this stone, which I have set up as a pillar, will be a house of God to me, and of all You give me, I will give a tithe to You.”

Genesis 32:2-30

And Jacob departed for his journey, and looking up, he saw the hosts of God encamped, and the angels of God met him. And when he saw them, Jacob said,” This is the encampment of God;” and he called the name of that place, Encampments.

And Jacob sent messengers ahead to his brother Esau in the land of Seir, in the country of Edom. And he commanded them, saying, “Speak this to my lord Esau, ‘This is what your servant Jacob is saying, “I have sojourned with Laban and stayed there until now. I have oxen, donkeys, sheep, and male and female servants; and I have sent to tell my lord Esau, so that your servant might find grace in your sight.”’” And the messengers returned to Jacob, saying, “We came to your brother Esau, and he is coming to meet you and four hundred men are with him.” And Jacob was greatly afraid, and was perplexed. And he divided the people that were with him, and the cows, and the camels, and the sheep, into two companies. And Jacob said, “If Esau should come to one company, and destroy it, the other company will escape.”

And Jacob said, “God of my father Abraham, and God of my father Isaac, O Lord Who said to me, ‘Depart quickly to the land of your birth, and I will deal well with you,’ it is sufficient to me because of all the righteousness and truth You have worked with your servant; for I crossed over this Jordan with my staff, and now I have become two companies. Deliver me from the hand of my brother Esau, for I am afraid of him, lest he should come and attack me, and the mother with the children. But You said, ‘I will surely deal well with you, and will make your offspring as the sand of the sea, which will not be numbered for multitude.’”

And he slept there that night, and took gifts from the things that he was bringing, and sent out to his brother Esau two hundred female goats, twenty male goats, two hundred sheep, twenty rams, thirty milk camels and their foals, forty cows, ten bulls, twenty female donkeys, and ten colts. And he gave them to the control of his servants, *each* flock separately, and he said to his servants, “Go on before me, and put some distance between each drove.” And he commanded the first, saying, “If my brother Esau meets you, and he ask you, saying, ‘To whom do you belong, and where are you going? Whose are these going before you?’ You will say, ‘Your servant Jacob’s; he has sent gifts to my lord Esau, and look, he is behind us.’ And he commanded the first, the second, and the third, and all that went before him after these flocks, saying, “This is how you will speak to Esau when you find him, and say, ‘Look, your servant Jacob is coming after us.’” For he said, I will propitiate his face with the gifts going before him, and afterwards I will see his face, for perhaps he will accept me.” So the gifts went on before him, but he himself stayed that night in the encampment.

And he arose that night, and took his two wives and his two maidservants, and his eleven sons, and crossed over the ford of Jabboh. And he took them and crossed over the torrent, and brought over all his possessions. And Jacob was left alone, and a man wrestled with him until the morning. And He saw that He did not prevail against him, and He touched the flat part of his thigh, and the flat part of Jacob’s thigh became numb as he wrestling with him. And He said to him, “Let Me go, for the day has dawned.” But he said, “I will not let You go unless You bless me.” And he said to Him, “What is your name?” And he answered, “Jacob.” And He said to him, “Your name will no longer be Jacob, but Israel, for you have prevailed with God, and will be mighty with men.” And Jacob asked and said, “Tell me Your Name.” and He said, “Why do you ask after My Name?” And He blessed him there. And Jacob called the name of that place, the Form of God, “for I have seen God face to face, and my life has been preserved.”

Exodus 2:11-20

And it came to pass in the course of many days, when Moses was grown, he went out to his brethren, the sons of Israel. And as he observed their burdens, he saw an Egyptian beating a Hebrew, one of his brethren, the children of Israel. And when he looked around this way and that way, and saw no one, he killed the Egyptian, and hid him in the sand. And when he went out the next day, he saw two Hebrew men fighting, and he said to the one who was wrong, “Why are you hitting your neighbour?” And he replied, “Who made you a ruler and a judge over us? Will you kill me as you killed the Egyptian yesterday?” Then Moses was alarmed, and said, “Has this matter has become so well known?” And Pharaoh heard this matter, and sought to kill Moses. But Moses fled from the presence of Pharaoh, and dwelt in the land of Madian. When he came into the land of Madian, he sat on a well.

Then the priest of Madian had seven daughters, who fed the flock of their father Jethro; and they came and drew water, and filled the troughs, to water their father’s flock. Then the shepherds came, and were driving them away, but Moses rose up and rescued them, and drew water for them, and watered their sheep. When they came to Ragouel their father, and he said to them, “How is it that you have come so quickly today?” And they said, “An Egyptian delivered us from the shepherds, and drew water for us, and watered our sheep.” So he said to his daughters,” And where is he? Why have you left the man? Call hi, that he may eat bread.”

Exodus 2:23-3:5

And in those days after a length of time, the king of Egypt died, and the children of Israel groaned because of their tasks, and cried out, and their cry rose up to God because of their tasks. And God heard their groaning, and God remembered His covenant with Abraam, and Isaac, and Jacob. And God looked upon the children of Israel, and became known to them.

And Moses was tending the flock of Jothor, his father-in-law, the priest of Madian; and he led the sheep near to the desert, and came to the mount of Choreb. And the Angel of the Lord appeared to him in flaming fire in the midst of the bush, and he saw that the bush burning with fire—but the bush was not consumed. And Moses said, “I will turn aside, and see this great sight, why the bush is not consumed.”

Now when the Lord saw him turn aside to look, the Lord called him from the midsts of the bush, saying, “Moses! Moses!” And he said, “What is it?” And he said, “Do not come near here. Take your sandals off of your feet! For the place where you stand is holy ground.”

Exodus 3:6-14

And God said to Moses, “I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.” And Moses turned away his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

Then the Lord said to Moses, “Indeed, I have seen the affliction of My people in Egypt, and I have heard their cry *caused* by their taskmasters; for I know their affliction. And I have come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians, and to bring them out of that land, and to bring them into a good and spacious land, into a land flowing with milk and honey, into the place of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Gergesites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. And now, behold, the cry of the children of Israel has come to me, and I have seen the affliction with which the Egyptians oppress them. And now come, I will send you to Pharaoh, king of Egypt, and you will bring my people, the children of Israel, out of the land of Egypt.”

And Moses said to God, “Who am I, that I should go to Pharaoh, king of Egypt, and that I should bring the children of Israel out of the land of Egypt?” And God spoke to Moses, saying, “I will be with you, and this will be the sign to you that I have sent you: when you have brought my people out of Egypt, you will serve God on this mountain.” And Moses said to God, “Look, I will go to the children of Israel, and I will say to them, “The God of your fathers has sent me to you;” and they will ask me, “What is his Name? What will tell them?” And God said to Moses, “I am The One Who Is.” And he said, “You will say this to the children of Israel, ‘The One Who Is has sent me to you.’”

Exodus 4:19-6:13

And the Lord said to Moses in Madian, “Go, return to Egypt, for all that sought your life are dead.” And Moses took his wife and his children, and mounted them on the beasts of burden, and returned to Egypt, and Moses took the rod of God in his hand. And the Lord said to Moses, “When you back to Egypt, see—all the wonders I have put in your hand, you will work before Pharaoh. But I will harden his heart, and he will not send the people away. Then you will say to Pharaoh, ‘This is what the Lord says, “Israel *is* my first-born son. So I say to you, ‘Send my people away so that they may serve me.’ But if you will not send them away, see then, I will kill your firstborn son.”‘“

And it happened on the way, at the inn, that the Angel of the Lord met him, and sought to kill him. And Sepphora took a stone and cut off the foreskin of her son, and fell at his feet and said, “The blood of the circumcision of my son is staunched.” And he departed from him, because she said,” The blood of the circumcision of my son is staunched.”

And the Lord said to Aaron, “Go into the desert to meet Moses.” And he went and met him at the mount of God, and they kissed each other. And Moses reported to Aaron all the words of the Lord that He had sent, and all the things that He had commanded him. Then Moses and Aaron went and assembled the elders of the children of Israel. And Aaron spoke all these words, which God had spoken to Moses, and performed the signs before the people. And the people believed and rejoiced, because God had visited the children of Israel, and because He had seen their affliction. Then the people bowed and worshipped.

And after this Moses and Aaron went in to Pharaoh, and they said to him, “This is what the Lord God of Israel, says, “Send My people away so that they may celebrate a feast to Me in the desert.” And Pharaoh said, “Who is He that I should obey His voice, to send the children of Israel away? I do not know the Lord, and I will not send Israel away!” And they say to him, “The God of the Hebrews has called us to Him. We will therefore travel a three days’ journey into the desert in order to sacrifice to the Lord our God, lest at any time death or slaughter meet us.” And the king of Egypt said to them, “Why do you, Moses and Aaron, turn the people from their works? Each of you, go back to your work.” And Pharaoh said, “Look, the people of the land are now very numerous; let us then give them no rest from their work.” Then Pharaoh gave orders to the task-masters of the people and their clerks, saying, “You will no longer give straw to the people for brick-making as it was yesterday and the third day. Let them go and collect straw for themselves. And you will impose a quota of brick-making on them, which they are to do each day. You will not remove anything, for they are idle; therefore, they cry out, saying, ‘Let us go and offer sacrifice to our God.’ Let the works of these men be oppressive, and let them be preoccupied with this, and do not let them be preoccupied with empty words.”

And the taskmasters and the clerks urged them, and spoke to the people, saying, “This is what Pharaoh says, ‘I *will* no longer give you straw. Go yourselves, gather straw for yourselves wherever you can find it, for nothing is reduced from your workload.’” So the people were dispersed throughout all the land of Egypt to gather stubble for straw. And the taskmasters forced them to hurry, saying, “Fulfill your daily quota, as when straw was given to you.” And the clerks from the race of the children of Israel, who were set over them by the taskmasters of Pharaoh, were beaten and questioned, *“*Why have you not fulfilled your quota of brickmaking just as yesterday and the third day, today as well?”

Then the clerks of the children of Israel went in and cried to Pharaoh, saying, “Why are you acting like this with your servants? Straw is not given to your servants, and they tell us to make brick; and look, your servants have been beaten, you will therefore injure your people.” And he said to them, “You are idle, you are men of leisure! Therefore you say, ‘Let us go *and* offer sacrifice to our God.’ Now then, go and work, for straw will not be given to you, yet you will deliver the quota of bricks.” And the clerks of the children of Israel saw themselves in trouble, with *men* saying, “You will not fail to deliver the daily quota of the brick-making.”

And they departed from Pharaoh, and met Moses and Aaron, coming to meet them. And they said to them, “The Lord look upon you and judge you, for you have made our smell loathsome before Pharaoh, and before his servants, to put a sword into his hands to kill us.”

And Moses turned to the Lord, and said, “O Lord, why have You brought affliction on this people? And why have You sent me? From the time that I went to Pharaoh to speak in Your Name, he has afflicted this people, and You have not delivered Your people.”

And the Lord said to Moses, “Now you will see what I will do to Pharaoh; for by a mighty hand he will send them forth, and with an outstretched arm he will drive them out of his land.”

And God spoke to Moses and said to him, “I *am* the Lord. I appeared to Abraam, and Isaac, and Jacob, being their God, but I did not reveal My Name, ‘Lord,’ to them. And I established my covenant with them, to give them the land of the Canaanites, the land of their sojourn, in which they lived as strangers. And I have heard the groaning of the children of Israel, whom the Egyptians enslave, and I remembered your covenant. Go! speak to the children of Israel, saying, ‘I *am* the Lord; I will bring you out from the tyranny of the Egyptians, and I will rescue you from their bondage, and I will redeem you with an outstretched arm and great judgments. And I will take you as My people, and be your God. And you will know that I am the Lord your God, who brought you out from the tyranny of the Egyptians. And I will bring you into the land for which I stretched out my hand to give it to Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, and I will give it you for an inheritance: I *am* the Lord.’” And Moses spoke this to the sons of Israel, and but did not listen to Moses because of their discouragement and their hard tasks.

And the Lord spoke to Moses, saying, “Go in, tell Pharaoh, king of Egypt, to send away the children of Israel from his land.” And Moses spoke before the Lord, saying, “look, the children of Israel have not listened to me. How will Pharaoh listen to me? I am not eloquent.” And the Lord spoke to Moses and Aaron, and gave them instructions for Pharaoh king of Egypt, that he should send the children of Israel out of the land of Egypt.

Exodus 7:14-8:19

And the Lord said to Moses, “The heart of Pharaoh is hardened so that he will not let the people go. Go to Pharaoh early in the morning. Look, he is going to the water, and you will meet him by the bank of the river, and you will take the rod that was turned into a serpent in your hand. And you will say to him, ‘The Lord God of the Hebrews has sent me to you, saying, “Send My people away, so that they may serve Me in the desert,” and, look, you have not listened to this so far. This is what the Lord says, “By this you will know that I am the Lord. Look, I strike the water in the river with the rod in my hand, and it will be change into blood. And the fish that are in the river will die, and the river will stink, and the Egyptians will not be able to drink water from the river.”’” And the Lord said to Moses, “Say to Aaron your brother, ‘Take your rod in your hand, and stretch out your hand over the waters of Egypt, over their rivers, their canals, their ponds, and all their standing water, and it will become blood.’” And there was blood in all the land of Egypt, in vessels of wood and of stone.

And Moses and Aaron did so, as the Lord commanded them. And *Aaron* lifted up *his hand* with his rod, and struck the waters in the river in the sight of Pharaoh and his servants, and all the water in the river changed into blood. And the fish in the river died, and the river stank, and the Egyptians could not drink water from the river, and there was blood throughout all the land of Egypt. And the Egyptians enchanters did likewise with their sorceries; and Pharaoh’s heart was hardened, and he did not listen to them, as the Lord said. And Pharaoh turned and went into his house, and he did not fix his attention even on this thing. And all the Egyptians dug round the river, so that they might drink water, for they could not drink water from the river. And seven days were completed after the Lord struck the river.

And the Lord said to Moses, “Go in to Pharaoh, and you will say to him, ‘This is what the Lord says, “send away my people so that they may serve me. And if you will not send them away, look, I will strike all your borders with frogs; and the river will vomit frogs, and they will go up and enter into your houses, and into your bedrooms, and on your beds, and into your servants’ houses, and your people’s houses, and in your bread dough, and in your ovens. The frogs will come up on you, and your servants, and your people.”’” And the Lord said to Moses, “Say to your brother Aaron, ‘Stretch out your hand with your rod over the rivers, the canals, and the pools, and cause the frogs to come.’” And Aaron stretched out his hand over the waters of Egypt, and brought up the frogs, and the frogs came up, and covered the land of Egypt. And the Egyptian enchanters did likewise with their sorceries, and brought up the frogs on the land of Egypt.

And Pharaoh called Moses and Aaron, and said, “Pray for me to the Lord, and let Him take away the frogs from me and from my people; and I will send them away, and they will sacrifice to the Lord.” And Moses said to Pharaoh, “Appoint me *a time* when I will pray for you, and for your servants, and for your people, to make the frogs disappear from you, and from your people, and from your houses. They will only remain in the river.” And Pharaoh said, “tomorrow.” Moses said therefore, “As you have said, so that you may know that there is no other but the Lord. And the frogs will be taken away away from you, and from your houses, and from the villages, and from you servants, and from you people; they will only remain in the river.” And Moses and Aaron departed from Pharaoh, and Moses cried to the Lord about the restricting of the frogs, as he had agreed with Pharaoh. And the Lord did as Moses said, and the frogs died from the houses, the villages, and the fields. And they gathered them together in heaps, and the land stank. And when Pharaoh saw that there was relief, his heart was hardened, and he did not listen to them, as the Lord said.

And the Lord said to Moses, “Say to Aaron, ‘Stretch out your rod with your hand and strike the dust of the earth, and there will be lice on men, and on four-footed animals, and throughout all the land of Egypt.’” So Aaron stretched out his rod with his hand, and struck the dust of the earth; and the lice were on men and on four-footed animals, and in all the dust of the earth there were lice. And the enchanters also did so with their sorceries, to bring forth the lice, and they could not. And the lice were on both the men and on the four-footed animals. So the enchanters said to Pharaoh, “This is the finger of God.” But Pharaoh’s heart was hardened, and he did not listen to them, as the Lord said.

Exodus 8:20-9:35

And the Lord said to Moses, “Rise early in the morning, and stand before Pharaoh. Look, he will go out to the water, and you will say to him, ‘This is what the Lord is saying, “Send my people away, so that they may serve Me in the desert. And if you will not send My people away, look, I will send the dog-fly upon you, and your servants, and on your people, and your houses. And the houses of the Egyptians will be filled with the dog-fly, even into the land that they are on. And on that day I will distinguish gloriously the land of Gesem, in which My people dwell, in which the dog-fly will not be, so that you may know that I am the Lord the God of all the earth. And I will put a difference between My people and your people, and tomorrow this will be on the land.”’” And the Lord did so, and the dog-fly came in great numbers into the houses of Pharaoh, and into the houses of his servants, and into all the land of Egypt; and the land was destroyed by the dog-fly.

And Pharaoh summoned Moses and Aaron, saying, “Go and sacrifice to the Lord your God in the land!” And Moses said, “It cannot be so, for we would be sacrificing the abominations of the Egyptians to the Lord our God. For if we sacrifice the abominations of the Egyptians before them, they will stone us. We will go three days’ journey into the desert and sacrifice to the Lord our God, as He told us.” And Pharaoh said,” I *will* send you away—sacrifice to your God in the desert, but do not go very far away; pray then for me to the Lord.” And Moses said, “Then I will go out from you and pray to God, and the dog-fly will depart from you, and from your servants and your people tomorrow. Do not deceive again, Pharaoh, so as to not send the people away to sacrifice to the Lord.”

And Moses went out from Pharaoh, and prayed to God. And the Lord did as Moses said, and removed the dog-fly from Pharaoh, his servants, and his people, and not one remained. And Pharaoh hardened his heart, on this occasion too, and he would not send the people away.

And the Lord said to Moses, “Go to Pharaoh, and you will say to him, ‘This is what the Lord God of the Hebrews is saying, “Send my people away so that they may serve Me. But if you will not send My people away, and still hold them, look, the hand of the Lord will be on your livestock in the fields, on the horses, on the donkeys, and on the camels, oxen, and sheep—a very great death. And I will distinguish gloriously between the livestock of the Egyptians, and the livestock of the children of Israel: nothing will die from all that is of the children of Israel.”’”

And God set a limit, saying, “Tomorrow the Lord will do this thing in the land.” And the Lord did this thing on the next day, and all the livestock of the Egyptians died, but of the livestock of the children of Israel, not one. And when Pharaoh saw that of all the livestock of the children of Israel not one was dead, Pharaoh’s heart was hardened, and he did not send the people away.

And the Lord said to Moses and Aaron, “Take handfuls of ashes from a furnace, and let Moses scatter it toward heaven before Pharaoh, and before his servants. And let it become dust over all the land of Egypt, and it will cause boils to break out in sores on men and on beasts, in all the land of Egypt.” So he took of the ashes from a furnace before Pharaoh, and Moses scattered it toward heaven, and it caused boils to break out in sores on men and on beasts. And the sorcerers could not stand before Moses because of the sores, for the sores were on the sorcerers, and in all the land of Egypt. And the Lord hardened Pharaoh’s heart, and he did not listen to them, as the Lord had said to Moses.

And the Lord said to Moses, “Rise early in the morning, and stand before Pharaoh, and say to him, ‘This is what the Lord God of the Hebrews is saying, “Send My people away, so that they may serve Me. For at this time I will send all my plagues into your heart, and the heart of your servants and of Your people, so that you may know that there is not another such as I in all the earth. For now I will stretch forth My hand and strike you, and kill your people, and you will be destroyed from off the earth. And you have been preserved for this reason, that I might display My strength in you, and that My name might be declared in all the earth. Still then, you hold on to My people, so as not to send them away. Look, tomorrow, at this time I, will cause a very great hail to rain, such as has not been in Egypt from its founding until today. Now then, hurry to gather your livestock, and all that you have in the fields, for the hail will come down on all the men and livestock, everything that is found in the fields, and does not enter a house, will die.”’’ He who feared the word of the Lord among the servants of Pharaoh gathered his livestock into the houses. And he that did not pay attention with his mind to the word of the Lord left the livestock in the fields.

And the Lord said to Moses, “Stretch out your hand to heaven, and there will be hail in all the land of Egypt, both on men and on livestock, and on every herb in the land.” And Moses stretched out his hand to heaven, and the Lord sent thunder and hail, and the fire ran about on the ground, and the Lord rained hail on all the land of Egypt. So there was hail and flashing fire mingled with the hail. And the hail was very great, such as had not occurred in Egypt from the time people came to be upon it. And throughout the land of Egypt, the hail struck both man and animals, and all the grass in the field, and the hail broke all the trees of the field. Only in the land of Gesem, where the children of Israel were, there was no hail.

And Pharaoh sent and called Moses and Aaron, and said to them, “I have sinned this time. The Lord is righteous, and I and my people are impious. Therefore, pray for me to the Lord, and let Him cause the thunder of God to cease, and the hail and the fire, and I will send you forth and you will remain no longer.” And Moses said to him, “As soon as I leave the city, I will stretch out my hands to the Lord, and the thunder will cease, and there will be no more hail and the rain, so that you may know that the earth is the Lord’s. But as for you and your servants, I know that you have not yet feared the Lord.” And the flax and the barley were ruined, for the barley was ripe, and the flax was going to seed. But the wheat and the rye were not ruined, for they were late. And Moses went out from Pharaoh, out of the city, and stretched out his hands to the Lord, and the thunder ceased, and the hail and the rain were not poured on the earth. And when Pharaoh saw that the rain, the hail, and the thunder ceased, he continued to sin, and hardened his heart, and the heart of his servants. And the heart of Pharaoh was hardened, and he did not send away the children of Israel, as the Lord said to Moses.

Exodus 15:22-16:1a

Then Moses brought the children of Israel from the Red Sea, and led them into the wilderness of Sur. And they went three days in the desert, and found no water to drink. And they came to Merra, and could not drink the waters of Merra, for they were bitter. Therefore he named that place, ‘Bitterness.’ And the people murmured against Moses, saying, “What will we drink?” So Moses cried to the Lord, and the Lord showed him a tree, and he threw it into the water, and the water became sweet. He established a statutes and an ordinance there for them. He proved him there, and said, “If you will diligently heed the voice of the Lord your God, and do what is pleasing in His sight, and will listen to His commands, and keep all His ordinances, I will not bring any of the diseases upon you which I have brought upon the Egyptians, for I am the Lord your God Who heals you.”

And they came to Ælim, and there were twelve fountains of water there, and seventy palm-trees; so they encamped there by the waters.

And they departed from Ælim, and the entire congregation of the children of Israel came to the wilderness of Sin, which is between Ælim and Sinai.

Exodus 30:17-30

And the Lord spoke to Moses, saying, “Make a bronze washbasin, and a bronze base for it, for washing; and you will put it between the tent of witness and the altar, and you will pour water into it, and Aaron and his sons will wash their hands and their feet with water from it. Whenever they go into the tent of witness, they will wash themselves with water, so they do not die, whenever they come near to the altar to serve and to offer the whole burnt-offerings to the Lord. They will wash their hands and feet with water, whenever they they go into the tent of witness; they will wash themselves with water, so they do not die; and it will be a perpetual ordinance for them, for him and his generations after him.”

And the Lord spoke to Moses, saying, “Take also sweet spices, the flower of choice myrrh, five hundred shekels worth; and fragrant cinnamon, half of this, two hundred and fifty shekels, and two hundred and fifty shekels of sweet-smelling calamus, and five hundred shekels of cassia, [according to the shekel] of the sanctuary, and a hin of olive oil. And you will make it a holy anointing oil, an aromatic ointment *according* to the art of the perfumer. It will be a holy anointing oil. And you will anoint the tent of witness with it, and the ark of the tent of witness, and all its utensils, and the lampstand and all its utensils, and the altar of incense, and the altar of whole burnt-offerings and all its utensils, and the table and all its utensils, and the washbasin and its base. And you will sanctify them, and they will be most holy: everyone who touches them shall be holy {consecrated}. And you will anoint Aaron and his sons, and consecrate them to serve Me as priests.

Numbers 10:34-11:35

And it happened when the ark set out, that Moses said,

“Arise, O Lord, and let Your enemies be scattered;

let all who hate You flee!”

And when the ark rested, he said,

“Return, O Lord, to the thousands *and* tens of thousands in Israel!”

And the cloud overshadowed them by day, when they set out from camp.

And the people grumbled evilly before the Lord, and the Lord heard *them* and was provoked to anger. And fire was kindled among them from the Lord, and devoured part of the camp. And the people cried out to Moses, and Moses prayed to the Lord, and the fire was quenched. And the name of that place was called Burning, for a fire was kindled among them from the Lord.

And the mixed multitude among them craved with desire, and they and the children of Israel sat down and wept, and said, “Who will give us meat to eat? We remember the fish that we ate freely in Egypt, and the cucumbers, the melons, the leeks, the garlic, and the onions. But now our soul is dried up; there is nothing before our eyes but the manna.” And the manna is like coriander seed, and the appearance of it the appearance of ice pellets. And the people went through the field, and gathered, and ground it in the mill, or pounded it in a mortar, and baked it in a pan, and made cakes of it; and its flavour was like the taste *of* cakes made with oil. And when the dew came on the camp at night, the manna descended upon it.

And Moses heard them weeping throughout the tribes, everyone at his door; and the Lord was very angry, and Moses was displeased. And Moses said to the Lord, “Why have You afflicted Your servant? Why have I not found grace in Your sight, that You lay the weight of this people on me? Have I conceived all this people, or have I born them, that You should say to me, “Take them to your bosom, as a nurse would take her nursing child, into the land that You swore to their fathers? From where am I to get meat to give to all these people? For they weep to me, saying, ‘Give us meat, that we may eat.’ I will not be able to bear this people alone, because the burden is too heavy for me. And if this is how You are going to treat me, kill me, slay me, if I have found favour with You, that I may not see my affliction.”

And the Lord said to Moses, “Gather to Me seventy men from the elders of Israel, whom you yourself know to be elders of the people and are their scribes; and you shall bring them to the tabernacle of witness, and they will stand there with you. And I will descend and speak with you there. And I will take of the spirit that is upon you, and will put it upon them; and they will help you bear the burden of the people, that you may not bear it alone. And to the people you will say, ‘Purify yourselves for tomorrow, and you will eat flesh, for you have wept before the Lord, saying, “Who will give us meat to eat? For it was well with us in Egypt.” And the Lord will give you meat to eat, and you will eat meat. You will not eat one day, or two, or five days, or ten days, or twenty days, but you will eat for a full month, until *it* come out of your nostrils, and becomes nausea to you, because you disobeyed the Lord, who is among you, and wept before Him, saying, “Why did we come out of Egypt?”’” And Moses said, “The people I am among are six hundred thousand footmen, and You said, ‘I will give them meat to eat, and they will eat it for a whole month.’ Will sheep and oxen be slaughtered for them, and will it be enough for them? Or will all the fish of the sea be gathered together for them, and will it be enough for them?” And the Lord said to Moses, “Will the hand of the Lord not be sufficient? Now you will know whether or not My word will overtake you or not.”

And Moses went out and spoke the words of the Lord to the people, and he gathered seventy men from the elders of the people, and he set them around the tabernacle. And the Lord came down in a cloud, and spoke to him, and took of the spirit that was upon him, and put it upon the seventy men who were elders. And when the spirit rested upon them, they prophesied, though they never did again. And there were two men left in the camp, the name of the one was Eldad, and the name of the other was Modad, and the spirit rested upon them. And these were among those that were enrolled, but they did not come to the tabernacle, and they prophesied in the camp. And a young man ran and told Moses, and said, “Eldad and Modad prophesy in the camp.” And Joshua the son of Nun, who attended on Moses, the chosen one, said, “Lord Moses, forbid them.” And Moses said to him, “Are you jealous for my sake? Would that all the Lord’s people were prophets, when the Lord puts his spirit upon them.” And Moses returned to the camp, both he and the elders of Israel.

And a wind went forth from the Lord, and brought quails from over from the sea; and it brought them down upon the camp, about a day’s journey on this side, and a day’s journey on the other side, all around the camp, as it were three feet above the ground. And the people stayed up all day, and all night, and all the next day, and gathered quails; he who gathered the least, gathered ten measures [of 220 liters]; and they spread the meat around about the camp to dry. The meat was still between their teeth, before it was hardly dead, when the Lord was angry with the people, and the Lord struck the people with a very great plague. And the name of that place was called the Graves of Lust, because they buried there the people who lusted. The people set out from the Graves of Lust to Haseroth, and they camped at Haseroth.

Deuteronomy 5:15-22

And thou shall remember that you were a servant in the land of Egypt, and the Lord your God brought you out from there with a mighty hand, and an outstretched arm; therefore, the Lord your God instructed you to keep the Sabbath day and to sanctify it.

Honour your father and your mother, as the Lord your God commanded you, that it may be well with you, and that you may live long upon the land that the Lord your God is giving you.

You shall not commit murder.

You shall not commit adultery.

You shall not steal.

You shall not bear false witness against your neighbour.

You shall not covet your neighbour’s wife; you shall not covet your neighbour’s house, his field, his male servant, his female maid, his ox, his donkey, his livestock, or anything that belongs to your neighbour.

The Lord spoke these words to your whole assembly at the mountain from the midst of the fire—*there was* darkness, blackness, storm, a loud voice—and He added no more. And He wrote them on two tablets of stone, and He gave them to me.

Deuteronomy 6:3-7:26

Hear, therefore, O Israel, and be careful to do this, that it may be well with you, and you may be greatly multiplied, as the Lord God of your fathers has spoken, to give you a land flowing with milk and honey.

And these *are* the statutes and the judgments, which the Lord commanded the children of Israel in the wilderness, when they came out of the land of Egypt. “Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God is one Lord. And you shall love the Lord your God with all your mind, and with all you soul, and all your strength. And these words that I command you today shall be in your heart and in your soul. And you shall teach them to your children, and you shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise up. And you shall bind them on your hand as a sign, and it shall be unshakable before your eyes. And you shall write them on the doorposts of your houses, and on your gates.

And it will come to pass, when the Lord your God brings you into the land He swore to your fathers, to Abraham, and to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give you great and beautiful cities that you did not build, and houses full of all good things that you did not fill, and wells dug in the rock that you did not dig, and vineyards and olive groves that you did not plant, then when you have eaten and are full, beware that you do not forget the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery. You shall fear the Lord your God, and serve Him, and cling to Him, and swear by His Name. Do not go after other gods, the gods of the nations around you, for the Lord your God, Who is in the midst of you, *is* a jealous God, lest the anger of Lord your God be roused against you, and destroy you from the face of the earth.

You shall not tempt the Lord your God, as you tempted Him in the Temptation. You shall diligently keep the commands of the Lord your God, the testimonies, and the ordinances, which He commanded you. And you shall do what is pleasing and good before the Lord your God, that it may be well with you, and that you may go in and inherit the good land, which the Lord swore to your fathers, to chase all your enemies from before your face, as the Lord said.

And it shall be, when your son asks you in the future, saying, “What are the testimonies, and the statutes, and the judgments that the Lord our God has commanded us?” Then you shall say to your son, “We were slaves to Pharaoh in the land of Egypt, and the Lord brought us from there with a mighty hand, and with an outstretched arm. And the Lord set great and evil signs and wonders afflicting Egypt, on Pharao and on his house, before us. And He brought us out from there to give us this land, which he swore to give to our fathers. And the Lord charged us to observe all these statutes, to fear the Lord our God, that it may be well with us all our days, that we may live, at it is today. And there will be mercy to us, if we are watchful to keep all these commands before the Lord our God, as He has commanded us.

And when the Lord your God brings you into the land you go to inherit, and removes great nations from before you, the Hittites, and Girgashites, and the Amorites, and the Canannites, and the Perizzites, and the Hivites, and the Jebusites, seven nations *more* numerous and stronger than you, and the Lord your God delivers them into your hands, then you will strike them, you will utterly destroy them. You will not make a covenant with them, or show them mercy. Nor shall you make marriages with them. You shall not give your daughter to his son, and you shall not take his daughter to your son. For she will draw away your son from Me, and he will serve other gods; and the Lord will be very angry with you, and will utterly destroy you suddenly. But this is what you shall do to them: you shall destroy their altars, and break down their pillars, and cut down their groves, and burn the carved images of their gods with fire.

For you are a holy people to the Lord your God; and the Lord your God chose you to be a peculiar people to Him, more than all the nations upon the face of the earth. It was not because you are more numerous than all *other* nations that the Lord preferred you and chose you, for you are the least in all the nations; but because the Lord loved you, and since He was keeping the oath that He swore to your fathers, the Lord has brought you out with a strong hand, and the Lord has redeemed thee from the house of slavery, out of the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt. Know, therefore, that the Lord your God, he *is* God, the faithful God, who keeps covenant and mercy for a thousand generations with those who love Him, and those who keep His commandments, and Who repays those Who hate Him to their face, to destroy them. And He will not be slack with them that hate Him; He will repay them to their face. Therefore, You shalt keep the commands, and the statutes, and these judgments, which I command you today to do.

And it will come to pass, when you listen to these statutes, and keep them and do them, that the Lord your God will keep for you the covenant and the mercy, which he swore to your fathers. And He will love you, and bless you, and multiply you; and He will bless the offspring of your womb, and the fruit of your land, your grain, and your wine, and your oil, the herds of your oxen, and the flocks of your sheep, on the land which the Lord swore to your fathers to give to you. You will be blessed more than all the nations; there will not be an impotent or infertile one among you, or among your cattle. And the Lord your God will remove every illness from you, and He will not inflict all of the evil diseases of Egypt, which you have seen and that you have experienced, on you; but he will inflict them upon all that hate you. And you will eat all the spoils of the nations that the Lord your God gives to you; your eye will not have pity on them, and you shall not serve their gods; for that would be a snare to you.

But if you should say in your heart, “This nation *is* greater than I, how will I be able to destroy them?” you shall not be afraid of them; you shall remember all that the Lord your God did to Pharaoh, and to all the Egyptians: the great trials that your eyes have seen, those great signs and wonders, the strong hand, and the outstretched arm by which the Lord your God brought you out. So will the Lord your God do to all the nations whose presence you fear. And the Lord your God will send the hornets against them, until those who are left, who hide from you, are destroyed. You will not be wounded before them, because the Lord your God in the midst of you *is* a great and powerful God. And the Lord your God will consume these nations before you little by little; you will not be able to consume them quickly, lest the land become desert, and the wild animals of the field multiply against you. And the Lord your God will deliver them into your hands, and you will destroy them with a great destruction, until He has utterly destroyed them. And He will deliver their kings into your hands, and you will destroy their name from that place; no one will be able to stand against you until you have utterly destroyed them. You will burn the carved images of their gods with fire. You shall not desire silver and gold from them, and you shall not take it for yourself, lest you stumble by it, for it is an abomination to the Lord your God. And you shall not bring an abomination into your house, lest you be an anathema like it. You shall utterly abhor it, for it is an anathema {accursed thing}.

Deuteronomy 8:1-9:4

“You must be watchful to perform all the commands that I command you today, that you may live and be multiplied, and go in and inherit the land, which the Lord your God swore to your fathers. And you shall remember the whole way that the Lord your God led you in the wilderness, so that Hemight afflict you, and try you, and make manifest the things in your heart, whether you would keep His commandments or not. And He distressed you and weakened you with hunger, and fed you with manna, which your fathers did not know; that he might teach you that man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God shall man live. Your clothes did not wear out on you; your feet did not become callused, for forty years. And you shall know in your heart, that as a man disciplines his son, so the Lord your God will discipline you. And you shall keep the commands of the Lord your God, to walk in His ways, and to fear Him. For the Lord your God is bringing you into a good and extensive land, where torrents of waters, and springs of bottomless depth flow through the plains and through the mountains; a land of wheat and barley, *of* vines, figs, pomegranates, a land of olive oil and honey; a land where you will not eat your bread in poverty, and upon which you will not want for anything; a land whose stones are iron, and from whose mountains you can dig copper. And you will eat and be filled, and bless the Lord your God on the good land that He has given you.

Watch yourself, that you do not forget the Lord your God, so as not to keep His commands, and His judgments, and His statutes, which I command you today, lest, when you have eaten and are full, and have built fine houses, and lived in them, and when your oxen and sheep have multiplied, and when silver and gold have been multiplied to you, and when all your possessions have been multiplied to you, you should become exalted in heart, and forget the Lord your God, Who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, Who led you through that great and fearful wilderness, where *there was* the biting serpent and scorpion, and thirst, where there was no water, Who brought a spring of water for you out of flint rock, Who fed you with manna in the wilderness, which your fathers did not know, that He might distress you, and thoroughly test you, htat you might do well at your end. Then, do not say in your heart, “My strength and the power of my hand have gained for me this great power.” But you shall remember the Lord your God, for it is He that gives you strength to gain power, that He may establish His covenant, which the Lord swore to your fathers, as it is today. And it will come to pass, if by forgetting you forget the Lord your God, and go after other gods, and serve them, and worship them, I bear witness against you today, that you will surely perish. As the remaining nations, which the Lord is destroying before your face, so you will perish, because you did not listen to the voice of the Lord your God.

Hear, O Israel! You are crossing the Jordan today, to go in to inherit nations greater and mightier than yourself, cities great and walled up to heaven, a great, numerous, and tall people, the sons of Anak, whom you know, and of whom you have heard it *said*, “Who can stand against the sons of Anak?” And you shall know today, that the Lord your God—He goes before you; He is a consuming fire; He will destroy them, and He will turn them back before you, and will destroy them utterly, as the Lord has said to you. Do not say in your heart, after the Lord your God has destroyed these nations before you, “Because of my righteousness the Lord brought me in to inherit this good land;” but because of the ungodliness of these nations the Lord will destroy them from before you.

Deuteronomy 9:7-10:11

Remember, do not forget how you provoked the Lord your God in the desert. From the day you came out of Egypt, until came into this place, you continued to be disobedient to the Lord. Also at Choreb you provoked the Lord, and the Lord was angry enough with you to destroy you, when I went up the mountain to receive the tablets of stone, the tablets of the covenant, which the Lord established with you; and I stayed on the mountain for forty days and forty nights. I neither ate bread nor drank water. And the Lord gave me the two stone tables written with the finger of God, and on them had been written all the words that the Lord had spoken to you at the mountain in the day of the assembly. And it came to pass, after forty days and forty nights, that the Lord gave me the two tablets of stone, the tablets of the covenant. And the Lord said to me, “Arise, go down quickly from here, for your people whom you brought out of the land of Egypt have acted lawlessly; they have turned aside quickly from the way that I commanded them; they have made themselves a molten image.” And the Lord said to me, “I have spoken to you once, and twice, saying, ‘I see this people, and indeed, they are a stiff-necked people. Let Me destroy them utterly, and I will blot out their name from under heaven, and I will make of you a great and strong nation, more numerous than this one.’”

And I turned and went down from the mountain, and the mountain burned with fire; and the two tablets *were* in my two hands. And when I saw that you had sinned against the Lord your God, and had made a molten image for yourself, and had gone astray from the way that the Lord had commanded you, then I took hold of the two tablets, and threw them down with my two hands, and broke them before you. And I made my petition before the Lord a second time, as at the first, forty days and forty nights; I neither ate bread nor drank water, on account of all your sins that you had sinned by doing what is evil in the sight of the Lord your God, to provoke Him. And I was terrified because of the anger, and the wrath, because the Lord was provoked by you utterly to destroy you. But the Lord listened to me at this time also. And the Lord was very angry with Aaron, and would have utterly destroyed him, and I prayed also for Aaron at that time. And your sin which you had committed, the calf, I took it and burnt it with fire, and crushed it, and ground it down until it was as fine as dust, and I threw the dust into the brook that descended from the mountain.

Also at the Burning, and the Temptation, and at the Graves of Lust, you provoked the Lord your God. And when the Lord sent you from Kades Barne, saying, “Go up and inherit the land that I am giving you,” then you disobeyed the word of the Lord your God, and did not believe Him, or listen to His voice. You were disobedient in the things relating to the Lord from the day in which He became known to you.

And I prayed before the Lord, forty days and forty nights, I kept praying, for the Lord said that He would utterly destroy you. And I prayed to God, and said, “O Lord, Lord, King of the gods, do not destroy Your people and Your portion, whom You redeemed, whom You brought out of the land of Egypt by Your great strength, and with Your mighty hand, and with Your outstretched arm. Remember Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob Your servants, to whom You swore by Yourself; do not look upon the stubbornness of this people, and upon their impieties, and upon their sins, lest the inhabitants of the land from which You have brought us out speak, saying, ‘Because the Lord could not bring them into the land of which He spoke to them, and because He hated them, He brought them out to kill them in the desert.’ And these *are* Your, people and Your portion, whom You brought out of the land of Egypt by Your great strength, and with Your mighty hand, and with Your outstretched arm.”

At that time the Lord said to me, “Carve for yourself two stone tablets like the former ones, and come up to Me on the mountain, and make yourself an ark of wood. And I will write on these tablets the words that were on the first tablets, which you broke, and you will put them into the ark.” So I made an ark of boards of wood that would not decay, and I carved the two tablets of stone like the former ones, and I went up the mountain with the two tablets in my hands. And He wrote the Ten Commandments on the tablets, in accordance with the first writing, which the Lord spoke to you in the mountain, from the midst of the fire, and the Lord gave them to me. And I turned and came down from the mountain, and I put the tablets into the ark I had made; and they were there, as the Lord commanded me.

(And the children of Israel departed from Beroth of the sons of Jakim to Misadai. Aaron died there, and there he was buried, and Eleazar his son became priest instead of his. From there they departed to Gadgad, and from Gadgad to Ietebatha, a land with torrents of water. At that time, the Lord set apart the tribe of Levi to carry the ark of the covenant of the Lord, to stand before the Lord to minister and bless in His Name, to this day. Therefore, the Levites have no portion or inheritance among their brethren; the Lord Himself is their inheritance, as He said to him.)

And I stayed on the mount forty days and forty nights. And the Lord listened to me at that time also, and the Lord chose not to destroy you. And the Lord said to me, “Go, lead this people, and let them go in and inherit the land that I swore to their fathers to give to them.”

Deuteronomy 10:12-11:28

And now, Israel, what does the Lord your God require of you, but to fear the Lord your God, and to walk in all His ways, and to love Him, and to serve the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and to keep the commandments of the Lord your God, and his statutes that I commanded you today, that it may be well with you? Look, the heaven and the heaven of heavens belong to the Lord your God, the earth and everything in it. Yet the Lord chose your fathers to love them, and he chose their offspring after them, you, above all nations, as it is this day. Therefore, circumcise the hardness of your heart, and do not be stiff necked any longer. For the Lord your God, He *is* God of gods, and the Lord of lords, the great, and mighty, and awesome God, who show partiality, or accept bribes. He administers justice for the stranger, orphan, and widow, and He loves the stranger, giving him food and clothing. And you shall love the stranger, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt. You shall fear the Lord your God, and serve Him, and hold fast to Him, and swear by His Name. He *is* your boast and your God, who did these great and glorious things in the midst of you, which your eyes have seen. Your fathers went down into Egypt with seventy-five souls, but the Lord your God has made you as the stars of heaven in multitude.

Therefore, you shall love the Lord your God, and keep His orders, and His statutes, and His commandments, and His judgments, always. Know this day, I do not speak to your children, who do not know and have not seen the discipline of the Lord your God, His wonderful works, His strong hand, His outstretched arm, His miracles, and His wonders, which He worked in the midst of Egypt upon Pharaoh king of Egypt, and all his land; and what He did to the host of the Egyptians, to their chariots, their cavalry, and their host; how He made the water of the Red Sea to flow over them as they pursued you, and the Lord destroyed them to this day; and all the things that He did for you in the desert until you came into this place; and all the things that He did to Dathan and Abiron the sons of Eliab the son of Ruben, how the earth opened its mouth and swallowed them up with their households, their tents, and all their possessions that were with them, in the midst of all Israel: but your eyes have seen all the mighty works of the Lord, that He worked among you today.

And you shall keep all his commandments that I have command you today, that you may live, and be multiplied, and go in and inherit the land, into which you are crossing the Jordan to inherit, that you may live long upon the land, which the Lord swore to your fathers to give to them, and to their offspring after them, a land flowing with milk and honey. For the land into which you are entering to inherit it, is not like the land of Egypt, from which you came, where they sow the seed, and water it with their feet like a garden of herbs: but the land into which you are entering to inherit it, is a land of hills and plains, it will drink water of the rain of heaven, a land which the Lord your God looks upon, the eyes of the Lord your God are always on it, from the beginning of the year to the end of the year.

Now if you will indeed listen to all the commands that I command you today, to love the Lord your God, and to serve Him with all your heart, and with all your soul, then He will give you the early and latter rain in its season for your land, that you may gather your corn, and your wine, and your oil. And He will give food in your fields to your cattle; and when you have eaten and are full, take care to yourself, that your heart does not become puffed up, and you transgress and serve other gods, and worship them, and the Lord become angry with you, and shut up the heaven, so that there will be no rain, and the earth will not yield its fruit, and you will perish quickly from the good land, which the Lord has given you.

And you shall store these words in your heart and in your soul, and you shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be fixed before your eyes. And you shall teach them to your children, speaking of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise up. And you shall write them on the door posts of your houses, and on your gates, that your days and the days of your children may be long in the land which the Lord swore to your fathers to give to them, like the days of heaven on earth. And it will happen that if you will indeed listen to all these commands, which I commanded you to observe today, to love the Lord your God, and to walk in all His ways, and to hold fast to Him, then the Lord will drive out all these nations before you, and you will inherit great nations, stronger than yourselves. Every place where the sole of your foot treads will be your: from the desert and Anti-Lebanon, and from the great river Euphrates, even to the Western Sea will be your boarders. No one will stand before you, and the Lord your God will put the fear of you and the dread of you on the face of all the land where you tread, as He told you.

See, I set before you today the blessing and the curse: the blessing, if you listen to the commands of the Lord your God, all that I command you today; and the curse, if you do not listen to the commands of the Lord your God, which I command you today, but go astray from the way I have commanded you, to go to serve other gods, which you do not know.

Deuteronomy 11:29-12:27 (not done yet)

And it shall come to pass when the Lord thy God shall have brought thee into the land into which thou goest over to inherit it, then thou shalt put blessing on mount Garizin, and the curse upon mount Gaebal. Lo! are not these beyond Jordan, behind, westward in the land of Chanaan, which lies westward near Golgol, by the high oak? For ye are passing over Jordan, to go in and inherit the land, which the Lord our God gives you to inherit always, and ye shall dwell in it. And ye shall take heed to do all his ordinances, and these judgments, as many as I set before you to-day.

And these *are* the ordinances and the judgments, which ye shall observe to do in the land, which the Lord God of your fathers gives you for an inheritance, all the days which ye live upon the land. Ye shall utterly destroy all the places in which they served their gods, whose *land* ye inherit, on the high mountains and on the hills, and under the thick tree. And ye shall destroy their altars, and break in pieces their pillars, and ye shall cut down their groves, and ye shall burn with fire the graven images of their gods, and ye shall abolish their name out of that place. Ye shall not do so to the Lord your God.

But in the place which the Lord thy God shall choose in one of your cities to name his name there, and to be called upon, ye shall even seek *him* out and go thither. And ye shall carry thither your whole-burnt-offerings, and your sacrifices, and your first-fruits, and your vowed-offerings, and your freewill-offerings, and your offerings of thanksgiving, the first-born of your herds, and of your flocks. And ye shall eat there before the Lord your God, and ye shall rejoice in all the things on which ye shall lay your hand, ye and your houses, as the Lord your God has blessed you. Ye shall not do altogether as we do here to-day, every man that which is pleasing in his own sight. For hitherto ye have not arrived at the rest and the inheritance, which the Lord our God gives you. And ye shall go over Jordan, and shall dwell in the land, which the Lord our God takes as an inheritance for you; and he shall give you rest from all your enemies round about, and ye shall dwell safely. And there shall be a place which the Lord thy God shall choose for his name to be called there, thither shall ye bring all things that I order you to-day; your whole-burnt-offerings, and your sacrifices, and your tithes, and the first-fruits of your hands, and every choice gift of yours, whatsoever ye shall vow to the Lord your God. And ye shall rejoice before the Lord your God, ye and your sons, and your daughters, and your men-servants and your maid-servants, and the Levite that is at your gates; because he has no portion or inheritance with you. Take heed to thyself that thou offer not thy whole-burnt-offerings in any place which thou shalt see; save in the place which the Lord thy God shall choose, in one of thy tribes, there shall ye offer your whole-burnt-offerings, and there shalt thou do all things whatsoever I charge thee this day. But thou shalt kill according to all thy desire, and shalt eat flesh according to the blessing of the Lord thy God, which he has given thee in every city; the unclean that is within thee and the clean shall eat it on equal terms, as the doe or the stag. Only ye shall not eat the blood; ye shall pour it out on the ground as water. Thou shalt not be able to eat in thy cities the tithe of thy corn, and of thy wine, and of thine oil, the first-born of thine herd and of thy flock, and all *your* vows as many as ye shall have vowed, and your thank-offerings, and the first-fruits of thine hands. But before the Lord thy God thou shalt eat it, in the place which the Lord thy God shall choose for himself, thou, and thy son, and thy daughter, thy man-servant, and thy maid-servant, and the stranger that is within thy gates; and thou shalt rejoice before the Lord thy God, on whatsoever thou shalt lay thine hand. Take heed to thyself that thou do not desert the Levite all the time that thou livest upon the earth. And if the Lord thy God shall enlarge thy borders, as he said to thee, and thou shalt say, I will eat flesh; if thy soul should desire to eat flesh, thou shalt eat flesh according to all the desire of thy soul. And if the place be far from thee, which the Lord thy God shall choose for himself, that his name be called upon it, then thou shalt kill of thy herd and of thy flock which God shall have given thee, even as I commanded thee, and thou shalt eat in thy cities according to the desire of thy soul. As the doe and the stag are eaten, so shalt thou eat it; the unclean in thee and the clean shall eat it in like manner. Take diligent heed that thou eat no blood, for blood *is* the life of it; the life shall not be eaten with the flesh. Ye shall not eat *it*; ye shall pour it out on the ground as water. Thou shalt not eat it, that it may be well with thee and with thy sons after thee, if thou shalt do that which is good and pleasing before the Lord thy God. But thou shalt take thy holy things, if thou hast any, and thy vowed-offerings, and come to the place which the Lord thy God shall choose to have his name named upon it. And thou shalt sacrifice thy whole-burnt-offerings, thou shalt offer the flesh upon the altar of the Lord thy God; but the blood of thy sacrifices thou shalt pour out at the foot of the altar of the Lord thy God, but the flesh thou shalt eat.

Joshua 2:1-6:26

And Joshua the son of Naue sent two young men from Sattin to spy out the land, saying, “Go and see the land, especially Jericho.” And the two young men went and entered Jericho, and they entered into the house of a prostitute named was Raab, and lodged there. And it was reported to the king of Jericho, saying, “Men of the sons of Israel have come here to spy out the land.” And the king of Jericho sent, and spoke to Raab, saying, “Bring out the men who entered your house tonight, for they have come to spy out the land.” And the woman took the men and hid them, and she spoke to the messengers, saying, “The men came to me, but when the gate was shut in the evening, the men went out. I do not know where they went. Pursue them, if you can overtake them.” But she had brought them up on the roof of the house, and hid them in the stalks of flax that she had laid out on the roof. And the men pursued after them on the road to the Jordan, to the fords, and the gate was closed.

And it happened, when the men who pursued them had gone out, and before the spies had gone to sleep, she too came up to them on the top of the house and said to them, “I know that the Lord has given you the land, for the dread of you has fallen upon us. For we have heard that the Lord God dried up the Red Sea before you when you came out of the land of Egypt, and what He did to the two kings of the Amorites who were beyond Jordan, to Seon and Og, whom you utterly destroyed. And when we heard it we were amazed in our heart, and there was no spirit left in any of us because of you, for the Lord your god is God in heaven above, and on the earth below. And now swear to me by the Lord God that as I deal showed you mercy, so you will also be mercifully with the house of my father, and spare the house of my father, my mother, and my brethren, and all my house, and all that they have, and deliver my soul from death.”

And the men said to her, “Our life for your life, even to death.” And she said, “When the Lord delivers the city to you, deal with me in mercy and truly.” And she let them down by the window. Ad she said to them, “Depart into the hill country, so that the pursuers do not come upon you. And you will be hidden there for three days, until those who pursue after you have returned, and afterwards you will depart on your way.”

And the men said to her, “We will be without fault regarding this oath of yours. Look, we will enter into a part of the city, and you will set a sign; you will hang this scarlet cord in the window through which you let us down, and you will gather to yourself and your father and mother, and your brethren, and all the family of your father into your father’s house. Whoever goes outside the door of your house, he will be responsible on his own account, and we will be free of this oath of yours. And we will be responsible for any who are with you in your house. But if anyone injures us, or reveals these words of ours, we will be free from this oath of yours.” And she said to them, “Let it be according to your word.” And she sent them away.

And they departed and went to the hill country, and remained there for three days; and the pursuers searched all the roads, but did not find them. And the two young men returned and came down out of the mountain. And they crossed over to Joshua the son of Naue, and told him everything that had happened to them. And they said to Joshua, “The Lord has delivered all the land into our hand, and everyone who inhabitants that land cowers because of us.

And Joshua rose up early in the morning, and departed from Sattin; and they came as far as the Jordan, and lodged there before they crossed over. And it happened after three days, that the scribes went through the camp and commanded the people, saying, “When you see the ark of the covenant of the Lord our God, and our priests and the Levites bearing it, you will depart from your places, and you will go after it. But let there be a distance between you and it. You will stand as much as two thousand cubits from it. Do not come near it, that you may know the way to go; for you have not gone this way before.” And Joshua said to the people, “Sanctify yourselves for tomorrow, because tomorrow the Lord will do wonders among you.” And Joshua said to the priests, “Take up the ark of the covenant of the Lord, and go before the people.” And the priests took up the ark of the covenant of the Lord, and went before the people.

And the Lord said to Joshua, “Today I am beginning to exalt you before all the children of Israel, so they will know that I will be with you as I was with Moses. And now command the priests who bear the ark of the covenant, saying, ‘As soon as you enter a part of the water of the Jordan, then you will stand in Jordan.’” Joshua then said to the children of Israel, “Come here and hear the word of the Lord our God. By this you will know that the living God is among you, and will utterly destroy from before our face the Cananites, and the Chettites and Pherezites, and the Hevites, and the Amorites, and the Gergesites, and the Jebusites. Look, the ark of the covenant of the Lord of all the earth passes through the Jordan. Choose for yourselves twelve men from the sons of Israel, one from each tribe. And it will happen that when the feet of the priests that carry the ark of the covenant of the Lord of the whole earth rest in the water of the Jordan, the water of the Jordan will case, and the water coming down will stand still.”

And the people left their tents to cross over the Jordan, and the priests carried the ark of the covenant of the Lord before the people. And when the priests who carried the ark of the covenant of the Lord were entering the Jordan, and the feet of the priests who carried the ark of the covenant of the Lord were dipped into part of the water of the Jordan—now the Jordan overflowed all its banks about the time of wheat harvest—then the upstream waters stopped, and a solid wall of water formed over a great distance, as far as the region of Kariathiarim, and the lower part came down to the sea of Araba, the salt sea, until it completely ceased. And the people stood opposite Jericho. And the priests who carried the ark of the covenant of the Lord stood on dry land in the midst of the Jordan; and all the children of Israel crossed on dry land, until all the people had crossed the Jordan.

And when all the people had finished crossing the Jordan, the Lord spoke to Joshua, saying, “Take men from the people, one from each tribe, and command them, saying, ‘take twelve stones that are on hand out of the midst of the Jordan, and when you have carried them over with you, place them in your camp, where you will encamp for the night.’” And when Joshua had called twelve men of honour among the children of Israel, one from each tribe, he said to them, “Advance before me in the presence of the Lord into the midst of the Jordan, and let each take up a stone from there, and carry it on his shoulders, according to the number of the twelve tribes of Israel, so that these may be an appointed sign for you continually, so that when your son asks you tomorrow, saying, ‘What are these stones to you?’ then you will explain to your son, saying, ‘The river Jordan dried up before the ark of the covenant of the Lord of the whole earth, when it crossed over,’ and these stones will be for a memorial for you, for the children of Israel forever.”

And the children of Israel did so, as the Lord commanded Joshua. And they took up twelve stones out of the midst of the Jordan, (as the Lord commanded Joshua, when the children of Israel had completely crossing over,) and carried these stones with them into the camp, and laid them down there. And Joshua also set another twelve stones in the Jordan itself, in the place walked on by the feet of the priests who carried the ark of the covenant of the Lord. And there they are to this day.

And the priests who carried the ark of the covenant stood in the Jordan, until Joshua had finished all that the Lord commanded him to tell the people. And the people hurries, and crossed over. And it happened, as soon as the people had crossed over, that the ark of the covenant of the Lord crossed over, and the stones in front of them. And the sons of Ruben, and the sons of Gad, and the half tribe of Manasse crossed over armed before the children of Israel, as Moses commanded them. Forty thousand men armed for battle crossed over before the Lord to war against the city of Jericho. On that day the Lord magnified Joshua before all the people of Israel, and they feared him as long as he lived, as they did Moses.

And the Lord spoke to Joshua, saying, “Command the priests who carry the ark of the covenant of the testimony of the Lord, to come up out of the Jordan.” And Joshua commanded the priests, saying, “Come up out of Jordan.” And it happened that as soon as the priests who carried the ark of the covenant of the Lord came up out of the Jordan, and set their feet on the land, that the water of Jordan rushed headlong into place, and went as before over all its banks.

And the people went up out of the Jordan on the tenth day of the first month, and the children of Israel encamped in Galgala in the region eastward from Jericho. And Joshua set those twelve stones, which he had taken out of the Jordan in Galgala, saying, “When your sons ask you, saying, ‘What are these stones?’ tell your sons, that Israel crossed the Jordan on dry land; that the Lord our God dried up the water of the Jordan from before them until they had all crossed over, as the Lord our God did to the Red Sea, which the Lord our God dried up from before us until we crossed over; that all the nations of the earth might know that the power of the Lord is mighty, and that you might worship the Lord our God in every age.

And it happened, when the kings of the Amorites, who were beyond the Jordan, and the kings of Phoenicia by the sea heard that the Lord God had dried up the river Jordan from before the children of Israel when they crossed over, that their hearts failed, and they were panic-stricken, and there was no sense in them because of the children of Israel.

And about this time the Lord said to Joshua, “Make stone knives for yourself of sharp rock, and sit down and circumcise the sons of Israel.” And Joshua made sharp stone knives, and circumcised the children of Israel at the place called “the Hill of Foreskins.” And in this manner Joshua purified the sons of Israel, as many as were born along the way, and as many as were uncircumcised of those who came out of Egypt, Joshua circumcised all these. Israel wandered in the desert of Madbaritis for forty-two years, therefore, most of the fighting men who came out of the land of Egypt, and who disobeyed the commandments of God, were uncircumcised. Concerning these, He also determined that they should not see the land, which the Lord swore to give to their fathers, a land flowing with milk and honey. And in their place, he raised up their sons, whom Joshua circumcised, because they were born during the journey, and thus uncircumcised. And when they had been circumcised, they rested there and stayed in the camp until they were healed. And the Lord said to Joshua the son of Naue, “Today I have removed the reproach of Egypt from you.” And he called the name of that place Galgala.

And the children of Israel kept the Pascha on the fourteenth day of the month at evening, to the westward of Jericho, across the Jordan in the plain. And they ate of the grain of the earth unleavened and new grain. On this day the manna ceased, after they had eaten of the grain of the land, and the children of Israel no longer had manna, for they enjoyed the fruit of the land of the Phoenicians in that year.

And it happened, when Joshua was in Jericho, that he looked up with his eyes and saw a man standing before him with a drawn sword in his hand. And Joshua came near and said to him, “Are you for us, or on the side of our adversaries?” And he said to him, “I am now come, the chief captain of the host of the Lord.” And Joshua fell on his face on the earth, and said to him, “Master, what do you command your servant?” And the captain of the Lord said to Joshua, “Loose the sandals from off your feet, for the place where you stand is holy.”

And Jericho was enclosed and fortified, and no one went out of it, and no one came in. And the Lord said to Joshua, “Look, I am delivering Jericho into your control, and its king in it, and its mighty men. Place your soldiers around it, and when you sound the trumpet, let all the people will shout together. And when they shout, the walls of the city will fall by themselves; and all the people will enter, each rushing headlong into the city.”

And Joshua the son of Naue went to the priests, and spoke to them, saying, “Command the people to go around, and surround the city, and let the men of war pass by armed before the Lord. And let seven priests holding seven sacred trumpets likewise pass by before the Lord, and let them signal vigorously. And let the ark of the covenant of the Lord follow after them. Let the men of war go before, and let the priests bring up the rear behind the ark of the covenant of the Lord, as they walk, and sound the trumpets.” And Joshua commanded the people, saying, “Do not shout, or let anyone hear your voice, until He Himself tells you to shout, and then shout.” And the ark of the covenant of God went around the city, it immediately returned to the camp, and lodged there.

And on the second day Joshua rose in the morning, and the priests took up the ark of the covenant of the Lord. And the seven priests carrying the seven trumpets went on before the Lord. The armed men followed after with the rest of the multitude, behind the ark of the covenant of the Lord. And the priests sounded the trumpets, and the rest of the multitude surrounded the city from close by, and went back again to the camp. They did this for six days.

And on the seventh day they rose up early in the morning, and marched around the city seven times. And on the seventh circuit the priests blew the trumpets, and Joshua said to the children of Israel, “Shout! For the Lord has given you the city. And the city will be devoted, it and all things that are in it, to the Lord of Hosts. Only keep safe Raab the prostitute, and whatever is in her house. But keep yourselves well away from what is accursed, so that you do not covet and take what is accursed, and ye make the camp of the children of Israel accursed, and destroy us. And all the silver, gold, bronze, or iron, will be holy to the Lord, it will be carried into the treasury of the Lord.”

And the priests sounded the trumpets, and when the people heard the trumpets, they all shouted at together with a great and mighty shout. And the entire wall fell round about, and all the people went into the city. And by the edge of the sword, Joshua devoted it, and all that was in the city, man and woman, young man and old, and calf and draft animal. And Joshua said to the two young men who had acted a spies, “Go into the house of the woman, and bring her out from there, and whatever she has.” And the two young men who had spied out the city entered into the house of the woman, and brought out Raab the prostitute, and her father, and her mother, and her brethren, and her kindred, and all that she possessed. And they set her outside the camp of Israel. And the city was set on fire, but the silver, gold, bronze, and iron, they brought to the treasury of the Lord.

And Joshua kept Raab the prostitute alive, and all the house of her father, and caused her to dwell in Israel until this day, because she hid the spies that Joshua sent to spy out Jericho. And Joshua adjured Israel before the Lord that day, saying,

“Cursed be the man

who rebuilds that city.

he will lay its foundation

at the cost of his firstborn,

and he will set up its gates

at the cost of his youngest son.”

And so did Ozan of Baithel; he laid the foundation at the cost of Abiron, his firstborn, and set up the gates of it at the cost his youngest, although he escaped.

And the Lord was with Joshua, and his name was known throughout all the land.

1 Samuel 1:1-2:21 or 1 Kings 1:1-2:21

There was a man of Harmathaim Sipha, from the mountain of Ephraim, and his name was Elkana the son of Jeremeel, the son of Elias, the son of Thoke, in Nasib Ephraim. And he had two wives; the name of the one was Anna, and the name of the second, Phennana. And Phennana had children, but Anna had no child.

And each year the man went up from his city of Harmathaim to worship and sacrifice to the Lord God of Hosts in Shiloah. And Eli and his two sons, Hophni and Phinees, the priests of the Lord, went there as well. And the day came, and Elkana sacrificed, and gave portions to his wife Phennana and her children. And to Anna he gave a one portion, since she had no child. However, Elkana loved Anna more than the other one, but the Lord had closed her womb. Since the Lord did not give her a child in her affliction, and during to the discouragement of her affliction, she was becoming broken-hearted because of this, that the Lord had closed her womb, and did not give her a child. So year by year she went up to the house of the Lord, and she was broken-hearted, and wept, and did not eat.

And Elkana her husband said to her, “Anna.” And she said to him, “Here I am, my lord.” And he said to her, “What troubles you that you weep? And why do you not eat? And why does your heart strike you? Am I not better to you than ten children?”

And Anna arose after they had eaten in Shiloah, and stood before the Lord. And Eli the priest was sitting on a seat beside the doorpost of the temple of the Lord. And she was deeply distressed in spirit, and prayed to the Lord, and wept greatly. And she vowed a vow to the Lord, saying, “O Lord, my God of Hosts, if You are indeed looking, look on the humiliation of Your handmaiden, and remember me, and give to Your handmaiden a male child, then will I dedicate Him to You until the day of his death. And he will not drink wine or strong drink, and no razor will come upon his head.”

And it happened, while she continued praying before the Lord, that Eli the priest watched her mouth. And she was speaking in her heart, and her lips moved, but her voice was not heard. Therefore, Eli thought she was drunk. And the servant of Eli said to her, “How long will you remain drunken? Put away your wine, and go out from the presence of the Lord!” And Anna answered and said, “No, my lord, I am a woman for whom this is a difficult day, and I have not drunk wine or strong drink, but I pour out my soul before the Lord. Do not count your handmaiden a pestilent woman, just because of the abundance of my idle words I have put forth.” And Eli answered and said to her, “Go in peace, may the God of Israel grant you all your petition, which you have asked of Him.” And she said, “Your handmaiden has found favour in your eyes.” And the woman went her way, and entered into her lodging, and ate and drank with her husband, and her face was no longer sad.

And they rose early in the morning, and worship the Lord, and went on their way back to Elkana’a house at Armathaim. And he knew his wife Anna, and the Lord remembered her, and she conceived. And it happened when the time had come, that she bore a son, and called his name Samuel, and said, “Because I asked him from the Lord God of Hosts.”

And the man Elkana and all his house went up to Shiloah to offer the yearly sacrifice, his vows, and all the tithes of his land. But Anna did not go up with him, for she said to her husband, “I will not go up until the child goes up, when I have weaned him he will appear in the presence of the Lord, and he will stay there continually.” And Elkana her husband said to her, “Do what is good in your eyes, wait until you have weaned him; but may the Lord confirm what comes out of your mouth.” And the woman stayed, and nursed her son until she had weaned him.

And she went up with him to Shiloah with a three-year-old calf, loaves of bread, an ephah of flour, and a skin of wine, and she entered into the house of the Lord in Shiloah, and the child was with them. And they brought him before the Lord, and his father slaughtered the offering that he offered yearly to the Lord. And he brought the child, and slaughtered the calf. And Anna, the mother of the child, brought him to Eli. And she said, “My lord, as your soul lives, I am the woman who stood in your presence while praying to the Lord. I prayed for this child, and the Lord has granted me my request, which I asked of Him. And I lend him to the Lord all his days that he lives, a loan to the Lord.

And she said,

“My heart is made firm in the Lord,

my horn is exalted in my God.

My mouth is made wide over my enemies;

I have rejoiced in Your salvation.

For there is none holy besides the Lord,

and there is none righteous like our God,

no one is holy but You.

Do not boast, or speak of high things;

do not let high-sounding words come from your mouth,

for the Lord is a God of knowledge,

and God prepares his own ways.

The bow of the mighty has become weak,

and the weak have girded themselves with strength.

Those who were full of bread were made empty,

and the hungry have forsaken the land.

For the barren woman has born seven,

and she who has many children has become feeble.

The Lord kills and makes alive;

He brings down to Hades, and raises up.

The Lord makes poor, and makes rich;

He brings low, and lifts up.

He raises the poor from the earth,

and lifts the needy from the dunghill,

to seat him with the princes of the people,

and make them to inherit a throne of glory.

Granting the prayer to him who prays,

He blesses the years of the righteous,

for man cannot prevail by strength.

The Lord will weaken his adversary;

the Lord is holy.

May the wise man not boast in his wisdom,

and may the mighty man not boast in his strength,

and may the rich man not boast in his wealth.

But let him that boasts boast in this,

to understand and know the Lord,

and to work justice and righteousness in the midst of the earth.

The Lord has ascended to the heavens and thundered.

He will judge the earth’s ends.

He gives strength to our kings,

and will exalt the horn of his Christ.”

And they left him there before the Lord, and departed to Armathaim, and the child served in the presence of the Lord before Eli the priest.

And the sons of Eli the priest were evil sons, not knowing the Lord. And the custom of the priests for the people who sacrificed was for the priest’s servant came when the meat was in boiling, with a three-pronged meat-hook in his hand. And he thrust it into the great caldron, or into the brazen vessel, or into the pot, and whatever came up with the meat-hook, the priest took for himself. So they did this to all the Israelites that came to sacrifice to the Lord at Shiloah. And before the fat was burnt for a sweet savour, the servant of the priest would come and say to the man that sacrificed, “Give meat to roast for the priest, and I will not take any of your boiled meat out of the caldron.” And if the man that sacrificed said, “First he should burn the fat, as it is fitting, and then take for yourself as much as your soul desires,” then he would say, “No, you will give it to me now, and if not I will take it by force.” So the sin of the young men was very great before the Lord, for they made the offering of the Lord nothing.

And Samuel was serving before the Lord, as a young boy, clothed with a linen ephod. And his mother made him a little robe, and brought it to him each year, when she came up with her husband to offer the yearly sacrifice. And Eli blessed Elkana and his wife, saying, “May the Lord repay you with a seed from this woman, in return for the loan that thou you have loaned to the Lord.” And the man returned to his place. And the Lord visited Anna, and she bore three more sons and two daughters. And the child Samuel grew before the Lord.

1 Samuel 17:16-54, 18:6-9 or 1 Kings 17:1-18:4

And the Philistine gathered their armies for battle, and they were gathered at Sochoh of Judah, and they encamped between Sochoh and Azekah in Ephermem. And Saul and the men of Israel gathered and encamped in the valley; they formed battle ranks opposite the Philistines. The Philistines stood on a mountain on one side, and Israel stood on a mountain on the other side, with a valley between them. And a mighty man named Goliath, from Gath, came out from the ranks of the Philistines. He was six feet and nine inches tall. And he had a helmet on his head, and wore a coat of chain mail, and the weight of the coat was five thousand shekels of brass and iron. And he had bronze armor on his legs, and a bronze shield between his shoulders. And the shaft of his spear was like the beam of a loom, and his spear weighed six hundred shekels, and a shield-bearer went before him. And he stood and shouted to the armies of Israel, and said to them, “Why do you come out to line up for battle against us? Am I not a Philistine, and are you not Hebrews of Saul? Choose a man for yourselves, and let him come down to me. If he is able to fight against me and kill me, then we will be your servants. But if I am able to kill him, then you will be our servants, and subject to us.” And the Philistine said, “Look! Today, on this very day, I challenge the ranks of the armies of Israel. Give me a man, and the two of us will fight in single combat.” When Saul and all Israel heart these words of the Philistine they were dismayed and greatly afraid.

But David said to Saul, “Do not let the heart of my lord fall reading him. Your servant will go and fight with this Philistine.” And Saul said to David, “No, you are not able to go against the Philistine to fight him, since you are a boy, and he has been a man of war from his youth.” But David said to Saul, “Your servant was tending the flock for his father, and when a lion and or a bear would come and take a sheep from the flock, I would go after it, and strike it, and pull the sheep from its mouth, and if it arose against me, then I caught it by its throat and struck it, and killed it. Your servant would kill both lion and bear, and the uncircumcised Philistine will be line one of them to me. Shall I not go and kill him today, and take away the reproach from Israel? For who is this uncircumcised one who challenges the ranks of the living God? The Lord, Who delivered me from the paw of the lion and from the paw of the bear, He Himself will deliver me from the hand of this uncircumcised Philistine.” And Saul said to David, “Go, and the Lord will be with you!”

So Saul clothed David with armor, and put a bronze helmet on his head, and clothed David with his sword over his armor. David tried walking once and twice, and he grew tired. And David said to Saul, “I am not able to go with these, for I am not experienced.” And they removed them. Then David took his staff in his hand, and chose five smooth stones for himself from the brook and put them in his shepherd’s bag to store away, and with his sling in his hand he advanced against the Philistine.

And when Goliath saw David, he disdained him, for he was a boy, ruddy with a good face. So the Philistine said to David, “Am I like a dog, that you come against me with a staff and stones?” And David said, “No, worse than a dog!” And the Philistine cursed David by his gods. And the Philistine said to David, “Come to me, and I will give your flesh to the birds of heaven, and to the beasts of the field!” And David said to the Philistine, “You come to me with sword, and a spear, and a shield, but I come to you in the Name of the Lord of Hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have reproached today. And today the Lord will deliver you into my hand, and I will kill you and take your head from you, and I will give your carcass and the carcasses of the camp of the philistines to the birds of heaven and the wild beasts of the earth, and all the earth will know that there is a God in Israel, and all this assembly will know that the Lord does not save with sword and spear, for the battle is the Lord’s, and the Lord will deliver you into our hands.”

And the Philistine arose and came to meet David, and David put his hand in his bag and took out one stone. He slung it and struck the Philistine on the forehead. The stone penetrated through his helmet into his forehead, and he fell to the ground on his face. And David ran, and stood over him, and took his sword and put him to death, cutting off his head.

And the Philistines saw that their mighty one was dead, and the fled. And the men of Israel and Judah arose and shouted, and pursued them as far as the entrance of Gath, and to the gates of Ashkelon. And the wounded of the Philistines fell on the way to the gates, even as far as Gath and Ashkelon. And then men of Israel returned from pursuing the Philistines, and plundered their camp. And David took the head of the Philistine and brought it to Jerusalem, and put his armor in his tent.

And dancers came to meet David from all the cities of Israel, with drums, and rejoicing with cymbals. And the women began a song, and sang, “Saul killed thousands, and David ten thousands.” These words seemed evil in the eyes of Saul, and he said to David, “They ascribe ten thousands to you, and they only ascribe thousands to me.” And Saul eyed David with suspicion from the day forward.

1 Samuel 23:26-24:22 or 1 Kings 23:26-24:22

And Saul and his men went on one side of the mountain, and David and his men on the other side of the mountain. And David was hiding himself to escape from Saul, and Saul and his men encamped against David and his men to capture them. And a messenger came to Saul, saying, “Hurry and come here, for the Philistines have invaded the land!’ So Saul turned back from pursuing David, and went to meet the Philistines; therefore, that place was called the Divided Rock.

And David went up from there, and stayed in the narrow passes of Engaddi. And it happened, when Saul returned from pursuing the Philistines, it was reported to him, saying, “David *is* in the wilderness of Engaddi.” And he took with him three thousand men, chosen from all Israel, and went to seek David and his men in front of Sadaiem. And he came to the flocks of sheep that were by the road, and there was a cave there, and Saul went in to prepare himself, and David and his men were sitting in the inner part of the cave. And David’s said to him, “Look! this *is* the day of which the Lord spoke to you, that he would deliver your enemy into your hands, and you will do to him as *it is* good in your eyes.” So David arose and secretly cut a corner of Saul’s cloak. Then it happened that David’s heart troubled him, because he had cut off a corner of his cloak. And David said to his men, “The Lord forbid it me, that I should do this to my lord, the anointed of the Lord, to lift my hand against him, for he is the anointed of the Lord.” So David persuaded his men by *his* words, and did not permit them to rise up and kill Saul. And got up arose and went his way.

And David got up *and went* after him out of the cave, and David cried out after Saul, saying, “*My* lord, *O* king!” and Saul looked behind him, and David bowed with his face to the ground, and prostrated himself. And David said to Saul, “Why do you listen to the words of the people who say, ‘Behold, David seeks your life?’ See, today your eyes have seen that the Lord delivered you into my hands in the cave, and I was not willing to kill you, but spared you, and said, ‘I will not lift up my hand against my lord, for he is the Lord’s anointed.’ And look, the corner of your cloak *is* in my hand, I cut off the corner, and did not kill you. Know then and see today that there is no evil, impiety, or rebellion in my hand. I have not sinned against you, yet you hunt for my life to take it. The Lord judge between you and me, and may the Lord avenge me of you, but my hand will not be upon you. As the ancient proverb says, ‘wrongdoing will come forth out of lawlessness, but my hand will not be upon you.’ And now after whom do you come forth, O king of Israel? After whom do you pursue? After a dying dog, or after a flea? Let the Lord be judge and jury between you and me; may the Lord look upon my cause and judge, and rescue me from your hand.”

And it came to pass, when David finished speaking these words to Saul, that Saul said, “*Is* this your voice, O son David?” And Saul lifted up his voice, and wept. And Saul said to David, “You *are* more righteous that I, for you have repaid me with good, but I have repaid you with evil. Today you have made known how you dealt with me, how the Lord delivered me into your hands today, and you did not kill me. And if anyone should find his enemy in distress, and should send him out in a good way, then the Lord will reward him good, just as you have done today. And now, look, I know that you will reign, and the kingdom of Israel will be established in your hands. Now then swear to me by the Lord, that you will not destroy my seed after me, that you will not blot out my name from the house of my father. So David swore to Saul, and Saul departed to his place, and David and his men went up to the stronghold of Messara.

1 Kings 17:2-24 or 3 Kings 17:2-24 (not done yet)

And the word of the Lord came to Eliu, *saying*, Depart hence eastward, and hide thee by the brook of Chorrath, that is before Jordan. And it shall be *that* thou shalt drink water of the brook, and I will charge the ravens to feed thee there. And Eliu did according to the word of the Lord, and he sat by the brook of Chorrath before Jordan. And the ravens brought him loaves in the morning, and flesh in the evening and he drank water of the brook. And it came to pass after some time, that the brook was dried up, because there had been no rain upon the earth.

And the word of the Lord came to Eliu, *saying*, Arise, and go to Sarepta of the Sidonian *land*: behold, I have there commanded a widow-woman to maintain thee. And he arose and went to Sarepta, and came to the gate of the city: and, behold, a widow-woman was there gathering sticks; and Eliu cried after her, and said to her, Fetch me, I pray thee, a little water in a vessel, that I may drink. And she went to fetch it; and Eliu cried after her, and said, Bring me, I pray thee, a morsel of the bread that is in thy hand. And the woman said, *As* the Lord thy God lives, I have not a cake, but only a handful of meal in the pitcher, and a little oil in a cruse, and, behold, I am going to gather two sticks, and I shall go in and dress it for myself and my children, and we shall eat it and die. And Eliu said to her, Be of good courage, go in and do according to thy word: but make me thereof a little cake, and thou shalt bring *it* out to me first, and thou shalt make *some* for thyself and thy children last. For thus saith the Lord, The pitcher of meal shall not fail, and the cruse of oil shall not diminish, until the day that the Lord gives rain upon the earth. And the woman went and did *so*, and did eat, she, and he, and her children. And the pitcher of meal failed not, and the cruse of oil was not diminished, according to the word of the Lord which he spoke by the hand of Eliu.

And it came to pass afterward, that the son of the woman the mistress of the house was sick; and his sickness was very severe, until there was no breath left in him. And she said to Eliu, What have I to do with thee, O man of God? hast thou come in to me to bring my sins to remembrance, and to slay my son? And Eliu said to the woman, Give me thy son. And he took him out of her bosom, and took him up to the chamber in which he himself lodged, and laid him on the bed. And Eliu cried aloud, and said, Alas, O Lord, the witness of the widow with whom I sojourn, thou hast wrought evil *for her* in slaying her son. And he breathed on the child thrice, and called on the Lord, and said, O Lord my God, let, I pray thee, the soul of this child return to him. And it was so, and the child cried out, and he brought him down from the upper chamber into the house, and gave him to his mother; and Eliu said, See, thy son lives. And the woman said to Eliu, Behold, I know that thou *art* a man of God, and the word of the Lord in thy mouth *is* true.

Job 1:1-22

There was a certain man in the land of Ausitis, whose name *was* Job, and than man was true, blameless, righteous, *and* godly, abstaining from every evil thing. And he had seven sons and three daughters, and his livestock consisted of seven thousand sheep, three thousand camels, five hundred yoke of oxen, five hundred female donkeys in the pastures; he also had very many servants, and he had extensive activity on the earth, and that man was the *most* noble of all the *men* of the East.

And his sons used to visit one another and prepared a banquet every day, taking their three to eat and drink with them. And when the days of the banquet were completed, Job sent and purified them; rising up in the morning, and offered sacrifices for them, according to their number, and one calf for a sin-offering for their souls. For Job said, “Lest my sons have thought evil in their minds against God.” So Job did this continually.

And it happened one day, that look, the angels of God came to present themselves before the Lord, and the devil came with them. And the Lord said to the devil, “Where have you come from?” And the devil answered the Lord, and said, “I have come from going around the earth, and walking about under heaven.” And the Lord said to him, “Have you considered my servant Job, since there is none like him on the earth, a blameless, true, godly, man, abstaining from every evil thing?” Then the devil answered, and said before the Lord, “Does Job worship the Lord for no reason?” Have You not made a hedge around him, and around his household, and around all his possessions? And have You not blessed the works of his hands, and multiplied his cattle upon the land? But stretch out Your hand, and touch all that he has, surely he will curse You to *Your* face!” Then the Lord said to the devil, “See, I give into your hand all that he has, but do not touch him.” So the devil went out from the Lord.

And it happened on a certain day, when Job’s sons and daughters were drinking wine in the house of their elder brother. And, look, a messenger came to Job, and said to him, “The yokes of oxen were ploughing, and the female donkeys were feeding near them; and raiders came and took them captive, and killed the servants with the sword; and I alone have escaped, and I came to tell you.” While he was still speaking, another messenger came, and said to Job, “Fire has fallen from heaven, and burnt up the sheep, and likewise consumed the shepherds; and I alone have escaped, and I came to tell you.” While he was still speaking, another messenger came, and said to Job, “Horsemen formed three companies against us, and surrounded the camels, and took them captive, and killed the servants with the sword; and I alone escaped, and I came to tell you.” While he was still speaking, another messenger came, and said to Job, “While your sons and daughters were eating and drinking with their elder brother, suddenly a great wind came from the desert and struck the four corners of the house, and the house fell upon your children, and they died; and I alone have escaped, and I came to tell you.”

So Job arose, tore his clothes, shaved the hair of his head, and fell on the ground, and worshipped, saying, “I came naked from my mother’s womb, and naked will I return; the Lord gave, the Lord has taken away. As it seemed good to the Lord, so it has come to pass. Blessed be the Name of the Lord.”

In all these things that happened him, Job did not sin at all before the Lord, or charge God with folly.

Job 11:1-20

Then Sophar the Minite answered and said,

“He who speaks much should also listen in turn,

or does the eloquent speaker think himself to be right?

Blessed *is* the short lived offspring of woman.

Do not be a speaker of many words,

for there is no one to reply to you.

For example, do not say, ‘I am pure in my works,

and blameless before Him.’

In that case, how could the Lord would speak to you?

He will open His lips against you!

Then He will declare the power of wisdom to you,

for it will be double what you have.

And then you will know that what has come upon you from the Lord is equal to your sins.

Will you find the Lord’s footprints?

Or have you come to the end *of what* the Almighty has made?

The heaven *is* high, and what will you do?

And there are deeper things than those in Hades; what do you know?

Do you know those dimensions that are longer than the measure of the earth,

or the breadth of the sea?

And if he should overthrow all that is,

who will say to Him, ‘What have You done?’

For He knows the works of the lawless,

and when He sees wrongs, He will not overlook *them*.

But man vainly swims in words,

and a mortal born of a woman *is* like a donkey in the desert.

For if you have made your heart pure,

and lift up *your* hands towards Him—

if there is any lawlessness in your hands, put if far away from you,

and let no wrongdoing lodge in your dwelling.

For in this way, your face will shine again, like pure water,

and you will cleanse away the filth, and you will not fear.

And you will forget trouble,

like a wave that has passed by,

and you will not be terrified.

And your prayer *will be* like the morning star,

and at midday life will arise to you.

And you will be confident, because you have hope;

and peace will dawn to you out of anxiety and care.

For you will be at ease,

and there will be no one to fight against you;

instead many will repent, and entreat your favour.

But deliverance will fail them,

for their hope is destruction,

and the eyes of the ungodly will waste away.”

Job 12, 13, 14

And Job answered and said,

“So then are you *alone* men,

and wisdom will die with you?

*But* I too have a heart, as well as you.

A righteous and blameless man

has become a laughingstock.

For it had been ordained that he should fall

under others at the appointed time,

and that his houses should be plundered by the lawless.

However, do not let anyone trust that,

being evil, he will be *held* innocent,

as many as provoke the Lord,

as if there were indeed to be no trial for them.

But ask now the four-footed animals, if they may speak to you,

And the birds of the air, if they may report it to you.

Tell the earth, if it should interpret it to you,

and the fish of the sea will explain to you.

Who among these does not know

that the hand of the Lord has made them?

That the life of all living things is in his hand,

and the breath of every man?

For the mind discerns words,

and the palate tastes food.

Wisdom comes with much time,

and knowledge with much living.

With Him are wisdom and power,

counsel and understanding are His.

If He tears down, who can build up again?

If He closes a door against man, who can open it?

If We withholds the water, He will dry the earth,

but if He lets it loose, He will overthrow and destroy it.

With Him are strength and power,

knowledge and understanding are His.

He leads counsellors away captive,

and makes fools of the judges of the earth.

He sets kings upon thrones,

and ties their waist with a belt.

He sends priests away into captivity,

and overthrows the mighty ones of the earth.

He changes the lips of the faithful,

and He knows the understanding of the elders.

He pours dishonour upon rulers,

and heals the humble.

He reveals deep things out of darkness,

He has brought the shadow of death into light.

He leads the nations astray and destroys them.

He overthrows the nations, and leading them *away*.

He changes the hearts of earthly rulers

and leads them astray in a way, they have not known,

*saying*, “Let them grope *in* darkness without light

and let them wander about like a drunken man.

Behold, my eye has seen these things,

and my ear has heard *them*.

What you know, I know as well;

I do not have less understanding than you.

Nevertheless I will speak to the Lord,

and I will reason before Him, if He wills.

But you are all bad physicians and wrongful healers.

But O that you would be silent,

for it would lead you to wisdom.

Hear the refutation of my mouth,

and heed the judgment of my lips.

Do you not speak before the Lord,

and utter deceit before Him?

Will you draw back?

Go ahead, become judges yourselves!

For it would be good, if He were to thoroughly search you;

for if, doing everything *in your power,* you will join yourselves to Him,

He will still convict you if you secretly show partiality.

Will His terror not make you dizzy,

and His fear all upon you?

In the end, your arrogance will prove to be like ashes,

and your body *like* clay.

Be silent, that I may speak,

and put my anger to rest,

having taken my flesh in my teeth,

and put my life in my hand.

Though the Mighty One should lay His hand upon me,

and has already begun,

I will speak, and argue my case before Him.

And this will turn for me to salvation,

for deceit cannot enter before Him.

Hear, hear my words,

for I will declare them in your hearing.

Behold, I am near my judgment:

I know that I will be shown to be righteous.

For who is there that will find fault with me,

that I should now be silent, and expire?

But grant me two things:

then I will not hide myself from Your face:

Withdraw *Your* hand from me,

and do not let Your fear terrify me.

Then You will call, and I will listen to thee;

or You will speak, and I will give You an answer.

How many are my sins and my transgressions?

Teach me what they are.

Why do You hide Yourself from me,

and regard me as Your enemy?

Will You be wary *of me*, as *of* a windblown leaf?

Or will You set Yourself against me, one like windborne grass?

For You have written evil things against me,

and You have surrounded me with the sins of my youth.

And You have put my foot in the stocks,

and watched all my works,

and penetrated into the bottoms of my feet,

which have become old like a wineskin,

or like a moth-eaten garment.

For a mortal born of a woman

*is* short-lived, and full of wrath.

He falls like a flower that has bloomed,

and he departs like a shadow, and cannot continue.

Have You not taken account of him,

and brought him into judgment before You?

For who will be pure from uncleanness? None, not one!

Even if his life should be *but* one day upon the earth,

and his months are counted out to him,

You have appointed a time for *him*,

and he cannot exceed *it*.

Depart from him, that he may have quiet,

and take pleasure in his life, like a hired labourer.

For there is hope for a tree, even if it is cut down,

it will sprout again, and its tender shoots will not fail.

For though its root may grow old in the earth,

and its stump die in the rocky ground,

it will bud at the scent of water,

and will produce a crop like one newly planted.

But a man who has died is utterly gone,

and when a mortal has fallen, he is no more.

For the sea diminishes with time,

and a river fails and is dried up.

And a man that lays down *in death* will never rise again

until the heaven is dissolved,

and they will not be roused from their sleep.

For if only You had kept me in the grave,

and had hidden me until Your wrath had ceased,

and that You would appoint me a set time

in which You would remember me!

For if a man lives again

after he completes the days of his life, and dies,

I would endure until I would arise again.

Then You would call, and I would answer You.

But do not reject the work of Your hands.

But You have numbered my pursuits,

and not one of my sins will escape You.

And You have sealed up my transgressions in a bag,

and marked it down if I have transgressed unknowingly.

Truly a mountain falls and crumbles away,

and a rock wears out of its place.

Waters wear away stones,

and overflowing torrents wash away mounds of the earth,

and You destroy human endurance.

Thou pushed him to an end, and he is gone.

You set Your face against him, and sent him away.

And though his children are multiplied, he does not know *it*,

and if they become few, he is not aware.

Because his flesh is in pain, and his soul grieves.

Job 15:1-35

Then Eliphaz the Thaimanite answered and said,

“Will a wise man give a *mere* breath of wisdom for answer?

And does he satisfy the pain of his belly,

arguing with sayings that are beside the point,

and with unprofitable words?

Have you not also cast off fear,

and exhausted such words before the Lord?

You are guilty because of the words of your mouth,

and have not discerned the words of the mighty.

May your mouth convict you, and not I,

For your lips will testify against you.

What? Are you the first man that was born?

Or were you established before the hills?

Have you heard the plan of the Lord,

and has wisdom come *only* to you?

For what do you know that, we know not know?

Or what do you understand that we do not as well?

Both the aged and the very old are among us,

more advanced in days than your father.

You have only been punished for a few of your sins;

you have spoken haughtily *and* extravagantly.

What has your heart dared,

or what have your eyes *set themselves upon*,

that you have vented *your* anger before the Lord,

and delivered such words from *your* mouth?

For who, being a mortal, can be blameless?

Or, *who that is* born of a woman can be righteous,

Since He does not trust His holy ones,

and the heaven is not pure before Him?

Alas then, man is detestable and unclean,

drinking injustices like water!

But I will tell you, listen to me;

I will tell you what I have now seen,

what wise men say;

they have not hidden anything received from their fathers.

The earth was given to them alone,

and no stranger came upon them.

All the life of the ungodly *is spent* in anxiety,

and the years given to the mighty are numbered.

Fear is in his ears,

and when he at last seems to be at peace,

his destruction comes.

Do not let him believe that he will return from darkness,

for he has been already been given over to the power of the sword.

And he has been appointed to be food for vultures,

and he knows within himself that he lives in a dead body;

and a dark day will carry him away like a whirlwind.

Distress and anguish will take hold of him;

he will be like a general falling in the first rank.

For he has lifted his hands against the Lord,

and he has stiffened his neck against the Almighty Lord,

and ran with the insolent,

with the thickness of his wide shield.

For he has covered his face with his fat,

and made it a band on his thighs.

May he lodge in desolate cities,

and enter uninhabited houses;

and what they prepared, others will carry away.

He will never grow rich, and his possessions will not last.

He will not cast a shadow on the earth,

nor will he in escape the darkness.

Let the wind wither his blossom,

and let his flower fall off.

Do not let him believe that he will endure,

for emptiness will be his lot.

His harvest will perish before its time,

and his branch will provide no cover.

May he be gathered prematurely, like the unripe grape,

and may fall off, as the blossom of the olive tree.

For death is the witness of the ungodly man,

and fire will burn the houses of those who take bribes.

And he will conceive sorrows,

and his lot will turn out to be emptiness,

and his belly will carry deceit.

Job 16, 17

Then Job answered and said,

“I have heard many such things;

you are all bad comforters.

What? Is there any reason in vain words?

Or what troubles you, that you answer so?

I also will speak as you *do*:

If your live were indeed in the place of mine,

then I would attach you with words,

and I would shake my head at you.

But may there be strength in my mouth,

then I would not spare the movement of my lips!

For if I speak, I will not feel the pain of my wound,

and even if I remain silent, how will I be less wounded?

But now He has made me weary, and a worn-out fool,

and you have laid hold of me.

My falsehood has become a testimony,

and has risen up against me,

it has confronted me to my face.

In His wrath He has cast me down;

He gnashed at me with His teeth;

His raiders’ arrows fell upon me.

He attacked me with the sharp darts of His eyes;

He struck me on the cheek with his sharp *spear;*

and they ran at me with one accord.

For the Lord has delivered me into the hands of the unjust,

and has cast me to the ungodly.

When I was at peace, He scattered me;

He took me by the hair of my head, and pulled it out.

He set me up like a target.

They surrounded me with spears,

aiming at my mind {kidneys};

without sparing *me* they poured out my gall upon the ground.

They threw me down, with fall upon fall;

they ran at me with all their strength.

I sewed sackcloth upon my skin,

and my strength is spent on the ground.

My belly is on fire from weeping,

and there is a shadow on my eyelids.

Yet there was nothing unjust in my hands,

and my prayer is pure.

O earth, do not cover up the blood of my flesh,

or let my cry have no place.

And now, look, my witness is in the heavens,

and my corroborator is on high.

May my supplication come before the Lord,

and may my eyes weep before Him.

May a man plead before the Lord,

even *as* a son of man with his neighbour!

But my years are numbered, and *their end* has come,

and I will go the way of no returning.

I perish, carried away by the wind,

and I beg for burial, and do not obtain *it*.

I entreat wearily, and what have I achieved?

Strangers have stolen my possessions.

Who is this? let him join hands with me.

For You have hidden their heart from discernment;

therefore, You will not exalt them.

He will report evils to *his* party,

but *my* eyes have failed because of *my* children.

But You have made me a byword among the nations,

and I have become a laughingstock to them.

For my eyes have turned to stone because of Your wrath;

I am greatly besieged by all.

The truthful are seized by wonder at this,

and let the just rise up against the transgressor,

and let the faithful hold to his own way,

and let those who have clean hands take courage.

Nevertheless, you all strengthen *yourselves,*

and come now, for I find nothing true in you.

My days have passed in groaning,

and my heartstrings are broken.

They have turned night into day;

the light is near to darkness.

For if I endure, Hades is my home:

and my bed is made in darkness.

I have called upon death to be my father,

and decay *to be* my mother and sister.

Where then is my hope?

Or *where* will I see my good things?

Will they go down with me to Hades,

or will we go down together to the tomb?

Job 18:1-21

Then Baldad the Sauchite answered and said,

“How long will you continue?

Hold back, so that we also may speak.

Why have we been silent before you

like four-footed beasts?

Anger has possessed you.

What if you should die? Would *the earth* under heaven be uninhabited?

Or would the mountains be overthrown from their foundations?

The light of the ungodly will go out,

and their flame will not go up.

His light *will be* darkness in *his* dwelling,

and his lamp will be put out with him.

May the least of men chase down his possessions,

and may his counsel trip *him* up.

His foot has also been caught in a snare,

*and* may he be entangled in a net.

May snares come upon him!

He will strengthen those who thirst for his destruction.

His snare is hidden in the ground,

and the means of his capture by the path.

May pains destroy him on every side,

and may many *enemies* come about him

with sever famine.

An extraordinary destruction has been prepared for him.

May the toes of his feet be devoured,

and death will consume his beauty.

May health be torn from his dwelling,

and may distress seize him by royal decree.

It will dwell in his tent in his night;

his good appearance will be sown with brimstone.

His roots will be dried up from below,

and his crop will fall off above.

His memorial will perish from the earth,

and his name will no longer be remembered.

May he be driven from light into darkness.

He will not be known among his people,

nor will his house be preserved on the earth;

but others will live in what is his.

The last groaned for him,

and wonder seized the first.

These are the houses of the unrighteous,

and this is the place of those who do not know the Lord.”

Job 19:1-27

Then Job answered and said,

“How long will you weary my soul

and destroy me with words?”

Know only that the Lord has dealt with me this way.

You speak against me; you shamelessly press hard against me.

Yes, indeed, I have truly erred,

my the error dwells with me,

in having spoken words that were not right *to speak*,

and my words err, and are inappropriate.

But alas! You magnify

yourselves against me,

and attack me with disgrace.

Know then that it is the Lord that has troubled *me*,

and has raised His stronghold against me.

Look, I laugh at reproach, and I will not speak;

I will cry not out, judgment is nowhere to be found.

I am fenced in all round, and cannot escape,

for He has set darkness before my face.

And He has stripped me of my glory,

and has taken the crown from my head.

He has torn me apart on every side, and I am gone,

and He has cut down my hope like a tree.

And he has dealt with me terribly in anger,

and has counted me as an enemy.

His troops came against me with one accord;

they surrounded me in my paths, lying in ambush.

My brothers stood far from me;

they have recognized strangers *rather* than me.

And my friends have become merciless.

My nearest kin have not acknowledged me,

and my close friends have forgotten me.

*As for* my household, and my maid-servants,

I was a stranger before them.

I called my servant, and he did not respond,

though I begged him with my lips.

And I implored my wife,

and summoned the sons of my concubines with flattery,

but they rejected me forever;

when I arise, they speak against me.

My acquaintances detest me,

and those whom I had loved rose up against me.

My muscles have decayed under my skin,

and my bones are held in *my* teeth.

Pity me, pity me, O friends,

for it is the hand of the Lord that has touched me.

Why do you persecute me as the Lord *does*,

and are not satisfied with my flesh?

For who would grant that my words be written,

and that they were recorded in a book forever,

with an iron pen and lead,

or be carved in rocks?

For I know that He who is about to undo me on the earth is eternal,

May my skin, which has endured these things, be raised up,

for these things have been accomplished for me by the Lord;

which I am conscious of,

which my eyes have seen, and not those of another,

all that has been fulfilled for me in *my* bosom.

Job 20:1-29

Then Sophar the Minite answered and said,

“I did not suppose that you would answer like this,

nor do you understand more than I.

I will hear the instruction of my shameful,

and the spirit of my understanding answers me.

Have you *not* known these things of old,

from the time that man was put on the earth?

But the merriment of the ungodly ends with a great fall,

and the joy of transgressors in destruction.

Although his gifts should go up to heaven,

and his sacrifice reaches the clouds.

Just when he seems to be firmly established,

then he will utterly perish;

and those who knew him will say, “Where is he?”

Like a dream that has fled away, he will not be found;

and he has fled like a vision of the night.

An eye caught a glimpse of him, but will not *see him* again,

and his place will see him no longer.

May *his* inferiors destroy his children,

and his hands kindle the fire of sorrow.

His bones were full with his youthful vigor,

which will lie down with him in the dust.

Though evil is sweet in his mouth,

*and* he will hide it under his tongue,

though he will not spare it, and will not leave it,

but will hold it in the middle of his throat,

yet he will not be able to help himself,

for the gall of an asp is in his belly.

*His* wealth, unjustly collected, will be vomited up,

a messenger will drag him out of his house.

May he suck the poison of serpents,

and let the serpent’s tongue kill him.

May he not see the milk of the pastures,

nor his supplies of honey and butter.

He has laboured unprofitably and in vain,

*for* wealth of which he will not taste;

*for it is* like tough meat that he cannot chew.

For he has crushed the houses of many weak people,

and he has seized a dwelling, though he did not build *it*.

There is no security to his possessions;

he will not be saved by what he desired.

Nothing is left for him to eat;

Therefore, his goods will not flourish.

But when he at last seems to be satisfied, he will be afflicted,

and every distress will come upon him.

If somehow he should fill his belly,

let *God* send the fury of wrath upon him,

let Him bathe him in pains.

And he will not escape from the power of the sword;

may a bronze bow wound him.

May an arrow pierce through his body,

and may lighting strike his dwelling.

May terrors come upon him.

May total darkness await him.

A fire that does not burns out will consume him.

May a stranger plague his house.

May the heaven uncover his lawless acts,

and may the earth rise up against him.

May destruction bring his house to an end,

and may a day of wrath come upon him.

This is the portion of an ungodly man from the Lord,

and the possession of his goods *appointed to him* by the One who watches him.

Job 21:1-34

Then Job answered and said,

“Listen, listen to my words,

that I may not have this consolation from you.

Raise me, and I will speak;

then you will not laugh me to scorn.

What? Is my argument with man?

And why should I not be angry?

Look at me, and marvel,

laying your hand on your cheek.

For even when I remember, I am alarmed,

and pains seize my flesh.

Why do the ungodly live, and grow old even in wealth?

Their offspring is according to *their* desire,

and their children are before their eyes.

Their houses are prosperous, and they have no cause for fear,

and there is no scourge from the Lord upon them.

Their cow does not miscarry,

and their pregnant *animal* is safe, and does not miscarry.

And they remain as an unfailing flock,

and their children play before *them*,

taking up the psaltery and harp;

and they rejoice at the sound of a song.

And they finish their life in wealth,

and fall asleep in the rest of Hades.

Yet *such a man* says to the Lord,

“Depart from me; I do not wish to know Your ways.

What is the Mighty One, that we should serve Him?

And what profit is there that we should approach Him?”

For their good things were in *their* hands,

but He does not regard the works of the ungodly.

Nevertheless, the lamp of the ungodly will also be put out,

and destruction will come upon them,

and sharp pains will seize them, because of wrath.

And they will be like chaff before the wind,

or like dust that the storm has sucked up.

May his possessions fail his children,

*God* will repay him, and he will know it.

May his eyes see his own slaughter,

and may he not be saved by the Lord.

For his desire is in his house with him,

and the number of his months has been cut off.

Is it not the Lord who teaches understanding and knowledge?

And does He not judge murders?

One will die in the strength of his simplicity,

and wholly at ease and prosperous.

And his inwards are full of fat,

and his marrow is dispersed.

And another dies in bitterness of soul,

not eating any good thing.

But they lie down together in the earth,

and decay covers them.

So I know you, that you presumptuously attack me.

You will say, “Where is the house of the ruler?

And where is the shelter of the dwelling of the ungodly?”

Ask those who pass by the way,

and do not overlook their signs.

For the evil man makes light of the day of destruction,

but they will be led away in the day of His destruction.

Who will tell him his way to his face?

He acted, who will repay him?

And he has been carried away to the tombs,

and watch is kept over the bier.

The pebbles of the valley have been sweet to him,

and every man will depart after him,

and *there are* innumerable before him.

How then do you comfort me with empty words,

since I have no rest from you?

Job 22:1-30

Then Eliphaz the Thaimanite answered and said,

“Is it not the Lord Who teaches understanding and knowledge?

For what does it matter to the Lord

if you were blameless in *your* works?

Or is it profitable that you should make your ways plain?

Will He argue with you, though you plead your case?

And will He enter into judgment with you?

Is your wickedness not abundant,

and are your sins innumerable?

For you have taken pledges of your brethren for no reason,

and have taken away the clothing of the naked.

Neither have you given the thirsty water to drink,

but withheld a morsel from the hungry.

And you have shown favour to some,

and established them on the land.

But you sent widows away empty,

and mistreated orphans.

Therefore, snares have surrounded you,

and a disastrous war has troubled you.

The light has proved to be darkness to you,

and water has covered you while you slept.

Does not He Who dwells on high observe?

And has He not humbled the proud?

And you have said, ‘What does the Mighty One know?

Will He judge down in the darkness?

A cloud is His hiding-place, and He will not be seen;

and He passes through the circle of heaven.’

Will you keep the old way,

which unjust men have walked,

who were seized before their time?

Whose foundations *are* a flooding river;

who say, ‘What will the Lord do to us?’

or ‘what will the Almighty bring upon us?’

Yet He filled their houses with good things;

but the counsel for the ungodly is far from Him.

The righteous have seen *it*, and laughed,

and the blameless mocked *them*.

Surely their substance has been destroyed,

and the fire will devour what is left.

Be firm, if you would endure;

then your fruit will prosper.

And receive a declaration from His mouth,

and lay up His words in your heart.

And if you turn and humble yourself before the Lord,

you have removed unrighteousness far from your dwelling.

You will lay up *treasure* for yourself

in a heap on the rock;

and as though a rock of a torrent of water of Ophir.

So the Almighty will be your helper from enemies,

and He will render pure as silver tried by fire.

Then you will speak freely before the Lord,

looking up cheerfully to heaven.

And He will hear you when you pray to Him,

and He will grant you to pay your vows.

And He will restore righteousness to your dwelling,

and there will be light on your paths.

You will say, ‘man behaved proudly,

but he humbled himself;

and He will save him who bows down his eyes.’

He will deliver the innocent,

and save yourself by the purity of your hands.”

Job 25:1-26:14

Then Baldad the Sauchite answered and said,

“What beginning or fear is His—

He Who makes all things in the highest?

For may no one think that there is a respite for robbers,

and upon whom will there not come ambush from Him?

How will a mortal be righteous before the Lord?

Or who that is born of a woman can purify himself?

If He gives an order to the moon, then it shines not,

and the stars are not pure before Him.

But alas! Man is decay, and the son of man is a worm.”

But Job answered and said,

“To whom are you devoted,

or whom are you going to assist?

is it not He Who *has* great strength,

and *He* Who has a strong arm?

To whom have you given counsel?

Is it not to Him who has all wisdom?

Whom will you follow?

is it not He who has the greatest power?

To whom have you uttered words?

And whose breath is it that has come forth from you?

Will giants be born under the water

and the inhabitants thereof?

Hades is naked before Him,

and destruction has no covering.

He stretches out the north wind over nothing,

and He hangs the earth upon nothing.

Binding water in His clouds,

and the cloud is not torn open under it.

He grasps the face of His throne,

and spreads His cloud over it.

He encompassed the face of the water by a decree,

until the end of light and darkness.

The pillars of heaven were spread all over

and astonished at His rebuke.

He calmed the sea with *His* might,

and by knowledge He struck down the sea-creature.

And the bars of heaven fear him,

and by a command He has slain the rebellious dragon.

Look, these are parts of His way,

and we will listen to Him at the least of his words.

But who knows when He will employ the strength of his thunder?

Job 28:12-28

But where has wisdom been discovered?

And what is the place of understanding?

No mortal knows its way,

ant is it not discovered among men.

The deep said, “It is not in me;”

and the sea said, “It is not with me.”

One cannot give fine gold instead of it,

and silver cannot be weighed in exchange for it.

It cannot be compared with gold of Ophir,

with the precious onyx and sapphire.

Gold and crystal cannot equal it,

nor can vessels of gold be its exchange.

Coral and fine pearl shall not be mentioned,

but you must esteem wisdom above the most precious things.

The topaz of Ethiopia cannot equal it;

it cannot be compared with pure gold.

Where then has wisdom been discovered?

And what is the place of understanding?

No mortal knows its way,

and has been hidden from the birds of the air.

Destruction and Death said,

“We have heard of its fame.”

God has established well its way,

and He knows the its place.

For He observed the all that is under heaven,

knowing all the things in the earth, which He has made—

the weight of the winds, and the measures of the water.

When He made *them*, He saw and numbered them,

and made a way for the claps the thunder.

Then He saw wisdom, and declared it;

He prepared it *and* traced it out.

And He said to man, “See, the fear of God is wisdom,

and to abstain from evil is understanding.”

Job 29:2-20

Who might put me in a month of former days,

when God protected me!

As when His lamp shone over my head,

when by His light I walked through darkness,

*as* when I steadfastly pursued my ways,

when God would visit my house,

when I was very had great substance,

and my children were around me,

when my roads were flowing with butter,

and the hills flowed with milk,

when I would go out early into the city,

and my seat was placed for me in the square.

The young men saw me, and hid,

and all the old men stood up.

And the great men stopped talking,

and put their finger to their mouth.

And those who heard *me* blessed me,

and their tongues stuck to their throats.

For the ear heard, and blessed me,

and the eye saw me, and turned aside.

For I saved the poor from the hand of the oppressor,

and helped the orphan, who had no helper.

Let the blessing of the perishing man come upon me,

And the widow’s mouth blessed me.

Yes, I put on righteousness,

and clothed myself with judgment like a cloak.

I was the eye of the blind, and the foot of the lame.

I was the father of the helpless,

and I searched out the cause that I did not know.

And I broke the molars of the unrighteous,

and plucked the spoil from the midst of their teeth.

And I said, “My age will continue as the stem of a palm tree;

I will live a long while.”

*My* root was spread out by the waters,

and the dew would settle on my crop.

My glory was fresh within me,

and my bow prospered in its hand.

Job 30:9-32:5 (not done yet)

But now I am their music, and they have me for a by-word. And they stood aloof and abhorred me, and spared not to spit in my face. For he has opened his quiver and afflicted me: they also have cast off the restraint of my presence. They have risen up against *me* on the right hand of *their* offspring; they have stretched out their foot, and directed against me the ways of their destruction. My paths are ruined; for they have stripped off my raiment: he has shot at me with his weapons. And he has pleaded against me as he will: I am overwhelmed with pains.

My pains return upon *me*; my hope is gone like the wind, and my safety as a cloud. Even now my life shall be poured forth upon me; and days of anguish seize me. And by night my bones are confounded; and my sinews are relaxed. With great force *my disease* has taken hold of my garment: it has compassed me as the collar of my coat. And thou hast counted me as clay; my portion in dust and ashes. And I have cried to thee, but thou hearest me not: but they stood still, and observed me. They attacked me also without mercy: thou hast scourged me with a strong hand. And thou hast put me to grief, and hast cast me away from safety. For I know that death will destroy me: for the earth is the house *appointed* for every mortal. Oh then that I might lay hands upon myself, or at least ask another, and he should do this for me. Yet I wept over every helpless man; I groaned when I saw a man in distress. But I, when I waited for good things, behold, days of evils came the more upon me. My belly boiled, and would not cease: the days of poverty prevented me. I went mourning without restraint: and I have stood and cried out in the assembly. I am become a brother of monsters, and a companion of ostriches. And my skin has been greatly blackened, and my bones are burned with heat. My harp also has been turned into mourning, and my song into my weeping.

I made a covenant with mine eyes, and I will not think upon a virgin. Now what portion has God given from above? and is there an inheritance *given* of the Mighty One from the highest? Alas! destruction to the unrighteous, and rejection to them that do iniquity. Will he not see my way, and number all my steps? But if I had gone with scorners, and if too my foot has hasted to deceit: (for I am weighed in a just balance, and the Lord knows my innocence:) if my foot has turned aside out of the way, or if mine heart has followed mine eye, and if too I have touched gifts with my hands; then let me sow, and let others eat; and let me be uprooted on the earth.

If my heart has gone forth after another man’s wife, and if I laid wait at her doors; then let my wife also please another, and let my children be brought low. For the rage of anger is not to be controlled, *in the case* of defiling *another* man’s wife. For it is a fire burning on every side, and whomsoever it attacks, it utterly destroys. And if too I despised the judgment of my servant or *my* handmaid, when they pleaded with me; what then shall I do if the Lord should try me? and if also he should at all visit me, can I make an answer? Were not they too formed as I also was formed in the womb? yea, we were formed in the same womb.

But the helpless missed not whatever need they had, and I did not cause the eye of the widow to fail. And if too I ate my morsel alone, and did not impart *of it* to the orphan; (for I nourished *them* as a father from my youth and guided *them* from my mother’s womb.) And if too I overlooked the naked as he was perishing, and did not clothe him; and if the poor did not bless me, and their shoulders were *not* warmed with the fleece of my lambs; if I lifted my hand against an orphan, trusting that my strength was far superior *to his*: let them my shoulder start from the blade-bone, and my arm be crushed off from the elbow. For the fear of the Lord constrained me, and I cannot bear up by reason of his burden.

If I made gold my treasure, and if too I trusted the precious stone; and if too I rejoiced when my wealth was abundant, and if too I laid my hand on innumerable *treasures*: (do we not see the shining sun eclipsed, and the moon waning? for they have not *power to continue*:) and if my heart was secretly deceived, and if I have laid my hand upon my mouth and kissed it: let this also then be reckoned to me as the greatest iniquity: for I *should* have lied against the Lord Most High. And if too I was glad at the fall of mine enemies, and mine heart said, Aha! let then mine ear hear my curse, and let me be a byword among my people in my affliction. And if too my handmaids have often said, Oh that we might be satisfied with his flesh; (whereas I was very kind: for the stranger did not lodge without, and my door was opened to every one that came:)

or if too having sinned unintentionally, I hid my sin; (for I did not stand in awe of a great multitude, so as not to declare boldly before them:) and if too I permitted a poor man to go out of my door with an empty bosom: (Oh that I had a hearer,) and if I had not feared the hand of the Lord; and *as to* the written charge which I had against any one, I would place *it* as a chaplet on my shoulders, and read it. And if I did not read it and return it, having taken nothing from the debtor: If at any time the land groaned against me, and if its furrows mourned together; and if I ate its strength alone without price, and if I too grieved the heart of the owner of the soil, by taking *aught* from *him*: 40 then let the nettle come up to me instead of wheat, and a bramble instead of barley. And Job ceased speaking.

And his three friends also ceased any longer to answer Job: for Job was righteous before them. Then Elius the son of Barachiel, the Buzite, of the kindred of Ram, of the country of Ausis, was angered: and he was very angry with Job, because he justified himself before the Lord. And he was also very angry with *his* three friends, because they were not able to return answers to Job, yet set him down for an ungodly man. But Elius had forborne to give an answer to Job, because they were older than he. And Elius saw that there was no answer in the mouth of the three men; and he was angered in his wrath.

Proverbs 1:20-33

Wisdom sings in the streets,

and speaks boldly in the squares,

and she preaches on the top of the walls,

and waits at the gates of princes,

and at the gates of the city she boldly says,

“As long as the simple hold on to righteousness,

they will not be ashamed;

but the fools, since they are lovers of pride,

having become ungodly, they hated knowledge,

and have become subject to reproofs.

Behold, I will bring forth to you

the utterance of my breath,

and I will teach you my word.

Since I called, and you did not listen,

and I spoke at length, and you paid no attention,

but you made my counsels invalid,

and disregarded my reproofs,

therefore I will laugh at your destruction,

and I will rejoice when ruin comes upon you.

Yes, when confusion comes upon you unexpectedly,

and destruction arrives like a whirlwind,

and when affliction and anguish come upon you,

and when ruin comes upon you.

For it will be that when you call upon me,

I will not listen to you;

evil people will seek me,

but will not find *me*,

for they hated wisdom,

and did not choose the fear of the Lord,

nor would they pay attention to my counsels,

but despised my reproofs.

Therefore, they will eat the fruits of their own way,

and will be filled with their own ungodliness.

For since they wronged the simple, they will be killed,

and an inquiry will ruin the ungodly.

But he who listens to me will live in hope,

and will be at ease, without fear of any evil.

Proverbs 2:1-15

*My* son, if you will receive the words of my commandment,

and hide them within yourself,

your ear will listen to wisdom,

and you will apply your heart to understanding,

and you will apply it to the instruction of your son.

For it you call upon wisdom,

and raise your voice for understanding;

and if you seek it like silver,

and search for it like treasure,

then you will understand the fear of the Lord,

and you will find the knowledge of God.

For the Lord gives wisdom,

and knowledge and understanding come from His presence,

and he stores up salvation for the upright;

He will protect their journey,

that He might guard the righteous ways,

and He will protect the way of those who reverence Him.

Then you will understand righteousness and judgement,

and you will direct all your course straight.

For if wisdom comes into your mind,

and discernment seems pleasing to your soul,

then good counsel will guard you,

and holy insight will guard you,

in order to rescue you from an evil way,

and from the man who speaks nothing trustworthy.

Woe to those who abandon right paths

to walk in ways of darkness,

who rejoice in evil,

and delight in wicked perverseness,

whose ways are crooked,

and whose paths are devious.

Proverbs 2:17-3:4

*My* son, do not let evil counsel overtake you,

that which forsakes the instruction of your youth,

and has forgotten the divine covenant.

For it establishes its house near death,

and its paths near Hades, with the dead;

all those who journey there do not return,

nor do they lay hold of straight paths,

for they do not comprehend the years of life.

For if they had walked in good paths,

they would have found the smooth paths righteousness.

The upright will inhabit the earth,

and the innocent will be left in it,

for the upright will encamp on the earth

and the holy will be left in in it;

The ways of the ungodly will perish from the earth,

and transgressors will be banished from it.

*My* son, do not forget My laws,

but let your heart keep my words;

for length of days, and years of life,

and peace, will be add to you.

Do not let almsgiving and faithfulness forsake you,

but fasten them on your neck,

and you will find favour,

and provide good things in the sight of the Lord, and of men.

Proverbs 3:5-18b

Trust in God with all your heart,

and do not exalt in your own wisdom.

In all your ways acquaint yourself with her,

that she may make your paths straight,

and your foot will not stumble.

Do not be wise in your own eyes,

but fear God, and turn away from every evil.

Then there will be healing for your body,

and treatment for your bones.

Honour the Lord with your just labours,

and offer Him the firstfruits of righteousness

that your storehouses may be filled with an abundance of grain,

and your presses may gush with wine.

*My* son, do not despise the discipline of the Lord,

or faint when you are rebuked by Him.

For whom the Lord loves, he disciplines, and He punishes every son He receives.

Blessed is the man who has found wisdom,

and the mortal who knows discernment.

For it is better to trade for her than

for treasures of gold and silver.

And she is more valuable than precious stones;

no evil thing will resist her;

she is well known to all who come near to her,

and no precious thing is equal to her in value.

For length of days and years of life are in her right hand,

and in her left hand are wealth and glory;

righteousness proceeds from her mouth,

and she carries law and mercy upon her tongue.

Her ways are good ways,

and all her paths are peaceful.

She is a tree of life for all those who lay hold of her,

and she is steadfastness to all who lean

on her, as on the Lord.

Proverbs 3:19-4:9

God by wisdom founded the earth,

and He prepared the heavens with discernment.

By perception the depths were broken up,

and the clouds poured dew.

*My* son, do not be careless,

but keep my counsel and understanding,

that your soul may live,

and grace may be around your neck.

And it will be healing to your flesh,

and safety to your bones,

that you may walk confidently in peace in all your ways,

and that your foot may not stumble.

For if you sit down, you will be without fear,

and if you lie down, you will sleep pleasantly.

And you will not be afraid of intimidation when it comes upon you,

nor of the attacks of the ungodly when they come upon you.

For the Lord will be over all your ways,

and will plant your foot firmly that you may not be shaken.

Do not withhold doing good to the needy,

whenever your hand can help *him*.

Do not say, “Go, come back tomorrow and I will give,”

when you are able to do good,

for you do not know what the next day will bring.

Do not devise evil against your friend

who lives near you and trusts you.

Do not be ready to quarrel with a man without a cause,

lest he do you some harm.

Do not acquire the reproaches of evil men,

Nor desire their ways;

for every transgressor is unclean before the Lord,

and does not sit among the righteous.

The curse of God is in the houses of the ungodly,

but the dwellings of the righteous are blessed.

The Lord resists the proud,

but He gives grace to the humble.

The wise will inherit glory,

but the ungodly have exalted dishonour.

Listen, children, to the instruction of a father,

and pay attention that you might know his understanding.

For I offer you a good gift;

Do not forsake my law.

For I was also a son, and was obedient to *my* father,

and beloved in the sight of *my* mother,

who spoke and instructed me, *saying*,

“Let our words be fixed in your heart,

guard *our* commandments,

do not forget them,

and do not disregard the words of my mouth,

nor forsake it, and it will cling to thee;

love it, and it will guard you.

Secure it, and it will exalt you;

honour it, that it may embrace you,

and give your head a crown of graces,

and cover you with a crown of delight.”

Proverbs 4:10-19

Listen, *my* son, and receive my words,

and the years of your life will be increased,

that the resources of your life may be many.

For I teach you the ways of wisdom,

and I set you in straight paths.

For when you walk, your steps will not be confined;

and when you run, you will not grow weary.

Take hold of my instruction; do not let it go,

but guard it for yourself as your life.

Do not go in the ways of the ungodly,

nor covet the ways of transgressors;

In whatever place they encamp, do not go there,

but turn aside from them, and pass by.

For they cannot sleep unless they have done evil;

their sleep is taken away, and they do not rest.

For they eat the bread of ungodliness,

and are drunk with wine of lawlessness.

But the ways of the righteous shine like a light;

they go on and shine until day is fully dawned.

But the ways of the ungodly are dark;

they do not know how they stumble.

Proverbs 4:20-27

*My* son, pay attention to my word,

and incline your ear to my words,

that your fountains may not fail you.

Keep them in *your* heart,

for they are life to those who find them,

and healing to all *their* flesh.

Keep thine heart with all vigilance,

for from these words are the issues of life.

Remove from yourself a crooked mouth,

and remove unjust lips far away from yourself.

Let your eyes look straight ahead,

and let your eyelids assent *to* just *things*.

Make straight paths for your feet,

and straighten your ways.

Do not turn aside to the right or to the left,

but turn your foot away from an evil way,

for God knows the ways on the right hand,

but those on the left are twisted;

and He will make your paths straight,

and will guide your steps in peace.

Proverbs 5:1-12

*My* son, pay attention to my wisdom,

and incline your ear to my words,

that you may guard good thinking,

and I command you with the perception of my lips.

Pay no attention to a worthless woman,

for honey drops from the lips of a prostitute,

who for a season pleases your taste,

but afterwards you will find her more bitter than gall,

and sharper than a two-edged sword.

For the feet of folly lead those

who deal with her down to Hades with death,

and her footsteps are not planted,

for she does not travel the ways of life,

but her paths are slippery, and not easy to discern.

Now then, *my* son, listen to me me,

and do not make my words invalid.

Make your way far from her;

do not go near to the doors of her house,

lest you give away your life to others,

and your living to the merciless,

lest strangers be filled with your strength,

and your labours go into the houses of strangers.

And you will repent at the end,

when the flesh of your body is consumed,

and you will say, “How I hated discipline,

and my heart turned away from reproofs!”

Sirach 2:1-3:4

My son, if you come to serve the Lord,

prepare your soul for temptation.

Set your heart aright, and be steadfast,

and do not be hasty in a time of distress.

Cling to Him, and do not depart away,

that you may be strengthened at your end.

Accept whatever is brought upon your,

and be patient when you are humiliated,

for gold is tried in the fire,

and acceptable men in the furnace of humiliation.

Believe in Him, and He will help you;

make your way straight, and hope in Him.

You who fear the Lord, wait for His mercy,

and do not turn aside, lest you fall.

You who fear the Lord, believe Him,

and your reward will not fail.

You who fear the Lord, hope for good things,

and for everlasting gladness and mercy.

Look at the ancient generations, and see:

Who believed in the Lord and was put to shame?

Or who held fast to the fear of Him and was forsaken?

Or called upon Him, and was despised?

For the Lord is compassionate and merciful,

longsuffering, and very pitiful,

He forgives sins, and saves in the time of affliction.

Woe to timid hearts, and weakened hands,

and the sinner who walks on two paths!

Woe to the fainthearted, for it does not have faith;

therefore it will not be sheltered.

Woe to you that have lost endurance!

What will you do when the Lord visits you?

Those who fear the Lord will not disobey His words,

and those who love Him will keep His ways.

Those who fear the Lord will seek His approval,

and those who love Him will be filled with the law.

Those who fear the Lord will prepare their hearts,

and humble their souls in before Him,

Saying, “We will fall into the hands of the Lord,

and not into the hands of men!

For as His majesty is, so is His mercy.

Listen to me, your father, O children,

and do what I tell you, so that you may be safe.

For the Lord has given the father honour over the children,

and has confirmed a mother’s judgement over sons.

He who honours his father atones for his sins,

And he who honours his mother

is like one who stores up treasure.

Sirach 8:1-10:1

Do not content with a mighty man,

lest you fall into his hands.

Do not quarrel with a rich man,

lest he overweigh you;

for gold has destroyed many,

and has perverted the hearts of kings.

Do not contend with a talkative man,

and do not heap wood on his fire.

Do not jest with a rude man,

lest your ancestors be disgraced.

Do not reproach a man that turns away from sin,

but remember that we are all worthy of rebuke.

Do not dishonour a man in his old age,

for some of us, too, are growing old.

Do not rejoice over any dead person,

but remember that we all must die.

Do not despise the discourse of the wise,

but acquaint yourself with their proverbs,

for you will learn instruction from them,

and how to serve noblemen.

Do not miss out on the discourse of the elders,

for they also learned of their fathers,

and from them you will learn understanding,

and how to give an answer in time of need.

Do not kindle the coals of a sinner,

lest you be burnt with the flame of his fire.

Do not rise up in anger

at the presence of an insolent person,

lest he lie in wait to entrap you in your words.

Do not lend to a person that is stronger than yourself,

and if you do, consider it lost.

Do not give surety above your power pay,

and if you give surety, take care to pay it.

Do not go to law against a judge,

for they will decide for him because of his reputation.

Do not travel on the road with a reckless person,

lest he weigh you down,

for he will do according to his own will,

and you will perish with him through his folly.

Do not fight with an angry man,

and do not go with him into a solitary place,

for bloodshed is nothing in his sight,

and he will strike you down where there is no help.

Do not consult with a fool,

for he cannot keep matters confidential.

Do nothing confidential before a stranger,

for you do not know what he will bring forth.

Do not open your heart to every man,

lest he repay you with a shrewd turn.

Be not jealous over the wife of your bosom,

and so teach an evil lesson about yourself.

Do not give your soul to a woman

to let her trample on your strength.

Do not meet with a female escort,

lest you fall into her snares.

Do not associate with a dancing-girl,

lest you become caught in her endeavours.

Do not gaze at a virgin,

lest you stumble, and pay damages to her.

Do not give your soul to prostitutes,

Lest you destroy your inheritance.

Do not look round in the streets of the city,

and do not wander in its deserted places.

Turn your eye away from a shapely woman,

and do not look gaze at beauty belonging to another;

many have been led astray by the beauty of a woman,

for from it love is kindled as a fire.

Never sit down with another man’s wife,

and do not feast with her with wine,

lest your heart turn aside to her,

and so slip by desire and fall into destruction.

Do not forsake an old friend,

for the recent one is not comparable to him;

a new friend is as new wine,

you will drink it with pleasure only after it has aged.

Do not envy the honour given to a sinner,

for you do not know what his end will be.

Do not delight in the pleasure of the ungodly,

but remember they will not be deemed righteous even to Hades.

Keep far from a man who has power to kill,

so you will not be anxious of the fear of death,

but if you come near him, do not offend,

lest he take away your life.

Recognize that you are stepping in the midst of snares,

and walking upon the battlements of a city.

Evaluate your neighbour as well as you can,

and consult with the wise.

Let your discussion be with the wise,

and let all your communication be in the law of the Most High.

Let righteous men be your dinner companions,

and let your boasting be in the fear of the Lord.

A work will be praised for the skill of the artisans,

and the wise ruler of the people for his words.

A talkative man is feared in his city,

and he who is reckless in his speech will be hated.

A wise judge will instruct his people,

and the rule of an intelligent man is well ordered.

Joel 2:12-27

Now, says the Lord your God,

“turn to me with all your heart,

with fasting, and with weeping, and with mourning,

and tear your hearts, and not your clothing.

and turn to the Lord your God,

for He is merciful and compassionate,

longsuffering, and plenteous in mercy,

and repents of evils.

Who knows if he will return, and repent,

and leave a blessing behind him,

even a meat-offering and a drink-offering

to the Lord your God?”

Sound the trumpet in Zion;

sanctify a fast,

proclaim a *solemn* service:

gather the people,

sanctify the congregation,

assemble the elders,

gather the nursing infants.

Let the bridegroom go out of his bed-chamber,

and the bride out of her bridal chamber.

Between the porch and the altar,

the priests that minister to the Lord will weep, and say,

“Spare Your people, O Lord,

and do not give Your inheritance to the reproach

of being ruled over by the nations,

lest they should say among the nations,

‘Where is their God?’”

But the Lord was jealous for His land,

and spared His people.

And the Lord answered and said to his people,

“Behold, I *am* sending you

grain, and wine, and oil,

and you will be satisfied with them,

and I will no longer make you a reproach among the nations.

And I will drive the [army] from the north away from you,

and banish him to a parched land,

and I will drown his face in the first sea,

and his rear in the last sea,

and his decay will rise up,

and his stink come up,

because he magnified his works.

Be of good courage, O land,

rejoice and be glad,

for the Lord has done great things!

Be of good courage, you animals of the plain,

for the plains of the wilderness have blossomed,

for the trees bear their fruit;

the fig tree and the vine have yielded their full strength.

And you children of Zion,

rejoice then and be glad in the Lord your God,

for he has given you food that is right for you,

and he will rain on you with the early and the late rain, as before.

The threshing floors will be filled with grain,

and the presses will overflow with wine and oil.

And I will recompense you for the years

which the locust devoured,

and the grasshopper, and the caterpillar, and the blight,

*even for* my great army, which I sent against you.

And you will eat abundantly, and be satisfied,

and will praise the Name of the Lord your God

*for the* marvelous *things* He has done with you.

And My people will never again be put to shame.

Then you will know that I am in the midst of Israel,

and *that* I am the Lord your God, and *that* there is no other but me.

And my people will never again be put to shame.

Joel 2:21-26

Be of good courage, O land,

rejoice and be glad,

for the Lord has done great things!

Be of good courage, you animals of the field,

for the plains of the wilderness have blossomed,

for the trees have borne their fruit,

the fig tree and the vine have yielded their full potency.

Rejoice then and be glad

In the Lord your God,

you children of Zion,

for He has given you food in fullness,

and He will send you the early and the later rain, as before.

The threshing floors will be full of wheat,

and the presses will overflow with wine and oil.

And I will repay you for the years

that the grasshopper and the locust,

and the blight, and the caterpillar devoured,

my great army, which I sent against you.

And you will eat abundantly, and be satisfied,

And will praise the Name of the Lord your God

*for the* marvelous *things* He has done with you.

And My people will never again be put to shame.

Joel 2:28-32

And it will come to pass after these things,

that I will pour out of my Spirit on all flesh,

and your sons and your daughters will prophesy,

and your old men will dream dreams,

and your young men will see visions.

And on my servants and handmaids

I will pour out of my Spirit in those days.

And I will give wonders in heaven and on the earth, blood and fire and vapor of smoke. The sun will be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood before the great and glorious day of the Lord comes to pass. And it will be *that* whoever calls upon the Name of the Lord will be saved, for in Mount Zion and in Jerusalem will be the ones who have escaped, as the Lord has said, and they will have Good News announced to them, whom the Lord has called.

Joel 3:9-21

Proclaim these things among the nations:

“Prepare for war;

arouse the warriors;

draw near and go up,

all you men of war.

Beat your ploughs into swords,

and your sickles into spears.

Let the weak say, “I am strong.”

Assemble together, and come,

all your nations round about,

and gather yourselves there.

Let the gentle become a fighter.

Let all the nations rouse themselves

and come up to the valley of Josaphat,

for there will I sit to judge

all the nations round about.

Send forth sickles,

for the harvest has come.

Go in, tread *the grapes*,

for the winepress is full,

the vats overflow,

because their wickedness is multiplied.

Noises have resounded

in the valley of judgment,

for the day of the Lord is near

in the valley of judgment.

The sun and the moon will become dark,

and the stars will withdraw their light.

And the Lord will cry out of Zion,

and will give His voice from Jerusalem;

and the heavens and the earth will be shaken.

But the Lord will spare His people,

and will strengthen the children of Israel.

And you will know that I am the Lord your God,

Who dwells in Zion on My holy mountain.

And Jerusalem will be holy,

and strangers will no longer pass through her.

And it will happen in that day

*that* the mountains will drip sweetness,

and the hills will flow with milk,

and all the brooks of Judah will flow with water,

and a fountain will go forth from the house of the Lord

and will water the valley of rushes.

Egypt will be a desolation,

and Idumea will be a desolate plain,

because of the wrongs against the children of Judah,

because they have shed righteous blood in their land.

But Judah will be inhabited forever,

and Jerusalem to all generations.

And I will avenge their blood, and I will not let it go unpunished.

And the Lord will dwell in Zion.

Jonas 1

Now the word of the Lord came to Jonas the son of Amathi, saying, “Arise, and go to Nineveh, the great city, and preach in it; for the cry of its wickedness has come up to me.” But Jonas rose up to flee to Tharsis from the presence of the Lord. So he went down to Joppa and found a ship going to Tharsis, and he paid his fare, and went on board to sail with them to Tharsis, away from the presence of the Lord.

But the Lord raised up a wind on the sea, and there was a great storm on the sea, and the ship was in danger of breaking up. And the mariners were afraid and cried out, each one to his god. And they cast out the cargo of the ship into the sea, to be lightened of if. But Jonas had gone below into the hold of the ship, and was asleep, and snoring. And the captain came to him, and said to him, “Why are you snoring? Get up and call upon your God, that God may deliver us, so we do not perish.”

And each man said to his neighbour, “Come, let us cast lots and find out for on whose account this calamity is upon us.” So they cast lots, and the lot fell upon Jonas. And they said to him, “Tell us, why is this calamity upon us? What is your occupation? And where do you come from? And from what country and people are you?” And he said to them, “I am a servant of the Lord, and I worship the Lord, God of heaven, who made the sea and the dry *land*.” Then the men feared greatly, and said to him, “What is this *that* you have done?” For the men knew that he was fleeing from the presence of the Lord, because he had told them.

And they said to him, “What should we do to you, so that the sea will calm itself for us?” For the sea continued to be tempestuous, and the waves rose up even higher. And Jonas said to them, “Pick me up, and throw me into the sea, and the sea will become calm to you, for I know that this great tempest is upon you because of me.” And the men tried hard to return to land, and were not able, for the sea rose and grew even more tempestuous against them. And they cried out to the Lord, and said, “No way, O Lord, do not let us perish on account of this man’s life, and do not bring righteous blood upon us, for You, O Lord, have done as You have willed.” So they took Jonas, and threw him into the sea, and the sea ceased from its raging. And the men feared the Lord very greatly, and offered a sacrifice to the Lord, and vowed vows. Now the Lord had commanded a great sea creature to swallow Jonas, and Jonas was in the belly of the sea creature three days and three nights.

Jonas 2

And Jonas prayed to the Lord, his God, out of the belly of the sea creature, and said,

“I cried out to the Lord my God in my affliction,

and he heard me,

my cry, out of the belly of Hades,

You heard my voice.

You cast me into the depths of the heart of the sea,

and the floods surrounded me;

all Your billows and Your waves passed over me.

And I said, ‘I have been driven away from Your sight;

Will I again look toward Your holy temple?’

Water is poured over me as far as my life;

the deepest abyss surrounded me,

my head sank into the crevices of the mountains;

I descended into the earth,

whose bars are everlasting barriers;

yet let my life ascend from corruption, O Lord my God.

When my life was failing me, I remembered the Lord;

so may my prayer come to You, into Your holy temple.

They that follow vanities and lies have forsaken their own mercy.

But I will sacrifice to You with the voice of praise and confession;

all that I have vowed I will offer to You, the Lord of *my* deliverance.”

And the sea creature was commanded by the Lord, and it cast Jonas out upon the dry *land*.

Jonas 3:1-4:11

And the word of the Lord came to Jonas a second time, saying, “Arise, go to Nineveh, the great city, and preach in it according to the message which I previously spoke to you.” And Jonas arose, and went to Nineveh, as the Lord had said. Now Nineveh was a very great city to God, of about three days’ journey. And Jonas began to enter into the city, going about a day’s journey, and he proclaimed and said, “Three more days, and Nineveh will be overthrown!”

And the men of Nineveh believed God, and proclaimed a fast, and put on sackcloth, from the greatest of them to the least of them. And the word reached the king of Nineveh, and he arose from his throne, and removed his robe, and put on sackcloth, and sat on ashes. And proclamation was made, and it was commanded in Nineveh by the king and his nobles, saying, “Let not men, cattle, oxen, and sheep, taste *anything*, or feed, or drink water.” So men and cattle were clothed with sackcloth, and they cried fervently to God; and they each turned from their evil ways, and from the iniquity of their hands, saying, “Who knows if God will repent, and turn from his fierce anger, and we will not perish?” And God saw their works, that they turned from their evil ways; and God repented of the evil which He had said He would do to them; and He did not do *it*.

But Jonas was very deeply grieved, and he was confounded. So he prayed to the Lord, and said, “O Lord, were these not my words when I was yet in my land? That is why I saw the need to fled to Tharsis; because I knew that You are merciful and compassionate, long-suffering, and abundant in mercy, and willing to repent at calamities. And now, O Sovereign, Lord, take my life from me, for *it is* better for me to die than to live.”

And the Lord said to Jonas, “Art you exceedingly grieved?” And Jonas went out from the city, and sat down opposite the city, and made a tent for himself there, and he sat under its shade, until he might see what would happen to the city. And the Lord God commanded a gourd, and it came up over the head of Jonas, to be a shade over his head, to shade him from his discomforts. Jonas rejoiced with great joy because of the gourd. But early the next morning, God commanded a worm, and it smote the gourd, and it withered up. And it came to pass, at the rising of the sun, that God commanded a burning east wind; and the sun beat down on the head of Jonas, and he became disheartened, and despaired of his life, and said, “*It is* better for me to die than to live.”

And God said to Jonas, “Art you very much grieved over the gourd?” And he said, “I am very much grieved, even to death.” And the Lord said, “You had consideration for the gourd, for which you had not suffered, and had not made to grow, which came up during the night, and perished before *the next* night, but shall not I spare Nineveh, the great city, in which dwell more than one hundred and twenty thousand human beings, who do not know their right hand from their left hand; and much livestock?

Habakkuk 3:2-19

O Lord, I have heard Your report, and was afraid

I considered Your works, and was astonished.

You will be known in the midst of the two living creatures;

You will be acknowledged when the years draw near;

You will be manifested when the time comes;

You will remember mercy when my soul is troubled in wrath.

God will come from Teman,

and the Holy One from a shady, densely wooded mountain. *(Pause.)*

His excellence has covered the heavens,

and the earth is full of his praise.

And his brightness will be like light;

horns are in His hands,

and He has established a strong love of his strength.

A report will go forth before Him,

and He will go forth, with His feet in sandals.

He stopped, and the earth trembled;

He looked, and the nations melted away;

the mountains were violently shattered;

the everlasting hills melted at His eternal going forth.

The encampments of the Ethiopians will be dismayed,

also the tents of the land of Madiam.

Were You angry, O Lord, with the rivers?

or *was* Your wrath against the rivers,

or was Your fury against the sea?

that You will mount Your horses,

and Your chariots of salvation?

“You will bend your bow against scepters,” says the Lord. *(Pause.)*

The land of rivers will be torn asunder.

The nations will see You and be in travail,

*as You* scatter the moving waters.

The deep gave forth its voice,

and raised its form on high.

The sun rose, and the moon stood still in its course;

Your arrows will go forth at the light,

with the flashing of Your gleaming weapons.

Thou will bring low the land with threatening,

and You will bring down the nations in wrath.

You went forth for the salvation of Your people,

to save Your anointed ones.

You brought death on the heads of the lawless;

You fettered *their* necks. *(Pause.)*

You beheaded rulers in frenzy,

they will tremble at this.

They will open their bridles, like as a poor man eating in secret.

And You caused Your horses to run into the sea,

churning up much water.

I watched, and my belly was terrified

by the sound of the prayer of my lips,

and trembling entered into my bones,

and my frame [of mind] was troubled.

I will rest in the day of tribulation

to going up to the people of my sojourning.

For *though* the fig tree will bear no fruit,

and there will be no produce on the vines;

the labour of the olive tree will fail,

and the fields will yield no food;

[though] the sheep have fled the pasture,

and there are no oxen in the cribs;

yet I will exult in the Lord,

I will rejoice in God my Saviour.

The Lord God is my strength,

and He will establish my feet to the end.

He sets my feet upon high places,

that I may be victorious in his song.

Zechariah 8:7-13

“This is what the Lord Almighty says, ‘Behold, I *will* save my people from the land of the east, and from the land of the west country. And I will bring them in, and make *them* dwell in the midst of Jerusalem. And they will be to Me a people, and I will be to them a God, in truth and in righteousness.’

This is what the Lord Almighty says, ‘Let your hands be strong, *you who* hear in these days these words from the mouth of the prophets, from the day that the house of the Lord Almighty was founded, and from the time that the temple was built. For before those days the wages of men could not be profitable, and there could be no wages for cattle, and because of affliction, there could be no peace to those going out and those coming in, and I will send forth all people, each against his neighbour. But now I *will* not do to the remnant of this people as in the former days,’ says the Lord Almighty. ‘Rather, I will demonstrate peace, the vine will yield its fruit, and the land will yield its produce, and the heaven will give its dew, and I will give all these things as an inheritance to the remnant of my people. And it will come to pass, as you were a curse among the nations, O house of Juda and house of Israel, so will I save you, and you will be a blessing; be of good courage, and strengthen your hands.’

Zechariah 8:7-19

“This is what the Lord Almighty says, ‘Behold, I *will* save my people from the land of the east, and from the land of the west country. And I will bring them in, and make *them* dwell in the midst of Jerusalem. And they will be to Me a people, and I will be to them a God, in truth and in righteousness.’

This is what the Lord Almighty says, ‘Let your hands be strong, *you who* hear in these days these words from the mouth of the prophets, from the day that the house of the Lord Almighty was founded, and from the time that the temple was built. For before those days the wages of men could not be profitable, and there could be no wages for cattle, and because of affliction, there could be no peace to those going out and those coming in, and I will send forth all people, each against his neighbour. But now I *will* not do to the remnant of this people as in the former days,’ says the Lord Almighty. ‘Rather, I will demonstrate peace, the vine will yield its fruit, and the land will yield its produce, and the heaven will give its dew, and I will give all these things as an inheritance to the remnant of my people. And it will come to pass, as you were a curse among the nations, O house of Juda and house of Israel, so will I save you, and you will be a blessing; be of good courage, and strengthen your hands.’

For this is what Lord Almighty says, ‘As I took purposed to afflict you when your fathers provoked me to wrath,’ says the Lord Almighty, ‘and I did not repent, so now in these days I have prepared and taken purposed to do good to Jerusalem and to the house of Juda; be of good courage. These *are* the things you will do: speak the truth, everyone to his neighbour, and render judgment in your gates that makes for peace, and let none of you devise evil in his heart against his neighbour, and do not love a false oath; for I hate all these things,’ says the Lord Almighty.”

And the word of the Lord Almighty came to me, saying, “This is what the Lord Almighty says, ‘The fourth-month fast, and the fifth-month fast, and the seventh-month fast, and the tenth-month fast, shall be to the house of Juda for joy and gladness, and for good feasts. And you will rejoice, and you will love truth and peace.’”

Zechariah 8:18-23

And the word of the Lord Almighty came to me, saying, “This is what the Lord Almighty says, ‘The fourth-month fast, and the fifth-month fast, and the seventh-month fast, and the tenth-month fast, shall be to the house of Juda for joy and gladness, and for good feasts. And you will rejoice, and you will love truth and peace.’

This is what Lord Almighty says, ‘Many peoples will come yet, and the inhabitants of many cities. And the inhabitants of five cities will come together to one city, saying, “Let us go to beseech the Lord, and to seek the face of the Lord Almighty; I too will go.” And many peoples and many nations will come to seek the face of the Lord Almighty in Jerusalem, and to obtain favour of the Lord. This is what the Lord Almighty says, “In those days if ten men from all the languages of the nations stop you—even if they take hold of the hem of a Jewish man, they will say, ‘We will go with you, for we have heard that God is with you.”’”

Zechariah 14:8-11

And in that day living water will come forth out of Jerusalem, half of it toward the eastern sea, and half of it toward the western sea; and it will be so in both summer and spring. And the Lord will be king over all the earth, in that day there will be one Lord, and His Name one Name, encircling all the earth, even the wilderness from Gabe unto Remmon, south of Jerusalem. But Rama will remain in its place; from Benjamin’s Gate to the place of the First Gate; to the Gate of the Corners, and to the Tower of Hananeel, as far as the king’s winepresses, they will dwell in the city, and there will be no more anathema {curse}, and Jerusalem will dwell securely.

Malachi 1:6-3:6

“A son honours *his* father, and a servant his master. If then I am a father, where is My honour? And if I am a master, where is My respect?” says the Lord Almighty. “You priests are the ones who despise My Name, yet you say, ‘how have we despised Your Name?’ By bringing defiled bread to My altar; but you say, ‘How have we defiled it?’ In that you say, ‘The table of the Lord is contemptible, and the food set on it is contemptible.’ 8 For if you bring something blind *as a* sacrifices, *is it* not evil? And if you offer the lame and the sick, *is it* not evil? Offer it then to you ruler, *and see* if he will receive it, if he will accept your person,” says the Lord Almighty.

“And now, entreat the face of your God, and pray to Him. These things have been done by your hands; will I receive you?” saith the Lord Almighty. “For even among you the doors will be shut, and *you* will not kindle *the fire of* My altar in vain. I have no pleasure in you,” says the Lord Almighty, and I will not accept an offering from your hands. For from the rising of the sun even to its going down, My Name has been glorified among the nations; and in every place incense will be offered to My Name, and a pure offering, for My Name is great among the nations,” says the Lord Almighty.

“But you profane it, in that you say, ‘The table of the Lord is defiled, and the food set upon it is contemptible.’  And you said, ‘These *services* are toilsome,’ therefore I have utterly rejected them with scorn,” says the Lord Almighty. “And you brought in things taken by violence, and lame, and sick, and when you bring an offering, should I accept them at your hands?” says the Lord Almighty. “And he who was able, who has a male in his flock, and who takes a vow, but sacrificed to the Lord what is blemished, is cursed—for I am a great King,” says the Lord Almighty, and My Name is glorious among the nations.

“And now, O priests, this commandment is to you. If you will not listen, if you will not take *it* to heart, to give glory to My Name,” says the Lord Almighty, “then I will send a curse upon you, and I curse your blessing, yes, I will curse it, and I will scatter your blessing, and it will not exist among you, because you do not take this to heart. Behold, I am turning my back on you, and I will smear dung upon your faces, the dung of your feasts, and I will carry you away at the same time. And you willl know that I have sent this commandment to you, that My covenant might be with the sons of Levi,” says the Lord Almighty.

“My covenant of life and peace was with him, and I gave *it to* him that he might reverently fear Me, and that he might be awe-struck at My Name. 6 The law of truth was in his mouth, and injustice was not found on his lips. He walked uprightly with me in peace, and he turned many from injustice. For the priest’s lips should keep knowledge, and they should seek the law from his mouth: for he is the messenger of the Lord Almighty.

“But you have turned aside from the way, and weakened many in the law, and you have corrupted the covenant of Levi”, says the Lord Almighty. “And I have made you despised and disregarded among all the nations, because you have not kept my ways, but have shown partiality in the law.”

Did God not create you? Do you not all have one father? Why, then, has each man forsaken his brother, to profane the covenant of your fathers? Juda has been forsaken, and an abomination has been committed in Israel and in Jerusalem, for Juda has profaned the holy things of the Lord, which he loved, and has gone after foreign gods. The Lord will utterly destroy the man that does these things, until he is humiliated from the tents of Jacob, and from among those who offer sacrifice to the Lord Almighty.

And you kept doing these things which I hated: you cover the altar of the Lord with tears, and with weeping and groaning because of troubles. *Is it* worthy to look upon your sacrifice, or to receive *anything* from your hands *as* acceptable? And you said, “Why?” Because the Lord was a witness between you and the wife of your youth, whom you abandoned, though she is your companion, and the wife of your covenant. And did God not make them one, and sustained them for the spirit of life? But you said, “What does God seek but offspring?” But be vigilant in your spirit, and do not forsake the wife of your youth. “But if you should hate *her* and put her away,” says the Lord God of Israel, “then ungodliness will cloud your thining,” saith the Lord Almighty “So be vigilant in your spirit, and do not forsake her.” You have provoked God with your words, yet you say, “How have we provoked him?” In that you say, “Every one who does evil is good in the sight of the Lord, and He delights in them,” and, “where is the God of justice?”

“Behold, I am sending My messenger, and he will prepare the way before Me. And the Lord, whom you seek, will suddenly come into His temple, even the Messenger of the covenant, whom you desire. Behold, He is coming,” says the Lord Almighty. “And who will endure the day of His coming? Or who can withstand His appearance? For He is coming like a refiner’s fire, and as the soap of the washer. He will sit, melting and purifying as it were silver, and as it were gold, and He will purify the sons of Levi, and refine them as gold and silver, and they will bring and offering to the Lord in righteousness. And the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord, as in the days of old, as in the former years.”

“And I will draw near to you in judgment, as a swift witness against sorcerers, adulterers, those who swear falsely by My Name, those who defraud hired workers, those who oppress widows, and afflict orphans, and those who turn aside justice for the foreigner, and those who do not fear Me,” says the Lord Almighty. “For I am the Lord your God, and I have not changed. But you, the sons of Jacob, have not refrained from the iniquities of your fathers.

Isaiah 1:2-18

Hear, O heaven, and listen, O earth, for the Lord has spoken:

“I have begotten and brought up children,

but they rejected me.

The ox knows its owner,

and the donkey its master’s crib,

but Israel does not know Me,

and the people have not understood me.”

Ah sinful nation,

a people full of sins,

an evil offspring,

lawless children,

you have forsaken the Lord,

and provoked the Holy One of Israel to anger!

Why should ye be beaten *any*more

as you continue in lawlessness?

the whole head is pained,

and the whole heart sad.

From the feet to the head,

there is no soundness in them;

sores, and bruises, and festering wounds*,*

there is no bandage to apply,

nor oil, nor salve.

Your land is desolate;

your cities are burned with fire;

strangers devour your land it in your presence,

and it is made desolate,

overthrown by foreign peoples.

The daughter of Sion will be forsaken

like a tent in a vineyard,

like a garden-watcher’s hut in a cucumber field,

like a besieged city.

And if the Lord of Hosts

had not left us offspring,

we would have become like Sodom,

and been made like Gomorrah.

Hear the word of the Lord,

You rulers of Sodom!

Pay attention to the law of God,

you people of Gomorra!

“What is the multitude of your sacrifices to Me?”

says the Lord;

“I am full of whole burnt offerings of rams,

and I do not want the fat of lambs,

or the blood of bulls and goats.

not even when you come to appear before me.

For who required these things at your hands?

You will tread in my court no more.

If you bring fine flour, *it is* futile;

incense is an abomination to me.

I cannot bear your new moons, and your sabbaths,

and the great day. My soul hates

fasting, and holy days,

as well as your new moons, and your feasts.

You have become loathsome to Me;

I will no longer forgive your sins.

When you stretch out your hands to Me,

I will turn My eyes away from you,

even if you make many petitions,

I will not listen to you,

for your hands are full of blood.

Wash yourselves; become clean;

remove your evil deeds from your souls

before My eyes;

cease from your evil deeds;

learn to do good;

seek judgement;

redeem the wronged;

defend for the orphan,

and obtain justice for the widow.

Come, let us reason together,”

says the Lord:

“although your sins are like crimson,

I will make them white like snow,

and although they are like scarlet,

I will make *them* white like wool.

Isaiah 1:16-26

“Wash yourselves; become clean; remove the evil deeds from your souls before My eyes; cease from your evil deeds; learn to do good; seek judgement, redeem the wronged; defend for the orphan, and obtain justice for the widow. Come, let us reason together,” says the Lord: “although your sins are like crimson, I will make them white like snow, and although they are like scarlet, I will make *them* white like wool. And if you are willing, and listen to me, you will eat the good things of the land. But if you are not willing, and do not listen to me, a sword will devour you,” for the mouth of the Lord has spoken these things.

How the faithful city Zion has become a prostitute! It was full of justice; the righteous lodged in it, but now murderers do! Your silver is worthless; your taverns mix wine with water. Your rulers are disobedient, companions of thieves, loving bribes, and seeking after rewards; they do not defend the orphans, or pay attention to the cause of widows. Therefore, this is what the Master, the Lord of Hosts, says, “Woe to the mighty *ones* of Israel! For My wrath against mine adversaries will not cease, and I will execute judgement on My enemies! And I will bring my hand upon you, and purge you completely. I will destroy the disobedient, and will remove all the lawless from among you, and humble all the arrogant. And I will establish your judges as before, and your counsellors as at the beginning. And after these things, you will be called the city of righteousness, Zion, the faithful mother-city.”

Isaiah 1:19-2:3a

“If you are willing, and listen to me,

you will eat the good things of the land.

But if you are not willing, and do not listen to me,

a sword will devour you,”

for the mouth of the Lord has spoken these things.

How has the faithful city Zion

has become a prostitute!

*It* was *once* full of justice;

he righteous lodged in it,

but now murderers do!

Your silver is worthless;

your taverns mix the wine with water.

Your rulers are disobedient,

they are companions of thieves,

loving bribes,

and seeking after rewards;

they do not defend orphans,

or pay attention to the cause of widows.

Therefore, this is what the Master, the Lord of Hosts, says,

“Woe to the mighty *ones* of Israel!

For My wrath against My adversaries will not cease,

and I will execute judgement on My enemies!

And I will bring my hand upon you,

and purge you completely.

I will destroy the disobedient,

and will remove the lawless from among you,

and humble the arrogant.

And I will establish your judges as before,

and your counsellors as at the beginning.

And after these things, you will be called the city of righteousness,

Zion, the faithful mother-city.”

For her captives will be saved

with judgement, and with mercy.

But the lawless and the sinners will be crushed together,

and those who forsake the Lord will come to an end.

For they will be ashamed of their idols they desired,

And the gardens which they longed for.

For they will be like a terebinth tree

that has lost its leaves,

and like a garden that has no water.

Their strength will be like a thread of flax,

and their works as sparks of fire,

and the lawless and the sinners will be burnt together,

and there will be no one to quench *them*.

The word, which came from the Lord to Isaias the son of Amos concerning Judea, and concerning Jerusalem.

For in the last days

the mountain of the Lord will be manifest,

and the house of God *will be* on the tops of the mountains,

and it will be exalted above the hills,

and all the nations will come to it.

And many nations will go and say,

“Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord,

and to the house of the God of Jacob,

and He will proclaim us His way,

and we will walk in it.”

Isaiah 2:3-11

And many nations will go and say,

“Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord,

and to the house of the God of Jacob,

and He will proclaim us His way,

and we will walk in it.”

For a law will go forth from Zion,

and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.

And He will judge between the nations,

and will rebuke many people,

and they will beat their swords into plows

and their spears into pruning hooks,

and nation will no long take up sword against nation,

and they will not learn to wage war anymore.

And now, O house of Jacob,

come, *and* let us walk

in the light of the Lord!

For he has abandoned his people,

the house of Israel,

for as from the beginning,

their country is filled with divinations,

like the *land* of the foreigners {Philistines},

and many children of foreigners were born to them.

For their land is filled with silver and gold,

and their treasures were countless;

their land is also filled with horses,

and their chariots were countless.

And the land is filled with abominations,

the works of their hands,

and they worshipped *the works* which their fingers had made.

And so a man bowed down,

and the man was humbled,

and I will not forgive them!

Now [therefore] enter into the rocks,

and hide yourselves in the earth,

from before the fear of the Lord,

and from the glory of his might,

when he will rise to crush the earth.

For the eyes of the Lord are high, but man is lowly,

and the haughtiness of man will be brought low,

and the Lord will shall be exalted in that day.

Isaiah 2:11c-19

And the Lord alone will be exalted in that day.

For the day of the Lord of hosts will

come upon all who are insolent and arrogant,

and upon all who are high and lifted up,

and they will be humbled;

and upon every cedar of Lebanon,

high and towering,

and upon every oak of Basan,

and upon every mountain,

and upon every high hill,

and upon every high tower,

and upon every high wall,

and upon every ship of the sea,

and upon every sight of beautiful ships.

And every person will be humbled,

and the haughtiness of man will fall,

and the Lord alone will be exalted in that day.

And they will hide all *idols* made by hands,

carrying *them* into the caves,

and into the clefts of the rocks,

and into the holes of the earth,

from before the fear of the Lord,

and from the glory of His might,

when He arises to crush the earth.

Isaiah 3:1-14b

Behold now, the Lord, the Lord of hosts,

will take away from Judea and from Jerusalem

the mighty man and mighty woman,

the strength of bread, and the strength of water,

the great and mighty man, the man of war,

both the judge and the prophet,

the diviner, and the elder,

the captain of fifty also,

and the wonderful counselor,

the skilled artisan,

and the intelligent listener {disciple}.

“And I will make youths their rulers,

and mockers will rule over them.

And the people will collapse,

man upon man,

and *every* man upon his neighbour;

the child will stumble against the elder,

and the vulgar against the honourable.”

For a man will take seize his brother,

or one of his father’s household, saying,

“You have clothing,

be our ruler,

and let my food

be supplied by you.”

And he will answer in that day, and say,

“I will not be your ruler,

for I have no bread in my house, nor clothing.

I will not be

the ruler of this people.”

For Jerusalem is ruined,

and Judea has fallen,

because their tongues are lawless,

and they are disobedient to the Lord.

Therefore, their glory has now been brought low.

And the shame of their face has risen up against them;

they have proclaimed their sin like that of Sodom,

and have made it manifest.

Woe to their soul!

For they have devised an evil counsel against themselves,

saying, “Let us bind the just, for he is burdensome to us.”

Therefore, they will eat the fruits of their works.

Woe to the wicked!

Evil things will happen to him

according to the works of his hands.

“O my people, your exactors strip you,

and extortioners rule over you.

O my people, those who call you blessed lead you astray,

and confuse the path of your feet.”

But now the Lord will stand up to judge,

and He will enter into judgement with his people.

The Lord Himself will enter into judgement

with the elders of the people, and with their rulers.

Isaiah 4:2-:7a

And in that day God shall shine gloriously in counsel on the earth, to exalt and glorify the remnant of Israel. And it will come to pass *that* the remnant left in Zion and in Jerusalem, will be called holy, everyone who is recorded for life in Jerusalem. For the Lord will wash away the filth of the sons and daughters of Zion, and will cleans the blood from their midst with a spirit of judgement and a spirit of burning. And He will come, a could will overshadow every site of Mount Zion and all that surrounds it by day, and it will be like smoke and like a light of fire burning by night, and it will be covered with glory. And it will serve as a shade from the heat, and as a shelter and a hiding place from inclement weather and rain.

“Now I will sing to *My* Beloved

a song of My Beloved concerning My vineyard.

*My* beloved had a vineyard

on a high hill, in a fertile place.

And I made a hedge round it, and fenced it in,

and planted a choice vine,

and built a tower in the midst of it,

and dug out a place for the wine-vat in it;

and I waited *for it* to bring forth grapes,

but it brought forth thorns.

And now, man of Judah

and dwellers in Jerusalem,

judge between Me and My vineyard.

What more might I do for my vineyard,

that I have not done for it?

For I waited for it to bring forth grapes,

but it has brought forth thorns.

But now I will tell you

what I will do to My vineyard.

I will take away its hedge,

and it will be plundered;

and I will pull down its walls,

and it will be trampled down.

And I will abandon my vineyard,

and it will not be pruned or cultivated,

and thorns will come up as on a barren land,

and I will command the clouds

not to rain on it.

For the vineyard of the Lord of hosts

is the house of Israel,

and the man of Judah is *his* beloved plant.

Isaiah 5:7-16

For the vineyard of the Lord of hosts

is the house of Israel,

and the man of Judah

*is His* beloved plant;

I waited for *it* to produce justice,

and it brought forth lawlessness,

and not righteousness,

but a cry!

Woe *to those* who join house to house,

and add field to field,

so that they may take something from their neighbour!

Will you dwell alone upon the land?

For these things have reached the ears of the Lord of hosts;

for though many houses should be built, many and fair houses will be desolate,

and there will be no inhabitants in them.

For where ten yoke of oxen will work,

that land will yield one jarful,

and he that sows six bushels

will produce three measures.

Woe *to those* who rise early in the morning,

and follow strong drink,

who continue *at it till* evening,

for the wine will inflame them.

For they drink wine with harp, and lyre,

and drums, and pipes,

but they do not regard the works of the Lord,

or consider the works of his hands!

Therefore, my people have been taken captive,

because they know not the Lord;

they have become a multitude of corpses,

because of famine and of thirst for water.

Hades has enlarged its appetite

and opened its mouth without ceasing;

and her glorious ones, and great ones,

and her rich and her pestilent men shall go down *into it*.

A person will be brought low,

and a man will be dishonoured,

and the lofty eyes will be brought low.

But the Lord of hosts will be exalted in judgement,

and the holy God will be glorified in righteousness.

Isaiah 5:17-25

And those who have been plundered will be fed like bulls

and lambs will feed on the wastelands of those who are taken away.

Woe *to those* who draw sins to themselves as with a long rope,

and lawlessness as with a strap of the cow’s yoke:

who say, “Let him quickly hasten what he will do,

that we may see *it*:

and let the counsel of the Holy One of Israel come,

that we may know *it*!”

Woe *to those* who call evil good

and good evil,

who make darkness light,

and light darkness,

who make bitter sweet,

and sweet bitter!

Woe *to those* who are wise in their own eyes,

and knowledgeable in their own sight.

Woe to the your strong ones that drink wine,

and the mighty *ones* who mix strong drink,

who justify the ungodly for a bribe,

and take away the righteousness of the righteous!

Therefore, as stubble will be burnt by a coal of fire,

and will be consumed by a violent flame,

their root will be like fine dust,

and their flower will go up like dust:

for they rejected the law of the Lord of hosts,

and despised the word of the Holy One of Israel.

And the Lord of hosts was furious against His people,

and He laid His hand upon them, and struck them;

the mountains were provoked,

and their carcasses became like dung

in the midst of the road.

For all this His anger has not been turned away,

but His hand is still raised high.

Isaiah 6:1-12

In the year that king Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up, and the house was full of His glory. Seraphim stood around Him; each one had six wings: with two they covered their face, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. And one cried unto another, and said, “Holy, holy, holy, *is* the LORD of hosts; the whole earth *is* full of his glory.” And the door post was moved by the voice of whose who cried out, and the house was filled with smoke. So I said, “Woe *is* me! I am pierced to the heart; because I *am* a man, and have unclean lips, and I live among people of unclean lips, and I have seen the King, the LORD of hosts with my eyes!”

Then one of the seraphim was sent to me, and he had a live coal in his hand, *which* he had taken from the altar with the tongs. And he touched my mouth, and said, “Behold, this has touched your lips. Your iniquity is taken away, and your sin are purified.” I Also heard the voice of the Lord, saying, “Whom shall I send, and who will go to this people?” Then said I, “Here I *am*, send me!” And He said, “Go, and tell this people,

You will indeed hear, but you will not understand,

and you will indeed see, but you will not perceive.

For the heart of this people has become insensitive,

and their ears hear with difficulty.

They have shut their eyes,

so that they might not see with their eyes,

and hear with their ears,

and understand with their heart,

and turn—and I would heal them.

Then I said, “how long,

O Lord?” And he answered,

“Until the cities are laid waste,

And without inhabitant,

and the houses are without people,

and the land is left desolate,

And after these things, God will send the people far away,

and those left land will multiply on the land.

Isaiah 7:1-14

And it happened in the days of Achaz *the son* of Joatham, the son of Ozias, king of Judah, that King Rason of Syria, and Phakee son of Romelias, king of Israel, came up against Jerusalem to war against it, but they could not take it. And it was reported to the house of David, saying, “Syria’s forces have conspired with Ephraim.” And [Achaz’s] soul and the soul of his people were agitated, as a tree in the woods is shaken by the wind. And the Lord said to Esaias, “Go out to meet Achaz, you and the one who is left, Jasub your son, to the pool on the upper road of the Fuller’s Field. And you will say to him, ‘Take care to be quiet, and do not fear, or let your soul be discouraged because of these two logs of smoking firebrands, for when My fierce anger is over, I will heal again. And *as for* the son of Syria, and the son of Romelias, because as they have plotted evil against you, *saying*, “We will go up against Judah, and having talked with them, we will turn them to our side, and we will make the son of Tabeel king of it;” thus says the Lord of hosts, “This counsel will not remain, nor will it come to pass. But the head of Syria is Damascus; and yet within sixty-five years the kingdom of Ephraim will cease from *being* a people. And the head of Ephraim is Samaria, and the head of Samaria the son of Romelias. But if you do not believe this, neither will you understand.”‘“

And the Lord again spoke to Achaz, saying, “Ask a sign for yourself from the Lord your God, in the depth or in the height.” And Achaz said, “I will not ask, nor will I tempt the Lord.” And Esias said, “Hear now, O house of David, is it a small thing for you to provoke a fight with men? How then do you provoke a fight with the Lord? Therefore, the Lord Himself will give you a sign. Behold! The virgin will conceive, and bear a Son, and you shall call His name Emmanuel.

Isaiah 8:13-9:7

Sanctify the Lord Himself, and He will be your fear. And if you trust in Him, He will be a sanctuary for you, and you will not come against *Him* as a stumbling caused by a stone, or a falling caused by a rock, but the houses of Jacob lies in wait with a snare, and those of Jerusalem with a trap. Therefore, many among them will become weak, and fall, and be crushed, and those is safety will draw near, and be captured.

Then those who seal the law so they may not learn it will be made manifest. And *One* will say, “I will wait for God, who has turned away His face from the house of Jacob, and I will trust in Him. Look, here am I and the children that God has given me, and they will be signs and wonders in the house of Israel from the Lord of Hosts, who dwells in mount Zion.” And if people say to you, “Seek those who call from the earth, and the ventriloquists, who speak from their belly,” should not a nation seek their God? Why do they seek to the dead on behalf of the living? For He has given the Law to help them, that they should not speak a word like this one, concerning which there are no gifts to give. And famine will come upon you, and it will come to pass, *that* when you become hungry, you will be distressed, and will speak badly of your ruler and the idols. And they will look up to heaven above, and on the earth below, and see affliction, and distress, and darkness—dire straits, and darkness so that *they cannot* see—and the one who is in distressed will not be distressed, but only for a time.

*Do this first,* and do it quickly, O country of Zabulon, land of Nephthalim by the sea, and the rest *dwelling along* the seacoast, and *the land* beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Nations.

O you people who walk in darkness,

behold a great light!

You who dwell in the country of the shadow of death,

a light will shine upon you!

The multitude of the people

whom you have brought down in your joy,

will also rejoice before your

like those who rejoice at the harvest,

and as those who divide the plunder.

For the yoke laid upon them,

and the rod on their neck is taken away,

for the Lord has broken the rod of the exactors,

as in the day of Madiam.

For they will repay every robe and garment

that has been acquired by deceit,

and they will be willing to do so,

*even* if they have been burnt with fire.

For a child is born to us,

and a son is given to us,

whose sovereignty is upon His shoulder,

and His name is, “the Angel of great counsel,”

for I will bring peace upon the rulers,

and peace and health by Him.

His sovereignty will be great,

and His peace has no end.

*His peace will be* upon the throne of David, and *upon* His kingdom,

to establish it, and to support *it*

with righteousness and with judgement,

from that time forward and unto ages of ages.

The zeal of the Lord of Hosts will perform this.

Isaiah 9:1-2

*Do this first,* and do it quickly, O country of Zabulon, land of Nephthalim by the sea, and the rest *dwelling along* the seacoast, and *the land* beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Nations. O you people who walk in darkness, behold a great light! You who dwell in the country of the shadow of death, a light will shine upon you!

Isaiah 9:8-10:4

And all the people of Ephraim,

and those who dwelt in Samaria will know it,

who say in pride and arrogance of heart,

“The bricks have fallen down,

but come, let us hew stones,

and cut down sycamores and cedars,

and we will build ourselves a tower.”

And God will strike down those who rise up against them on mount Zion,

and He will scatter their enemies:

Syria from the rising of the sun,

and the Greeks from the setting of the sun,

those who devour Israel with open mouth.

For all this, *His* anger is not turned away,

but His hand is still uplifted.

But the people did not turn back until they were struck,

yet they did not seek the Lord.

So the Lord took away head and tail from Israel,

great and small in one day—

the elder, and those who admire persons, this is the head;

and the prophet who teaches unlawful things, he is the tail.

And those who bless this people lead them astray;

and they mislead them in order to destroy them.

Therefore, God will not take pleasure in their young men,

nor have mercy on their orphans and widows.

For they are all lawless and evil,

and every mouth speaks injustices.

For all this *His* anger has not turned away,

but *His* hand is still uplifted.

And the transgression will burn like a fire,

and will be consumed like dry grass,

and it will burn in the thickets of the forest,

and devour everything around the hills.

The whole land is burned up

because of the fierce anger of the Lord,

and the people will be completely burned by fire.

No man will have compassion on his brother,

but *will* turn aside to the right because he is hungry,

and he will eat on the left,

but no man will be satisfied,

even by eating the flesh of his own arm.

For Manasseh will devour Ephraim,

and Ephraim Manasseh,

for they will besiege Judah together.

For all this *His* anger is not turned away,

but *His* hand is still uplifted.

“Woe to those who write evil!

For when they write, they write trouble,

turning aside the cause of the poor,

and robbing judgement from the needy of My people,

so that a widow may be their prey,

and an orphan a spoil.

What will they do in the day of visitation?

For affliction will come to you from far away,

and to whom will you flee for help,

and where will you leave your glory,

that you may not fall into captivity?”

For all this *His* and is not turned away,

but *His* hand is still uplifted.

Isaiah 10:12-20

And it shall come to pass, when the Lord shall have finished doing all things on Mount Sion and Jerusalem, *that* I will visit upon the proud heart, *even* upon the ruler of the Assyrians, and upon the boastful haughtiness of his eyes. For he said, I will act in strength, and in the wisdom of *my* understanding I will remove the boundaries of nations, and will spoil their strength. And I will shake the inhabited cities: and I will take with my hand all the world as a nest: and I will even take them as eggs that have been left; and there is none that shall escape me, or contradict me. Shall the axe glorify itself without him that hews with it? or shall the saw lift up itself without him that uses it, as if one should lift a rod or staff? but it shall not be so; but the Lord of hosts shall send dishonour upon your honour, and burning fire shall be kindled upon your glory. And the light of Israel shall be for a fire, and he shall sanctify him with burning fire, and it shall devour the wood as grass. In that day the mountains shall be consumed, and the hills, and the forests, and *fire* shall devour *both* soul and body: and he that flees shall be as one fleeing from burning flame. And they that are left of them shall be a *small* number, and a child shall write them.

And it shall come to pass in that day *that* the remnant of Israel shall no more join themselves with, and the saved of Jacob shall no more trust in, them that injured them; but they shall trust in the Holy God of Israel, in truth.

Isaiah 11:10-12:2

And in that day there will be a Root of Jesse, the One Who will arise to rule the nations; the nations will trust in Him, and His rest will be glorious.” And it will come to pass in that day, *that* the Lord will again show His hand to be zealous for the remnant that is left of the people: left by the Assyrians, and *by* Egypt, Babylon, and Ethiopia, and by the Elamites, and from where the sun rises, and out of Arabia.

And He will lift up a sign for the nations,

and He will gather the lost ones of Israel,

and He will gather the dispersed of Judah

from the four corners of the earth.

And the envy of Ephraim will be taken away,

and the enemies of Judah will perish;

Ephraim will not envy Judah,

and Judah will not afflict Ephraim.

But they will all fly away in the ships of foreigners,

and together they will plunder the sea,

and those *who come* from the east, and Edom.

And they will lay their hands on Moab first,

but the children of Ammon will obey *them* first.

And the Lord will make the sea of Egypt desolate,

and He will lay his hand on the river with a violent wind,

and He will strike the seven channels,

so that men might pass across it in sandals.

And there will be a passage

for the remnant of My people in Egypt,

and it will be for Israel

as the day when he came out of the land of Egypt.

And in that day, you will say,

“I *will* bless You, O Lord,

for You were angry with me,

and You turned away Your wrath,

and had mercy on me.

Behold, the Lord is my God, my Saviour;

I will trust in Him, and will not be afraid,

for the Lord is my glory and my praise,

and He has become my salvation.”

Isaiah 13:2-13

Lift up a sign on the mountain of the plain;

Lift up your voice to them; do not fear;

encourage them with your hand;

open *the gates*, O you rulers.

I command, and I lead them.

They are consecrated, and I lead them.

Mighty ones come to fulfil My anger,

rejoicing and insulting at the same time.

A voice of many nations on the mountains,

like *that* of many nations!

a voice of kings

and of nations gathered together!

The Lord of hosts has commanded

a heavily armed nation

to come from a distant land,

from the end of heaven—

the Lord and His warriors*—*

to destroy the whole world.

Wail, for the day of the Lord is near,

and destruction will come from God.

Therefore, every hand will become weakened,

and every man’s soul will be afraid.

The elders will be troubled,

and pangs will seize them, as of a woman in labour.

And they will wail one to another, and will be amazed,

and will change their face like a flame.

For behold! The day of the Lord is coming,

A day which cannot be averted

*a day* of wrath and anger,

to make the whole world desolate,

and to destroy the sinners from it.

For the stars of heaven, and Orion,

and all the ornament of heaven

will not give light,

and it will be dark at sunrise,

and the moon will not give her its.

And I will command evils for the whole world,

and *for the* ungodly, because of their sins,

and I will destroy the pride of transgressors,

and will bring low the pride of the arrogant.

And those that are left will be more precious than gold tried in the fire,

and a man will be more precious than the stone from Souphir.

For the heaven will be enraged,

and the earth will be shaken from its foundations

because of the fierce anger of the Lord of hosts,

in the day His wrath comes *upon it*.

Isaiah 14:24-32

This is what the Lord of hosts says,

“As I have said,

so it shall be,

and as I have planned,

so *it* shall remain:

to destroy the Assyrians from my land, and from my mountains.

And they will be trampled,

and their yoke will be removed from them,

and their renown will be removed from their shoulders.”

This is the purpose the Lord has purposed upon the whole earth,

and this the hand that is raised up

against all the nations of the world.

For what the Holy God has purposed, who will frustrate?

And who will turn back His uplifted hand?

In the King Ahaz died, this word came,

“Do not rejoice, all you foreigners,

for the yoke of him who struck you is broken,

for out of the seed of serpents will come forth the young asps,

and their offspring will come forth as flying serpents.

And the poor will be fed by him,

and the poor men will rest in peace,

but he will destroy your offspring with famine,

and will destroy your remnant.

Wail, O city gates;

let the troubled cities cry out, *even* all the foreigners,

for smoke is coming from the north, and there is no *way to live*.”

And what will the kings of the nations answer?

For the Lord has founded Zion,

and the humble of the people will be saved by Him.

Isaiah 25:1-26:9a

O Lord my God,

I will glorify You; I will sing hymns to Your Name,

for You have done wonderful things—

an ancient *and* true counsel. May it be so, O Lord!

For You have made cities a heap,

fortified cities, so their foundations might fall;

the city of the ungodly will not be built forever.

Therefore, the poor people will bless You,

and the cities of the wronged will bless You.

For You have been a helper to every humble city,

and a shelter to those who are disheartened because of poverty;

You will deliver them from evil men,

and be a shelter for the thirsty, and a breath to the wronged,

like faint-hearted men thirsting in Zion,

because of the ungodly,

to whom You delivered us.

And the Lord of hosts will make *a feast* for all the nations on this mount:

they will drink gladness;

they will drink wine;

they will anoint themselves with ointment in this mountain.

Deliver all these things to the nations,

for this is *God’s* counsel for all the nations.

Death has prevailed and swallowed *then* up,

but the Lord God has taken away every tear from every face;

He has taken away the disgrace of *His* people from all the earth;

for the mouth of the Lord has spoken it.

And on that day they will say,

“See, this is our God, in whom we have hoped,

and we rejoiced; and we will be glad in our salvation.”

God will give us rest on this mountain,

and the Moabites will be trampled down,

as they tread a threshing floor with wagons.

And He will spread forth his hands,

even as He also brings down *man* to destroy *him*,

and He will bring low his pride*—*

*things* on which he has laid his hands.

And He will bring down the height of the refuge of your wall,

and it will come down all the way to the ground.

On that day they will sing this song in the land of Judah:

“See a strong city;

and We will make salvation

*its* wall and its outer wall.

Open the gates;

let a people enter that keeps righteousness,

and that keeps truth,

that lays hold of truth,

and that keeps peace,

for in You, O Lord,

they have hoped forever—

the great, the eternal God,

Who has humbled and brought down

those who dwell in lofty places;

You will cast down strong cities,

and bring them to the ground,

And the feet of the meek and humble

will trample them.

The way of the godly is made straight;

the way of the godly has also prepared.

For the way of the Lord is judgement;

we have hoped in Your Name,

and in the remembrance *of You*,

which our soul longs for.

Isaiah 26:21-27:9

For look, the Lord is bringing wrath

from *his* holy place upon those who dwell on the earth;

the earth will disclose its blood,

and will not cover the slain.

In that day God will bring *His* holy and great and strong sword upon the dragon, the fleeing serpent—upon the dragon, the crooked serpent, and He will destroy the dragon.

In that day *there will be*

a beautiful vineyard,

*and* a desire to begin *a hymn* about it.

I am a strong city, a besieged city;

I will water it in vain,

for it will be taken by night,

and by day the wall will fall.

There is no city that has not taken hold of it;

who will set me to watch stubble in the field?

I have rejected it because of this enemy.

The Lord has done all that He appointed on for that very reason.

I am burned up.

Those who dwell in it will cry out,

“Let us make peace with Him,

let us make peace!”

Those who are coming are the children of Jacob;

Israel will bud and blossom,

and the world will be filled with its fruit.

Will he not be struck even as himself has struck;

will he not be killed even as he himself has killed?

Fighting and reviling, he will send them away.

Did you not think with a harsh spirit

to kill them in a spirit of anger?

Therefore, the iniquity of Jacob will be taken away;

and this is his blessing, when I remove his sin,

when they make all the stones of the altars

beaten like fine dust,

and their trees will not remain,

and their idols will be cut down, like a distant forest.

Isaiah 28:14-22

Therefore, hear the word of the Lord, you afflicted men,

and you rulers of this people that is in Jerusalem.

Because you have said, “We have made a covenant with Hades,

and agreements with death,

if a rushing storm passes through,

it will not come upon us;

we have made falsehood our hope,

and by falsehood we will be protected.”

Therefore, this is what the Lord is saying,

“See I lay a costly stone for the foundations of Zion,

a choice and precious cornerstone for its foundations,

and whoever believes *in him* will not be put to shame.

And I will turn judgementinto hope,

and my mercy to be for *a* standard measure,

and you that trust vainly in falsehood*,*

a tempest will by no means pass you by,

except it also take away your covenant of death.

And your hope in Hades will not stand;

if a rushing storm comes,

you will be beaten down by it.

When it passes by, it will take you;

For morning by morning it will pass by in the day,

and by night there will be an evil hope.

Learn to hear,

you who are distressed.

We cannot fight, and we ourselves are too weak to gather ourselves together.

The Lord will rise up as a mountain of ungodly *men*,

and will be in the valley of Gabaon;

He will perform His works with wrath, a work of bitterness,

And His wrath will deal strangely,

and His bitterness shall be strange.

So do not be glad,

nor let your bonds become strong,

for I have heard from the Lord of hosts

of works finished and cut short,

which He will perform upon the whole earth.

Isaiah 29:13-23

And the Lord said,

“These people draw near to Me

and honour Me with their lips,

but their heart is far from Me,

and they worship Me in vain,

teaching the commandments and doctrines of men.

Therefore look, I will proceed

to remove this people.

I will remove them and I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,

and I will hide the discernment of the wise.

Woe to those who deepen their counsel,

but not through the Lord!

Woe to those who take counsel in secret,

and whose works are in darkness!

And they say, “Who has seen us?

And who will know us or what we do?”

Will you not be regarded as the clay of the potter?

Will what is formed say to the one that formed it,

“You did not form me?”

Or what is made to the one who made it,

“You did not make me wisely?”

*Is it* not yet a little while,

and Lebanon will be changed like Mount Chermel,

and Mount Chermel will be considered a forest?

On that day the deaf will hear

the words of the book,

and those who are in darkness,

and those who are in a fog,

the eyes of the blind will see.

And the poor will rejoice with joy because of the Lord,

and those who had no hope among men will be filled with joy.

The lawless has failed,

and the arrogant has perished,

and those who transgress wickedly have been utterly destroyed:

even those who cause men to sin by a word.

And they will make all those who condemn at the gates an offence,

because they have turned aside the righteous with the unrighteous.

Therefore this is what Lord is saying concerning the house of Jacob, which He set apart from Abraham,

Now Jacob will not be ashamed,

neither will Israel now change his face.

But when their children see my works,

they will sanctify My Name for My sake,

and will sanctify the Holy One of Jacob,

and will fear the God of Israel.

Isaiah 35:1-10

Be glad, O thirsty desert! Let the desert be glad, and blossom like a lily! The deserts of Jordan will blossom and rejoice. the glory of Lebanon and the honour of Carmel has been given to it; and My people will see the glory of the Lord, and the majesty of God. Be strong, you weak hands and feeble knees. Comfort one another, you fainthearted. Be strong, do not fear. Behold, our God renders judgement, and He will render *it*; He will come and save us.

Then the eyes of the blind will be opened, and the ears of the deaf will hear. Then the lame will leap like a deer, and the tongue of the stammerers will speak clearly; for water has burst forth in the desert, and a channel *of water* in a thirsty land. And the dry land shall become marshlands, and there will be a spring of water in the thirsty land. The joy of birds will be there, a habitation of reeds and marshland.

A pure way will be there, and it will be called a holy way; and the unclean will not pass through there, and there will be no unclean way there; but the dispersed will walk on it, and they will not go astray. There will be no lion there, nor will any evil beast go upon it, or be found there at all; but the redeemed will walk in it, and those gathered by the Lord will return, and come to Zion with joy, and everlasting joy *will be* over their heads; for on their heads *will be* praise and great joy, and gladness will take hold of them—sorrow and pain, and groaning have fled away.

Isaiah 37:33-38:6

Therefore, this is what the Lord is saying concerning the king of the Assyrians, “He will not enter into this city, nor cast a weapon against it, nor bring a shield against it, nor make a rampart around it. But by the way he came, by the same he will return” This is what the Lord is saying, “I will protect this city, to save it for My own sake, and for My servant David’s sake.”

And the Angel of the Lord went out, and killed in the camp of the Assyrians one hundred and eighty-five thousand; and they arose in the morning and discovered all the dead bodies. And Sennacherim, king of the Assyrians departed and returned to Nineveh, and dwelt there. And while he was worshipping in the house of Nasarach, his country’s god, his sons Adramelech and Sarasar killed him with swords; and they escaped into Armenia, and his son Asoradan reigned instead of him.

And it happened at that time, *that* Ezekias was sick and near. And Esaias the prophet, the son of Amos went to him, and said to him, “This is what the Lord is saying, ‘Make arrangements concerning your house, for you will die, and not live.’” And Ezekias turned his face towards the wall, and prayed to the Lord, saying, “Remember, O Lord, how I have walked before You in truth, with a true heart, and have done what was pleasing in Your sight.” And Ezekias wept bitterly. And the word of the Lord came to Esaias, saying, “Go, and say to Ezekias, ‘This is what the Lord is saying, the God of David your father, “I have heard your prayer, and seen your tears. Look, I *will* add fifteen years to your time. And I will deliver you and this city from the hand of the king of the Assyrians, and I will defend this city.”’”

Isaiah 40:1-8

“Comfort, yes, comfort my people,” says God.

“Speak, O priests, to the heart of Jerusalem; comfort her,

for her humiliation has been fulfilled,

her sin has been done away with,

for she has received from the Lord’s hand

double *for* her sins.”

The voice of one crying in the wilderness,

“Prepare the way of the Lord,

make straight the paths of our God.

Every valley will be filled,

and every mountain and hill will be brought low;

and all the crooked *ways* will become straight,

and the rough *places* will become plains.

And the glory of the Lord will appear,

and all flesh will see the salvation of God,

for the Lord has spoken.”

The voice of one saying, “Cry out!”

And I said, “What shall I cry?”

All flesh is grass,

and all the glory of man like the flower of the field.

The grass withers, and the flower fades,

but the word of our God remains forever.

Isaiah 40:1-5

“Comfort, yes, comfort my people,” says God.

“Speak, O priests, to the heart of Jerusalem; comfort her,

for her humiliation has been fulfilled,

her sin has been done away with,

for she has received from the Lord’s hand

double *for* her sins.”

The voice of one crying in the wilderness,

“Prepare the way of the Lord,

make straight the paths of our God.

Every valley will be filled,

and every mountain and hill will be brought low;

and all the crooked *ways* will become straight,

and the rough *places* will become plains.

And the glory of the Lord will appear,

and all flesh will see the salvation of God,

for the Lord has spoken.”

Isaiah 41:4-14

Who has worked and done these things?

He has called *righteousness,* He who called it from the generations of old;

I God, am the first,

and I AM into to *all* the future.

The nations saw, and feared;

the ends of the earth drew near and came together,

each one judging for his neighbor,

to assist his brother.

And one will say,

“The artisan has become strong,

and the metalworker who strikes with the hammer,

at the time of forging.”

Sometimes he will say, “It is well joined,

they have fastened it with nails;

they will set them up, and they shall not be moved.”

But you, Israel, are My servant,

Jacob, whom I have chosen,

the offspring of Abraham, whom I have loved,

whom I have taken you from the ends of the earth,

and I have called you from the high places of it,

and said to you, “You are My servant;

I have chosen you, and I have not forsaken you.”

Do not fear, for I am with you;

do not go astray, for I am your God,

Who has strengthened you,

and I have helped you,

and established you

with My righteous right hand.

See, all your adversaries

will be put to shame and disgraced,

for they will be as though they did not exist,

and all your adversaries will perish.

You will seek them,

but you will not find

the men who rage against you,

for they will be as though they did not exist,

and those who war against you will not be.

For I am your God,

Who holds your right hand,

Who says to you, “Do not fear,

O Jacob, *and O* Israel, few in number,

I have helped you,” says God,

Who redeems thee, O Israel.

Isaiah 42:5-16

This is what the Lord,

Who made the heaven, and established it,

Who made the earth firm, and the things in it,

and Who gives breath to the people on it,

and spirit to those who walk on it, is saying,

“I the Lord God have called You in righteousness,

and will hold Your hand, and will strengthen You:

and I have given You as the covenant for a race,

for a light to the nations,

to open the eyes of the blind,

to bring the prisoners out from bonds,

and those who sit in darkness out of the prison house.

I am the Lord God; this is My Name.

I will not give My glory to another,

nor my praises to engraved images.

Look, the ancient things have come to pass,

and *so will* the new things which I declare;

yes, before they spring forth*,*

I will tell you of them.”

Sing a new song to the Lord,

you, His dominion!

Glorify His Name from the end of the earth,

you who go down to the sea, and sail upon it,

you islands, and those who inhabit them.

Rejoice, O desert, and its villages,

the homesteads, and those inhabiting Kedar.

Those who dwell in Petra will rejoice,

they will shout from the tops of the mountains.

They will give glory to God,

*and* proclaim His praises in the islands.

The Lord God of powers will go forth,

and crush the war;

He will stir up jealousy,

and will shout mightily against His enemies.

“I have been silent,

will I always be silent and hold back?

I have endured like a woman in labour.

I will amaze and wither at once.

I will turn rivers into islands,

and will dry up the marshlands;

And I will lead the blind

by a road that they did not know,

and I will make them walk paths

that they have not known.

I will turn darkness into light for them,

and make crooked places straight.

I will do these things,

and will not forsake them.”

Isaiah 43:1-9

And now this is what Lord God

Who made you, O Jacob,

Who formed you, O Israel, is saying,

“Do not fear, for I have redeemed you,

I have called you *by* your name; you are Mine.

And if you should pass through water, I am with you,

and the rivers will not overflow you,

and if you should go through fire, you will not be burned;

the flame will not consume you,

for I am the Lord your God,

the Holy One of Israel, Who saves you.

I have made Egypt and Ethiopia your ransom,

and *given* Soene for on your behalf.

Because you have become precious in My sight,

you have become glorious, and I have loved you;

and I will give many men on your behalf,

and rulers for your life.

Do not fear not, for I am with you:

I will bring your offspring from the east,

and will gather you from the west.

I will say to the north, “Bring them,”

and to the south, “Do not keep them back,

bring My sons from a faraway *land*,

and My daughters from the ends of the earth—

all who are called by My Name.

For I have prepared him for My glory,

and I have formed him and made him.

And I have brought forth the blind people,

for *their* eyes are likewise blind,

and they are deaf, though they have ears!

All the nations are gathered together,

and the rulers will be gathered from among them.

Who will declare these things?

Or who will declare to you

things from the beginning?

Let them bring forth their witnesses,

and be justified, and let them speak the truth.

Isaiah 43:16-44:6 (Not done yet—this was one of the first and needs to be revisited)

Thus says the Lord, who provides a way in the sea, and a path in the mighty water, who has brought forth chariots and horse, and a mighty multitude. But they have lain down, and will not rise; they are extinguished like a wick that is quenched: “Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old. Behold, I *will* do new things, which will now spring forth, and you will know them; and I will make a road in the desert, and rivers in the dry land. The wild animals of the field will praise me, the owls and young ostriches, for I have given water in the wilderness, and rivers in the dry land, to give drink to My chosen race, My people whom I have preserved to declare My excellence.

I have not called you now, O Jacob, nor have I made you weary, O Israel. You have not brought me the sheep of your whole burnt offering, nor have you glorified me with your sacrifices, nor have I wearied you with frankincense, nor have you purchased incense for me with silver, nor have I desired the fat of your sacrifices; but I set before you your sins, and in your iniquities. I, *even* I, am He who blots out your lawlessness, and I will not remember *them* at all. But as for you, remember, and let us judge *together*. You confess your lawless acts first, that you may be made righteous. Your fathers first, and also their rulers, acted lawlessly against Me. And the rulers defiled My holy things, so I gave Jacob to destruction, and Israel to reproach.”

But hear now, O Jacob my servant, and Israel, whom I have chosen. Thus says the Lord God Who made you, and who formed you in the womb, “You will yet be helped; fear not, My servant Jacob; and My beloved Israel, whom I have chosen. For I will give water to the thirsty who walk in a dry land. I will put My Spirit upon your offspring, and My blessings upon your children. They will spring up like grass in the midst of water, and like a willow on by flowing water. One will say, ‘I am God’s,’ and will call himself by the name of Jacob; and another will write, ‘I am God’s,’ and will call himself by the name of Israel.”

Thus says God, the King of Israel, Who delivers him, the God of hosts, “I am the first, and I am after these things; there is no god besides Me.

Baruch 3:36-4:4

This is our God, no other will be compared to Him. He found the whole way of knowledge, and give it to Jacob His servant, and to Israel His beloved. Afterwards, she was seen upon earth, and lived with men.

She is the book of the commandments of God, and the law that endures forever. All they who keep her will live; but those who forsake her will die. Turn, O Jacob, and take hold of her; walk towards the radiance of the presence of her light. Do not give your glory to another, or the things that are of advantage to you to a foreign nation.

O Israel, we are blessed, because what is pleasing to God is known to us.

Ezekiel 36:25-29a

“I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you will be cleansed from all your uncleanness, and I will also cleanse you from all your idols. And I will give you a new heart, and put a new spirit in you, and I will take the heart of stone from your flesh, and will give you a heart of flesh. And I will put My Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in My statutes, and to keep My judgments, and to do *them*. And you will dwell in the land that I gave to your fathers; and you will be to Me a people, and I will be to you a God. And I will save you from all your uncleanness.”

Ezekiel 47:1-9

And [the Spirit] brought me in by the entrance of the house, and, behold, water flowed from under the atrium by the east, for the front of the house looked towards the east, and the water came down from the right side, from the south to the altar. And He brought me out by the way of the northern gate, and He led me round by the outside way to the gate of the court that looks eastward, and, behold, water flowed down from the right side, in *the direction* in which a man went forth opposite. And *there was* a measuring line in his hand, and he measured a thousand *cubits* with the measure; and he passed through the water; *it was* water of a remission. And *again* he measured a thousand, and he passed through the water, and the water was up to the thighs. And *again* he measured a thousand, and he passed through water up to his loins. And *again* he measured a thousand, and he could not pass through, for *the water* broke into a rushing torrent which *man* cannot pass through. And he said to me, “Son of man, have you seen *this*?”

Then He led me back to the bank of the river. As I returned, behold, on the banks of the river *there were* very many trees on one side and on the other side. And he said to me, “This is the water that flows into Galilee, which is towards; then it goes down to Arabia, and would come as far as the sea, to the outlet of the water; and it will heal the waters. And it will come to pass, *that* every living thing that moving, wherever the river goes, will live. And there will be a great multitude of fish there, because this water will go there, and it will heal *them*, and they will live; everything on which the river comes will live.

Daniel 6:1-27

And it pleased Darius, and he set one hundred and twenty governors over the kingdom, so that they might be throughout his kingdom, and over them three administrators, one of whom was Daniel, so the governors might give account to them, so that the king might not be troubled. And Daniel was over them, for *there was* an excellent spirit in him, and the king set him over his entire kingdom. Then the administrators and governors sought to find some charge against Daniel, but they did not find any charge against him, nor wrongdoing, nor fault, because he was faithful. And the administrators said, “We will not find a charge against Daniel, except in the laws of his God.”

Then the administrators and governors approached the king, and said to him, “King Darius, live forever! All who preside over your kingdom, captains and governors, chiefs and local governors, have counseled together, to establish a royal statue and a firm decree, that whoever petitions any god or man for thirty days, except from you, O king, will be thrown into the den of lions. Now then, O king, establish the decree, and publish it in writing, so the decree of the Persians and Medes cannot be changed.” Then king Darius commanded the decree to be written.

And when Daniel knew that the decree had been published, he entered his house, and his windows facing Jerusalem were open in his upper rooms, and he knelt down on his knees three times a day, and prayed to and gave confession to his God, just as he had done before. Then those men watched, and found Daniel praying and making supplication to his God. And they came and said to the king, “O king, have you not made a decree, that any man who asks a petition from any god or man for thirty days, except from you, O king, will be thrown into the den of lions?” And the king said, “The word is true, and the decree of the Medes and Persians will not pass away.” Then they answered and said before the king, “Daniel one of the sons of the captivity of Judea, has not submitted to your decree, and he makes his requests of his God three times a day.” Then the king, when he heard the charge, was greatly grieved for Daniel, and he agonized himself for Daniel to deliver him, and until the evening he kept agonizing himself to deliver him. Then those men said to the king, “Know, O king, that the law of the Medes and Persians says that we must not change any decree of statue which the king makes.” Then the king spoke, and they brought Daniel, and threw him into the den of lions. But the king said to Daniel, “Your God, whom you continually serve, He will deliver you!” And they brought a stone, and laid it on the mouth of the pit, and the king sealed *it* with his ring, and with the ring of his nobles, so that the case might not be changed against Daniel. And the king went to his house, and slept, fasting, and they brought him no food, and sleep fled from him. But God shut the mouths of the lions, and they did not trouble Daniel.

Then the king arose early in the morning, at daybreak, and hurried to the den of lions. And as he came near to the den, he cried with a loud voice, “Daniel, servant of the living God, has your God, whom you continually serve, been able to deliver you from the mouth of the lions?” And Daniel said to the king, “O king, live forever! My God has sent his angel to shut the lions’ mouths, and they have not hurt me, because uprightness was found in me before Him, and also before you, O king, I have done no wrong.” Then the king was rejoiced greatly over him, and he said to bring Daniel up out of the den. So Daniel was brought up out of the den, and there not any harm found on him, because he believed in his God. And the king commanded, and they brought the men that had accused Daniel, and they were thrown into the den of lions, they and their children and their wives. And they did not reach the bottom of the den before the lions overpowered them, and broke all their bones to pieces.

Then king Darius wrote to all nations, tribes, *and* languages, who inhabit all the earth, *“*Peace be multiplied to you! A decree has been established by me in every dominion of my kingdom, that *people should* tremble and fear before the God of Daniel,

for He is the living God and endures unto ages of ages.

And His kingdom will not be destroyed,

and his dominion will continue unto the end.

He helps and rescues,

and He works signs and wonders in the heaven and on earth;

He rescued Daniel

from the power of the lions.”

Daniel 14:2-42

And Daniel was a confidant of the king, and was honoured above all his friends.

Now the Babylonians had an idol, whose name was Bel, and they spent twelve great bushels of fine flour, forty sheep, and six vessels of wine on him every day. And the king adored it and went daily to worship it; but Daniel worshipped his own God. And the king said to him, “Why do you not worship Bel?” Daniel answered and said, “Because I do not worship idols made with hands, but the living God Who created heaven and earth, and has dominion over all flesh.”

Then the king said to him, “Do you not think that Bel is a living God? Do you not see how much he eats and drinks every day?” Then Daniel smiled, and said, “O king, do not deceived, for it is but clay inside and bronze outside, and has never eaten or drunk anything.”

So the king was very angry, and called for his priests, and said to them, “If you do not tell me who it is that devours these provisions, you will die. But if you can prove to me that Bel devours them, then Daniel will die, for he has spoken blasphemy against Bel.” And Daniel said unto the king, “Let it be according to your word.”

Now there were seventy priests of Bel, beside their wives and children, and the king went with Daniel into the temple of Bel. Then Bel’s priests said, “Look, we will go out, but you, O king, set out the food and prepare the wine, then shut the door and seal it with your own signet. And tomorrow when you come in, if you do not find that Bel has eaten it all, we will suffer death—or else Daniel will die, who speaks lies against us.” They were unconcerned, for they had made a secret entrance under the table through which they always came in and consumed the provisions.

So when they had all gone, the king set out the food before Bel. Now Daniel had commanded his servants to bring ashes, and they scattered them throughout the temple in the presence of the king alone. Then went they out, and shut the door, and sealed it with the king’s signet, and departed. During the night came the priests with their wives and children, as they usually did, and ate and drank everything.

The king arose early in the morning, and Daniel with him. And the king said, “Daniel, are the seals unbroken?” And he said, “Yes, O king, they are whole.” And as soon as he had opened the door, the king looked at the table, and cried with a loud voice, “You are great, O Bel, and there is no deceit with you at all.”

Then laughed Daniel, and restrained the king from going in, and said, “Look at the floor, and notice whose footprints these are.” And the king said, “I see the footprints of men, women, and children.” And then the king was angry, and took the priests with their wives and children, who showed him the secret doors, where they came in and consumed such things as were set on the table. Therefore the king killed them, and gave Bel over into Daniel’s power, who destroyed him and his temple.

And there was a great serpent which the people of Babylon worshipped. And the king said to Daniel, “Will you also say that this is made of bronze? Look, he lives, eats and drinks—you cannot say that he is not a living god. Therefore, worship him.”

Then said Daniel to the king, “I will worship the Lord my God: for He is the living God. But give me permission, O king, and I will slay this serpant without sword or staff.” The king said, “I give you permission.” Then Daniel took pitch, fat, and hair, and boiled them together, and made cakes, and he put them in the serpent’s mouth. And after eating them, the serpent open, and Daniel said, “Look, these are the things you worship.”

When the people of Babylon heard what had happened, they were indignant and conspired against the king, saying, “The king is become a Jew; he hath destroyed Bel, slain the serpent, and put the priests to death.” So they came to the king, and said, “Deliver Daniel to us, or else we will destroy you and your house.” Now when the king saw that they pressed him hard, he handed Daniel over to them under compulsion. They throw him into the lions’ den, where he stayed for six days. And there were seven lions in the den, and they had given to them two carcasses and two sheep every day, which were then not given to them, so that they might devour Daniel.

Now there was a prophet named Habakkuk in Judea, who had made stew and had broken bread into a bowl, and was going to the field to take it to the reapers. But the angel of the Lord said to Habakkuk, “Go, carry the dinner that you have to Babylon, to Daniel, who is in the lions’ den.” And Habakkuk said, “O Lord, I have never seen Babylon, and I do not know where the den is.” Then the angel of the Lord took him by the crown of his head, and carried him by the hair of his head, and with the speed of the wind set him in Babylon over the den. And Habakkuk cried out, saying, “O Daniel, Daniel, take the meal that God has sent you.” And Daniel said, “You have remembered me, O God, and You have not forsaken those who and love You.” So Daniel arose and ate. And the angel of the Lord immediately returned Habakkuk to his own place again.

Now on the seventh day, the king went to mourn Daniel, and when he came to the den, he looked in, and there was Daniel, sitting. Then the king cried with a loud voice, saying, “You are great, O Lord God of Daniel, and there is no other besides You.” And he drew him out, and cast those who were responsible for attempting his destruction into the den, and they were devoured in a moment before his face.