# Job

1 There was a man in the land of Uz named
Job. That man was blameless and upright; he
feared God and turned away from evil.
2 Seven sons and three daughters were born to
him.
3 He owned 7,000 sheep, 3,000 camels, 500
pairs of oxen, 500 female donkeys, and a great
many servants. That man was the greatest of all
the people of the East.
4 His sons would hold feasts in their houses,
each on his own day, and they would send for
their three sisters to eat and drink with them.
5 When the cycle of feasting days was over, Job
would send for them and consecrate them. He
would rise early in the morning and offer burnt
offerings for all of them, one for each, for Job
said, “Perhaps my sons have sinned and cursed
God in their hearts.” This was Job's regular
practice.

6 One day the sons of God came to present
themselves before the LORD, and Satan also
came among them.
7 The LORD said to Satan, “Where have you
come from?” Satan answered the LORD, “From
roaming across the earth and walking about on
it.”
8 The LORD said to Satan, “Have you
considered my servant Job? There is no one like

him on the earth, a blameless and upright man who fears God and turns away from evil."
9 Satan answered the LORD, "Does Job fear God for nothing?
10 Have you not put a hedge around him, his household, and all that he has, on every side? You have blessed the work of his hands, and his livestock have spread throughout the land.
11 But stretch out your hand now and touch all that he has. Surely he will curse you to your face!"
12 The LORD said to Satan, "All that he has is in your hand. Only do not stretch out your hand against him." Then Satan went out from the presence of the LORD.
13 One day, while Job's sons and daughters were eating and drinking wine in their oldest brother's house,
14 a messenger came to Job and said, "The oxen were plowing, and the female donkeys were grazing beside them,
15 when the Sabeans attacked and took them away. They struck down the servants with the edge of the sword, and I alone have escaped to tell you!"
16 While he was still speaking, another came and said, "The fire of God fell from heaven and burned up the sheep and the servants and consumed them, and I alone have escaped to tell you!"
17 While he was still speaking, another came and said, "The Chaldeans formed three bands, raided the camels, and took them away. They

struck down the servants with the edge of the sword, and I alone have escaped to tell you!"
18 While he was still speaking, another came and said, "Your sons and daughters were eating and drinking wine in their oldest brother's house,
19 when a mighty wind came from beyond the wilderness and struck the four corners of the house. It fell on the young people, and they died, and I alone have escaped to tell you!"
20 Then Job arose, tore his robe, and shaved his head. He fell to the ground and worshiped.
21 He said, "Naked I came from my mother's womb, and naked I will return there. The LORD gave, and the LORD has taken away; blessed be the name of the LORD."
22 In all this Job did not sin or charge God with wrongdoing.

# 2

1 One day the sons of God came to present themselves before the LORD, and Satan also came among them to present himself before the LORD.
2 The LORD said to Satan, "Where have you come from?" Satan answered the LORD, "From roaming across the earth and walking about on it."
3 The LORD said to Satan, "Have you considered my servant Job? There is no one like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man who fears God and turns away from evil. He still holds fast to his integrity, though you incited me against him to ruin him without cause."

4 Satan answered the LORD, “Skin for skin! A
man will give all that he has for his life.
5 But stretch out your hand now and touch his
bone and his flesh. Surely he will curse you to
your face!”
6 The LORD said to Satan, “He is in your hand.
Only spare his life.”
7 Then Satan went out from the presence of
the LORD and struck Job with painful sores from
the sole of his foot to the crown of his head.
8 Job took a piece of broken pottery to scrape
himself with as he sat among the ashes.
9 His wife said to him, “Do you still hold fast to
your integrity? Curse God and die!”
10 He said to her, “You are speaking like one of
the foolish women. Shall we accept good from
God and not accept adversity?” In all this Job did
not sin with his lips.

11 When Job's three friends heard of all this
disaster that had come upon him, they came,
each from his own place: Eliphaz the Temanite,
Bildad the Shuhite, and Zophar the Naamathite.
They had agreed to come together to mourn
with him and comfort him.
12 When they looked up from a distance and
did not recognize him, they raised their voices
and wept. Each tore his robe, and they threw
dust toward heaven over their heads.
13 They sat with him on the ground seven days
and seven nights. No one spoke a word to him,
for they saw that his pain was very great.

# 3

1 After this Job opened his mouth and cursed
the day of his birth.
2 Job answered and said,
3 “Let the day perish on which I was born, and
the night that said, ‘A male child has been
conceived!’
4 Let that day be darkness;
let God above not seek it, nor light shine
upon it.
5 Let darkness and deep gloom reclaim it;
let a cloud dwell over it;
let the blackness of the day terrify it.
6 Let thick darkness seize that night;
let it not rejoice among the days of the year
or enter the count of the months.
7 Look, let that night be barren;
let no cry of joy enter it.
8 Let those who curse the day curse it, those
prepared to rouse Leviathan.
9 Let the stars of its twilight be dark;
let it wait for light and have none, and not
see the eyelids of dawn,
10 because it did not shut the doors of my
mother's womb and hide trouble from my
eyes.
11 Why did I not die at birth, come from the
womb and expire?
12 Why did knees receive me, and why were
there breasts for me to nurse?
13 For now I would be lying down in quiet;
I would be asleep, and then I would have
rest,

14 with kings and counselors of the earth who
built up ruins for themselves,
15 or with princes who had gold, who filled their
houses with silver.
16 Or like a hidden stillborn child I would not be,
like infants who never saw light.
17 There the wicked cease their turmoil, and
there those drained of strength rest.
18 There prisoners are at ease together;
they do not hear the taskmaster's voice.
19 The small and the great are there, and the
slave is free from his master.
20 Why is light given to one who suffers, and life
to the bitter in soul,
21 who wait for death, but it does not come, and
dig for it more than for hidden treasures,
22 who rejoice with exultation and are glad
when they find a grave—
23 to a man whose way is hidden, whom God has
hedged in?
24 For my sighing comes before my bread, and
my roars are poured out like water.
25 For the thing I greatly feared has come upon
me, and what I dreaded has reached me.
26 I am not at ease, I am not quiet, I have no rest;
turmoil comes."

# 4

1 Then Eliphaz the Temanite answered:
2 "If someone ventures a word with you, will you
grow weary?
Yet who can hold back from speaking?

3 You have instructed many and strengthened
weak hands.
4 Your words have upheld those who stumbled,
and you have strengthened buckling
knees.
5 But now it comes to you, and you grow weary;
it touches you, and you are dismayed.
6 Is not your reverence your confidence, and the
integrity of your ways your hope?
7 Remember now: who ever perished being
innocent?
Where were the upright destroyed?
8 As I have seen, those who plow iniquity and
sow trouble reap the same.
9 By the breath of God they perish;
by the blast of his nostrils they are
consumed.
10 The lion's roar and the voice of the fierce lion
are silenced, and the teeth of young lions
are broken.
11 The lion perishes for lack of prey, and the
lioness's cubs are scattered.
12 Now a word came to me in secret, and my ear
caught a whisper of it.
13 Amid troubling thoughts from visions of the
night, when deep sleep falls on people,
14 fear and trembling came upon me and made
my bones quake.
15 A spirit passed before my face, and the hair on
my body stood on end.
16 It stood still, but I could not discern its
appearance.
A form was before my eyes;
there was stillness, and I heard a voice:

17 ‘Can a mortal be more righteous than God?
Can a man be purer than his Maker?
18 He puts no trust in his servants and charges
his angels with error;
19 how much less in those who dwell in houses
of clay, whose foundation is in the dust,
who are crushed like a moth!
20 From morning to evening they are shattered;
they perish forever, with no one taking
notice.
21 Is not their tent cord pulled out?
They die without wisdom.’

# 5

1 Call now! Is there anyone to answer you?
To which of the holy ones will you turn?
2 For anger kills a fool, and envy slays the naive.
3 I have seen a fool taking root, but at once I
cursed his dwelling.
4 His sons are far from safety;
they are crushed at the gate, and there is no
one to rescue them.
5 The hungry eat up his harvest, taking it even
from among the thorns, and a snare snaps
at their wealth.
6 For affliction does not come from the dust, nor
does trouble sprout from the ground.
7 For a person is born to trouble, as sparks fly
upward.
8 But as for me, I would seek God, and to God I
would commit my cause.
9 He does great things beyond searching out,
wonders without number.

10 He gives rain over the earth and sends water
over the fields.
11 He sets the lowly on high, and those who
mourn are lifted to safety.
12 He frustrates the plans of the crafty, so that
their hands cannot achieve success.
13 He catches the wise in their own craftiness,
and the plans of the devious are rushed
headlong.
14 They meet darkness by day and grope at noon
as in the night.
15 But he saves the needy from the sword of
their mouths and from the hand of the
powerful.
16 So the poor have hope, and injustice shuts its
mouth.
17 Blessed is the mortal whom God corrects;
do not despise the discipline of the Almighty.
18 For he causes pain, but he binds up;
he wounds, but his hands heal.
19 From six troubles he will deliver you;
in seven, no harm will touch you.
20 In famine he will redeem you from death, and
in war from the power of the sword.
21 You will be sheltered from the lash of the
tongue and will not fear devastation when
it comes.
22 You will laugh at devastation and hunger;
do not fear the beasts of the earth.
23 For you will have a covenant with the stones
of the field, and the beasts of the field will
be at peace with you.
24 You will know that your tent is at peace;

you will inspect your dwelling and find
nothing missing.
25 You will know that your descendants are
numerous, and your offspring like the
grass of the earth.
26 You will come to the grave at full maturity, as
a stack of grain rises in its season.
27 Look, we have searched this out, and so it is.
Hear it, and know it for yourself."

# 6

1 Then Job answered:
2 "If only my anguish could be fully weighed, and
my calamity placed with it in the
balances!
3 For now it would be heavier than the sand of
the seas;
that is why my words have been rash.
4 For the arrows of the Almighty are within me;
my spirit drinks their poison.
The terrors of God are arrayed against me.
5 Does the wild donkey bray over grass, or the ox
low over its fodder?
6 Can tasteless food be eaten without salt?
Is there any taste in egg white?
7 My soul refuses to touch them;
they are like loathsome food to me.
8 If only my request would come, and God would
grant what I hope for!
9 If only God would be willing to crush me, to
loose his hand and cut me off!
10 Then I would still have this comfort—I would
leap for joy in unrelenting pain—for I

have not denied the words of the Holy
One.
11 What strength do I have that I should wait,
and what is my end that I should be
patient?
12 Is my strength the strength of stones?
Is my flesh bronze?
13 Is not my help within me gone, and
resourcefulness driven from me?
14 A despairing man should receive loyalty from
his friend, even if he forsakes the fear of
the Almighty.
15 My brothers have been treacherous like a
torrent, like the channels of streams that
pass away,
16 darkened by ice, where snow lies hidden.
17 When it grows warm, they dry up;
in the heat they vanish from their place.
18 Caravans turn aside from their way, go up into
the wasteland, and perish.
19 The caravans of Tema look for them;
the travelers of Sheba hope for them.
20 They are ashamed because they trusted;
they arrive there and are disappointed.
21 For now you are nothing;
you see disaster and are afraid.
22 Did I say, ‘Give me something;
offer a payment for me out of your wealth,
23 deliver me from the hand of the adversary,
and redeem me from the hand of the
ruthless’?
24 Teach me, and I will be silent;
make me understand where I have gone
wrong.

25 How forceful are honest words!
But what does your reproof prove?
26 Do you intend to reprove words and treat the
words of a despairing man as wind?
27 You would even cast lots over an orphan and
bargain over your friend.
28 Now, please, look at me.
Would I lie to your face?
29 Reconsider, please;
let there be no injustice.
Reconsider again;
my righteousness is at stake.
30 Is there injustice on my tongue?
Can my palate not discern what is perverse?

# 7

1 Does not a mortal have hard service on earth?
Are not his days like those of a hired
worker?
2 Like a slave who longs for shade, like a hired
worker who waits for his wages,
3 so I have been allotted months of emptiness,
and nights of trouble have been assigned
to me.
4 When I lie down, I say, 'When will I get up?'
The night drags on, and I am weary with
tossing until dawn.
5 My flesh is clothed with worms and clods of
dust;
my skin hardens and oozes.
6 My days are swifter than a weaver's shuttle,
and they end without hope.
7 Remember that my life is a breath;

my eye will never again see good.
8 The eye that sees me will see me no more;
your eyes will be on me, but I will be gone.
9 As a cloud fades and passes away, so one who
goes down to Sheol will not come up.
10 He will not return again to his house, and his
place will recognize him no more.
11 I too will not restrain my mouth;
I will speak in the anguish of my spirit;
I will complain in the bitterness of my soul.
12 Am I the sea, or a sea monster, that you set a
guard over me?
13 When I say, 'My bed will comfort me, my
couch will ease my complaint,'
14 then you frighten me with dreams and terrify
me with visions.
15 So my soul would choose strangling, death
rather than these bones of mine.
16 I loathe it;
I will not live forever.
Leave me alone, for my days are a breath.
17 What is a mortal, that you make so much of
him, that you set your heart on him,
18 that you examine him every morning and test
him every moment?
19 How long before you look away from me?
Will you not leave me alone long enough to
swallow my saliva?
20 If I have sinned, what have I done to you,
Watcher of humankind?
Why have you made me your target, so that
I have become a burden to myself?

21 Why do you not forgive my transgression and
take away my iniquity?
For soon I will lie down in the dust;
you will seek me, but I will be gone."

# 8

1 Then Bildad the Shuhite answered:
2 "How long will you say these things?
The words of your mouth are a mighty wind.
3 Does God pervert justice?
Does the Almighty pervert what is right?
4 If your children sinned against him, he handed
them over to the power of their
transgression.
5 If you earnestly seek God and plead with the
Almighty,
6 if you are pure and upright, surely he will
rouse himself for you and restore your
righteous dwelling.
7 Though your beginning was small, your future
will grow very great.
8 For ask, please, the former generation, and
give attention to what their ancestors
discovered.
9 For we are of yesterday and know nothing;
our days on earth are a shadow.
10 Will they not teach you and speak to you,
bringing forth words from their hearts?
11 Can papyrus grow tall without a marsh?
Can reeds flourish without water?
12 While still in its freshness, not yet cut, it
withers before any grass.
13 Such are the paths of all who forget God;

the hope of the godless will perish.
14 His confidence snaps, and his trust is a
spider's house.
15 He leans on his house, but it does not stand;
he clings to it, but it does not hold up.
16 He is full of sap in the sun, and his shoots
spread over his garden.
17 His roots wind around a heap of stones;
he looks upon a house of stones.
18 If he is torn from his place, it will deny him,
saying, 'I have never seen you.'
19 Look, such is the joy of his way!
And from the dust others will spring up.
20 Look, God will not reject a blameless man, nor
will he take evildoers by the hand,
21 until he fills your mouth with laughter and
your lips with shouts of joy.
22 Those who hate you will be clothed with
shame, and the tent of the wicked will be
no more."

# 9

1 Then Job answered:
2 "Truly, I know that this is so.
But how can a mortal be in the right before
God?
3 If a mortal wished to contend with him, he
could not answer him once in a thousand.
4 He is wise in heart and mighty in strength.
Who has hardened himself against him and
come through unharmed?
5 He moves mountains without their knowing it,
overturning them in his anger.

6 He shakes the earth out of its place, and its
pillars tremble.
7 He commands the sun, and it does not rise;
he seals up the stars.
8 He alone stretches out the heavens and treads
on the waves of the sea.
9 He makes the Bear, Orion, and the Pleiades,
and the chambers of the south.
10 He does great things beyond searching out,
wonders beyond number.
11 Look, he passes by me, and I do not see him;
he moves on, and I do not perceive him.
12 Look, he snatches away;
who can turn him back?
Who will say to him, 'What are you doing?'
13 God does not turn back his anger;
beneath him bow the helpers of Rahab.
14 How much less could I answer him and
choose my words before him!
15 Even if I were in the right, I could not answer;
I would have to plead with my judge.
16 If I called and he answered me, I would not
believe that he had listened to my voice.
17 For he crushes me with a tempest and
multiplies my wounds without cause.
18 He does not let me catch my breath, but fills
me with bitterness.
19 If it is a matter of strength, look, he is mighty!
If it is a matter of justice, who will summon
me?
20 Even if I were in the right, my own mouth
would condemn me;
though I am blameless, it would declare me
perverse.

21 I am blameless;
I do not care about myself;
I despise my life.
22 It is all the same.
That is why I say, ‘He destroys both the
blameless and the wicked.’
23 If a scourge kills suddenly, he mocks the
despair of the innocent.
24 The earth is given into the hand of the wicked;
he covers the faces of its judges.
If it is not he, who then is it?
25 My days are swifter than a courier;
they flee away without seeing good.
26 They pass like papyrus boats, like an eagle
swooping on its prey.
27 If I say, ‘I will forget my complaint, put aside
my sad face, and brighten up,’
28 I dread all my pains;
I know that you will not hold me innocent.
29 I will be declared guilty;
why then should I toil in vain?
30 Even if I washed myself with snow water and
cleansed my hands with lye,
31 you would plunge me into the pit, and my
own clothes would loathe me.
32 For he is not a man like me, that I could
answer him, that we could go to trial
together.
33 There is no arbiter between us who could lay
his hand on us both.
34 Let him remove his rod from me, and let his
terror not frighten me.

35 Then I would speak and not fear him, but that
is not how it is with me.

# 10

1 My soul is weary of my life.
I will give free rein to my complaint;
I will speak in the bitterness of my soul.
2 I will say to God, ‘Do not condemn me;
let me know why you contend with me.
3 Does it seem good to you to oppress, to reject
the work of your hands, and to shine on
the counsel of the wicked?
4 Do you have eyes of flesh?
Do you see as a mortal sees?
5 Are your days like the days of a mortal, or your
years like the days of a man,
6 that you search for my iniquity and investigate
my sin,
7 though you know that I am not guilty and that
no one can deliver me from your hand?
8 Your hands shaped me and made me in every
part;
yet you destroy me.
9 Remember, please, that you made me like clay.
Will you bring me back to dust?
10 Did you not pour me out like milk and curdle
me like cheese?
11 You clothed me with skin and flesh and wove
me together with bones and sinews.
12 You granted me life and faithful love, and
your care preserved my spirit.
13 But these things you hid in your heart;
I know that this was your purpose:

14 if I sinned, you would watch me and would
not acquit me of my iniquity.
15 If I am wicked, woe to me!
If I am righteous, I cannot lift my head.
I am full of shame;
look at my affliction!
16 If my head rises, you hunt me like a lion;
again you display your wondrous power
against me.
17 You renew your witnesses against me and
increase your anger toward me;
relays of troops are against me.
18 Why did you bring me out of the womb?
If only I had breathed my last and no eye
had seen me!
19 I would have been as though I had never
existed, carried from the womb to the
grave.
20 Are not my days few?
Stop, then, and leave me alone, that I may
have a little joy,
21 before I go, never to return, to the land of
darkness and the shadow of death,
22 a land of gloom like deep darkness, of the
shadow of death without order, where
even the light is like deep darkness.' "

# 11

1 Then Zophar the Naamathite answered:
2 "Should a multitude of words go unanswered?
Should a man of many words be declared in
the right?
3 Will your empty talk silence men?

Will you mock with no one to shame you?
4 You say, ‘My teaching is pure, and I am clean in
your eyes.’
5 But if only God would speak and open his lips
to you,
6 and tell you the secrets of wisdom, for sound
wisdom is twofold!
Know that God overlooks some of your
iniquity.
7 Can you discover the depths of God?
Can you reach the limits of the Almighty?
8 They are as high as the heavens;
what can you do?
Deeper than Sheol;
what can you know?
9 Their measure is longer than the earth and
broader than the sea.
10 If he passes by, imprisons, and convenes a
court, who can turn him back?
11 For he knows deceitful men;
he sees evil.
Will he not take note?
12 An empty-headed man will gain
understanding when a wild donkey's colt
is born a man.
13 If you prepare your heart and spread out your
hands to him—
14 if there is evil in your hand, put it far away,
and do not let injustice dwell in your
tents—
15 then surely you will lift your face without
blemish;
you will be firm and will not fear.
16 For you will forget your trouble;

you will remember it as waters that have
passed away.
17 Your life will rise brighter than noon;
though you are in darkness, you will be like
the morning.
18 You will be confident because there is hope;
you will look about and lie down in safety.
19 You will lie down with no one to frighten you,
and many will seek your favor.
20 But the eyes of the wicked will fail;
escape will be lost to them, and their hope
will be their last breath."

# 12

1 Then Job answered:
2 "Surely you are the people, and wisdom will
die with you!
3 I too have understanding like you;
I am not inferior to you.
Who does not know such things as these?
4 I have become a laughingstock to my friend—I,
who called on God and whom he
answered.
The righteous and blameless man is a
laughingstock!
5 Contempt for calamity is in the thoughts of one
at ease;
it is ready for those whose feet slip.
6 The tents of plunderers are at peace, and safety
belongs to those who provoke God, to the
one who carries his god in his hand.
7 But ask, please, the animals, and they will
teach you;

the birds of the heavens, and they will tell
you.
8 Or speak to the earth, and it will teach you;
the fish of the sea will tell you.
9 Who among all these does not know that the
hand of the LORD has done this?
10 In his hand is the life of every living thing and
the breath of all human flesh.
11 Does not the ear test words as the palate tastes
food?
12 Wisdom is with the aged, and understanding
with length of days.
13 With him are wisdom and might;
counsel and understanding are his.
14 Look, if he tears down, it cannot be rebuilt;
if he shuts a man in, there can be no
opening.
15 Look, if he holds back the waters, they dry up;
if he sends them out, they overturn the
earth.
16 With him are strength and sound wisdom;
the one led astray and the one who leads
astray are his.
17 He leads counselors away stripped and makes
fools of judges.
18 He loosens the bonds of kings and fastens a
belt around their waists.
19 He leads priests away stripped and
overthrows the mighty.
20 He removes speech from the trusted and takes
away the discernment of the aged.
21 He pours contempt on nobles and loosens the
belt of the strong.

22 He uncovers deep things out of darkness and
brings the shadow of death into the light.
23 He makes nations great and destroys them;
he spreads nations out and leads them.
24 He takes away the understanding of the chiefs
of the people of the earth and makes them
wander in a pathless waste.
25 They grope in darkness without light, and he
makes them stagger like a drunken man.

# 13

1 Look, my eye has seen all this;
my ear has heard and understood it.
2 What you know, I know too;
I am not inferior to you.
3 But I would speak to the Almighty;
I desire to argue my case with God.
4 But you are plasterers of lies;
all of you are worthless physicians.
5 If only you would be completely silent!
That would be wisdom for you.
6 Listen, please, to my argument, and attend to
the pleadings of my lips.
7 Will you speak unjustly for God?
Will you speak deceitfully for him?
8 Will you show partiality toward him?
Will you contend for God?
9 Will it go well when he examines you?
Will you deceive him as one deceives a
mortal?
10 He will surely rebuke you if you show
partiality in secret.

11 Will not his majesty terrify you, and his dread
fall upon you?
12 Your maxims are proverbs of ashes;
your defenses are defenses of clay.
13 Be silent and let me speak;
then let come upon me what may.
14 Why should I take my flesh in my teeth and
put my life in my hand?
15 Though he slay me, I will hope in him;
yet I will defend my ways before him.
16 This too will be my salvation, for no godless
man will come before him.
17 Listen carefully to my words;
let my declaration reach your ears.
18 Look, I have prepared my case;
I know that I will be in the right.
19 Who is there who will contend with me?
For then I would be silent and breathe my
last.
20 Only do not do two things to me;
then I will not hide from your face:
21 remove your hand far from me, and do not let
your terror frighten me.
22 Then call, and I will answer;
or let me speak, and answer me.
23 How many are my iniquities and sins?
Let me know my transgression and my sin.
24 Why do you hide your face and count me as
your enemy?
25 Will you terrify a windblown leaf and pursue
dry stubble?

26 For you write bitter things against me and
make me inherit the iniquities of my
youth.
27 You put my feet in the stocks and watch all my
paths;
you mark a boundary around the soles of
my feet.
28 A man wastes away like something rotten, like
a garment eaten by moths.

# 14

1 Man, born of woman, is short of days and full
of turmoil.
2 He comes forth like a flower and withers;
he flees like a shadow and does not remain.
3 Do you open your eyes on such a one and bring
me into judgment with you?
4 Who can bring something clean out of
something unclean?
Not one!
5 Since his days are determined and the number
of his months is with you, since you have
set bounds he cannot pass,
6 look away from him and let him rest, so that he
may enjoy his day like a hired worker.
7 For there is hope for a tree: if it is cut down, it
will sprout again, and its shoots will not
cease.
8 Though its root grows old in the earth and its
stump dies in the dust,
9 at the scent of water it will bud and put forth
branches like a plant.
10 But a man dies and is powerless;

a human being breathes his last, and where
is he?
11 As waters disappear from the sea and a river
runs dry and dries up,
12 so a man lies down and does not rise;
until the heavens are no more, they will not
awake, nor will they be roused from their
sleep.
13 If only you would hide me in Sheol and
conceal me until your anger passes,
appoint me a set time and remember me!
14 If a man dies, will he live again?
All the days of my hard service I would wait
until my relief came.
15 You would call, and I would answer you;
you would long for the work of your hands.
16 Then you would number my steps;
you would not watch over my sin.
17 My transgression would be sealed up in a bag,
and you would cover over my iniquity.
18 But a falling mountain crumbles, and a rock is
moved from its place.
19 Water wears away stones;
its outpourings wash away the dust of the
earth.
So you destroy a mortal's hope.
20 You overpower him forever, and he departs;
you change his face and send him away.
21 His sons are honored, but he does not know it;
they are brought low, but he does not
perceive it.
22 Only his own flesh feels pain, and his soul
mourns over him."

# 15

1 Then Eliphaz the Temanite answered:
2 “Should a wise man answer with windy
knowledge and fill his belly with the east
wind?
3 Should he argue with useless talk, with words
that do no good?
4 But you undermine reverence and diminish
meditation before God.
5 For your iniquity teaches your mouth, and you
choose the tongue of the crafty.
6 Your own mouth condemns you, not I;
your own lips testify against you.
7 Were you the first man born?
Were you brought forth before the hills?
8 Have you listened in God's secret council?
Do you keep wisdom for yourself alone?
9 What do you know that we do not know?
What do you understand that is not with us?
10 Among us are both the gray-haired and the
aged, far older than your father.
11 Are God's consolations too little for you, or a
word spoken gently to you?
12 Why does your heart carry you away, and
why do your eyes flash,
13 that you turn your spirit against God and let
such words out of your mouth?
14 What is a mortal, that he should be pure, or
one born of woman, that he should be
righteous?
15 Look, he puts no trust in his holy ones, and
the heavens are not pure in his eyes.

16 How much less one who is detestable and
corrupt, a man who drinks injustice like
water!
17 I will tell you;
listen to me.
What I have seen I will recount,
18 what wise men have told, without concealing
what came from their fathers,
19 to whom alone the land was given, and no
foreigner passed among them.
20 All his days the wicked man writhes in pain,
through the numbered years reserved for
the ruthless.
21 The sound of terrors is in his ears;
in peace a destroyer comes upon him.
22 He does not believe he will return from
darkness;
the sword lies in wait for him.
23 He wanders about for bread, saying, 'Where is
it?' He knows that a day of darkness is
ready at his hand.
24 Trouble and anguish terrify him;
they overpower him like a king ready for
battle.
25 For he stretched out his hand against God and
defied the Almighty.
26 He rushes at him with neck outstretched, with
the thick bosses of his shields.
27 Though he has covered his face with fat and
laid fat on his flanks,
28 he dwells in desolated cities, in houses where
no one lives, destined to become heaps of
ruins.
29 He will not grow rich, and his wealth will not
endure;

their possessions will not spread over the
earth.
30 He will not escape from darkness;
a flame will dry up his shoots, and by the
breath of his mouth he will depart.
31 Let the deceived man not trust in emptiness,
for emptiness will be his reward.
32 It will be fulfilled before his time, and his
branch will not be green.
33 He will shed his unripe grapes like a vine and
cast off his blossoms like an olive tree.
34 For the company of the godless is barren, and
fire consumes the tents of bribery.
35 They conceive trouble and give birth to evil;
their belly prepares deceit."

# 16

1 Then Job answered:
2 "I have heard many such things;
miserable comforters are you all.
3 Is there an end to words of wind?
What provokes you to answer?
4 I too could speak as you do if you were in my
place.
I could string words together against you
and shake my head at you.
5 But I would strengthen you with my mouth,
and the comfort of my lips would ease
your pain.
6 If I speak, my pain is not eased;
if I stop, what leaves me?
7 But now he has worn me out;
you have devastated all my company.

8 You have seized me, and it has become a
witness against me;
my leanness rises up against me and
testifies to my face.
9 In his wrath he tears me and bears hostility
toward me;
he gnashes his teeth at me.
My enemy sharpens his eyes against me.
10 They open their mouths against me;
with contempt they strike my cheeks;
together they mass against me.
11 God hands me over to the unjust and throws
me into the hands of the wicked.
12 I was at ease, but he shattered me;
he seized me by the neck and smashed me
to pieces.
He set me up as his target.
13 His archers surround me;
he pierces my kidneys without pity and
pours my gall on the ground.
14 He breaks through me with breach upon
breach;
he rushes at me like a warrior.
15 I have sewn sackcloth over my skin and thrust
my horn into the dust.
16 My face is red from weeping, and on my
eyelids is the shadow of death,
17 though there is no violence in my hands and
my prayer is pure.
18 Earth, do not cover my blood;
let my cry have no resting place!
19 Even now, look, my witness is in heaven, and
the one who testifies for me is on high.

20 My friends scorn me;
my eye pours out tears to God,
21 that he would plead for a man with God, as a
son of man pleads for his friend!
22 For a few years will come, and I will go the
way from which I will not return.

# 17

1 My spirit is broken;
my days are extinguished;
graves await me.
2 Are there not mockers with me?
My eye dwells on their provocations.
3 Lay down a pledge, please;
be my guarantor with yourself.
Who will clasp hands with me?
4 For you have hidden their hearts from
understanding;
therefore you will not exalt them.
5 Whoever informs against his friends for
gain—the eyes of his sons will fail.
6 He has made me a byword among peoples;
I am one in whose face they spit.
7 My eye has grown dim with grief, and all my
limbs are like a shadow.
8 The upright are appalled at this, and the
innocent rouses himself against the
godless.
9 Yet the righteous holds fast to his way, and the
one with clean hands grows stronger and
stronger.
10 But all of you, return and come, please;
I will not find a wise man among you.

11 My days have passed;
my plans are broken off, the cherished
thoughts of my heart.
12 They turn night into day, saying, ‘Light is near,’
in the face of darkness.
13 If I look for Sheol as my house, if I spread my
bed in darkness,
14 if I say to the pit, ‘You are my father,’ and to
the worm, ‘My mother and my sister,’
15 where then is my hope?
And my hope—who will see it?
16 They will go down to the bars of Sheol, when
we rest together in the dust."

# 18

1 Then Bildad the Shuhite answered:
2 “How long will you lay snares for words?
Gain understanding, and afterward we will
speak.
3 Why are we counted as beasts, regarded as
stupid in your eyes?
4 You who tear yourself in your anger, will the
earth be abandoned for your sake, or a
rock moved from its place?
5 Indeed, the light of the wicked will go out, and
the spark of his fire will not shine.
6 The light in his tent will grow dark, and his
lamp above him will go out.
7 His vigorous steps will be narrowed, and his
own counsel will throw him down.
8 For his own feet cast him into a net, and he
walks on a mesh.
9 A trap catches him by the heel;

a snare clamps down on him.
10 His cord is hidden in the ground, and his trap
lies on the path.
11 Terrors frighten him on every side and chase
him at his heels.
12 His strength is famished, and calamity stands
ready at his side.
13 It devours parts of his skin;
the firstborn of death devours his limbs.
14 His confidence is torn from his tent, and he is
marched to the king of terrors.
15 What is not his will dwell in his tent;
sulfur will be scattered over his dwelling.
16 Below, his roots will dry up;
above, his branch will wither.
17 His memory will perish from the earth, and
he will have no name in the street.
18 They will drive him from light into darkness
and chase him out of the world.
19 He will have neither offspring nor
descendants among his people, no
survivor where he sojourned.
20 Those in the west are appalled at his day, and
those in the east are seized with horror.
21 Surely such are the dwellings of the unjust,
and this is the place of one who does not
know God.”

# 19

1 Then Job answered:
2 “How long will you torment my soul and crush
me with words?
3 Ten times now you have humiliated me;
you are not ashamed to mistreat me.

4 Even if I have indeed erred, my error remains
with me.
5 If you indeed exalt yourselves against me and
argue my disgrace against me,
6 know then that God has wronged me and
encircled me with his net.
7 Look, I cry, ‘Violence!’ but I am not answered;
I cry for help, but there is no justice.
8 He has walled up my way so that I cannot pass,
and he has put darkness on my paths.
9 He has stripped me of my glory and removed
the crown from my head.
10 He has torn me down on every side, and I am
gone;
he has uprooted my hope like a tree.
11 He has kindled his anger against me and
counted me among his adversaries.
12 His troops come together;
they build up their way against me and
camp around my tent.
13 He has put my brothers far from me, and my
acquaintances have become strangers to
me.
14 My relatives have withdrawn, and my close
friends have forgotten me.
15 Those who dwell in my house and my
maidservants count me as a stranger;
I have become a foreigner in their eyes.
16 I call my servant, but he does not answer;
with my own mouth I plead with him.
17 My breath is repulsive to my wife, and I am
loathsome to the sons of my own body.
18 Even young children despise me;

when I rise, they speak against me.
19 All my intimate friends abhor me, and those I
loved have turned against me.
20 My bones cling to my skin and flesh;
I have escaped by the skin of my teeth.
21 Have pity on me, have pity on me, you my
friends, for the hand of God has touched
me!
22 Why do you persecute me like God and never
have enough of my flesh?
23 If only my words were written!
If only they were inscribed in a book,
24 with an iron stylus and lead, carved in the
rock forever!
25 I know that my Redeemer lives, and as the last
he will stand upon the dust.
26 And after this skin of mine has been
destroyed, in my flesh I will see God,
27 whom I will see for myself, whom my own
eyes will behold, and not another.
My inmost being grows faint within me.
28 If you say, 'How shall we persecute him?' and
claim that the root of the matter is found
in me,
29 be afraid of the sword, for wrath brings the
punishments of the sword, so that you
may know there is judgment."

# 20

1 Then Zophar the Naamathite answered:
2 "Therefore my thoughts make me answer,
because of the agitation within me.

3 I hear a rebuke that shames me, and my spirit
answers me out of my understanding.
4 Do you not know this from of old, since man
was placed upon the earth:
5 that the exulting of the wicked is brief, and the
joy of the godless is only for a moment?
6 Though his height reaches the heavens and his
head touches the clouds,
7 he will perish forever like his own dung;
those who saw him will say, 'Where is he?'
8 He will fly away like a dream, and they will not
find him;
he will be chased away like a vision of the
night.
9 The eye that saw him will see him no more,
and his place will never behold him again.
10 His sons will seek the favor of the poor, and
his hands will give back his wealth.
11 His bones are full of youthful vigor, but it will
lie down with him in the dust.
12 Though evil is sweet in his mouth and he
hides it under his tongue,
13 though he spares it and will not let it go, but
holds it within his palate,
14 his food turns in his bowels;
it is the poison of cobras within him.
15 He swallows wealth, but he will vomit it up;
God will drive it out of his belly.
16 He will suck the poison of cobras;
a viper's tongue will kill him.
17 He will not see the streams, the rivers, the
torrents of honey and curds.

18 He will give back what he toiled for and will
not swallow it;
he will not rejoice in the wealth from his
trade.
19 For he crushed and abandoned the poor;
he seized a house he did not build.
20 For he knew no rest in his belly;
he will not save what he coveted.
21 Nothing escapes his eating;
therefore his prosperity will not endure.
22 In the fullness of his abundance he will be in
distress;
the hand of every sufferer will come against
him.
23 When he is about to fill his belly, God will
send his burning anger against him and
rain it upon him while he eats.
24 He will flee from an iron weapon;
a bronze bow will pierce him.
25 He draws it out, and it comes out of his body;
the gleaming point comes out of his gall.
Terrors come upon him.
26 All darkness is stored up for his treasures;
a fire that no one has fanned will consume
him.
It will go ill with whoever remains in his
tent.
27 The heavens will reveal his iniquity, and the
earth will rise up against him.
28 The goods of his house will depart, flowing
away on the day of his anger.
29 This is the wicked man's portion from God, the
inheritance appointed to him by God."

# 21

1 Then Job answered:
2 “Listen carefully to my words, and let this be
the comfort you give me.
3 Bear with me, and I will speak;
after I have spoken, you may mock.
4 Is my complaint directed to man?
Why should my spirit not grow impatient?
5 Look at me and be appalled;
put your hand over your mouth.
6 When I remember, I am terrified, and
trembling seizes my flesh.
7 Why do the wicked live on, grow old, and
become mighty in power?
8 Their descendants are established before them,
with them, and their offspring before
their eyes.
9 Their houses are at peace, without fear, and the
rod of God is not upon them.
10 His bull breeds without fail;
his cow calves without miscarriage.
11 They send out their little ones like a flock, and
their children dance.
12 They raise their voices to the tambourine and
lyre and rejoice at the sound of the pipe.
13 They spend their days in prosperity and in a
moment go down to Sheol.
14 They say to God, ‘Depart from us!
We have no desire to know your ways.
15 What is the Almighty, that we should serve
him?
What do we gain by pleading with him?’
16 Look, their prosperity is not in their hand;

the counsel of the wicked is far from me.
17 How often is the lamp of the wicked put out?
How often does their calamity come upon them, and does he apportion pains in his anger?
18 How often are they like straw before the wind, like chaff that a storm steals away?
19 ‘God stores up his iniquity for his sons.’ Let him repay the man himself, so that he may know!
20 Let his own eyes see his ruin, and let him drink of the wrath of the Almighty!
21 For what does he care for his house after he is gone, when the number of his months is cut off?
22 Can anyone teach God knowledge, when he judges those on high?
23 One dies in his full vigor, wholly at ease and secure.
24 His pails are full of milk, and the marrow of his bones is well watered.
25 Another dies with a bitter soul, never having tasted good.
26 Together they lie down in the dust, and worms cover them.
27 Look, I know your thoughts and the schemes with which you wrong me.
28 For you say, ‘Where is the house of the noble?
Where is the tent in which the wicked dwelt?’
29 Have you not asked travelers?
Will you not recognize their testimony,

30 that the wicked man is spared on the day of
calamity, that they are led away on the
day of wrath?
31 Who tells him his way to his face?
Who repays him for what he has done?
32 He is carried to the graves, and watch is kept
over the mound.
33 The clods of the valley are sweet to him;
all mankind follows after him, and those
before him are beyond number.
34 How then do you comfort me with emptiness,
when your answers leave only
faithlessness?”

# 22

1 Then Eliphaz the Temanite answered:
2 “Can a man be of use to God?
A wise man benefits himself.
3 Is it a pleasure to the Almighty that you are
righteous, or a gain that your ways are
blameless?
4 Is it because of your reverence that he rebukes
you and enters into judgment with you?
5 Is not your evil great?
There is no end to your iniquities.
6 For you took pledges from your brothers
without cause and stripped the barely
clothed of their garments.
7 You gave the weary no water to drink and
withheld bread from the hungry.
8 The man of power possessed the land, and the
favored man dwelt in it.
9 You sent widows away empty, and the arms of
the fatherless were crushed.

10 Therefore snares surround you, and sudden
terror frightens you,
11 or darkness, so that you cannot see, and a
flood of waters covers you.
12 Is not God in the height of heaven?
Look at the highest stars, how high they are!
13 Yet you say, ‘What does God know?
Can he judge through thick darkness?
14 Clouds conceal him, and he does not see;
he walks on the vault of heaven.’
15 Will you keep to the ancient path that men of
evil trod,
16 who were snatched away before their time,
when a river was poured out upon their
foundation?
17 They said to God, ‘Depart from us.’ What
could the Almighty do for them?
18 Yet he filled their houses with good things.
The counsel of the wicked is far from me.
19 The righteous see and rejoice, and the
innocent mock them:
20 ‘Surely our adversaries are destroyed, and fire
has consumed what remained of them!’
21 Be reconciled with him, please, and be at
peace;
through these things good will come to you.
22 Receive, please, instruction from his mouth,
and lay up his words in your heart.
23 If you return to the Almighty, you will be built
up;
put injustice far from your tent.
24 Put gold on the dust, and the gold of Ophir
among the rocks of the streams.

25 Then the Almighty will be your gold and
precious silver for you.
26 For then you will delight in the Almighty and
lift your face toward God.
27 You will plead with him, and he will hear you;
you will fulfill your vows.
28 You will decree a thing, and it will be
established for you;
light will shine on your ways.
29 When people are brought low, you will say,
'Lift up!' and he will save the one with
downcast eyes.
30 He will deliver one who is not innocent, and
that man will be delivered by the
cleanness of your hands."

# 23

1 Then Job answered:
2 "Even today my complaint is rebellious;
my hand is heavy over my groaning.
3 If only I knew where to find him!
I would come to his dwelling.
4 I would lay out my case before him and fill my
mouth with arguments.
5 I would know the words he would answer me
and understand what he would say to me.
6 Would he contend with me in the greatness of
his power?
No, he would give heed to me.
7 There an upright man could argue with him,
and I would be delivered forever from my
judge.
8 Look, I go east, and he is not there;

west, and I do not perceive him.
9 When he works in the north, I do not behold
him;
he hides in the south, and I do not see him.
10 But he knows the way I take;
when he tests me, I will come forth like gold.
11 My foot has held fast to his steps;
I have kept his way and have not turned
aside.
12 I have not departed from the commandment
of his lips;
I have treasured the words of his mouth
more than my allotted food.
13 But he is of one mind;
who can turn him back?
What his soul desires, he does.
14 For he will fulfill what is appointed for me,
and many such things are with him.
15 Therefore I am terrified at his presence;
when I consider, I am afraid of him.
16 God has made my heart faint, and the
Almighty has terrified me.
17 For I am not cut off because of the darkness,
nor has he hidden deep gloom from my
face.

# 24

1 Why does the Almighty not appoint times?
Why do those who know him not see his
days?
2 Some move boundary markers;
they seize a flock and pasture it.
3 They drive away the donkey of the fatherless
and take the widow's ox in pledge.

4 They thrust the needy off the road;
the poor of the land hide together.
5 Look, like wild donkeys in the wilderness, they
go out to their work, seeking food early;
the steppe gives him bread for the young.
6 They reap his fodder in the field and glean the
wicked man's vineyard.
7 They spend the night naked, without clothing,
with no covering in the cold.
8 They are soaked by the mountain rains and
embrace a rock for lack of shelter.
9 They snatch the fatherless from the breast and
take pledges from the poor.
10 The poor walk naked, without clothing;
hungry, they carry sheaves.
11 Between their walls they press oil;
they tread winepresses, yet go thirsty.
12 From the city men groan, and the soul of the
wounded cries for help, yet God takes no
account of wrongdoing.
13 They are among those who rebel against the
light;
they do not know its ways or remain in its
paths.
14 The murderer rises at the light;
he kills the poor and needy, and at night he
is like a thief.
15 The adulterer's eye waits for twilight, saying,
‘No eye will see me,’ and he covers his
face.
16 In darkness he digs through houses;
by day they shut themselves in.
They do not know the light.

17 For morning is the shadow of death to them all, for each knows the terrors of the shadow of death.
18 He is light on the surface of the waters;
their portion in the land is cursed;
he does not turn toward the way of vineyards.
19 Drought and heat snatch away snow water;
so Sheol snatches away those who have sinned.
20 The womb forgets him;
the worm finds him sweet.
He is remembered no more, and injustice is broken like a tree.
21 He mistreats the barren woman who has not borne and does no good to the widow.
22 He draws the mighty away by his power;
he rises, and no one is sure of life.
23 He gives him security, and he rests on it, yet his eyes are on their ways.
24 They are raised up for a little while, and each is no more;
they are brought low and gathered like all others, and they wither like the head of an ear of grain.
25 If it is not so, who will prove me a liar and bring my words to nothing?”

# 25

1 Then Bildad the Shuhite answered:
2 “Dominion and dread are with him;
he makes peace in his heights.
3 Can his armies be numbered?
On whom does his light not rise?

4 How then can a mortal be in the right before God?
How can one born of woman be pure?
5 Look, even the moon does not shine, and the stars are not pure in his eyes.
6 How much less a mortal, a maggot, and a son of man, a worm!”

# 26

1 Then Job answered:
2 “How you have helped the powerless!
How you have saved the arm without strength!
3 What counsel you have given the one without wisdom!
What an abundance of sound wisdom you have made known!
4 To whom have you spoken these words?
Whose breath has come out of you?
5 The shades of the dead tremble beneath the waters and their inhabitants.
6 Sheol is naked before him, and Abaddon has no covering.
7 He stretches out the north over the void and hangs the earth upon nothing.
8 He binds up the waters in his clouds, and the cloud does not split beneath them.
9 He covers the face of his throne, spreading his cloud over it.
10 He has drawn a circular boundary on the surface of the waters, at the limit of light and darkness.
11 The pillars of heaven tremble and are astounded at his rebuke.

12 By his power he stirs the sea, and by his
understanding he crushes Rahab.
13 By his breath the heavens are cleared;
his hand pierces the fleeing serpent.
14 Look, these are only the edges of his ways;
what a faint whisper we hear of him!
But the thunder of his mighty deeds—who
can understand it?”

# 27

1 Job again took up his discourse and said:
2 “As God lives, who has taken away my right,
and the Almighty, who has embittered my
soul,
3 as long as my breath is in me and the breath of
God is in my nostrils,
4 my lips will not speak injustice, nor will my
tongue utter deceit.
5 Far be it from me to declare you right!
Until I breathe my last, I will not give up my
integrity.
6 I hold fast to my righteousness and will not let
it go;
my heart does not reproach me for any of
my days.
7 Let my enemy be like the wicked, and the one
who rises against me like the unjust.
8 For what hope has the godless when God cuts
him off, when he draws out his soul?
9 Will God hear his cry when trouble comes
upon him?
10 Will he delight in the Almighty?
Will he call upon God at all times?

11 I will teach you about the hand of God;
what is with the Almighty I will not conceal.
12 Look, all of you have seen it;
why then do you speak such emptiness?
13 This is the wicked man's portion with God, the
inheritance the ruthless receive from the
Almighty:
14 though his sons grow many, they are for the
sword, and his offspring will not have
enough bread.
15 His survivors will be buried by death, and his
widows will not weep.
16 Though he heaps up silver like dust and
prepares clothing like clay,
17 he may prepare it, but the righteous will wear
it, and the innocent will divide the silver.
18 He builds his house like a moth, like a booth a
watchman has made.
19 He lies down rich, but he will not be gathered;
he opens his eyes, and he is no more.
20 Terrors overtake him like waters;
a storm steals him away at night.
21 The east wind lifts him up, and he departs;
it sweeps him from his place.
22 It hurls itself at him without pity;
he flees desperately from its hand.
23 They clap their hands at him and hiss him out
of his place.

# 28

1 Surely there is a mine for silver, and a place
where gold is refined.

2 Iron is taken from the earth, and copper is
smelted from stone.
3 Man puts an end to darkness and searches to
the farthest limit for stone in deep gloom
and the shadow of death.
4 He breaks open a shaft far from habitation;
forgotten by passing feet, they hang and
sway far from men.
5 From the earth comes bread, but beneath, it is
overturned as by fire.
6 Its stones are a place of sapphires, and it has
dust of gold.
7 There is a path no bird of prey knows, nor has
a falcon's eye seen it.
8 The proud beasts have not trodden it, nor has a
lion passed over it.
9 He stretches out his hand against the flint and
overturns mountains at the root.
10 He cuts channels through the rocks, and his
eye sees every precious thing.
11 He binds up rivers so they do not weep, and
brings what is hidden to light.

12 But where can wisdom be found?
Where is the place of understanding?
13 A mortal does not know its value, nor is it
found in the land of the living.
14 The deep says, ‘It is not in me,’ and the sea
says, ‘It is not with me.’
15 Fine gold cannot be given in exchange for it,
nor can silver be weighed out as its price.
16 It cannot be weighed against the gold of Ophir,
against precious onyx or sapphire.

17 Gold and glass cannot equal it, nor can it be
exchanged for objects of pure gold.
18 No mention need be made of coral or crystal;
acquiring wisdom is beyond pearls.
19 Topaz from Cush cannot equal it;
it cannot be weighed against pure gold.

20 From where, then, does wisdom come?
Where is the place of understanding?
21 It is hidden from the eyes of every living thing
and concealed from the birds of the
heavens.
22 Abaddon and death say, 'With our ears we
have heard a report of it.'
23 God understands its way, and he knows its
place,
24 for he looks to the ends of the earth and sees
under all the heavens.
25 When he gave weight to the wind and
measured out the waters,
26 when he made a decree for the rain and a
path for the lightning of thunder,
27 then he saw it and declared it;
he established it and also searched it out.
28 And he said to man, 'Look, the fear of the
Lord—that is wisdom, and to turn from
evil is understanding.' "

# 29

1 Job again took up his discourse and said:
2 "If only I were as in the months of old, as in the
days when God watched over me,
3 when his lamp shone over my head and by his
light I walked through darkness!

4 As I was in the days of my prime, when God's
friendship was over my tent,
5 when the Almighty was still with me and my
children were around me,
6 when my steps were bathed in curds and the
rock poured out streams of oil for me!
7 When I went out to the city gate and prepared
my seat in the square,
8 young men saw me and hid themselves;
the aged rose and stood.
9 Princes held back their words and put a hand
over their mouth.
10 The voice of nobles was hushed, and their
tongue clung to their palate.
11 When the ear heard, it called me blessed;
when the eye saw, it bore witness for me,
12 because I delivered the poor who cried for
help, and the fatherless who had no
helper.
13 The blessing of the one about to perish came
upon me, and I made the widow's heart
sing for joy.
14 I put on righteousness, and it clothed me;
my justice was like a robe and a turban.
15 I was eyes to the blind and feet to the lame.
16 I was a father to the needy, and I searched out
the case I did not know.
17 I broke the fangs of the unjust and snatched
the prey from his teeth.
18 Then I said, ‘I will die in my nest and multiply
my days like the sand.
19 My root is open to the waters, and dew spends
the night on my branch.

20 My glory is fresh with me, and my bow is
renewed in my hand.'
21 They listened to me and waited;
they kept silent at my counsel.
22 After my words they did not speak again, and
my speech dripped upon them.
23 They waited for me as for rain and opened
their mouths wide for the latter rain.
24 I smiled at them, and they did not believe it;
they did not cast down the light of my face.
25 I chose their way and sat as chief;
I dwelt like a king among his troops, like one
who comforts mourners.

# 30

1 But now those younger than I mock me, whose
fathers I would have disdained to put
with the dogs of my flock.
2 What use to me was the strength of their
hands?
Their vigor had perished.
3 Gaunt with want and hunger, they gnaw dry
ground in the gloom of waste and
desolation.
4 They pluck salt plants by the bushes, and
broom roots are their food.
5 They are driven from the community;
people shout at them as at a thief,
6 to dwell in the ravines of the streams, in holes
of the earth and among rocks.
7 They bray among the bushes and huddle under
the nettles.
8 Sons of fools, sons of the nameless, they are
whipped from the land.

9 And now I have become their song;
I am a byword to them.
10 They abhor me and keep far from me;
they do not refrain from spitting in my face.
11 For he has loosened my cord and afflicted me;
they have cast off the bridle in my presence.
12 At my right the rabble rises;
they thrust my feet aside and build their
paths of destruction against me.
13 They tear up my path and further my ruin,
with no one to help them.
14 They come as through a wide breach;
amid the ruins they roll in.
15 Terrors are turned upon me;
they pursue my honor like the wind, and my
deliverance passes away like a cloud.
16 And now my soul pours itself out within me;
days of affliction seize me.
17 At night my bones are gouged from me;
my gnawing pains do not sleep.
18 With great force my garment is distorted;
it binds me like the neck of my tunic.
19 He has cast me into the mire, and I have
become like dust and ashes.
20 I cry to you, but you do not answer me;
I stand, and you look at me.
21 You have turned cruel to me;
with the strength of your hand you
persecute me.
22 You lift me up to the wind and make me ride
it;
you melt me away in the storm.

23 For I know that you will bring me to death, to
the house appointed for every living thing.
24 Yet does not one stretch out a hand amid ruin,
when in his calamity he cries to them for
help?
25 Have I not wept for the one whose day was
hard?
Has my soul not grieved for the needy?
26 When I hoped for good, evil came;
when I waited for light, deep gloom came.
27 My inward parts boil without rest;
days of affliction confront me.
28 I walk about blackened, but not by the sun;
I stand in the assembly and cry for help.
29 I have become a brother to jackals and a
companion of ostriches.
30 My skin darkens upon me, and my bones burn
with heat.
31 My lyre has turned to mourning, and my pipe
to the voice of those who weep.

# 31

1 I made a covenant with my eyes;
how then could I gaze at a virgin?
2 What portion is there from God above, what
inheritance from the Almighty on high?
3 Is not calamity for the unjust, and disaster for
those who work evil?
4 Does he not see my ways and count all my
steps?
5 If I have walked with falsehood and my foot
has hurried toward deceit,

6 let him weigh me in just balances, and God will
know my integrity.
7 If my step has turned from the way, my heart
has followed my eyes, and a stain has
clung to my hands,

8 let me sow and another eat, and let my shoots
be uprooted.
9 If my heart has been enticed by a woman and I
have lain in wait at my neighbor's door,
10 let my wife grind for another, and let others
bow down over her.
11 For that is a shameful act, an iniquity
punishable by judges,
12 for it is a fire that consumes to Abaddon and
would uproot all my produce.
13 If I have despised the claim of my manservant
and maidservant when they contended
with me,
14 what will I do when God rises?
When he calls me to account, what will I
answer him?
15 Did not the one who made me in the womb
make him?
Did not the same one form us in the womb?
16 If I have withheld from the poor what they
desired and made the widow's eyes fail,
17 if I have eaten my morsel alone and the
fatherless has not eaten from it
18 —for from my youth he grew up with me as
with a father, and from my mother's
womb I guided her—
19 if I have seen one perishing for lack of clothing
and a needy person without a covering,

20 if his loins have not blessed me as he warmed
himself with the fleece of my sheep,
21 if I have raised my hand against the fatherless
because I saw my help in the gate,
22 let my shoulder fall from its blade, and let my
arm be broken from its socket!
23 For calamity from God was a terror to me, and
before his majesty I could not endure.
24 If I have made gold my confidence and said to
fine gold, 'You are my trust,'
25 if I have rejoiced because my wealth was
great and my hand had gained much,
26 if I have looked at the sun as it shone and the
moon moving in splendor,
27 and my heart was secretly enticed, and my
hand kissed my mouth,
28 this too would be an iniquity punishable by
judges, for I would have denied God
above.
29 If I have rejoiced at the ruin of one who hated
me and exulted when evil found him—
30 I have not let my palate sin by demanding his
life with a curse.
31 Have the men of my tent not said, 'Who has
not had his fill of his meat?'
32 The sojourner did not spend the night outside;
I opened my doors to the traveler.
33 If I have covered my transgressions as men
do, hiding my iniquity in my bosom,
34 because I dreaded the great multitude and the
contempt of families terrified me, so that I
kept silent and did not go out the door—
35 If only I had someone to hear me!
Look, here is my signature!

Let the Almighty answer me!
If only my adversary had written his charge!
36 Surely I would carry it on my shoulder;
I would bind it on myself like crowns.
37 I would declare to him the number of my steps;
like a prince I would approach him.
38 If my land cries out against me and its furrows weep together,
39 if I have eaten its yield without payment and caused its owners to lose their life,
40 let thorns come up instead of wheat, and foul weeds instead of barley!"
The words of Job are ended.

# 32

1 So these three men stopped answering Job, because he was righteous in his own eyes.
2 Then the anger of Elihu son of Barachel the Buzite, of the family of Ram, burned. His anger burned against Job because he justified himself rather than God.
3 His anger also burned against Job's three friends, because they had found no answer and yet had condemned Job.
4 Elihu had waited before speaking to Job, because they were older than he was.
5 But when Elihu saw that there was no answer in the mouths of the three men, his anger burned.

6 Then Elihu son of Barachel the Buzite answered and said,

“I am young in years, and you are aged;
so I held back and was afraid to tell you
what I know.
7 I said, ‘Let days speak, and many years make
wisdom known.’
8 But it is the spirit in a mortal, the breath of the
Almighty, that gives them understanding.
9 Those of many years are not always wise, nor
do elders understand justice.
10 So I say, listen to me;
I too will tell what I know.
11 Look, I waited for your words;
I listened to your reasonings while you
searched for words.
12 I paid attention to you, but look, none of you
refuted Job or answered his words.
13 Do not say, ‘We have found wisdom;
God will drive him back, not man.’
14 He has not directed his words against me, and
I will not answer him with your
arguments.
15 They are dismayed;
they answer no more.
Words have left them.
16 Should I keep waiting because they do not
speak, because they stand still and answer
no more?
17 I too will answer my part;
I too will tell what I know.
18 For I am full of words;
the spirit within my belly presses me.
19 Look, my belly is like wine with no vent;
like new wineskins, it is ready to burst.
20 I will speak and find relief;

I will open my lips and answer.
21 Let me show partiality to no one, nor give
anyone flattering titles.
22 For I do not know how to give flattering titles;
my Maker would soon carry me away.

# 33

1 But now, Job, please hear my words;
listen to all I say.
2 Look, I have opened my mouth;
my tongue speaks in my mouth.
3 My words express the uprightness of my heart;
my lips speak knowledge sincerely.
4 The Spirit of God has made me, and the breath
of the Almighty gives me life.
5 If you can, answer me;
set out your case before me and take your
stand.
6 Look, I am like you before God;
I too was pinched from clay.
7 Look, dread of me will not terrify you, nor will
my pressure weigh heavily on you.
8 Surely you have spoken in my hearing, and I
have heard the sound of your words:
9 'I am pure, without transgression;
I am clean, and there is no iniquity in me.
10 Look, he finds pretexts against me;
he counts me as his enemy.
11 He puts my feet in the stocks and watches all
my paths.'
12 Look, in this you are not right.
I will answer you, for God is greater than a
mortal.

13 Why do you contend with him because he
gives no account of any of his matters?
14 For God speaks once, and twice, though man
does not perceive it.
15 In a dream, a vision of the night, when deep
sleep falls on men as they slumber on
their beds,
16 then he opens men's ears and seals their
instruction,
17 to turn man from his course and keep pride
from him.
18 He holds back his soul from the pit and his life
from passing away by the sword.
19 He is also corrected with pain on his bed and
with unceasing strife in his bones.
20 His life loathes bread, and his soul desirable
food.
21 His flesh wastes away from sight, and his
bones, once unseen, are laid bare.
22 His soul draws near the pit, and his life to
those who bring death.
23 If there is a messenger beside him, a mediator,
one among a thousand, to show man what
is right for him,
24 and he is gracious to him and says, 'Deliver
him from going down to the pit;
I have found a ransom,'
25 his flesh will be fresher than in youth;
he will return to the days of his youthful
vigor.
26 He will pray to God, and God will accept him;
he will see his face with a shout of joy, and
God will restore to man his righteousness.

27 He looks at men and says, ‘I have sinned and
perverted what is right, yet it was not
repaid to me.
28 He has redeemed my soul from passing into
the pit, and my life will see the light.’
29 Look, God does all these things twice, three
times with a man,
30 to bring his soul back from the pit, to be
lighted with the light of the living.
31 Pay attention, Job;
listen to me.
Be silent, and I will speak.
32 If you have words, answer me;
speak, for I desire to justify you.
33 If not, listen to me;
be silent, and I will teach you wisdom.”

# 34

1 Then Elihu answered and said,
2 “Hear my words, you wise men;
listen to me, you who know.
3 For the ear tests words as the palate tastes food.
4 Let us choose what is just;
let us know among ourselves what is good.
5 For Job has said, ‘I am righteous, but God has
taken away my right.
6 Should I lie against my right?
My wound is incurable, though I am
without transgression.’
7 What man is like Job, who drinks mockery like
water,
8 who goes in company with those who work
evil and walks with wicked men?

9 For he has said, ‘It profits a man nothing to
delight in God.’
10 So listen to me, you men of understanding: far
be wickedness from God, and injustice
from the Almighty!
11 For he repays a man for his work and brings
on each one according to his way.
12 Indeed, God does no wrong, and the Almighty
does not pervert justice.
13 Who put him in charge of the earth?
Who set the whole world in place?
14 If he set his heart on himself and gathered to
himself his spirit and his breath,
15 all flesh would perish together, and man
would return to dust.
16 If you have understanding, hear this;
listen to the sound of my words.
17 Can one who hates justice govern?
Will you condemn the righteous and mighty
one?
18 Would you say to a king, ‘Worthless!’ or to
nobles, ‘Wicked!’?
19 He shows no partiality to princes, nor favors
the rich over the poor, for they are all the
work of his hands.
20 In a moment they die;
at midnight a people is shaken and passes
away, and the mighty are removed
without a hand.
21 For his eyes are on a man's ways, and he sees
all his steps.
22 There is no darkness, no deep gloom, where
those who work evil can hide.

23 For he need not examine a man again for him
to come before God in judgment.
24 He shatters the mighty without investigation
and sets others in their place.
25 So he knows their deeds;
he overturns them in the night, and they are
crushed.
26 He strikes them as wicked men in a place
where others can see,
27 because they turned away from following him
and considered none of his ways,
28 causing the cry of the poor to come to him;
and he hears the cry of the afflicted.
29 When he keeps quiet, who can condemn him?
When he hides his face, who can see him?
This applies to a nation and to a man alike,
30 to keep a godless man from reigning and the
people from snares.
31 Has anyone said to God, 'I have borne
punishment;
I will no longer act corruptly.
32 Teach me what I do not see;
if I have done wrong, I will do it no more'?
33 Should he repay on your terms because you
reject it?
You must choose, and not I;
so speak what you know.
34 Men of understanding will say to me, and a
wise man who hears me,
35 'Job speaks without knowledge, and his words
lack insight.'
36 If only Job were tested to the end, because he
answers like men who work evil!

37 For he adds rebellion to his sin;
he claps his hands among us and multiplies his words against God."

# 35

1 Then Elihu answered and said,
2 "Do you consider this just?
You say, 'My righteousness is greater than God's.'
3 For you say, 'What advantage is it to you?
What do I gain by not sinning?'
4 I will answer you, and your friends with you.
5 Look at the heavens and see;
behold the clouds, higher than you.
6 If you sin, what do you do to him?
If your transgressions multiply, what do you do to him?
7 If you are righteous, what do you give him, or what does he receive from your hand?
8 Your wickedness affects a man like you, and your righteousness a son of man.
9 Because of many oppressions they cry out;
they call for help against the arm of the mighty.
10 But no one says, 'Where is God my Maker, who gives songs in the night,
11 who teaches us more than the beasts of the earth and makes us wiser than the birds of the heavens?'
12 There they cry out, but he does not answer, because of the pride of evil men.
13 Surely God does not hear emptiness, nor does the Almighty regard it.

14 How much less when you say that you do not
see him!
Your case is before him, so wait for him.
15 And now, because his anger has not punished
and he has not taken much account of
folly,
16 Job opens his mouth in emptiness;
he multiplies words without knowledge.”

# 36

1 Elihu continued and said,
2 “Bear with me a little, and I will show you, for I
still have words on God's behalf.
3 I will bring my knowledge from afar and
ascribe righteousness to my Maker.
4 For truly my words are not false;
one complete in knowledge is with you.
5 Look, God is mighty and despises no one;
he is mighty in strength of understanding.
6 He does not keep the wicked alive, but gives
justice to the afflicted.
7 He does not withdraw his eyes from the
righteous;
with kings on the throne he seats them
forever, and they are exalted.
8 If they are bound in fetters, caught in cords of
affliction,
9 he tells them of their deeds and their
transgressions, for they have acted
arrogantly.
10 He opens their ears to correction and tells
them to turn from evil.

11 If they listen and serve him, they will finish
their days in prosperity and their years in
pleasures.
12 But if they do not listen, they will pass away
by the sword and die without knowledge.
13 The godless in heart heap up anger;
they do not cry for help when he binds
them.
14 Their soul dies in youth, and their life ends
among male shrine prostitutes.
15 He delivers the afflicted through their
affliction and opens their ears through
oppression.
16 He would also draw you from the jaws of
distress to a broad place with no
confinement, and what is set on your
table would be full of rich food.
17 But you are full of the judgment of the wicked;
judgment and justice take hold of you.
18 Beware lest wrath entice you into mockery;
do not let a great ransom turn you aside.
19 Can your cry for help keep you from distress,
or all the efforts of your strength?
20 Do not long for the night, when peoples are
taken from their place.
21 Take care;
do not turn to evil, for you have chosen it
over affliction.
22 Look, God is exalted in his power.
What teacher is like him?
23 Who has appointed his way for him?
Who has said, ‘You have done wrong’?

24 Remember to magnify his work, of which men
have sung.
25 All mankind has seen it;
mortals behold it from afar.
26 Look, God is great, beyond our knowledge;
the number of his years is beyond
searching.
27 For he draws up drops of water;
they distill rain from his mist,
28 which the clouds pour down and shower on
mankind abundantly.
29 Can anyone understand the spreading of the
clouds, the thunderings of his pavilion?
30 Look, he spreads his light around him and
covers the roots of the sea.
31 For by these he judges peoples and gives food
in abundance.
32 He covers his hands with lightning and
commands it against the assailant.
33 Its roar tells of him;
the cattle also tell of what is coming.

# 37

1 At this too my heart trembles and leaps from
its place.
2 Listen closely to the thunder of his voice, the
rumbling that comes from his mouth.
3 He lets it loose beneath the whole heaven, and
his lightning to the ends of the earth.
4 After it a voice roars;
he thunders with his majestic voice.
He does not hold them back when his voice
is heard.
5 God thunders wondrously with his voice;

he does great things beyond our knowledge.
6 For he says to the snow, ‘Fall on the earth,’ and
likewise to the shower of rain, the
showers of his mighty rain.
7 He seals the hand of every man, so that all men
may know his work.
8 The beast goes into its hiding place and stays in
its den.
9 From the chamber comes the storm, and from
the scattering winds comes cold.
10 By the breath of God ice is given, and the
broad waters are frozen solid.
11 He loads the thick cloud with moisture;
he scatters the cloud of his lightning.
12 It turns round and round under his counsels,
to do all that he commands them on the
face of the inhabited earth.
13 Whether for the rod, for his land, or for
steadfast love, he causes it to come.
14 Listen to this, Job;
stand still and consider the wonders of God.
15 Do you know how God gives them their
charge and makes the lightning of his
cloud shine?
16 Do you know the balancing of the clouds, the
wonders of one complete in knowledge,
17 you whose garments grow hot when the earth
lies still under the south wind?
18 Can you hammer out the skies with him,
strong as a cast metal mirror?
19 Teach us what to say to him;
we cannot set out our case because of
darkness.
20 Should he be told that I would speak?

Would a man ask to be swallowed up?
21 And now men cannot look at the light, bright
in the skies, when the wind has passed
and cleared them.
22 From the north comes golden splendor;
around God is awesome majesty.
23 The Almighty—we cannot find him out.
He is great in power, in justice and
abundant righteousness;
he does not oppress.
24 So men fear him;
he does not regard any who are wise of
heart."

# 38

1 Then the LORD answered Job from the
whirlwind and said,
2 "Who is this who darkens counsel with words
without knowledge?
3 Gird your loins like a man;
I will question you, and you must instruct
me.
4 Where were you when I laid the earth's
foundation?
Tell me, if you have understanding.
5 Who set its measurements?
Surely you know!
Or who stretched a line over it?
6 On what were its bases sunk, or who laid its
cornerstone,
7 when the morning stars sang together and all
the sons of God shouted for joy?
8 Who shut in the sea with doors when it burst
out from the womb,

9 when I made clouds its garment and thick
darkness its swaddling cloth,
10 when I marked out my boundary for it and set
a bar and doors,
11 and said, ‘Thus far you may come, but no
farther;
here your proud waves must stop’?
12 Have you ever in your days commanded the
morning or made the dawn know its
place,
13 so it could grasp the ends of the earth and
shake the wicked out of it?
14 The earth changes like clay under a seal, and
its features stand out like a garment.
15 The wicked are denied their light, and the
uplifted arm is broken.
16 Have you entered the springs of the sea or
walked in the recesses of the deep?
17 Have the gates of death been revealed to you?
Have you seen the gates of deep gloom?
18 Have you comprehended the breadth of the
earth?
Tell me, if you know it all.
19 Where is the way to the dwelling of light?
And darkness—where is its place,
20 that you may take it to its territory and know
the paths to its house?
21 You know, for you were born then, and the
number of your days is great!
22 Have you entered the storehouses of snow or
seen the storehouses of hail,
23 which I have reserved for a time of distress,
for a day of battle and war?

24 What is the way by which light is divided and
the east wind is scattered over the earth?
25 Who has cut a channel for the downpour and
a path for the thunderbolt,
26 to bring rain on a land without a man, on a
wilderness with no one in it,
27 to satisfy the waste and desolate ground and
make grass sprout?
28 Has the rain a father?
Who has begotten the drops of dew?
29 From whose womb did the ice come?
Who gave birth to the frost of heaven?
30 The waters are hidden as beneath stone, and
the surface of the deep is bound fast.
31 Can you bind the chains of the Pleiades or
loosen the cords of Orion?
32 Can you bring out Mazzaroth in its season, or
guide the Bear with her children?
33 Do you know the ordinances of the heavens?
Can you establish their rule on the earth?
34 Can you lift your voice to the clouds, so that a
flood of water covers you?
35 Can you send out lightning bolts, so they go
and say to you, ‘Here we are’?
36 Who has put wisdom in the inward parts, or
given understanding to the mind?
37 Who can count the clouds in wisdom?
Who can tip the wineskins of heaven,
38 when the dust is poured into a solid mass and
the clods stick together?
39 Can you hunt prey for the lioness and satisfy
the appetite of young lions,

40 when they crouch in their dens and lie in
cover, waiting in ambush?
41 Who provides food for the raven when its
young cry to God and wander for lack of
food?

# 39

1 Do you know when the wild goats of the rock
give birth?
Do you watch the deer in labor?
2 Can you count the months they fulfill, and do
you know the time of their birth?
3 They crouch, bring forth their young, and cast
off their birth pains.
4 Their young grow strong and flourish in the
open country;
they go out and do not return to them.
5 Who set the wild donkey free?
Who loosened the bonds of the wild ass,
6 whose home I made the steppe, whose
dwellings the salt land?
7 He laughs at the city's uproar and does not
hear the driver's shouts.
8 He searches the mountains for his pasture and
seeks every green thing.
9 Will the wild ox be willing to serve you?
Will he spend the night at your manger?
10 Can you bind the wild ox with his rope in the
furrow?
Will he harrow the valleys behind you?
11 Will you trust him because his strength is
great, and leave your labor to him?

12 Will you rely on him to bring back your grain
and gather it to your threshing floor?
13 The wing of the ostrich flaps joyfully;
are her wing and plumage like the stork's?
14 For she leaves her eggs on the earth and
warms them on the dust.
15 She forgets that a foot may crush them, or a
beast of the field trample them.
16 She treats her young harshly, as if they were
not hers;
she has no fear that her labor may be in
vain.
17 For God has deprived her of wisdom and
given her no share in understanding.
18 But when she rises on high, she laughs at the
horse and its rider.
19 Do you give the horse his strength?
Do you clothe his neck with a mane?
20 Do you make him leap like a locust?
His majestic snorting is terrifying.
21 His hooves paw in the valley, and he rejoices
in strength;
he goes out to meet weapons.
22 He laughs at fear and is not dismayed;
he does not turn back from the sword.
23 The quiver rattles against him, the gleaming
spear and javelin.
24 With shaking and rage he swallows the
ground;
he does not stand still at the sound of the
horn.
25 At each blast of the horn he says, ‘Ha!’ He
smells battle from afar, the thunder of
captains and the battle cry.

26 Is it by your understanding that the hawk
takes flight and spreads its wings toward
the south?
27 Is it at your command that the eagle soars and
sets its nest on high?
28 It dwells and spends the night on the rock, on
the rocky crag and stronghold.
29 From there it searches for food;
its eyes look far into the distance.
30 Its young suck up blood, and where the slain
are, there it is."

# 40

1 Then the LORD answered Job and said,
2 "Will a faultfinder contend with the Almighty?
Let the one who reproves God answer this!"
3 Then Job answered the LORD and said,
4 "Look, I am of little account;
what can I answer you?
I have put my hand over my mouth.
5 I have spoken once, and I will not answer;
twice, and I will add no more."
6 Then the LORD answered Job from the
whirlwind and said,
7 "Gird your loins like a man;
I will question you, and you must instruct
me.
8 Will you even annul my justice?
Will you condemn me so that you may be in
the right?
9 Have you an arm like God's?
Can you thunder with a voice like his?
10 Adorn yourself with majesty and grandeur;

clothe yourself with glory and splendor.
11 Pour out the fury of your anger;
look at everyone who is proud and bring him low.
12 Look at everyone who is proud and humble him;
tread down the wicked where they stand.
13 Hide them together in the dust;
bind their faces in the hidden place.
14 Then I too will acknowledge to you that your own right hand can save you.
15 Look now at Behemoth, whom I made along with you;
he eats grass like an ox.
16 Look at his strength in his loins, his power in the muscles of his belly.
17 He bends his tail down like a cedar;
the sinews of his thighs are interwoven.
18 His bones are tubes of bronze, his limbs like bars of iron.
19 He is the foremost of God's works;
his Maker can bring near his sword.
20 For the mountains yield food for him, where all the beasts of the field play.
21 He lies beneath the lotus trees, hidden among reeds and marsh.
22 The lotus trees cover him with their shade;
the willows of the stream surround him.
23 Look, if the river surges, he is not alarmed;
he is confident though the Jordan rushes against his mouth.
24 Can anyone capture him while he watches, or pierce his nose with snares?

# 41

1 Can you draw out Leviathan with a fishhook,
or press down his tongue with a cord?
2 Can you put a rush cord through his nose, or
pierce his jaw with a hook?
3 Will he make many pleas to you?
Will he speak gentle words to you?
4 Will he make a covenant with you, so that you
take him as a servant forever?
5 Will you play with him as with a bird, or tie
him up for your girls?
6 Will partners bargain over him?
Will they divide him among merchants?
7 Can you fill his skin with harpoons, or his head
with fishing spears?
8 Lay your hand on him;
remember the battle, and do it no more!
9 Look, his hope proves false;
is not one thrown down at the very sight of
him?
10 No one is so fierce that he dares stir him up.
Who then can stand before me?
11 Who has given to me first, that I should repay
him?
Everything under the whole heaven is mine.
12 I will not keep silent about his limbs, his
mighty strength, and the grace of his form.
13 Who can strip off his outer garment?
Who can enter within his double bridle?
14 Who can open the doors of his face?
Terror surrounds his teeth.
15 His pride is rows of shields, closed with a tight
seal.

16 One draws close to another, and no air comes
between them.
17 They cling to one another;
they hold fast and cannot be separated.
18 His sneezes flash with light, and his eyes are
like the eyelids of dawn.
19 Torches go out from his mouth;
sparks of fire escape.
20 Smoke comes from his nostrils, as from a pot
heated over reeds.
21 His breath kindles coals, and a flame goes out
from his mouth.
22 Strength dwells in his neck, and dismay
dances before him.
23 The folds of his flesh cling together, cast firm
upon him, unmoving.
24 His heart is cast firm as stone, firm as the
lower millstone.
25 When he rises, the mighty are afraid;
at his crashing they purify themselves.
26 The sword that reaches him cannot stand, nor
the spear, the dart, or body armor.
27 He counts iron as straw, bronze as rotten
wood.
28 The arrow does not make him flee;
slingstones turn to stubble for him.
29 Clubs are counted as stubble;
he laughs at the rattling of the javelin.
30 His underside is like sharp potsherds;
he spreads a threshing sledge over the mud.
31 He makes the deep boil like a pot;
he makes the sea like a pot of ointment.
32 Behind him he leaves a shining path;
one would think the deep had gray hair.

33 On earth there is none like him, a creature
made without fear.
34 He looks on all that is high;
he is king over all the sons of pride."

# 42

1 Then Job answered the LORD and said,
2 "I know that you can do all things, and no
purpose of yours can be thwarted.
3 'Who is this who hides counsel without
knowledge?' So I have spoken of what I
did not understand, things too wonderful
for me, which I did not know.
4 'Hear, please, and I will speak;
I will question you, and you must instruct
me.'
5 I had heard of you by the hearing of the ear,
but now my eye has seen you.
6 So I retract and repent in dust and ashes."

7 After the LORD had spoken these words to Job, the LORD said to Eliphaz the Temanite, "My anger burns against you and your two friends, because you have not spoken of me what is right, as my servant Job has.

8 Now take seven bulls and seven rams, go to my servant Job, and offer a burnt offering for yourselves. My servant Job will pray for you, for I will accept him, so as not to deal with you according to your folly. For you have not spoken of me what is right, as my servant Job has."

9 So Eliphaz the Temanite, Bildad the Shuhite, and Zophar the Naamathite went and did as the LORD had told them, and the LORD accepted Job.

10 The LORD restored Job's fortunes when he
prayed for his friends, and the LORD gave Job
twice as much as he had before.
11 Then all his brothers, all his sisters, and all
his former acquaintances came to him and ate
bread with him in his house. They shared his
grief and comforted him over all the calamity
the LORD had brought upon him. Each gave him
one piece of money and one gold ring.
12 The LORD blessed Job's latter days more
than his beginning. He had 14,000 sheep, 6,000
camels, 1,000 pairs of oxen, and 1,000 female
donkeys.
13 He also had seven sons and three daughters.
14 He named the first Jemimah, the second
Keziah, and the third Keren-happuch.
15 In all the land no women were found as
beautiful as Job's daughters, and their father
gave them an inheritance among their brothers.
16 After this Job lived 140 years and saw his
sons and his sons' sons, four generations.
17 Then Job died, old and full of days.

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