

# **Bible in Basic English**

Old Testament  
(Psalms s.d. Malachi)

# Psalms

**1** <sup>1</sup> Happy is the man who does not go in the company of sinners, or take his place in the way of evil-doers, or in the seat of those who do not give honour to the Lord.

<sup>2</sup> But whose delight is in the law of the Lord, and whose mind is on his law day and night.

<sup>3</sup> He will be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, which gives its fruit at the right time, whose leaves will ever be green; and he will do well in all his undertakings.

<sup>4</sup> The evil-doers are not so; but are like the dust from the grain, which the wind takes away.

<sup>5</sup> For this cause there will be no mercy for sinners when they are judged, and the evil-doers will have no place among the upright,

<sup>6</sup> Because the Lord sees the way of the upright, but the end of the sinner is destruction.

**2**<sup>1</sup> Why are the nations so violently moved, and why are the thoughts of the people so foolish?

<sup>2</sup> The kings of the earth have taken their place, and the rulers are fixed in their purpose, against the Lord, and against the king of his selection, saying,

<sup>3</sup> Let their chains be broken, and their cords taken from off us.

<sup>4</sup> Then he whose seat is in the heavens will be laughing: the Lord will make sport of them.

<sup>5</sup> Then will his angry words come to their ears, and by his wrath they will be troubled:

<sup>6</sup> But I have put my king on my holy hill of Zion.

<sup>7</sup> I will make clear the Lords decision: he has said to me, You are my son, this day have I given you being.

<sup>8</sup> Make your request to me, and I will give you the nations for your heritage, and the farthest limits of the earth will be under your hand.

<sup>9</sup> They will be ruled by you with a rod of iron; they will be broken like a potters vessel.

<sup>10</sup> So now be wise, you kings: take his teaching, you judges of the earth.

<sup>11</sup> Give worship to the Lord with fear, kissing his feet and giving him honour,

<sup>12</sup> For fear that he may be angry, causing destruction to come on you, because he is quickly moved to wrath. Happy are all those who put their faith in him.

**3**<sup>1</sup> Lord, how greatly are they increased who make attacks on me! in great numbers they come against me.

<sup>2</sup> Unnumbered are those who say of my soul, There is no help for him in God. (Selah.)

<sup>3</sup> But your strength, O Lord, is round me, you are my glory and the lifter up of my head.

<sup>4</sup> I send up a cry to the Lord with my voice, and he gives me an answer from his holy hill. (Selah.)

<sup>5</sup> I took my rest in sleep, and then again I was awake; for the Lord was my support.

<sup>6</sup> I will have no fear, though ten thousand have come round me, putting themselves against me.

<sup>7</sup> Come to me, Lord; keep me safe, O my God; for you have given all my haters blows on their face-bones; the teeth of the evil-doers have been broken by you.

<sup>8</sup> Salvation comes from the Lord; your blessing is on your people. (Selah.)

**4**<sup>1</sup> Give answer to my cry, O God of my righteousness; make me free from my troubles; have mercy on me, and give ear to my prayer.

<sup>2</sup> O you sons of men, how long will you go on turning my glory into shame? how long will you give your love to foolish things, going after what is false? (Selah.)

<sup>3</sup> See how the Lord has made great his mercy for me; the Lord will give ear to my cry.

<sup>4</sup> Let there be fear in your hearts, and do no sin; have bitter feelings on your bed, but make no sound. (Selah.)

<sup>5</sup> Give the offerings of righteousness, and put your faith in the Lord.

<sup>6</sup> There are numbers who say, Who will do us any good? the light of his face has gone from us.

<sup>7</sup> Lord, you have put joy in my heart, more than they have when their grain and their wine are increased.

<sup>8</sup>I will take my rest on my bed in peace, because you only, Lord, keep me safe.

**5** <sup>1</sup>Give ear to my words, O Lord; give thought to my heart-searchings.

<sup>2</sup>Let the voice of my cry come to you, my King and my God; for to you will I make my prayer.

<sup>3</sup>My voice will come to you in the morning, O Lord; in the morning will I send my prayer to you, and keep watch.

<sup>4</sup>For you are not a God who takes pleasure in wrongdoing; there is no evil with you.

<sup>5</sup>The sons of pride have no place before you; you are a hater of all workers of evil.

<sup>6</sup>You will send destruction on those whose words are false; the cruel man and the man of deceit are hated by the Lord.

<sup>7</sup>But as for me, I will come into your house, in the full measure of your mercy; and in your fear I will give worship, turning my eyes to your holy Temple.

<sup>8</sup>Be my guide, O Lord, in the ways of your righteousness, because of those who are against me; make your way straight before my face.

<sup>9</sup>For no faith may be put in their words; their inner part is nothing but evil; their throat is like an open place for the dead; smooth are the words of their tongues.

<sup>10</sup>Send them to destruction, O Lord; let their evil designs be the cause of their fall; let them be forced out by all their sins; because they have gone against your authority.

<sup>11</sup>But let all those who put their faith in you be glad with cries of joy at all times, and let all the lovers of your name be glad in you.

<sup>12</sup>For you, Lord, will send a blessing on the upright man; your grace will be round him, and you will be his strength.

**6**<sup>1</sup> O Lord, do not be bitter with me in your wrath; do not send punishment on me in the heat of your passion.

<sup>2</sup>Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I am wasted away: make me well, for even my bones are troubled.

<sup>3</sup>My soul is in bitter trouble; and you, O Lord, how long?

<sup>4</sup>Come back, O Lord, make my soul free; O give me salvation because of your mercy.

<sup>5</sup>For in death there is no memory of you; in the underworld who will give you praise?

<sup>6</sup>The voice of my sorrow is a weariness to me; all the night I make my bed wet with weeping; it is watered by the drops flowing from my eyes.

<sup>7</sup>My eyes are wasting away with trouble; they are becoming old because of all those who are against me.

<sup>8</sup>Go from me, all you workers of evil; for the Lord has given ear to the voice of my weeping.

<sup>9</sup>The Lord has given ear to my request; the Lord has let my prayer come before him.

<sup>10</sup>Let all those who are against me be shamed and deeply troubled; let them be turned back and suddenly put to shame.

**7**<sup>1</sup> O Lord my God, I put my faith in you; take me out of the hands of him who is cruel to me, and make me free;

<sup>2</sup>So that he may not come rushing on my soul like a lion, wounding it, while there is no one to be my saviour.

<sup>3</sup>O Lord my God, if I have done this; if my hands have done any wrong;



<sup>4</sup>If I have given back evil to him who did evil to me, or have taken anything from him who was against me without cause;

<sup>5</sup>Let my hater go after my soul and take it; let my life be crushed to the earth, and my honour into the dust. (Selah.)

<sup>6</sup>Come up, Lord, in your wrath; be lifted up against my haters; be awake, my God, give orders for the judging.

<sup>7</sup>The meeting of the nations will be round you; take your seat, then, over them, on high.

<sup>8</sup>The Lord will be judge of the peoples; give a decision for me, O Lord, because of my righteousness, and let my virtue have its reward.

<sup>9</sup>O let the evil of the evil-doer come to an end, but give strength to the upright: for mens minds and hearts are tested by the God of righteousness.

<sup>10</sup>God, who is the saviour of the upright in heart, is my breastplate.

<sup>11</sup>God is the judge of the upright, and is angry with the evil-doers every day.

<sup>12</sup>If a man is not turned from his evil, he will make his sword sharp; his bow is bent and ready.

<sup>13</sup>He has made ready for him the instruments of death; he makes his arrows flames of fire.

<sup>14</sup>That man is a worker of evil; the seed of wrongdoing has given birth to deceit.

<sup>15</sup>He has made a hole deep in the earth, and is falling into the hole which he has made

<sup>16</sup>His wrongdoing will come back to him, and his violent behaviour will come down on his head.

<sup>17</sup>I will give praise to the Lord for his righteousness; I will make a song to the name of the Lord Most High.

**8**<sup>1</sup>O Lord, our Lord, whose glory is higher than the heavens, how noble is your name in all the earth!

<sup>2</sup>You have made clear your strength even out of the mouths of babies at the breast, because of those who are against you; so that you may put to shame the cruel and violent man.

<sup>3</sup>When I see your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have put in their places;

<sup>4</sup>What is man, that you keep him in mind? the son of man, that you take him into account?

<sup>5</sup>For you have made him only a little lower than the gods, crowning him with glory and honour.

<sup>6</sup>You have made him ruler over the works of your hands; you have put all things under his feet;

<sup>7</sup>All sheep and oxen, and all the beasts of the field;

<sup>8</sup>The birds of the air and the fish of the sea, and whatever goes through the deep waters of the seas.

<sup>9</sup>O Lord, our Lord, how noble is your name in all the earth!

**9**<sup>1</sup>I will give you praise, O Lord, with all my heart; I will make clear all the wonder of your works.

<sup>2</sup>I will be glad and have delight in you: I will make a song of praise to your name, O Most High.

<sup>3</sup>When my haters are turned back, they will be broken and overcome before you.

<sup>4</sup>For you gave approval to my right and my cause; you were seated in your high place judging in righteousness.

<sup>5</sup>You have said sharp words to the nations, you have sent destruction on the sinners, you have put an end to their name for ever and ever.

<sup>6</sup>You have given their towns to destruction; the memory of them has gone; they have become waste for ever.

<sup>7</sup>But the Lord is King for ever: he has made ready his high seat for judging.

<sup>8</sup>And he will be the judge of the world in righteousness, giving true decisions for the peoples.

<sup>9</sup>The Lord will be a high tower for those who are crushed down, a high tower in times of trouble;

<sup>10</sup>And those who have knowledge of your name will put their faith in you; because you, Lord, have ever given your help to those who were waiting for you.

<sup>11</sup>Make songs of praise to the Lord, whose house is in Zion: make his doings clear to the people.

<sup>12</sup>When he makes search for blood, he has them in his memory: he is not without thought for the cry of the poor.

<sup>13</sup>Have mercy on me, O Lord, and see how I am troubled by my haters; let me be lifted up from the doors of death;

<sup>14</sup>So that I may make clear all your praise in the house of the daughter of Zion: I will be glad because of your salvation.

<sup>15</sup>The nations have gone down into the hole which they made: in their secret net is their foot taken.

<sup>16</sup>The Lord has given knowledge of himself through his judging: the evil-doer is taken in the net which his hands had made. (Higgaion. Selah.)

<sup>17</sup>The sinners and all the nations who have no memory of God will be turned into the underworld.

<sup>18</sup>For the poor will not be without help; the hopes of those in need will not be crushed for ever.

<sup>19</sup>Up! O Lord; let not man overcome you: let the nations be judged before you.

<sup>20</sup>Put them in fear, O Lord, so that the nations may see that they are only men. (Selah.)

**10**<sup>1</sup>Why do you keep far away, O Lord? why are you not to be seen in times of trouble?

<sup>2</sup>The evil-doer in his pride is cruel to the poor; let him be taken by the tricks of his invention.

<sup>3</sup>For the evil-doer is lifted up because of the purpose of his heart, and he whose

mind is fixed on wealth is turned away from the Lord, saying evil against him.

<sup>4</sup>The evil-doer in his pride says, God will not make a search. All his thoughts are, There is no God.

<sup>5</sup>His ways are ever fixed; your decisions are higher than he may see: as for his haters, they are as nothing to him.

<sup>6</sup>He has said in his heart, I will not be moved: through all generations I will never be in trouble.

<sup>7</sup>His mouth is full of cursing and deceit and false words: under his tongue are evil purposes and dark thoughts.

<sup>8</sup>He is waiting in the dark places of the towns: in the secret places he puts to death those who have done no wrong: his eyes are secretly turned against the poor.

<sup>9</sup>He keeps himself in a secret place like a lion in his hole, waiting to put his hands on the poor man, and pulling him into his net.

<sup>10</sup>The upright are crushed and made low, and the feeble are overcome by his strong ones.

<sup>11</sup> He says in his heart, God has no memory of me: his face is turned away; he will never see it.

<sup>12</sup> Up! O Lord; let your hand be lifted: give thought to the poor.

<sup>13</sup> Why has the evil-doer a low opinion of God, saying in his heart, You will not make search for it?

<sup>14</sup> You have seen it; for your eyes are on sorrow and grief, to take it into your hand: the poor man puts his faith in you; you have been the helper of the child who has no father.

<sup>15</sup> Let the arm of the sinner and the evil-doer be broken; go on searching for his sin till there is no more.

<sup>16</sup> The Lord is King for ever and ever; the nations are gone from his land.

<sup>17</sup> Lord, you have given ear to the prayer of the poor: you will make strong their hearts, you will give them a hearing:

<sup>18</sup> To give decision for the child without a father and for the broken-hearted, so that the man of the earth may no longer be feared.

**11** <sup>1</sup>In the Lord put I my faith; how will you say to my soul, Go in flight like a bird to the mountain?

<sup>2</sup>See, the bows of the evil-doers are bent, they make ready their arrows on the cord, so that they may send them secretly against the upright in heart.

<sup>3</sup>If the bases are broken down, what is the upright man to do?

<sup>4</sup>The Lord is in his holy Temple, the Lords seat is in heaven; his eyes are watching and testing the children of men.

<sup>5</sup>The Lord puts the upright and the sinner to the test, but he has hate in his soul for the lover of violent acts.

<sup>6</sup>On the evil-doer he will send down fire and flames, and a burning wind; with these will their cup be full.

<sup>7</sup>For the Lord is upright; he is a lover of righteousness: the upright will see his face.

**12** <sup>1</sup>Send help, Lord, for mercy has come to an end; there is no more faith among the children of men.

<sup>2</sup>Everyone says false words to his neighbour: their tongues are smooth in



their talk, and their hearts are full of deceit.

<sup>3</sup>The smooth lips and the tongue of pride will be cut off by the Lord.

<sup>4</sup>They have said, With our tongues will we overcome; our lips are ours: who is lord over us?

<sup>5</sup>Because of the crushing of the poor and the weeping of those in need, now will I come to his help, says the Lord; I will give him the salvation which he is desiring.

<sup>6</sup>The words of the Lord are true words: like silver tested by fire and burned clean seven times.

<sup>7</sup>You will keep them, O Lord, you will keep them safe from this generation for ever.

<sup>8</sup>The sinners are walking on every side, and evil is honoured among the children of men.

**13**<sup>1</sup> Will you for ever put me out of your memory, O Lord? will your face for ever be turned away from me?

<sup>2</sup>How long is my soul to be in doubt, with sorrow in my heart all the day? how long will he who is against me be given power over me?

<sup>3</sup>Let my voice come before you, and give me an answer, O Lord my God; let your light be shining on me, so that the sleep of death may not overtake me;

<sup>4</sup>And he who is against me may not say, I have overcome him; and those who are troubling me may not be glad when I am moved.

<sup>5</sup>But I have had faith in your mercy; my heart will be glad in your salvation.

<sup>6</sup>I will make a song to the Lord, because he has given me my reward.

**14**<sup>1</sup>The foolish man has said in his heart, God will not do anything. They are unclean, they have done evil works; there is not one who does good.

<sup>2</sup>The Lord was looking down from heaven on the children of men, to see if there were any who had wisdom, searching after God.

<sup>3</sup>They have all gone out of the way together; they are unclean, there is not one who does good, no, not one.

<sup>4</sup>Have all the workers of evil no knowledge? they take my people for food as they would take bread; they make no prayer to the Lord.

<sup>5</sup>Then were they in great fear: for God is in the generation of the upright.

<sup>6</sup>You have put to shame the thoughts of the poor, but the Lord is his support.

<sup>7</sup>May the salvation of Israel come out of Zion! when the fate of his people is changed by the Lord, Jacob will have joy and Israel will be glad.

**15**<sup>1</sup> Lord, who may have a resting-place in your tent, a living-place on your holy hill?

<sup>2</sup>He who goes on his way uprightly, doing righteousness, and saying what is true in his heart;

<sup>3</sup>Whose tongue is not false, who does no evil to his friend, and does not take away the good name of his neighbour;

<sup>4</sup>Who gives honour to those who have the fear of the Lord, turning away from him who has not the Lords approval. He who takes an oath against himself, and makes no change.

<sup>5</sup>He who does not put out his money at interest, or for payment give false decisions against men who have done no wrong. He who does these things will never be moved.

**16**<sup>1</sup> Keep me safe, O God: for in you  
I have put my faith.

<sup>2</sup> O my soul, you have said to the Lord,  
You are my Lord: I have no good but  
you.

<sup>3</sup> As for the saints who are in the earth,  
they are the noble in whom is all my  
delight.

<sup>4</sup> Their sorrows will be increased who go  
after another god: I will not take drink  
offerings from their hands, or take their  
names on my lips.

<sup>5</sup> The Lord is my heritage and the wine  
of my cup; you are the supporter of my  
right.

<sup>6</sup> Fair are the places marked out for me;  
I have a noble heritage.

<sup>7</sup> I will give praise to the Lord who has  
been my guide; knowledge comes to me  
from my thoughts in the night.

<sup>8</sup> I have put the Lord before me at all  
times; because he is at my right hand, I  
will not be moved.

<sup>9</sup> Because of this my heart is glad, and  
my glory is full of joy: while my flesh  
takes its rest in hope.

<sup>10</sup>For you will not let my soul be  
prisoned in the underworld; you will not  
let your loved one see the place of death.

<sup>11</sup>You will make clear to me the way of  
life; where you are joy is complete; in  
your right hand there are pleasures for  
ever and ever.

**17** <sup>1</sup>Let my cause come to your ears,  
O Lord, give attention to my cry;  
give ear to my prayer which goes not out  
from false lips.

<sup>2</sup>Be my judge; for your eyes see what  
is right.

<sup>3</sup>You have put my heart to the test,  
searching me in the night; you have put  
me to the test and seen no evil purpose  
in me; I will keep my mouth from sin.

<sup>4</sup>As for the works of men, by the word  
of your lips I have kept myself from the  
ways of the violent.

<sup>5</sup>I have kept my feet in your ways, my  
steps have not been turned away.

<sup>6</sup>My cry has gone up to you, for you  
will give me an answer, O God: let your  
ear be turned to me, and give attention  
to my words.

<sup>7</sup>Make clear the wonder of your mercy,  
O saviour of those who put their faith in

your right hand, from those who come out against them.

<sup>8</sup>Keep me as the light of your eyes, covering me with the shade of your wings,

<sup>9</sup>From the evil-doers who are violent to me, and from those who are round me, desiring my death.

<sup>10</sup>They are shut up in their fat: with their mouths they say words of pride.

<sup>11</sup>They have made a circle round our steps: their eyes are fixed on us, forcing us down to the earth;

<sup>12</sup>Like a lion desiring its food, and like a young lion waiting in secret places.

<sup>13</sup>Up! Lord, come out against him, make him low, with your sword be my saviour from the evil-doer.

<sup>14</sup>With your hand, O Lord, from men, even men of the world, whose heritage is in this life, and whom you make full with your secret wealth: they are full of children; after their death their offspring take the rest of their goods.

<sup>15</sup>As for me, I will see your face in righteousness: when I am awake it will be joy enough for me to see your form.

**18**<sup>1</sup> I will give you my love, O Lord,  
my strength.

<sup>2</sup> The Lord is my Rock, my walled town,  
and my saviour; my God, my Rock, in  
him will I put my faith; my breastplate,  
and the horn of my salvation, and my  
high tower.

<sup>3</sup> I will send up my cry to the Lord, who  
is to be praised; so will I be made safe  
from those who are against me.

<sup>4</sup> The cords of death were round me,  
and the seas of evil put me in fear.

<sup>5</sup> The cords of hell were round me: the  
nets of death came on me.

<sup>6</sup> In my trouble my voice went up to the  
Lord, and my cry to my God: my voice  
came to his hearing in his holy Temple,  
and my prayer came before him, even  
into his ears.

<sup>7</sup> Then trouble and shock came on the  
earth; and the bases of the mountains  
were moved and shaking, because he  
was angry.

<sup>8</sup> There went up a smoke from his nose,  
and a fire of destruction from his mouth:  
flames were lighted by it.

<sup>9</sup>The heavens were bent, so that he might come down; and it was dark under his feet.

<sup>10</sup>And he went in flight through the air, seated on a storm-cloud: going quickly on the wings of the wind.

<sup>11</sup>He made the dark his secret place; his tent round him was the dark waters and thick clouds of the skies.

<sup>12</sup>Before his shining light his dark clouds went past, raining ice and fire.

<sup>13</sup>The Lord made thunder in the heavens, and the voice of the Highest was sounding out: a rain of ice and fire.

<sup>14</sup>He sent out his arrows, driving them in all directions; by his flames of fire they were troubled.

<sup>15</sup>Then the deep beds of the waters were seen, and the bases of the world were uncovered, because of your words of wrath, O Lord, because of the breath from your mouth.

<sup>16</sup>He sent from on high, he took me, pulling me out of great waters.

<sup>17</sup>He made me free from my strong hater, and from those who were against me, because they were stronger than I.



<sup>18</sup>They came on me in the day of my trouble; but the Lord was my support.

<sup>19</sup>He took me out into a wide place; he was my saviour because he had delight in me.

<sup>20</sup>The Lord gives me the reward of my righteousness, because my hands are clean before him.

<sup>21</sup>For I have kept the ways of the Lord; I have not been turned away in sin from my God.

<sup>22</sup>For all his decisions were before me, and I did not put away his laws from me.

<sup>23</sup>And I was upright before him, and I kept myself from sin.

<sup>24</sup>Because of this the Lord has given me the reward of my righteousness, because my hands are clean in his eyes.

<sup>25</sup>On him who has mercy you will have mercy; to the upright you will be upright;

<sup>26</sup>He who is holy will see that you are holy; but to the man whose way is not straight you will be a hard judge.

<sup>27</sup>For you are the saviour of those who are in trouble; but eyes full of pride will be made low.

<sup>28</sup>You, O Lord, will be my light; by you, my God, the dark will be made bright for me.

<sup>29</sup>By your help I have made a way through the wall which was shutting me in; by the help of my God I have gone over a wall.

<sup>30</sup>As for God, his way is completely good; the word of the Lord is tested; he is a breastplate for all those who put their faith in him.

<sup>31</sup>For who is God but the Lord? or who is a Rock but our God?

<sup>32</sup>God puts a strong band about me, guiding me in a straight way.

<sup>33</sup>He makes my feet like roes feet, and puts me on high places.

<sup>34</sup>He makes my hands expert in war, so that a bow of brass is bent by my arms.

<sup>35</sup>You have given me the breastplate of your salvation: your right hand has been my support, and your mercy has made me great.

<sup>36</sup>You have made my steps wide under me, so that my feet are kept from slipping.

<sup>37</sup> I go after my haters and overtake them; not turning back till they are all overcome.

<sup>38</sup> I will give them wounds, so that they are not able to get up: they are stretched under my feet.

<sup>39</sup> For I have been armed by you with strength for the fight: you have made low under me those who come out against me.

<sup>40</sup> By you their backs are turned in flight, so that my haters are cut off.

<sup>41</sup> They were crying out, but there was no one to come to their help: even to the Lord, but he gave them no answer.

<sup>42</sup> Then they were crushed as small as dust before the wind; they were drained out like the waste of the streets.

<sup>43</sup> You have made me free from the fightings of the people; you have made me the head of the nations: a people of whom I had no knowledge will be my servants.

<sup>44</sup> From the time when my name comes to their ears they will be ruled by me: men of other countries will, with false hearts, put themselves under my authority.

<sup>45</sup> They will be wasting away, they will come out of their secret places shaking with fear.

<sup>46</sup> The Lord is living; praise be to my Rock, and let the God of my salvation be honoured.

<sup>47</sup> It is God who sends punishment on my haters, and puts peoples under my rule.

<sup>48</sup> He makes me free from my haters; I am lifted up over those who come up against me: you have made me free from the violent man.

<sup>49</sup> Because of this I will give you praise, O Lord, among the nations, and will make a song of praise to your name.

<sup>50</sup> Great salvation does he give to his king; he has mercy on the king of his selection, David, and on his seed for ever.

**19**<sup>1</sup> The heavens are sounding the glory of God; the arch of the sky makes clear the work of his hands.

<sup>2</sup> Day after day it sends out its word, and night after night it gives knowledge.

<sup>3</sup> There are no words or language; their voice makes no sound.

<sup>4</sup> Their line has gone out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world. In them has he put a tent for the sun,

<sup>5</sup> Who is like a newly married man coming from his bride-tent, and is glad like a strong runner starting on his way.

<sup>6</sup> His going out is from the end of the heaven, and his circle to the ends of it; there is nothing which is not open to his heat.

<sup>7</sup> The law of the Lord is good, giving new life to the soul: the witness of the Lord is certain, giving wisdom to the foolish.

<sup>8</sup> The orders of the Lord are right, making glad the heart: the rule of the Lord is holy, giving light to the eyes.

<sup>9</sup> The fear of the Lord is clean, and has no end; the decisions of the Lord are true and full of righteousness.

<sup>10</sup> More to be desired are they than gold, even than much shining gold; sweeter than the dropping honey.

<sup>11</sup> By them is your servant made conscious of danger, and in keeping them there is great reward.

<sup>12</sup>Who has full knowledge of his errors?  
make me clean from secret evil.

<sup>13</sup>Keep your servant back from sins of  
pride; let them not have rule over me:  
then will I be upright and free from great  
sin.

<sup>14</sup>Let the words of my mouth and the  
thoughts of my heart be pleasing in  
your eyes, O Lord, my strength and my  
salvation.

**20**<sup>1</sup>May the Lord give ear to you in  
the day of trouble; may you be  
placed on high by the name of the God  
of Jacob;

<sup>2</sup>May he send you help from the holy  
place, and give you strength from Zion;

<sup>3</sup>May he keep all your offerings in  
mind, and be pleased with the fat of your  
burned offerings; (Selah.)

<sup>4</sup>May he give you your hearts desire,  
and put all your purposes into effect.

<sup>5</sup>We will be glad in your salvation, and  
in the name of our God we will put up  
our flags: may the Lord give you all your  
requests.

<sup>6</sup>Now am I certain that the Lord gives  
salvation to his king; he will give him an

answer from his holy heaven with the strength of salvation in his right hand.

<sup>7</sup>Some put their faith in carriages and some in horses; but we will be strong in the name of the Lord our God.

<sup>8</sup>They are bent down and made low; but we have been lifted up.

<sup>9</sup>Come to our help, Lord: let the king give ear to our cry.

**21** <sup>1</sup>The king will be glad in your strength, O Lord; how great will be his delight in your salvation!

<sup>2</sup>You have given him his hearts desire, and have not kept back the request of his lips. (Selah.)

<sup>3</sup>For you go before him with the blessings of good things: you put a crown of fair gold on his head.

<sup>4</sup>He made request to you for life, and you gave it to him, long life for ever and ever.

<sup>5</sup>His glory is great in your salvation: honour and authority have you put on him.

<sup>6</sup>For you have made him a blessing for ever: you have given him joy in the light of your face.

<sup>7</sup>For the king has faith in the Lord, and through the mercy of the Most High he will not be moved.

<sup>8</sup>Your hand will make a search for all your haters; your right hand will be hard on all those who are against you.

<sup>9</sup>You will make them like a flaming oven before you; the Lord in his wrath will put an end to them, and they will be burned up in the fire.

<sup>10</sup>Their fruit will be cut off from the earth, and their seed from among the children of men.

<sup>11</sup>For their thoughts were bitter against you: they had an evil design in their minds, which they were not able to put into effect.

<sup>12</sup>Their backs will be turned when you make ready the cords of your bow against their faces.

<sup>13</sup>Be lifted up, O Lord, in your strength; so will we make songs in praise of your power.

**22**<sup>1</sup> My God, my God, why are you turned away from me? why are you so far from helping me, and from the words of my crying?



<sup>2</sup>O my God, I make my cry in the day,  
and you give no answer; and in the  
night, and have no rest.

<sup>3</sup>But you are holy, O you who are  
seated among the praises of Israel.

<sup>4</sup>Our fathers had faith in you: they had  
faith and you were their saviour.

<sup>5</sup>They sent up their cry to you and were  
made free: they put their faith in you  
and were not put to shame.

<sup>6</sup>But I am a worm and not a man;  
cursed by men, and looked down on by  
the people.

<sup>7</sup>I am laughed at by all those who see  
me: pushing out their lips and shaking  
their heads they say,

<sup>8</sup>He put his faith in the Lord; let the  
Lord be his saviour now: let the Lord be  
his saviour, because he had delight in  
him.

<sup>9</sup>But it was you who took care of me  
from the day of my birth: you gave me  
faith even from my mothers breasts.

<sup>10</sup>I was in your hands even before my  
birth; you are my God from the time  
when I was in my mothers body.

<sup>11</sup>Be not far from me, for trouble is  
near; there is no one to give help.

<sup>12</sup>A great herd of oxen is round me: I am shut in by the strong oxen of Bashan.

<sup>13</sup>I saw their mouths wide open, like lions crying after food.

<sup>14</sup>I am flowing away like water, and all my bones are out of place: my heart is like wax, it has become soft in my body.

<sup>15</sup>My throat is dry like a broken vessel; my tongue is fixed to the roof of my mouth, and the dust of death is on my lips.

<sup>16</sup>Dogs have come round me: I am shut in by the band of evil-doers; they made wounds in my hands and feet.

<sup>17</sup>I am able to see all my bones; their looks are fixed on me:

<sup>18</sup>They make a division of my robes among them, by the decision of chance they take my clothing.

<sup>19</sup>Do not be far from me, O Lord: O my strength, come quickly to my help.

<sup>20</sup>Make my soul safe from the sword, my life from the power of the dog.

<sup>21</sup>Be my saviour from the lions mouth; let me go free from the horns of the cruel oxen.

<sup>22</sup>I will give the knowledge of your name to my brothers: I will give you praise among the people.

<sup>23</sup>You who have fear of the Lord, give him praise; all you seed of Jacob, give him glory; go in fear of him, all you seed of Israel.

<sup>24</sup>For he has not been unmoved by the pain of him who is troubled; or kept his face covered from him; but he has given an answer to his cry.

<sup>25</sup>My praise will be of you in the great meeting: I will make my offerings before his worshippers.

<sup>26</sup>The poor will have a feast of good things: those who make search for the Lord will give him praise: your heart will have life for ever.

<sup>27</sup>All the ends of the earth will keep it in mind and be turned to the Lord: all the families of the nations will give him worship.

<sup>28</sup>For the kingdom is the Lords; he is the ruler among the nations.

<sup>29</sup>All the fat ones of the earth will give him worship; all those who go down to the dust will make themselves low

before him, even he who has not enough for the life of his soul.

<sup>30</sup>A seed will be his servant; the doings of the Lord will be made clear to the generation which comes after.

<sup>31</sup>They will come and make his righteousness clear to a people of the future because he has done this.

**23**<sup>1</sup>The Lord takes care of me as his sheep; I will not be without any good thing.

<sup>2</sup>He makes a resting-place for me in the green fields: he is my guide by the quiet waters.

<sup>3</sup>He gives new life to my soul: he is my guide in the ways of righteousness because of his name.

<sup>4</sup>Yes, though I go through the valley of deep shade, I will have no fear of evil; for you are with me, your rod and your support are my comfort.

<sup>5</sup>You make ready a table for me in front of my haters: you put oil on my head; my cup is overflowing.

<sup>6</sup>Truly, blessing and mercy will be with me all the days of my life; and I will have a place in the house of the Lord all my days.

**24**<sup>1</sup> The earth is the Lords, with all its wealth; the world and all the people living in it.

<sup>2</sup> For by him it was based on the seas, and made strong on the deep rivers.

<sup>3</sup> Who may go up into the hill of the Lord? and who may come into his holy place?

<sup>4</sup> He who has clean hands and a true heart; whose desire has not gone out to foolish things, who has not taken a false oath.

<sup>5</sup> He will have blessing from the Lord, and righteousness from the God of his salvation.

<sup>6</sup> This is the generation of those whose hearts are turned to you, even to your face, O God of Jacob. (Selah.)

<sup>7</sup> Let your heads be lifted up, O doors; be lifted up, O you eternal doors: that the King of glory may come in.

<sup>8</sup> Who is the King of glory? The Lord of strength and power, the Lord strong in war.

<sup>9</sup> Let your heads be lifted up, O doors; let them be lifted up, O you eternal doors: that the King of glory may come in.

<sup>10</sup>Who is the King of glory? The Lord of armies, he is the King of glory. (Selah.)

**25**<sup>1</sup>To you, O Lord, my soul is lifted up.

<sup>2</sup>O my God, I have put my faith in you, let me not be shamed; let not my haters be glorying over me.

<sup>3</sup>Let no servant of yours be put to shame; may those be shamed who are false without cause.

<sup>4</sup>Make your steps clear to me, O Lord; give me knowledge of your ways.

<sup>5</sup>Be my guide and teacher in the true way; for you are the God of my salvation; I am waiting for your word all the day.

<sup>6</sup>O Lord, keep in mind your pity and your mercies; for they have been from the earliest times.

<sup>7</sup>Do not keep in mind my sins when I was young, or my wrongdoing: let your memory of me be full of mercy, O Lord, because of your righteousness.

<sup>8</sup>Good and upright is the Lord: so he will be the teacher of sinners in the way.

<sup>9</sup>He will be an upright guide to the poor in spirit: he will make his way clear to them.

<sup>10</sup>All the ways of the Lord are mercy and good faith for those who keep his agreement and his witness.

<sup>11</sup>Because of your name, O Lord, let me have forgiveness for my sin, which is very great.

<sup>12</sup>If a man has the fear of the Lord, the Lord will be his teacher in the way of his pleasure.

<sup>13</sup>His soul will be full of good things, and his seed will have the earth for its heritage.

<sup>14</sup>The secret of the Lord is with those in whose hearts is the fear of him; he will make his agreement clear to them.

<sup>15</sup>My eyes are turned to the Lord at all times; for he will take my feet out of the net.

<sup>16</sup>Be turned to me, and have mercy on me; for I am troubled and have no helper.

<sup>17</sup>The troubles of my heart are increased: O take me out of my sorrows.

<sup>18</sup>Give thought to my grief and my pain; and take away all my sins.

<sup>19</sup>See how those who are against me are increased, for bitter is their hate of me.

<sup>20</sup>O keep my soul, and take me out of danger: let me not be shamed, for I have put my faith in you.

<sup>21</sup>For my clean and upright ways keep me safe, because my hope is in you.

<sup>22</sup>Give Israel salvation, O God, out of all his troubles.

**26** <sup>1</sup>O Lord, be my judge, for my behaviour has been upright: I have put my faith in the Lord, I am not in danger of slipping.

<sup>2</sup>Put me in the scales, O Lord, so that I may be tested; let the fire make clean my thoughts and my heart.

<sup>3</sup>For your mercy is before my eyes; and I have gone in the way of your good faith.

<sup>4</sup>I have not taken my seat with foolish persons, and I do not go with false men.

<sup>5</sup>I have been a hater of the band of wrongdoers, and I will not be seated among sinners.

<sup>6</sup>I will make my hands clean from sin; so will I go round your altar, O Lord;

<sup>7</sup>That I may give out the voice of praise, and make public all the wonders which you have done.



<sup>8</sup>Lord, your house has been dear to me, and the resting-place of your glory.

<sup>9</sup>Let not my soul be numbered among sinners, or my life among men of blood;

<sup>10</sup>In whose hands are evil designs, and whose right hands take money for judging falsely.

<sup>11</sup>But as for me, I will go on in my upright ways: be my saviour, and have mercy on me.

<sup>12</sup>I have a safe resting-place for my feet; I will give praise to the Lord in the meetings of the people.

**27** <sup>1</sup>The Lord is my light and my salvation; who is then a cause of fear to me? the Lord is the strength of my life; who is a danger to me?

<sup>2</sup>When evil-doers, even my haters, came on me to put an end to me, they were broken and put to shame.

<sup>3</sup>Even if an army came against me with its tents, my heart would have no fear: if war was made on me, my faith would not be moved.

<sup>4</sup>One prayer have I made to the Lord, and this is my hearts desire; that I may have a place in the house of the Lord all

the days of my life, looking on his glory, and getting wisdom in his Temple.

<sup>5</sup>For in the time of trouble he will keep me safe in his tent: in the secret place of his tent he will keep me from mens eyes; high on a rock he will put me.

<sup>6</sup>And now my head will be lifted up higher than my haters who are round me: because of this I will make offerings of joy in his tent; I will make a song, truly I will make a song of praise to the Lord.

<sup>7</sup>O Lord, let the voice of my cry come to your ears: have mercy on me, and give me an answer.

<sup>8</sup>When you said, Make search for my face, my heart said to you, For your face will I make my search.

<sup>9</sup>Let not your face be covered from me; do not put away your servant in wrath; you have been my help: do not give me up or take your support from me, O God of my salvation.

<sup>10</sup>When my father and my mother are turned away from me, then the Lord will be my support.

<sup>11</sup> Make your way clear to me, O Lord, guiding me by the right way, because of my haters.

<sup>12</sup> Do not give me into their hands, because false witnesses have come out against me, and men breathing destruction.

<sup>13</sup> I had almost given up my hope of seeing the blessing of the Lord in the land of the living.

<sup>14</sup> Let your hope be in the Lord: take heart and be strong; yes, let your hope be in the Lord.

**28**<sup>1</sup> My cry goes up to you, O Lord, my Rock; do not keep back your answer from me, so that I may not become like those who go down into the underworld.

<sup>2</sup> Give ear to the voice of my prayer, when I am crying to you, when my hands are lifted up to your holy place.

<sup>3</sup> Do not take me away with the sinners and the workers of evil, who say words of peace to their neighbours, but evil is in their hearts.

<sup>4</sup> Give them the right reward of their acts, and of their evil doings: give them

punishment for the works of their hands, let them have their full reward.

<sup>5</sup>Because they have no respect for the works of the Lord, or for the things which his hands have made, they will be broken down and not lifted up by him.

<sup>6</sup>May the Lord be praised, because he has given ear to the voice of my prayer.

<sup>7</sup>The Lord is my strength and my breastplate, my heart had faith in him and I am helped; for this cause my heart is full of rapture, and I will give him praise in my song.

<sup>8</sup>The Lord is their strength, and a strong place of salvation for his king.

<sup>9</sup>Be a saviour to your people, and send a blessing on your heritage: be their guide, and let them be lifted up for ever.

**29**<sup>1</sup> Give to the Lord, you sons of the gods, give to the Lord glory and strength.

<sup>2</sup>Give to the Lord the full glory of his name; give him worship in holy robes.

<sup>3</sup>The voice of the Lord is on the waters: the God of glory is thundering, the Lord is on the great waters.

<sup>4</sup>The voice of the Lord is full of power; the voice of the Lord has a noble sound.

<sup>5</sup>By the voice of the Lord are the cedar-trees broken, even the cedars of Lebanon are broken by the Lord.

<sup>6</sup>He makes them go jumping about like a young ox; Lebanon and Sirion like a young mountain ox.

<sup>7</sup>At the voice of the Lord flames of fire are seen.

<sup>8</sup>At the voice of the Lord there is a shaking in the waste land, even a shaking in the waste land of Kadesh.

<sup>9</sup>At the voice of the Lord the roes give birth, the leaves are taken from the trees: in his Temple everything says, Glory.

<sup>10</sup>The Lord had his seat as king when the waters came on the earth; the Lord is seated as king for ever.

<sup>11</sup>The Lord will give strength to his people; the Lord will give his people the blessing of peace.

**30**<sup>1</sup>I will give you praise and honour, O Lord, because through you I have been lifted up; you have not given my haters cause to be glad over me.

<sup>2</sup>O Lord my God, I sent up my cry to you, and you have made me well.

<sup>3</sup> O Lord, you have made my soul come again from the underworld: you have given me life and kept me from going down among the dead.

<sup>4</sup> Make songs to the Lord, O you saints of his, and give praise to his holy name.

<sup>5</sup> For his wrath is only for a minute; in his grace there is life; weeping may be for a night, but joy comes in the morning.

<sup>6</sup> When things went well for me I said, I will never be moved.

<sup>7</sup> Lord, by your grace you have kept my mountain strong: when your face was turned from me I was troubled.

<sup>8</sup> My voice went up to you, O Lord; I made my prayer to the Lord.

<sup>9</sup> What profit is there in my blood if I go down into the underworld? will the dust give you praise, or be a witness to your help?

<sup>10</sup> Give ear to me, O Lord, and have mercy on me: Lord, be my helper.

<sup>11</sup> By you my sorrow is turned into dancing; you have taken away my clothing of grief, and given me robes of joy;

<sup>12</sup> So that my glory may make songs of praise to you and not be quiet. O Lord my God, I will give you praise for ever.

**31** <sup>1</sup> In you, O Lord, have I put my hope; let me never be shamed; keep me safe in your righteousness.

<sup>2</sup> Let your ear be turned to me; take me quickly out of danger; be my strong Rock, my place of strength where I may be safe.

<sup>3</sup> For you are my Rock and my strong tower; go in front of me and be my guide, because of your name.

<sup>4</sup> Take me out of the net which they have put ready for me secretly; for you are my strength.

<sup>5</sup> Into your hands I give my spirit; you are my saviour, O Lord God for ever true.

<sup>6</sup> I am full of hate for those who go after false gods; but my hope is in the Lord.

<sup>7</sup> I will be glad and have delight in your mercy; because you have seen my trouble; you have had pity on my soul in its sorrows;

<sup>8</sup> And you have not given me into the hand of my hater; you have put my feet in a wide place.

<sup>9</sup>Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I am in trouble; my eyes are wasted with grief, I am wasted in soul and body.

<sup>10</sup>My life goes on in sorrow, and my years in weeping; my strength is almost gone because of my sin, and my bones are wasted away.

<sup>11</sup>Because of all those who are against me, I have become a word of shame to my neighbours; a cause of shaking the head and a fear to my friends: those who saw me in the street went in flight from me.

<sup>12</sup>I have gone from mens minds and memory like a dead man; I am like a broken vessel.

<sup>13</sup>False statements against me have come to my ears; fear was on every side: they were talking together against me, designing to take away my life.

<sup>14</sup>But I had faith in you, O Lord; I said, You are my God.

<sup>15</sup>The chances of my life are in your hand; take me out of the hands of my haters, and of those who go after me.

<sup>16</sup>Let your servant see the light of your face; in your mercy be my saviour.



<sup>17</sup> Let me not be shamed, O Lord, for I have made my prayer to you; let the sinners be shamed, and let their mouths be shut in the underworld.

<sup>18</sup> Let the false lips be shut, which say evil against the upright, looking down on him in their pride.

<sup>19</sup> O how great is your grace, which you have put in store for your worshippers, and which you have made clear to those who had faith in you, before the sons of men!

<sup>20</sup> You will keep them safe in your house from the designs of man; in the secret of your tent will you keep them from angry tongues.

<sup>21</sup> May the Lord be praised, because he has made clear to me the wonder of his grace in a strong town.

<sup>22</sup> And as for me, I said in my fear, I am cut off from before your eyes; but you gave ear to the voice of my prayer, when my cry went up to you.

<sup>23</sup> O have love for the Lord, all you his saints; for the Lord keeps safe from danger all those who are true to him, and gives the workers of pride their right reward.

<sup>24</sup> Put away fear and let your heart be strong, all you whose hope is in the Lord.

**32**<sup>1</sup> Happy is he who has forgiveness for his wrongdoing, and whose sin is covered.

<sup>2</sup> Happy is the man in whom the Lord sees no evil, and in whose spirit there is no deceit.

<sup>3</sup> When I kept my mouth shut, my bones were wasted, because of my crying all through the day.

<sup>4</sup> For the weight of your hand was on me day and night; my body became dry like the earth in summer. (Selah.)

<sup>5</sup> I made my wrongdoing clear to you, and did not keep back my sin. I said, I will put it all before the Lord; and you took away my wrongdoing and my sin. (Selah.)

<sup>6</sup> For this cause let every saint make his prayer to you at a time when you are near: then the overflowing of the great waters will not overtake him.

<sup>7</sup> You are my safe and secret place; you will keep me from trouble; you will put songs of salvation on the lips of those who are round me. (Selah.)

<sup>8</sup>I will give you knowledge, teaching you the way to go; my eye will be your guide.

<sup>9</sup>Do not be like the horse or the ass, without sense;

<sup>10</sup>The sinner will be full of trouble; but mercy will be round the man who has faith in the Lord.

<sup>11</sup>Be glad in the Lord with joy, you upright men; give cries of joy, all you whose hearts are true.

**33**<sup>1</sup>Be glad in the Lord, O doers of righteousness; for praise is beautiful for the upright.

<sup>2</sup>Give praise to the Lord on the corded instrument; make melody to him with instruments of music.

<sup>3</sup>Make a new song to him; playing expertly with a loud noise.

<sup>4</sup>For the word of the Lord is upright, and all his works are certain.

<sup>5</sup>His delight is in righteousness and wisdom; the earth is full of the mercy of the Lord.

<sup>6</sup>By the word of the Lord were the heavens made; and all the army of heaven by the breath of his mouth.

<sup>7</sup> He makes the waters of the sea come together in a mass; he keeps the deep seas in store-houses.

<sup>8</sup> Let the earth be full of the fear of the Lord; let all the people of the world be in holy fear of him.

<sup>9</sup> For he gave the word, and it was done; by his order it was fixed for ever.

<sup>10</sup> The Lord undoes the designs of the nations; he makes the thoughts of the peoples without effect.

<sup>11</sup> The Lords purpose is eternal, the designs of his heart go on through all the generations of man.

<sup>12</sup> Happy is the nation whose God is the Lord; and the people whom he has taken for his heritage.

<sup>13</sup> The Lord is looking down from heaven; he sees all the sons of men;

<sup>14</sup> From his house he keeps watch on all who are living on the earth;

<sup>15</sup> He makes all their hearts; their works are clear to him.

<sup>16</sup> A kings salvation is not in the power of his army; a strong man does not get free by his great strength.

<sup>17</sup> A horse is a false hope; his great power will not make any man free from danger.

<sup>18</sup> See, the eye of the Lord is on those in whose hearts is the fear of him, on those whose hope is in his mercy;

<sup>19</sup> To keep their souls from death; and to keep them living in time of need.

<sup>20</sup> Our souls are waiting for the Lord; he is our help and our salvation.

<sup>21</sup> For in him our hearts have joy; in his holy name is our hope.

<sup>22</sup> Let your mercy be on us, O Lord, as we are waiting for you.

**34** <sup>1</sup> I will be blessing the Lord at all times; his praise will be ever in my mouth.

<sup>2</sup> My soul will say great things of the Lord: the poor in spirit will have knowledge of it and be glad.

<sup>3</sup> O give praise to the Lord with me; let us be witnesses together of his great name.

<sup>4</sup> I was searching for the Lord, and he gave ear to my voice, and made me free from all my fears.

<sup>5</sup>Let your eyes be turned to him and you will have light, and your faces will not be shamed.

<sup>6</sup>This poor mans cry came before the Lord, and he gave him salvation from all his troubles.

<sup>7</sup>The angel of the Lord is ever watching over those who have fear of him, to keep them safe.

<sup>8</sup>By experience you will see that the Lord is good; happy is the man who has faith in him.

<sup>9</sup>Keep yourselves in the fear of the Lord, all you his saints; for those who do so will have no need of anything.

<sup>10</sup>The young lions are in need and have no food; but those who are looking to the Lord will have every good thing.

<sup>11</sup>Come, children, give attention to me; I will be your teacher in the fear of the Lord.

<sup>12</sup>What man has a love of life, and a desire that his days may be increased so that he may see good?

<sup>13</sup>Keep your tongue from evil, and your lips from words of deceit.

<sup>14</sup> Be turned from evil, and do good;  
make a search for peace, desiring it with  
all your heart.

<sup>15</sup> The eyes of the Lord are on the  
upright, and his ears are open to their  
cry.

<sup>16</sup> The face of the Lord is against those  
who do evil, to take away the memory of  
them from the earth.

<sup>17</sup> The cry of the upright comes before  
the Lord, and he takes them out of all  
their troubles.

<sup>18</sup> The Lord is near the broken-hearted;  
he is the saviour of those whose spirits  
are crushed down.

<sup>19</sup> Great are the troubles of the upright:  
but the Lord takes him safely out of  
them all.

<sup>20</sup> He keeps all his bones: not one of  
them is broken.

<sup>21</sup> Evil will put an end to the sinner, and  
those who are haters of righteousness  
will come to destruction.

<sup>22</sup> The Lord will be the saviour of the  
souls of his servants, and no one who  
has faith in him will be put to shame.

**35** <sup>1</sup> O Lord, be on my side against  
those who are judging me; be at

war with those who make war against me.

<sup>2</sup>Be a breastplate to me, and give me your help.

<sup>3</sup>Take up your spear and keep back my attackers; say to my soul, I am your salvation.

<sup>4</sup>Let them be overcome and put to shame who make attempts to take my soul; let those who would do me damage be turned back and made foolish.

<sup>5</sup>Let them be like dust from the grain before the wind; let the angel of the Lord send them in flight.

<sup>6</sup>Let their way be dark and full of danger; let them be troubled by the angel of the Lord.

<sup>7</sup>For without cause they have put a net ready for me secretly, in which to take my soul.

<sup>8</sup>Let destruction come on them without their knowledge; let them be taken themselves in their secret nets, falling into the same destruction.

<sup>9</sup>And my soul will have joy in the Lord; it will be glad in his salvation.

<sup>10</sup>All my bones will say, Lord, who is like you? The saviour of the poor man



from the hands of the strong, of him who is poor and in need from him who takes his goods.

<sup>11</sup>False witnesses got up: they put questions to me about crimes of which I had no knowledge.

<sup>12</sup>They gave me back evil for good, troubling my soul.

<sup>13</sup>But as for me, when they were ill I put on the clothing of sorrow: I went without food and was sad, and my prayer came back again to my heart.

<sup>14</sup>My behaviour was as if it had been my friend or my brother: I was bent low in grief like one whose mother is dead.

<sup>15</sup>But they took pleasure in my trouble, and came together, yes, low persons came together against me without my knowledge; they never came to an end of wounding me.

<sup>16</sup>Like men of deceit they put me to shame; the voice of their wrath was loud against me.

<sup>17</sup>Lord, how long will you be looking on? take my soul from their destruction, my life from the lions.

<sup>18</sup>I will give you praise in the great meeting; I will give you honour among a strong people.

<sup>19</sup>Do not let my haters be glad over me falsely; let not those who are against me without cause make sport of me.

<sup>20</sup>For they do not say words of peace; in their deceit they are designing evil things against the quiet ones in the land.

<sup>21</sup>Their mouths were open wide against me, and they said, Aha, aha, our eyes have seen it.

<sup>22</sup>You have seen this, O Lord; be not unmoved: O Lord, be not far from me.

<sup>23</sup>Be awake, O Lord, be moved to take up my cause, my God and my Lord.

<sup>24</sup>Be my judge, O Lord my God, in your righteousness; do not let them be glad over me.

<sup>25</sup>Let them not say in their hearts, So we will have it: let them not say, We have put an end to him.

<sup>26</sup>Let all those who take pleasure in my troubles be shamed and come to nothing: let those who are lifted up against me be covered with shame and have no honour.

<sup>27</sup> Let those who are on my side give cries of joy; let them ever say, The Lord be praised, for he has pleasure in the peace of his servant.

<sup>28</sup> And my tongue will be talking of your righteousness and of your praise all the day.

**36** <sup>1</sup> The sin of the evil-doer says in his heart, There is no fear of the Lord before his eyes.

<sup>2</sup> For he takes comfort in the thought that his sin will not be uncovered and hated.

<sup>3</sup> In the words of his mouth are evil and deceit; he has given up being wise and doing good.

<sup>4</sup> He gives thought to evil on his bed; he takes a way which is not good; he is not a hater of evil.

<sup>5</sup> Your mercy, O Lord, is in the heavens, and your strong purpose is as high as the clouds.

<sup>6</sup> Your righteousness is like the mountains of God; your judging is like the great deep; O Lord, you give life to man and beast.

<sup>7</sup> How good is your loving mercy, O God! the children of men take cover under the shade of your wings.

<sup>8</sup> The delights of your house will be showered on them; you will give them drink from the river of your pleasures.

<sup>9</sup> For with you is the fountain of life: in your light we will see light.

<sup>10</sup> O let there be no end to your loving mercy to those who have knowledge of you, or of your righteousness to the upright in heart.

<sup>11</sup> Let not the foot of pride come against me, or the hand of the evil-doers put me out of my place.

<sup>12</sup> There the workers of evil have come down: they have been made low, and will not be lifted up.

**37** <sup>1</sup> Do not be angry because of the wrongdoers, or have envy of the workers of evil.

<sup>2</sup> For they will quickly be cut down like grass, and become dry like the green plants.

<sup>3</sup> Have faith in the Lord, and do good; be at rest in the land, and go after righteousness.

<sup>4</sup> So will your delight be in the Lord, and he will give you your hearts desires.

<sup>5</sup> Put your life in the hands of the Lord; have faith in him and he will do it.

<sup>6</sup> And he will make your righteousness be seen like the light, and your cause like the shining of the sun.

<sup>7</sup> Take your rest in the Lord, waiting quietly for him; do not be angry because of the man who does well in his evil ways, and gives effect to his bad designs.

<sup>8</sup> Put an end to your wrath and be no longer bitter; do not give way to angry feeling which is a cause of sin.

<sup>9</sup> For the evil-doers will be cut off: but those who have faith in the Lord will have the earth for their heritage.

<sup>10</sup> For in a short time the evil-doer will be gone: you will go searching for his place, and it will not be there.

<sup>11</sup> But the gentle will have the earth for their heritage; they will take their delight in peace without measure.

<sup>12</sup> The sinner has evil designs against the upright, lifting up the voice of wrath against him.

<sup>13</sup> He will be laughed at by the Lord, who sees that his day is coming.

<sup>14</sup> The evil-doers have taken out their swords, their bows are bent; for crushing the poor, and to put to death those who are upright in their ways.

<sup>15</sup> But their swords will be turned into their hearts, and their bows will be broken.

<sup>16</sup> The little which the good man has is better than the wealth of evil-doers.

<sup>17</sup> For the arms of the evil-doers will be broken: but the Lord is the support of the good.

<sup>18</sup> The days of the upright are numbered by the Lord, and their heritage will be for ever.

<sup>19</sup> They will not be shamed in the evil time, and in the days when all are in need of food they will have enough.

<sup>20</sup> But the wrongdoers will come to destruction, and the haters of the Lord will be like the fat of lambs, they will be burned up; they will go up in smoke, and never again be seen.

<sup>21</sup> The sinner takes money and does not give it back; but the upright man has mercy, and gives to others.

<sup>22</sup>Those who have his blessing will have the earth for their heritage; but those who are cursed by him will be cut off.

<sup>23</sup>The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord, and he takes delight in his way.

<sup>24</sup>Even if he has a fall he will not be without help: for the hand of the Lord is supporting him.

<sup>25</sup>I have been young, and now am old, but I have not seen the good man without help, or his children looking for bread.

<sup>26</sup>All the day he is ready to have mercy and to give; his children are a blessing.

<sup>27</sup>Be turned from evil, and do good; and your place will be for ever.

<sup>28</sup>For the Lord is a lover of righteousness, and takes care of his saints; they will be kept safe for ever; but the seed of the evil-doers will be cut off.

<sup>29</sup>The upright will have the earth for their heritage, and will go on living there for ever.

<sup>30</sup>The mouth of the good man says words of wisdom; the talk of his tongue is of righteousness.

<sup>31</sup> The law of his God is in his heart; he will never make a false step.

<sup>32</sup> The sinners are watching the upright man, desiring to put him to death.

<sup>33</sup> The Lord will not give him into their hands, or be against him when he is judged.

<sup>34</sup> Be waiting for the Lord, and keep his way; and you will be lifted up, and have the land for your heritage: when the evil-doers are cut off, you will see it.

<sup>35</sup> I have seen the evil-doer in great power, covering the earth like a great tree.

<sup>36</sup> But he came to an end, and there was no sign of him; I made a search for him and he was not there.

<sup>37</sup> Give attention to the good man, and take note of the upright; because the end of that man is peace.

<sup>38</sup> But as for the sinners, they will be cut off together; the end of the wrongdoers is destruction.

<sup>39</sup> But the Lord is the saviour of the upright: he is their strength in the time of trouble.

<sup>40</sup> And the Lord will be their help, and keep them safe: he will take them out of



the hands of the evil-doers, and be their saviour, because they had faith in him.

**38**<sup>1</sup> O Lord, be not bitter with me in your wrath; let not your hand be on me in the heat of your passion.

<sup>2</sup>For your arrows have gone into my flesh, and I am crushed under the weight of your hand.

<sup>3</sup>My flesh is wasted because of your wrath; and there is no peace in my bones because of my sin.

<sup>4</sup>For my crimes have gone over my head; they are like a great weight which is more than my strength.

<sup>5</sup>My wounds are poisoned and evil-smelling, because of my foolish behaviour.

<sup>6</sup>I am troubled, I am made low; I go weeping all the day.

<sup>7</sup>For my body is full of burning; all my flesh is unhealthy.

<sup>8</sup>I am feeble and crushed down; I gave a cry like a lion because of the grief in my heart.

<sup>9</sup>Lord, all my desire is before you; my sorrow is not kept secret from you.

<sup>10</sup>My heart goes out in pain, my strength is wasting away; as for the light of my eyes, it is gone from me.

<sup>11</sup>My lovers and my friends keep away from my disease; my relations keep far away.

<sup>12</sup>Those who have a desire to take my life put nets for me; those who are designing my destruction say evil things against me, all the day their minds are full of deceit.

<sup>13</sup>But I kept my ears shut like a man without hearing; like a man without a voice, never opening his mouth.

<sup>14</sup>So I was like a man whose ears are shut, and in whose mouth there are no sharp words.

<sup>15</sup>In you, O Lord, is my hope: you will give me an answer, O Lord, my God.

<sup>16</sup>I said, Let them not be glad over me; when my foot is moved, let them not be lifted up with pride against me.

<sup>17</sup>My feet are near to falling, and my sorrow is ever before me.

<sup>18</sup>I will make clear my wrongdoing, with sorrow in my heart for my sin.

<sup>19</sup> But they are strong who have hate for me without cause: those who are against me falsely are increased in numbers.

<sup>20</sup> They give me back evil for good; they are my haters because I go after the thing which is right.

<sup>21</sup> Do not give me up, O Lord; O my God, be near to me.

<sup>22</sup> Come quickly to give me help, O Lord, my salvation.

**39** <sup>1</sup> I said, I will give attention to my ways, so that my tongue may do no wrong; I will keep my mouth under control, while the sinner is before me.

<sup>2</sup> I made no sound, I said no word, even of good; and I was moved with sorrow.

<sup>3</sup> My heart was burning in my breast; while I was deep in thought the fire was lighted; then I said with my tongue,

<sup>4</sup> Lord, give me knowledge of my end, and of the measure of my days, so that I may see how feeble I am.

<sup>5</sup> You have made my days no longer than a hands measure; and my years are nothing in your eyes; truly, every man is but a breath. (Selah.)

<sup>6</sup> Truly, every man goes on his way like an image; he is troubled for no purpose:

he makes a great store of wealth, and has no knowledge of who will get it.

<sup>7</sup>And now, Lord, what am I waiting for? my hope is in you.

<sup>8</sup>Make me free from all my sins; do not let me be shamed by the man of evil behaviour.

<sup>9</sup>I was quiet, and kept my mouth shut; because you had done it.

<sup>10</sup>No longer let your hand be hard on me; I am wasted by the blows of your hand.

<sup>11</sup>By the weight of your wrath against mans sin, the glory of his form is wasted away; truly every man is but a breath. (Selah.)

<sup>12</sup>Let my prayer come to your ears, O Lord, and give attention to my cry, make an answer to my weeping: for my time here is short before you, and in a little time I will be gone, like all my fathers.

<sup>13</sup>Let your wrath be turned away from me, so that I may be comforted, before I go away from here, and become nothing.

**40**<sup>1</sup>When I was waiting quietly for the Lord, his heart was turned to me, and he gave ear to my cry.

<sup>2</sup>He took me up out of a deep waste place, out of the soft and sticky earth; he put my feet on a rock, and made my steps certain.

<sup>3</sup>And he put a new song in my mouth, even praise to our God; numbers have seen it with fear, and put their faith in the Lord.

<sup>4</sup>Happy is the man who has faith in the Lord, and does not give honour to the men of pride or to those who are turned away to deceit.

<sup>5</sup>O Lord my God, great are the wonders which you have done in your thought for us; it is not possible to put them out in order before you; when I would give an account of them, their number is greater than I may say.

<sup>6</sup>You had no desire for offerings of beasts or fruits of the earth; ears you made for me: for burned offerings and sin offerings you made no request.

<sup>7</sup>Then I said, See, I come; it is recorded of me in the roll of the book,

<sup>8</sup>My delight is to do your pleasure, O my God; truly, your law is in my heart.

<sup>9</sup>I have given news of righteousness in the great meeting; O Lord, you have

knowledge that I have not kept back my words.

<sup>10</sup>Your righteousness has not been folded away in my heart; I have made clear your true word and your salvation; I have not kept secret your mercy or your faith from the great meeting.

<sup>11</sup>Take not away your gentle mercies from me, O Lord; let your mercy and your faith keep me safe for ever.

<sup>12</sup>For unnumbered evils are round about me; my sins have overtaken me, so that I am bent down with their weight; they are more than the hairs of my head, my strength is gone because of them.

<sup>13</sup>Be pleased, O Lord, to take me out of danger; O Lord, come quickly and give me help.

<sup>14</sup>Let those who go after my soul for its destruction have shame and trouble together; let them be turned back and made foolish who take pleasure in my trouble.

<sup>15</sup>Let those who say to me, Aha, aha! be surprised because of their shame.

<sup>16</sup>Let all those who are looking for you be glad and have joy in you; let the

lovers of your salvation ever say, May the Lord be great.

<sup>17</sup> Though I am poor and in need, the Lord has me in mind; you are my help and my saviour; let there be no waiting, O my God.

**41** <sup>1</sup> Happy is the man who gives thought to the poor; the Lord will be his saviour in the time of trouble.

<sup>2</sup> The Lord will keep him safe, and give him life; the Lord will let him be a blessing on the earth, and will not give him into the hand of his haters.

<sup>3</sup> The Lord will be his support on his bed of pain: by you will all his grief be turned to strength.

<sup>4</sup> I said, Lord, have mercy on me; make my soul well, because my faith is in you.

<sup>5</sup> My haters say evil against me, When will he be dead, and his name come to an end?

<sup>6</sup> If one comes to see me, deceit is in his heart; he keeps a store of evil, which he makes public in every place.

<sup>7</sup> All my haters are talking secretly together against me; they are designing my downfall.

<sup>8</sup>They say, He has an evil disease, which will not let him go: and now that he is down he will not get up again.

<sup>9</sup>Even my dearest friend, in whom I had faith, who took bread with me, is turned against me.

<sup>10</sup>But you, O Lord, have mercy on me, lifting me up, so that I may give them their punishment.

<sup>11</sup>By this I see that you have pleasure in me, because my hater does not overcome me.

<sup>12</sup>And as for me, you are my support in my righteousness, giving me a place before your face for ever.

<sup>13</sup>May the Lord God of Israel be praised, through eternal days and for ever. So be it. So be it.

**42**<sup>1</sup> Like the desire of the roe for the water-streams, so is my soul's desire for you, O God.

<sup>2</sup>My soul is dry for need of God, the living God; when may I come and see the face of God?

<sup>3</sup>My tears have been my food day and night, while they keep saying to me, Where is your God?



<sup>4</sup>Let my soul be overflowing with grief when these things come back to my mind, how I went in company to the house of God, with the voice of joy and praise, with the song of those who were keeping the feast.

<sup>5</sup>Why are you crushed down, O my soul? and why are you troubled in me? put your hope in God; for I will again give him praise who is my help and my God.

<sup>6</sup>My soul is crushed down in me, so I will keep you in mind; from the land of Jordan and of the Hermons, from the hill Mizar.

<sup>7</sup>Deep is sounding to deep at the noise of your waterfalls; all your waves have gone rolling over me.

<sup>8</sup>But the Lord will send his mercy in the daytime, and in the night his song will be with me, a prayer to the God of my life.

<sup>9</sup>I will say to God my Rock, Why have you let me go from your memory? why do I go in sorrow because of the attacks of my haters?

<sup>10</sup>The cruel words of my haters are like a crushing of my bones; when they say to me every day, Where is your God?

<sup>11</sup> Why are you crushed down, O my soul? and why are you troubled in me? put your hope in God; for I will again give him praise who is my help and my God.

**43** <sup>1</sup> Be my judge, O God, supporting my cause against a nation without religion; O keep me from the false and evil man.

<sup>2</sup> You are the God of my strength; why have you put me from you? why do I go in sorrow because of the attacks of my haters?

<sup>3</sup> O send out your light and your true word; let them be my guide: let them take me to your holy hill, and to your tents.

<sup>4</sup> Then I will go up to the altar of God, to the God of my joy; I will be glad and give praise to you on an instrument of music, O God, my God.

<sup>5</sup> Why are you crushed down, O my soul? and why are you troubled in me? put your hope in God, for I will again give him praise who is my help and my God.

**44** <sup>1</sup> It has come to our ears, O God, our fathers have given us the

story, of the works which you did in their days, in the old times,

<sup>2</sup>Uprooting the nations with your hand, and planting our fathers in their place; cutting down the nations, but increasing the growth of your people.

<sup>3</sup>For they did not make the land theirs by their swords, and it was not their arms which kept them safe; but your right hand, and your arm, and the light of your face, because you had pleasure in them.

<sup>4</sup>You are my King and my God; ordering salvation for Jacob.

<sup>5</sup>Through you will we overcome our haters; by your name will they be crushed under our feet who are violent against us.

<sup>6</sup>I will not put faith in my bow, my sword will not be my salvation.

<sup>7</sup>But it is you who have been our saviour from those who were against us, and have put to shame those who had hate for us.

<sup>8</sup>Our pride is in God at all times, to his name we give praise for ever. (Selah.)

<sup>9</sup>But now you have sent us away from you, and put us to shame; you do not go out with our armies.

<sup>10</sup>Because of this we are turned back by the attacker: those who have hate for us take our goods for themselves.

<sup>11</sup>You have made us like sheep which are taken for meat; we are put to flight among the nations.

<sup>12</sup>You let your people go for nothing; your wealth is not increased by their price.

<sup>13</sup>You have made us to be looked down on by our neighbours, we are laughed at and shamed by those who are round about us.

<sup>14</sup>Our name is a word of shame among the nations, a sign for the shaking of heads among the peoples.

<sup>15</sup>My downfall is ever before me, and I am covered with the shame of my face;

<sup>16</sup>Because of the voice of him who says sharp and bitter words; because of the hater and him who is the instrument of punishment.

<sup>17</sup>All this has come on us, but still we have kept you in our memory; and we have not been false to your word.

<sup>18</sup>Our hearts have not gone back, and our steps have not been turned out of your way;

<sup>19</sup>Though you have let us be crushed in the place of jackals, though we are covered with darkest shade.

<sup>20</sup>If the name of our God has gone out of our minds, or if our hands have been stretched out to a strange god,

<sup>21</sup>Will not God make search for it? for he sees the secrets of the heart.

<sup>22</sup>Truly, because of you we are put to death every day; we are numbered like sheep for destruction.

<sup>23</sup>Why are you sleeping, O Lord? awake! and come to our help, do not give us up for ever.

<sup>24</sup>Why is your face covered, and why do you give no thought to our trouble and our cruel fate?

<sup>25</sup>For our souls are crushed down to the dust: our bodies are stretched out on the earth.

<sup>26</sup>Up! and come to our help, and give us salvation because of your mercy.

**45**<sup>1</sup> My heart is flowing over with good things; my words are of that

which I have made for a king; my tongue is the pen of a ready writer.

<sup>2</sup>You are fairer than the children of men; grace is flowing through your lips; for this cause the blessing of God is with you for ever.

<sup>3</sup>Put on your sword, make it ready at your side, O strong chief, with your glory and power.

<sup>4</sup>And go nobly on in your power, because you are good and true and without pride; and your right hand will be teaching you things of fear.

<sup>5</sup>Your arrows are sharp in the heart of the kings haters; because of them the peoples are falling under you.

<sup>6</sup>Your seat of power, O God, is for ever and ever; the rod of your kingdom is a rod of honour.

<sup>7</sup>You have been a lover of righteousness and a hater of evil: and so God, your God, has put the oil of joy on your head, lifting you high over all other kings.

<sup>8</sup>Your robes are full of the smell of all sorts of perfumes and spices; music from the kings ivory houses has made you glad.

<sup>9</sup>Kings daughters are among your noble women: on your right is the queen in gold of Ophir.

<sup>10</sup>O daughter, give thought and attention, and let your ear be open; no longer keep in mind your people, and your fathers house;

<sup>11</sup>So will the king have a great desire for you, seeing how beautiful you are; because he is your lord, give him honour.

<sup>12</sup>And the daughters of Tyre will be there with an offering; those who have wealth among the people will be looking for your approval.

<sup>13</sup>In the great house the kings daughter is all shining: her clothing is worked with gold.

<sup>14</sup>She will come before the king in robes of needlework; the virgins in her train will come before you.

<sup>15</sup>With joy and rapture will they come; they will go into the kings house.

<sup>16</sup>Your children will take the place of your fathers; so that you may make them rulers over all the earth.

<sup>17</sup>I will keep the memory of your name living through all generations; and

because of this the people will give you praise for ever.

**46**<sup>1</sup> God is our harbour and our strength, a very present help in trouble.

<sup>2</sup>For this cause we will have no fear, even though the earth is changed, and though the mountains are moved in the heart of the sea;

<sup>3</sup>Though its waters are sounding and troubled, and though the mountains are shaking with their violent motion. (Selah.)

<sup>4</sup>There is a river whose streams make glad the resting-place of God, the holy place of the tents of the Most High.

<sup>5</sup>God has taken his place in her; she will not be moved: he will come to her help at the dawn of morning.

<sup>6</sup>The nations were angry, the kingdoms were moved; at the sound of his voice the earth became like wax.

<sup>7</sup>The Lord of armies is with us; the God of Jacob is our high tower. (Selah.)

<sup>8</sup>Come, see the works of the Lord, the destruction which he has made in the earth.



<sup>9</sup>He puts an end to wars over all the earth; by him the bow is broken, and the spear cut in two, and the carriage burned in the fire.

<sup>10</sup>Be at peace in the knowledge that I am God: I will be lifted up among the nations, I will be honoured through all the earth.

<sup>11</sup>The Lord of armies is with us; the God of Jacob is our high tower. (Selah.)

**47** <sup>1</sup>O make a glad noise with your hands, all you peoples; letting your voices go up to God with joy.

<sup>2</sup>For the Lord Most High is to be feared; he is a great King over all the earth.

<sup>3</sup>He will put down the peoples under us, and the nations under our feet.

<sup>4</sup>He will give us our heritage, the glory of Jacob who is dear to him. (Selah.)

<sup>5</sup>God has gone up with a glad cry, the Lord with the sound of the horn.

<sup>6</sup>Give praises to God, make songs of praise; give praises to our King, make songs of praise.

<sup>7</sup>For God is the King of all the earth; make songs of praise with knowledge.

<sup>8</sup>God is the ruler over the nations; God is on the high seat of his holy rule.

<sup>9</sup>The rulers of the peoples have come together, with the people of the God of Abraham; because the powers of the earth are Gods: he is lifted up on high.

**48**<sup>1</sup>Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised, in the town of our God, in his holy mountain.

<sup>2</sup>Beautiful in its high position, the joy of all the earth, is the mountain of Zion, the mountain of God, the town of the great King.

<sup>3</sup>In its buildings God is seen to be a high tower.

<sup>4</sup>For see! the kings came together by agreement, they were joined together.

<sup>5</sup>They saw it, and so were full of wonder; they were troubled, and went quickly away in fear.

<sup>6</sup>Shaking came on them and pain, as on a woman in childbirth.

<sup>7</sup>By you the ships of Tarshish are broken as by an east wind.

<sup>8</sup>As it came to our ears so have we seen it, in the town of the Lord of armies, in the town of our God; God will keep it fixed for ever. (Selah.)

<sup>9</sup>Our thoughts were of your mercy, O God, while we were in your Temple.

<sup>10</sup>As your name is, O God, so is your praise to the ends of the earth; your right hand is full of righteousness.

<sup>11</sup>Let there be joy in the mountain of Zion, and let the daughters of Judah be glad, because of your wise decisions.

<sup>12</sup>Make your way about Zion, and go round it, numbering its towers.

<sup>13</sup>Take note of its strong walls, looking well at its fair buildings; so that you may give word of it to the generation which comes after.

<sup>14</sup>Because this God is our God for ever and ever: he will be our guide.

**49**<sup>1</sup>Give attention to this, all you peoples; let your ears be open, all you who are living in the world.

<sup>2</sup>High and low together, the poor, and those who have wealth.

<sup>3</sup>From my mouth will come words of wisdom; and in the thoughts of my heart will be knowledge.

<sup>4</sup>I will put my teaching into a story; I will make my dark sayings clear with music.

<sup>5</sup>What cause have I for fear in the days of evil, when the evil-doing of those who

are working for my downfall is round about me?

<sup>6</sup>Even of those whose faith is in their wealth, and whose hearts are lifted up because of their stores.

<sup>7</sup>Truly, no man may get back his soul for a price, or give to God the payment for himself;

<sup>8</sup>(Because it takes a great price to keep his soul from death, and man is not able to give it.)

<sup>9</sup>So that he might have eternal life, and never see the underworld.

<sup>10</sup>For he sees that wise men come to their end, and foolish persons of low behaviour come to destruction together, letting their wealth go to others.

<sup>11</sup>The place of the dead is their house for ever, and their resting-place through all generations; those who come after them give their names to their lands.

<sup>12</sup>But man, like the animals, does not go on for ever; he comes to an end like the beasts.

<sup>13</sup>This is the way of the foolish; their silver is for those who come after them, and their children get the pleasure of their gold. (Selah.)

<sup>14</sup>Death will give them their food like sheep; the underworld is their fate and they will go down into it; their flesh is food for worms; their form is wasted away; the underworld is their resting-place for ever.

<sup>15</sup>But God will get back my soul; for he will take me from the power of death. (Selah.)

<sup>16</sup>Have no fear when wealth comes to a man, and the glory of his house is increased;

<sup>17</sup>For at his death, he will take nothing away; his glory will not go down after him.

<sup>18</sup>Though he might have pride in his soul in his life-time, and men will give you praise if you do well for yourself,

<sup>19</sup>He will go to the generation of his fathers; he will not see the light again.

<sup>20</sup>Man, like the animals, does not go on for ever; he comes to an end like the beasts.

**50**<sup>1</sup>The God of gods, even the Lord, has sent out his voice, and the earth is full of fear; from the coming up of the sun to its going down.

<sup>2</sup>From Zion, most beautiful of places,  
God has sent out his light.

<sup>3</sup>Our God will come, and will not keep  
quiet; with fire burning before him, and  
storm-winds round him.

<sup>4</sup>His voice will go out to the heavens  
and to the earth, for the judging of his  
people:

<sup>5</sup>Let my saints come together to me;  
those who have made an agreement  
with me by offerings.

<sup>6</sup>And let the heavens make clear his  
righteousness; for God himself is the  
judge. (Selah.)

<sup>7</sup>Give ear, O my people, to my words;  
O Israel, I will be a witness against you;  
I am God, even your God.

<sup>8</sup>I will not take up a cause against you  
because of your offerings, or because of  
your burned offerings, which are ever  
before me.

<sup>9</sup>I will take no ox out of your house, or  
he-goats from your flocks;

<sup>10</sup>For every beast of the woodland is  
mine, and the cattle on a thousand hills.

<sup>11</sup>I see all the birds of the mountains,  
and the beasts of the field are mine.

<sup>12</sup>If I had need of food, I would not give you word of it; for the earth is mine and all its wealth.

<sup>13</sup>Am I to take the flesh of the ox for my food, or the blood of goats for my drink?

<sup>14</sup>Make an offering of praise to God; keep the agreements which you have made with the Most High;

<sup>15</sup>Let your voice come up to me in the day of trouble; I will be your saviour, so that you may give glory to me.

<sup>16</sup>But to the sinner, God says, What are you doing, talking of my laws, or taking the words of my agreement in your mouth?

<sup>17</sup>Seeing that you have no desire for my teaching, turning your back on my words.

<sup>18</sup>When you saw a thief, you were in agreement with him, and you were joined with those who took other mens wives.

<sup>19</sup>You have given your mouth to evil, your tongue to words of deceit.

<sup>20</sup>You say evil of your brother; you make false statements against your mothers son.

<sup>21</sup> These things have you done, and I said nothing; it seemed to you that I was such a one as yourself; but I will make a protest against you, and put them in order before your eyes.

<sup>22</sup> Now keep this in mind, you who have no memory of God, for fear that you may be crushed under my hand, with no one to give you help:

<sup>23</sup> Whoever makes an offering of praise gives glory to me; and to him who is upright in his ways I will make clear the salvation of God.

**51** <sup>1</sup> Have pity on me, O God, in your mercy; out of a full heart, take away my sin.

<sup>2</sup> Let all my wrongdoing be washed away, and make me clean from evil.

<sup>3</sup> For I am conscious of my error; my sin is ever before me.

<sup>4</sup> Against you, you only, have I done wrong, working that which is evil in your eyes; so that your words may be seen to be right, and you may be clear when you are judging.

<sup>5</sup> Truly, I was formed in evil, and in sin did my mother give me birth.



<sup>6</sup>Your desire is for what is true in the inner parts: in the secrets of my soul you will give me knowledge of wisdom.

<sup>7</sup>Make me free from sin with hyssop: let me be washed whiter than snow.

<sup>8</sup>Make me full of joy and rapture; so that the bones which have been broken may be glad.

<sup>9</sup>Let your face be turned from my wrongdoing, and take away all my sins.

<sup>10</sup>Make a clean heart in me, O God; give me a right spirit again.

<sup>11</sup>Do not put me away from before you, or take your holy spirit from me.

<sup>12</sup>Give me back the joy of your salvation; let a free spirit be my support.

<sup>13</sup>Then will I make your ways clear to wrongdoers; and sinners will be turned to you.

<sup>14</sup>Be my saviour from violent death, O God, the God of my salvation; and my tongue will give praise to your righteousness.

<sup>15</sup>O Lord, let my lips be open, so that my mouth may make clear your praise.

<sup>16</sup>You have no desire for an offering or I would give it; you have no delight in burned offerings.

<sup>17</sup>The offerings of God are a broken spirit; a broken and sorrowing heart, O God, you will not put from you.

<sup>18</sup>Do good to Zion in your good pleasure, building up the walls of Jerusalem.

<sup>19</sup>Then you will have delight in the offerings of righteousness, in burned offerings and offerings of beasts; then they will make offerings of oxen on your altar.

**52** <sup>1</sup>[KOSONG]

<sup>2</sup>Purposing destruction, using deceit; your tongue is like a sharp blade.

<sup>3</sup>You have more love for evil than for good, for deceit than for works of righteousness. (Selah.)

<sup>4</sup>Destruction is in all your words, O false tongue.

<sup>5</sup>But God will put an end to you for ever; driving you out from your tent, uprooting you from the land of the living. (Selah.)

<sup>6</sup>The upright will see it with fear, and will say, laughing at you:

<sup>7</sup>See, this is the man who did not make God his strength, but had faith in

his goods and his property, and made himself strong in his wealth.

<sup>8</sup>But I am like a branching olive-tree in the house of God; I have put my faith in his mercy for ever and ever.

<sup>9</sup>I will give you praise without end for what you have done; I will give honour to your name before your saints, for it is good.

**53** <sup>1</sup>[KOSONG]

<sup>2</sup>God was looking down from heaven on the children of men, to see if there were any who had wisdom, searching after God.

<sup>3</sup>Every one of them has gone back; they are unclean: there is not one who does good, no, not one.

<sup>4</sup>Have the workers of evil no knowledge? they take my people for food, as they would take bread; they make no prayer to God.

<sup>5</sup>They were in great fear, where there was no cause for fear: for the bones of those who make war on you have been broken by God; you have put them to shame, because God has no desire for them.

<sup>6</sup> May the salvation of Israel come out of Zion! When the fate of his people is changed by God, Jacob will have joy, and Israel will be glad.

**54** <sup>1</sup> Let your name be my salvation, O God; let my cause be judged by your strength.

<sup>2</sup> Let my prayer come before you, O God; give ear to the words of my mouth.

<sup>3</sup> For men who are going after me have come out against me, violent men are purposing to take my soul; they have not put God before their eyes. (Selah.)

<sup>4</sup> See, God is my helper: the Lord is the great supporter of my soul.

<sup>5</sup> Let the evil works of my haters come back on them again; let them be cut off by your good faith.

<sup>6</sup> Freely will I make my offerings to you; I will give praise to your name, O Lord, for it is good.

<sup>7</sup> Because it has been my saviour from all my trouble; and my eyes have seen the punishment of my haters.

**55** <sup>1</sup> Give hearing to my prayer, O God; and let not your ear be shut against my request.

<sup>2</sup>Give thought to me, and let my prayer be answered: I have been made low in sorrow;

<sup>3</sup>I am troubled because of the voice of the cruel ones, because of the loud cry of the evil-doers; for they put a weight of evil on me, and they are cruel in their hate for me.

<sup>4</sup>My heart is deeply wounded, and the fear of death has come on me.

<sup>5</sup>Fear and shaking have come over me, with deep fear I am covered.

<sup>6</sup>And I said, If only I had wings like a dove! for then I would go in flight from here and be at rest.

<sup>7</sup>I would go wandering far away, living in the waste land. (Selah.)

<sup>8</sup>I would quickly take cover from the driving storm and from the violent wind.

<sup>9</sup>Send destruction on them, O Lord, make a division of tongues among them: for I have seen fighting and violent acts in the town.

<sup>10</sup>By day and night they go round the town, on the walls; trouble and sorrow are in the heart of it.

<sup>11</sup>Evil is there; cruel rule and deceit are ever in the streets.

<sup>12</sup>For it was not my hater who said evil of me; that would have been no grief to me; it was not one outside the number of my friends who made himself strong against me, or I would have kept myself from him in a secret place;

<sup>13</sup>But it was you, my equal, my guide, my well-loved friend.

<sup>14</sup>We had loving talk together, and went to the house of God in company.

<sup>15</sup>Let the hand of death come on them suddenly, and let them go down living into the underworld; because evil is in their houses and in their hearts.

<sup>16</sup>As for me, I will make my prayer to God, and he will be my saviour.

<sup>17</sup>In the evening and in the morning and in the middle of the day I will make my prayer with sounds of grief; and my voice will come to his ears.

<sup>18</sup>He has taken my soul away from the attack which was made against me, and given it peace; for great numbers were against me.

<sup>19</sup>God will give thought to me; he who from early times is strong will send pain and trouble on them. (Selah.) Because

they are unchanged, they have no fear of God.

<sup>20</sup>He has put out his hand against those who were at peace with him; he has not kept his agreement.

<sup>21</sup>The words of his mouth were smoother than butter, but war was in his heart; his words were softer than oil, but they were sharp swords.

<sup>22</sup>Put your cares on the Lord, and he will be your support; he will not let the upright man be moved.

<sup>23</sup>But you, O God, will send them down into the underworld; the cruel and the false will be cut off before half their days are ended; but I will have faith in you.

**56** <sup>1</sup>Have mercy on me, O God, for man is attempting my destruction; every day he makes cruel attacks against me.

<sup>2</sup>My haters are ever ready to put an end to me; great numbers are lifting themselves up against me.

<sup>3</sup>In the time of my fear, I will have faith in you.

<sup>4</sup>In God will I give praise to his word; in God have I put my hope; I will have no fear of what flesh may do to me.

<sup>5</sup>Every day they make wrong use of my words; all their thoughts are against me for evil.

<sup>6</sup>They come together, they are waiting in secret places, they take note of my steps, they are waiting for my soul.

<sup>7</sup>By evil-doing they will not get free from punishment. In wrath, O God, let the peoples be made low.

<sup>8</sup>You have seen my wanderings; put the drops from my eyes into your bottle; are they not in your record?

<sup>9</sup>When I send up my cry to you, my haters will be turned back; I am certain of this, for God is with me.

<sup>10</sup>In God will I give praise to his word; in the Lord will I give praise to his word.

<sup>11</sup>In God have I put my hope, I will have no fear of what man may do to me.

<sup>12</sup>I keep the memory of my debt to you, O God; I will give you the offerings of praise.

<sup>13</sup>Because you have taken my soul from the power of death; and kept my feet from falling, so that I may be walking before God in the light of life.

**57** <sup>1</sup>Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me; for the hope of my



soul is in you: I will keep myself safely under the shade of your wings, till these troubles are past.

<sup>2</sup>I will send up my cry to the Most High God; to God who does all things for me.

<sup>3</sup>He will send from heaven, and take me from the power of him whose desire is for my destruction. God will send out his mercy and his good faith.

<sup>4</sup>My soul is among lions; I am stretched out among those who are on fire, even the sons of men, whose teeth are spears and arrows, and whose tongue is a sharp sword.

<sup>5</sup>O God, be lifted up higher than the heavens; let your glory be over all the earth.

<sup>6</sup>They have made ready a net for my steps; my soul is bent down; they have made a great hole before me, and have gone down into it themselves. (Selah.)

<sup>7</sup>My heart is fixed, O God, my heart is fixed; I will make songs, and give praise.

<sup>8</sup>You are my glory; let the instruments of music be awake; I myself will be awake with the dawn.

<sup>9</sup>I will give you praise, O Lord, among the peoples; I will make songs to you among the nations.

<sup>10</sup>For your mercy is great, stretching up to the heavens, and your righteousness goes up to the clouds.

<sup>11</sup>Be lifted up, O God, higher than the heavens, let your glory be over all the earth.

**58** <sup>1</sup>Is there righteousness in your mouths, O you gods? are you upright judges, O you sons of men?

<sup>2</sup>The purposes of your hearts are evil; your hands are full of cruel doings on the earth.

<sup>3</sup>The evil-doers are strange from the first; from the hour of their birth they go out of the true way, saying false words.

<sup>4</sup>Their poison is like the poison of a snake; they are like the adder, whose ears are shut;

<sup>5</sup>Who will not be moved by the voice of the wonder-worker, however great are his powers.

<sup>6</sup>O God, let their teeth be broken in their mouths; let the great teeth of the young lions be pulled out, O Lord.

<sup>7</sup> Let them be turned to liquid like the ever-flowing waters; let them be cut off like the grass by the way.

<sup>8</sup> Let them be like an after-birth which is turned to water and comes to an end; like the fruit of a woman who gives birth before her time, let them not see the sun.

<sup>9</sup> Before they are conscious of it, let them be cut down like thorns; let a strong wind take them away like waste growth.

<sup>10</sup> The upright man will be glad when he sees their punishment; his feet will be washed in the blood of the evil-doer.

<sup>11</sup> So that men will say, Truly there is a reward for righteousness; truly there is a God who is judge on the earth.

**59**<sup>1</sup> Take me out of the hands of the cruel ones, O my God; keep me safe from those who come up against me.

<sup>2</sup> Take me out of the power of the workers of evil, and keep me safe from the men of blood.

<sup>3</sup> For see, they are watching in secret for my soul; the strong have come

together against me? but not because of my sin, or my evil-doing, O Lord.

<sup>4</sup>For no sin of mine they go quickly and get themselves ready; be awake and come to my help, and see.

<sup>5</sup>You, O Lord God of armies, are the God of Israel; come now and give punishment to the nations; have no mercy on any workers of deceit. (Selah.)

<sup>6</sup>They come back in the evening; they make a noise like a dog, and go round the town.

<sup>7</sup>See, hate is dropping from their lips; curses are on their tongues: they say, Who gives attention to it?

<sup>8</sup>But you are laughing at them, O Lord; you will make sport of all the nations.

<sup>9</sup>O my strength, I will put my hope in you; because God is my strong tower.

<sup>10</sup>The God of my mercy will go before me: God will let me see my desire effected on my haters.

<sup>11</sup>Put them not to death, for so my people will keep the memory of them: let them be sent in all directions by your power; make them low, O Lord our saviour.

<sup>12</sup>Because of the sin of their mouths and the word of their lips, let them even be taken in their pride; and for their curses and their deceit,

<sup>13</sup>Put an end to them in your wrath, put an end to them, so that they may not be seen again; let them see that God is ruling in Jacob and to the ends of the earth. (Selah.)

<sup>14</sup>And in the evening let them come back, and make a noise like a dog, and go round the town.

<sup>15</sup>Let them go wandering up and down in search of food, and be there all night if they have not enough.

<sup>16</sup>But I will make songs of your power; yes, I will give cries of joy for your mercy in the morning; because you have been my strength and my high tower in the day of my trouble.

<sup>17</sup>To you, O my strength, will I make my song: because God is my high tower, even the God of my mercy.

**60**<sup>1</sup> [KOSONG]

<sup>2</sup>By the power of your hand the earth is shaking and broken; make it strong again, for it is moved.

<sup>3</sup>You have made the people see hard times; you have given us the wine of shaking for our drink.

<sup>4</sup>Give a safe place to those who have fear of you, where they may go in flight from before the bow. (Selah.)

<sup>5</sup>So that your loved ones may be made safe, let your right hand be my salvation, and give me an answer.

<sup>6</sup>God has said in his holy place, I will be glad: I will make a division of Shechem, and the valley of Succoth will be measured out.

<sup>7</sup>Gilead is mine, and Manasseh is mine; and Ephraim is the strength of my head; Judah is my law-giver;

<sup>8</sup>Moab is my washpot; over Edom will I put out my shoe; over Philistia will a glad cry be sounded.

<sup>9</sup>Who will take me into the strong town? who will be my guide into Edom?

<sup>10</sup>Have not you put us away, O God? and you have not gone out with our armies.

<sup>11</sup>Give us help in our trouble; for there is no help in man.

<sup>12</sup>Through God we will do great things,  
for through him our haters will be  
crushed under our feet.

**61** <sup>1</sup>Let my cry come to you, O  
God; let your ears be open to my  
prayer.

<sup>2</sup>From the end of the earth will I send  
up my cry to you, when my heart is  
overcome: take me to the rock which is  
over-high for me.

<sup>3</sup>For you have been my secret place,  
and my high tower from those who made  
war on me.

<sup>4</sup>I will make your tent my resting-place  
for ever: I will keep myself under the  
cover of your wings. (Selah.)

<sup>5</sup>For you, O God, have made answer  
to my prayers; you have given me the  
heritage of those who give honour to  
your name.

<sup>6</sup>You will give the king long life; and  
make his years go on through the  
generations.

<sup>7</sup>May the seat of his authority be  
before God for ever; may mercy and  
righteousness keep him safe.

<sup>8</sup>So will I make songs in praise of your name for ever, giving to God that which is right day by day.

**62**<sup>1</sup>My soul, put all your faith in God; for from him comes my salvation.

<sup>2</sup>He only is my Rock and my salvation; he is my high tower; I will not be greatly moved.

<sup>3</sup>How long will you go on designing evil against a man? running against him as against a broken wall, which is on the point of falling?

<sup>4</sup>Their only thought is to put him down from his place of honour; their delight is in deceit: blessing is in their mouths but cursing in their hearts. (Selah.)

<sup>5</sup>My soul, put all your faith in God; for from him comes my hope.

<sup>6</sup>He only is my Rock and my salvation; he is my high tower; I will not be greatly moved.

<sup>7</sup>In God is my salvation, and my glory; the Rock of my strength, and my safe place.

<sup>8</sup>Have faith in him at all times, you people; let your hearts go flowing out



before him: God is our safe place.  
(Selah.)

<sup>9</sup> Truly men of low birth are nothing,  
and men of high position are not what  
they seem; if they are put in the scales  
together they are less than a breath.

<sup>10</sup> Have no faith in the rewards of  
evil-doing, or in profits wrongly made: if  
your wealth is increased, do not put your  
hopes on it.

<sup>11</sup> Once has God said, twice has it come  
to my ears, that power is Gods:

<sup>12</sup> And mercy, O Lord, is yours, for you  
give to every man the reward of his  
work.

**63** <sup>1</sup> O God, you are my God; early  
will I make my search for you: my  
soul is dry for need of you, my flesh is  
wasted with desire for you, as a dry and  
burning land where no water is;

<sup>2</sup> To see your power and your glory, as I  
have seen you in the holy place.

<sup>3</sup> Because your mercy is better than life,  
my lips will give you praise.

<sup>4</sup> So will I go on blessing you all my life,  
lifting up my hands in your name.

<sup>5</sup> My soul will be comforted, as with good food; and my mouth will give you praise with songs of joy;

<sup>6</sup> When the memory of you comes to me on my bed, and when I give thought to you in the night-time.

<sup>7</sup> Because you have been my help, I will have joy in the shade of your wings.

<sup>8</sup> My soul keeps ever near you: your right hand is my support.

<sup>9</sup> But those whose desire is my soul's destruction will go down to the lower parts of the earth.

<sup>10</sup> They will be cut off by the sword; they will be food for foxes.

<sup>11</sup> But the king will have joy in God; everyone who takes an oath by him will have cause for pride; but the false mouth will be stopped.

**64** <sup>1</sup> O God, let the voice of my grief come to your ear: keep my life from the fear of those who are against me.

<sup>2</sup> Keep me safe from the secret purpose of wrongdoers; from the band of the workers of evil;

<sup>3</sup>Who make their tongues sharp like a sword, and whose arrows are pointed, even bitter words;

<sup>4</sup>So that in secret they may let loose their arrows at the upright, suddenly and unseen.

<sup>5</sup>They make themselves strong in an evil purpose; they make holes for secret nets; they say, Who will see it,

<sup>6</sup>Or make discovery of our secret purpose? The design is framed with care; and the inner thought of a man, and his heart, is deep.

<sup>7</sup>But God sends out an arrow against them; suddenly they are wounded.

<sup>8</sup>The evil of their tongues is the cause of their fall; all those who see them are shaking their heads at them.

<sup>9</sup>And in fear men make public the works of God; and giving thought to his acts they get wisdom.

<sup>10</sup>The upright will be glad in the Lord and have hope in him; and all the lovers of righteousness will give him glory.

**65**<sup>1</sup>It is right for you, O God, to have praise in Zion: to you let the offering be made.

<sup>2</sup>To you, O hearer of prayer, let the words of all flesh come.

<sup>3</sup>Evils have overcome us: but as for our sins, you will take them away.

<sup>4</sup>Happy is the man of your selection, to whom you give a resting-place in your house; we will be full of the good things out of your holy place.

<sup>5</sup>You will give us an answer in righteousness by great acts of power, O God of our salvation; you who are the hope of all the ends of the earth, and of the far-off lands of the sea;

<sup>6</sup>The God by whose strength the mountains are fixed; who is robed with power:

<sup>7</sup>Who makes the loud voice of the sea quiet, and puts an end to the sound of its waves.

<sup>8</sup>Those in the farthest parts of the earth have fear when they see your signs: the outgoings of the morning and evening are glad because of you.

<sup>9</sup>You have given your blessing to the earth, watering it and making it fertile; the river of God is full of water: and having made it ready, you give men grain.

<sup>10</sup>You make the ploughed lands full of water; you make smooth the slopes: you make the earth soft with showers, sending your blessing on its growth.

<sup>11</sup>The year is crowned with the good you give; life-giving rain is dropping from your footsteps,

<sup>12</sup>Falling on the grass of the waste land: and the little hills are glad on every side.

<sup>13</sup>The grass-land is thick with flocks; the valleys are full of grain; they give glad cries and songs of joy.

**66** <sup>1</sup>Send up a glad cry to God, all the earth:

<sup>2</sup>Make a song in honour of his name: give praise and glory to him.

<sup>3</sup>Say to God, How greatly to be feared are your works! because of your great power your haters are forced to put themselves under your feet.

<sup>4</sup>Let all the earth give you worship, and make songs to you; let them make songs to your name. (Selah.)

<sup>5</sup>Come and see the works of God: he is to be feared in all he does to the children of men.

<sup>6</sup>The sea was turned into dry land: they went through the river on foot: there did we have joy in him.

<sup>7</sup>He is ruling in power for ever; his eyes are watching the nations: may his haters have no strength against him. (Selah.)

<sup>8</sup>Give blessings to our God, O you peoples, let the voice of his praise be loud;

<sup>9</sup>Because he gives us life, and has not let our feet be moved.

<sup>10</sup>For you, O God, have put us to the test: testing us by fire like silver.

<sup>11</sup>You let us be put in prison; chains were put on our legs.

<sup>12</sup>You let men go driving over our heads; we went through fire and through water; but you took us out into a wide place.

<sup>13</sup>I will come into your house with burned offerings, I will make payment of my debt to you,

<sup>14</sup>Keeping the word which came from my lips, and which my mouth said, when I was in trouble.

<sup>15</sup>I will give you burned offerings of fat beasts, and the smoke of sheep; I

will make offerings of oxen and goats.  
(Selah.)

<sup>16</sup>Come, give ear to me, all you  
God-fearing men, so that I may make  
clear to you what he has done for my  
soul.

<sup>17</sup>My voice went up to him, and I was  
lifted up from the underworld.

<sup>18</sup>I said in my heart, The Lord will not  
give ear to me:

<sup>19</sup>But truly Gods ear has been open;  
he has give attention to the voice of my  
prayer.

<sup>20</sup>Praise be to God who has not taken  
away his good faith and his mercy from  
me.

**67** <sup>1</sup>May God give us mercy and  
blessing, and let the light of his  
face be shining on us; (Selah.)

<sup>2</sup>So that men may see your way on  
the earth, and your salvation among all  
nations.

<sup>3</sup>Let the peoples give you praise, O  
God; let all the peoples give you praise.

<sup>4</sup>O let the nations be glad, and make  
song of joy; for you will be the judge of  
the peoples in righteousness, guiding  
the nations of the earth. (Selah.)

<sup>5</sup>Let the peoples give you praise, O God; let all the peoples give you praise.

<sup>6</sup>The earth has given her increase; and God, even our God, will give us his blessing.

<sup>7</sup>God will give us his blessing; so let all the ends of the earth be in fear of him.

**68**<sup>1</sup>Let God be seen, and let his haters be put to flight; let those who are against him be turned back before him.

<sup>2</sup>Let them be like smoke before the driving wind; as wax turning soft before the fire, so let them come to an end before the power of God.

<sup>3</sup>But let the upright be glad; let them have delight before God; let them be full of joy.

<sup>4</sup>Make songs to God, make songs of praise to his name; make a way for him who comes through the waste lands; his name is Jah; be glad before him.

<sup>5</sup>A father to those who have no father, a judge of the widows, is God in his holy place.

<sup>6</sup>Those who are without friends, God puts in families; he makes free those who are in chains; but those who are



turned away from him are given a dry land.

<sup>7</sup>O God, when you went out before your people, wandering through the waste land; (Selah.)

<sup>8</sup>The earth was shaking and the heavens were streaming, because God was present; even Sinai itself was moved before God, the God of Israel.

<sup>9</sup>You, O God, did freely send the rain, giving strength to the weariness of your heritage.

<sup>10</sup>Those whose resting-place was there, even the poor, were comforted by your good things, O God.

<sup>11</sup>The Lord gives the word; great is the number of the women who make it public.

<sup>12</sup>Kings of armies quickly go in flight: and the women in the houses make a division of their goods.

<sup>13</sup>Will you take your rest among the flocks? like the wings of a dove covered with silver, and its feathers with yellow gold.

<sup>14</sup>When the Most High put the kings to flight, it was as white as snow in Salmon.

<sup>15</sup> A hill of God is the hill of Bashan; a hill with high tops is the hill of Bashan.

<sup>16</sup> Why are you looking with envy, you high hills, on the hill desired by God as his resting-place? truly, God will make it his house for ever.

<sup>17</sup> The war-carriage of God is among Israel's thousands; the Lord has come from Sinai to the holy place.

<sup>18</sup> You have gone up on high, taking your prisoners with you; you have taken offerings from men; the Lord God has taken his place on the seat of his power.

<sup>19</sup> Praise be to the Lord, who is our support day by day, even the God of our salvation. (Selah.)

<sup>20</sup> Our God is for us a God of salvation; his are the ways out of death.

<sup>21</sup> The heads of the haters of God will be crushed; even the head of him who still goes on in his evil ways.

<sup>22</sup> The Lord said, I will make them come back from Bashan, and from the deep parts of the sea;

<sup>23</sup> So that your foot may be red with blood, and the tongues of your dogs with the same.

<sup>24</sup> We see your going, O God: even the going of my God, my King, into the holy place.

<sup>25</sup> The makers of songs go before, the players of music come after, among the young girls playing on brass instruments.

<sup>26</sup> Give praise to God in the great meeting; even the Lord, you who come from the fountain of Israel.

<sup>27</sup> There is little Benjamin ruling them, the chiefs of Judah and their army, the rulers of Zebulun and the rulers of Naphtali.

<sup>28</sup> O God, send out your strength; the strength, O God, with which you have done great things for us,

<sup>29</sup> Out of your Temple in Jerusalem.

<sup>30</sup> Say sharp words to the beast among the water-plants, the band of strong ones, with the lords of the peoples, put an end to the people whose delight is in war.

<sup>31</sup> Kings will give you offerings, they will come out of Egypt; from Pathros will come offerings of silver; Ethiopia will be stretching out her hands to God.

<sup>32</sup> Make songs to God, you kingdoms of the earth; O make songs of praise to the Lord; (Selah.)

<sup>33</sup> To him who goes on the clouds of heaven, the heaven which was from earliest times; he sends out his voice of power.

<sup>34</sup> Make clear that strength is God's: he is lifted up over Israel, and his power is in the clouds.

<sup>35</sup> O God, you are to be feared in your holy place: the God of Israel gives strength and power to his people. Praise be to God.

**69** <sup>1</sup> Be my saviour, O God; because the waters have come in, even to my neck.

<sup>2</sup> My feet are deep in the soft earth, where there is no support; I have come into deep waters, the waves are flowing over me.

<sup>3</sup> I am tired with my crying; my throat is burning: my eyes are wasted with waiting for my God.

<sup>4</sup> Those who have hate for me without cause are greater in number than the hairs of my head; those who are against me, falsely desiring my destruction, are

very strong; I gave back what I had not taken away.

<sup>5</sup>O God, you see how foolish I am; and my wrongdoing is clear to you.

<sup>6</sup>Let not those who have hope in you be put to shame because of me, O Lord God of armies: let not those who are waiting for you be made low because of me, O God of Israel.

<sup>7</sup>I have been wounded with sharp words because of you; my face has been covered with shame.

<sup>8</sup>I have become strange to my brothers, and like a man from a far country to my mothers children.

<sup>9</sup>I am on fire with passion for your house; and the hard things which are said about you have come on me.

<sup>10</sup>My bitter weeping, and my going without food, were turned to my shame.

<sup>11</sup>When I put on the clothing of grief, they said evil of me.

<sup>12</sup>I am a cause of wonder to those in authority; a song to those who are given to strong drink.

<sup>13</sup>But as for me, let my prayer be made to you, O Lord, at a time when you are pleased; O God, give me an answer in

your great mercy, for your salvation is certain.

<sup>14</sup>Take me from the grip of the sticky earth, so that I may not go down into it; let me be lifted up from the deep waters.

<sup>15</sup>Let me not be covered by the flowing waters; let not the deep waters go over my head, and let me not be shut up in the underworld.

<sup>16</sup>Give an answer to my words, O Lord; for your mercy is good: be turned to me, because of your great pity.

<sup>17</sup>Let not your face be covered from your servant, for I am in trouble; quickly give me an answer.

<sup>18</sup>Come near to my soul, for its salvation: be my saviour, because of those who are against me.

<sup>19</sup>You have seen my shame, how I was laughed at and made low; my haters are all before you.

<sup>20</sup>My heart is broken by bitter words, I am full of grief; I made a search for some to have pity on me, but there was no one; I had no comforter.

<sup>21</sup>They gave me poison for my food; and bitter wine for my drink.

<sup>22</sup>Let their table before them be for their destruction; let their feasts become a net to take them.

<sup>23</sup>Let their eyes be blind so that they may not see; let their bodies for ever be shaking.

<sup>24</sup>Let your curse come on them; let the heat of your wrath overtake them.

<sup>25</sup>Give their houses to destruction, and let there be no one in their tents.

<sup>26</sup>Because they are cruel to him against whom your hand is turned; they make bitter the grief of him who is wounded by you.

<sup>27</sup>Let their punishment be increased; let them not come into your righteousness.

<sup>28</sup>Let their names be taken from the book of the living, let them not be numbered with the upright.

<sup>29</sup>But I am poor and full of sorrow; let me be lifted up by your salvation, O Lord.

<sup>30</sup>I will give praise to the name of God with a song; I will give glory to him for what he has done.

<sup>31</sup>This will be more pleasing to the Lord than an ox, or a young ox of full growth.

<sup>32</sup>The poor will see it and be glad: you who are lovers of God, let your hearts have life.

<sup>33</sup>For the ears of the Lord are open to the poor, and he takes thought for his prisoners.

<sup>34</sup>Let the heavens and the earth give praise to him, the seas, and everything moving in them.

<sup>35</sup>For God will be the saviour of Zion, and the builder of the towns of Judah; so that it may be their resting-place and heritage.

<sup>36</sup>The seed of his servants will have their part in it, and there the lovers of his name will have rest.

**70**<sup>1</sup> Let your salvation come quickly, O God; come quickly to my help, O Lord.

<sup>2</sup>Let those who go after my soul have shame and trouble; let those who have evil designs against me be turned back and made foolish.

<sup>3</sup>Let those who say Aha, aha! be turned back as a reward of their shame.

<sup>4</sup>Let all those who are looking for you be glad and have joy in you; let the



lovers of your salvation ever say, May God be great.

<sup>5</sup>But I am poor and in need; come to me quickly, O God; you are my help and my saviour; let there be no waiting, O Lord.

**71** <sup>1</sup>In you, O Lord, have I put my hope; let me never be shamed.

<sup>2</sup>Keep me safe in your righteousness, and come to my help; give ear to my voice, and be my saviour.

<sup>3</sup>Be my strong Rock, the strong place of my salvation; for you are my Rock, and my safe place.

<sup>4</sup>O my God, take me out of the hand of the sinner, out of the hand of the evil and cruel man.

<sup>5</sup>For you are my hope, O Lord God; I have had faith in you from the time when I was young.

<sup>6</sup>You have been my support from the day of my birth; you took me out of my mothers body; my praise will be ever of you.

<sup>7</sup>I am a wonder to all; but you are my strong tower.

<sup>8</sup>My mouth will be full of your praise and glory all the day.

<sup>9</sup>Do not give me up when I am old; be my help even when my strength is gone.

<sup>10</sup>For my haters are waiting secretly for me; and those who are watching for my soul are banded together in their evil designs,

<sup>11</sup>Saying, God has given him up; go after him and take him, for he has no helper.

<sup>12</sup>O God, be not far from me; O my God, come quickly to my help.

<sup>13</sup>Let those who say evil against my soul be overcome and put to shame; let my haters be made low and have no honour.

<sup>14</sup>But I will go on ever hoping, and increasing in all your praise.

<sup>15</sup>My mouth will make clear your righteousness and your salvation all the day; for they are more than may be measured.

<sup>16</sup>I will give news of the great acts of the Lord God; my words will be of your righteousness, and of yours only.

<sup>17</sup>O God, you have been my teacher from the time when I was young; and I have been talking of your works of wonder even till now.

<sup>18</sup> Now when I am old and grey-headed,  
O God, give me not up; till I have made  
clear your strength to this generation,  
and your power to all those to come.

<sup>19</sup> Your righteousness, O God, is very  
high; you have done great things; O  
God, who is like you?

<sup>20</sup> You, who have sent great and bitter  
troubles on me, will give me life again,  
lifting me up from the deep waters of the  
underworld.

<sup>21</sup> You will make me greater than  
before, and give me comfort on every  
side.

<sup>22</sup> I will give praise to you with  
instruments of music, O my God, for you  
are true; I will make songs to you with  
music, O Holy One of Israel.

<sup>23</sup> Joy will be on my lips when I make  
melody to you; and in my soul, to which  
you have given salvation.

<sup>24</sup> My tongue will be talking of your  
righteousness all the day; for those  
whose purpose is to do me evil have  
been crushed and put to shame.

**72** <sup>1</sup> Give the king your authority, O  
God, and your righteousness to  
the king's son.

<sup>2</sup> May he be a judge of your people in righteousness, and make true decisions for the poor.

<sup>3</sup> May the mountains give peace to the people, and the hills righteousness.

<sup>4</sup> May he be a judge of the poor among the people, may he give salvation to the children of those who are in need; by him let the violent be crushed.

<sup>5</sup> May his life go on as long as the sun and moon, through all generations.

<sup>6</sup> May he come down like rain on the cut grass; like showers watering the earth.

<sup>7</sup> In his days may the upright do well, living in peace as long as there is a moon in heaven.

<sup>8</sup> Let his kingdom be from sea to sea, from the River to the ends of the earth.

<sup>9</sup> Let those who are against him go down before him; and let his haters be low in the dust.

<sup>10</sup> Let the kings of Tarshish and of the islands come back with offerings; let the kings of Sheba and Seba give of their stores.

<sup>11</sup> Yes, let all kings go down before him; let all nations be his servants.

<sup>12</sup>For he will be a saviour to the poor in answer to his cry; and to him who is in need, without a helper.

<sup>13</sup>He will have pity on the poor, and be the saviour of those who are in need.

<sup>14</sup>He will keep their souls free from evil designs and violent attacks; and their blood will be of value in his eyes.

<sup>15</sup>May he have long life, and may gold from Sheba be given to him: may prayers be made for him at all times; may blessings be on him every day.

<sup>16</sup>May there be wide-stretching fields of grain in the land, shaking on the top of the mountains, full of fruit like Lebanon: may its stems be unnumbered like the grass of the earth.

<sup>17</sup>May his name go on for ever, as long as the sun: may men be blessing themselves by him; may all nations be blessing his name.

<sup>18</sup>Praise be to the Lord God, the God of Israel, the only doer of wonders.

<sup>19</sup>Praise to the glory of his noble name for ever; let all the earth be full of his glory. So be it, So be it.

<sup>20</sup>The prayers of David, the son of Jesse, are ended.

**73**<sup>1</sup> Truly, God is good to Israel, even to such as are clean in heart.

<sup>2</sup> But as for me, my feet had almost gone from under me; I was near to slipping;

<sup>3</sup> Because of my envy of the men of pride, when I saw the well-being of the wrongdoers.

<sup>4</sup> For they have no pain; their bodies are fat and strong.

<sup>5</sup> They are not in trouble as others are; they have no part in the unhappy fate of men.

<sup>6</sup> For this reason pride is round them like a chain; they are clothed with violent behaviour as with a robe.

<sup>7</sup> Their eyes are bursting with fat; they have more than their hearts desire.

<sup>8</sup> Their thoughts are deep with evil designs; their talk from their seats of power is of cruel acts.

<sup>9</sup> Their mouth goes up to heaven; their tongues go walking through the earth.

<sup>10</sup> For this reason they are full of bread; and water is ever flowing for them.

<sup>11</sup> And they say, How will the Lord see this? is there knowledge in the Most High?

<sup>12</sup> Truly, such are the sinners; they do well at all times, and their wealth is increased.

<sup>13</sup> As for me, I have made my heart clean to no purpose, washing my hands in righteousness;

<sup>14</sup> For I have been troubled all the day; every morning have I undergone punishment.

<sup>15</sup> If I would make clear what it is like, I would say, You are false to the generation of your children.

<sup>16</sup> When my thoughts were turned to see the reason of this, it was a weariness in my eyes;

<sup>17</sup> Till I went into Gods holy place, and saw the end of the evil-doers.

<sup>18</sup> You put their feet where there was danger of slipping, so that they go down into destruction.

<sup>19</sup> How suddenly are they wasted! fears are the cause of their destruction.

<sup>20</sup> As a dream when one is awake, they are ended; they are like an image gone out of mind when sleep is over.

<sup>21</sup> My heart was made bitter, and I was pained by the bite of grief:

<sup>22</sup>As for me, I was foolish, and without knowledge; I was like a beast before you.

<sup>23</sup>But still I am ever with you; you have taken me by my right hand.

<sup>24</sup>Your wisdom will be my guide, and later you will put me in a place of honour.

<sup>25</sup>Whom have I in heaven but you? and having you I have no desire for anything on earth.

<sup>26</sup>My flesh and my heart are wasting away: but God is the Rock of my heart and my eternal heritage.

<sup>27</sup>For those who are far away from you will come to destruction: you will put an end to all those who have not kept faith with you.

<sup>28</sup>But it is good for me to come near to God: I have put my faith in the Lord God, so that I may make clear all his works.

**74**<sup>1</sup>Of God, why have you put us away from you for ever? why is the fire of your wrath smoking against the sheep who are your care?

<sup>2</sup>Keep in mind your band of worshippers, for whom you gave payment in the days which are past, whom you took for yourself as the people



of your heritage; even this mountain of Zion, which has been your resting-place.

<sup>3</sup>Go up and see the unending destruction; all the evil which your haters have done in the holy place;

<sup>4</sup>Sending out their voices like lions among your worshippers; they have put up their signs to be seen.

<sup>5</sup>They are cutting down, like a man whose blade is lifted up against the thick trees.

<sup>6</sup>Your doors are broken down with hammers and iron blades.

<sup>7</sup>They have put on fire your holy place; they have made the place of your name unclean, pulling it down to the earth.

<sup>8</sup>They have said in their hearts, Let us put an end to them all together; they have given over to the fire all Gods places of worship in the land.

<sup>9</sup>We do not see our signs: there is no longer any prophet, or anyone among us to say how long.

<sup>10</sup>O God, how long will those who are against us say cruel things? will the hater go on looking down on your name for ever?

<sup>11</sup> Why are you keeping back your hand, and covering your right hand in your robe?

<sup>12</sup> For from the past God is my King, working salvation in the earth.

<sup>13</sup> The sea was parted in two by your strength; the heads of the great sea-beasts were broken.

<sup>14</sup> The heads of the great snake were crushed by you; you gave them as food to the fishes of the sea.

<sup>15</sup> You made valleys for fountains and springs; you made the ever-flowing rivers dry.

<sup>16</sup> The day is yours and the night is yours: you made the light and the sun.

<sup>17</sup> By you all the limits of the earth were fixed; you have made summer and winter.

<sup>18</sup> Keep this in mind, O Lord, that your haters have said cruel things, and that your name has been looked down on by a people of evil behaviour.

<sup>19</sup> O give not the soul of your dove to the hawk; let not the life of the poor go out of your memory for ever.

<sup>20</sup>Keep in mind your undertaking; for the dark places of the earth are full of pride and cruel acts.

<sup>21</sup>O let not the crushed be turned back in shame; let the low man and the poor give praise to your name.

<sup>22</sup>Up! O God, be the judge of your cause; keep in mind the bitter things which the man of evil behaviour says against you every day.

<sup>23</sup>Keep in mind the voice of your haters; the outcry of those who come against you goes up every day.

**75** <sup>1</sup>To you, O God, we give praise, to you we give praise: and those who give honour to your name make clear your works of power.

<sup>2</sup>When the right time has come, I will be the judge in righteousness.

<sup>3</sup>When the earth and all its people become feeble, I am the support of its pillars. (Selah.)

<sup>4</sup>I say to the men of pride, Let your pride be gone: and to the sinners, Let not your horn be lifted up.

<sup>5</sup>Let not your horn be lifted up: let no more words of pride come from your outstretched necks.

<sup>6</sup>For honour does not come from the east, or from the west, or uplifting from the south;

<sup>7</sup>But God is the judge, putting down one, and lifting up another.

<sup>8</sup>For in the hand of the Lord is a cup, and the wine is red; it is well mixed, overflowing from his hand: he will make all the sinners of the earth take of it, even to the last drop.

<sup>9</sup>But I will ever be full of joy, making songs of praise to the God of Jacob.

<sup>10</sup>By him will all the horns of the sinners be cut off; but the horns of the upright will be lifted up.

**76**<sup>1</sup>In Judah is the knowledge of God; his name is great in Israel,

<sup>2</sup>In Salem is his tent, his resting-place in Zion.

<sup>3</sup>There were the arrows of the bow broken, there he put an end to body-cover, sword, and fight. (Selah.)

<sup>4</sup>You are shining and full of glory, more than the eternal mountains.

<sup>5</sup>Gone is the wealth of the strong, their last sleep has overcome them; the men of war have become feeble.

<sup>6</sup>At the voice of your wrath, O God of Jacob, deep sleep has overcome carriage and horse.

<sup>7</sup>You, you are to be feared; who may keep his place before you in the time of your wrath?

<sup>8</sup>From heaven you gave your decision; the earth, in its fear, gave no sound,

<sup>9</sup>When God took his place as judge, for the salvation of the poor on the earth. (Selah.)

<sup>10</sup>They will give you praise; the rest of

<sup>11</sup>Give to the Lord your God what is his by right; let all who are round him give offerings to him who is to be feared.

<sup>12</sup>He puts an end to the wrath of rulers; he is feared by the kings of the earth.

**77** <sup>1</sup>I was crying to God with my voice; even to God with my voice, and he gave ear to me.

<sup>2</sup>In the day of my trouble, my heart was turned to the Lord: my hand was stretched out in the night without resting; my soul would not be comforted.

<sup>3</sup>I will keep God in memory, with sounds of grief; my thoughts are troubled, and my spirit is overcome. (Selah.)

<sup>4</sup>You keep my eyes from sleep; I am so troubled that no words come.

<sup>5</sup>My thoughts go back to the days of the past, to the years which are gone.

<sup>6</sup>The memory of my song comes back to me in the night; my thoughts are moving in my heart; my spirit is searching with care.

<sup>7</sup>Will the Lord put me away for ever? will he be kind no longer?

<sup>8</sup>Is his mercy quite gone for ever? has his word come to nothing?

<sup>9</sup>Has God put away the memory of his pity? are his mercies shut up by his wrath? (Selah.)

<sup>10</sup>And I said, It is a weight on my spirit; but I will keep in mind the years of the right hand of the Most High.

<sup>11</sup>I will keep in mind the works of Jah: I will keep the memory of your wonders in the past.

<sup>12</sup>I will give thought to all your work, while my mind goes over your acts of power.

<sup>13</sup>Your way, O God, is holy: what god is so great as our God?

<sup>14</sup>You are the God who does works of power: you have made your strength clear to the nations.

<sup>15</sup>With your arm you have made your people free, the sons of Jacob and Joseph. (Selah.)

<sup>16</sup>The waters saw you, O God; the waters saw you, they were in fear: even the deep was troubled.

<sup>17</sup>The clouds sent out water; the skies gave out a sound; truly, your arrows went far and wide.

<sup>18</sup>The voice of your thunder went rolling on; the world was flaming with the light of the storm; the earth was shaking.

<sup>19</sup>Your way was in the sea, and your road in the great waters; there was no knowledge of your footsteps.

<sup>20</sup>You were guiding your people like a flock, by the hand of Moses and Aaron.

**78**<sup>1</sup>Give ear, O my people, to my law; let your ears be bent down to the words of my mouth.

<sup>2</sup>Opening my mouth I will give out a story, even the dark sayings of old times;

<sup>3</sup> Which have come to our hearing and our knowledge, as they were given to us by our fathers.

<sup>4</sup> We will not keep them secret from our children; we will make clear to the coming generation the praises of the Lord and his strength, and the great works of wonder which he has done.

<sup>5</sup> He put up a witness in Jacob, and made a law in Israel; which he gave to our fathers so that they might give knowledge of them to their children;

<sup>6</sup> So that the generation to come might have knowledge of them, even the children of the future, who would give word of them to their children;

<sup>7</sup> So that they might put their hope in God, and not let Gods works go out of their minds, but keep his laws;

<sup>8</sup> And not be like their fathers, a stiff-necked and uncontrolled generation; a generation whose heart was hard, whose spirit was not true to God.

<sup>9</sup> The children of Ephraim, armed with bows, were turned back on the day of the fight.



<sup>10</sup>They were not ruled by Gods word,  
and they would not go in the way of his  
law;

<sup>11</sup>They let his works go out of their  
memory, and the wonders which he had  
made them see.

<sup>12</sup>He did great works before the eyes of  
their fathers, in the land of Egypt, in the  
fields of Zoan.

<sup>13</sup>The sea was cut in two so that they  
might go through; the waters were  
massed together on this side and on  
that.

<sup>14</sup>In the daytime he was guiding them  
in the cloud, and all through the night  
with a light of fire.

<sup>15</sup>The rocks of the waste land were  
broken by his power, and he gave them  
drink as out of the deep waters.

<sup>16</sup>He made streams come out of the  
rock; and waters came flowing down like  
rivers.

<sup>17</sup>And they went on sinning against him  
even more, turning away from the Most  
High in the waste land;

<sup>18</sup>Testing God in their hearts, requesting  
meat for their desire.

<sup>19</sup>They said bitter words against God, saying, Is God able to make ready a table in the waste land?

<sup>20</sup>See, the rock was cut open by his power, so that the water came rushing out, and overflowing streams; is he able to give us bread? is he able to get meat for his people?

<sup>21</sup>So these things came to the Lords ears, and he was angry; and a fire was lighted against Jacob, and wrath came up against Israel;

<sup>22</sup>Because they had no faith in God, and no hope in his salvation.

<sup>23</sup>And he gave orders to the clouds on high, and the doors of heaven were open;

<sup>24</sup>And he sent down manna like rain for their food, and gave them the grain of heaven.

<sup>25</sup>Man took part in the food of strong ones; he sent them meat in full measure.

<sup>26</sup>He sent an east wind from heaven, driving on the south wind by his power.

<sup>27</sup>He sent down meat on them like dust, and feathered birds like the sand of the sea,

<sup>28</sup>And he let it come down into their resting-place, round about their tents.

<sup>29</sup>So they had food and were full; for he gave them their desire;

<sup>30</sup>But they were not turned from their desires; and while the food was still in their mouths,

<sup>31</sup>The wrath of God came on them, and put to death the fattest of them, and put an end to the young men of Israel.

<sup>32</sup>For all this they went on sinning even more, and had no faith in his great wonders.

<sup>33</sup>So their days were wasted like a breath, and their years in trouble.

<sup>34</sup>When he sent death on them, then they made search for him; turning to him and looking for him with care;

<sup>35</sup>In the memory that God was their Rock, and the Most High God their saviour.

<sup>36</sup>But their lips were false to him, and their tongues were untrue to him;

<sup>37</sup>And their hearts were not right with him, and they did not keep their agreement with him.

<sup>38</sup>But he, being full of pity, has forgiveness for sin, and does not put an

end to man: frequently turning back his wrath, and not being violently angry.

<sup>39</sup> So he kept in mind that they were only flesh; a breath which is quickly gone, and will not come again.

<sup>40</sup> How frequently did they go against him in the waste land, and give him cause for grief in the dry places!

<sup>41</sup> Again they put God to the test, and gave pain to the Holy One of Israel.

<sup>42</sup> They did not keep in mind the work of his hand, or the day when he took them from the power of their haters;

<sup>43</sup> How he had done his signs in Egypt, and his wonders in the field of Zoan;

<sup>44</sup> So that their rivers were turned to blood, and they were not able to get drink from their streams.

<sup>45</sup> He sent different sorts of flies among them, poisoning their flesh; and frogs for their destruction.

<sup>46</sup> He gave the increase of their fields to worms, the fruits of their industry to the locusts.

<sup>47</sup> He sent ice for the destruction of their vines; their trees were damaged by the bitter cold.

<sup>48</sup>Ice was rained down on their cattle; thunderstorms sent destruction among the flocks.

<sup>49</sup>He sent on them the heat of his wrath, his bitter disgust, letting loose evil angels among them.

<sup>50</sup>He let his wrath have its way; he did not keep back their soul from death, but gave their life to disease.

<sup>51</sup>He gave to destruction all the first sons of Egypt; the first-fruits of their strength in the tents of Ham;

<sup>52</sup>But he took his people out like sheep, guiding them in the waste land like a flock.

<sup>53</sup>He took them on safely so that they had no fear; but their haters were covered by the sea.

<sup>54</sup>And he was their guide to his holy land, even to the mountain, which his right hand had made his;

<sup>55</sup>Driving out nations before them, marking out the line of their heritage, and giving the people of Israel their tents for a resting-place.

<sup>56</sup>But they were bitter against the Most High God, testing him, and not keeping his laws;

<sup>57</sup> Their hearts were turned back and untrue like their fathers; they were turned to one side like a twisted bow.

<sup>58</sup> They made him angry with their high places; moving him to wrath with their images.

<sup>59</sup> When this came to Gods ears he was very angry, and gave up Israel completely;

<sup>60</sup> So that he went away from the holy place in Shiloh, the tent which he had put among men;

<sup>61</sup> And he let his strength be taken prisoner, and gave his glory into the hands of his hater.

<sup>62</sup> He gave his people up to the sword, and was angry with his heritage.

<sup>63</sup> Their young men were burned in the fire; and their virgins were not praised in the bride-song.

<sup>64</sup> Their priests were put to death by the sword, and their widows made no weeping for them.

<sup>65</sup> Then was the Lord like one awaking from sleep, and like a strong man crying out because of wine.

<sup>66</sup> His haters were turned back by his blows and shamed for ever.

<sup>67</sup> And he put the tent of Joseph on one side, and took not the tribe of Ephraim;

<sup>68</sup> But he took the tribe of Judah for himself, and the mountain of Zion, in which he had pleasure.

<sup>69</sup> And he made his holy place like the high heaven, like the earth which is fixed by him for ever.

<sup>70</sup> He took David to be his servant, taking him from the place of the flocks;

<sup>71</sup> From looking after the sheep which were giving milk, he took him to give food to Jacob his people, and to Israel his heritage.

<sup>72</sup> So he gave them food with an upright heart, guiding them by the wisdom of his hands.

**79**<sup>1</sup> O God, the nations have come into your heritage; they have made your holy Temple unclean; they have made Jerusalem a mass of broken walls.

<sup>2</sup> They have given the bodies of your servants as food to the birds of the air, and the flesh of your saints to the beasts of the earth.

<sup>3</sup> Their blood has been flowing like water round about Jerusalem; there

was no one to put them in their last resting-place.

<sup>4</sup>We are looked down on by our neighbours, we are laughed at and made sport of by those who are round us.

<sup>5</sup>How long, O Lord? will you be angry for ever? will your wrath go on burning like fire?

<sup>6</sup>Let your wrath be on the nations who have no knowledge of you, and on the kingdoms who have not made prayer to your name.

<sup>7</sup>For they have taken Jacob for their meat, and made waste his house.

<sup>8</sup>Do not keep in mind against us the sins of our fathers; let your mercy come to us quickly, for we have been made very low.

<sup>9</sup>Give us help, O God of our salvation, for the glory of your name; take us out of danger and give us forgiveness for our sins, because of your name.

<sup>10</sup>Why may the nations say, Where is their God? Let payment for the blood of your servants be made openly among the nations before our eyes.



<sup>11</sup> Let the cry of the prisoner come before you; with your strong arm make free the children of death;

<sup>12</sup> And give punishment seven times over into the breast of our neighbours for the bitter words which they have said against you, O Lord.

<sup>13</sup> So we your people, and the sheep of your flock, will give you glory for ever: we will go on praising you through all generations.

**80** <sup>1</sup> Give ear, O Keeper of Israel, guiding Joseph like a flock; you who have your seat on the winged ones, let your glory be seen.

<sup>2</sup> Before Ephraim and Benjamin and Manasseh, let your strength be awake from sleep, and come as our salvation.

<sup>3</sup> Take us back again, O God; let us see the shining of your face, and let us be safe.

<sup>4</sup> O Lord God of armies, how long will your wrath be burning against the rest of your people?

<sup>5</sup> You have given them the bread of weeping for food; for their drink you have given them sorrow in great measure.

<sup>6</sup>You make us a cause of war among our neighbours; our haters are laughing at us among themselves.

<sup>7</sup>Take us back again, O God of armies; let us see the shining of your face, and let us be safe.

<sup>8</sup>You took a vine out of Egypt: driving out the nations, and planting it in their land.

<sup>9</sup>You made ready a place for it, so that it might take deep root, and it sent out its branches over all the land.

<sup>10</sup>The mountains were covered with its shade, and the great trees with its branches.

<sup>11</sup>It sent out its arms to the Sea, and its branches to the River.

<sup>12</sup>Why are its walls broken down by your hands, so that all who go by may take its fruit?

<sup>13</sup>It is uprooted by the pigs from the woods, the beasts of the field get their food from it.

<sup>14</sup>Come back, O God of armies: from heaven let your eyes be turned to this vine, and give your mind to it,

<sup>15</sup>Even to the tree which was planted by your right hand, and to the branch which you made strong for yourself.

<sup>16</sup>It is burned with fire; it is cut down: they are made waste by the wrath of your face.

<sup>17</sup>Let your hand be on the man of your right hand, on the son of man whom you made strong for yourself.

<sup>18</sup>So will we not be turned back from you; keep us in life, and we will give praise to your name.

<sup>19</sup>Take us back, O Lord God of armies; let us see the shining of your face, and let us be safe.

**81** <sup>1</sup>Make a song to God our strength: make a glad cry to the God of Jacob.

<sup>2</sup>Take up the melody, playing on an instrument of music, even on corded instruments.

<sup>3</sup>Let the horn be sounded in the time of the new moon, at the full moon, on our holy feast-day:

<sup>4</sup>For this is a rule for Israel, and a law of the God of Jacob.

<sup>5</sup>He gave it to Joseph as a witness, when he went out over the land of Egypt;

then the words of a strange tongue were sounding in my ears.

<sup>6</sup>I took the weight from his back; his hands were made free from the baskets.

<sup>7</sup>You gave a cry in your trouble, and I made you free; I gave you an answer in the secret place of the thunder; I put you to the test at the waters of Meribah. (Selah.)

<sup>8</sup>Give ear, O my people, and I will give you my word, O Israel, if you will only do as I say!

<sup>9</sup>There is to be no strange god among you; you are not to give worship to any other god.

<sup>10</sup>I am the Lord your God, who took you up from the land of Egypt: let your mouth be open wide, so that I may give you food.

<sup>11</sup>But my people did not give ear to my voice; Israel would have nothing to do with me.

<sup>12</sup>So I gave them up to the desires of their hearts; that they might go after their evil purposes.

<sup>13</sup>If only my people would give ear to me, walking in my ways!

<sup>14</sup>I would quickly overcome their haters: my hand would be turned against those who make war on them.

<sup>15</sup>The haters of the Lord would be broken, and their destruction would be eternal.

<sup>16</sup>I would give them the best grain for food; you would be full of honey from the rock.

**82** <sup>1</sup>God is in the meeting-place of God; he is judging among the gods.

<sup>2</sup>How long will you go on judging falsely, having respect for the persons of evil-doers? (Selah.)

<sup>3</sup>Give ear to the cause of the poor and the children without fathers; let those who are troubled and in need have their rights.

<sup>4</sup>Be the saviour of the poor and those who have nothing: take them out of the hand of the evil-doers.

<sup>5</sup>They have no knowledge or sense; they go about in the dark: all the bases of the earth are moved.

<sup>6</sup>I said, You are gods; all of you are the sons of the Most High:

<sup>7</sup> But you will come to death like men,  
falling like one of the rulers of the earth.

<sup>8</sup> Up! O God, come as judge of the  
earth; for all the nations are your  
heritage.

**83** <sup>1</sup> O God, do not keep quiet: let  
your lips be open and take no  
rest, O God.

<sup>2</sup> For see! those who make war on you  
are out of control; your haters are lifting  
up their heads.

<sup>3</sup> They have made wise designs against  
your people, talking together against  
those whom you keep in a secret place.

<sup>4</sup> They have said, Come, let us put an  
end to them as a nation; so that the  
name of Israel may go out of mans  
memory.

<sup>5</sup> For they have all come to an  
agreement; they are all joined together  
against you:

<sup>6</sup> The tents of Edom and the Ishmaelites;  
Moab and the Hagarites;

<sup>7</sup> Gebal and Ammon and Amalek; the  
Philistines and the people of Tyre;

<sup>8</sup> Assur is joined with them; they have  
become the support of the children of  
Lot. (Selah.)

<sup>9</sup>Do to them what you did to the Midianites; what you did to Sisera and Jabin, at the stream of Kishon:

<sup>10</sup>Who came to destruction at En-dor; their bodies became dust and waste.

<sup>11</sup>Make their chiefs like Oreb and Zeeb; and all their rulers like Zebah and Zalmunna:

<sup>12</sup>Who have said, Let us take for our heritage the resting-place of God.

<sup>13</sup>O my God, make them like the rolling dust; like dry stems before the wind.

<sup>14</sup>As fire burning a wood, and as a flame causing fire on the mountains,

<sup>15</sup>So go after them with your strong wind, and let them be full of fear because of your storm.

<sup>16</sup>Let their faces be full of shame; so that they may give honour to your name, O Lord.

<sup>17</sup>Let them be overcome and troubled for ever; let them be put to shame and come to destruction;

<sup>18</sup>So that men may see that you only, whose name is Yahweh, are Most High over all the earth.

**84**<sup>1</sup>How dear are your tents, O Lord of armies!

<sup>2</sup>The passion of my souls desire is for the house of the Lord; my heart and my flesh are crying out for the living God.

<sup>3</sup>The little birds have places for themselves, where they may put their young, even your altars, O Lord of armies, my King and my God.

<sup>4</sup>Happy are they whose resting-place is in your house: they will still be praising you. (Selah.)

<sup>5</sup>Happy is the man whose strength is in you; in whose heart are the highways to Zion.

<sup>6</sup>Going through the valley of balsam-trees, they make it a place of springs; it is clothed with blessings by the early rain.

<sup>7</sup>They go from strength to strength; every one of them comes before God in Zion.

<sup>8</sup>O Lord God of armies, let my prayer come to you: give ear, O God of Jacob. (Selah.)

<sup>9</sup>O God, let your eyes be on him who is our safe cover, and let your heart be turned to your king.

<sup>10</sup>For a day in your house is better than a thousand. It is better to be a



door-keeper in the house of my God,  
than to be living in the tents of sin.

<sup>11</sup>The Lord God is our sun and our strength: the Lord will give grace and glory: he will not keep back any good thing from those whose ways are upright.

<sup>12</sup>O Lord of armies, happy is the man whose hope is in you.

**85** <sup>1</sup>Lord, you were good to your land: changing the fate of Jacob.

<sup>2</sup>The wrongdoing of your people had forgiveness; all their sin had been covered. (Selah.)

<sup>3</sup>You were no longer angry: you were turned from the heat of your wrath.

<sup>4</sup>Come back to us, O God of our salvation, and be angry with us no longer.

<sup>5</sup>Will you go on being angry with us for ever? will you keep your wrath against us through all the long generations?

<sup>6</sup>Will you not give us life again, so that your people may be glad in you?

<sup>7</sup>Let us see your mercy, O Lord, and give us your salvation.

<sup>8</sup>I will give ear to the voice of the Lord; for he will say words of peace to his

people and to his saints; but let them not go back to their foolish ways.

<sup>9</sup> Truly, his salvation is near to his worshippers; so that glory may be in our land.

<sup>10</sup> Mercy and faith have come together; righteousness and peace have given one another a kiss.

<sup>11</sup> Faith comes up from the earth like a plant; righteousness is looking down from heaven.

<sup>12</sup> The Lord will give what is good; and our land will give its increase.

<sup>13</sup> Righteousness will go before him, making a way for his footsteps.

**86**<sup>1</sup> Let your ears be open to my voice, O Lord, and give me an answer; for I am poor and in need.

<sup>2</sup> Keep my soul, for I am true to you; O my God, give salvation to your servant, whose hope is in you.

<sup>3</sup> Have mercy on me, O Lord; for my cry goes up to you all the day.

<sup>4</sup> Make glad the soul of your servant; for it is lifted up to you, O Lord.

<sup>5</sup> You are good, O Lord, and full of forgiveness; your mercy is great to all who make their cry to you.

<sup>6</sup>O Lord, give ear to my prayer; and take note of the sound of my requests.

<sup>7</sup>In the day of my trouble I send up my cry to you; for you will give me an answer.

<sup>8</sup>There is no god like you, O Lord; there are no works like your works.

<sup>9</sup>Let all the nations whom you have made come and give worship to you, O Lord, giving glory to your name.

<sup>10</sup>For you are great, and do great works of wonder; you only are God.

<sup>11</sup>Make your way clear to me, O Lord; I will go on my way in your faith: let my heart be glad in the fear of your name.

<sup>12</sup>I will give you praise, O Lord my God, with all my heart; I will give glory to your name for ever.

<sup>13</sup>For your mercy to me is great; you have taken my soul up from the deep places of the underworld.

<sup>14</sup>O God, men of pride have come up against me, and the army of violent men would take my life; they have not put you before them.

<sup>15</sup>But you, O Lord, are a God full of pity and forgiveness, slow to get angry, great in mercy and wisdom.

<sup>16</sup>O be turned to me and have mercy on me: give your strength to your servant, and your salvation to the son of her who is your servant.

<sup>17</sup>Give me a sign for good; so that my haters may see it and be shamed; because you, Lord, have been my help and comfort.

**87** <sup>1</sup>This house is resting on the holy mountain.

<sup>2</sup>The Lord has more love for the doors of Zion than for all the tents of Jacob.

<sup>3</sup>Noble things are said of you, O town of God. (Selah.)

<sup>4</sup>Rahab and Babylon will be named among those who have knowledge of me; see, Philistia and Tyre, with Ethiopia; this man had his birth there.

<sup>5</sup>And of Zion it will be said, This or that man had his birth there; and the Most High will make her strong.

<sup>6</sup>The Lord will keep in mind, when he is writing the records of the people, that this man had his birth there. (Selah.)

<sup>7</sup>The players on instruments will be there, and the dancers will say, All my springs are in you.

**88**<sup>1</sup> [KOSONG]

<sup>2</sup>Let my prayer come before you; give ear to my cry:

<sup>3</sup>For my soul is full of evils, and my life has come near to the underworld.

<sup>4</sup>I am numbered among those who go down into the earth; I have become like a man for whom there is no help:

<sup>5</sup>My soul is among the dead, like those in the underworld, to whom you give no more thought; for they are cut off from your care.

<sup>6</sup>You have put me in the lowest deep, even in dark places.

<sup>7</sup>The weight of your wrath is crushing me, all your waves have overcome me. (Selah.)

<sup>8</sup>You have sent my friends far away from me; you have made me a disgusting thing in their eyes: I am shut up, and not able to come out.

<sup>9</sup>My eyes are wasting away because of my trouble: Lord, my cry has gone up to you every day, my hands are stretched out to you.

<sup>10</sup>Will you do works of wonder for the dead? will the shades come back to give you praise? (Selah.)

<sup>11</sup> Will the story of your mercy be given in the house of the dead? will news of your faith come to the place of destruction?

<sup>12</sup> May there be knowledge of your wonders in the dark? or of your righteousness where memory is dead?

<sup>13</sup> But to you did I send up my cry, O Lord; in the morning my prayer came before you.

<sup>14</sup> Lord, why have you sent away my soul? why is your face covered from me?

<sup>15</sup> I have been troubled and in fear of death from the time when I was young; your wrath is hard on me, and I have no strength.

<sup>16</sup> The heat of your wrath has gone over me; I am broken by your cruel punishments.

<sup>17</sup> They are round me all the day like water; they have made a circle about me.

<sup>18</sup> You have sent my friends and lovers far from me; I am gone from the memory of those who are dear to me.

**89**<sup>1</sup> My song will be of the mercies of the Lord for ever: with my

mouth will I make his faith clear to all generations.

<sup>2</sup>For you have said, Mercy will be made strong for ever; my faith will be unchanging in the heavens.

<sup>3</sup>I have made an agreement with the man of my selection, I have made an oath to David my servant;

<sup>4</sup>I will make your seed go on for ever, your kingdom will be strong through all generations. (Selah.)

<sup>5</sup>In heaven let them give praise for your wonders, O Lord; and your unchanging faith among the saints.

<sup>6</sup>For who is there in the heavens in comparison with the Lord? who is like the Lord among the sons of the gods?

<sup>7</sup>God is greatly to be feared among the saints, and to be honoured over all those who are about him.

<sup>8</sup>O Lord God of armies, who is strong like you, O Jah? and your unchanging faith is round about you.

<sup>9</sup>You have rule over the sea in storm; when its waves are troubled, you make them calm.

<sup>10</sup>Rahab was crushed by you like one wounded to death; with your strong arm you put to flight all your haters.

<sup>11</sup>Yours are the heavens, and the earth is yours; you have made the world, and everything which is in it.

<sup>12</sup>You have made the north and the south; Tabor and Hermon are sounding with joy at your name.

<sup>13</sup>Yours is an arm of power; strong is your hand and high your right hand.

<sup>14</sup>The seat of your kingdom is resting on righteousness and right judging: mercy and good faith come before your face.

<sup>15</sup>Happy are the people who have knowledge of the holy cry: the light of your face, O Lord, will be shining on their way.

<sup>16</sup>In your name will they have joy all the day: in your righteousness will they be lifted up.

<sup>17</sup>For you are the glory of their strength; in your pleasure will our horn be lifted up.

<sup>18</sup>For our breastplate is the Lord; and our king is the Holy One of Israels.



<sup>19</sup>Then your voice came to your holy one in a vision, saying, I have put the crown on a strong one, lifting up one taken from among the people.

<sup>20</sup>I have made discovery of David my servant; I have put my holy oil on his head.

<sup>21</sup>My hand will be his support; my arm will give him strength.

<sup>22</sup>The deceit of those who are against him will not overcome him; he will not be troubled by the sons of evil.

<sup>23</sup>I will have those who are against him broken before his face, and his haters will be crushed under my blows.

<sup>24</sup>But my faith and my mercy will be with him; and in my name will his horn be lifted up.

<sup>25</sup>I will put his hand in the sea, and his right hand in the rivers.

<sup>26</sup>He will say to me, You are my father, my God, and the Rock of my salvation.

<sup>27</sup>And I will make him the first of my sons, most high over the kings of the earth.

<sup>28</sup>I will keep my mercy for him for ever; my agreement with him will not be changed.

<sup>29</sup>His seed will keep their place for ever; his kingdom will be eternal, like the heavens.

<sup>30</sup>If his children give up my law, and are not ruled by my decisions;

<sup>31</sup>If my rules are broken, and my orders are not kept;

<sup>32</sup>Then I will send punishment on them for their sin; my rod will be the reward of their evil-doing.

<sup>33</sup>But I will not take away my mercy from him, and will not be false to my faith.

<sup>34</sup>I will be true to my agreement; the things which have gone out of my lips will not be changed.

<sup>35</sup>I have made an oath once by my holy name, that I will not be false to David.

<sup>36</sup>His seed will not come to an end for ever; the seat of his kingdom will be like the sun before me.

<sup>37</sup>It will be fixed for ever like the moon; and the witness in heaven is true. (Selah.)

<sup>38</sup>But you have put him away in disgust; you have been angry with the king of your selection.

<sup>39</sup> You have made your agreement with your servant of no effect: you have had no respect for his crown, it has come down even to the earth.

<sup>40</sup> All his walls are broken down; you have given his strong towers to destruction.

<sup>41</sup> All those who come by take away his goods; he is laughed at by his neighbours.

<sup>42</sup> You have given power to the right hand of his haters; you have made glad all those who are against him.

<sup>43</sup> His sword is turned back; you have not been his support in the fight.

<sup>44</sup> You have put an end to his glory: the seat of his kingdom has been levelled to the earth.

<sup>45</sup> You have made him old before his time; he is covered with shame. (Selah.)

<sup>46</sup> How long, O Lord, will you keep yourself for ever from our eyes? how long will your wrath be burning like fire?

<sup>47</sup> See how short my time is; why have you made all men for no purpose?

<sup>48</sup> What man now living will not see death? will he be able to keep back his soul from the underworld? (Selah.)

<sup>49</sup> Lord, where are your earlier mercies?  
where is the oath which you made to  
David in unchanging faith?

<sup>50</sup> Keep in mind, O Lord, the shame of  
your servants, and how the bitter words  
of all the people have come into my  
heart;

<sup>51</sup> The bitter words of your haters, O  
Lord, shaming the footsteps of your king.

<sup>52</sup> Let the Lord be praised for ever. So  
be it, So be it.

**90**<sup>1</sup> Lord, you have been our  
resting-place in all generations.

<sup>2</sup> Before the mountains were made,  
before you had given birth to the earth  
and the world, before time was, and for  
ever, you are God.

<sup>3</sup> You send man back to his dust; and  
say, Go back, you children of men.

<sup>4</sup> For to you a thousand years are no  
more than yesterday when it is past, and  
like a watch in the night.

<sup>5</sup> [KOSONG]

<sup>6</sup> In the morning it is green; in the  
evening it is cut down, and becomes dry.

<sup>7</sup> We are burned up by the heat of your  
passion, and troubled by your wrath.

<sup>8</sup>You have put our evil doings before you, our secret sins in the light of your face.

<sup>9</sup>For all our days have gone by in your wrath; our years come to an end like a breath.

<sup>10</sup>The measure of our life is seventy years; and if through strength it may be eighty years, its pride is only trouble and sorrow, for it comes to an end and we are quickly gone.

<sup>11</sup>Who has knowledge of the power of your wrath, or who takes note of the weight of your passion?

<sup>12</sup>So give us knowledge of the number of our days, that we may get a heart of wisdom.

<sup>13</sup>Come back, O Lord; how long? let your purpose for your servants be changed.

<sup>14</sup>In the morning give us your mercy in full measure; so that we may have joy and delight all our days.

<sup>15</sup>Make us glad in reward for the days of our sorrow, and for the years in which we have seen evil.

<sup>16</sup> Make your work clear to your servants, and your glory to their children.

<sup>17</sup> Let the pleasure of the Lord our God be on us: O Lord, give strength to the work of our hands.

**91** <sup>1</sup> Happy is he whose resting-place is in the secret of the Lord, and under the shade of the wings of the Most High;

<sup>2</sup> Who says of the Lord, He is my safe place and my tower of strength: he is my God, in whom is my hope.

<sup>3</sup> He will take you out of the bird-net, and keep you safe from wasting disease.

<sup>4</sup> You will be covered by his feathers; under his wings you will be safe: his good faith will be your salvation.

<sup>5</sup> You will have no fear of the evil things of the night, or of the arrow in flight by day,

<sup>6</sup> Or of the disease which takes men in the dark, or of the destruction which makes waste when the sun is high.

<sup>7</sup> You will see a thousand falling by your side, and ten thousand at your right hand; but it will not come near you.

<sup>8</sup>Only with your eyes will you see the reward of the evil-doers.

<sup>9</sup>Because you have said, I am in the hands of the Lord, the Most High is my safe resting-place;

<sup>10</sup>No evil will come on you, and no disease will come near your tent.

<sup>11</sup>For he will give you into the care of his angels to keep you wherever you go.

<sup>12</sup>In their hands they will keep you up, so that your foot may not be crushed against a stone.

<sup>13</sup>You will put your foot on the lion and the snake; the young lion and the great snake will be crushed under your feet.

<sup>14</sup>Because he has given me his love, I will take him out of danger: I will put him in a place of honour, because he has kept my name in his heart.

<sup>15</sup>When his cry comes up to me, I will give him an answer: I will be with him in trouble; I will make him free from danger and give him honour.

<sup>16</sup>With long life will he be rewarded; and I will let him see my salvation.

**92**<sup>1</sup>It is a good thing to give praise to the Lord, and to make melody to your name, O Most High;

<sup>2</sup>To make clear your mercy in the morning, and your unchanging faith every night;

<sup>3</sup>On a ten-corded instrument, and on an instrument of music with a quiet sound.

<sup>4</sup>For you, O Lord, have made me glad through your work; I will have joy in the works of your hands.

<sup>5</sup>O Lord, how great are your works! and your thoughts are very deep.

<sup>6</sup>A man without sense has no knowledge of this; and a foolish man may not take it in.

<sup>7</sup>When the sinners come up like the grass, and all the workers of evil do well for themselves, it is so that their end may be eternal destruction.

<sup>8</sup>But you, O Lord, are on high for ever.

<sup>9</sup>For see! your haters, O Lord, will be put to death; all the workers of evil will be put to flight;

<sup>10</sup>But my horn is lifted up like the horn of the ox: the best oil is flowing on my head.

<sup>11</sup>My eyes have seen trouble come on my haters; my ears have news of the



fate of the evil-doers who have come up against me.

<sup>12</sup>The good man will be like a tall tree in his strength; his growth will be as the wide-stretching trees of Lebanon.

<sup>13</sup>Those who are planted in the house of the Lord will come up tall and strong in his gardens.

<sup>14</sup>They will give fruit even when they are old; they will be fertile and full of growth;

<sup>15</sup>For a sign that the Lord is upright; he is my Rock, there is no deceit in him.

**93**<sup>1</sup>The Lord is King; he is clothed with glory; the Lord is clothed with strength; power is the cord of his robe; the world is fixed, so that it may not be moved.

<sup>2</sup>The seat of your power has been from the past; you are eternal.

<sup>3</sup>The rivers send up, O Lord, the rivers send up their voices; they send them up with a loud cry.

<sup>4</sup>The Lord in heaven is stronger than the noise of great waters, yes, he is stronger than the great waves of the sea.

<sup>5</sup>Your witness is most certain; it is right for your house to be holy, O Lord, for ever.

**94** <sup>1</sup>O God, in whose hands is punishment, O God of punishment, let your shining face be seen.

<sup>2</sup>Be lifted up, O judge of the earth; let their reward come to the men of pride.

<sup>3</sup>How long will sinners, O Lord, how long will sinners have joy over us?

<sup>4</sup>Words of pride come from their lips; all the workers of evil say great things of themselves.

<sup>5</sup>Your people are crushed by them, O Lord, your heritage is troubled,

<sup>6</sup>They put to death the widow and the guest, they take the lives of children who have no father;

<sup>7</sup>And they say, Jah will not see it, the God of Jacob will not give thought to it.

<sup>8</sup>Give your mind to my words, you who are without wisdom among the people; you foolish men, when will you be wise?

<sup>9</sup>Has he by whom your ears were planted no hearing? or is he blind by whom your eyes were formed?

<sup>10</sup>He who is the judge of the nations,  
will he not give men the reward of their  
acts, even he who gives knowledge to  
man?

<sup>11</sup>The Lord has knowledge of the  
thoughts of man, for they are only a  
breath.

<sup>12</sup>Happy is the man who is guided  
by you, O Jah, and to whom you give  
teaching out of your law;

<sup>13</sup>So that you may give him rest from  
the days of evil, till a hole is made ready  
for the destruction of the sinners.

<sup>14</sup>The Lord will not give up his people,  
or take away his support from his  
heritage;

<sup>15</sup>But decisions will again be made in  
righteousness; and they will be kept by  
all whose hearts are true.

<sup>16</sup>Who will give me help against the  
sinners? and who will be my support  
against the workers of evil?

<sup>17</sup>If the Lord had not been my helper,  
my soul would quickly have gone down  
into death.

<sup>18</sup>If I say, My foot is slipping; your  
mercy, O Lord, is my support.

<sup>19</sup> Among all my troubled thoughts,  
your comforts are the delight of my soul.

<sup>20</sup> What part with you has the seat of  
sin, which makes evil into a law?

<sup>21</sup> They are banded together against  
the soul of the upright, to give decisions  
against those who have done no wrong.

<sup>22</sup> But the Lord is my safe resting-place;  
my God is the Rock where I am safe.

<sup>23</sup> And he has made their evil designs  
come back on themselves, cutting them  
off in their sin; the Lord our God will put  
an end to them.

**95** <sup>1</sup> O come, let us make songs to  
the Lord; sending up glad voices  
to the Rock of our salvation.

<sup>2</sup> Let us come before his face with  
praises; and make melody with holy  
songs.

<sup>3</sup> For the Lord is a great God, and a  
great King over all gods.

<sup>4</sup> The deep places of the earth are in his  
hand; and the tops of the mountains are  
his.

<sup>5</sup> The sea is his, and he made it; and  
the dry land was formed by his hands.

<sup>6</sup>O come, let us give worship, falling down on our knees before the Lord our Maker.

<sup>7</sup>For he is our God; and we are the people to whom he gives food, and the sheep of his flock. Today, if you would only give ear to his voice!

<sup>8</sup>Let not your hearts be hard, as at Meribah, as in the day of Massah in the waste land;

<sup>9</sup>When your fathers put me to the test and saw my power and my work.

<sup>10</sup>For forty years I was angry with this generation, and said, They are a people whose hearts are turned away from me, for they have no knowledge of my ways;

<sup>11</sup>And I made an oath in my wrath, that they might not come into my place of rest.

**96** <sup>1</sup>O make a new song to the Lord; let all the earth make melody to the Lord.

<sup>2</sup>Make songs to the Lord, blessing his name; give the good news of his salvation day by day.

<sup>3</sup>Make clear his glory to the nations, and his wonders to all the peoples.

<sup>4</sup>For the Lord is great, and greatly to be praised; he is more to be feared than all other gods.

<sup>5</sup>For all the gods of the nations are false gods; but the Lord made the heavens.

<sup>6</sup>Honour and glory are before him: strong and fair is his holy place.

<sup>7</sup>Give to the Lord, O you families of the peoples, give to the Lord glory and strength.

<sup>8</sup>Give to the Lord the glory of his name; take with you an offering and come into his house.

<sup>9</sup>O give worship to the Lord in holy robes; be in fear before him, all the earth.

<sup>10</sup>Say among the nations, The Lord is King; yes, the world is ordered so that it may not be moved; he will be an upright judge of the peoples.

<sup>11</sup>Let the heavens have joy and the earth be glad; let the sea be thundering with all its waters;

<sup>12</sup>Let the field be glad, and everything which is in it; yes, let all the trees of the wood be sounding with joy,

<sup>13</sup>Before the Lord, for he is come; he is come to be the judge of the earth; the

earth will be judged in righteousness,  
and the peoples with unchanging faith.

**97** <sup>1</sup>The Lord is King, let the earth  
have joy; let all the sea-lands be  
glad.

<sup>2</sup>Dark clouds are round him; his  
kingdom is based on righteousness and  
right judging.

<sup>3</sup>Fire goes before him, burning up all  
those who are against him round about.

<sup>4</sup>His bright flames give light to the  
world; the earth saw it with fear.

<sup>5</sup>The mountains became like wax at the  
coming of the Lord, at the coming of the  
Lord of all the earth.

<sup>6</sup>The heavens gave out the news of his  
righteousness, and all the people saw his  
glory.

<sup>7</sup>Shamed be all those who give worship  
to images, and take pride in false gods;  
give him worship, all you gods.

<sup>8</sup>Zion gave ear and was glad; and the  
daughters of Judah were full of joy,  
because of your decisions, O Lord.

<sup>9</sup>For you, Lord, are most high over the  
earth; you are lifted up over all other  
gods.

<sup>10</sup>You who are lovers of the Lord, be haters of evil; he keeps the souls of his saints; he takes them out of the hand of sinners.

<sup>11</sup>Light is shining on the lovers of righteousness, and for the upright in heart there is joy.

<sup>12</sup>Be glad in the Lord, you upright men; praising the memory of his holy name.

**98**<sup>1</sup>O make a new song to the Lord, because he has done works of wonder; with his right hand, and with his holy arm, he has overcome.

<sup>2</sup>The Lord has given to all the knowledge of his salvation; he has made clear his righteousness in the eyes of the nations.

<sup>3</sup>He has kept in mind his mercy and his unchanging faith to the house of Israel; all the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

<sup>4</sup>Let all the earth send out a glad cry to the Lord; sounding with a loud voice, and praising him with songs of joy.

<sup>5</sup>Make melody to the Lord with instruments of music; with a corded instrument and the voice of song.



<sup>6</sup>With wind instruments and the sound of the horn, make a glad cry before the Lord, the King.

<sup>7</sup>Let the sea be thundering, with all its waters; the world, and all who are living in it;

<sup>8</sup>Let the streams make sounds of joy with their hands; let the mountains be glad together,

<sup>9</sup>Before the Lord, for he has come as judge of the earth; judging the world in righteousness, and giving true decisions for the peoples.

**99**<sup>1</sup>The Lord is King; let the peoples be in fear: his seat is on the winged ones; let the earth be moved.

<sup>2</sup>The Lord is great in Zion; he is high over all the nations.

<sup>3</sup>Let them give praise to your name, for it is great and to be feared; holy is he.

<sup>4</sup>The kings power is used for righteousness; you give true decisions, judging rightly in the land of Jacob.

<sup>5</sup>Give high honour to the Lord our God, worshipping at his feet; holy is he.

<sup>6</sup>Moses and Aaron among his priests, and Samuel among those who gave honour to his name; they made prayers

to the Lord, and he gave answers to them.

<sup>7</sup> His voice came to them from the pillar of cloud; they kept his witness, and the law which he gave them.

<sup>8</sup> You gave them an answer, O Lord our God; you took away their sin, though you gave them punishment for their wrongdoing.

<sup>9</sup> Give high honour to the Lord our God, worshipping with your faces turned to his holy hill; for the Lord our God is holy.

**100**<sup>1</sup> Make a glad sound to the Lord, all the earth.

<sup>2</sup> Give worship to the Lord with joy; come before him with a song.

<sup>3</sup> Be certain that the Lord is God; it is he who has made us, and we are his; we are his people, and the sheep to whom he gives food.

<sup>4</sup> Come into his doors with joy, and into his house with praise; give him honour, blessing his name.

<sup>5</sup> For the Lord is good, and his mercy is never-ending; his faith is unchanging through all generations.

**101** <sup>1</sup> I will make a song of mercy and righteousness; to you, O Lord, will I make melody.

<sup>2</sup> I will do wisely in the way of righteousness: O when will you come to me? I will be walking in my house with a true heart.

<sup>3</sup> I will not put any evil thing before my eyes; I am against all turning to one side; I will not have it near me.

<sup>4</sup> The false heart I will send away from me: I will not have an evil-doer for a friend.

<sup>5</sup> I will put to death anyone who says evil of his neighbour secretly; the man with a high look and a heart of pride is disgusting to me.

<sup>6</sup> My eyes will be on those of good faith in the land, so that they may be living in my house; he who is walking in the right way will be my servant.

<sup>7</sup> The worker of deceit will not come into my house; the false man will have no place before my eyes.

<sup>8</sup> Morning by morning will I put to death all the sinners in the land, so that all evil-doers may be cut off from Jerusalem.

**102**<sup>1</sup> Give ear to my prayer, O Lord, and let my cry come to you.

<sup>2</sup> Let not your face be veiled from me in the day of my trouble; give ear to me, and let my cry be answered quickly.

<sup>3</sup> My days are wasted like smoke, and my bones are burned up as in a fire.

<sup>4</sup> My heart is broken; it has become dry and dead like grass, so that I give no thought to food.

<sup>5</sup> Because of the voice of my sorrow, my flesh is wasted to the bone.

<sup>6</sup> I am like a bird living by itself in the waste places; like the night-bird in a waste of sand.

<sup>7</sup> I keep watch like a bird by itself on the house-top.

<sup>8</sup> My haters say evil of me all day; those who are violent against me make use of my name as a curse.

<sup>9</sup> I have had dust for bread and my drink has been mixed with weeping:

<sup>10</sup> Because of your passion and your wrath, for I have been lifted up and then made low by you.

<sup>11</sup> My days are like a shade which is stretched out; I am dry like the grass.

<sup>12</sup>But you, O Lord, are eternal; and your name will never come to an end.

<sup>13</sup>You will again get up and have mercy on Zion: for the time has come for her to be comforted.

<sup>14</sup>For your servants take pleasure in her stones, looking with love on her dust.

<sup>15</sup>So the nations will give honour to the name of the Lord, and all the kings of the earth will be in fear of his glory:

<sup>16</sup>When the Lord has put up the walls of Zion, and has been in his glory;

<sup>17</sup>When he has given ear to the prayer of the poor, and has not put his request on one side.

<sup>18</sup>This will be put in writing for the coming generation, and the people of the future will give praise to the Lord.

<sup>19</sup>For from his holy place the Lord has seen, looking down on the earth from heaven;

<sup>20</sup>Hearing the cry of the prisoner, making free those for whom death is ordered;

<sup>21</sup>So that they may give out the name of the Lord in Zion, and his praise in Jerusalem;

<sup>22</sup>When the peoples are come together, and the kingdoms, to give worship to the Lord.

<sup>23</sup>He has taken my strength from me in the way; he has made short my days.

<sup>24</sup>I will say, O my God, take me not away before my time; your years go on through all generations:

<sup>25</sup>In the past you put the earth on its base, and the heavens are the work of your hands.

<sup>26</sup>They will come to an end, but you will still go on; they all will become old like a coat, and like a robe they will be changed:

<sup>27</sup>But you are the unchanging One, and your years will have no end.

<sup>28</sup>The children of your servants will have a safe resting-place, and their seed will be ever before you.

**103** <sup>1</sup>Give praise to the Lord, O my soul; let everything in me give praise to his holy name.

<sup>2</sup>Give praise to the Lord, O my soul; let not all his blessings go from your memory.

<sup>3</sup>He has forgiveness for all your sins; he takes away all your diseases;

<sup>4</sup>He keeps back your life from destruction, crowning you with mercy and grace.

<sup>5</sup>He makes your mouth full of good things, so that your strength is made new again like the eagles.

<sup>6</sup>The Lord gives decisions in righteousness for all who are in trouble.

<sup>7</sup>He gave knowledge of his way to Moses, and made his acts clear to the children of Israel.

<sup>8</sup>The Lord is kind and full of pity, not quickly made angry, but ever ready to have mercy.

<sup>9</sup>His feeling will no longer be bitter; he will not keep his wrath for ever.

<sup>10</sup>He has not given us the punishment for our sins, or the reward of our wrongdoing.

<sup>11</sup>For as the heaven is high over the earth, so great is his mercy to his worshippers.

<sup>12</sup>As far as the east is from the west, so far has he put our sins from us.

<sup>13</sup>As a father has pity on his children, so the Lord has pity on his worshippers.

<sup>14</sup>For he has knowledge of our feeble frame; he sees that we are only dust.

<sup>15</sup>As for man, his days are as grass: his beautiful growth is like the flower of the field.

<sup>16</sup>The wind goes over it and it is gone; and its place sees it no longer.

<sup>17</sup>But the mercy of the Lord is eternal for his worshippers, and their childrens children will see his righteousness;

<sup>18</sup>If they keep his agreement, and have his laws in mind to do them.

<sup>19</sup>The Lord has made ready his high seat in the heavens; his kingdom is ruling over all.

<sup>20</sup>Give praise to the Lord, you his angels, who are great in strength, doing his orders, and waiting for his voice.

<sup>21</sup>Give praise to the Lord, all you his armies; and you his servants who do his pleasure.

<sup>22</sup>Give praise to the Lord, all his works, in all places under his rule: give praise to the Lord, O my soul.

**104**<sup>1</sup> Give praise to the Lord, O my soul. O Lord my God, you are very great; you are robed with honour and power.



<sup>2</sup>You are clothed with light as with a robe; stretching out the heavens like a curtain:

<sup>3</sup>The arch of your house is based on the waters; you make the clouds your carriage; you go on the wings of the wind:

<sup>4</sup>He makes winds his angels, and flames of fire his servants.

<sup>5</sup>He has made the earth strong on its bases, so that it may not be moved for ever and ever;

<sup>6</sup>Covering it with the sea as with a robe: the waters were high over the mountains;

<sup>7</sup>At the voice of your word they went in flight; at the sound of your thunder they went away in fear;

<sup>8</sup>The mountains came up and the valleys went down into the place which you had made ready for them.

<sup>9</sup>You made a limit over which they might not go, so that the earth would never again be covered by them.

<sup>10</sup>You sent the springs into the valleys; they are flowing between the hills.

<sup>11</sup> They give drink to every beast of the field; the mountain asses come to them for water.

<sup>12</sup> The birds of the air have their resting-places by them, and make their song among the branches.

<sup>13</sup> He sends down rain from his store-houses on the hills: the earth is full of the fruit of his works.

<sup>14</sup> He makes the grass come up for the cattle, and plants for the use of man; so that bread may come out of the earth;

<sup>15</sup> And wine to make glad the heart of man, and oil to make his face shining, and bread giving strength to his heart.

<sup>16</sup> The trees of the Lord are full of growth, the cedars of Lebanon of his planting;

<sup>17</sup> Where the birds have their resting-places; as for the stork, the tall trees are her house.

<sup>18</sup> The high hills are a safe place for the mountain goats, and the rocks for the small beasts.

<sup>19</sup> He made the moon for a sign of the divisions of the year; teaching the sun the time of its going down.

<sup>20</sup>When you make it dark, it is night,  
when all the beasts of the woods come  
quietly out of their secret places.

<sup>21</sup>The young lions go thundering after  
their food; searching for their meat from  
God.

<sup>22</sup>The sun comes up, and they come  
together, and go back to their secret  
places to take their rest.

<sup>23</sup>Man goes out to his work, and to his  
business, till the evening.

<sup>24</sup>O Lord, how great is the number of  
your works! in wisdom you have made  
them all; the earth is full of the things  
you have made.

<sup>25</sup>There is the great, wide sea, where  
there are living things, great and small,  
more than may be numbered.

<sup>26</sup>There go the ships; there is that  
great beast, which you have made as a  
plaything.

<sup>27</sup>All of them are waiting for you, to  
give them their food in its time.

<sup>28</sup>They take what you give them; they  
are full of the good things which come  
from your open hand.

<sup>29</sup>If your face is veiled, they are  
troubled; when you take away their

breath, they come to an end, and go back to the dust.

<sup>30</sup>If you send out your spirit, they are given life; you make new the face of the earth.

<sup>31</sup>Let the glory of the Lord be for ever; let the Lord have joy in his works:

<sup>32</sup>At whose look the earth is shaking; at whose touch the mountains send out smoke.

<sup>33</sup>I will make songs to the Lord all my life; I will make melody to my God while I have my being.

<sup>34</sup>Let my thoughts be sweet to him: I will be glad in the Lord.

<sup>35</sup>Let sinners be cut off from the earth, and let all evil-doers come to an end. Give praise to the Lord, O my soul. Give praise to the Lord.

**105**<sup>1</sup> O give praise to the Lord; give honour to his name, talking of his doings among the peoples.

<sup>2</sup>Let your voice be sounding in songs and melody; let all your thoughts be of the wonder of his works.

<sup>3</sup>Have glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who are searching after the Lord be glad.

<sup>4</sup>Let your search be for the Lord and for his strength; let your hearts ever be turned to him.

<sup>5</sup>Keep in mind the great works which he has done; his wonders, and the decisions of his mouth;

<sup>6</sup>O you seed of Abraham, his servant, you children of Jacob, his loved ones.

<sup>7</sup>He is the Lord our God: he is judge of all the earth.

<sup>8</sup>He has kept his agreement in mind for ever, the word which he gave for a thousand generations;

<sup>9</sup>The agreement which he made with Abraham, and his oath to Isaac;

<sup>10</sup>And he gave it to Jacob for a law, and to Israel for an eternal agreement;

<sup>11</sup>Saying, To you will I give the land of Canaan, the measured line of your heritage:

<sup>12</sup>When they were still small in number, and strange in the land;

<sup>13</sup>When they went about from one nation to another, and from one kingdom to another people.

<sup>14</sup>He would not let anyone do them wrong; he even kept back kings because of them,

<sup>15</sup> Saying, Put not your hand on those who have been marked with my holy oil, and do my prophets no wrong.

<sup>16</sup> And he took away all food from the land, so that the people were without bread.

<sup>17</sup> He sent a man before them, even Joseph, who was given as a servant for a price:

<sup>18</sup> His feet were fixed in chains; his neck was put in iron bands;

<sup>19</sup> Till the time when his word came true; he was tested by the word of the Lord.

<sup>20</sup> The king sent men to take off his chains; even the ruler of the people, who let him go free.

<sup>21</sup> He made him lord of his house, and ruler over everything he had;

<sup>22</sup> To give his chiefs teaching at his pleasure, and so that his law-givers might get wisdom from him.

<sup>23</sup> Then Israel came into Egypt, and Jacob was living in the land of Ham.

<sup>24</sup> And his people were greatly increased, and became stronger than those who were against them.

<sup>25</sup> Their hearts were turned to hate against his people, so that they made secret designs against them.

<sup>26</sup> He sent Moses, his servant, and Aaron, the man of his selection.

<sup>27</sup> He let his signs be seen among the people, and his wonders in the land of Ham.

<sup>28</sup> He sent black night and made it dark; and they did not go against his word.

<sup>29</sup> At his word their waters were turned to blood, and he sent death on all their fish.

<sup>30</sup> Their land was full of frogs, even in the rooms of the king.

<sup>31</sup> He gave the word, and there came the dog-fly, and insects over all the land.

<sup>32</sup> He gave them ice for rain, and flaming fire in their land.

<sup>33</sup> He gave their vines and their fig-trees to destruction, and the trees of their land were broken down.

<sup>34</sup> At his word the locusts came, and young locusts more than might be numbered,

<sup>35</sup> And put an end to all the plants of their land, taking all the fruit of the earth for food.

<sup>36</sup>He put to death the first child of every family in the land, the first-fruits of their strength.

<sup>37</sup>He took his people out with silver and gold: there was not one feeble person among them.

<sup>38</sup>Egypt was glad when they went; for the fear of them had come down on them.

<sup>39</sup>A cloud was stretched over them for a cover; and he sent fire to give light in the night.

<sup>40</sup>At the peoples request he sent birds, and gave them the bread of heaven for food.

<sup>41</sup>His hand made the rock open, and the waters came streaming out; they went down through the dry places like a river.

<sup>42</sup>For he kept in mind his holy word, and Abraham, his servant.

<sup>43</sup>And he took his people out with joy, the men of his selection with glad cries:

<sup>44</sup>And gave them the lands of the nations; and they took the work of the peoples for a heritage;



<sup>45</sup> So that they might keep his orders, and be true to his laws. Give praise to the Lord.

**106** <sup>1</sup> Let the Lord be praised. O give praise to the Lord, for he is good: for his mercy is unchanging for ever.

<sup>2</sup> Who is able to give an account of the great acts of the Lord, or to make clear all his praise?

<sup>3</sup> Happy are they whose decisions are upright, and he who does righteousness at all times.

<sup>4</sup> Keep me in mind, O Lord, when you are good to your people; O let your salvation come to me;

<sup>5</sup> So that I may see the well-being of the people of your selection, and have a part in the joy of your nation, and take pride in your heritage.

<sup>6</sup> We are sinners like our fathers, we have done wrong, our acts are evil.

<sup>7</sup> Our fathers did not give thought to your wonders in Egypt; they did not keep in memory the great number of your mercies, but gave you cause for wrath at the sea, even at the Red Sea.

<sup>8</sup>But he was their saviour because of his name, so that men might see his great power.

<sup>9</sup>By his word the Red Sea was made dry: and he took them through the deep waters as through the waste land.

<sup>10</sup>And he took them safely out of the hands of their haters, and kept them from the attacks of those who were against them.

<sup>11</sup>And the waters went over their haters; all of them came to an end.

<sup>12</sup>Then they had faith in his words; they gave him songs of praise.

<sup>13</sup>But their memory of his works was short; not waiting to be guided by him,

<sup>14</sup>They gave way to their evil desires in the waste land, and put God to the test in the dry places.

<sup>15</sup>And he gave them their request, but sent a wasting disease into their souls.

<sup>16</sup>They were full of envy against Moses among the tents, and against Aaron, the holy one of the Lord.

<sup>17</sup>The earth opening put an end to Dathan, covering up Abiram and his band.

<sup>18</sup>And a fire was lighted among their tents; the sinners were burned up by the flames.

<sup>19</sup>They made a young ox in Horeb, and gave worship to an image of gold.

<sup>20</sup>And their glory was changed into the image of an ox, whose food is grass.

<sup>21</sup>They had no memory of God their saviour, who had done great things in Egypt;

<sup>22</sup>Works of wonder in the land of Ham, and things of fear by the Red Sea.

<sup>23</sup>And he was purposing to put an end to them if Moses, his special servant, had not gone up before him, between him and his people, turning back his wrath, to keep them from destruction.

<sup>24</sup>They were disgusted with the good land; they had no belief in his word;

<sup>25</sup>Talking against him secretly in their tents, they did not give ear to the voice of the Lord.

<sup>26</sup>So he made an oath against them, to put an end to them in the waste land:

<sup>27</sup>That their children might be mixed among the nations, and sent away into other lands.

<sup>28</sup>And they were joined to Baal-peor, and took part in the offerings to the dead.

<sup>29</sup>So they made him angry by their behaviour; and he sent disease on them.

<sup>30</sup>Then Phinehas got up, and made prayer for them; and the disease went no farther.

<sup>31</sup>And all the generations coming after him kept the memory of his righteousness for ever.

<sup>32</sup>They made God angry again at the waters of Meribah, so that Moses was troubled because of them;

<sup>33</sup>For they made his spirit bitter, and he said unwise things.

<sup>34</sup>They did not put an end to the peoples, as the Lord had said;

<sup>35</sup>But they were joined to the nations, learning their works.

<sup>36</sup>And they gave worship to images; which were a danger to them:

<sup>37</sup>They even made offerings of their sons and their daughters to evil spirits,

<sup>38</sup>And gave the blood of their sons and their daughters who had done no wrong, offering them to the images of Canaan;

and the land was made unclean with blood.

<sup>39</sup> So they became unclean through their works, going after their evil desires.

<sup>40</sup> Then the wrath of the Lord was burning against his people, and he was angry with his heritage.

<sup>41</sup> And he gave them into the hands of the nations; and they were ruled by their haters.

<sup>42</sup> By them they were crushed, and made low under their hands.

<sup>43</sup> Again and again he made them free; but their hearts were turned against his purpose, and they were overcome by their sins.

<sup>44</sup> But when their cry came to his ears, he had pity on their trouble:

<sup>45</sup> And kept in mind his agreement with them, and in his great mercy gave them forgiveness.

<sup>46</sup> He put pity into the hearts of those who made them prisoners.

<sup>47</sup> Be our saviour, O Lord our God, and let us come back together from among the nations, so that we may give honour to your holy name, and have glory in your praise.

<sup>48</sup>Praise be to the Lord God of Israel for ever and for ever; and let all the people say, So be it. Give praise to the Lord.

**107** <sup>1</sup>O give praise to the Lord, for he is good: for his mercy is unchanging for ever.

<sup>2</sup>Let those whose cause the Lord has taken up say so, his people whom he has taken out of the hands of their haters;

<sup>3</sup>Making them come together out of all the lands, from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south.

<sup>4</sup>They were wandering in the waste places; they saw no way to a resting-place.

<sup>5</sup>Their souls became feeble for need of food and drink.

<sup>6</sup>Then they sent up their cry to the Lord in their sorrow, and he gave them salvation out of all their troubles;

<sup>7</sup>Guiding them in the right way, so that they might come into the town of their resting-place.

<sup>8</sup>Let men give praise to the Lord for his mercy, and for the wonders which he does for the children of men!

<sup>9</sup>He gives its desire to the unresting soul, so that it is full of good things.

<sup>10</sup>Those who were in the dark, in the black night, in chains of sorrow and iron;

<sup>11</sup>Because they went against the words of God, and gave no thought to the laws of the Most High:

<sup>12</sup>So that he made their hearts weighted down with grief; they were falling, and had no helper.

<sup>13</sup>Then they sent up their cry to the Lord in their sorrow, and he gave them salvation out of all their troubles.

<sup>14</sup>He took them out of the dark and the black night, and all their chains were broken.

<sup>15</sup>Let men give praise to the Lord for his mercy, and for the wonders which he does for the children of men!

<sup>16</sup>The doors of brass are broken by his arm, and the bands of iron are cut in two.

<sup>17</sup>Foolish men, because of their sins, and because of their wrongdoing, are troubled;

<sup>18</sup>They are disgusted by all food, and they come near to the doors of death.

<sup>19</sup>Then they send up their cry to the Lord in their sorrow, and he gives them salvation out of all their troubles.

<sup>20</sup>He sent his word and made them well, and kept them safe from the underworld.

<sup>21</sup>Let men give praise to the Lord for his mercy, and for the wonders which he does for the children of men!

<sup>22</sup>Let them make offerings of praise, giving news of his works with cries of joy.

<sup>23</sup>Those who go down to the sea in ships, who do business in the great waters;

<sup>24</sup>They see the works of the Lord, and his wonders in the deep.

<sup>25</sup>For at his word comes up the storm-wind, lifting high the waves.

<sup>26</sup>The sailors go up to heaven, and down into the deep; their souls are wasted because of their trouble.

<sup>27</sup>They are turned here and there, rolling like a man who is full of wine; and all their wisdom comes to nothing.

<sup>28</sup>Then they send up their cry to the Lord in their sorrow, and he gives them salvation out of all their troubles.

<sup>29</sup>He makes the storm into a calm, so that the waves are at peace.



<sup>30</sup> Then they are glad, because the sea is quiet, and he takes them to the harbour of their desire.

<sup>31</sup> Let men give praise to the Lord for his mercy, and for the wonders which he does for the children of men!

<sup>32</sup> Let them give glory to him in the meeting of the people, and praise among the chiefs.

<sup>33</sup> He makes rivers into waste places, and springs of water into a dry land;

<sup>34</sup> He makes a fertile country into a salt waste, because of the sins of those who are living there.

<sup>35</sup> He makes a waste land into a place of water, and a dry land into water-springs.

<sup>36</sup> And there he gives the poor a resting-place, so that they may make themselves a town;

<sup>37</sup> And put seed in the fields and make vine-gardens, to give them fruit.

<sup>38</sup> He gives them his blessing so that they are increased greatly, and their cattle do not become less.

<sup>39</sup> And when they are made low, and crushed by trouble and sorrow,

<sup>40</sup>He puts an end to the pride of kings,  
and sends them wandering in the waste  
lands where there is no way.

<sup>41</sup>But he puts the poor man on high  
from his troubles, and gives him families  
like a flock.

<sup>42</sup>The upright see it and are glad: the  
mouth of the sinner is stopped.

<sup>43</sup>Let the wise give thought to these  
things, and see the mercies of the Lord.

**108**<sup>1</sup> O God, my heart is fixed; I  
will make songs and melody,  
even with my glory.

<sup>2</sup>Give out your sounds, O corded  
instruments: the dawn will be awaking  
with my song.

<sup>3</sup>I will give you praise, O Lord, among  
the peoples; I will make melody to you  
among the nations.

<sup>4</sup>For your mercy is higher than the  
heavens: and your unchanging faith than  
the clouds.

<sup>5</sup>Be lifted up, O God, higher than the  
heavens; let your glory be over all the  
earth.

<sup>6</sup>Let your right hand be stretched out  
for salvation, and give me an answer, so

that your loved ones may be safe from danger.

<sup>7</sup>This is the word of the holy God: I will be glad; I will make Shechem a heritage, measuring out the valley of Succoth.

<sup>8</sup>Gilead is mine; Manasseh is mine; Ephraim is the strength of my head; Judah is my law-giver;

<sup>9</sup>Moab is my washpot; on Edom is the resting-place of my shoe; over Philistia will I send out a glad cry.

<sup>10</sup>Who will take me into the strong town? who will be my guide into Edom?

<sup>11</sup>Have you not sent us away from you, O God? and you go not out with our armies.

<sup>12</sup>Give us help in our trouble; for there is no help in man.

<sup>13</sup>With God we will do great things; for by him will our haters be crushed underfoot.

**109**<sup>1</sup> God of my praise, let my prayer be answered;

<sup>2</sup>For the mouth of the sinner is open against me in deceit: his tongue has said false things against me.

<sup>3</sup> Words of hate are round about me;  
they have made war against me without  
cause.

<sup>4</sup> For my love they give me back hate;  
but I have given myself to prayer.

<sup>5</sup> They have put on me evil for good;  
hate in exchange for my love.

<sup>6</sup> Put an evil man over him; and let one  
be placed at his right hand to say evil of  
him.

<sup>7</sup> When he is judged, let the decision go  
against him; and may his prayer become  
sin.

<sup>8</sup> Let his life be short; let another take  
his position of authority.

<sup>9</sup> Let his children have no father, and his  
wife be made a widow.

<sup>10</sup> Let his children be wanderers, looking  
to others for their food; let them be sent  
away from the company of their friends.

<sup>11</sup> Let his creditor take all his goods;  
and let others have the profit of his work.

<sup>12</sup> Let no man have pity on him, or give  
help to his children when he is dead.

<sup>13</sup> Let his seed be cut off; in the coming  
generation let their name go out of  
memory.

<sup>14</sup>Let the Lord keep in mind the wrongdoing of his fathers; and may the sin of his mother have no forgiveness.

<sup>15</sup>Let them be ever before the eyes of the Lord, so that the memory of them may be cut off from the earth.

<sup>16</sup>Because he had no mercy, but was cruel to the low and the poor, designing the death of the broken-hearted.

<sup>17</sup>As he took pleasure in cursing, so let it come on him; and as he had no delight in blessing, let it be far from him.

<sup>18</sup>He put on cursing like a robe, and it has come into his body like water, and into his bones like oil.

<sup>19</sup>Let it be to him as a robe which he puts on, let it be like a band which is round him at all times.

<sup>20</sup>Let this be the reward given to my haters from the Lord, and to those who say evil of my soul.

<sup>21</sup>But, O Lord God, give me your help, because of your name; take me out of danger, because your mercy is good.

<sup>22</sup>For I am poor and in need, and my heart is wounded in me.

<sup>23</sup>I am gone like the shade when it is stretched out: I am forced out of my place like a locust.

<sup>24</sup>My knees are feeble for need of food; there is no fat on my bones.

<sup>25</sup>As for me, they make sport of me; shaking their heads when they see me.

<sup>26</sup>Give me help, O Lord my God; in your mercy be my saviour;

<sup>27</sup>So that they may see that it is the work of your hand; that you, Lord, have done it.

<sup>28</sup>They may give curses but you give blessing; when they come up against me, put them to shame; but let your servant be glad.

<sup>29</sup>Let my haters be clothed with shame, covering themselves with shame as with a robe.

<sup>30</sup>I will give the Lord great praise with my mouth; yes, I will give praise to him among all the people.

<sup>31</sup>For he is ever at the right hand of the poor, to take him out of the hands of those who go after his soul.

**110**<sup>1</sup>The Lord said to my lord, Be seated at my right hand, till I

put all those who are against you under your feet.

<sup>2</sup>The Lord will send out the rod of your strength from Zion; be king over your haters.

<sup>3</sup>Your people give themselves gladly in the day of your power; like the dew of the morning on the holy mountains is the army of your young men.

<sup>4</sup>The Lord has made an oath, and will not take it back. You are a priest for ever, after the order of Melchizedek.

<sup>5</sup>In the day of his wrath kings will be wounded by the Lord at your right hand.

<sup>6</sup>He will be judge among the nations, the valleys will be full of dead bodies; the head over a great country will be wounded by him.

<sup>7</sup>He will take of the stream by the way; so his head will be lifted up.

**111** <sup>1</sup>Let the Lord be praised. I will give praise to the Lord with all my heart, among the upright, and in the meeting of the people.

<sup>2</sup>The works of the Lord are great, searched out by all those who have delight in them.

<sup>3</sup>His work is full of honour and glory; and his righteousness is unchanging for ever.

<sup>4</sup>Certain for ever is the memory of his wonders: the Lord is full of pity and mercy.

<sup>5</sup>He has given food to his worshippers; he will keep his agreement in mind for ever.

<sup>6</sup>He has made clear to his people the power of his works, giving them the heritage of the nations.

<sup>7</sup>The works of his hands are faith and righteousness; all his laws are unchanging.

<sup>8</sup>They are fixed for ever and ever, they are done in faith and righteousness.

<sup>9</sup>He has sent salvation to his people; he has given his word for ever: holy is his name and greatly to be feared.

<sup>10</sup>The fear of the Lord is the best part of wisdom: all those who keep his laws are wise: his praise is eternal.

**112**<sup>1</sup>Let the Lord be praised.  
Happy is the man who gives honour to the Lord, and has great delight in his laws.



<sup>2</sup>His seed will be strong on the earth; blessings will be on the generation of the upright.

<sup>3</sup>A store of wealth will be in his house, and his righteousness will be for ever.

<sup>4</sup>For the upright there is a light shining in the dark; he is full of grace and pity.

<sup>5</sup>All is well for the man who is kind and gives freely to others; he will make good his cause when he is judged.

<sup>6</sup>He will not ever be moved; the memory of the upright will be living for ever.

<sup>7</sup>He will have no fear of evil news; his heart is fixed, for his hope is in the Lord.

<sup>8</sup>His heart is resting safely, he will have no fear, till he sees trouble come on his haters.

<sup>9</sup>He has given with open hands to the poor; his righteousness is for ever; his horn will be lifted up with honour.

<sup>10</sup>The sinner will see it with grief; he will be wasted away with envy; the desire of the evil-doers will come to nothing.

**113**<sup>1</sup> Let the Lord be praised. O you servants of the Lord, give praise to the name of the Lord.

<sup>2</sup>Let blessing be on the name of the Lord, from this time and for ever.

<sup>3</sup>From the coming up of the sun to its going down, the Lord's name is to be praised.

<sup>4</sup>The Lord is high over all nations, and his glory is higher than the heavens.

<sup>5</sup>Who is like the Lord our God, who is seated on high,

<sup>6</sup>Looking down on the heavens, and on the earth?

<sup>7</sup>He takes the poor man out of the dust, lifting him up from his low position;

<sup>8</sup>To give him a place among the rulers, even with the rulers of his people.

<sup>9</sup>He gives the unfertile woman a family, making her a happy mother of children. Give praise to the Lord.

**114**<sup>1</sup>When Israel came out of Egypt, the children of Jacob from a people whose language was strange to them;

<sup>2</sup>Judah became his holy place, and Israel his kingdom.

<sup>3</sup>The sea saw it, and went in flight; Jordan was turned back.

<sup>4</sup>The mountains were jumping like goats, and the little hills like lambs.

<sup>5</sup>What was wrong with you, O sea, that you went in flight? O Jordan, that you were turned back?

<sup>6</sup>You mountains, why were you jumping like goats, and you little hills like lambs?

<sup>7</sup>Be troubled, O earth, before the Lord, before the God of Jacob;

<sup>8</sup>Who made the rock into a water-spring, and the hard stone into a fountain.

**115** <sup>1</sup>Not to us, O Lord, not to us, but to your name let glory be given, because of your mercy and your unchanging faith.

<sup>2</sup>Why may the nations say, Where is now their God?

<sup>3</sup>But our God is in heaven: he has done whatever was pleasing to him.

<sup>4</sup>Their images are silver and gold, the work of mens hands.

<sup>5</sup>They have mouths, but no voice; they have eyes, but they see not;

<sup>6</sup>They have ears, but no hearing; they have noses, but no sense of smell;

<sup>7</sup>They have hands without feeling, and feet without power of walking; and no sound comes from their throat.

<sup>8</sup>Those who make them are like them; and so is everyone who puts his faith in them.

<sup>9</sup>O Israel, have faith in the Lord: he is their help and their breastplate.

<sup>10</sup>O house of Aaron, have faith in the Lord: he is their help and their breastplate.

<sup>11</sup>You worshippers of the Lord, have faith in the Lord: he is their help and their breastplate.

<sup>12</sup>The Lord has kept us in mind and will give us his blessing; he will send blessings on the house of Israel and on the house of Aaron.

<sup>13</sup>He will send blessings on the worshippers of the Lord, on the small and on the great.

<sup>14</sup>May the Lord give you and your children still greater increase.

<sup>15</sup>May you have the blessing of the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

<sup>16</sup>The heavens are the Lords; but the earth he has given to the children of men.

<sup>17</sup>The dead do not give praise to the Lord; or those who go down to the underworld.

<sup>18</sup>But we will give praise to the Lord now and for ever. Praise be to the Lord.

**116**<sup>1</sup>I have given my love to the Lord, because he has given ear to the voice of my cry and my prayer.

<sup>2</sup>He has let my request come before him, and I will make my prayer to him all my days.

<sup>3</sup>The nets of death were round me, and the pains of the underworld had me in their grip; I was full of trouble and sorrow.

<sup>4</sup>Then I made my prayer to the Lord, saying, O Lord, take my soul out of trouble.

<sup>5</sup>The Lord is full of grace and righteousness; truly, he is a God of mercy.

<sup>6</sup>The Lord keeps the simple; I was made low, and he was my saviour.

<sup>7</sup>Come back to your rest, O my soul; for the Lord has given you your reward.

<sup>8</sup>You have taken my soul from the power of death, keeping my eyes from weeping, and my feet from falling.

<sup>9</sup>I will go before the Lord in the land of the living.

<sup>10</sup>I still had faith, though I said, I am in great trouble;

<sup>11</sup>Though I said in my fear, All men are false.

<sup>12</sup>What may I give to the Lord for all the good things which he has done for me?

<sup>13</sup>I will take the cup of salvation, and give praise to the name of the Lord.

<sup>14</sup>I will make the offering of my oath to the Lord, even before all his people.

<sup>15</sup>Dear in the eyes of the Lord is the death of his saints.

<sup>16</sup>O Lord, truly I am your servant; I am your servant, the son of her who is your servant; by you have my cords been broken.

<sup>17</sup>I will give an offering of praise to you, and make my prayer in the name of the Lord.

<sup>18</sup>I will make the offerings of my oath, even before all his people;

<sup>19</sup>In the Lords house, even in Jerusalem. Praise be to the Lord.

**117** <sup>1</sup>Let all the nations give praise to the Lord: let all the people give him praise.

<sup>2</sup>For great is his mercy to us, and his faith is unchanging for ever. Praise be to the Lord.

**118**<sup>1</sup> O give praise to the Lord, for he is good: for his mercy is unchanging for ever.

<sup>2</sup>Let Israel now say, that his mercy is unchanging for ever.

<sup>3</sup>Let the house of Aaron now say, that his mercy is unchanging for ever.

<sup>4</sup>Let all worshippers of the Lord now say, that his mercy is unchanging for ever.

<sup>5</sup>I made my prayer to the Lord in my trouble: and the Lord gave me an answer, and put me in a wide place.

<sup>6</sup>The Lord is on my side; I will have no fear: what is man able to do to me?

<sup>7</sup>The Lord is my great helper: I will see my desire against my haters.

<sup>8</sup>It is better to have faith in the Lord than to put ones hope in man.

<sup>9</sup>It is better to have faith in the Lord than to put ones hope in rulers.

<sup>10</sup>All the nations have come round me; but in the name of the Lord I will have them cut down.

<sup>11</sup> They are round me, yes, they are all about me; but in the name of the Lord I will have them cut down.

<sup>12</sup> They are round me like bees; but they are put out like a fire among thorns; for in the name of the Lord I will have them cut down.

<sup>13</sup> I have been hard pushed by you, so that I might have a fall: but the Lord was my helper.

<sup>14</sup> The Lord is my strength and my song; he has become my salvation.

<sup>15</sup> The sound of joy and salvation is in the tents of the upright; the right hand of the Lord does works of power.

<sup>16</sup> The right hand of the Lord is lifted up; the right hand of the Lord does works of power.

<sup>17</sup> Life and not death will be my part, and I will give out the story of the works of the Lord.

<sup>18</sup> The hand of Jah has been hard on me; but he has not given me up to death.

<sup>19</sup> Let the doors of righteousness be open to me; I will go in and give praise to the Lord.



<sup>20</sup> This is the door of the Lords house; the workers of righteousness will go in through it.

<sup>21</sup> I will give you praise, for you have given me an answer, and have become my salvation.

<sup>22</sup> The stone which the builders put on one side has become the chief stone of the building.

<sup>23</sup> This is the Lords doing; it is a wonder in our eyes.

<sup>24</sup> This is the day which the Lord has made; we will be full of joy and delight in it.

<sup>25</sup> Send salvation now, O Lord; Lord, send us your blessing.

<sup>26</sup> A blessing be on him who comes in the name of the Lord; we give you blessing from the house of the Lord.

<sup>27</sup> The Lord is God, and he has given us light; let the holy dance be ordered with branches, even up to the horns of the altar.

<sup>28</sup> You are my God, and I will give you praise; my God, and I will give honour to your name.

<sup>29</sup>O give praise to the Lord, for he is good: for his mercy is unchanging for ever.

**119**<sup>1</sup>Happy are they who are without sin in their ways, walking in the law of the Lord.

<sup>2</sup>Happy are they who keep his unchanging word, searching after him with all their heart.

<sup>3</sup>They do no evil; they go in his ways.

<sup>4</sup>You have put your orders into our hearts, so that we might keep them with care.

<sup>5</sup>If only my ways were ordered so that I might keep your rules!

<sup>6</sup>Then I would not be put to shame, as long as I have respect for all your teaching.

<sup>7</sup>I will give you praise with an upright heart in learning your right decisions.

<sup>8</sup>I will keep your rules: O give me not up completely.

<sup>9</sup>How may a young man make his way clean? by guiding it after your word.

<sup>10</sup>I have made search for you with all my heart: O let me not go wandering far from your teaching.

<sup>11</sup> I have kept your sayings secretly in my heart, so that I might do no sin against you.

<sup>12</sup> Praise be to you, O Lord: give me knowledge of your rules.

<sup>13</sup> With my lips have I made clear all the decisions of your mouth.

<sup>14</sup> I have taken as much delight in the way of your unchanging word, as in all wealth.

<sup>15</sup> I will give thought to your orders, and have respect for your ways.

<sup>16</sup> I will have delight in your rules; I will not let your word go out of my mind.

<sup>17</sup> Give me, your servant, the reward of life, so that I may keep your word;

<sup>18</sup> Let my eyes be open to see the wonders of your law.

<sup>19</sup> I am living in a strange land: do not let your teachings be kept secret from me.

<sup>20</sup> My soul is broken with desire for your decisions at all times.

<sup>21</sup> Your hand has been against the men of pride, a curse is on those who go wandering out of your way.

<sup>22</sup>Take away from me shame and bitter words; for I have kept your unchanging word in my heart.

<sup>23</sup>Rulers make evil designs against me; but your servant gives thought to your rules.

<sup>24</sup>Your unchanging word is my delight, and the guide of my footsteps.

<sup>25</sup>My soul is joined to the dust: O give me life, in keeping with your word.

<sup>26</sup>I put the record of my ways before you, and you gave me an answer: O give me knowledge of your rules.

<sup>27</sup>Make the way of your orders clear to me; then my thoughts will be ever on your wonders.

<sup>28</sup>My soul is wasted with sorrow; give me strength again in keeping with your word

<sup>29</sup>Take from me every false way; and in mercy give me your law.

<sup>30</sup>I have taken the way of faith: I have kept your decisions before me.

<sup>31</sup>I have been true to your unchanging word; O Lord, do not put me to shame.

<sup>32</sup>I will go quickly in the way of your teaching, because you have given me a free heart.

<sup>33</sup> O Lord, let me see the way of your rules, and I will keep it to the end.

<sup>34</sup> Give me wisdom, so that I may keep your law; going after it with all my heart.

<sup>35</sup> Make me go in the way of your teachings; for they are my delight.

<sup>36</sup> Let my heart be turned to your unchanging word, and not to evil desire.

<sup>37</sup> Let my eyes be turned away from what is false; give me life in your ways.

<sup>38</sup> Give effect to your word to your servant, in whose heart is the fear of you.

<sup>39</sup> Take away the shame which is my fear; for your decisions are good.

<sup>40</sup> See how great is my desire for your orders: give me life in your righteousness.

<sup>41</sup> Let your mercies come to me, O Lord, even your salvation, as you have said.

<sup>42</sup> So that I may have an answer for the man who would put me to shame; for I have faith in your word.

<sup>43</sup> Take not your true word quite out of my mouth; for I have put my hope in your decisions.

<sup>44</sup> So that I may keep your law for ever and ever;

<sup>45</sup> So that my way may be in a wide place: because my search has been for your orders.

<sup>46</sup> So that I may give knowledge of your unchanging word before kings, and not be put to shame.

<sup>47</sup> And so that I may take delight in your teachings, to which I have given my love.

<sup>48</sup> And so that my hands may be stretched out to you; and I will give thought to your rules.

<sup>49</sup> Keep in mind your word to your servant, for on it has my hope been fixed.

<sup>50</sup> This is my comfort in my trouble; that your sayings have given me life.

<sup>51</sup> The men of pride have made great sport of me; but I have not been turned from your law.

<sup>52</sup> I have kept the memory of your decisions from times past, O Lord; and they have been my comfort.

<sup>53</sup> I am burning with wrath, because of the sinners who have given up your law.

<sup>54</sup> Your rules have been melodies to me, while I have been living in strange lands.

<sup>55</sup>I have given thought to your name in the night, O Lord, and have kept your law.

<sup>56</sup>This has been true of me, that I have kept your orders in my heart.

<sup>57</sup>The Lord is my heritage: I have said that I would be ruled by your words.

<sup>58</sup>I have given my mind to do your pleasure with all my heart; have mercy on me, as you have said.

<sup>59</sup>I gave thought to my steps, and my feet were turned into the way of your unchanging word.

<sup>60</sup>I was quick to do your orders, and let no time be wasted.

<sup>61</sup>The cords of evil-doers are round me; but I have kept in mind your law.

<sup>62</sup>In the middle of the night I will get up to give you praise, because of all your right decisions.

<sup>63</sup>I keep company with all your worshippers, and those who have your orders in their memory.

<sup>64</sup>The earth, O Lord, is full of your mercy: give me knowledge of your rules.

<sup>65</sup>You have done good to your servant, O Lord, in keeping with your word.

<sup>66</sup>Give me knowledge and good sense;  
for I have put my faith in your teachings.

<sup>67</sup>Before I was in trouble I went out of  
the way; but now I keep your word.

<sup>68</sup>You are good, and your works are  
good; give me knowledge of your rules.

<sup>69</sup>The men of pride have said false  
things about me; but I will keep your  
orders in my heart.

<sup>70</sup>Their hearts are shut up with fat; but  
my delight is in your law.

<sup>71</sup>It is good for me to have been  
through trouble; so that I might come to  
the knowledge of your rules.

<sup>72</sup>The law of your mouth is better to  
me than thousands of gold and silver.

<sup>73</sup>Your hands have made me, and given  
me form: give me wisdom, so that I may  
have knowledge of your teaching.

<sup>74</sup>Your worshippers will see me and be  
glad; because my hope has been in your  
word.

<sup>75</sup>I have seen, O Lord, that your  
decisions are right, and that in  
unchanging faith you have sent trouble  
on me.

<sup>76</sup>Let your mercy now be my comfort,  
as you have said to your servant.



<sup>77</sup> Let your gentle mercies come to me, so that I may have life; for your law is my delight.

<sup>78</sup> Let the men of pride be shamed; because they have falsely given decision against me; but I will give thought to your orders.

<sup>79</sup> Let your worshippers be turned to me, and those who have knowledge of your words.

<sup>80</sup> Let all my heart be given to your orders, so that I may not be put to shame.

<sup>81</sup> My soul is wasted with desire for your salvation: but I have hope in your word.

<sup>82</sup> My eyes are full of weariness with searching for your word, saying, When will you give me comfort?

<sup>83</sup> For I have become like a wine-skin black with smoke; but I still keep the memory of your rules.

<sup>84</sup> How short is the life of your servant! when will you give your decision against those who are attacking me?

<sup>85</sup> The men of pride, who are turned away from your law, have put nets for me.

<sup>86</sup>All your teachings are certain; they go after me with evil design; give me your help.

<sup>87</sup>They had almost put an end to me on earth; but I did not give up your orders.

<sup>88</sup>Give me life in your mercy; so that I may be ruled by the unchanging word of your mouth.

<sup>89</sup>For ever, O Lord, your word is fixed in heaven.

<sup>90</sup>Your faith is unchanging from generation to generation: you have put the earth in its place, and it is not moved.

<sup>91</sup>They are ruled this day by your decisions; for all things are your servants.

<sup>92</sup>If your law had not been my delight, my troubles would have put an end to me.

<sup>93</sup>I will ever keep your orders in mind; for in them I have life.

<sup>94</sup>I am yours, O be my saviour; for my desire has been for your rules.

<sup>95</sup>The sinners have been waiting for me to give me up to destruction; but I will give all my mind to your unchanging word.

<sup>96</sup>I have seen that nothing on earth is complete; but your teaching is very wide.

<sup>97</sup>O what love I have for your law! I give thought to it all the day.

<sup>98</sup>Your teaching has made me wiser than my haters: for it is mine for ever.

<sup>99</sup>I have more knowledge than all my teachers, because I give thought to your unchanging word.

<sup>100</sup>I have more wisdom than the old, because I have kept your orders.

<sup>101</sup>I have kept back my feet from all evil ways, so that I might be true to your word.

<sup>102</sup>My heart has not been turned away from your decisions; for you have been my teacher.

<sup>103</sup>How sweet are your sayings to my taste! truly, they are sweeter than honey in my mouth!

<sup>104</sup>Through your orders I get wisdom; for this reason I am a hater of every false way.

<sup>105</sup>Your word is a light for my feet, ever shining on my way.

<sup>106</sup>I have made an oath and kept it, to be guided by your upright decisions.

<sup>107</sup> I am greatly troubled, O Lord, give me life in keeping with your word.

<sup>108</sup> Take, O Lord, the free offerings of my mouth, and give me knowledge of your decisions.

<sup>109</sup> My soul is ever in danger; but I still keep the memory of your law.

<sup>110</sup> Sinners have put a net to take me; but I was true to your orders.

<sup>111</sup> I have taken your unchanging word as an eternal heritage; for it is the joy of my heart.

<sup>112</sup> My heart is ever ready to keep your rules, even to the end.

<sup>113</sup> I am a hater of men of doubting mind; but I am a lover of your law.

<sup>114</sup> You are my secret place and my breastplate against danger; my hope is in your word.

<sup>115</sup> Go far from me, you evil-doers; so that I may keep the teachings of my God.

<sup>116</sup> Be my support as you have said, and give me life; let not my hope be turned to shame.

<sup>117</sup> Let me not be moved, and I will be safe, and ever take delight in your rules.

<sup>118</sup>You have overcome all those who are wandering from your rules; for all their thoughts are false.

<sup>119</sup>All the sinners of the earth are like waste metal in your eyes; and for this cause I give my love to your unchanging word.

<sup>120</sup>My flesh is moved for fear of you; I give honour to your decisions.

<sup>121</sup>I have done what is good and right: you will not give me into the hands of those who are working against me.

<sup>122</sup>Take your servants interests into your keeping; let me not be crushed by the men of pride.

<sup>123</sup>My eyes are wasted with desire for your salvation, and for the word of your righteousness.

<sup>124</sup>Be good to your servant in your mercy, and give me teaching in your rules.

<sup>125</sup>I am your servant; give me wisdom, so that I may have knowledge of your unchanging word.

<sup>126</sup>It is time, O Lord, for you to let your work be seen; for they have made your law without effect.

<sup>127</sup>For this reason I have greater love  
for your teachings than for gold, even  
for shining gold.

<sup>128</sup>Because of it I keep straight in all  
things by your orders; and I am a hater  
of every false way.

<sup>129</sup>Your unchanging word is full of  
wonder; for this reason my soul keeps it.

<sup>130</sup>The opening of your words gives  
light; it gives good sense to the simple.

<sup>131</sup>My mouth was open wide, waiting  
with great desire for your teachings.

<sup>132</sup>Let your eyes be turned to me, and  
have mercy on me, as it is right for you  
to do to those who are lovers of your  
name.

<sup>133</sup>Let my steps be guided by your  
word; and let not sin have control over  
me.

<sup>134</sup>Make me free from the cruel rule of  
man; then I will keep your orders.

<sup>135</sup>Let your servant see the shining of  
your face; give me knowledge of your  
rules.

<sup>136</sup>Rivers of water are flowing from my  
eyes, because men do not keep your  
law.

<sup>137</sup> O Lord, great is your righteousness,  
and upright are your decisions.

<sup>138</sup> You have given your unchanging  
word in righteousness, and it is for ever.

<sup>139</sup> My passion has overcome me;  
because my haters are turned away from  
your words.

<sup>140</sup> Your word is of tested value; and it  
is dear to your servant.

<sup>141</sup> I am small and of no account; but I  
keep your orders in mind.

<sup>142</sup> Your righteousness is an unchanging  
righteousness, and your law is certain.

<sup>143</sup> Pain and trouble have overcome me:  
but your teachings are my delight.

<sup>144</sup> The righteousness of your  
unchanging word is eternal; give me  
wisdom so that I may have life.

<sup>145</sup> I have made my prayer with all my  
heart; give answer to me, O Lord: I will  
keep your rules.

<sup>146</sup> My cry has gone up to you; take me  
out of trouble, and I will be guided by  
your unchanging word.

<sup>147</sup> Before the sun is up, my cry for help  
comes to your ear; my hope is in your  
words.

<sup>148</sup>In the night watches I am awake, so that I may give thought to your saying.

<sup>149</sup>Let my voice come to you, in your mercy; O Lord, by your decisions give me life.

<sup>150</sup>Those who have evil designs against me come near; they are far from your law.

<sup>151</sup>You are near, O Lord; and all your teachings are true.

<sup>152</sup>I have long had knowledge that your unchanging word is for ever.

<sup>153</sup>O see my trouble, and be my saviour; for I keep your law in my mind,

<sup>154</sup>Undertake my cause, and come to my help, give me life, as you have said.

<sup>155</sup>Salvation is far from evil-doers; for they have made no search for your rules.

<sup>156</sup>Great is the number of your mercies, O Lord; give me life in keeping with your decisions.

<sup>157</sup>Great is the number of those who are against me; but I have not been turned away from your unchanging word.

<sup>158</sup>I saw with hate those who were untrue to you; for they did not keep your saying.



<sup>159</sup> See how great is my love for your orders: give me life, O Lord, in keeping with your mercy.

<sup>160</sup> Your word is true from the first; and your upright decision is unchanging for ever.

<sup>161</sup> Rulers have been cruel to me without cause; but I have the fear of your word in my heart.

<sup>162</sup> I am delighted by your saying, like a man who makes discovery of great wealth.

<sup>163</sup> I am full of hate and disgust for false words; but I am a lover of your law.

<sup>164</sup> Seven times a day do I give you praise, because of your upright decisions.

<sup>165</sup> Great peace have lovers of your law; they have no cause for falling.

<sup>166</sup> Lord, my hope has been in your salvation; and I have kept your teachings.

<sup>167</sup> My soul has kept your unchanging word; great is my love for it.

<sup>168</sup> I have been ruled by your orders; for all my ways are before you.

<sup>169</sup> Let my cry come before you, O Lord; give me wisdom in keeping with your word.

<sup>170</sup>Let my prayer come before you;  
take me out of trouble, as you have said.

<sup>171</sup>Let my lips be flowing with praise,  
because you have given me knowledge  
of your rules.

<sup>172</sup>Let my tongue make songs in praise  
of your word; for all your teachings are  
righteousness.

<sup>173</sup>Let your hand be near for my help;  
for I have given my heart to your orders.

<sup>174</sup>All my desire has been for your  
salvation, O Lord; and your law is my  
delight.

<sup>175</sup>Give life to my soul so that it may  
give you praise; and let your decisions  
be my support.

<sup>176</sup>I have gone out of the way like a  
wandering sheep; make search for your  
servant; for I keep your teachings ever  
in mind.

**120**<sup>1</sup>In my trouble my cry went  
up to the Lord, and he gave  
me an answer.

<sup>2</sup>O Lord, be the saviour of my soul from  
false lips, and from the tongue of deceit.

<sup>3</sup>What punishment will he give you?  
what more will he do to you, you false  
tongue?

<sup>4</sup>Sharp arrows of the strong, and  
burning fire.

<sup>5</sup>Sorrow is mine because I am strange  
in Meshech, and living in the tents of  
Kedar.

<sup>6</sup>My soul has long been living with the  
haters of peace.

<sup>7</sup>I am for peace: but when I say so,  
they are for war.

**121** <sup>1</sup>My eyes are lifted up to the  
hills: O where will my help  
come from?

<sup>2</sup>Your help comes from the Lord, who  
made heaven and earth.

<sup>3</sup>May he not let your foot be moved: no  
need of sleep has he who keeps you.

<sup>4</sup>See, the eyes of Israel's keeper will  
not be shut in sleep.

<sup>5</sup>The Lord is your keeper; the Lord is  
your shade on your right hand.

<sup>6</sup>You will not be touched by the sun in  
the day, or by the moon at night.

<sup>7</sup>The Lord will keep you safe from all  
evil; he will take care of your soul.

<sup>8</sup>The Lord will keep watch over your  
going out and your coming in, from this  
time and for ever.

**122**<sup>1</sup> I was glad because they said  
to me, We will go into the  
house of the Lord.

<sup>2</sup> At last our feet were inside your doors,  
O Jerusalem.

<sup>3</sup> O Jerusalem, you are like a town  
which is well joined together;

<sup>4</sup> To which the tribes went up, even the  
tribes of the Lord, for a witness to Israel,  
to give praise to the name of the Lord.

<sup>5</sup> For there seats for the judges were  
placed, even the rulers seats of the line  
of David.

<sup>6</sup> O make prayers for the peace of  
Jerusalem; may they whose love is given  
to you do well.

<sup>7</sup> May peace be inside your walls, and  
wealth in your noble houses.

<sup>8</sup> Because of my brothers and friends, I  
will now say, Let peace be with you.

<sup>9</sup> Because of the house of the Lord our  
God, I will be working for your good.

**123**<sup>1</sup> To you my eyes are lifted up,  
even to you whose seat is in  
the heavens.

<sup>2</sup> See! as the eyes of servants are  
turned to the hands of their masters,  
and the eyes of a servant-girl to her

owner, so our eyes are waiting for the Lord our God, till he has mercy on us.

<sup>3</sup>Have mercy on us, O Lord, have mercy on us: for all men are looking down on us.

<sup>4</sup>For long enough have men of pride made sport of our soul.

**124**<sup>1</sup>If it had not been the Lord who was on our side (let Israel now say);

<sup>2</sup>If it had not been the Lord who was on our side, when men came up against us;

<sup>3</sup>They would have made a meal of us while still living, in the heat of their wrath against us:

<sup>4</sup>We would have been covered by the waters; the streams would have gone over our soul;

<sup>5</sup>Yes, the waters of pride would have gone over our soul.

<sup>6</sup>Praise be to the Lord, who has not let us be wounded by their teeth.

<sup>7</sup>Our soul has gone free like a bird out of the net of those who would take her: the net is broken, and we are free.

<sup>8</sup>Our help is in the name of the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth.

**125** <sup>1</sup>Those whose hope is in the Lord are like the mountain of Zion, which may not be moved, but keeps its place for ever.

<sup>2</sup>As the mountains are round about Jerusalem, so the Lord is round about his people, from this time and for ever.

<sup>3</sup>For the rod of sinners will not be resting on the heritage of the upright; so that the upright may not put out their hands to evil.

<sup>4</sup>Do good, O Lord, to those who are good, and to those who are upright in heart.

<sup>5</sup>But as for such as are turned out of the straight way, the Lord will take them away with the workers of evil. Let peace be on Israel.

**126** <sup>1</sup>When the Lord made a change in Zions fate, we were like men in a dream.

<sup>2</sup>Then our mouths were full of laughing, and our tongues gave a glad cry; they said among the nations, The Lord has done great things for them.

<sup>3</sup>The Lord has done great things for us; because of which we are glad.

<sup>4</sup>Let our fate be changed, O Lord, like the streams in the South.

<sup>5</sup>Those who put in seed with weeping will get in the grain with cries of joy.

<sup>6</sup>Though a man may go out weeping, taking his vessel of seed with him; he will come again in joy, with the corded stems of grain in his arms.

**127** <sup>1</sup>If the Lord is not helping the builders, then the building of a house is to no purpose: if the Lord does not keep the town, the watchman keeps his watch for nothing.

<sup>2</sup>It is of no use for you to get up early, and to go late to your rest, with the bread of sorrow for your food; for the Lord gives to his loved ones in sleep.

<sup>3</sup>See, sons are a heritage from the Lord; the fruit of the body is his reward.

<sup>4</sup>Like arrows in the hand of a man of war, are the children of the young.

<sup>5</sup>Happy is the man who has a good store of them; he will not be put to shame, but his cause will be supported by them against his haters.

**128** <sup>1</sup>Happy is the worshipper of the Lord, who is walking in his ways.

<sup>2</sup>You will have the fruit of the work of your hands: happy will you be, and all will be well for you.

<sup>3</sup>Your wife will be like a fertile vine in the inmost parts of your house: your children will be like olive plants round your table.

<sup>4</sup>See! this is the blessing of the worshipper of the Lord.

<sup>5</sup>May the Lord send you blessing out of Zion: may you see the good of Jerusalem all the days of your life.

<sup>6</sup>May you see your childrens children. Peace be on Israel.

**129**<sup>1</sup> Great have been my troubles from the time when I was young (let Israel now say);

<sup>2</sup>Great have been my troubles from the time when I was young, but my troubles have not overcome me.

<sup>3</sup>The ploughmen were ploughing on my back; long were the wounds they made.

<sup>4</sup>The Lord is true: the cords of the evil-doers are broken in two.

<sup>5</sup>Let all the haters of Zion be shamed and turned back.



<sup>6</sup>Let them be like the grass on the house-tops, which is dry before it comes to full growth.

<sup>7</sup>He who gets in the grain has no use for it; and they do not make bands of it for the grain-stems.

<sup>8</sup>And those who go by do not say, The blessing of the Lord be on you; we give you blessing in the name of the Lord.

**130**<sup>1</sup>Out of the deep have I sent up my cry to you, O Lord.

<sup>2</sup>Lord, let my voice come before you: let your ears be awake to the voice of my prayer.

<sup>3</sup>O Jah, if you took note of every sin, who would go free?

<sup>4</sup>But there is forgiveness with you, so that you may be feared.

<sup>5</sup>I am waiting for the Lord, my soul is waiting for him, and my hope is in his word.

<sup>6</sup>My soul is watching for the Lord more than those who are watching for the morning; yes, more than the watchers for the morning.

<sup>7</sup>O Israel, have hope in the Lord; for with the Lord is mercy and full salvation.

<sup>8</sup>And he will make Israel free from all his sins.

**131** <sup>1</sup>Lord, there is no pride in my heart and my eyes are not lifted up; and I have not taken part in great undertakings, or in things over-hard for me.

<sup>2</sup>See, I have made my soul calm and quiet, like a child on its mothers breast; my soul is like a child on its mothers breast.

<sup>3</sup>O Israel, have hope in the Lord, from this time and for ever.

**132** <sup>1</sup>Lord, give thought to David, and to all his troubles;

<sup>2</sup>How he made an oath to the Lord, and gave his word to the great God of Jacob, saying,

<sup>3</sup>Truly, I will not come into my house, or go to my bed,

<sup>4</sup>I will not give sleep to my eyes, or rest to my eyeballs,

<sup>5</sup>Till I have got a place for the Lord, a resting-place for the great God of Jacob.

<sup>6</sup>We had news of it at Ephrathah: we came to it in the fields of the wood.

<sup>7</sup>Let us go into his tent; let us give worship at his feet.

<sup>8</sup>Come back, O Lord, to your resting-place; you and the ark of your strength.

<sup>9</sup>Let your priests be clothed with righteousness; and let your saints give cries of joy.

<sup>10</sup>Because of your servant David, do not give up your king.

<sup>11</sup>The Lord gave a true oath to David, which he will not take back, saying, I will give your kingdom to the fruit of your body.

<sup>12</sup>If your children keep my word, and the teachings which I will give them, their children will be rulers of your kingdom for ever.

<sup>13</sup>For the Lord's heart is on Zion, desiring it for his resting-place.

<sup>14</sup>This is my rest for ever: here will I ever be; for this is my desire.

<sup>15</sup>My blessing will be on her food; and her poor will be full of bread.

<sup>16</sup>Her priests will be clothed with salvation; and her saints will give cries of joy.

<sup>17</sup>There I will make the horn of David fertile: I have made ready a light for my king.

<sup>18</sup>His haters will be clothed with shame;  
but I will make his crown shining.

**133**<sup>1</sup> See how good and how  
pleasing it is for brothers to be  
living together in harmony!

<sup>2</sup>It is like oil of great price on the head,  
flowing down over the face, even Aarons  
face: coming down to the edge of his  
robe;

<sup>3</sup>Like the dew of Hermon, which comes  
down on the mountains of Zion: for there  
the Lord gave orders for the blessing,  
even life for ever.

**134**<sup>1</sup> Give praise to the Lord, all  
you servants of the Lord, who  
take your places in the house of the Lord  
by night.

<sup>2</sup>Give praise to the Lord, lifting up your  
hands in his holy place.

<sup>3</sup>May the Lord, who made heaven and  
earth, send you blessing out of Zion,

**135**<sup>1</sup> Let the Lord be praised. O  
you servants of the Lord, give  
praise to the name of the Lord.

<sup>2</sup>You who are in the house of the Lord,  
and in the open spaces of the house of  
our God,

<sup>3</sup>Give praise to Jah, for he is good:  
make melody to his name, for it is  
pleasing.

<sup>4</sup>For the Lord has taken Jacob for  
himself, and Israel for his property.

<sup>5</sup>I know that the Lord is great, and that  
our Lord is greater than all other gods.

<sup>6</sup>The Lord has done whatever was  
pleasing to him, in heaven, and on the  
earth, in the seas and in all the deep  
waters.

<sup>7</sup>He makes the mists go up from  
the ends of the earth; he makes  
thunder-flames for the rain; he sends  
out the winds from his store-houses.

<sup>8</sup>He put to death the first-fruits of  
Egypt, of man and of beast.

<sup>9</sup>He sent signs and wonders among  
you, O Egypt, on Pharaoh, and on all his  
servants.

<sup>10</sup>He overcame great nations, and put  
strong kings to death;

<sup>11</sup>Sihon, king of the Amorites, and Og,  
king of Bashan, and all the kingdoms of  
Canaan;

<sup>12</sup>And gave their land for a heritage,  
even for a heritage to Israel his people.

<sup>13</sup> O Lord, your name is eternal; and the memory of you will have no end.

<sup>14</sup> For the Lord will be judge of his peoples cause; his feelings will be changed to his servants.

<sup>15</sup> The images of the nations are silver and gold, the work of mens hands.

<sup>16</sup> They have mouths, but no voice, they have eyes, but they do not see;

<sup>17</sup> They have ears, but no hearing; and there is no breath in their mouths.

<sup>18</sup> Those who make them are like them; and so is everyone who puts his hope in them.

<sup>19</sup> Give praise to the Lord, O children of Israel: give praise to the Lord, O sons of Aaron:

<sup>20</sup> Give praise to the Lord, O sons of Levi: let all the worshippers of the Lord give him praise.

<sup>21</sup> Praise be to the Lord out of Zion, even to the Lord whose house is in Jerusalem, Let the Lord be praised.

**136** <sup>1</sup> O give praise to the Lord, for he is good: for his mercy is unchanging for ever.

<sup>2</sup> O give praise to the God of gods: for his mercy is unchanging for ever.

<sup>3</sup>O give praise to the Lord of lords: for his mercy is unchanging for ever.

<sup>4</sup>To him who only does great wonders: for his mercy is unchanging for ever.

<sup>5</sup>To him who by wisdom made the heavens: for his mercy is unchanging for ever.

<sup>6</sup>To him by whom the earth was stretched out over the waters: for his mercy is unchanging for ever.

<sup>7</sup>To him who made great lights: for his mercy is unchanging for ever.

<sup>8</sup>The sun to have rule by day: for his mercy is unchanging for ever.

<sup>9</sup>The moon and the stars to have rule by night: for his mercy is unchanging for ever.

<sup>10</sup>To him who put to death the first-fruits of Egypt: for his mercy is unchanging for ever:

<sup>11</sup>And took out Israel from among them: for his mercy is unchanging for ever:

<sup>12</sup>With a strong hand and an outstretched arm: for his mercy is unchanging for ever.

<sup>13</sup>To him who made a way through the Red Sea: for his mercy is unchanging for ever:

<sup>14</sup>And let Israel go through it: for his mercy is unchanging for ever:

<sup>15</sup>By him Pharaoh and his army were overturned in the Red Sea: for his mercy is unchanging for ever.

<sup>16</sup>To him who took his people through the waste land: for his mercy is unchanging for ever.

<sup>17</sup>To him who overcame great kings: for his mercy is unchanging for ever:

<sup>18</sup>And put noble kings to death: for his mercy is unchanging for ever:

<sup>19</sup>Sihon, king of the Amorites: for his mercy is unchanging for ever:

<sup>20</sup>And Og, king of Bashan: for his mercy is unchanging for ever:

<sup>21</sup>And gave their land to his people for a heritage: for his mercy is unchanging for ever.

<sup>22</sup>Even a heritage for his servant Israel: for his mercy is unchanging for ever.

<sup>23</sup>Who kept us in mind when we were in trouble: for his mercy is unchanging for ever.



<sup>24</sup> And has taken us out of the hands of our haters: for his mercy is unchanging for ever.

<sup>25</sup> Who gives food to all flesh: for his mercy is unchanging for ever.

<sup>26</sup> O give praise to the God of heaven: for his mercy is unchanging for ever.

**137** <sup>1</sup> By the rivers of Babylon we were seated, weeping at the memory of Zion,

<sup>2</sup> Hanging our instruments of music on the trees by the waterside.

<sup>3</sup> For there those who had taken us prisoners made request for a song; and those who had taken away all we had gave us orders to be glad, saying, Give us one of the songs of Zion.

<sup>4</sup> How may we give the Lords song in a strange land?

<sup>5</sup> If I keep not your memory, O Jerusalem, let not my right hand keep the memory of its art.

<sup>6</sup> If I let you go out of my thoughts, and if I do not put Jerusalem before my greatest joy, let my tongue be fixed to the roof of my mouth.

<sup>7</sup> O Lord, keep in mind against the children of Edom the day of Jerusalem;

how they said, Let it be uncovered,  
uncovered even to its base.

<sup>8</sup>O daughter of Babylon, whose fate is  
destruction; happy is the man who does  
to you what you have done to us.

<sup>9</sup>Happy is the man who takes your little  
ones, crushing them against the rocks.

**138** <sup>1</sup>I will give you praise with all  
my heart: I will make melody  
to you before the gods.

<sup>2</sup>I will give worship before your holy  
Temple, praising your name for your  
mercy and for your unchanging faith: for  
you have made your word greater than  
all your name.

<sup>3</sup>When my cry came to your ears you  
gave me an answer, and made me great  
with strength in my soul.

<sup>4</sup>All the kings of the earth will give you  
praise, O Lord, when the words of your  
mouth come to their ears.

<sup>5</sup>They will make songs about the ways  
of the Lord; for great is the glory of the  
Lord.

<sup>6</sup>Though the Lord is high, he sees those  
who are low; and he has knowledge from  
far off of those who are lifted up.

<sup>7</sup> Even when trouble is round me, you will give me life; your hand will be stretched out against the wrath of my haters, and your right hand will be my salvation.

<sup>8</sup> The Lord will make all things complete for me: O Lord, your mercy is eternal; do not give up the works of your hands.

**139** <sup>1</sup> O Lord, you have knowledge of me, searching out all my secrets.

<sup>2</sup> You have knowledge when I am seated and when I get up, you see my thoughts from far away.

<sup>3</sup> You keep watch over my steps and my sleep, and have knowledge of all my ways.

<sup>4</sup> For there is not a word on my tongue which is not clear to you, O Lord.

<sup>5</sup> I am shut in by you on every side, and you have put your hand on me.

<sup>6</sup> Such knowledge is a wonder greater than my powers; it is so high that I may not come near it.

<sup>7</sup> Where may I go from your spirit? how may I go in flight from you?

<sup>8</sup>If I go up to heaven, you are there: or if I make my bed in the underworld, you are there.

<sup>9</sup>If I take the wings of the morning, and go to the farthest parts of the sea;

<sup>10</sup>Even there will I be guided by your hand, and your right hand will keep me.

<sup>11</sup>If I say, Only let me be covered by the dark, and the light about me be night;

<sup>12</sup>Even the dark is not dark to you; the night is as bright as the day: for dark and light are the same to you.

<sup>13</sup>My flesh was made by you, and my parts joined together in my mothers body.

<sup>14</sup>I will give you praise, for I am strangely and delicately formed; your works are great wonders, and of this my soul is fully conscious.

<sup>15</sup>My frame was not unseen by you when I was made secretly, and strangely formed in the lowest parts of the earth.

<sup>16</sup>Your eyes saw my unformed substance; in your book all my days were recorded, even those which were purposed before they had come into being.

<sup>17</sup>How dear are your thoughts to me, O God! how great is the number of them!

<sup>18</sup>If I made up their number, it would be more than the grains of sand; when I am awake, I am still with you.

<sup>19</sup>If only you would put the sinners to death, O God; go far from me, you men of blood.

<sup>20</sup>For they go against you with evil designs, and your haters make sport of your name.

<sup>21</sup>Are not your haters hated by me, O Lord? are not those who are lifted up against you a cause of grief to me?

<sup>22</sup>My hate for them is complete; my thoughts of them are as if they were making war on me.

<sup>23</sup>O God, let the secrets of my heart be uncovered, and let my wandering thoughts be tested:

<sup>24</sup>See if there is any way of sorrow in me, and be my guide in the eternal way.

**140**<sup>1</sup>O Lord, take me out of the power of the evil man; keep me safe from the violent man:

<sup>2</sup>For their hearts are full of evil designs; and they are ever making ready causes of war.

<sup>3</sup>Their tongues are sharp like the tongue of a snake; the poison of snakes is under their lips. (Selah.)

<sup>4</sup>O Lord, take me out of the hands of sinners; keep me safe from the violent man: for they are designing my downfall.

<sup>5</sup>The men of pride have put secret cords for my feet; stretching nets in my way, so that they may take me with their tricks. (Selah.)

<sup>6</sup>I have said to the Lord, You are my God: give ear, O Lord, to the voice of my prayer.

<sup>7</sup>O Lord God, the strength of my salvation, you have been a cover over my head in the day of the fight.

<sup>8</sup>O Lord, give not the wrongdoer his desire; give him no help in his evil designs, or he may be uplifted in pride. (Selah.)

<sup>9</sup>As for those who come round me, let their heads be covered by the evil of their lips.

<sup>10</sup>Let burning flames come down on them: let them be put into the fire, and into deep waters, so that they may not get up again.

<sup>11</sup> Let not a man of evil tongue be safe on earth: let destruction overtake the violent man with blow on blow.

<sup>12</sup> I am certain that the Lord will take care of the cause of the poor, and of the rights of those who are troubled.

<sup>13</sup> Truly, the upright will give praise to your name: the holy will have a place in your house.

**141** <sup>1</sup> Lord, I have made my cry to you; come to me quickly; give ear to my voice, when it goes up to you.

<sup>2</sup> Let my prayer be ordered before you like a sweet smell; and let the lifting up of my hands be like the evening offering.

<sup>3</sup> O Lord, keep a watch over my mouth; keep the door of my lips.

<sup>4</sup> Keep my heart from desiring any evil thing, or from taking part in the sins of the evil-doers with men who do wrong: and let me have no part in their good things.

<sup>5</sup> Let the upright give me punishment; and let the god-fearing man put me in the right way; but I will not let the oil of sinners come on my head: when they do evil I will give myself to prayer.

<sup>6</sup>When destruction comes to their judges by the side of the rock, they will give ear to my words, for they are sweet.

<sup>7</sup>Our bones are broken up at the mouth of the underworld, as the earth is broken by the plough.

<sup>8</sup>But my eyes are turned to you, O Lord God: my hope is in you; let not my soul be given up to death.

<sup>9</sup>Keep me from the net which they have put down for me, and from the designs of the workers of evil.

<sup>10</sup>Let the sinners be taken in the nets which they themselves have put down, while I go free.

**142** <sup>1</sup>The sound of my cry went up to the Lord; with my voice I made my prayer for grace to the Lord.

<sup>2</sup>I put all my sorrows before him; and made clear to him all my trouble.

<sup>3</sup>When my spirit is overcome, your eyes are on my goings; nets have been secretly placed in the way in which I go.

<sup>4</sup>Looking to my right side, I saw no man who was my friend: I had no safe place; no one had any care for my soul.



<sup>5</sup>I have made my cry to you, O Lord; I have said, You are my safe place, and my heritage in the land of the living.

<sup>6</sup>Give ear to my cry, for I am made very low: take me out of the hands of my haters, for they are stronger than I.

<sup>7</sup>Take my soul out of prison, so that I may give praise to your name: the upright will give praise because of me; for you have given me a full reward.

**143**<sup>1</sup>Let my prayer come to you, O Lord; give ear to my requests for your grace; keep faith with me, and give me an answer in your righteousness;

<sup>2</sup>Let not your servant come before you to be judged; for no man living is upright in your eyes.

<sup>3</sup>The evil man has gone after my soul; my life is crushed down to the earth: he has put me in the dark, like those who have long been dead.

<sup>4</sup>Because of this my spirit is overcome; and my heart is full of fear.

<sup>5</sup>I keep in mind the early days of the past, giving thought to all your acts, even to the work of your hands.

<sup>6</sup>My hands are stretched out to you: my soul is turned to you, like a land in need of water. (Selah.)

<sup>7</sup>Be quick in answering me, O Lord, for the strength of my spirit is gone: let me see your face, so that I may not be like those who go down into the underworld.

<sup>8</sup>Let the story of your mercy come to me in the morning, for my hope is in you: give me knowledge of the way in which I am to go; for my soul is lifted up to you.

<sup>9</sup>O Lord, take me out of the hands of my haters; my soul is waiting for you.

<sup>10</sup>Give me teaching so that I may do your pleasure; for you are my God: let your good Spirit be my guide into the land of righteousness.

<sup>11</sup>Give me life, O Lord, because of your name; in your righteousness take my soul out of trouble.

<sup>12</sup>And in your mercy put an end to my haters, and send destruction on all those who are against my soul; for I am your servant.

**144**<sup>1</sup> Praise be to the God of my strength, teaching my hands

the use of the sword, and my fingers the art of fighting:

<sup>2</sup>He is my strength, and my Rock; my high tower, and my saviour; my keeper and my hope: he gives me authority over my people.

<sup>3</sup>Lord, what is man, that you keep him in mind? or the son of man that you take him into account?

<sup>4</sup>Man is like a breath: his life is like a shade which is quickly gone.

<sup>5</sup>Come down, O Lord, from your heavens: at your touch let the mountains give out smoke.

<sup>6</sup>With your storm-flames send them in flight: send out your arrows for their destruction.

<sup>7</sup>Put out your hand from on high; make me free, take me safely out of the great waters, and out of the hands of strange men;

<sup>8</sup>In whose mouths are false words, and whose right hand is a right hand of deceit.

<sup>9</sup>I will make a new song to you, O God; I will make melody to you on an instrument of ten cords.

<sup>10</sup>It is God who gives salvation to kings; and who kept his servant David from the wounding sword.

<sup>11</sup>Make me free, and take me out of the hands of strange men, in whose mouths are false words, and whose right hand is a right hand of deceit.

<sup>12</sup>Our sons are like tall young plants; and our daughters like the shining stones of a kings house;

<sup>13</sup>Our store-houses are full of all good things; and our sheep give birth to thousands and ten thousands in our fields.

<sup>14</sup>Our oxen are well weighted down; our cows give birth safely; there is no going out, and there is no cry of sorrow in our open places.

<sup>15</sup>Happy is the nation whose ways are so ordered: yes, happy is the nation whose God is the Lord.

**145** <sup>1</sup>Let me give glory to you, O God, my King; and blessing to your name for ever and ever.

<sup>2</sup>Every day will I give you blessing, praising your name for ever and ever.

<sup>3</sup>Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised; his power may never be searched out.

<sup>4</sup>One generation after another will give praise to your great acts, and make clear the operation of your strength.

<sup>5</sup>My thoughts will be of the honour and glory of your rule, and of the wonder of your works.

<sup>6</sup>Men will be talking of the power and fear of your acts; I will give word of your glory.

<sup>7</sup>Their sayings will be full of the memory of all your mercy, and they will make songs of your righteousness.

<sup>8</sup>The Lord is full of grace and pity; not quickly angry, but great in mercy.

<sup>9</sup>The Lord is good to all men; and his mercies are over all his works.

<sup>10</sup>All the works of your hands give praise to you, O Lord; and your saints give you blessing.

<sup>11</sup>Their words will be of the glory of your kingdom, and their talk of your strength;

<sup>12</sup>So that the sons of men may have knowledge of his acts of power, and of the great glory of his kingdom.

<sup>13</sup>Your kingdom is an eternal kingdom,  
and your rule is through all generations.

<sup>14</sup>The Lord is the support of all who are  
crushed, and the lifter up of all who are  
bent down.

<sup>15</sup>The eyes of all men are waiting for  
you; and you give them their food in its  
time.

<sup>16</sup>By the opening of your hand, every  
living thing has its desire in full measure.

<sup>17</sup>The Lord is upright in all his ways,  
and kind in all his works.

<sup>18</sup>The Lord is near all those who give  
honour to his name; even to all who give  
honour to him with true hearts.

<sup>19</sup>To his worshippers, he will give their  
desire; their cry comes to his ears, and  
he gives them salvation.

<sup>20</sup>The Lord will keep all his worshippers  
from danger; but he will send destruction  
on all sinners.

<sup>21</sup>My mouth will give praise to the Lord;  
let all flesh be blessing his holy name for  
ever and ever.

**146**<sup>1</sup> Let the Lord be praised. Give  
praise to the Lord, O my soul.

<sup>2</sup> While I have breath I will give praise to the Lord: I will make melody to my God while I have my being.

<sup>3</sup> Put not your faith in rulers, or in the son of man, in whom there is no salvation.

<sup>4</sup> Mans breath goes out, he is turned back again to dust; in that day all his purposes come to an end.

<sup>5</sup> Happy is the man who has the God of Jacob for his help, whose hope is in the Lord his God:

<sup>6</sup> Who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all things in them; who keeps faith for ever:

<sup>7</sup> Who gives their rights to those who are crushed down; and gives food to those who are in need of it: the Lord makes the prisoners free;

<sup>8</sup> The Lord makes open the eyes of the blind; the Lord is the lifter up of those who are bent down; the Lord is a lover of the upright;

<sup>9</sup> The Lord takes care of those who are in a strange land; he gives help to the widow and to the child who has no father; but he sends destruction on the way of sinners.

<sup>10</sup>The Lord will be King for ever; your God, O Zion, will be King through all generations. Praise be to the Lord.

**147** <sup>1</sup>Give praise to the Lord; for it is good to make melody to our God; praise is pleasing and beautiful.

<sup>2</sup>The Lord is building up Jerusalem; he makes all the outlaws of Israel come together.

<sup>3</sup>He makes the broken-hearted well, and puts oil on their wounds.

<sup>4</sup>He sees the number of the stars; he gives them all their names.

<sup>5</sup>Great is our Lord, and great his power; there is no limit to his wisdom.

<sup>6</sup>The Lord gives help to the poor in spirit; but he sends sinners down in shame.

<sup>7</sup>Make songs of praise to the Lord; make melody to our God with instruments of music.

<sup>8</sup>By his hand the heaven is covered with clouds and rain is stored up for the earth; he makes the grass tall on the mountains.

<sup>9</sup>He gives food to every beast, and to the young ravens in answer to their cry.



<sup>10</sup>He has no delight in the strength of a horse; he takes no pleasure in the legs of a man.

<sup>11</sup>The Lord takes pleasure in his worshippers, and in those whose hope is in his mercy.

<sup>12</sup>Give praise to the Lord, O Jerusalem; give praise to your God, O Zion.

<sup>13</sup>He has made strong the iron bands of your doors; he has sent blessings on your children inside your walls.

<sup>14</sup>He gives peace in all your land, making your stores full of fat grain.

<sup>15</sup>He sends out his orders to the earth; his word goes out quickly.

<sup>16</sup>He gives snow like wool; he sends out ice-drops like dust.

<sup>17</sup>He sends down ice like raindrops: water is made hard by his cold.

<sup>18</sup>At the outgoing of his word, the ice is turned to water; when he sends out his wind, there is a flowing of waters.

<sup>19</sup>He makes his word clear to Jacob, teaching Israel his laws and his decisions.

<sup>20</sup>He has not done these things for any other nation: and as for his laws, they have no knowledge of them. Let the Lord be praised.

**148**<sup>1</sup> Give praise to the Lord. Let the Lord be praised from the heavens: give him praise in the skies.

<sup>2</sup> Give praise to him, all you his angels: give praise to him, all his armies.

<sup>3</sup> Give praise to him, you sun and moon: give praise to him, all you stars of light.

<sup>4</sup> Give praise to him, you highest heavens, and you waters which are over the heavens.

<sup>5</sup> Let them give praise to the name of the Lord: for he gave the order, and they were made.

<sup>6</sup> He has put them in their places for ever; he has given them their limits which may not be broken.

<sup>7</sup> Give praise to the Lord from the earth, you great sea-beasts, and deep places:

<sup>8</sup> Fire and rain of ice, snow and mists; storm-wind, doing his word:

<sup>9</sup> Mountains and all hills; fruit-trees and all trees of the mountains:

<sup>10</sup> Beasts and all cattle; insects and winged birds:

<sup>11</sup> Kings of the earth, and all peoples; rulers and all judges of the earth:

<sup>12</sup> Young men and virgins; old men and children:

<sup>13</sup>Let them give glory to the name of the Lord: for his name only is to be praised: his kingdom is over the earth and the heaven.

<sup>14</sup>He has put on high the horn of his people, for the praise of all his saints; even the children of Israel, a people which is near to him. Let the Lord be praised.

**149** <sup>1</sup>Let the Lord be praised. Make a new song to the Lord, let his praise be in the meeting of his saints.

<sup>2</sup>Let Israel have joy in his maker; let the children of Zion be glad in their King.

<sup>3</sup>Let them give praise to his name in the dance: let them make melody to him with instruments of brass and corded instruments of music.

<sup>4</sup>For the Lord has pleasure in his people: he gives the poor in spirit a crown of salvation.

<sup>5</sup>Let the saints have joy and glory: let them give cries of joy on their beds.

<sup>6</sup>Let the high praises of God be in their mouths, and a two-edged sword in their hands;

<sup>7</sup>To give the nations the reward of their sins, and the peoples their punishment;

<sup>8</sup>To put their kings in chains, and their rulers in bands of iron;

<sup>9</sup>To give them the punishment which is in the holy writings: this honour is given to all his saints. Praise be to the Lord.

**150**<sup>1</sup> Let the Lord be praised. Give praise to God in his holy place: give him praise in the heaven of his power.

<sup>2</sup> Give him praise for his acts of power: give him praise in the measure of his great strength.

<sup>3</sup> Give him praise with the sound of the horn: give him praise with corded instruments of music.

<sup>4</sup> Give him praise with instruments of brass and in the dance: give him praise with horns and corded instruments.

<sup>5</sup> Give him praise with the loud brass: give him praise with the high-sounding brass.

<sup>6</sup> Let everything which has breath give praise to the Lord. Let the Lord be praised.

# Proverbs

**1** <sup>1</sup> The wise sayings of Solomon, the son of David, king of Israel.

<sup>2</sup> To have knowledge of wise teaching; to be clear about the words of reason:

<sup>3</sup> To be trained in the ways of wisdom, in righteousness and judging truly and straight behaviour:

<sup>4</sup> To make the simple-minded sharp, and to give the young man knowledge, and serious purpose:

<sup>5</sup> (The wise man, hearing, will get greater learning, and the acts of the man of good sense will be wisely guided:)

<sup>6</sup> To get the sense of wise sayings and secrets, and of the words of the wise and their dark sayings.

<sup>7</sup> The fear of the Lord is the start of knowledge: but the foolish have no use for wisdom and teaching.

<sup>8</sup> My son, give ear to the training of your father, and do not give up the teaching of your mother:

<sup>9</sup>For they will be a crown of grace for your head, and chain-ornaments about your neck.

<sup>10</sup>My son, if sinners would take you out of the right way, do not go with them.

<sup>11</sup>If they say, Come with us; let us make designs against the good, waiting secretly for the upright, without cause;

<sup>12</sup>Let us overcome them living, like the underworld, and in their strength, as those who go down to death;

<sup>13</sup>Goods of great price will be ours, our houses will be full of wealth;

<sup>14</sup>Take your chance with us, and we will all have one money-bag:

<sup>15</sup>My son, do not go with them; keep your feet from their ways:

<sup>16</sup>For their feet are running after evil, and they are quick to take a mans life.

<sup>17</sup>Truly, to no purpose is the net stretched out before the eyes of the bird:

<sup>18</sup>And they are secretly waiting for their blood and making ready destruction for themselves.

<sup>19</sup>Such is the fate of everyone who goes in search of profit; it takes away the life of its owners.

<sup>20</sup>Wisdom is crying out in the street;  
her voice is loud in the open places;

<sup>21</sup>Her words are sounding in the  
meeting-places, and in the doorways of  
the town:

<sup>22</sup>How long, you simple ones, will  
foolish things be dear to you? and pride  
a delight to the haters of authority?  
how long will the foolish go on hating  
knowledge?

<sup>23</sup>Be turned again by my sharp words:  
see, I will send the flow of my spirit on  
you, and make my words clear to you.

<sup>24</sup>Because your ears were shut to my  
voice; no one gave attention to my  
out-stretched hand;

<sup>25</sup>You were not controlled by my  
guiding, and would have nothing to do  
with my sharp words:

<sup>26</sup>So in the day of your trouble I will be  
laughing; I will make sport of your fear;

<sup>27</sup>When your fear comes on you like a  
storm, and your trouble like a rushing  
wind; when pain and sorrow come on  
you.

<sup>28</sup>Then I will give no answer to their  
cries; searching for me early, they will  
not see me:

<sup>29</sup>For they were haters of knowledge, and did not give their hearts to the fear of the Lord:

<sup>30</sup>They had no desire for my teaching, and my words of protest were as nothing to them.

<sup>31</sup>So the fruit of their way will be their food, and with the designs of their hearts they will be made full.

<sup>32</sup>For the turning back of the simple from teaching will be the cause of their death, and the peace of the foolish will be their destruction.

<sup>33</sup>But whoever gives ear to me will take his rest safely, living in peace without fear of evil.

**2**<sup>1</sup>My son, if you will take my words to your heart, storing up my laws in your mind;

<sup>2</sup>So that your ear gives attention to wisdom, and your heart is turned to knowledge;

<sup>3</sup>Truly, if you are crying out for good sense, and your request is for knowledge;

<sup>4</sup>If you are looking for her as for silver, and searching for her as for stored-up wealth;



<sup>5</sup>Then the fear of the Lord will be clear to you, and knowledge of God will be yours.

<sup>6</sup>For the Lord gives wisdom; out of his mouth come knowledge and reason:

<sup>7</sup>He has salvation stored up for the upright, he is a breastplate to those in whom there is no evil;

<sup>8</sup>He keeps watch on the ways which are right, and takes care of those who have the fear of him.

<sup>9</sup>Then you will have knowledge of righteousness and right acting, and upright behaviour, even of every good way.

<sup>10</sup>For wisdom will come into your heart, and knowledge will be pleasing to your soul;

<sup>11</sup>Wise purposes will be watching over you, and knowledge will keep you;

<sup>12</sup>Giving you salvation from the evil man, from those whose words are false;

<sup>13</sup>Who give up the way of righteousness, to go by dark roads;

<sup>14</sup>Who take pleasure in wrongdoing, and have joy in the evil designs of the sinner;

<sup>15</sup>Whose ways are not straight, and whose footsteps are turned to evil:

<sup>16</sup>To take you out of the power of the strange woman, who says smooth words with her tongue;

<sup>17</sup>Who is false to the husband of her early years, and does not keep the agreement of her God in mind:

<sup>18</sup>For her house is on the way down to death; her footsteps go down to the shades:

<sup>19</sup>Those who go to her do not come back again; their feet do not keep in the ways of life:

<sup>20</sup>So that you may go in the way of good men, and keep in the footsteps of the upright.

<sup>21</sup>For the upright will be living in the land, and the good will have it for their heritage.

<sup>22</sup>But sinners will be cut off from the land, and those whose acts are false will be uprooted.

**3**<sup>1</sup>My son, keep my teaching in your memory, and my rules in your heart:

<sup>2</sup>For they will give you increase of days, years of life, and peace.

<sup>3</sup>Let not mercy and good faith go from you; let them be hanging round your neck, recorded on your heart;

<sup>4</sup>So you will have grace and a good name in the eyes of God and men.

<sup>5</sup>Put all your hope in God, not looking to your reason for support.

<sup>6</sup>In all your ways give ear to him, and he will make straight your footsteps.

<sup>7</sup>Put no high value on your wisdom: let the fear of the Lord be before you, and keep yourself from evil:

<sup>8</sup>This will give strength to your flesh, and new life to your bones.

<sup>9</sup>Give honour to the Lord with your wealth, and with the first-fruits of all your increase:

<sup>10</sup>So your store-houses will be full of grain, and your vessels overflowing with new wine.

<sup>11</sup>My son, do not make your heart hard against the Lords teaching; do not be made angry by his training:

<sup>12</sup>For to those who are dear to him the Lord says sharp words, and makes the son in whom he has delight undergo pain.

<sup>13</sup>Happy is the man who makes discovery of wisdom, and he who gets knowledge.

<sup>14</sup>For trading in it is better than trading in silver, and its profit greater than bright gold.

<sup>15</sup>She is of more value than jewels, and nothing for which you may have a desire is fair in comparison with her.

<sup>16</sup>Long life is in her right hand, and in her left are wealth and honour.

<sup>17</sup>Her ways are ways of delight, and all her goings are peace.

<sup>18</sup>She is a tree of life to all who take her in their hands, and happy is everyone who keeps her.

<sup>19</sup>The Lord by wisdom put in position the bases of the earth; by reason he put the heavens in their place.

<sup>20</sup>By his knowledge the deep was parted, and dew came dropping from the skies.

<sup>21</sup>My son, keep good sense, and do not let wise purpose go from your eyes.

<sup>22</sup>So they will be life for your soul, and grace for your neck.

<sup>23</sup> Then you will go safely on your way, and your feet will have no cause for slipping.

<sup>24</sup> When you take your rest you will have no fear, and on your bed sleep will be sweet to you.

<sup>25</sup> Have no fear of sudden danger, or of the storm which will come on evil-doers:

<sup>26</sup> For the Lord will be your hope, and will keep your foot from being taken in the net.

<sup>27</sup> Do not keep back good from those who have a right to it, when it is in the power of your hand to do it.

<sup>28</sup> Say not to your neighbour, Go, and come again, and tomorrow I will give; when you have it by you at the time.

<sup>29</sup> Do not make evil designs against your neighbour, when he is living with you without fear.

<sup>30</sup> Do not take up a cause at law against a man for nothing, if he has done you no wrong.

<sup>31</sup> Have no envy of the violent man, or take any of his ways as an example.

<sup>32</sup> For the wrong-hearted man is hated by the Lord, but he is a friend to the upright.

<sup>33</sup> The curse of the Lord is on the house of the evil-doer, but his blessing is on the tent of the upright.

<sup>34</sup> He makes sport of the men of pride, but he gives grace to the gentle-hearted.

<sup>35</sup> The wise will have glory for their heritage, but shame will be the reward of the foolish.

**4**<sup>1</sup> Give ear, my sons, to the teaching of a father; give attention so that you may have knowledge:

<sup>2</sup> For I give you good teaching; do not give up the knowledge you are getting from me.

<sup>3</sup> For I was a son to my father, a gentle and an only one to my mother.

<sup>4</sup> And he gave me teaching, saying to me, Keep my words in your heart; keep my rules so that you may have life:

<sup>5</sup> Get wisdom, get true knowledge; keep it in memory, do not be turned away from the words of my mouth.

<sup>6</sup> Do not give her up, and she will keep you; give her your love, and she will make you safe.

<sup>7</sup> The first sign of wisdom is to get wisdom; go, give all you have to get true knowledge.

<sup>8</sup>Put her in a high place, and you will be lifted up by her; she will give you honour, when you give her your love.

<sup>9</sup>She will put a crown of grace on your head, giving you a head-dress of glory.

<sup>10</sup>Give ear, O my son, and let your heart be open to my sayings; and long life will be yours.

<sup>11</sup>I have given you teaching in the way of wisdom, guiding your steps in the straight way.

<sup>12</sup>When you go, your way will not be narrow, and in running you will not have a fall.

<sup>13</sup>Take learning in your hands, do not let her go: keep her, for she is your life.

<sup>14</sup>Do not go in the road of sinners, or be walking in the way of evil men.

<sup>15</sup>Keep far from it, do not go near; be turned from it, and go on your way.

<sup>16</sup>For they take no rest till they have done evil; their sleep is taken away if they have not been the cause of someones fall.

<sup>17</sup>The bread of evil-doing is their food, the wine of violent acts their drink.

<sup>18</sup>But the way of the upright is like the light of early morning, getting brighter and brighter till the full day.

<sup>19</sup>The way of sinners is dark; they see not the cause of their fall.

<sup>20</sup>My son, give attention to my words; let your ear be turned to my sayings.

<sup>21</sup>Let them not go from your eyes; keep them deep in your heart.

<sup>22</sup>For they are life to him who gets them, and strength to all his flesh.

<sup>23</sup>And keep watch over your heart with all care; so you will have life.

<sup>24</sup>Put away from you an evil tongue, and let false lips be far from you.

<sup>25</sup>Keep your eyes on what is in front of you, looking straight before you.

<sup>26</sup>Keep a watch on your behaviour; let all your ways be rightly ordered.

<sup>27</sup>Let there be no turning to the right or to the left, keep your feet from evil.

**5**<sup>1</sup>My son, give attention to my wisdom; let your ear be turned to my teaching:

<sup>2</sup>So that you may be ruled by a wise purpose, and your lips may keep knowledge.



<sup>3</sup>For honey is dropping from the lips of the strange woman, and her mouth is smoother than oil;

<sup>4</sup>But her end is bitter as wormwood, and sharp as a two-edged sword;

<sup>5</sup>Her feet go down to death, and her steps to the underworld;

<sup>6</sup>She never keeps her mind on the road of life; her ways are uncertain, she has no knowledge.

<sup>7</sup>Give ear to me then, my sons, and do not put away my words from you.

<sup>8</sup>Go far away from her, do not come near the door of her house;

<sup>9</sup>For fear that you may give your honour to others, and your wealth to strange men:

<sup>10</sup>And strange men may be full of your wealth, and the fruit of your work go to the house of others;

<sup>11</sup>And you will be full of grief at the end of your life, when your flesh and your body are wasted;

<sup>12</sup>And you will say, How was teaching hated by me, and my heart put no value on training;

<sup>13</sup>I did not give attention to the voice of my teachers, my ear was not turned to those who were guiding me!

<sup>14</sup>I was in almost all evil in the company of the people.

<sup>15</sup>Let water from your store and not that of others be your drink, and running water from your fountain.

<sup>16</sup>Let not your springs be flowing in the streets, or your streams of water in the open places.

<sup>17</sup>Let them be for yourself only, not for other men with you.

<sup>18</sup>Let blessing be on your fountain; have joy in the wife of your early years.

<sup>19</sup>As a loving hind and a gentle doe, let her breasts ever give you rapture; let your passion at all times be moved by her love.

<sup>20</sup>Why let yourself, my son, go out of the way with a strange woman, and take another woman in your arms?

<sup>21</sup>For a mans ways are before the eyes of the Lord, and he puts all his goings in the scales.

<sup>22</sup>The evil-doer will be taken in the net of his crimes, and prisoned in the cords of his sin.

<sup>23</sup>He will come to his end for need of teaching; he is so foolish that he will go wandering from the right way.

**6**<sup>1</sup>My son, if you have made yourself responsible for your neighbour, or given your word for another,

<sup>2</sup>You are taken as in a net by the words of your mouth, the sayings of your lips have overcome you.

<sup>3</sup>Do this, my son, and make yourself free, because you have come into the power of your neighbour; go without waiting, and make a strong request to your neighbour.

<sup>4</sup>Give no sleep to your eyes, or rest to them;

<sup>5</sup>Make yourself free, like the roe from the hand of the archer, and the bird from him who puts a net for her.

<sup>6</sup>Go to the ant, you hater of work; give thought to her ways and be wise:

<sup>7</sup>Having no chief, overseer, or ruler,

<sup>8</sup>She gets her meat in the summer, storing up food at the time of the grain-cutting.

<sup>9</sup>How long will you be sleeping, O hater of work? when will you get up from your sleep?

<sup>10</sup>A little sleep, a little rest, a little folding of the hands in sleep:

<sup>11</sup>Then loss will come on you like an outlaw, and your need like an armed man

<sup>12</sup>A good-for-nothing man is an evil-doer; he goes on his way causing trouble with false words;

<sup>13</sup>Making signs with his eyes, rubbing with his feet, and giving news with his fingers;

<sup>14</sup>His mind is ever designing evil: he lets loose violent acts.

<sup>15</sup>For this cause his downfall will be sudden; quickly he will be broken, and there will be no help for him.

<sup>16</sup>Six things are hated by the Lord; seven things are disgusting to him:

<sup>17</sup>Eyes of pride, a false tongue, hands which take life without cause;

<sup>18</sup>A heart full of evil designs, feet which are quick in running after sin;

<sup>19</sup>A false witness, breathing out untrue words, and one who lets loose violent acts among brothers.

<sup>20</sup>My son, keep the rule of your father, and have in memory the teaching of your mother:

<sup>21</sup> Keep them ever folded in your heart, and have them hanging round your neck.

<sup>22</sup> In your walking, it will be your guide; when you are sleeping, it will keep watch over you; when you are awake, it will have talk with you.

<sup>23</sup> For the rule is a light, and the teaching a shining light; and the guiding words of training are the way of life.

<sup>24</sup> They will keep you from the evil woman, from the smooth tongue of the strange woman.

<sup>25</sup> Let not your hearts desire go after her fair body; let not her eyes take you prisoner.

<sup>26</sup> For a loose woman is looking for a cake of bread, but another mans wife goes after ones very life.

<sup>27</sup> May a man take fire to his breast without burning his clothing?

<sup>28</sup> Or may one go on lighted coals, and his feet not be burned?

<sup>29</sup> So it is with him who goes in to his neighbours wife; he who has anything to do with her will not go free from punishment.

<sup>30</sup> Men do not have a low opinion of a thief who takes food when he is in need of it:

<sup>31</sup> But if he is taken in the act he will have to give back seven times as much, giving up all his property which is in his house.

<sup>32</sup> He who takes another mans wife is without all sense: he who does it is the cause of destruction to his soul.

<sup>33</sup> Wounds will be his and loss of honour, and his shame may not be washed away.

<sup>34</sup> For bitter is the wrath of an angry husband; in the day of punishment he will have no mercy.

<sup>35</sup> He will not take any payment; and he will not make peace with you though your money offerings are increased.

**7** <sup>1</sup> My son, keep my sayings, and let my rules be stored up with you.

<sup>2</sup> Keep my rules and you will have life; let my teaching be to you as the light of your eyes;

<sup>3</sup> Let them be fixed to your fingers, and recorded in your heart.

<sup>4</sup> Say to wisdom, You are my sister; let knowledge be named your special friend:

<sup>5</sup> So that they may keep you from the strange woman, even from her whose words are smooth.

<sup>6</sup> Looking out from my house, and watching through the window,

<sup>7</sup> I saw among the young men one without sense,

<sup>8</sup> Walking in the street near the turn of her road, going on the way to her house,

<sup>9</sup> At nightfall, in the evening of the day, in the black dark of the night.

<sup>10</sup> And the woman came out to him, in the dress of a loose woman, with a designing heart;

<sup>11</sup> She is full of noise and uncontrolled; her feet keep not in her house.

<sup>12</sup> Now she is in the street, now in the open spaces, waiting at every turning of the road.

<sup>13</sup> So she took him by his hand, kissing him, and without a sign of shame she said to him:

<sup>14</sup> I have a feast of peace-offerings, for today my oaths have been effected.

<sup>15</sup> So I came out in the hope of meeting you, looking for you with care, and now I have you.

<sup>16</sup>My bed is covered with cushions of needlework, with coloured cloths of the cotton thread of Egypt;

<sup>17</sup>I have made my bed sweet with perfumes and spices.

<sup>18</sup>Come, let us take our pleasure in love till the morning, having joy in loves delights.

<sup>19</sup>For the master of the house is away on a long journey:

<sup>20</sup>He has taken a bag of money with him; he is coming back at the full moon.

<sup>21</sup>With her fair words she overcame him, forcing him with her smooth lips.

<sup>22</sup>The simple man goes after her, like an ox going to its death, like a roe pulled by a cord;

<sup>23</sup>Like a bird falling into a net; with no thought that his life is in danger, till an arrow goes into his side.

<sup>24</sup>So now, my sons, give ear to me; give attention to the sayings of my mouth;

<sup>25</sup>Let not your heart be turned to her ways, do not go wandering in her footsteps.

<sup>26</sup>For those wounded and made low by her are great in number; and all those



who have come to their death through her are a great army.

<sup>27</sup> Her house is the way to the underworld, going down to the rooms of death.

**8**<sup>1</sup> Is not wisdom crying out, and the voice of knowledge sounding?

<sup>2</sup> At the top of the highways, at the meeting of the roads, she takes her place;

<sup>3</sup> Where the roads go into the town her cry goes out, at the doorways her voice is loud:

<sup>4</sup> I am crying out to you, O men; my voice comes to the sons of men.

<sup>5</sup> Become expert in reason, O you simple ones; you foolish ones, take training to heart.

<sup>6</sup> Give ear, for my words are true, and my lips are open to give out what is upright.

<sup>7</sup> For good faith goes out of my mouth, and false lips are disgusting to me.

<sup>8</sup> All the words of my mouth are righteousness; there is nothing false or twisted in them.

<sup>9</sup>They are all true to him whose mind is awake, and straightforward to those who get knowledge.

<sup>10</sup>Take my teaching, and not silver; get knowledge in place of the best gold.

<sup>11</sup>For wisdom is better than jewels, and all things which may be desired are nothing in comparison with her.

<sup>12</sup>I, wisdom, have made wise behaviour my near relation; I am seen to be the special friend of wise purposes.

<sup>13</sup>The fear of the Lord is seen in hating evil: pride, a high opinion of oneself, the evil way, and the false tongue, are unpleasing to me.

<sup>14</sup>Wise design and good sense are mine; reason and strength are mine.

<sup>15</sup>Through me kings have their power, and rulers give right decisions.

<sup>16</sup>Through me chiefs have authority, and the noble ones are judging in righteousness.

<sup>17</sup>Those who have given me their love are loved by me, and those who make search for me with care will get me.

<sup>18</sup>Wealth and honour are in my hands, even wealth without equal and righteousness.

<sup>19</sup>My fruit is better than gold, even than the best gold; and my increase is more to be desired than silver.

<sup>20</sup>I go in the road of righteousness, in the way of right judging:

<sup>21</sup>So that I may give my lovers wealth for their heritage, making their store-houses full.

<sup>22</sup>The Lord made me as the start of his way, the first of his works in the past.

<sup>23</sup>From eternal days I was given my place, from the birth of time, before the earth was.

<sup>24</sup>When there was no deep I was given birth, when there were no fountains flowing with water.

<sup>25</sup>Before the mountains were put in their places, before the hills was my birth:

<sup>26</sup>When he had not made the earth or the fields or the dust of the world.

<sup>27</sup>When he made ready the heavens I was there: when he put an arch over the face of the deep:

<sup>28</sup>When he made strong the skies overhead: when the fountains of the deep were fixed:

<sup>29</sup>When he put a limit to the sea, so that the waters might not go against his word: when he put in position the bases of the earth:

<sup>30</sup>Then I was by his side, as a master workman: and I was his delight from day to day, playing before him at all times;

<sup>31</sup>Playing in his earth; and my delight was with the sons of men.

<sup>32</sup>Give ear to me then, my sons: for happy are those who keep my ways.

<sup>33</sup>Take my teaching and be wise; do not let it go.

<sup>34</sup>Happy is the man who gives ear to me, watching at my doors day by day, keeping his place by the pillars of my house.

<sup>35</sup>For whoever gets me gets life, and grace from the Lord will come to him.

<sup>36</sup>But he who does evil to me, does wrong to his soul: all my haters are in love with death.

**9**<sup>1</sup>Wisdom has made her house, putting up her seven pillars.

<sup>2</sup>She has put her fat beasts to death; her wine is mixed, her table is ready.

<sup>3</sup>She has sent out her women-servants; her voice goes out to the highest places of the town, saying,

<sup>4</sup>Whoever is simple, let him come in here; and to him who has no sense, she says:

<sup>5</sup>Come, take of my bread, and of my wine which is mixed.

<sup>6</sup>Give up the simple ones and have life, and go in the way of knowledge.

<sup>7</sup>He who gives teaching to a man of pride gets shame for himself; he who says sharp words to a sinner gets a bad name.

<sup>8</sup>Do not say sharp words to a man of pride, or he will have hate for you; make them clear to a wise man, and you will be dear to him.

<sup>9</sup>Give teaching to a wise man, and he will become wiser; give training to an upright man, and his learning will be increased.

<sup>10</sup>The fear of the Lord is the start of wisdom, and the knowledge of the Holy One gives a wise mind

<sup>11</sup>For by me your days will be increased, and the years of your life will be long.

<sup>12</sup>If you are wise, you are wise for yourself; if your heart is full of pride, you only will have the pain of it.

<sup>13</sup>The foolish woman is full of noise; she has no sense at all.

<sup>14</sup>Seated at the door of her house, in the high places of the town,

<sup>15</sup>Crying out to those who go by, going straight on their way, she says:

<sup>16</sup>Whoever is simple, let him come in here: and to him who is without sense, she says:

<sup>17</sup>Drink taken without right is sweet, and food in secret is pleasing.

<sup>18</sup>But he does not see that the dead are there, that her guests are in the deep places of the underworld.

**10**<sup>1</sup>A wise son makes a glad father, but a foolish son is a sorrow to his mother.

<sup>2</sup>Wealth which comes from sin is of no profit, but righteousness gives salvation from death.

<sup>3</sup>The Lord will not let the upright be in need of food, but he puts far from him the desire of the evil-doers.

<sup>4</sup>He who is slow in his work becomes poor, but the hand of the ready worker gets in wealth.

<sup>5</sup>He who in summer gets together his store is a son who does wisely; but he who takes his rest when the grain is being cut is a son causing shame.

<sup>6</sup>Blessings are on the head of the upright, but the face of sinners will be covered with sorrow.

<sup>7</sup>The memory of the upright is a blessing, but the name of the evil-doer will be turned to dust.

<sup>8</sup>The wise-hearted man will let himself be ruled, but the man whose talk is foolish will have a fall.

<sup>9</sup>He whose ways are upright will go safely, but he whose ways are twisted will be made low.

<sup>10</sup>He who makes signs with his eyes is a cause of trouble, but he who makes a man see his errors is a cause of peace.

<sup>11</sup>The mouth of the upright man is a fountain of life, but the mouth of the evil-doer is a bitter cup.

<sup>12</sup>Hate is a cause of violent acts, but all errors are covered up by love.

<sup>13</sup>In the lips of him who has knowledge wisdom is seen; but a rod is ready for the back of him who is without sense.

<sup>14</sup>Knowledge is stored up by the wise, but the mouth of the foolish man is a destruction which is near.

<sup>15</sup>The property of the man of wealth is his strong town: the poor mans need is his destruction.

<sup>16</sup>The work of the upright gives life: the increase of the evil-doer is a cause of sin.

<sup>17</sup>He who takes note of teaching is a way of life, but he who gives up training is a cause of error.

<sup>18</sup>Hate is covered up by the lips of the upright man, but he who lets out evil about another is foolish.

<sup>19</sup>Where there is much talk there will be no end to sin, but he who keeps his mouth shut does wisely.

<sup>20</sup>The tongue of the upright man is like tested silver: the heart of the evil-doer is of little value.

<sup>21</sup>The lips of the upright man give food to men, but the foolish come to death for need of sense.



<sup>22</sup>The blessing of the Lord gives wealth: hard work makes it no greater.

<sup>23</sup>It is sport to the foolish man to do evil, but the man of good sense takes delight in wisdom.

<sup>24</sup>The thing feared by the evil-doer will come to him, but the upright man will get his desire.

<sup>25</sup>When the storm-wind is past, the sinner is seen no longer, but the upright man is safe for ever.

<sup>26</sup>Like acid drink to the teeth and as smoke to the eyes, so is the hater of work to those who send him.

<sup>27</sup>The fear of the Lord gives long life, but the years of the evil-doer will be cut short.

<sup>28</sup>The hope of the upright man will give joy, but the waiting of the evil-doer will have its end in sorrow.

<sup>29</sup>The way of the Lord is a strong tower for the upright man, but destruction to the workers of evil.

<sup>30</sup>The upright man will never be moved, but evil-doers will not have a safe resting-place in the land.

<sup>31</sup> The mouth of the upright man is budding with wisdom, but the twisted tongue will be cut off.

<sup>32</sup> The lips of the upright man have knowledge of what is pleasing, but twisted are the mouths of evil-doers.

**11** <sup>1</sup> Scales of deceit are hated by the Lord, but a true weight is his delight.

<sup>2</sup> When pride comes, there comes shame, but wisdom is with the quiet in spirit.

<sup>3</sup> The righteousness of the upright will be their guide, but the twisted ways of the false will be their destruction.

<sup>4</sup> Wealth is of no profit in the day of wrath, but righteousness keeps a man safe from death.

<sup>5</sup> The righteousness of the good man will make his way straight, but the sin of the evil-doer will be the cause of his fall.

<sup>6</sup> The righteousness of the upright will be their salvation, but the false will themselves be taken in their evil designs.

<sup>7</sup> At the death of an upright man his hope does not come to an end, but the hope of the evil-doer comes to destruction.

<sup>8</sup>The upright man is taken out of trouble, and in his place comes the sinner.

<sup>9</sup>With his mouth the evil man sends destruction on his neighbour; but through knowledge the upright are taken out of trouble.

<sup>10</sup>When things go well for the upright man, all the town is glad; at the death of sinners, there are cries of joy.

<sup>11</sup>By the blessing of the upright man the town is made great, but it is overturned by the mouth of the evil-doer.

<sup>12</sup>He who has a poor opinion of his neighbour has no sense, but a wise man keeps quiet.

<sup>13</sup>He who goes about talking of others makes secrets public, but the true-hearted man keeps things covered.

<sup>14</sup>When there is no helping suggestion the people will have a fall, but with a number of wise guides they will be safe.

<sup>15</sup>He who makes himself responsible for a strange man will undergo much loss; but the hater of such undertakings will be safe.

<sup>16</sup>A woman who is full of grace is honoured, but a woman hating

righteousness is a seat of shame: those hating work will undergo loss, but the strong keep their wealth.

<sup>17</sup>The man who has mercy will be rewarded, but the cruel man is the cause of trouble to himself.

<sup>18</sup>The sinner gets the payment of deceit; but his reward is certain who puts in the seed of righteousness.

<sup>19</sup>So righteousness gives life; but he who goes after evil gets death for himself.

<sup>20</sup>The uncontrolled are hated by the Lord, but those whose ways are without error are his delight

<sup>21</sup>Certainly the evil-doer will not go free from punishment, but the seed of the upright man will be safe.

<sup>22</sup>Like a ring of gold in the nose of a pig, is a beautiful woman who has no sense.

<sup>23</sup>The desire of the upright man is only for good, but wrath is waiting for the evil-doer.

<sup>24</sup>A man may give freely, and still his wealth will be increased; and another may keep back more than is right, but only comes to be in need.

<sup>25</sup> He who gives blessing will be made fat, but the curser will himself be cursed.

<sup>26</sup> He who keeps back grain will be cursed by the people; but a blessing will be on the head of him who lets them have it for a price.

<sup>27</sup> He who, with all his heart, goes after what is good is searching for grace; but he who is looking for trouble will get it.

<sup>28</sup> He who puts his faith in wealth will come to nothing; but the upright man will be full of growth like the green leaf.

<sup>29</sup> The troubler of his house will have the wind for his heritage, and the foolish will be servant to the wise-hearted.

<sup>30</sup> The fruit of righteousness is a tree of life, but violent behaviour takes away souls.

<sup>31</sup> If the upright man is rewarded on earth, how much more the evil-doer and the sinner!

**12**<sup>1</sup> A lover of training is a lover of knowledge; but a hater of teaching is like a beast.

<sup>2</sup> A good man has grace in the eyes of the Lord; but the man of evil designs gets punishment from him.

<sup>3</sup>No man will make himself safe through evil-doing; but the root of upright men will never be moved.

<sup>4</sup>A woman of virtue is a crown to her husband; but she whose behaviour is a cause of shame is like a wasting disease in his bones.

<sup>5</sup>The purposes of upright men are right, but the designs of evil-doers are deceit.

<sup>6</sup>The words of sinners are destruction for the upright; but the mouth of upright men is their salvation.

<sup>7</sup>Evil-doers are overturned and never seen again, but the house of upright men will keep its place.

<sup>8</sup>A man will be praised in the measure of his wisdom, but a wrong-minded man will be looked down on.

<sup>9</sup>He who is of low position and has a servant, is better than one who has a high opinion of himself and is in need of bread.

<sup>10</sup>An upright man has thought for the life of his beast, but the hearts of evil-doers are cruel.

<sup>11</sup>He who does work on his land will not be short of bread; but he who goes after foolish men is without sense.

<sup>12</sup>The resting-place of the sinner will come to destruction, but the root of upright men is for ever.

<sup>13</sup>In the sin of the lips is a net which takes the sinner, but the upright man will come out of trouble.

<sup>14</sup>From the fruit of his mouth will a man have good food in full measure, and the work of a mans hands will be rewarded.

<sup>15</sup>The way of the foolish man seems right to him? but the wise man gives ear to suggestions.

<sup>16</sup>A foolish man lets his trouble be openly seen, but a sharp man keeps shame secret.

<sup>17</sup>The breathing out of true words gives knowledge of righteousness; but a false witness gives out deceit.

<sup>18</sup>There are some whose uncontrolled talk is like the wounds of a sword, but the tongue of the wise makes one well again.

<sup>19</sup>True lips are certain for ever, but a false tongue is only for a minute.

<sup>20</sup>Deceit is in the heart of those whose designs are evil, but for those purposing peace there is joy.

<sup>21</sup> No trouble will come to upright men, but sinners will be full of evil.

<sup>22</sup> False lips are hated by the Lord, but those whose acts are true are his delight.

<sup>23</sup> A sharp man keeps back his knowledge; but the heart of foolish men makes clear their foolish thoughts.

<sup>24</sup> The hand of the ready worker will have authority, but he who is slow in his work will be put to forced work.

<sup>25</sup> Care in the heart of a man makes it weighted down, but a good word makes it glad.

<sup>26</sup> The upright man is a guide to his neighbour, but the way of evil-doers is a cause of error to them.

<sup>27</sup> He who is slow in his work does not go in search of food; but the ready worker gets much wealth.

<sup>28</sup> In the road of righteousness is life, but the way of the evil-doer goes to death.

**13**<sup>1</sup> A wise son is a lover of teaching, but the ears of the haters of authority are shut to sharp words.

<sup>2</sup> A man will get good from the fruit of his lips, but the desire of the false is for violent acts.



<sup>3</sup>He who keeps a watch on his mouth keeps his life; but he whose lips are open wide will have destruction.

<sup>4</sup>The hater of work does not get his desires, but the soul of the hard workers will be made fat.

<sup>5</sup>The upright man is a hater of false words: the evil-doer gets a bad name and is put to shame.

<sup>6</sup>Righteousness keeps safe him whose way is without error, but evil-doers are overturned by sin.

<sup>7</sup>A man may be acting as if he had wealth, but have nothing; another may seem poor, but have great wealth.

<sup>8</sup>A man will give his wealth in exchange for his life; but the poor will not give ear to sharp words.

<sup>9</sup>There is a glad dawn for the upright man, but the light of the sinner will be put out.

<sup>10</sup>The only effect of pride is fighting; but wisdom is with the quiet in spirit.

<sup>11</sup>Wealth quickly got will become less; but he who gets a store by the work of his hands will have it increased.

<sup>12</sup>Hope put off is a weariness to the heart; but when what is desired comes, it is a tree of life.

<sup>13</sup>He who makes sport of the word will come to destruction, but the respecer of the law will be rewarded.

<sup>14</sup>The teaching of the wise is a fountain of life, turning men away from the nets of death.

<sup>15</sup>Wise behaviour gets approval, but the way of the false is their destruction.

<sup>16</sup>A sharp man does everything with knowledge, but a foolish man makes clear his foolish thoughts.

<sup>17</sup>A man taking false news is a cause of trouble, but he who gives news rightly makes things well.

<sup>18</sup>Need and shame will be the fate of him who is uncontrolled by training; but he who takes note of teaching will be honoured.

<sup>19</sup>To get ones desire is sweet to the soul, but to give up evil is disgusting to the foolish.

<sup>20</sup>Go with wise men and be wise: but he who keeps company with the foolish will be broken.

<sup>21</sup> Evil will overtake sinners, but the upright will be rewarded with good.

<sup>22</sup> The heritage of the good man is handed down to his childrens children; and the wealth of the sinner is stored up for the upright man.

<sup>23</sup> There is much food in the ploughed land of the poor; but it is taken away by wrongdoing.

<sup>24</sup> He who keeps back his rod is unkind to his son: the loving father gives punishment with care.

<sup>25</sup> The upright man has food to the full measure of his desire, but there will be no food for the stomach of evil-doers.

**14**<sup>1</sup> Wisdom is building her house, but the foolish woman is pulling it down with her hands.

<sup>2</sup> He who goes on his way in righteousness has before him the fear of the Lord; but he whose ways are twisted gives him no honour.

<sup>3</sup> In the mouth of the foolish man is a rod for his back, but the lips of the wise will keep them safe.

<sup>4</sup> Where there are no oxen, their food-place is clean; but much increase comes through the strength of the ox.

<sup>5</sup>A true witness does not say what is false, but a false witness is breathing out deceit.

<sup>6</sup>The hater of authority, searching for wisdom, does not get it; but knowledge comes readily to the open-minded man.

<sup>7</sup>Go away from the foolish man, for you will not see the lips of knowledge.

<sup>8</sup>The wisdom of the man of good sense makes his way clear; but the unwise behaviour of the foolish is deceit.

<sup>9</sup>In the tents of those hating authority there is error, but in the house of the upright man there is grace.

<sup>10</sup>No one has knowledge of a mans grief but himself; and a strange person has no part in his joy.

<sup>11</sup>The house of the sinner will be overturned, but the tent of the upright man will do well.

<sup>12</sup>There is a way which seems straight before a man, but its end is the ways of death.

<sup>13</sup>Even while laughing the heart may be sad; and after joy comes sorrow.

<sup>14</sup>He whose heart is turned away will have the reward of his ways in full

measure; but a good man will have the reward of his doings.

<sup>15</sup>The simple man has faith in every word, but the man of good sense gives thought to his footsteps.

<sup>16</sup>The wise man, fearing, keeps himself from evil; but the foolish man goes on in his pride, with no thought of danger.

<sup>17</sup>He who is quickly angry will do what is foolish, but the man of good sense will have quiet.

<sup>18</sup>Foolish behaviour is the heritage of the simple, but men of good sense are crowned with knowledge.

<sup>19</sup>The knees of the evil are bent before the good; and sinners go down in the dust at the doors of the upright.

<sup>20</sup>The poor man is hated even by his neighbour, but the man of wealth has numbers of friends.

<sup>21</sup>He who has no respect for his neighbour is a sinner, but he who has pity for the poor is happy.

<sup>22</sup>Will not the designers of evil come into error? But mercy and good faith are for the designers of good.

<sup>23</sup>In all hard work there is profit, but talk only makes a man poor.

<sup>24</sup> Their wisdom is a crown to the wise, but their foolish behaviour is round the head of the unwise.

<sup>25</sup> A true witness is the saviour of lives; but he who says false things is a cause of deceit.

<sup>26</sup> For him in whose heart is the fear of the Lord there is strong hope: and his children will have a safe place.

<sup>27</sup> The fear of the Lord is a fountain of life, by which one may be turned from the nets of death.

<sup>28</sup> A king's glory is in the number of his people: and for need of people a ruler may come to destruction.

<sup>29</sup> He who is slow to be angry has great good sense; but he whose spirit is over-quick gives support to what is foolish.

<sup>30</sup> A quiet mind is the life of the body, but envy is a disease in the bones.

<sup>31</sup> He who is hard on the poor puts shame on his Maker; but he who has mercy on those who are in need gives him honour.

<sup>32</sup> The sinner is overturned in his evil-doing, but the upright man has hope in his righteousness.

<sup>33</sup>Wisdom has her resting-place in the mind of the wise, but she is not seen among the foolish.

<sup>34</sup>By righteousness a nation is lifted up, but sin is a cause of shame to the peoples.

<sup>35</sup>The king has pleasure in a servant who does wisely, but his wrath is against him who is a cause of shame.

**15**<sup>1</sup> By a soft answer wrath is turned away, but a bitter word is a cause of angry feelings.

<sup>2</sup>Knowledge is dropping from the tongue of the wise; but from the mouth of the foolish comes a stream of foolish words.

<sup>3</sup>The eyes of the Lord are in every place, keeping watch on the evil and the good.

<sup>4</sup>A comforting tongue is a tree of life, but a twisted tongue is a crushing of the spirit.

<sup>5</sup>A foolish man puts no value on his fathers training; but he who has respect for teaching has good sense.

<sup>6</sup>In the house of the upright man there is a great store of wealth; but in the profits of the sinner there is trouble.

<sup>7</sup> The lips of the wise keep knowledge, but the heart of the foolish man is not right.

<sup>8</sup> The offering of the evil-doer is disgusting to the Lord, but the prayer of the upright man is his delight.

<sup>9</sup> The way of the evil-doer is disgusting to the Lord, but he who goes after righteousness is dear to him.

<sup>10</sup> There is bitter punishment for him who is turned from the way; and death will be the fate of the hater of teaching.

<sup>11</sup> Before the Lord are the underworld and destruction: how much more, then, the hearts of the children of men!

<sup>12</sup> The hater of authority has no love for teaching: he will not go to the wise.

<sup>13</sup> A glad heart makes a shining face, but by the sorrow of the heart the spirit is broken.

<sup>14</sup> The heart of the man of good sense goes in search of knowledge, but foolish things are the food of the unwise.

<sup>15</sup> All the days of the troubled are evil; but he whose heart is glad has an unending feast.



<sup>16</sup> Better is a little with the fear of the Lord, than great wealth together with trouble.

<sup>17</sup> Better is a simple meal where love is, than a fat ox and hate with it.

<sup>18</sup> An angry man makes men come to blows, but he who is slow to get angry puts an end to fighting.

<sup>19</sup> Thorns are round the way of the hater of work; but the road of the hard worker becomes a highway.

<sup>20</sup> A wise son makes a glad father, but a foolish man has no respect for his mother.

<sup>21</sup> Foolish behaviour is joy to the unwise; but a man of good sense makes his way straight.

<sup>22</sup> Where there are no wise suggestions, purposes come to nothing; but by a number of wise guides they are made certain.

<sup>23</sup> A man has joy in the answer of his mouth: and a word at the right time, how good it is!

<sup>24</sup> Acting wisely is the way of life, guiding a man away from the underworld.

<sup>25</sup> The house of the man of pride will be uprooted by the Lord, but he will make safe the heritage of the widow.

<sup>26</sup> Evil designs are disgusting to the Lord, but the words of the clean-hearted are pleasing.

<sup>27</sup> He whose desires are fixed on profit is a cause of trouble to his family; but he who has no desire for offerings will have life.

<sup>28</sup> The heart of the upright gives thought to his answer; but from the mouth of the evil-doer comes a stream of evil things.

<sup>29</sup> The Lord is far from sinners, but his ear is open to the prayer of the upright.

<sup>30</sup> The light of the eyes is a joy to the heart, and good news makes the bones fat.

<sup>31</sup> The man whose ear is open to the teaching of life will have his place among the wise.

<sup>32</sup> He who will not be controlled by training has no respect for his soul, but he who gives ear to teaching will get wisdom.

<sup>33</sup> The fear of the Lord is the teaching of wisdom; and a low opinion of oneself goes before honour.

**16**<sup>1</sup> The designs of the heart are mans, but the answer of the tongue comes from the Lord.

<sup>2</sup> All a mans ways are clean to himself; but the Lord puts mens spirits into his scales.

<sup>3</sup> Put your works into the hands of the Lord, and your purposes will be made certain.

<sup>4</sup> The Lord has made everything for his purpose, even the sinner for the day of evil.

<sup>5</sup> Everyone who has pride in his heart is disgusting to the Lord: he will certainly not go free from punishment.

<sup>6</sup> By mercy and good faith evil-doing is taken away: and by the fear of the Lord men are turned away from evil.

<sup>7</sup> When a mans ways are pleasing to the Lord, he makes even his haters be at peace with him.

<sup>8</sup> Better is a little with righteousness, than great wealth with wrongdoing.

<sup>9</sup> A man may make designs for his way, but the Lord is the guide of his steps.

<sup>10</sup> Decision is in the lips of the king: his mouth will not go wrong in judging.

<sup>11</sup> True measures and scales are the Lords: all the weights of the bag are his work.

<sup>12</sup> Evil-doing is disgusting to kings: for the seat of the ruler is based on righteousness.

<sup>13</sup> Lips of righteousness are the delight of kings; and he who says what is upright is dear to him.

<sup>14</sup> The wrath of the king is like those who give news of death, but a wise man will put peace in place of it.

<sup>15</sup> In the light of the kings face there is life; and his approval is like a cloud of spring rain.

<sup>16</sup> How much better it is to get wisdom than gold! and to get knowledge is more to be desired than silver.

<sup>17</sup> The highway of the upright is to be turned away from evil: he who takes care of his way will keep his soul.

<sup>18</sup> Pride goes before destruction, and a stiff spirit before a fall.

<sup>19</sup> Better it is to have a gentle spirit with the poor, than to take part in the rewards of war with men of pride.

<sup>20</sup>He who gives attention to the law of right will get good; and whoever puts his faith in the Lord is happy.

<sup>21</sup>The wise-hearted will be named men of good sense: and by pleasing words learning is increased.

<sup>22</sup>Wisdom is a fountain of life to him who has it; but the punishment of the foolish is their foolish behaviour.

<sup>23</sup>The heart of the wise man is the teacher of his mouth, and gives increased learning to his lips.

<sup>24</sup>Pleasing words are like honey, sweet to the soul and new life to the bones.

<sup>25</sup>There is a way which seems straight before a man, but its end is the ways of death.

<sup>26</sup>The desire of the working man is working for him, for his need of food is driving him on.

<sup>27</sup>A good-for-nothing man is a designer of evil, and in his lips there is a burning fire.

<sup>28</sup>A man of twisted purposes is a cause of fighting everywhere: and he who says evil secretly makes trouble between friends.

<sup>29</sup>A violent man puts desire of evil into his neighbours mind, and makes him go in a way which is not good.

<sup>30</sup>He whose eyes are shut is a man of twisted purposes, and he who keeps his lips shut tight makes evil come about.

<sup>31</sup>The grey head is a crown of glory, if it is seen in the way of righteousness.

<sup>32</sup>He who is slow to be angry is better than a man of war, and he who has control over his spirit than he who takes a town.

<sup>33</sup>A thing may be put to the decision of chance, but it comes about through the Lord.

**17** <sup>1</sup>Better a bit of dry bread in peace, than a house full of feasting and violent behaviour.

<sup>2</sup>A servant who does wisely will have rule over a son causing shame, and will have his part in the heritage among brothers.

<sup>3</sup>The heating-pot is for silver and the oven-fire for gold, but the Lord is the tester of hearts.

<sup>4</sup>A wrongdoer gives attention to evil lips, and a man of deceit gives ear to a damaging tongue.

<sup>5</sup>Whoever makes sport of the poor puts shame on his Maker; and he who is glad because of trouble will not go free from punishment.

<sup>6</sup>Childrens children are the crown of old men, and the glory of children is their fathers.

<sup>7</sup>Fair words are not to be looked for from a foolish man, much less are false lips in a ruler.

<sup>8</sup>An offering of money is like a stone of great price in the eyes of him who has it: wherever he goes, he does well.

<sup>9</sup>He who keeps a sin covered is looking for love; but he who keeps on talking of a thing makes division between friends.

<sup>10</sup>A word of protest goes deeper into one who has sense than a hundred blows into a foolish man.

<sup>11</sup>An uncontrolled man is only looking for trouble, so a cruel servant will be sent against him.

<sup>12</sup>It is better to come face to face with a bear whose young ones have been taken away than with a foolish man acting foolishly.

<sup>13</sup>If anyone gives back evil for good, evil will never go away from his house.

<sup>14</sup> The start of fighting is like the letting out of water: so give up before it comes to blows.

<sup>15</sup> He who gives a decision for the evil-doer and he who gives a decision against the upright, are equally disgusting to the Lord.

<sup>16</sup> How will money in the hand of the foolish get him wisdom, seeing that he has no sense?

<sup>17</sup> A friend is loving at all times, and becomes a brother in times of trouble.

<sup>18</sup> A man without sense gives his hand in an agreement, and makes himself responsible before his neighbour.

<sup>19</sup> The lover of fighting is a lover of sin: he who makes high his doorway is looking for destruction.

<sup>20</sup> Nothing good comes to him whose heart is fixed on evil purposes: and he who has an evil tongue will come to trouble.

<sup>21</sup> He who has an unwise son gets sorrow for himself, and the father of a foolish son has no joy.

<sup>22</sup> A glad heart makes a healthy body, but a crushed spirit makes the bones dry.



<sup>23</sup> A sinner takes an offering out of his robe, to get a decision for himself in a cause.

<sup>24</sup> Wisdom is before the face of him who has sense; but the eyes of the foolish are on the ends of the earth.

<sup>25</sup> A foolish son is a grief to his father, and bitter pain to her who gave him birth.

<sup>26</sup> To give punishment to the upright is not good, or to give blows to the noble for their righteousness.

<sup>27</sup> He who has knowledge says little: and he who has a calm spirit is a man of good sense.

<sup>28</sup> Even the foolish man, when he keeps quiet, is taken to be wise: when his lips are shut he is credited with good sense.

**18**<sup>1</sup> He who keeps himself separate for his private purpose goes against all good sense.

<sup>2</sup> A foolish man has no pleasure in good sense, but only to let what is in his heart come to light.

<sup>3</sup> When the evil-doer comes, a low opinion comes with him, and with the loss of honour comes shame.

<sup>4</sup>The words of a mans mouth are like deep waters: the fountain of wisdom is like a flowing stream.

<sup>5</sup>To have respect for the person of the evil-doer is not good, or to give a wrong decision against the upright.

<sup>6</sup>A foolish mans lips are a cause of fighting, and his mouth makes him open to blows.

<sup>7</sup>The mouth of a foolish man is his destruction, and his lips are a net for his soul.

<sup>8</sup>The words of one who says evil of his neighbour secretly are like sweet food, and go down into the inner parts of the stomach.

<sup>9</sup>He who does not give his mind to his work is brother to him who makes destruction.

<sup>10</sup>The name of the Lord is a strong tower: the upright man running into it is safe.

<sup>11</sup>The property of a man of wealth is his strong town, and it is as a high wall in the thoughts of his heart.

<sup>12</sup>Before destruction the heart of man is full of pride, and before honour goes a gentle spirit.

<sup>13</sup>To give an answer before hearing is a foolish thing and a cause of shame.

<sup>14</sup>The spirit of a man will be his support when he is ill; but how may a broken spirit be lifted up?

<sup>15</sup>The heart of the man of good sense gets knowledge; the ear of the wise is searching for knowledge.

<sup>16</sup>A mans offering makes room for him, letting him come before great men.

<sup>17</sup>The man who first puts his cause before the judge seems to be in the right; but then his neighbour comes and puts his cause in its true light.

<sup>18</sup>The decision of chance puts an end to argument, parting the strong.

<sup>19</sup>A brother wounded is like a strong town, and violent acts are like a locked tower.

<sup>20</sup>With the fruit of a mans mouth his stomach will be full; the produce of his lips will be his in full measure.

<sup>21</sup>Death and life are in the power of the tongue; and those to whom it is dear will have its fruit for their food.

<sup>22</sup>Whoever gets a wife gets a good thing, and has the approval of the Lord.

<sup>23</sup> The poor man makes requests for grace, but the man of wealth gives a rough answer.

<sup>24</sup> There are friends who may be a mans destruction, but there is a lover who keeps nearer than a brother.

**19**<sup>1</sup> Better is the poor man whose ways are upright, than the man of wealth whose ways are twisted.

<sup>2</sup> Further, without knowledge desire is not good; and he who is over-quick in acting goes out of the right way.

<sup>3</sup> By his foolish behaviour a mans ways are turned upside down, and his heart is bitter against the Lord.

<sup>4</sup> Wealth makes a great number of friends; but the poor man is parted from his friend.

<sup>5</sup> A false witness will not go without punishment, and the breather out of deceit will not go free.

<sup>6</sup> Great numbers will make attempts to get the approval of a ruler: and every man is the special friend of him who has something to give.

<sup>7</sup> All the brothers of the poor man are against him: how much more do his friends go far from him!

<sup>8</sup>He who gets wisdom has love for his soul: he who keeps good sense will get what is truly good.

<sup>9</sup>A false witness will not go without punishment, and the breather out of deceit will be cut off.

<sup>10</sup>Material comfort is not good for the foolish; much less for a servant to be put over rulers.

<sup>11</sup>A mans good sense makes him slow to wrath, and the overlooking of wrongdoing is his glory.

<sup>12</sup>The kings wrath is like the loud cry of a lion, but his approval is like dew on the grass.

<sup>13</sup>A foolish son is the destruction of his father; and the bitter arguments of a wife are like drops of rain falling without end.

<sup>14</sup>House and wealth are a heritage from fathers, but a wife with good sense is from the Lord.

<sup>15</sup>Hate of work sends deep sleep on a man: and he who has no industry will go without food.

<sup>16</sup>He who keeps the law keeps his soul; but death will be the fate of him who takes no note of the word.

<sup>17</sup> He who has pity on the poor gives to the Lord, and the Lord will give him his reward.

<sup>18</sup> Give your son training while there is hope; let not your heart be purposing his death.

<sup>19</sup> A man of great wrath will have to take his punishment: for if you get him out of trouble you will have to do it again.

<sup>20</sup> Let your ear be open to suggestion and take teaching, so that at the end you may be wise.

<sup>21</sup> A mans heart may be full of designs, but the purpose of the Lord is unchanging.

<sup>22</sup> The ornament of a man is his mercy, and a poor man is better than one who is false.

<sup>23</sup> The fear of the Lord gives life: and he who has it will have need of nothing; no evil will come his way.

<sup>24</sup> The hater of work puts his hand deep into the basin, and will not even take it to his mouth again.

<sup>25</sup> When blows overtake the man of pride, the simple will get sense; say

sharp words to the wise, and knowledge will be made clear to him.

<sup>26</sup>He who is violent to his father, driving away his mother, is a son causing shame and a bad name.

<sup>27</sup>A son who no longer gives attention to teaching is turned away from the words of knowledge.

<sup>28</sup>A good-for-nothing witness makes sport of the judges decision: and the mouth of evil-doers sends out evil like a stream.

<sup>29</sup>Rods are being made ready for the man of pride, and blows for the back of the foolish.

**20**<sup>1</sup>Wine makes men foolish, and strong drink makes men come to blows; and whoever comes into error through these is not wise.

<sup>2</sup>The wrath of a king is like the loud cry of a lion: he who makes him angry does wrong against himself.

<sup>3</sup>It is an honour for a man to keep from fighting, but the foolish are ever at war.

<sup>4</sup>The hater of work will not do his ploughing because of the winter; so at the time of grain-cutting he will be requesting food and will get nothing.

<sup>5</sup>The purpose in the heart of a man is like deep water, but a man of good sense will get it out.

<sup>6</sup>Most men make no secret of their kind acts: but where is a man of good faith to be seen?

<sup>7</sup>An upright man goes on in his righteousness: happy are his children after him!

<sup>8</sup>A king on the seat of judging puts to flight all evil with his eyes.

<sup>9</sup>Who is able to say, I have made my heart clean, I am free from my sin?

<sup>10</sup>Unequal weights and unequal measures, they are all disgusting to the Lord.

<sup>11</sup>Even a child may be judged by his doings, if his work is free from sin and if it is right.

<sup>12</sup>The hearing ear and the seeing eye are equally the Lords work.

<sup>13</sup>Do not be a lover of sleep, or you will become poor: keep your eyes open, and you will have bread enough.

<sup>14</sup>A poor thing, a poor thing, says he who is giving money for goods: but when he has gone on his way, then he makes clear his pride in what he has got.



<sup>15</sup> There is gold and a store of corals:  
but the lips of knowledge are a jewel of  
great price.

<sup>16</sup> Take a mans clothing if he makes  
himself responsible for a strange man,  
and get an undertaking from him who  
gives his word for strange men.

<sup>17</sup> Bread of deceit is sweet to a man;  
but after, his mouth will be full of sand.

<sup>18</sup> Every purpose is put into effect by  
wise help: and by wise guiding make  
war.

<sup>19</sup> He who goes about talking of the  
business of others gives away secrets:  
so have nothing to do with him whose  
lips are open wide.

<sup>20</sup> If anyone puts a curse on his father  
or his mother, his light will be put out in  
the blackest night.

<sup>21</sup> A heritage may be got quickly at first,  
but the end of it will not be a blessing.

<sup>22</sup> Do not say, I will give punishment for  
evil: go on waiting for the Lord, and he  
will be your saviour.

<sup>23</sup> Unequal weights are disgusting to the  
Lord, and false scales are not good.

<sup>24</sup> A mans steps are of the Lord; how then may a man have knowledge of his way?

<sup>25</sup> It is a danger to a man to say without thought, It is holy, and, after taking his oaths, to be questioning if it is necessary to keep them.

<sup>26</sup> A wise king puts evil-doers to flight, and makes their evil-doing come back on them.

<sup>27</sup> The Lord keeps watch over the spirit of man, searching all the deepest parts of the body.

<sup>28</sup> Mercy and good faith keep the king safe, and the seat of his power is based on upright acts.

<sup>29</sup> The glory of young men is their strength, and the honour of old men is their grey hairs.

<sup>30</sup> By the wounds of the rod evil is taken away, and blows make clean the deepest parts of the body.

**21** <sup>1</sup> The kings heart in the hands of the Lord is like the water streams, and by him it is turned in any direction at his pleasure.

<sup>2</sup>Every way of a man seems right to himself, but the Lord is the tester of hearts.

<sup>3</sup>To do what is right and true is more pleasing to the Lord than an offering.

<sup>4</sup>A high look and a heart of pride, \* \* \* of the evil-doer is sin.

<sup>5</sup>The purposes of the man of industry have their outcome only in wealth; but one who is over-quick in acting will only come to be in need.

<sup>6</sup>He who gets stores of wealth by a false tongue, is going after what is only breath, and searching for death.

<sup>7</sup>By their violent acts the evil-doers will be pulled away, because they have no desire to do what is right.

<sup>8</sup>Twisted is the way of him who is full of crime; but as for him whose heart is clean, his work is upright.

<sup>9</sup>It is better to be living in an angle of the house-top, than with a bitter-tongued woman in a wide house.

<sup>10</sup>The desire of the evil-doer is fixed on evil: he has no kind feeling for his neighbour.

<sup>11</sup>When the man of pride undergoes punishment, the simple man gets

wisdom; and by watching the wise he gets knowledge.

<sup>12</sup>The Upright One, looking on the house of the evil-doer, lets sinners be overturned to their destruction.

<sup>13</sup>He whose ears are stopped at the cry of the poor, will himself get no answer to his cry for help.

<sup>14</sup>By a secret offering wrath is turned away, and the heat of angry feelings by money in the folds of the robe.

<sup>15</sup>It is a joy to the good man to do right, but it is destruction to the workers of evil.

<sup>16</sup>The wanderer from the way of knowledge will have his resting-place among the shades.

<sup>17</sup>The lover of pleasure will be a poor man: the lover of wine and oil will not get wealth.

<sup>18</sup>The evil-doer will be given as a price for the life of the good man, and the worker of deceit in the place of the upright.

<sup>19</sup>It is better to be living in a waste land, than with a bitter-tongued and angry woman.

<sup>20</sup> There is a store of great value in the house of the wise, but it is wasted by the foolish man.

<sup>21</sup> He who goes after righteousness and mercy will get life, righteousness, and honour.

<sup>22</sup> A wise man goes up into the town of the strong ones, and overcomes its strength in which they put their faith.

<sup>23</sup> He who keeps watch over his mouth and his tongue keeps his soul from troubles.

<sup>24</sup> The man of pride, lifted up in soul, is named high-hearted; he is acting in an outburst of pride.

<sup>25</sup> The desire of the hater of work is death to him, for his hands will do no work.

<sup>26</sup> All the day the sinner goes after his desire: but the upright man gives freely, keeping nothing back.

<sup>27</sup> The offering of evil-doers is disgusting: how much more when they give it with an evil purpose!

<sup>28</sup> A false witness will be cut off,

<sup>29</sup> The evil-doer makes his face hard, but as for the upright, he gives thought to his way.

<sup>30</sup>Wisdom and knowledge and wise suggestions are of no use against the Lord.

<sup>31</sup>The horse is made ready for the day of war, but power to overcome is from the Lord.

**22**<sup>1</sup>A good name is more to be desired than great wealth, and to be respected is better than silver and gold.

<sup>2</sup>The man of wealth and the poor man come face to face: the Lord is the maker of them all.

<sup>3</sup>The sharp man sees the evil and takes cover: the simple go straight on and get into trouble.

<sup>4</sup>The reward of a gentle spirit and the fear of the Lord is wealth and honour and life.

<sup>5</sup>Thorns and nets are in the way of the twisted: he who keeps watch over his soul will be far from them.

<sup>6</sup>If a child is trained up in the right way, even when he is old he will not be turned away from it.

<sup>7</sup>The man of wealth has rule over the poor, and he who gets into debt is a servant to his creditor.

<sup>8</sup>By planting the seed of evil a man will get in the grain of sorrow, and the rod of his wrath will be broken.

<sup>9</sup>He who is kind will have a blessing, for he gives of his bread to the poor.

<sup>10</sup>Send away the man of pride, and argument will go out; truly fighting and shame will come to an end.

<sup>11</sup>He whose heart is clean is dear to the Lord; for the grace of his lips the king will be his friend.

<sup>12</sup>The eyes of the Lord keep knowledge, but by him the acts of the false man will be overturned.

<sup>13</sup>The hater of work says, There is a lion outside: I will be put to death in the streets.

<sup>14</sup>The mouth of strange women is a deep hole: he with whom the Lord is angry will go down into it.

<sup>15</sup>Foolish ways are deep-seated in the heart of a child, but the rod of punishment will send them far from him.

<sup>16</sup>He who is cruel to the poor for the purpose of increasing his profit, and he who gives to the man of wealth, will only come to be in need.

<sup>17</sup> Let your ear be bent down for hearing my words, and let your heart give thought to knowledge.

<sup>18</sup> For it is a delight to keep them in your heart, to have them ready on your lips.

<sup>19</sup> So that your faith may be in the Lord, I have made them clear to you this day, even to you.

<sup>20</sup> Have I not put in writing for you thirty sayings, with wise suggestions and knowledge,

<sup>21</sup> To make you see how certain are true words, so that you may give a true answer to those who put questions to you?

<sup>22</sup> Do not take away the property of the poor man because he is poor, or be cruel to the crushed ones when they come before the judge:

<sup>23</sup> For the Lord will give support to their cause, and take the life of those who take their goods.

<sup>24</sup> Do not be friends with a man who is given to wrath; do not go in the company of an angry man:

<sup>25</sup> For fear of learning his ways and making a net ready for your soul.



<sup>26</sup> Be not one of those who give their hands in an agreement, or of those who make themselves responsible for debts:

<sup>27</sup> If you have nothing with which to make payment, he will take away your bed from under you.

<sup>28</sup> Let not the old landmark be moved which your fathers have put in place.

<sup>29</sup> Have you seen a man who is expert in his business? he will take his place before kings; his place will not be among low persons.

**23** <sup>1</sup> When you take your seat at the feast with a ruler, give thought with care to what is before you;

<sup>2</sup> And put a knife to your throat, if you have a strong desire for food.

<sup>3</sup> Have no desire for his delicate food, for it is the bread of deceit.

<sup>4</sup> Take no care to get wealth; let there be an end to your desire for money.

<sup>5</sup> Are your eyes lifted up to it? it is gone: for wealth takes to itself wings, like an eagle in flight up to heaven.

<sup>6</sup> Do not take the food of him who has an evil eye, or have any desire for his delicate meat:

<sup>7</sup>For as the thoughts of his heart are, so is he: Take food and drink, he says to you; but his heart is not with you.

<sup>8</sup>The food which you have taken will come up again, and your pleasing words will be wasted.

<sup>9</sup>Say nothing in the hearing of a foolish man, for he will put no value on the wisdom of your words.

<sup>10</sup>Do not let the landmark of the widow be moved, and do not go into the fields of those who have no father;

<sup>11</sup>For their saviour is strong, and he will take up their cause against you.

<sup>12</sup>Give your heart to teaching, and your ears to the words of knowledge.

<sup>13</sup>Do not keep back training from the child: for even if you give him blows with the rod, it will not be death to him.

<sup>14</sup>Give him blows with the rod, and keep his soul safe from the underworld.

<sup>15</sup>My son, if your heart becomes wise, I, even I, will be glad in heart;

<sup>16</sup>And my thoughts in me will be full of joy when your lips say right things.

<sup>17</sup>Have no envy of sinners in your heart, but keep in the fear of the Lord all through the day;

<sup>18</sup>For without doubt there is a future,  
and your hope will not be cut off.

<sup>19</sup>Give ear, my son, and be wise,  
guiding your heart in the right way.

<sup>20</sup>Do not be among those who give  
themselves to wine-drinking, or among  
those who make themselves full with  
meat:

<sup>21</sup>For those who take delight in drink  
and feasting will come to be in need;  
and through love of sleep a man will be  
poorly clothed.

<sup>22</sup>Give ear to your father whose child  
you are, and do not keep honour from  
your mother when she is old.

<sup>23</sup>Get for yourself that which is true,  
and do not let it go for money; get  
wisdom and teaching and good sense.

<sup>24</sup>The father of the upright man will be  
glad, and he who has a wise child will  
have joy because of him.

<sup>25</sup>Let your father and your mother be  
glad, let her who gave you birth have  
joy.

<sup>26</sup>My son, give me your heart, and let  
your eyes take delight in my ways.

<sup>27</sup> For a loose woman is a deep hollow, and a strange woman is a narrow water-hole.

<sup>28</sup> Yes, she is waiting secretly like a beast for its food, and deceit by her is increased among men.

<sup>29</sup> Who says, Oh! who says, Ah! who has violent arguments, who has grief, who has wounds without cause, whose eyes are dark?

<sup>30</sup> Those who are seated late over the wine: those who go looking for mixed wine.

<sup>31</sup> Keep your eyes from looking on the wine when it is red, when its colour is bright in the cup, when it goes smoothly down:

<sup>32</sup> In the end, its bite is like that of a snake, its wound like the wound of a poison-snake.

<sup>33</sup> Your eyes will see strange things, and you will say twisted things.

<sup>34</sup> Yes, you will be like him who takes his rest on the sea, or on the top of a sail-support.

<sup>35</sup> They have overcome me, you will say, and I have no pain; they gave me blows without my feeling them: when

will I be awake from my wine? I will go after it again.

**24**<sup>1</sup> Have no envy for evil men, or any desire to be with them:

<sup>2</sup> For the purposes of their hearts are destruction, and their lips are talking of trouble.

<sup>3</sup> The building of a house is by wisdom, and by reason it is made strong:

<sup>4</sup> And by knowledge its rooms are full of all dear and pleasing things.

<sup>5</sup> A wise man is strong; and a man of knowledge makes strength greater.

<sup>6</sup> For by wise guiding you will overcome in war: and in a number of wise guides there is salvation.

<sup>7</sup> Wisdom is outside the power of the foolish: he keeps his mouth shut in the public place.

<sup>8</sup> He whose purposes are bad will be named a man of evil designs.

<sup>9</sup> The purpose of the foolish is sin: and the hater of authority is disgusting to others.

<sup>10</sup> If you give way in the day of trouble, your strength is small.

<sup>11</sup> Be the saviour of those who are given up to death, and do not keep back

help from those who are slipping to destruction.

<sup>12</sup>If you say, See, we had no knowledge of this: does not the tester of hearts give thought to it? and he who keeps your soul, has he no knowledge of it? and will he not give to every man the reward of his work?

<sup>13</sup>My son, take honey, for it is good; and the flowing honey, which is sweet to your taste:

<sup>14</sup>So let your desire be for wisdom: if you have it, there will be a future, and your hope will not be cut off.

<sup>15</sup>Do not keep a secret watch, O evil-doer, against the fields of the upright man, or send destruction on his resting-place:

<sup>16</sup>For an upright man, after falling seven times, will get up again: but trouble is the downfall of the evil.

<sup>17</sup>Do not be glad at the fall of your hater, and let not your heart have joy at his downfall:

<sup>18</sup>For fear that the Lord may see it, and it may be evil in his eyes, and his wrath may be turned away from him.

<sup>19</sup> Do not be troubled because of evil-doers, or have envy of sinners:

<sup>20</sup> For there will be no future for the evil man; the light of sinners will be put out.

<sup>21</sup> My son, go in fear of the Lord and the king: have nothing to do with those who are in high positions:

<sup>22</sup> For their downfall will come suddenly; and who has knowledge of the destruction of those in high positions?

<sup>23</sup> These are more sayings of the wise: To have respect for a persons position when judging is not good.

<sup>24</sup> He who says to the evil-doer, You are upright, will be cursed by peoples and hated by nations.

<sup>25</sup> But those who say sharp words to him will have delight, and a blessing of good will come on them.

<sup>26</sup> He gives a kiss with his lips who gives a right answer.

<sup>27</sup> Put your work in order outside, and make it ready in the field; and after that, see to the building of your house.

<sup>28</sup> Do not be a violent witness against your neighbour, or let your lips say what is false.

<sup>29</sup>Say not, I will do to him as he has done to me; I will give the man the reward of his work.

<sup>30</sup>I went by the field of the hater of work, and by the vine-garden of the man without sense;

<sup>31</sup>And it was all full of thorns, and covered with waste plants, and its stone wall was broken down.

<sup>32</sup>Then looking at it, I gave thought: I saw, and I got teaching from it.

<sup>33</sup>A little sleep, a little rest, a little folding of the hands in sleep:

<sup>34</sup>So loss will come on you like an outlaw, and your need like an armed man.

**25**<sup>1</sup> These are more wise sayings of Solomon, copied out by the men of Hezekiah, king of Judah.

<sup>2</sup>It is the glory of God to keep a thing secret: but the glory of kings is to have it searched out.

<sup>3</sup>The heaven is high and the earth is deep, and the hearts of kings may not be searched out.

<sup>4</sup>Take away the waste from silver, and a vessel will come out for the silver-worker.



<sup>5</sup>Take away evil-doers from before the king, and the seat of his power will be made strong in righteousness.

<sup>6</sup>Do not take glory for yourself before the king, and do not put yourself in the place of the great:

<sup>7</sup>For it is better to have it said to you, Come up here; than for you to be put down in a lower place before the ruler.

<sup>8</sup>Do not be quick to go to law about what you have seen, for what will you do in the end, when your neighbour has put you to shame?

<sup>9</sup>Have a talk with your neighbour himself about your cause, but do not give away the secret of another:

<sup>10</sup>Or your hearer may say evil of you, and your shame will not be turned away.

<sup>11</sup>A word at the right time is like apples of gold in a network of silver.

<sup>12</sup>Like a nose-ring of gold and an ornament of the best gold, is a wise man who says sharp words to an ear ready to give attention.

<sup>13</sup>As the cold of snow in the time of grain-cutting, so is a true servant to those who send him; for he gives new life to the soul of his master.

<sup>14</sup>As clouds and wind without rain, so is one who takes credit for an offering he has not given.

<sup>15</sup>A judge is moved by one who for a long time undergoes wrongs without protest, and by a soft tongue even bone is broken.

<sup>16</sup>If you have honey, take only as much as is enough for you; for fear that, being full of it, you may not be able to keep it down.

<sup>17</sup>Let not your foot be frequently in your neighbours house, or he may get tired of you, and his feeling be turned to hate.

<sup>18</sup>One who gives false witness against his neighbour is a hammer and a sword and a sharp arrow.

<sup>19</sup>Putting ones faith in a false man in time of trouble is like a broken tooth and a shaking foot.

<sup>20</sup>Like one who takes off clothing in cold weather and like acid on a wound, is he who makes melody to a sad heart.

<sup>21</sup>If your hater is in need of food, give him bread; and if he is in need of drink, give him water:

<sup>22</sup>For so you will put coals of fire on his head, and the Lord will give you your reward.

<sup>23</sup>As the north wind gives birth to rain, so is an angry face caused by a tongue saying evil secretly.

<sup>24</sup>It is better to be living in an angle of the house-top, than with a bitter-tongued woman in a wide house.

<sup>25</sup>As cold water to a tired soul, so is good news from a far country.

<sup>26</sup>Like a troubled fountain and a dirty spring, is an upright man who has to give way before evil-doers.

<sup>27</sup>It is not good to take much honey: so he who is not looking for honour will be honoured.

<sup>28</sup>He whose spirit is uncontrolled is like an unwalled town which has been broken into.

**26**<sup>1</sup> Like snow in summer and rain when the grain is being cut, so honour is not natural for the foolish.

<sup>2</sup>As the sparrow in her wandering and the swallow in her flight, so the curse does not come without a cause.

<sup>3</sup>A whip for the horse, a mouth-bit for the ass, and a rod for the back of the foolish.

<sup>4</sup>Do not give to the foolish man a foolish answer, or you will be like him.

<sup>5</sup>Give a foolish man a foolish answer, or he will seem wise to himself.

<sup>6</sup>He who sends news by the hand of a foolish man is cutting off his feet and drinking in damage.

<sup>7</sup>The legs of one who has no power of walking are hanging loose; so is a wise saying in the mouth of the foolish.

<sup>8</sup>Giving honour to a foolish man is like attempting to keep a stone fixed in a cord.

<sup>9</sup>Like a thorn which goes up into the hand of a man overcome by drink, so is a wise saying in the mouth of a foolish man.

<sup>10</sup>Like an archer wounding all who go by, is a foolish man overcome by drink.

<sup>11</sup>Like a dog going back to the food which he has not been able to keep down, is the foolish man doing his foolish acts over again.

<sup>12</sup> Have you seen a man who seems to himself to be wise? There is more hope for the foolish than for him.

<sup>13</sup> The hater of work says, There is a lion in the way; a lion is in the streets.

<sup>14</sup> A door is turned on its pillar, and the hater of work on his bed.

<sup>15</sup> The hater of work puts his hand deep into the basin: lifting it again to his mouth is a weariness to him.

<sup>16</sup> The hater of work seems to himself wiser than seven men who are able to give an answer with good sense.

<sup>17</sup> He who gets mixed up in a fight which is not his business, is like one who takes a dog by the ears while it is going by.

<sup>18</sup> As one who is off his head sends about flaming sticks and arrows of death,

<sup>19</sup> So is the man who gets the better of his neighbour by deceit, and says, Am I not doing so in sport?

<sup>20</sup> Without wood, the fire goes out; and where there is no secret talk, argument is ended.

<sup>21</sup> Like breath on coals and wood on fire, so a man given to argument gets a fight started.

<sup>22</sup>The words of one who says evil of his neighbour secretly are like sweet food, they go down into the inner parts of the stomach.

<sup>23</sup>Smooth lips and an evil heart are like a vessel of earth plated with silver waste.

<sup>24</sup>With his lips the hater makes things seem what they are not, but deceit is stored up inside him;

<sup>25</sup>When he says fair words, have no belief in him; for in his heart are seven evils:

<sup>26</sup>Though his hate is covered with deceit, his sin will be seen openly before the meeting of the people.

<sup>27</sup>He who makes a hole in the earth will himself go falling into it: and on him by whom a stone is rolled the stone will come back again.

<sup>28</sup>A false tongue has hate for those who have clean hearts, and a smooth mouth is a cause of falling.

**27** <sup>1</sup>Do not make a noise about tomorrow, for you are not certain what a days outcome may be.

<sup>2</sup>Let another man give you praise, and not your mouth; one who is strange to you, and not your lips.

<sup>3</sup>A stone has great weight, and sand is crushing; but the wrath of the foolish is of greater weight than these.

<sup>4</sup>Wrath is cruel, and angry feeling an overflowing stream; but who does not give way before envy?

<sup>5</sup>Better is open protest than love kept secret.

<sup>6</sup>The wounds of a friend are given in good faith, but the kisses of a hater are false.

<sup>7</sup>The full man has no use for honey, but to the man in need of food every bitter thing is sweet.

<sup>8</sup>Like a bird wandering from the place of her eggs is a man wandering from his station.

<sup>9</sup>Oil and perfume make glad the heart, and the wise suggestion of a friend is sweet to the soul.

<sup>10</sup>Do not give up your friend and your fathers friend; and do not go into your brothers house in the day of your trouble: better is a neighbour who is near than a brother far off.

<sup>11</sup> My son, be wise and make my heart glad, so that I may give back an answer to him who puts me to shame.

<sup>12</sup> The sharp man sees the evil and takes cover: the simple go straight on and get into trouble.

<sup>13</sup> Take a mans clothing if he makes himself responsible for a strange man, and get an undertaking from him who gives his word for strange men.

<sup>14</sup> He who gives a blessing to his friend with a loud voice, getting up early in the morning, will have it put to his account as a curse.

<sup>15</sup> Like an unending dropping on a day of rain is a bitter-tongued woman.

<sup>16</sup> He who keeps secret the secret of his friend, will get himself a name for good faith.

<sup>17</sup> Iron makes iron sharp; so a man makes sharp his friend.

<sup>18</sup> Whoever keeps a fig-tree will have its fruit; and the servant waiting on his master will be honoured.

<sup>19</sup> Like face looking at face in water, so are the hearts of men to one another.



<sup>20</sup>The underworld and Abaddon are never full, and the eyes of man have never enough.

<sup>21</sup>The heating-pot is for silver and the oven-fire for gold, and a man is measured by what he is praised for.

<sup>22</sup>Even if a foolish man is crushed with a hammer in a vessel among crushed grain, still his foolish ways will not go from him.

<sup>23</sup>Take care to have knowledge about the condition of your flocks, looking well after your herds;

<sup>24</sup>For wealth is not for ever, and money does not go on for all generations.

<sup>25</sup>The grass comes up and the young grass is seen, and the mountain plants are got in.

<sup>26</sup>The lambs are for your clothing, and the he-goats make the value of a field:

<sup>27</sup>There will be goats milk enough for your food, and for the support of your servant-girls.

**28**<sup>1</sup>The evil man goes running away when no man is after him, but the upright are without fear, like the lion.

<sup>2</sup>Because of the sin of the land, its troubles are increased; but by a man of

wisdom and knowledge they will be put out like a fire.

<sup>3</sup>A man of wealth who is cruel to the poor is like a violent rain causing destruction of food.

<sup>4</sup>Those who have no respect for the law give praise to the evil-doer; but such as keep the law are against him.

<sup>5</sup>Evil men have no knowledge of what is right; but those who go after the Lord have knowledge of all things.

<sup>6</sup>Better is the poor man whose ways are upright, than the man of wealth whose ways are not straight.

<sup>7</sup>He who keeps the law is a wise son, but he who keeps company with feasters puts shame on his father.

<sup>8</sup>He who makes his wealth greater by taking interest, only gets it together for him who has pity on the poor.

<sup>9</sup>As for the man whose ear is turned away from hearing the law, even his prayer is disgusting.

<sup>10</sup>Anyone causing the upright to go wandering in an evil way, will himself go down into the hole he has made; but the upright will have good things for their heritage.

<sup>11</sup> The man of wealth seems to himself to be wise, but the poor man who has sense has a low opinion of him.

<sup>12</sup> When the upright do well, there is great glory; but when evil-doers are lifted up, men do not let themselves be seen.

<sup>13</sup> He who keeps his sins secret will not do well; but one who is open about them, and gives them up, will get mercy.

<sup>14</sup> Happy is the man in whom is the fear of the Lord at all times; but he whose heart is hard will come into trouble.

<sup>15</sup> Like a loud-voiced lion and a wandering bear, is an evil ruler over a poor people.

<sup>16</sup> The prince who has no sense is a cruel ruler; but he who has no desire to get profit for himself will have long life.

<sup>17</sup> One who has been the cause of a mans death will go in flight to the underworld: let no man give him help.

<sup>18</sup> He whose ways are upright will be safe, but sudden will be the fall of him whose ways are twisted.

<sup>19</sup> By ploughing his land a man will have bread in full measure; but he who goes

after good-for-nothing persons will be poor enough.

<sup>20</sup>A man of good faith will have great blessing, but one attempting to get wealth quickly will not go free from punishment.

<sup>21</sup>It is not good to have respect for a mans position: for a man will do wrong for a bit of bread.

<sup>22</sup>He who is ever desiring wealth goes running after money, and does not see that need will come on him.

<sup>23</sup>He who says words of protest to a man will later have more approval than one who says smooth words with his tongue.

<sup>24</sup>He who takes from his father or his mother what is theirs by right, and says, It is no sin; is the same as a taker of life.

<sup>25</sup>He who is ever desiring profit is a cause of fighting; but he who puts his faith in the Lord will be made fat.

<sup>26</sup>He whose faith is in himself is foolish; but everyone walking wisely will be kept safe.

<sup>27</sup>He who gives to the poor will never be in need, but great curses will be on him who gives no attention to them.

<sup>28</sup>When evil-doers are lifted up, men take cover; but when destruction overtakes them, the upright are increased.

**29**<sup>1</sup>A man hating sharp words and making his heart hard, will suddenly be broken and will not be made well again.

<sup>2</sup>When the upright have power, the people are glad; when an evil man is ruler, grief comes on the people.

<sup>3</sup>A man who is a lover of wisdom is a joy to his father: but he who goes in the company of loose women is a waster of wealth.

<sup>4</sup>A king, by right rule, makes the land safe; but one full of desires makes it a waste.

<sup>5</sup>A man who says smooth things to his neighbour is stretching out a net for his steps.

<sup>6</sup>In the steps of an evil man there is a net for him, but the upright man gets away quickly and is glad.

<sup>7</sup>The upright man gives attention to the cause of the poor: the evil-doer gives no thought to it.

<sup>8</sup>Men of pride are the cause of violent acts in a town, but by wise men wrath is turned away.

<sup>9</sup>If a wise man goes to law with a foolish man, he may be angry or laughing, but there will be no rest.

<sup>10</sup>Men of blood are haters of the good man, and evil-doers go after his soul.

<sup>11</sup>A foolish man lets out all his wrath, but a wise man keeps it back quietly.

<sup>12</sup>If a ruler gives attention to false words, all his servants are evil-doers.

<sup>13</sup>The poor man and his creditor come face to face: the Lord gives light to their eyes equally.

<sup>14</sup>The king who is a true judge in the cause of the poor, will be safe for ever on the seat of his power.

<sup>15</sup>The rod and sharp words give wisdom: but a child who is not guided is a cause of shame to his mother.

<sup>16</sup>When evil men are in power, wrongdoing is increased; but the upright will have pleasure when they see their downfall.

<sup>17</sup>Give your son training, and he will give you rest; he will give delight to your soul.

<sup>18</sup>Where there is no vision, the people are uncontrolled; but he who keeps the law will be happy.

<sup>19</sup>A servant will not be trained by words; for though the sense of the words is clear to him, he will not give attention.

<sup>20</sup>Have you seen a man who is quick with his tongue? There is more hope for a foolish man than for him.

<sup>21</sup>If a servant is gently cared for from his early years, he will become a cause of sorrow in the end.

<sup>22</sup>An angry man is the cause of fighting, and a man given to wrath does much wrong.

<sup>23</sup>A mans pride will be the cause of his fall, but he who has a gentle spirit will get honour.

<sup>24</sup>A man who takes part with a thief has hate for his soul; he is put under oath, but says nothing.

<sup>25</sup>The fear of man is a cause of danger: but whoever puts his faith in the Lord will have a safe place on high.

<sup>26</sup>The approval of a ruler is desired by great numbers: but the decision in a mans cause comes from the Lord.

<sup>27</sup> An evil man is disgusting to the upright, and he who is upright is disgusting to evil-doers.

**30**<sup>1</sup> The words of Agur, the son of Jakeh, from Massa. The man says: I am full of weariness, O God, I am full of weariness; O God, I have come to an end:

<sup>2</sup> For I am more like a beast than any man, I have no power of reasoning like a man:

<sup>3</sup> I have not got wisdom by teaching, so that I might have the knowledge of the Holy One.

<sup>4</sup> Who has gone up to heaven and come down? who has taken the winds in his hands, prisoning the waters in his robe? by whom have all the ends of the earth been fixed? what is his name, and what is his sons name, if you are able to say?

<sup>5</sup> Every word of God is tested: he is a breastplate to those who put their faith in him.

<sup>6</sup> Make no addition to his words, or he will make clear your error, and you will be seen to be false.



<sup>7</sup>I have made request to you for two things; do not keep them from me before my death:

<sup>8</sup>Put far from me all false and foolish things: do not give me great wealth or let me be in need, but give me only enough food:

<sup>9</sup>For fear that if I am full, I may be false to you and say, Who is the Lord? or if I am poor, I may become a thief, using the name of my God wrongly.

<sup>10</sup>Do not say evil of a servant to his master, or he will put a curse on you, and you will get into trouble.

<sup>11</sup>There is a generation who put a curse on their father, and do not give a blessing to their mother.

<sup>12</sup>There is a generation who seem to themselves to be free from sin, but are not washed from their unclean ways.

<sup>13</sup>There is a generation, O how full of pride are their eyes! O how their brows are lifted up!

<sup>14</sup>There is a generation whose teeth are like swords, their strong teeth like knives, for the destruction of the poor from the earth, and of those who are in need from among men.

<sup>15</sup>The night-spirit has two daughters, Give, give. There are three things which are never full, even four which never say, Enough:

<sup>16</sup>The underworld, and the woman without a child; the earth which never has enough water, and the fire which never says, Enough.

<sup>17</sup>The eye which makes sport of a father, and sees no value in a mother when she is old will be rooted out by the ravens of the valley, and be food for the young eagles.

<sup>18</sup>There are three things, the wonder of which overcomes me, even four things outside my knowledge:

<sup>19</sup>The way of an eagle in the air; the way of a snake on a rock; the way of a ship in the heart of the sea; and the way of a man with a girl.

<sup>20</sup>This is the way of a false wife; she takes food, and, cleaning her mouth, says, I have done no wrong.

<sup>21</sup>For three things the earth is moved, and there are four which it will not put up with:

<sup>22</sup>A servant when he becomes a king;  
a man without sense when his wealth is  
increased;

<sup>23</sup>A hated woman when she is married;  
and a servant-girl who takes the place of  
her masters wife.

<sup>24</sup>There are four things which are little  
on the earth, but they are very wise:

<sup>25</sup>The ants are a people not strong,  
but they put by a store of food in the  
summer;

<sup>26</sup>The conies are only a feeble people,  
but they make their houses in the rocks;

<sup>27</sup>The locusts have no king, but they all  
go out in bands;

<sup>28</sup>You may take the lizard in your  
hands, but it is in kings houses.

<sup>29</sup>There are three things whose steps  
are good to see, even four whose goings  
are fair:

<sup>30</sup>The lion, which is strongest among  
beasts, not turning from his way for any;

<sup>31</sup>The war-horse, and the he-goat, and  
the king when his army is with him.

<sup>32</sup>If you have done foolishly in lifting  
yourself up, or if you have had evil  
designs, put your hand over your mouth.

<sup>33</sup>The shaking of milk makes butter, and the twisting of the nose makes blood come: so the forcing of wrath is a cause of fighting.

**31** <sup>1</sup>The words of Lemuel, king of Massa: the teaching which he had from his mother.

<sup>2</sup>What am I to say to you, O Lemuel, my oldest son? and what, O son of my body? and what, O son of my oaths?

<sup>3</sup>Do not give your strength to women, or your ways to that which is the destruction of kings.

<sup>4</sup>It is not for kings, O Lemuel, it is not for kings to take wine, or for rulers to say, Where is strong drink?

<sup>5</sup>For fear that through drinking they may come to have no respect for the law, wrongly judging the cause of those who are in trouble.

<sup>6</sup>Give strong drink to him who is near to destruction, and wine to him whose soul is bitter:

<sup>7</sup>Let him have drink, and his need will go from his mind, and the memory of his trouble will be gone.

<sup>8</sup>Let your mouth be open for those who have no voice, in the cause of those who are ready for death.

<sup>9</sup>Let your mouth be open, judging rightly, and give right decisions in the cause of the poor and those in need.

<sup>10</sup>Who may make discovery of a woman of virtue? For her price is much higher than jewels.

<sup>11</sup>The heart of her husband has faith in her, and he will have profit in full measure.

<sup>12</sup>She does him good and not evil all the days of her life.

<sup>13</sup>She gets wool and linen, working at the business of her hands.

<sup>14</sup>She is like the trading-ships, getting food from far away.

<sup>15</sup>She gets up while it is still night, and gives meat to her family, and their food to her servant-girls.

<sup>16</sup>After looking at a field with care, she gets it for a price, planting a vine-garden with the profit of her work.

<sup>17</sup>She puts a band of strength round her, and makes her arms strong.

<sup>18</sup> She sees that her marketing is of profit to her: her light does not go out by night.

<sup>19</sup> She puts her hands to the cloth-working rod, and her fingers take the wheel.

<sup>20</sup> Her hands are stretched out to the poor; yes, she is open-handed to those who are in need.

<sup>21</sup> She has no fear of the snow for her family, for all those in her house are clothed in red.

<sup>22</sup> She makes for herself cushions of needlework; her clothing is fair linen and purple.

<sup>23</sup> Her husband is a man of note in the public place, when he takes his seat among the responsible men of the land.

<sup>24</sup> She makes linen robes and gets a price for them, and traders take her cloth bands for a price.

<sup>25</sup> Strength and self-respect are her clothing; she is facing the future with a smile.

<sup>26</sup> Her mouth is open to give out wisdom, and the law of mercy is on her tongue.

<sup>27</sup> She gives attention to the ways of her family, she does not take her food without working for it.

<sup>28</sup> Her children get up and give her honour, and her husband gives her praise, saying,

<sup>29</sup> Unnumbered women have done well, but you are better than all of them.

<sup>30</sup> Fair looks are a deceit, and a beautiful form is of no value; but a woman who has the fear of the Lord is to be praised.

<sup>31</sup> Give her credit for what her hands have made: let her be praised by her works in the public place.

# Ecclesiastes

**1** <sup>1</sup> The words of the Preacher, the son of David, king in Jerusalem.

<sup>2</sup> All is to no purpose, said the Preacher, all the ways of man are to no purpose.

<sup>3</sup> What is a man profited by all his work which he does under the sun?

<sup>4</sup> One generation goes and another comes; but the earth is for ever.

<sup>5</sup> The sun comes up and the sun goes down, and goes quickly back to the place where he came up.

<sup>6</sup> The wind goes to the south, turning back again to the north; circling round for ever.

<sup>7</sup> All the rivers go down to the sea, but the sea is not full; to the place where the rivers go, there they go again.

<sup>8</sup> All things are full of weariness; man may not give their story: the eye has never enough of its seeing, or the ear of its hearing.

<sup>9</sup> That which has been, is that which is to be, and that which has been done, is



that which will be done, and there is no new thing under the sun.

<sup>10</sup>Is there anything of which men say, See, this is new? It has been in the old time which was before us.

<sup>11</sup>There is no memory of those who have gone before, and of those who come after there will be no memory for those who are still to come after them.

<sup>12</sup>I, the Preacher, was king over Israel in Jerusalem.

<sup>13</sup>And I gave my heart to searching out in wisdom all things which are done under heaven: it is a hard thing which God has put on the sons of men to do.

<sup>14</sup>I have seen all the works which are done under the sun; all is to no purpose, and desire for wind.

<sup>15</sup>That which is bent may not be made straight, and that which is not there may not be numbered.

<sup>16</sup>I said to my heart, See, I have become great and am increased in wisdom more than any who were before me in Jerusalem; yes, my heart has seen much wisdom and knowledge.

<sup>17</sup>And I gave my heart to getting knowledge of wisdom, and of the ways

of the foolish. And I saw that this again was desire for wind.

<sup>18</sup>Because in much wisdom is much grief, and increase of knowledge is increase of sorrow.

**2**<sup>1</sup>I said in my heart, I will give you joy for a test; so take your pleasurebut it was to no purpose.

<sup>2</sup>Of laughing I said, It is foolish; and of joyWhat use is it?

<sup>3</sup>I made a search with my heart to give pleasure to my flesh with wine, still guiding my heart with wisdom, and to go after foolish things, so that I might see what was good for the sons of men to do under the heavens all the days of their life.

<sup>4</sup>I undertook great works, building myself houses and planting vine-gardens.

<sup>5</sup>I made myself gardens and fruit gardens, planting in them fruit-trees of all sorts.

<sup>6</sup>I made pools to give water for the woods with their young trees.

<sup>7</sup>I got men-servants and women-servants, and they gave birth to sons and daughters in my house. I had great

wealth of herds and flocks, more than all who were in Jerusalem before me.

<sup>8</sup>I got together silver and gold and the wealth of kings and of countries. I got makers of song, male and female; and the delights of the sons of men girls of all sorts to be my brides.

<sup>9</sup>And I became great; increasing more than all who had been before me in Jerusalem, and my wisdom was still with me.

<sup>10</sup>And nothing which was desired by my eyes did I keep from them; I did not keep any joy from my heart, because my heart took pleasure in all my work, and this was my reward.

<sup>11</sup>Then I saw all the works which my hands had made, and everything I had been working to do; and I saw that all was to no purpose and desire for wind, and there was no profit under the sun.

<sup>12</sup>And I went again in search of wisdom and of foolish ways. What may the man do who comes after the king? The thing which he has done before.

<sup>13</sup>Then I saw that wisdom is better than foolish ways as the light is better than the dark.

<sup>14</sup>The wise man's eyes are in his head, but the foolish man goes walking in the dark; but still I saw that the same event comes to them all.

<sup>15</sup>Then said I in my heart: As it comes to the foolish man, so will it come to me; so why have I been wise overmuch? Then I said in my heart: This again is to no purpose.

<sup>16</sup>Of the wise man, as of the foolish man, there is no memory for ever, seeing that those who now are will have gone from memory in the days to come. See how death comes to the wise as to the foolish!

<sup>17</sup>So I was hating life, because everything under the sun was evil to me: all is to no purpose and desire for wind.

<sup>18</sup>Hate had I for all my work which I had done, because the man who comes after me will have its fruits.

<sup>19</sup>And who is to say if that man will be wise or foolish? But he will have power over all my work which I have done and in which I have been wise under the sun. This again is to no purpose.

<sup>20</sup> So my mind was turned to grief for all the trouble I had taken and all my wisdom under the sun.

<sup>21</sup> Because there is a man whose work has been done with wisdom, with knowledge, and with an expert hand; but one who has done nothing for it will have it for his heritage. This again is to no purpose and a great evil.

<sup>22</sup> What does a man get for all his work, and for the weight of care with which he has done his work under the sun?

<sup>23</sup> All his days are sorrow, and his work is full of grief. Even in the night his heart has no rest. This again is to no purpose.

<sup>24</sup> There is nothing better for a man than taking meat and drink, and having delight in his work. This again I saw was from the hand of God.

<sup>25</sup> Who may take food or have pleasure without him?

<sup>26</sup> To the man with whom he is pleased, God gives wisdom and knowledge and joy; but to the sinner he gives the work of getting goods together and storing up wealth, to give to him in whom God has pleasure. This again is to no purpose and desire for wind.

**3**<sup>1</sup> For everything there is a fixed time,  
and a time for every business under  
the sun.

<sup>2</sup> A time for birth and a time for death;  
a time for planting and a time for  
uprooting;

<sup>3</sup> A time to put to death and a time to  
make well; a time for pulling down and a  
time for building up;

<sup>4</sup> A time for weeping and a time for  
laughing; a time for sorrow and a time  
for dancing;

<sup>5</sup> A time to take stones away and a time  
to get stones together; a time for kissing  
and a time to keep from kissing;

<sup>6</sup> A time for search and a time for loss;  
a time to keep and a time to give away;

<sup>7</sup> A time for undoing and a time for  
stitching; a time for keeping quiet and a  
time for talk;

<sup>8</sup> A time for love and a time for hate; a  
time for war and a time for peace.

<sup>9</sup> What profit has the worker in the work  
which he does?

<sup>10</sup> I saw the work which God has put on  
the sons of man.

<sup>11</sup> He has made everything right in  
its time; but he has made their hearts

without knowledge, so that man is unable to see the works of God, from the first to the last.

<sup>12</sup>I am certain that there is nothing better for a man than to be glad, and to do good while life is in him.

<sup>13</sup>And for every man to take food and drink, and have joy in all his work, is a reward from God.

<sup>14</sup>I am certain that whatever God does will be for ever. No addition may be made to it, nothing may be taken from it; and God has done it so that man may be in fear before him.

<sup>15</sup>Whatever is has been before, and what is to be is now; because God makes search for the things which are past.

<sup>16</sup>And again, I saw under the sun, in the place of the judges, that evil was there; and in the place of righteousness, that evil was there.

<sup>17</sup>I said in my heart, God will be judge of the good and of the bad; because a time for every purpose and for every work has been fixed by him.

<sup>18</sup>I said in my heart, It is because of the sons of men, so that God may put

them to the test and that they may see themselves as beasts.

<sup>19</sup>Because the fate of the sons of men and the fate of the beasts is the same. As is the death of one so is the death of the other, and all have one spirit. Man is not higher than the beasts; because all is to no purpose.

<sup>20</sup>All go to one place, all are of the dust, and all will be turned to dust again.

<sup>21</sup>Who is certain that the spirit of the sons of men goes up to heaven, or that the spirit of the beasts goes down to the earth?

<sup>22</sup>So I saw that there is nothing better than for a man to have joy in his work because that is his reward. Who will make him see what will come after him?

**4**<sup>1</sup> And again I saw all the cruel things which are done under the sun; there was the weeping of those who have evil done to them, and they had no comforter: and from the hands of the evil-doers there went out power, but they had no comforter.

<sup>2</sup>So my praise was for the dead who have gone to their death, more than for the living who still have life.



<sup>3</sup>Yes, happier than the dead or the living seemed he who has not ever been, who has not seen the evil which is done under the sun.

<sup>4</sup>And I saw that the cause of all the work and of everything which is done well was mans envy of his neighbour. This again is to no purpose and a desire for wind.

<sup>5</sup>The foolish man, folding his hands, takes the flesh of his body for food.

<sup>6</sup>One hand full of rest is better than two hands full of trouble and desire for wind.

<sup>7</sup>Then I came back, and I saw an example of what is to no purpose under the sun.

<sup>8</sup>It is one who is by himself, without a second, and without son or brother; but there is no end to all his work, and he has never enough of wealth. For whom, then, am I working and keeping myself from pleasure? This again is to no purpose, and a bitter work.

<sup>9</sup>Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their work.

<sup>10</sup>And if one has a fall, the other will give him a hand; but unhappy is the

man who is by himself, because he has no helper.

<sup>11</sup> So again, if two are sleeping together they are warm, but how may one be warm by himself?

<sup>12</sup> And two attacked by one would be safe, and three cords twisted together are not quickly broken.

<sup>13</sup> A young man who is poor and wise is better than a king who is old and foolish and will not be guided by the wisdom of others.

<sup>14</sup> Because out of a prison the young man comes to be king, though by birth he was only a poor man in the kingdom.

<sup>15</sup> I saw all the living under the sun round the young man who was to be ruler in place of the king.

<sup>16</sup> There was no end of all the people, of all those whose head he was, but they who come later will have no delight in him. This again is to no purpose and desire for wind.

**5**<sup>1</sup> Put your feet down with care when you go to the house of God, for it is better to give ear than to make the burned offerings of the foolish, whose knowledge is only of doing evil.

<sup>2</sup>Be not unwise with your mouth,  
and let not your heart be quick to say  
anything before God, because God is in  
heaven and you are on the earthso let  
not the number of your words be great.

<sup>3</sup>As a dream comes from much  
business, so the voice of a foolish man  
comes with words in great number.

<sup>4</sup>When you take an oath before God,  
put it quickly into effect, because he has  
no pleasure in the foolish; keep the oath  
you have taken.

<sup>5</sup>It is better not to take an oath than to  
take an oath and not keep it.

<sup>6</sup>Let not your mouth make your flesh  
do evil. And say not before the angel, It  
was an error. So that God may not be  
angry with your words and put an end to  
the work of your hands.

<sup>7</sup>Because much talk comes from  
dreams and things of no purpose. But let  
the fear of God be in you.

<sup>8</sup>If you see the poor under a cruel  
yoke, and law and right being violently  
overturned in a country, be not surprised,  
because one authority is keeping watch  
on another and there are higher than  
they.

<sup>9</sup>It is good generally for a country where the land is worked to have a king.

<sup>10</sup>He who has a love for silver never has enough silver, or he who has love for wealth, enough profit. This again is to no purpose.

<sup>11</sup>When goods are increased, the number of those who take of them is increased; and what profit has the owner but to see them?

<sup>12</sup>The sleep of a working man is sweet, if he has little food or much; but to him who is full, sleep will not come.

<sup>13</sup>There is a great evil which I have seen under the sunwealth kept by the owner to be his downfall.

<sup>14</sup>And I saw the destruction of his wealth by an evil chance; and when he became the father of a son he had nothing in his hand.

<sup>15</sup>As he came from his mother at birth, so does he go again; he gets from his work no reward which he may take away in his hand.

<sup>16</sup>And this again is a great evil, that in all points as he came so will he go; and what profit has he in working for the wind?

<sup>17</sup> All his days are in the dark, and he has much sorrow, pain, disease, and trouble.

<sup>18</sup> This is what I have seen: it is good and fair for a man to take meat and drink and to have joy in all his work under the sun, all the days of his life which God has given him; that is his reward.

<sup>19</sup> Every man to whom God has given money and wealth and the power to have pleasure in it and to do his part and have joy in his work: this is given by God.

<sup>20</sup> He will not give much thought to the days of his life; because God lets him be taken up with the joy of his heart.

**6** <sup>1</sup> There is an evil which I have seen under the sun, and it is hard on men;

<sup>2</sup> A man to whom God gives money, wealth, and honour so that he has all his desires but God does not give him the power to have joy of it, and a strange man takes it. This is to no purpose and an evil disease.

<sup>3</sup> If a man has a hundred children, and his life is long so that the days of his years are great in number, but his soul takes no pleasure in good, and he is not

honoured at his death; I say that a birth before its time is better than he.

<sup>4</sup>In wind it came and to the dark it will go, and with the dark will its name be covered.

<sup>5</sup>Yes, it saw not the sun, and it had no knowledge; it is better with this than with the other.

<sup>6</sup>And though he goes on living a thousand years twice over and does not see good, are not the two going to the same place?

<sup>7</sup>All the work of man is for his mouth, and still he has a desire for food.

<sup>8</sup>What have the wise more than the foolish? and what has the poor man by walking wisely before the living?

<sup>9</sup>What the eyes see is better than the wandering of desire. This is to no purpose and a desire for wind.

<sup>10</sup>That which is, has been named before, and of what man is there is knowledge. He has no power against one stronger than he.

<sup>11</sup>There are words without number for increasing what is to no purpose, but what is man profited by them?

<sup>12</sup>Who is able to say what is good for man in life all the days of his foolish life which he goes through like a shade? who will say what is to be after him under the sun?

**7**<sup>1</sup> A good name is better than oil of great price, and the day of death than the day of birth.

<sup>2</sup>It is better to go to the house of weeping, than to go to the house of feasting; because that is the end of every man, and the living will take it to their hearts.

<sup>3</sup>Sorrow is better than joy; when the face is sad the mind gets better.

<sup>4</sup>The hearts of the wise are in the house of weeping; but the hearts of the foolish are in the house of joy.

<sup>5</sup>It is better to take note of the protest of the wise, than for a man to give ear to the song of the foolish.

<sup>6</sup>Like the cracking of thorns under a pot, so is the laugh of a foolish man; and this again is to no purpose.

<sup>7</sup>The wise are troubled by the ways of the cruel, and the giving of money is the destruction of the heart.

<sup>8</sup>The end of a thing is better than its start, and a gentle spirit is better than pride.

<sup>9</sup>Be not quick to let your spirit be angry; because wrath is in the heart of the foolish.

<sup>10</sup>Say not, Why were the days which have gone by better than these? Such a question comes not from wisdom.

<sup>11</sup>Wisdom together with a heritage is good, and a profit to those who see the sun.

<sup>12</sup>Wisdom keeps a man from danger even as money does; but the value of knowledge is that wisdom gives life to its owner.

<sup>13</sup>Give thought to the work of God. Who will make straight what he has made bent?

<sup>14</sup>In the day of wealth have joy, but in the day of evil take thought: God has put the one against the other, so that man may not be certain what will be after him.

<sup>15</sup>These two have I seen in my life which is to no purpose: a good man coming to his end in his righteousness,



and an evil man whose days are long in his evil-doing.

<sup>16</sup>Be not given overmuch to righteousness and be not over-wise. Why let destruction come on you?

<sup>17</sup>Be not evil overmuch, and be not foolish. Why come to your end before your time?

<sup>18</sup>It is good to take this in your hand and not to keep your hand from that; he who has the fear of God will be free of the two.

<sup>19</sup>Wisdom makes a wise man stronger than ten rulers in a town.

<sup>20</sup>There is no man on earth of such righteousness that he does good and is free from sin all his days.

<sup>21</sup>Do not give ear to all the words which men say, for fear of hearing the curses of your servant.

<sup>22</sup>Your heart has knowledge how frequently others have been cursed by you.

<sup>23</sup>All this I have put to the test by wisdom; I said, I will be wise, but it was far from me.

<sup>24</sup>Far off is true existence, and very deep; who may have knowledge of it?

<sup>25</sup>I gave my mind to knowledge and to searching for wisdom and the reason of things, and to the discovery that sin is foolish, and that to be foolish is to be without ones senses.

<sup>26</sup>And I saw a thing more bitter than death, even the woman whose heart is full of tricks and nets, and whose hands are as bands. He with whom God is pleased will get free from her, but the sinner will be taken by her.

<sup>27</sup>Look! this I have seen, said the Preacher, taking one thing after another to get the true account,

<sup>28</sup>For which my soul is still searching, but I have it not; one man among a thousand have I seen; but a woman among all these I have not seen.

<sup>29</sup>This only have I seen, that God made men upright, but they have been searching out all sorts of inventions.

**8**<sup>1</sup>Who is like the wise man? and to whom is the sense of anything clear? A mans wisdom makes his face shining, and his hard face will be changed.

<sup>2</sup>I say to you, Keep the kings law, from respect for the oath of God.

<sup>3</sup>Be not quick to go from before him. Be not fixed in an evil design, because he does whatever is pleasing to him.

<sup>4</sup>The word of a king has authority; and who may say to him, What is this you are doing?

<sup>5</sup>Whoever keeps the law will come to no evil: and a wise mans heart has knowledge of time and of decision.

<sup>6</sup>For every purpose there is a time and a decision, because the sorrow of man is great in him.

<sup>7</sup>No one is certain what is to be, and who is able to say to him when it will be?

<sup>8</sup>No man has authority over the wind, to keep the wind; or is ruler over the day of his death. In war no mans time is free, and evil will not keep the sinner safe.

<sup>9</sup>All this have I seen, and have given my heart to all the work which is done under the sun: there is a time when man has power over man for his destruction.

<sup>10</sup>And then I saw evil men put to rest, taken even from the holy place; and they went about and were praised in the

town because of what they had done.  
This again is to no purpose.

<sup>11</sup> Because punishment for an evil work comes not quickly, the minds of the sons of men are fully given to doing evil.

<sup>12</sup> Though a sinner does evil a hundred times and his life is long, I am certain that it will be well for those who go in fear of God and are in fear before him.

<sup>13</sup> But it will not be well for the evil-doer; he will not make his days long like a shade, because he has no fear before God.

<sup>14</sup> There is a thing which is to no purpose done on the earth: that there are good men to whom is given the same punishment as those who are evil, and there are evil men who get the reward of the good. I say that this again is to no purpose.

<sup>15</sup> So I gave praise to joy, because there is nothing better for a man to do under the sun than to take meat and drink and be happy; for that will be with him in his work all the days of his life which God gives him under the sun.

<sup>16</sup> When I gave my mind to the knowledge of wisdom and to seeing the

business which is done on the earth  
(and there are those whose eyes see not  
sleep by day or by night),

<sup>17</sup> Then I saw all the work of God, and  
that man may not get knowledge of  
the work which is done under the sun;  
because, if a man gives hard work to  
the search he will not get knowledge,  
and even if the wise man seems to be  
coming to the end of his search, still he  
will be without knowledge.

**9**<sup>1</sup> All this I took to heart, and my  
heart saw it all: that the upright and  
the wise and their works are in the hand  
of God; and men may not be certain if it  
will be love or hate; all is to no purpose  
before them.

<sup>2</sup> Because to all there is one event,  
to the upright man and to the evil, to  
the clean and to the unclean, to him  
who makes an offering and to him who  
makes no offering; as is the good so is  
the sinner; he who takes an oath is as  
he who has fear of it.

<sup>3</sup> This is evil in all things which are done  
under the sun: that there is one fate for  
all, and the hearts of the sons of men  
are full of evil; while they have life their

hearts are foolish, and after that to the dead.

<sup>4</sup>For him who is joined to all the living there is hope; a living dog is better than a dead lion.

<sup>5</sup>The living are conscious that death will come to them, but the dead are not conscious of anything, and they no longer have a reward, because there is no memory of them.

<sup>6</sup>Their love and their hate and their envy are now ended; and they have no longer a part for ever in anything which is done under the sun.

<sup>7</sup>Come, take your bread with joy, and your wine with a glad heart. God has taken pleasure in your works.

<sup>8</sup>Let your clothing be white at all times, and let not your head be without oil.

<sup>9</sup>Have joy with the woman of your love all the days of your foolish life which he gives you under the sun. Because that is your part in life and in your work which you do under the sun.

<sup>10</sup>Whatever comes to your hand to do with all your power, do it because there is no work, or thought, or knowledge, or

wisdom in the place of the dead to which you are going.

<sup>11</sup>And again I saw under the sun that the reward goes not to him who is quick, or the fruits of war to the strong; and there is no bread for the wise, or wealth for men of learning, or respect for those who have knowledge; but time and chance come to all.

<sup>12</sup>Even man has no knowledge of his time; like fishes taken in an evil net, or like birds taken by deceit, are the sons of men taken in an evil time when it comes suddenly on them.

<sup>13</sup>This again I have seen under the sun as wisdom and it seemed great to me.

<sup>14</sup>There was a little town and the number of its men was small, and there came a great king against it and made an attack on it, building works of war round about it.

<sup>15</sup>Now there was in the town a poor, wise man, and he, by his wisdom, kept the town safe. But no one had any memory of that same poor man.

<sup>16</sup>Then I said, Wisdom is better than strength, but the poor mans wisdom is

not respected, and his words are not given a hearing.

<sup>17</sup>The words of the wise which come quietly to the ear are noted more than the cry of a ruler among the foolish.

<sup>18</sup>Wisdom is better than instruments of war, but one sinner is the destruction of much good.

**10**<sup>1</sup>Dead flies make the oil of the perfumer give out an evil smell; more valued is a little wisdom than the great glory of the foolish.

<sup>2</sup>The heart of the wise man goes in the right direction; but the heart of a foolish man in the wrong.

<sup>3</sup>And when the foolish man is walking in the way, he has no sense and lets everyone see that he is foolish.

<sup>4</sup>If the wrath of the ruler is against you, keep in your place; in him who keeps quiet even great sins may be overlooked.

<sup>5</sup>There is an evil which I have seen under the sun, like an error which comes by chance from a ruler:

<sup>6</sup>The foolish are placed in high positions, but men of wealth are kept low.



<sup>7</sup>I have seen servants on horses, and rulers walking on the earth as servants.

<sup>8</sup>He who makes a hole for others will himself go into it, and for him who makes a hole through a wall the bite of a snake will be a punishment.

<sup>9</sup>He who gets out stones from the earth will be damaged by them, and in the cutting of wood there is danger.

<sup>10</sup>If the iron has no edge, and he does not make it sharp, then he has to put out more strength; but wisdom makes things go well.

<sup>11</sup>If a snake gives a bite before the word of power is said, then there is no longer any use in the word of power.

<sup>12</sup>The words of a wise mans mouth are sweet to all, but the lips of a foolish man are his destruction.

<sup>13</sup>The first words of his mouth are foolish, and the end of his talk is evil crime.

<sup>14</sup>The foolish are full of words; man has no knowledge of what will be; and who is able to say what will be after him?

<sup>15</sup>The work of the foolish will be a weariness to him, because he has no knowledge of the way to the town.

<sup>16</sup>Unhappy is the land whose king is a boy, and whose rulers are feasting in the morning.

<sup>17</sup>Happy is the land whose ruler is of noble birth, and whose chiefs take food at the right time, for strength and not for feasting.

<sup>18</sup>When no work is done the roof goes in, and when the hands do nothing water comes into the house.

<sup>19</sup>A feast is for laughing, and wine makes glad the heart; but by the one and the other money is wasted.

<sup>20</sup>Say not a curse against the king, even in your thoughts; and even secretly say not a curse against the man of wealth; because a bird of the air will take the voice, and that which has wings will give news of it.

**11** <sup>1</sup>Put out your bread on the face of the waters; for after a long time it will come back to you again.

<sup>2</sup>Give a part to seven or even to eight, because you have no knowledge of the evil which will be on the earth.

<sup>3</sup>If the clouds are full of rain, they send it down on the earth; and if a tree comes down to the south, or the north,

in whatever place it comes down, there it will be.

<sup>4</sup>He who is watching the wind will not get the seed planted, and he who is looking at the clouds will not get in the grain.

<sup>5</sup>As you have no knowledge of the way of the wind, or of the growth of the bones in the body of her who is with child, even so you have no knowledge of the works of God who has made all.

<sup>6</sup>In the morning put your seed into the earth, and till the evening let not your hand be at rest; because you are not certain which will do well, this or that or if the two will be equally good.

<sup>7</sup>Truly the light is sweet, and it is good for the eyes to see the sun.

<sup>8</sup>But even if a mans life is long and he has joy in all his years, let him keep in mind the dark days, because they will be great in number. Whatever may come is to no purpose.

<sup>9</sup>Have joy, O young man, while you are young; and let your heart be glad in the days of your strength, and go in the ways of your heart, and in the desire

of your eyes; but be certain that for all these things God will be your judge.

<sup>10</sup>So put away trouble from your heart, and sorrow from your flesh; because the early years and the best years are to no purpose.

**12**<sup>1</sup>Let your mind be turned to your Maker in the days of your strength, while the evil days come not, and the years are far away when you will say, I have no pleasure in them;

<sup>2</sup>While the sun, or the light, or the moon, or the stars, are not dark, and the clouds come not back after the rain;

<sup>3</sup>In the day when the keepers of the house are shaking for fear, and the strong men are bent down, and the women who were crushing the grain are at rest because their number is small, and those looking out of the windows are unable to see;

<sup>4</sup>When the doors are shut in the street, and the sound of the crushing is low, and the voice of the bird is soft, and the daughters of music will be made low;

<sup>5</sup>And he is in fear of that which is high, and danger is in the road, and the tree is white with flower, and the least thing is a

weight, and desire is at an end, because man goes to his last resting-place, and those who are sorrowing are in the streets;

<sup>6</sup>Before ever the silver cord is cut, or the vessel of gold is broken, or the pot is broken at the fountain, or the wheel broken at the water-hole;

<sup>7</sup>And the dust goes back to the earth as it was, and the spirit goes back to God who gave it.

<sup>8</sup>All things are to no purpose, says the Preacher, all is to no purpose.

<sup>9</sup>And because the Preacher was wise he still gave the people knowledge; searching out, testing, and putting in order a great number of wise sayings.

<sup>10</sup>The Preacher made search for words which were pleasing, but his writing was in words upright and true.

<sup>11</sup>The words of the wise are pointed, and sayings grouped together are like nails fixed with a hammer; they are given by one guide.

<sup>12</sup>And further, my son, take note of this: of the making of books there is no end, and much learning is a weariness to the flesh.

<sup>13</sup>This is the last word. All has been said. Have fear of God and keep his laws; because this is right for every man.

<sup>14</sup>God will be judge of every work, with every secret thing, good or evil.

# The Song of Songs

**1** <sup>1</sup> The song of Songs, which is  
Solomons.

<sup>2</sup> Let him give me the kisses of his  
mouth: for his love is better than wine.

<sup>3</sup> Sweet is the smell of your perfumes;  
your name is as perfume running out; so  
the young girls give you their love.

<sup>4</sup> Take me to you, and we will go after  
you: the king has taken me into his  
house. We will be glad and full of joy in  
you, we will give more thought to your  
love than to wine: rightly are they your  
lovers.

<sup>5</sup> I am dark, but fair of form, O  
daughters of Jerusalem, as the tents of  
Kedar, as the curtains of Solomon.

<sup>6</sup> Let not your eyes be turned on me,  
because I am dark, because I was looked  
on by the sun; my mothers children  
were angry with me; they made me  
the keeper of the vine-gardens; but my  
vine-garden I have not kept.

<sup>7</sup> Say, O love of my soul, where you give  
food to your flock, and where you make

them take their rest in the heat of the day; why have I to be as one wandering by the flocks of your friends?

<sup>8</sup>If you have not knowledge, O most beautiful among women, go on your way in the footsteps of the flock, and give your young goats food by the tents of the keepers.

<sup>9</sup>I have made a comparison of you, O my love, to a horse in Pharaoh's carriages.

<sup>10</sup>Your face is a delight with rings of hair, your neck with chains of jewels.

<sup>11</sup>We will make you chains of gold with ornaments of silver.

<sup>12</sup>While the king is seated at his table, my spices send out their perfume.

<sup>13</sup>As a bag of myrrh is my well-loved one to me, when he is at rest all night between my breasts.

<sup>14</sup>My love is to me as a branch of the cypress-tree in the vine-gardens of En-gedi.

<sup>15</sup>See, you are fair, my love, you are fair; you have the eyes of a dove.

<sup>16</sup>See, you are fair, my loved one, and a pleasure; our bed is green.



<sup>17</sup> Cedar-trees are the pillars of our house; and our boards are made of fir-trees.

**2**<sup>1</sup> I am a rose of Sharon, a flower of the valleys.

<sup>2</sup> As the lily-flower among the thorns of the waste, so is my love among the daughters.

<sup>3</sup> As the apple-tree among the trees of the wood, so is my loved one among the sons. I took my rest under his shade with great delight, and his fruit was sweet to my taste.

<sup>4</sup> He took me to the house of wine, and his flag over me was love.

<sup>5</sup> Make me strong with wine-cakes, let me be comforted with apples; I am overcome with love.

<sup>6</sup> His left hand is under my head, and his right hand is round about me.

<sup>7</sup> I say to you, O daughters of Jerusalem, by the roes of the field, do not let love be moved till it is ready.

<sup>8</sup> The voice of my loved one! See, he comes dancing on the mountains, stepping quickly on the hills.

<sup>9</sup> My loved one is like a roe; see, he is on the other side of our wall, he is

looking in at the windows, letting himself be seen through the spaces.

<sup>10</sup>My loved one said to me, Get up, my love, my fair one, and come away.

<sup>11</sup>For, see, the winter is past, the rain is over and gone;

<sup>12</sup>The flowers are come on the earth; the time of cutting the vines is come, and the voice of the dove is sounding in our land;

<sup>13</sup>The fig-tree puts out her green fruit and the vines with their young fruit give a good smell. Get up from your bed, my beautiful one, and come away.

<sup>14</sup>O my dove, you are in the holes of the mountain sides, in the cracks of the high hills; let me see your face, let your voice come to my ears; for sweet is your voice, and your face is fair.

<sup>15</sup>Take for us the foxes, the little foxes, which do damage to the vines; our vines have young grapes.

<sup>16</sup>My loved one is mine, and I am his: he takes his food among the flowers.

<sup>17</sup>Till the evening comes, and the sky slowly becomes dark, come, my loved one, and be like a roe on the mountains of Bether.

**3**<sup>1</sup> By night on my bed I was looking for him who is the love of my soul: I was looking for him, but I did not see him.

<sup>2</sup> I will get up now and go about the town, in the streets and in the wide ways I will go after him who is the love of my soul: I went after him, but I did not see him.

<sup>3</sup> The watchmen who go about the town came by me; to them I said, Have you seen him who is my hearts desire?

<sup>4</sup> I was but a little way from them, when I came face to face with him who is the love of my soul. I took him by the hands, and did not let him go, till I had taken him into my mothers house, and into the room of her who gave me birth.

<sup>5</sup> I say to you, O daughters of Jerusalem, by the roes of the field, let not love be moved till it is ready.

<sup>6</sup> Who is this coming out of the waste places like pillars of smoke, perfumed with sweet spices, with all the spices of the trader?

<sup>7</sup> See, it is the bed of Solomon; sixty men of war are about it, of the army of Israel,

<sup>8</sup>All of them armed with swords, trained in war; every man has his sword at his side, because of fear in the night.

<sup>9</sup>King Solomon made himself a bed of the wood of Lebanon.

<sup>10</sup>He made its pillars of silver, its base of gold, its seat of purple, the middle of it of ebony.

<sup>11</sup>Go out, O daughters of Jerusalem, and see King Solomon, with the crown which his mother put on his head on the day when he was married, and on the day of the joy of his heart.

**4**<sup>1</sup>See, you are fair, my love, you are fair; you have the eyes of a dove; your hair is as a flock of goats, which take their rest on the side of Gilead.

<sup>2</sup>Your teeth are like a flock of sheep whose wool is newly cut, which come up from the washing; every one has two lambs, and there is not one without young.

<sup>3</sup>Your red lips are like a bright thread, and your mouth is fair of form; the sides of your head are like pomegranate fruit under your veil.

<sup>4</sup>Your neck is like the tower of David made for a store-house of arms, in which

a thousand breastplates are hanging,  
breastplates for fighting-men.

<sup>5</sup>Your two breasts are like two young  
roes of the same birth, which take their  
food among the lilies.

<sup>6</sup>Till the evening comes, and the sky  
slowly becomes dark, I will go to the  
mountain of myrrh, and to the hill of  
frankincense.

<sup>7</sup>You are all fair, my love; there is no  
mark on you.

<sup>8</sup>Come with me from Lebanon, my  
bride, with me from Lebanon; see from  
the top of Amana, from the top of Senir  
and Hermon, from the places of the lions,  
from the mountains of the leopards.

<sup>9</sup>You have taken away my heart, my  
sister, my bride; you have taken away  
my heart, with one look you have taken  
it, with one chain of your neck!

<sup>10</sup>How fair is your love, my sister! How  
much better is your love than wine, and  
the smell of your oils than any perfume!

<sup>11</sup>Your lips are dropping honey; honey  
and milk are under your tongue; and the  
smell of your clothing is like the smell of  
Lebanon.

<sup>12</sup>A garden walled-in is my sister, my bride; a garden shut up, a spring of water stopped.

<sup>13</sup>The produce of the garden is pomegranates; with all the best fruits, henna and spikenard,

<sup>14</sup>Spikenard and saffron; calamus and cinnamon, with all trees of frankincense; myrrh and aloes, with all the chief spices.

<sup>15</sup>You are a fountain of gardens, a spring of living waters, and flowing waters from Lebanon.

<sup>16</sup>Be awake, O north wind; and come, O south, blowing on my garden, so that its spices may come out. Let my loved one come into his garden, and take of his good fruits.

**5**<sup>1</sup>I have come into my garden, my sister, my bride; to take my myrrh with my spice; my wax with my honey; my wine with my milk. Take meat, O friends; take wine, yes, be overcome with love.

<sup>2</sup>I am sleeping, but my heart is awake; it is the sound of my loved one at the door, saying, Be open to me, my sister, my love, my dove, my very beautiful

one; my head is wet with dew, and my hair with the drops of the night.

<sup>3</sup>I have put off my coat; how may I put it on? My feet are washed; how may I make them unclean?

<sup>4</sup>My loved one put his hand on the door, and my heart was moved for him.

<sup>5</sup>I got up to let my loved one in; and my hands were dropping with myrrh, and my fingers with liquid myrrh, on the lock of the door.

<sup>6</sup>I made the door open to my loved one; but my loved one had taken himself away, and was gone, my soul was feeble when his back was turned on me; I went after him, but I did not come near him; I said his name, but he gave me no answer.

<sup>7</sup>The keepers who go about the town overtook me; they gave me blows and wounds; the keepers of the walls took away my veil from me.

<sup>8</sup>I say to you, O daughters of Jerusalem, if you see my loved one, what will you say to him? That I am overcome with love.

<sup>9</sup>What is your loved one more than another, O fairest among women? What

is your loved one more than another,  
that you say this to us?

<sup>10</sup>My loved one is white and red, the  
chief among ten thousand.

<sup>11</sup>His head is as the most delicate gold;  
his hair is thick, and black as a raven.

<sup>12</sup>His eyes are as the eyes of doves by  
the water streams, washed with milk,  
and rightly placed.

<sup>13</sup>His face is as beds of spices, giving  
out perfumes of every sort; his lips like  
lilies, dropping liquid myrrh.

<sup>14</sup>His hands are as rings of gold  
ornamented with beryl-stones; his body  
is as a smooth plate of ivory covered  
with sapphires.

<sup>15</sup>His legs are as pillars of stone on a  
base of delicate gold; his looks are as  
Lebanon, beautiful as the cedar-tree.

<sup>16</sup>His mouth is most sweet; yes, he  
is all beautiful. This is my loved one,  
and this is my friend, O daughters of  
Jerusalem.

**6**<sup>1</sup>Where is your loved one gone, O  
most fair among women? Where is  
your loved one turned away, that we  
may go looking for him with you?



<sup>2</sup>My loved one is gone down into his garden, to the beds of spices, to take food in the gardens, and to get lilies.

<sup>3</sup>I am for my loved one, and my loved one is for me; he takes food among the lilies.

<sup>4</sup>You are beautiful, O my love, as Tirzah, as fair as Jerusalem; you are to be feared like an army with flags.

<sup>5</sup>Let your eyes be turned away from me; see, they have overcome me; your hair is as a flock of goats which take their rest on the side of Gilead.

<sup>6</sup>Your teeth are like a flock of sheep which come up from the washing; every one has two lambs, and there is not one without young.

<sup>7</sup>Like pomegranate fruit are the sides of your head under your veil.

<sup>8</sup>There are sixty queens, and eighty servant-wives, and young girls without number.

<sup>9</sup>My dove, my very beautiful one, is but one; she is the only one of her mother, she is the dearest one of her who gave her birth. The daughters saw her, and gave her a blessing; yes, the queens and

the servant-wives, and they gave her praises.

<sup>10</sup>Who is she, looking down as the morning light, fair as the moon, clear as the sun, who is to be feared like an army with flags?

<sup>11</sup>I went down into the garden of nuts to see the green plants of the valley, and to see if the vine was in bud, and the pomegranate-trees were in flower.

<sup>12</sup>Before I was conscious of it,

<sup>13</sup>Come back, come back, O Shulammite; come back, come back, so that our eyes may see you. What will you see in the Shulammite? A sword-dance.

**7**<sup>1</sup>How beautiful are your feet in their shoes, O kings daughter! The curves of your legs are like jewels, the work of the hands of a good workman:

<sup>2</sup>Your stomach is a store of grain with lilies round it, and in the middle a round cup full of wine.

<sup>3</sup>Your two breasts are like two young roes of the same birth.

<sup>4</sup>Your neck is as a tower of ivory; your eyes like the waters in Heshbon, by the doorway of Bath-rabbim; your nose is

as the tower on Lebanon looking over  
Damascus:

<sup>5</sup>Your head is like Carmel, and the hair  
of your head is like purple, in whose net  
the king is prisoner.

<sup>6</sup>How beautiful and how sweet you are,  
O love, for delight.

<sup>7</sup>You are tall like a palm-tree, and your  
breasts are like the fruit of the vine.

<sup>8</sup>I said, Let me go up the palm-tree,  
and let me take its branches in my  
hands: your breasts will be as the fruit  
of the vine, and the smell of your breath  
like apples;

<sup>9</sup>And the roof of your mouth like good  
wine flowing down smoothly for my  
loved one, moving gently over my lips  
and my teeth.

<sup>10</sup>I am for my loved one, and his desire  
is for me.

<sup>11</sup>Come, my loved one, let us go out  
into the field; let us take rest among the  
cypress-trees.

<sup>12</sup>Let us go out early to the vine-  
gardens; let us see if the vine is in bud,  
if it has put out its young fruit, and the  
pomegranate is in flower. There I will  
give you my love.

<sup>13</sup>The mandrakes give out a sweet smell, and at our doors are all sorts of good fruits, new and old, which I have kept for my loved one.

**8**<sup>1</sup> Oh that you were my brother, who took milk from my mothers breasts! When I came to you in the street, I would give you kisses; yes, I would not be looked down on.

<sup>2</sup>I would take you by the hand into my mothers house, and she would be my teacher. I would give you drink of spiced wine, drink of the pomegranate.

<sup>3</sup>His left hand would be under my head, and his right hand about me.

<sup>4</sup>I say to you, O daughters of Jerusalem, do not let love be moved till it is ready.

<sup>5</sup>Who is this, who comes up from the waste places, resting on her loved one? It was I who made you awake under the apple-tree, where your mother gave you birth; there she was in pain at your birth.

<sup>6</sup>Put me as a sign on your heart, as a sign on your arm; love is strong as death, and wrath bitter as the underworld: its coals are coals of fire; violent are its flames.

<sup>7</sup> Much water may not put out love, or the deep waters overcome it: if a man would give all the substance of his house for love, it would be judged a price not great enough.

<sup>8</sup> We have a young sister, and she has no breasts; what are we to do for our sister in the day when she is given to a man?

<sup>9</sup> If she is a wall, we will make on her a strong base of silver; and if she is a door, we will let her be shut up with cedar-wood.

<sup>10</sup> I am a wall, and my breasts are like towers; then was I in his eyes as one to whom good chance had come.

<sup>11</sup> Solomon had a vine-garden at Baal-hamon; he let out the vine-garden to keepers; every one had to give a thousand bits of silver for its fruit.

<sup>12</sup> My vine-garden, which is mine, is before me: you, O Solomon, will have the thousand, and those who keep the fruit of them two hundred.

<sup>13</sup> You who have your resting-place in the gardens, the friends give ear to your voice; make me give ear to it.

<sup>14</sup> Come quickly, my loved one, and be  
like a roe on the mountains of spice.

# I saiah

**1** <sup>1</sup> The vision of Isaiah, the son of Amoz, which he saw about Judah and Jerusalem, in the days of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, kings of Judah.

<sup>2</sup> Give ear, O heavens, and you, O earth, to the word which the Lord has said: I have taken care of my children till they became men, but their hearts have been turned away from me.

<sup>3</sup> Even the ox has knowledge of its owner, and the ass of the place where its master puts its food: but Israel has no knowledge, my people give no thought to me.

<sup>4</sup> O nation full of sin, a people weighted down with crime, a generation of evil-doers, false-hearted children: they have gone away from the Lord, they have no respect for the Holy One of Israel, their hearts are turned back from him.

<sup>5</sup> Why will you have more and more punishment? why keep on in your evil

ways? Every head is tired and every heart is feeble.

<sup>6</sup>The body, from head to foot, is all diseased; it is a mass of open wounds, marks of blows, and broken flesh: the flow of blood has not been stopped, and no oil has been put on the wounds.

<sup>7</sup>Your country has become waste; your towns are burned with fire; as for your land, it is overturned before your eyes, made waste and overcome by men from strange lands.

<sup>8</sup>And the daughter of Zion has become like a tent in a vine-garden, like a watchmans house in a field of fruit, like a town shut in by armies.

<sup>9</sup>If the Lord of armies had not kept some at least of us safe, we would have been like Sodom, and the fate of Gomorrah would have been ours.

<sup>10</sup>Give ear to the word of the Lord, you rulers of Sodom; let your hearts be turned to the law of our God, you people of Gomorrah.

<sup>11</sup>What use to me is the number of the offerings which you give me? says the Lord; your burned offerings of sheep, and the best parts of fat cattle, are a



weariness to me; I take no pleasure in the blood of oxen, or of lambs, or of he-goats.

<sup>12</sup>At whose request do you come before me, making my house unclean with your feet?

<sup>13</sup>Give me no more false offerings; the smoke of burning flesh is disgusting to me, so are your new moons and Sabbaths and your holy meetings.

<sup>14</sup>Your new moons and your regular feasts are a grief to my soul: they are a weight in my spirit; I am crushed under them.

<sup>15</sup>And when your hands are stretched out to me, my eyes will be turned away from you: even though you go on making prayers, I will not give ear: your hands are full of blood.

<sup>16</sup>Be washed, make yourselves clean; put away the evil of your doings from before my eyes; let there be an end of sinning;

<sup>17</sup>Take pleasure in well-doing; let your ways be upright, keep down the cruel, give a right decision for the child who has no father, see to the cause of the widow.

<sup>18</sup>Come now, and let us have an argument together, says the Lord: how may your sins which are red like blood be white as snow? how may their dark purple seem like wool?

<sup>19</sup>If you will give ear to my word and do it, the good things of the land will be yours;

<sup>20</sup>But if your hearts are turned against me, I will send destruction on you by the sword; so the Lord has said.

<sup>21</sup>The upright town has become untrue; there was a time when her judges gave right decisions, when righteousness had a resting-place in her, but now she is full of those who take mens lives.

<sup>22</sup>Your silver is no longer true metal, your wine is mixed with water.

<sup>23</sup>Your chiefs have gone against the Lord, they have become friends of thieves; every one of them is looking for profit and going after rewards; they do not give right decisions for the child who has no father, and they do not let the cause of the widow come before them.

<sup>24</sup>For this reason the Lord, the Lord of armies, the Strong One of Israel, has said, I will put an end to my haters,

and send punishment on those who are against me;

<sup>25</sup> And my hand will again be on you, washing away what is unclean as with soap, and taking away all your false metal;

<sup>26</sup> And I will give you judges again as at the first, and wise guides as in the past; then you will be named, The Town of Righteousness, the true town.

<sup>27</sup> Upright acts will be the price of Zions forgiveness, and by righteousness will men be living there.

<sup>28</sup> But a common destruction will overtake sinners and evil-doers together, and those who have gone away from the Lord will be cut off.

<sup>29</sup> For you will be put to shame because of the trees of your desire, and because of the gardens of your pleasure.

<sup>30</sup> For you will be like a tree whose leaves have become dry, and like a garden without water.

<sup>31</sup> And the strong will be as food for the fire, and his work as a flame; and they will be burned together, with no one to put out the fire.

**2**<sup>1</sup> The word which Isaiah, the son of Amoz, saw about Judah and Jerusalem.

<sup>2</sup> And it will come about in the last days, that the mountain of the Lord will be placed on the top of the mountains, and be lifted up over the hills; and all nations will come to it.

<sup>3</sup> And the peoples will say, Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob: and he will give us knowledge of his ways, and we will be guided by his word; for out of Zion the law will go out, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.

<sup>4</sup> And he will be the judge between the nations, and the peoples will be ruled by his decisions: and their swords will be turned into plough-blades, and their spears into vine-knives: no longer will the nations be turning their swords against one another, and the knowledge of war will be gone for ever.

<sup>5</sup> O family of Jacob, come, and let us go in the light of the Lord.

<sup>6</sup> For you, O Lord, have given up your people, the family of Jacob, because they are full of the evil ways of the

east, and make use of secret arts like the Philistines, and are friends with the children of strange countries.

<sup>7</sup> And their land is full of silver and gold, and there is no end to their stores; their land is full of horses, and there is no end to their carriages.

<sup>8</sup> Their land is full of images; they give worship to the work of their hands, even to that which their fingers have made.

<sup>9</sup> And the poor man's head is bent, and the great man goes down on his face: for this cause there will be no forgiveness for their sin.

<sup>10</sup> Go into a hole in the rock, covering yourselves with dust, in fear of the Lord, before the glory of his power.

<sup>11</sup> The high looks of man will be put to shame, and the pride of men will be made low, and only the Lord will be lifted up in that day.

<sup>12</sup> For the day of the Lord of armies is coming on all the pride of men, and on all who are high and lifted up;

<sup>13</sup> And on all the high trees of Lebanon, and on all the strong trees of Bashan;

<sup>14</sup> And on all the high mountains, and on all the hills which are lifted up;

<sup>15</sup>And on every high tower, and on every strong wall;

<sup>16</sup>And on all the ships of Tarshish, and on all the fair boats.

<sup>17</sup>And the high looks of man will be put to shame, and the pride of men will be made low: and only the Lord will be lifted up in that day.

<sup>18</sup>And the images will never be seen again.

<sup>19</sup>And men will go into cracks of the rocks, and into holes of the earth, for fear of the Lord, and before the glory of his power, when he comes out of his place, shaking the earth with his strength.

<sup>20</sup>In that day men will put their images of silver and of gold, which they made for worship, in the keeping of the beasts of the dark places;

<sup>21</sup>To take cover in the cracks of the rocks, and in the holes of the hills, for fear of the Lord, and before the glory of his power, when he comes out of his place, shaking the earth with his strength.

<sup>22</sup>Have no more to do with man, whose life is only a breath, for he is of no value.

**3**<sup>1</sup> For the Lord, the Lord of armies, is about to take away from Jerusalem and from Judah all their support; their store of bread and of water;

<sup>2</sup> The strong man and the man of war; the judge and the prophet; the man who has knowledge of secret arts, and the man who is wise because of his years;

<sup>3</sup> The captain of fifty, and the man of high position, and the wise guide, and the wonder-worker, and he who makes use of secret powers.

<sup>4</sup> And I will make children their chiefs, and foolish ones will have rule over them.

<sup>5</sup> And the people will be crushed, every one by his neighbour; the young will be full of pride against the old, and those of low position will be lifted up against the noble.

<sup>6</sup> When one man puts his hand on another in his fathers house, and says, You have clothing, be our ruler and be responsible for us in our sad condition:

<sup>7</sup> Then he will say with an oath, I will not be a helper, for in my house there is no bread or clothing: I will not let you make me a ruler of the people.

<sup>8</sup>For Jerusalem has become feeble, and destruction has come on Judah, because their words and their acts are against the Lord, moving the eyes of his glory to wrath.

<sup>9</sup>Their respect for a mans position is a witness against them; and their sin is open to the view of all; like that of Sodom, it is not covered. A curse on their soul! for the measure of their sin is full.

<sup>10</sup>Happy is the upright man! for he will have joy of the fruit of his ways.

<sup>11</sup>Unhappy is the sinner! for the reward of his evil doings will come on him.

<sup>12</sup>As for my people, their ruler is acting like a child, and those who have authority over them are women. O my people, your guides are the cause of your wandering, turning your footsteps out of the right way.

<sup>13</sup>The Lord is ready to take up his cause against his people, and is about to come forward as their judge.

<sup>14</sup>The Lord comes to be the judge of their responsible men and of their rulers: it is you who have made waste the vine-garden, and in your houses is



the property of the poor which you have taken by force.

<sup>15</sup>By what right are you crushing my people, and putting a bitter yoke on the necks of the poor? This is the word of the Lord, the Lord of armies.

<sup>16</sup>Again, the Lord has said, Because the daughters of Zion are full of pride, and go with outstretched necks and wandering eyes, with their foot-chains sounding when they go:

<sup>17</sup>The Lord will send disease on the heads of the daughters of Zion, and the Lord will let their secret parts be seen.

<sup>18</sup>In that day the Lord will take away the glory of their foot-rings, and their sun-jewels, and their moon-ornaments,

<sup>19</sup>The ear-rings, and the chains, and the delicate clothing,

<sup>20</sup>The head-bands, and the arm-chains, and the worked bands, and the perfume-boxes, and the jewels with secret powers,

<sup>21</sup>The rings, and the nose-jewels,

<sup>22</sup>The feast-day dresses, and the robes, and the wide skirts, and the handbags,

<sup>23</sup>The looking-glasses, and the fair linen, and the high head-dresses, and the veils.

<sup>24</sup>And in the place of sweet spices will be an evil smell, and for a fair band a thick cord; for a well-dressed head there will be the cutting-off of the hair, and for a beautiful robe there will be the clothing of sorrow; the mark of the prisoner in place of the ornaments of the free.

<sup>25</sup>Your men will be put to the sword, and your men of war will come to destruction in the fight.

<sup>26</sup>And in the public places of her towns will be sorrow and weeping; and she will be seated on the earth, waste and uncovered.

**4**<sup>1</sup>And in that day seven women will put their hands on one man, saying, There will be no need for you to give us food or clothing, only let us go under your name, so that our shame may be taken away.

<sup>2</sup>In that day will the young growth of the Lord be beautiful in glory, and the fruit of the earth will be the pride of those who are still living in Israel.

<sup>3</sup>And it will come about that the rest of the living in Zion, and of those who have been kept from destruction in Jerusalem, will be named holy, even everyone who has been recorded for life in Jerusalem:

<sup>4</sup>When Zion has been washed from her sin by the Lord, and Jerusalem made clean from her blood by a judging and a burning wind.

<sup>5</sup>And over every living-place on Mount Zion, all over all her meetings, the Lord will make a cloud and smoke by day, and the shining of a flaming fire by night, for over all, the glory of the Lord will be a cover and a tent;

<sup>6</sup>And a shade in the daytime from the heat, and a safe cover from storm and from rain.

**5**<sup>1</sup>Let me make a song about my loved one, a song of love for his vine-garden. My loved one had a vine-garden on a fertile hill:

<sup>2</sup>And after working the earth of it with a spade, he took away its stones, and put in it a very special vine; and he put up a watchtower in the middle of it, hollowing out in the rock a place for the grape-crushing; and he was hoping that

it would give the best grapes, but it gave common grapes.

<sup>3</sup>And now, you people of Jerusalem and you men of Judah, be the judges between me and my vine-garden.

<sup>4</sup>Is there anything which might have been done for my vine-garden which I have not done? why then, when I was hoping for the best grapes did it give me common grapes?

<sup>5</sup>And now, this is what I will do to my vine-garden: I will take away the circle of thorns round it, and it will be burned up; its wall will be broken down and the beasts of the field will go through it;

<sup>6</sup>And I will make it waste; its branches will not be touched with the knife, or the earth worked with the spade; but blackberries and thorns will come up in it: and I will give orders to the clouds not to send rain on it.

<sup>7</sup>For the vine-garden of the Lord of armies is the people of Israel, and the men of Judah are the plant of his delight: and he was looking for upright judging, and there was blood; for righteousness, and there was a cry for help.

<sup>8</sup>Cursed are those who are joining house to house, and putting field to field, till there is no more living-space for any but themselves in all the land!

<sup>9</sup>The Lord of armies has said to me secretly, Truly, numbers of great and fair houses will be waste, with no one living in them.

<sup>10</sup>For ten fields of vines will only give one measure of wine, and a great amount of seed will only give a small measure of grain.

<sup>11</sup>Cursed are those who get up early in the morning to give themselves up to strong drink; who keep on drinking far into the night till they are heated with wine!

<sup>12</sup>And corded instruments and wind-instruments and wine are in their feasts: but they give no thought to the work of the Lord, and they are not interested in what his hands are doing.

<sup>13</sup>For this cause my people are taken away as prisoners into strange countries for need of knowledge: and their rulers are wasted for need of food, and their loud-voiced feasters are dry for need of water.

<sup>14</sup>For this cause the underworld has made wide its throat, opening its mouth without limit: and her glory, and the noise of her masses, and her loud-voiced feasters, will go down into it.

<sup>15</sup>And the poor mans head is bent, and the great man goes down on his face, and the eyes of pride are put to shame:

<sup>16</sup>But the Lord of armies is lifted up as judge, and the Holy God is seen to be holy in righteousness.

<sup>17</sup>Then the lambs will get food as in their grass-lands, and the fat cattle will be feasting in the waste places.

<sup>18</sup>Cursed are those who make use of ox-cords for pulling the evil thing, and the bands of a young ox for their sin!

<sup>19</sup>Who say, Let him do his work quickly, let him make it sudden, so that we may see it: let the design of the Holy One of Israel come near, so that it may be clear to us.

<sup>20</sup>Cursed are those who give the name of good to evil, and of evil to what is good: who make light dark, and dark light: who make bitter sweet, and sweet bitter!

<sup>21</sup> Cursed are those who seem wise to themselves, and who take pride in their knowledge!

<sup>22</sup> Cursed are those who are strong to take wine, and great in making mixed drinks!

<sup>23</sup> Who for a reward give support to the cause of the sinner, and who take away the righteousness of the upright from him.

<sup>24</sup> For this cause, as the waste of the grain is burned up by tongues of fire, and as the dry grass goes down before the flame, so their root will be like the dry stems of grain, and their flower will go up in dust: because they have gone against the law of the Lord of armies, and have given no honour to the word of the Holy One of Israel.

<sup>25</sup> For this reason the wrath of the Lord has been burning against his people, and his hand has been stretched out against them in punishment, and the hills were shaking, and their dead bodies were like waste in the open places of the town.

<sup>26</sup> And he will let a flag be lifted up as a sign to a far-off nation, whistling to them

from the ends of the earth: and they will come quickly and suddenly.

<sup>27</sup> There is no weariness among them, and no man is feeble-footed: they come without resting or sleeping, and the cord of their shoes is not broken.

<sup>28</sup> Their arrows are sharp, and every bow is bent: the feet of their horses are like rock, and their wheels are like a rushing storm.

<sup>29</sup> The sound of their armies will be like the voice of a lion, and their war-cry like the noise of young lions: with loud cries they will come down on their food and will take it away safely, and there will be no one to take it out of their hands.

<sup>30</sup> And his voice will be loud over him in that day like the sounding of the sea: and if a mans eyes are turned to the earth, it is all dark and full of trouble; and the light is made dark by thick clouds.

**6**<sup>1</sup> In the year of King Uzziahs death I saw the Lord seated in his place, high and lifted up, and the Temple was full of the wide skirts of his robe.

<sup>2</sup> Over him were the winged ones: every one had six wings; two for covering his



face, two for covering his feet, and two for flight.

<sup>3</sup>And one said in a loud voice to another, Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord of armies: all the earth is full of his glory.

<sup>4</sup>And the bases of the door-pillars were shaking at the sound of his cry, and the house was full of smoke.

<sup>5</sup>Then I said, The curse is on me, and my fate is destruction; for I am a man of unclean lips, living among a people of unclean lips; for my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of armies.

<sup>6</sup>Then a winged one came to me with a burning coal in his hand, which he had taken from off the altar with the fire-spoon.

<sup>7</sup>And after touching my mouth with it, he said, See, your lips have been touched with this; and your evil is taken away, and you are made clean from sin.

<sup>8</sup>And the voice of the Lord came to my ears, saying, Whom am I to send, and who will go for us? Then I said, Here am I, send me.

<sup>9</sup>And he said, Go, and say to this people, You will go on hearing, but

learning nothing; you will go on seeing, but without getting wiser.

<sup>10</sup>Make the hearts of this people fat, and let their ears be stopped, and their eyes shut; for fear that they may see with their eyes, and be hearing with their ears, and their heart may become wise, and they may be turned to me and made well.

<sup>11</sup>Then I said, Lord, how long? And he said in answer, Till the towns are waste and unpeopled, and the houses have no men, and the land becomes completely waste,

<sup>12</sup>And the Lord has taken men far away, and there are wide waste places in the land.

<sup>13</sup>And even if there is still a tenth part in it, it will again be burned, like a tree of the woods whose broken end is still in the earth after the tree has been cut down (the holy seed is the broken end).

**7**<sup>1</sup>Now it came about in the days of Ahaz, the son of Jotham, the son of Uzziah, king of Judah, that Rezin, the king of Aram, and Pekah, the son of Remaliah, the king of Israel, came up to

Jerusalem to make war against it, but were not able to overcome it.

<sup>2</sup>And word came to the family of David that Aram had put up its tents in Ephraim. And the kings heart, and the hearts of his people, were moved, like the trees of the wood shaking in the wind.

<sup>3</sup>Then the Lord said to Isaiah, Go out now, you and Shear-jashub, your son, and you will come across Ahaz at the end of the stream flowing from the higher pool, in the highway of the washermans field;

<sup>4</sup>And say to him, Take care and be quiet; have no fear, and do not let your heart be feeble, because of these two ends of smoking fire-wood, because of the bitter wrath of Rezin and Aram, and of the son of Remaliah.

<sup>5</sup>Because Aram has made evil designs against you, saying,

<sup>6</sup>Let us go up against Judah, troubling her, and forcing our way into her, and let us put up a king in her, even the son of Tabeel:

<sup>7</sup> This is the word of the Lord God: This design will not come about or be effected.

<sup>8</sup> For the head of Aram is Damascus, and the head of Damascus is Rezin (and in sixty-five years from now Ephraim will be broken, and will no longer be a people):

<sup>9</sup> And the head of Ephraim is Samaria, and the head of Samaria is Remaliahs son. If you will not have faith, your kingdom will be broken.

<sup>10</sup> And Isaiah said again to Ahaz,

<sup>11</sup> Make a request to the Lord your God for a sign, a sign in the deep places of the underworld, or in the high heavens.

<sup>12</sup> But Ahaz said, I will not put the Lord to the test by making such a request.

<sup>13</sup> And he said, Give ear now, O family of David: is it not enough that you are driving men to disgust? will you do the same to my God?

<sup>14</sup> For this cause the Lord himself will give you a sign; a young woman is now with child, and she will give birth to a son, and she will give him the name Immanuel.

<sup>15</sup> Butter and honey will be his food, when he is old enough to make a decision between evil and good.

<sup>16</sup> For before the child is old enough to make a decision between evil and good, the land whose two kings you are now fearing will have become waste.

<sup>17</sup> The Lord is about to send on you, and on your people, and on your fathers house, such a time of trouble as there has not been from the days of the separating of Ephraim from Judah; even the coming of the king of Assyria.

<sup>18</sup> And it will be in that day that the Lord will make a piping sound for the fly which is in the end of the rivers of Egypt, and for the bee which is in the land of Assyria.

<sup>19</sup> And they will come, covering all the waste valleys, and the holes of the rocks, and the thorns, and all the watering-places.

<sup>20</sup> In that day will the Lord take away the hair of the head and of the feet, as well as the hair of the face, with a blade got for a price from the other side of the River; even with the king of Assyria.

<sup>21</sup> And it will be in that day that a man will give food to a young cow and two sheep;

<sup>22</sup> And they will give so much milk that he will be able to have butter for his food: for butter and honey will be the food of all who are still living in the land.

<sup>23</sup> And it will be in that day that in every place where before there were a thousand vines valued at a thousand shekels of silver, there will be nothing but blackberries and thorns.

<sup>24</sup> Men will come there with bows and arrows, because all the land will be full of blackberries and thorns.

<sup>25</sup> And they will send out the oxen and the sheep on all the hills which before were worked with the spade, fear of blackberries and thorns.

**8**<sup>1</sup> And the Lord said to me, Take a great writing-board, and on it put down in common letters, Maher-shalal-hash-baz;

<sup>2</sup> And take true witnesses to the writing, Uriah the priest, and Zechariah, the son of Jeberechiah.

<sup>3</sup> And I went in to my wife, and she became with child, and gave birth to a

son. Then the Lord said to me, Give him the name Maher-shalal-hash-baz,

<sup>4</sup>For before the child is able to say, Father, or, Mother, the wealth of Damascus and the goods of Samaria will be taken away by the king of Assyria.

<sup>5</sup>And the Lord said again to me,

<sup>6</sup>Because this people will have nothing to do with the softly-flowing waters of Shiloah, and have fear of Rezin and Remaliahs son;

<sup>7</sup>For this cause the Lord is sending on them the waters of the River, deep and strong, even the king of Assyria and all his glory: and it will come up through all its streams, overflowing all its edges:

<sup>8</sup>And it will come on into Judah; rushing on and overflowing, till the waters are up to the neck; \* \* \* and his outstretched wings will be covering the land from side to side: for God is with us.

<sup>9</sup>Have knowledge, O peoples, and be in fear; give ear, all you far-off parts of the earth:

<sup>10</sup>Let your designs be formed, and they will come to nothing; give your orders, and they will not be effected: for God is with us.

<sup>11</sup> For the Lord, controlling me with a strong hand, gave me orders not to go in the way of this people, saying,

<sup>12</sup> Do not say, It is holy, about everything of which this people says, It is holy; and do not be in fear of what they go in fear of.

<sup>13</sup> But let the Lord of armies be holy to you, and go in fear of him, giving honour to him.

<sup>14</sup> And he will be for a holy place: but for a stone of falling and a rock of trouble to the two houses of Israel, and to the men of Jerusalem, for a net in which they may be taken.

<sup>15</sup> And numbers of them, falling on the stone, will be broken, and will be taken in the net.

<sup>16</sup> Let my teaching be kept secret: and my words be given to my disciples only.

<sup>17</sup> And I will be waiting for the Lord, whose face is veiled from the house of Jacob, and I will be looking for him.

<sup>18</sup> See, I and the children whom the Lord has given me, are for signs and for wonders in Israel from the Lord of armies, whose resting-place is in Mount Zion.



<sup>19</sup>And when they say to you, Make request for us to those who have control of spirits, and to those wise in secret arts, who make hollow bird-like sounds; is it not right for a people to make request to their gods, to make request for the living to the dead?

<sup>20</sup>Then say to them, Put your faith in the teaching and the witness. If they do not say such things. For him there is no dawn.

<sup>21</sup>And he will go through the land in bitter trouble and in need of food; and when he is unable to get food, he will become angry, cursing his king and his God, and his eyes will be turned to heaven on high;

<sup>22</sup>And he will be looking down on the earth, and there will be trouble and dark clouds, black night where there is no seeing.

**9**<sup>1</sup>In earlier times he made the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali of small value, but after that he gave it glory, by the way of the sea, on the other side of Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

<sup>2</sup>The people who went in the dark have seen a great light, and for those who

were living in the land of the deepest night, the light is shining.

<sup>3</sup>You have made them very glad, increasing their joy. They are glad before you as men are glad in the time of getting in the grain, or when they make division of the goods taken in war.

<sup>4</sup>For by your hand the yoke on his neck and the rod on his back, even the rod of his cruel master, have been broken, as in the day of Midian.

<sup>5</sup>For every boot of the man of war with his sounding step, and the clothing rolled in blood, will be for burning, food for the fire.

<sup>6</sup>For to us a child has come, to us a son is given; and the government has been placed in his hands; and he has been named Wise Guide, Strong God, Father for ever, Prince of Peace.

<sup>7</sup>Of the increase of his rule and of peace there will be no end, on the seat of David, and in his kingdom; to make it strong, supporting it with wise decision and righteousness, now and for ever. By the fixed purpose of the Lord of armies this will be done.

<sup>8</sup>The Lord has sent a word to Jacob,  
and it has come on Israel;

<sup>9</sup>And all the people will have experience  
of it, even Ephraim and the men of  
Samaria, who say in the pride of their  
uplifted hearts,

<sup>10</sup>The bricks have come down, but we  
will put up buildings of cut stone in their  
place: the sycamores are cut down, but  
they will be changed to cedars.

<sup>11</sup>For this cause the Lord has made  
strong the haters of Israel, driving them  
on to make war against him;

<sup>12</sup>Aram on the east, and the Philistines  
on the west, who have come against  
Israel with open mouths. For all this his  
wrath is not turned away, but his hand is  
stretched out still.

<sup>13</sup>But the heart of the people was not  
turned to him who sent punishment on  
them, and they made no prayer to the  
Lord of armies.

<sup>14</sup>For this cause the Lord took away  
from Israel head and tail, high and low,  
in one day.

<sup>15</sup>The man who is honoured and  
responsible is the head, and the prophet  
who gives false teaching is the tail.

<sup>16</sup>For the guides of this people are the cause of their wandering from the right way, and those who are guided by them come to destruction.

<sup>17</sup>For this cause the Lord will have no pleasure in their young men, and no pity on their widows and the children without fathers: for they are all haters of God and evil-doers, and foolish words come from every mouth. For all this his wrath is not turned away, but his hand is stretched out still.

<sup>18</sup>For evil was burning like a fire; the blackberries and thorns were burned up; the thick woods took fire, rolling up in dark clouds of smoke.

<sup>19</sup>The land was dark with the wrath of the Lord of armies: the people were like those who take mens flesh for food.

<sup>20</sup>On the right a man was cutting off bits and was still in need; on the left a man took a meal but had not enough; no man had pity on his brother; every man was making a meal of the flesh of his neighbour.

<sup>21</sup>Manasseh was making a meal of Ephraim, and Ephraim of Manasseh; and together they were attacking Judah. For

all this his wrath is not turned away, but his hand is stretched out still.

**10**<sup>1</sup> Cursed are those who make evil decisions, and the writers who make the records of their cruel acts:

<sup>2</sup> Who do wrong to the poor in their cause, and take away the right of the crushed among my people, so that they may have the property of widows, and get under their power those who have no father.

<sup>3</sup> And what will you do in the day of punishment, and in the destruction which is coming from far? to whom will you go for help, and what will become of your glory?

<sup>4</sup> For all this his wrath is not turned away, but his hand is stretched out still.

<sup>5</sup> Ho! Assyrian, the rod of my wrath, the instrument of my punishment!

<sup>6</sup> I will send him against a nation of wrongdoers, and against the people of my wrath I will give him orders, to take their wealth in war, crushing them down like the dust in the streets.

<sup>7</sup> But this is not what is in his mind, and this is not his design; but his purpose is

destruction, and the cutting off of more and more nations.

<sup>8</sup>For he says, Are not all my captains kings?

<sup>9</sup>Will not the fate of Calno be like that of Carchemish? is not Hamath as Arpad? is not Samaria as Damascus?

<sup>10</sup>As my hand has come on the kingdoms of the images, whose pictured images were more in number than those of Jerusalem and Samaria;

<sup>11</sup>So, as I have done to Samaria and her images, I will do to Jerusalem and her images.

<sup>12</sup>For this cause it will be that, when the purpose of the Lord against Mount Zion and Jerusalem is complete, I will send punishment on the pride of the heart of the king of Assyria, and on the glory of his uplifted eyes.

<sup>13</sup>For he has said, By the strength of my hand I have done it, and by my knowledge, for I am wise: and I have taken away the limits of the peoples lands, and the stores of their wealth have become mine; and I have made towns low in the dust, sending destruction on those living in them;

<sup>14</sup>And I have put my hands on the wealth of the peoples, as on the place where a bird has put her eggs; and as a man may take the eggs from which a bird has gone, so I have taken all the earth for myself: and not a wing was moved, and not a mouth gave out a sound.

<sup>15</sup>Will the axe say high-sounding words against him who is using it, or the blade be full of pride against him who is cutting with it? As if a rod had the power of shaking him who is using it, or as if a stick might take up him who is not wood.

<sup>16</sup>For this cause the Lord, the Lord of armies, will make his fat become wasted; and in his inner parts a fire will be lighted like a burning flame.

<sup>17</sup>And the light of Israel will be for a fire, and his Holy One for a flame: wasting and burning up his thorns in one day.

<sup>18</sup>And he will put an end to the glory of his woods and of his planted fields, soul and body together; and it will be as when a man is wasted by disease.

<sup>19</sup>And the rest of the trees of his wood will be small in number, so that a child may put them down in writing.

<sup>20</sup>And it will be in that day that the rest of Israel, and those of Jacob who have come safely through these troubles, will no longer go for help to him whose rod was on their back, but their faith will be in the Lord, the Holy One of Israel.

<sup>21</sup>The rest, even the rest of Jacob, will come back to the Strong God.

<sup>22</sup>For though your people, O Israel, are as the sand of the sea, only a small number will come back: for the destruction is fixed, overflowing in righteousness.

<sup>23</sup>For the Lord, the Lord of armies, is about to make destruction complete in all the land.

<sup>24</sup>For this cause the Lord, the Lord of armies, says, O my people living in Zion, have no fear of the Assyrian, even if his rod comes on your back, and his stick is lifted up as in Egypt.

<sup>25</sup>For in a very short time my passion will be over, and my wrath will be turned to their destruction.



<sup>26</sup>And the Lord of armies will be shaking a whip against him, as when he overcame Midian at the rock of Oreb: and his rod will be lifted up against them as it was against the Egyptians.

<sup>27</sup>And in that day the weight which he put on your back will be taken away, and his yoke broken from off your neck.

<sup>28</sup>He has gone up from Pene-Rimmon, he has come to Aiath; he has gone past Migron, at Michmash he puts his forces in order.

<sup>29</sup>They have gone across the mountain; Geba will be our resting-place tonight, they say: Ramah is shaking with fear; Gibeah of Saul has gone in flight.

<sup>30</sup>Give a loud cry, daughter of Gallim; let Laishah give ear; let Anathoth give answer to her.

<sup>31</sup>Madmenah has gone; the men of Gebim are putting their goods in a safe place.

<sup>32</sup>This very day he is stopping at Nob; he is shaking his hand against the mountain of the daughter of Zion, the hill of Jerusalem.

<sup>33</sup>See, the Lord, the Lord of armies, is cutting off his branches with a great

noise, and his strong ones are falling and his high ones are coming down.

<sup>34</sup>And he is cutting down the thick places of the wood with an axe, and Lebanon with its tall trees is coming down.

**11** <sup>1</sup>And there will come a rod out of the broken tree of Jesse, and a branch out of his roots will give fruit.

<sup>2</sup>And the spirit of the Lord will be resting on him, the spirit of wisdom and good sense, the spirit of wise guiding and strength, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord;

<sup>3</sup>And he will not be guided in his judging by what he sees, or give decisions by the hearing of his ears:

<sup>4</sup>But he will do right in the cause of the poor, and give wise decisions for those in the land who are in need; and the rod of his mouth will come down on the cruel, and with the breath of his lips he will put an end to the evil-doer.

<sup>5</sup>And righteousness will be the cord of his robe, and good faith the band round his breast.

<sup>6</sup>And the wolf will be living with the lamb, and the leopard will take his rest

with the young goat; and the lion will take grass for food like the ox; and the young lion will go with the young ones of the herd; and a little child will be their guide.

<sup>7</sup>And the cow and the bear will be friends while their young ones are sleeping together.

<sup>8</sup>And the child at the breast will be playing by the hole of the snake, and the older child will put his hand on the bright eye of the poison-snake.

<sup>9</sup>There will be no cause of pain or destruction in all my holy mountain: for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the sea is covered by the waters.

<sup>10</sup>And in that day, the eyes of the nations will be turned to the root of Jesse which will be lifted up as the flag of the peoples; and his resting-place will be glory.

<sup>11</sup>And in that day the hand of the Lord will be stretched out the second time to get back the rest of his people, from Assyria, and from Egypt, and from Pathros, and from Cush, and from Elam,

and from Shinar, and from Hamath, and from the sea-lands.

<sup>12</sup>And he will put up a flag as a sign to the nations, and he will get together those of Israel who had been sent away, and the wandering ones of Judah, from the four ends of the earth.

<sup>13</sup>And the envy of Ephraim will be gone, and those who make trouble for Judah will come to an end: Ephraim will have no more envy of Judah, and there will be an end of Judah's hate for Ephraim.

<sup>14</sup>And they will be united in attacking the Philistines on the west, and together they will take the goods of the children of the east: their hand will be on Edom and Moab; and the children of Ammon will be under their rule.

<sup>15</sup>And the Lord will make the tongue of the Egyptian sea completely dry; and with his burning wind his hand will be stretched out over the River, and it will be parted into seven streams, so that men may go over it with dry feet.

<sup>16</sup>And there will be a highway for the rest of his people from Assyria; as there was for Israel in the day when he came up out of the land of Egypt.

**12**<sup>1</sup> And in that day you will say I will give praise to you, O Lord; for though you were angry with me, your wrath is turned away, and I am comforted.

<sup>2</sup> See, God is my salvation; I will have faith in the Lord, without fear: for the Lord Jah is my strength and song; and he has become my salvation.

<sup>3</sup> So with joy will you get water out of the springs of salvation.

<sup>4</sup> And in that day you will say, Give praise to the Lord, let his name be honoured, give word of his doings among the peoples, say that his name is lifted up.

<sup>5</sup> Make a song to the Lord; for he has done noble things: give news of them through all the earth.

<sup>6</sup> Let your voice be sounding in a cry of joy, O daughter of Zion, for great is the Holy One of Israel among you.

**13**<sup>1</sup> The word of the Lord about Babylon which Isaiah, the son of Amoz, saw.

<sup>2</sup> Put up a flag on a clear mountain-top, make a loud outcry to them, give

directions with the hand, so that they may go into the doors of the great ones.

<sup>3</sup>I have given orders to my holy ones, I have sent out my men of war, those of mine who take pride in their power, to give effect to my wrath.

<sup>4</sup>The noise of great numbers in the mountains, like the noise of a strong people! The noise of the kingdoms of the nations meeting together! The Lord of armies is numbering his forces for war.

<sup>5</sup>They come from a far country, from the farthest part of heaven, even the Lord and the instruments of his wrath, with destruction for all the land.

<sup>6</sup>Send out a cry of grief; for the day of the Lord is near; it comes as destruction from the Most High.

<sup>7</sup>For this cause all hands will be feeble, and every heart of man be turned to water;

<sup>8</sup>Their hearts will be full of fear; pains and sorrows will overcome them; they will be in pain like a woman in childbirth; they will be shocked at one another; their faces will be like flames.

<sup>9</sup>See, the day of the Lord is coming, cruel, with wrath and burning passion:

to make the land a waste, driving the sinners in it to destruction.

<sup>10</sup>For the stars of heaven and its bright armies will not give their light: the sun will be made dark in his journey through the heaven, and the moon will keep back her light.

<sup>11</sup>And I will send punishment on the world for its evil, and on the sinners for their wrongdoing; and I will put an end to all pride, and will make low the power of the cruel.

<sup>12</sup>I will make men so small in number, that a man will be harder to get than gold, even the best gold of Ophir.

<sup>13</sup>For this cause the heavens will be shaking, and the earth will be moved out of its place, in the wrath of the Lord of armies, and in the day of his burning passion.

<sup>14</sup>And it will be that, like a roe in flight, and like wandering sheep, they will go every man to his people and to his land.

<sup>15</sup>Everyone who is overtaken will have a spear put through him, and everyone who goes in flight will be put to the sword.

<sup>16</sup> Their young children will be broken up before their eyes; their goods will be taken away, and their wives made the property of others.

<sup>17</sup> See, I am driving the Medes against them, who put no value on silver and have no pleasure in gold.

<sup>18</sup> In their hands are bows and spears; they are cruel, violently putting the young men to death, and crushing the young women; they have no pity for children, and no mercy for the fruit of the body.

<sup>19</sup> And Babylon, the glory of kingdoms, the beautiful town which is the pride of the Chaldaeans, will be like Gods destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah.

<sup>20</sup> People will never be living in it again, and it will have no more men from generation to generation: the Arab will not put up his tent there; and those who keep sheep will not make it a resting-place for their flocks.

<sup>21</sup> But the beasts of the waste land will have their holes there; and the houses will be full of crying jackals, and ostriches will have their place there, and evil spirits will be dancing there.



<sup>22</sup>And wolves will be answering one another in their towers, and jackals in their houses of pleasure: her time is near, and her days of power will quickly be ended.

**14**<sup>1</sup>For the Lord will have mercy on Jacob, and will again make Israel his special people, and will put them in their land; and the man from a strange country will take his place among them and be joined to the family of Jacob.

<sup>2</sup>And the people will take them with them to their place: and the children of Israel will give them a heritage in the Lords land as men-servants and women-servants, making them prisoners whose prisoners they were; and they will be rulers over their masters.

<sup>3</sup>And it will be, in the day when the Lord gives you rest from your sorrow, and from your trouble, and from the hard yoke which they had put on you,

<sup>4</sup>That you will take up this bitter song against the king of Babylon, and say, How has the cruel overseer come to an end! He who was lifted up in pride is cut off;

<sup>5</sup>The stick of the evil-doers, the rod of the rulers, is broken by the Lord;

<sup>6</sup>He whose rod was on the peoples with an unending wrath, ruling the nations in passion, with an uncontrolled rule.

<sup>7</sup>All the earth is at rest and is quiet: they are bursting into song.

<sup>8</sup>Even the trees of the wood are glad over you, the trees of Lebanon, saying, From the time of your fall no wood-cutter has come up against us with an axe.

<sup>9</sup>The underworld is moved at your coming: the shades of the dead are awake before you, even the strong ones of the earth; all the kings of the world have got up from their seats.

<sup>10</sup>They all make answer and say to you, Have you become feeble like us? have you been made even as we are?

<sup>11</sup>Your pride has gone down into the underworld, and the noise of your instruments of music; the worms are under you, and your body is covered with them.

<sup>12</sup>How great is your fall from heaven, O shining one, son of the morning! How are you cut down to the earth, low among the dead bodies!

<sup>13</sup>For you said in your heart, I will go up to heaven, I will make my seat higher than the stars of God; I will take my place on the mountain of the meeting-place of the gods, in the inmost parts of the north.

<sup>14</sup>I will go higher than the clouds; I will be like the Most High.

<sup>15</sup>But you will come down to the underworld, even to its inmost parts.

<sup>16</sup>Those who see you will be looking on you with care, they will be in deep thought, saying, Is this the troubler of the earth, the shaker of kingdoms?

<sup>17</sup>Who made the world a waste, overturning its towns; who did not let his prisoners loose from the prison-house.

<sup>18</sup>All the kings of the earth are at rest in glory, every man in his house,

<sup>19</sup>But you, like a birth before its time, are stretched out with no resting-place in the earth; clothed with the bodies of the dead who have been put to the sword, who go down to the lowest parts of the underworld; a dead body, crushed under foot.

<sup>20</sup>As for your fathers, you will not be united with them in their resting-place,

because you have been the cause of destruction to your land, and of death to your people; the seed of the evil-doer will have no place in the memory of man.

<sup>21</sup> Make ready a place of death for his children, because of the evil-doing of their father; so that they may not come up and take the earth for their heritage, covering the face of the world with waste places.

<sup>22</sup> For I will come up against them, says the Lord of armies, cutting off from Babylon name and offspring, son and sons son, says the Lord.

<sup>23</sup> And I will make you a heritage for the hedgehog, and pools of water: and I will go through it with the brush of destruction, says the Lord of armies.

<sup>24</sup> The Lord has taken an oath, saying, My design will certainly come about, and my purpose will be effected:

<sup>25</sup> To let the Assyrian be broken in my land, and crushed under foot on my mountains: there will his yoke be taken away from them, and his rule over them come to an end.

<sup>26</sup> This is the purpose for all the earth: and this is the hand stretched out over all nations.

<sup>27</sup> For it is the purpose of the Lord of armies, and who will make it of no effect? when his hand is stretched out, by whom may it be turned back?

<sup>28</sup> In the year of the death of King Ahaz this word came to the prophet:

<sup>29</sup> Be not glad, O Philistia, all of you, because the rod which was on you is broken: for out of the snakes root will come a poison-snake, and its fruit will be a winged poison-snake.

<sup>30</sup> And the poorest of the land will have food, and those in need will be given a safe resting-place: but your seed will come to an end for need of food, and the rest of you will be put to the sword.

<sup>31</sup> Send out a cry, O door! Make sounds of sorrow, O town! All your land has come to nothing, O Philistia; for there comes a smoke out of the north, and everyone keeps his place in the line.

<sup>32</sup> What answer, then, will my people give to the representatives of the nation? That the Lord is the builder of Zion, and

she will be a safe place for the poor of his people.

**15**<sup>1</sup> The word about Moab. For in a night Ar of Moab has become waste, and is seen no longer; for in a night Kir of Moab has become waste, and is seen no longer.

<sup>2</sup> The daughter of Dibon has gone up to the high places, weeping: Moab is sounding her cry of sorrow over Nebo, and over Medeba: everywhere the hair of the head and of the face is cut off.

<sup>3</sup> In their streets they are covering themselves with haircloth: on the tops of their houses, and in their public places, there is crying and bitter weeping.

<sup>4</sup> Heshbon is crying out, and Elealeh; their voice is sounding even to Jahaz: for this cause the heart of Moab is shaking; his soul is shaking with fear.

<sup>5</sup> My heart is crying out for Moab; her people go in flight to Zoar, and to Eglath-shelishiyah: for they go up with weeping by the slope of Luhith; on the way to Horonaim they send up a cry of destruction.

<sup>6</sup> The waters of Nimrim will become dry: for the grass is burned up, the young

grass is coming to an end, every green thing is dead.

<sup>7</sup>For this cause they will take away their wealth, and the stores they have got together, over the stream of the water-plants.

<sup>8</sup>For the cry has gone round the limits of Moab; as far as to Eglaim and Beer-elim.

<sup>9</sup>For the waters of Dimon are full of blood: and I'm sending even more on Moab, a lion on those of Moab who go in flight, and on the rest of the land.

**16**<sup>1</sup>And they will send to the mountain of the daughter of Zion.

<sup>2</sup>For the daughters of Moab will be like wandering birds, like a place from which the young birds have gone in flight, at the ways across the Arnon.

<sup>3</sup>Give wise directions, make a decision; let your shade be as night in full day: keep safe those who are in flight; do not give up the wandering ones.

<sup>4</sup>Let those who have been forced out of Moab have a resting-place with you; be a cover to them from him who is making waste their land: till the cruel ones are cut off, and wasting has come to an end,

and those who take pleasure in crushing the poor are gone from the land.

<sup>5</sup>Then a king's seat will be based on mercy, and one will be seated on it in the tent of David for ever; judging uprightly, and quick to do righteousness.

<sup>6</sup>We have had word of the pride of Moab, how great it is; how he is lifted up in pride and passion: his high words about himself are false.

<sup>7</sup>For this cause everyone in Moab will give cries of grief for Moab: crushed to the earth, they will be weeping for the men of Kir-hareseth.

<sup>8</sup>For the fields of Heshbon are waste, the vine of Sibmah is dead; the lords of nations were overcome by the produce of her vines; her vine-plants went as far as Jazer, and came even to the waste land; her branches were stretched out to the sea.

<sup>9</sup>For this cause my sorrow for the vine of Sibmah will be like the weeping for Jazer: my eyes are dropping water on you, O Heshbon and Elealeh! For they are sounding the war-cry over your summer fruits and the getting in of your grain;



<sup>10</sup>And all joy is gone; no longer are they glad for the fertile field; and in the vine-gardens there are no songs or sounds of joy: the crushing of grapes has come to an end, and its glad cry has been stopped.

<sup>11</sup>For this cause the cords of my heart are sounding for Moab, and I am full of sorrow for Kir-heres.

<sup>12</sup>And when Moab goes up to the high place, and makes prayer in the house of his god, it will have no effect.

<sup>13</sup>This is the word which the Lord said about Moab in the past.

<sup>14</sup>But now the Lord has said, In three years, the years of a servant working for payment, the glory of Moab, all that great people, will be turned to shame, and the rest of Moab will be very small and without honour.

**17**<sup>1</sup>The word about Damascus. See, they have made Damascus a town no longer; it has become a waste place.

<sup>2</sup>Her towns are unpeopled for ever; there the flocks take their rest in peace, without fear.

<sup>3</sup>The strong tower has gone from Ephraim, and the kingdom from

Damascus: the rest of Aram will come to destruction, and be made like the glory of the children of Israel, says the Lord of armies.

<sup>4</sup>And it will be in that day that the glory of Jacob will be made small, and the strength of his body will become feeble.

<sup>5</sup>And it will be like a man cutting the growth of his grain, pulling together the heads of the grain with his arm; even as when they get in the grain in the valley of Rephaim.

<sup>6</sup>But it will be like a man shaking an olive-tree, something will still be there, two or three berries on the top of the highest branch, four or five on the outside branches of a fertile tree, says the Lord, the God of Israel.

<sup>7</sup>In that day a mans heart will be turned to his Maker, and his eyes to the Holy One of Israel.

<sup>8</sup>He will not be looking to the altars, the work of his hands, or to the wood pillars or to the sun-images which his fingers have made.

<sup>9</sup>In that day your towns will be like the waste places of the Hivites and the Amorites which the children of Israel

took for a heritage, and they will come to destruction.

<sup>10</sup>For you have not given honour to the God of your salvation, and have not kept in mind the Rock of your strength; for this cause you made a garden of Adonis, and put in it the vine-cuttings of a strange god;

<sup>11</sup>In the day of your planting you were watching its growth, and in the morning your seed was flowering: but its fruit is wasted away in the day of grief and bitter sorrow.

<sup>12</sup>Ah! the voice of peoples, like the loud sounding of the seas, and the thundering of great nations rushing on like the bursting out of waters!

<sup>13</sup>But he will put a stop to them, and make them go in flight far away, driving them like the waste of the grain on the tops of the mountains before the wind, and like the circling dust before the storm.

<sup>14</sup>In the evening there is fear, and in the morning they are gone. This is the fate of those who take our goods, and the reward of those who violently take our property for themselves.

**18**<sup>1</sup> Ho! land of the sounding of wings, on the other side of the rivers of Ethiopia:

<sup>2</sup> Which sends its representatives by the sea, even in ships of papyrus on the waters. Go back quickly, O representatives, to a nation tall and smooth, to a people causing fear through all their history; a strong nation, crushing down its haters, whose land is cut through by rivers.

<sup>3</sup> All you peoples of the world, and you who are living on the earth, when a flag is lifted up on the mountains, give attention; and when the horn is sounded, give ear.

<sup>4</sup> For this is what the Lord has said to me: I will be quiet, watching from my place; like the clear heat when the sun is shining, like a mist of dew in the heat of summer.

<sup>5</sup> For before the time of getting in the grapes, after the opening of the bud, when the flower has become a grape ready for crushing, he will take away the small branches with knives, cutting down and taking away the wide-stretching branches.

<sup>6</sup>They will be for the birds of the mountains, and for the beasts of the earth: the birds will come down on them in the summer, and the beasts of the earth in the winter.

<sup>7</sup>In that time an offering will be made to the Lord of armies from a people tall and smooth, causing fear through all their history; a strong nation, crushing down its haters, whose land is cut through by rivers, an offering taken to the place of the name of the Lord of armies, even Mount Zion.

**19**<sup>1</sup>The word about Egypt. See, the Lord is seated on a quick-moving cloud, and is coming to Egypt: and the false gods of Egypt will be troubled at his coming, and the heart of Egypt will be turned to water.

<sup>2</sup>And I will send the Egyptians against the Egyptians: and they will be fighting every one against his brother, and every one against his neighbour; town against town, and kingdom against kingdom.

<sup>3</sup>And the spirit of Egypt will be troubled in her, and I will make her decisions without effect: and they will be turning to the false gods, and to those who make

hollow sounds, and to those who have control of spirits, and to those who are wise in secret arts.

<sup>4</sup>And I will give the Egyptians into the hand of a cruel lord; and a hard king will be their ruler, says the Lord, the Lord of armies.

<sup>5</sup>And the waters of the sea will be cut off, and the river will become dry and waste:

<sup>6</sup>And the rivers will have an evil smell; the stream of Egypt will become small and dry: all the water-plants will come to nothing.

<sup>7</sup>The grass-lands by the Nile, and everything planted by the Nile, will become dry, or taken away by the wind, and will come to an end.

<sup>8</sup>The fishermen will be sad, and all those who put fishing-lines into the Nile will be full of grief, and those whose nets are stretched out on the waters will have sorrow in their hearts.

<sup>9</sup>And all the workers in linen thread, and those who make cotton cloth, will be put to shame.

<sup>10</sup>And the makers of twisted thread will be crushed, and those who will be sad in heart.

<sup>11</sup>The chiefs of Zoan are completely foolish; the wisest guides of Pharaoh have become like beasts: how do you say to Pharaoh, I am the son of the wise, the offspring of early kings?

<sup>12</sup>Where, then, are your wise men? let them make clear to you, let them give you knowledge of the purpose of the Lord of armies for Egypt.

<sup>13</sup>The chiefs of Zoan have become foolish, the chiefs of Noph are tricked, the heads of her tribes are the cause of Egypt's wandering out of the way.

<sup>14</sup>The Lord has sent among them a spirit of error: and by them Egypt is turned out of the right way in all her doings, as a man overcome by wine is uncertain in his steps.

<sup>15</sup>And in Egypt there will be no work for any man, head or tail, high or low, to do.

<sup>16</sup>In that day the Egyptians will be like women: and the land will be shaking with fear because of the waving of the Lord's hand stretched out over it.

<sup>17</sup> And the land of Judah will become a cause of great fear to Egypt; whenever its name comes to mind, Egypt will be in fear before the Lord of armies because of his purpose against it.

<sup>18</sup> In that day there will be five towns in the land of Egypt using the language of Canaan, and making oaths to the Lord of armies; and one of them will be named, The Town of the Sun.

<sup>19</sup> In that day there will be an altar to the Lord in the middle of the land of Egypt, and a pillar to the Lord at the edge of the land.

<sup>20</sup> And it will be a sign and a witness to the Lord of armies in the land of Egypt: when they are crying out to the Lord because of their cruel masters, then he will send them a saviour and a strong one to make them free.

<sup>21</sup> And the Lord will give the knowledge of himself to Egypt, and the Egyptians will give honour to the Lord in that day; they will give him worship with offerings and meal offerings, and will take an oath to the Lord and give effect to it.

<sup>22</sup> And the Lord will send punishment on Egypt, and will make them well again;



and when they come back to the Lord he will give ear to their prayer and take away their disease.

<sup>23</sup>In that day there will be a highway out of Egypt to Assyria, and Assyria will come into Egypt, and Egypt will come into Assyria; and the Egyptians will give worship to the Lord together with the Assyrians.

<sup>24</sup>In that day Israel will be the third together with Egypt and Assyria, a blessing in the earth:

<sup>25</sup>Because of the blessing of the Lord of armies which he has given them, saying, A blessing on Egypt my people, and on Assyria the work of my hands, and on Israel my heritage.

**20**<sup>1</sup>In the year when the Tartan came to Ashdod, sent by Sargon, king of Assyria, and made war against it and took it;

<sup>2</sup>At that time the word of the Lord came to Isaiah, the son of Amoz, saying, Go, and take off your robe, and your shoes from your feet; and he did so, walking unclothed and without shoes on his feet.

<sup>3</sup>And the Lord said, As my servant Isaiah has gone unclothed and without

shoes for three years as a sign and a wonder to Egypt and Ethiopia,

<sup>4</sup>So will the king of Assyria take away the prisoners of Egypt and those forced out of Ethiopia, young and old, unclothed and without shoes, and with backs uncovered, to the shame of Egypt.

<sup>5</sup>And they will be full of fear, and will no longer have faith in Ethiopia which was their hope, or in Egypt which was their glory.

<sup>6</sup>And those living by the sea will say in that day, See the fate of our hope to whom we went for help and salvation from the king of Assyria: what hope have we then of salvation?

**21** <sup>1</sup>The word about the waste land. As storm-winds in the South go rushing through, it comes from the waste land, from the land greatly to be feared.

<sup>2</sup>A vision of fear comes before my eyes; the worker of deceit goes on in his false way, and the waster goes on making waste. Up! Elam; to the attack! Media; I have put an end to her sorrow.

<sup>3</sup>For this cause I am full of bitter grief; pains like the pains of a woman in

childbirth have come on me: I am bent down with sorrow at what comes to my ears; I am shocked by what I see.

<sup>4</sup>My mind is wandering, fear has overcome me: the evening of my desire has been turned into shaking for me.

<sup>5</sup>They make ready the table, they put down the covers, they take food and drink. Up! you captains; put oil on your breastplates.

<sup>6</sup>For so has the Lord said to me, Go, let a watchman be placed; let him give word of what he sees:

<sup>7</sup>And when he sees war-carriages, horsemen by twos, war-carriages with asses, war-carriages with camels, let him give special attention.

<sup>8</sup>And the watchman gave a loud cry, O my lord, I am on the watchtower all day, and am placed in my watch every night:

<sup>9</sup>See, here come war-carriages with men, horsemen by twos: and in answer he said, Babylon is made low, is made low, and all her images are broken on the earth.

<sup>10</sup>O my crushed ones, the grain of my floor! I have given you the word which

came to me from the Lord of armies, the God of Israel.

<sup>11</sup>The word about Edom. A voice comes to me from Seir, Watchman, how far gone is the night? how far gone is the night?

<sup>12</sup>The watchman says, The morning has come, but night is still to come: if you have questions to put, put them, and come back again.

<sup>13</sup>The word about Arabia. In the thick woods of Arabia will be your nights resting-place, O travelling bands of Dedanites!

<sup>14</sup>Give water to him who is in need of water; give bread, O men of the land of Tema, to those in flight.

<sup>15</sup>For they are in flight from the sharp sword, and the bent bow, and from the trouble of war.

<sup>16</sup>For so has the Lord said to me, In a year, by the years of a servant working for payment, all the glory of Kedar will come to an end:

<sup>17</sup>And the rest of the bowmen, the men of war of the children of Kedar, will be small in number: for the Lord, the God of Israel, has said it.

**22**<sup>1</sup> The word about the valley of vision. Why have all your people gone up to the house-tops?

<sup>2</sup> You, who are full of loud voices, a town of outcries, given up to joy; your dead men have not been put to the sword, or come to their death in war.

<sup>3</sup> All your rulers have gone in flight; all your strong ones have gone far away.

<sup>4</sup> For this cause I have said, Let your eyes be turned away from me in my bitter weeping; I will not be comforted for the wasting of the daughter of my people.

<sup>5</sup> For it is a day of trouble and of crushing down and of destruction from the Lord, the Lord of armies, in the valley of vision;

<sup>6</sup> And Elam was armed with arrows, and Aram came on horseback; and the breastplate of Kir was uncovered.

<sup>7</sup> And your most fertile valleys were full of war-carriages, and the horsemen took up their positions in front of the town.

<sup>8</sup> He took away the cover of Judah; and in that day you were looking with care at the store of arms in the house of the woods.

<sup>9</sup>And you saw all the broken places in the wall of the town of David: and you got together the waters of the lower pool.

<sup>10</sup>And you had the houses of Jerusalem numbered, pulling down the houses to make the wall stronger.

<sup>11</sup>And you made a place between the two walls for storing the waters of the old pool: but you gave no thought to him who had done this, and were not looking to him by whom it had been purposed long before.

<sup>12</sup>And in that day the Lord, the Lord of armies, was looking for weeping, and cries of sorrow, cutting off of the hair, and putting on the clothing of grief:

<sup>13</sup>But in place of these there was joy and delight, oxen and sheep were being made ready for food, there was feasting and drinking: men said, Now is the time for food and wine, for tomorrow death comes.

<sup>14</sup>And the Lord of armies said to me secretly, Truly, this sin will not be taken from you till your death, says the Lord, the Lord of armies.

<sup>15</sup>The Lord, the Lord of armies, says,  
Go to this person in authority, this  
Shebna, who is over the house; who has  
made himself a resting-place on high,  
cutting out a place for himself in the  
rock, and say,

<sup>16</sup>Who are you, and by what right have  
you made for yourself a resting-place  
here?

<sup>17</sup>See, O strong man, the Lord will send  
you violently away, gripping you with  
force,

<sup>18</sup>Twisting you round and round like  
a ball he will send you out into a wide  
country: there you will come to your  
end, and there will be the carriages of  
your pride, O shame of your lords house!

<sup>19</sup>And I will have you forced out of your  
place of authority, and pulled down from  
your position.

<sup>20</sup>And in that day I will send for my  
servant, Eliakim, the son of Hilkiah:

<sup>21</sup>And I will put your robe on him, and  
put your band about him, and I will give  
your authority into his hand: and he will  
be a father to the men of Jerusalem, and  
to the family of Judah.

<sup>22</sup>And I will give the key of the family of David into his care; and what he keeps open will be shut by no one, and what he keeps shut no one will make open.

<sup>23</sup>And I will put him like a nail in a safe place; and he will be for a seat of glory to his fathers family.

<sup>24</sup>And all the glory of his fathers family will be hanging on him, all their offspring, every small vessel, even the cups and the basins.

<sup>25</sup>In that day, says the Lord of armies, will the nail fixed in a safe place give way; and it will be cut down, and in its fall the weight hanging on it will be cut off, for the Lord has said it.

**23**<sup>1</sup>The word about Tyre. Let a cry of sorrow go up, O ships of Tarshish, because your strong place is made waste; on the way back from the land of Kittim the news is given to them.

<sup>2</sup>Send out a cry of grief, you men of the sea-land, traders of Zidon, who go over the sea, whose representatives are on great waters;

<sup>3</sup>Who get in the seed of Shihor, whose wealth is the trade of the nations.



<sup>4</sup>Be shamed, O Zidon: for the sea, the strong place of the sea has said, I have not been with child, or given birth; I have not taken care of young men, or kept watch over the growth of virgins.

<sup>5</sup>When the news comes to Egypt they will be bitterly pained at the fate of Tyre.

<sup>6</sup>Go over to Tarshish; give cries of sorrow, O men of the sea-land.

<sup>7</sup>Is this the town which was full of joy, whose start goes back to times long past, whose wanderings took her into far-off countries?

<sup>8</sup>By whom was this purposed against Tyre, the crowning town, whose traders are chiefs, whose business men are honoured in the land?

<sup>9</sup>It was the purpose of the Lord of armies to put pride to shame, to make sport of the glory of those who are honoured in the earth.

<sup>10</sup>Let your land be worked with the plough, O daughter of Tarshish; there is no longer any harbour.

<sup>11</sup>His hand is stretched out over the sea, the kingdoms are shaking: the Lord has given orders about Canaan, to make waste its strong places.

<sup>12</sup>And he said, There is no more joy for you, O crushed virgin daughter of Zidon: up! go over to Kittim; even there you will have no rest.

<sup>13</sup>[KOSONG]

<sup>14</sup>Let a cry of sorrow go up, O ships of Tarshish: because your strong place is made waste.

<sup>15</sup>And it will be in that day that Tyre will go out of mind for seventy years, that is, the days of one king: after the end of seventy years it will be for Tyre as in the song of the loose woman.

<sup>16</sup>Take an instrument of music, go about the town, O loose woman who has gone out from the memory of man; make sweet melody with songs, so that you may come back to mens minds.

<sup>17</sup>And it will be after the end of seventy years, that the Lord will have mercy on Tyre, and she will go back to her trade, acting as a loose woman with all the kingdoms of the world on the face of the earth.

<sup>18</sup>And her goods and her trade will be holy to the Lord: they will not be kept back or stored up; for her produce will be for those living in the Lords land, to

give them food for their needs, and fair clothing.

**24**<sup>1</sup> See, the Lord is making the earth waste and unpeopled, he is turning it upside down, and sending the people in all directions.

<sup>2</sup> And it will be the same for the people as for the priest; for the servant as for his master; and for the woman-servant as for her owner; the same for the one offering goods for a price as for him who takes them; the same for him who gives money at interest and for him who takes it; the same for him who lets others have the use of his property as for those who make use of it.

<sup>3</sup> The earth will be completely waste and without men; for this is the word of the Lord.

<sup>4</sup> The earth is sorrowing and wasting away, the world is full of grief and wasting away, the high ones of the earth come to nothing.

<sup>5</sup> The earth has been made unclean by those living in it; because the laws have not been kept by them, the orders have been changed, and the eternal agreement has been broken.

<sup>6</sup>For this cause the earth is given up to the curse, and those in it are judged as sinners: for this cause those living on the earth are burned up, and the rest are small in number.

<sup>7</sup>The new wine is thin, the vine is feeble, and all the glad-hearted make sounds of grief.

<sup>8</sup>The pleasing sound of all instruments of music has come to an end, and the voices of those who are glad.

<sup>9</sup>There is no more drinking of wine with a song; strong drink will be bitter to those who take it.

<sup>10</sup>The town is waste and broken down: every house is shut up, so that no man may come in.

<sup>11</sup>There is a crying in the streets because of the wine; there is an end of all delight, the joy of the land is gone.

<sup>12</sup>In the town all is waste, and in the public place is destruction.

<sup>13</sup>For it will be in the heart of the earth among the peoples, like the shaking of an olive-tree, as the last of the grapes after the getting-in is done.

<sup>14</sup> But those will be making sounds of joy; they will be crying loudly from the sea for the glory of the Lord.

<sup>15</sup> Give praise to the Lord in the east, to the name of the Lord, the God of Israel, in the sea-lands.

<sup>16</sup> From the farthest part of the earth comes the sound of songs, glory to the upright. But I said, I am wasting away, wasting away, the curse is on me! The false ones go on in their false way, yes, they go on acting falsely.

<sup>17</sup> Fear, and death, and the net, are come on you, O people of the earth.

<sup>18</sup> And it will be that he who goes in flight from the sound of fear will be overtaken by death; and he who gets free from death will be taken in the net: for the windows on high are open, and the bases of the earth are shaking.

<sup>19</sup> The earth is completely broken, it is parted in two, it is violently moved.

<sup>20</sup> The earth will be moving uncertainly, like a man overcome by drink; it will be shaking like a tent; and the weight of its sin will be on it, crushing it down so that it will not get up again.

<sup>21</sup> And in that day the Lord will send punishment on the army of the high ones on high, and on the kings of the earth on the earth.

<sup>22</sup> And they will be got together, like prisoners in the prison-house; and after a long time they will have their punishment.

<sup>23</sup> Then the moon will be veiled, and the sun put to shame; for the Lord of armies will be ruling in Mount Zion and in Jerusalem, and before his judges he will let his glory be seen.

**25** <sup>1</sup> O Lord, you are my God; I will give praise to you, I will give honour to your name; for you have done great acts of power; your purposes in the past have been made true and certain in effect.

<sup>2</sup> For you have made a town a waste place: a strong town a mass of broken walls; the tower of the men of pride has come to an end; it will never be put up again.

<sup>3</sup> For this cause will the strong people give glory to you, the town of the cruel ones will be in fear of you.

<sup>4</sup>For you have been a strong place for the poor and the crushed in their trouble, a safe place from the storm, a shade from the heat, when the wrath of the cruel ones is like a winter storm.

<sup>5</sup>As heat by the shade of a cloud, the noise of the men of pride has been made quiet by you; as heat by the shade of a cloud, the song of the cruel ones has been stopped.

<sup>6</sup>And in this mountain will the Lord of armies make for all peoples a feast of good things, a feast of wines long stored, of good things sweet to the taste, of wines long kept and tested.

<sup>7</sup>And in this mountain he will put an end to the shade covering the face of all peoples, and the veil which is stretched over all nations.

<sup>8</sup>He has put an end to death for ever; and the Lord God will take away all weeping; and he will put an end to the shame of his people in all the earth: for the Lord has said it.

<sup>9</sup>And in that day it will be said, See, this is our God; we have been waiting for him, and he will be our saviour: this

is the Lord in whom is our hope; we will be glad and have delight in his salvation.

<sup>10</sup>For in this mountain will the hand of the Lord come to rest, and Moab will be crushed down in his place, even as the dry stems of the grain are crushed under foot in the waste place.

<sup>11</sup>And if he puts out his hands, like a man stretching out his hands in swimming, the Lord will make low his pride, however expert his designs.

<sup>12</sup>And the strong tower of your walls has been broken by him, made low, and crushed even to the dust.

**26**<sup>1</sup>In that day will this song be made in the land of Judah:  
We have a strong town; he will make salvation our walls and towers.

<sup>2</sup>Let the doors be open, so that the upright nation which keeps faith may come in.

<sup>3</sup>The man whose heart is unmoved you will keep in peace, because his hope is in you.

<sup>4</sup>Let your hope be in the Lord for ever: for the Lord Jah is an unchanging Rock.

<sup>5</sup>For he has made low those who are lifted up, all the people of the town of



pride: he makes it low, crushing it down to the earth; he makes it low in the dust.

<sup>6</sup>It will be crushed under the feet of the poor and the steps of those who are in need.

<sup>7</sup>The way of the good man is straight; the road of the upright is made smooth by you.

<sup>8</sup>We have been waiting for you, O Lord; the desire of our soul is for the memory of your name.

<sup>9</sup>In the night the desire of my soul has been for you; early will my spirit be searching for you; for when your punishments come on the earth, the people of the world will get the knowledge of righteousness.

<sup>10</sup>Even if you are kind to the evil-doer, he will not go after righteousness; even in the land of the upright he will still go on in his wrongdoing, and will not see the glory of the Lord.

<sup>11</sup>Lord, your hand is lifted up, but they do not see: let them see, your haters will be burned up in the fire.

<sup>12</sup>Lord, you will give us peace: for all our works are the outcome of your purpose.

<sup>13</sup>O Lord, our God, other lords than you have had rule over us; but in you only is our salvation, and no other name will we take on our lips.

<sup>14</sup>The dead will not come back to life; their spirits will not come back to earth; for this cause you have sent destruction on them, so that the memory of them is dead.

<sup>15</sup>You have made the nation great, O Lord, you have made it great; glory is yours: you have made wide the limits of the land.

<sup>16</sup>Lord, in trouble our eyes have been turned to you, we sent up a prayer when your punishment was on us.

<sup>17</sup>As a woman with child, whose time is near, is troubled, crying out in her pain; so have we been before you, O Lord.

<sup>18</sup>We have been with child, we have been in pain, we have given birth to wind; no salvation has come to the earth through us, and no children have come into the world.

<sup>19</sup>Your dead will come back; their dead bodies will come to life again. Those in the dust, awaking from their sleep, will send out a song; for your dew is a dew

of light, and the earth will give birth to the shades.

<sup>20</sup>Come, my people, into your secret places, and let your doors be shut: keep yourself safe for a short time, till his wrath is over.

<sup>21</sup>For the Lord is coming out of his place to send punishment on the people of the earth for their evil-doing: the earth will let the blood drained out on her be seen, and will keep her dead covered no longer.

**27** <sup>1</sup>In that day the Lord, with his great and strong and cruel sword, will send punishment on Leviathan, the quick-moving snake, and on Leviathan, the twisted snake; and he will put to death the dragon which is in the sea.

<sup>2</sup>In that day it will be said, A vine-garden of delight, make a song about it.

<sup>3</sup>I, the Lord, am watching it; I will give it water at all times: I will keep it night and day, for fear that any damage comes to it.

<sup>4</sup>My passion is over: if the thorns were fighting against me, I would make an

attack on them, and they would be burned up together.

<sup>5</sup>Or let him put himself under my power, and make peace with me.

<sup>6</sup>In days to come Jacob will take root: Israel will put out buds and flowers; and the face of the world will be full of fruit.

<sup>7</sup>Is his punishment like the punishment of those who overcame him? or are his dead as great in number as those he put to the sword?

<sup>8</sup>Your anger against her has been made clear by driving her away; he has taken her away with his storm-wind in the day of his east wind.

<sup>9</sup>So by this will the sin of Jacob be covered, and this is all the fruit of taking away his punishment; when all the stones of the altar are crushed together, so that the wood pillars and the sun-images will not be put up again.

<sup>10</sup>For the strong town is without men, an unpeopled living-place; and she has become a waste land: there the young ox will take his rest, and its branches will be food for him.

<sup>11</sup>When its branches are dry they will be broken off; the women will come and

put fire to them: for it is a foolish people; for this cause he who made them will have no mercy on them, and he whose work they are will not have pity on them.

<sup>12</sup>And it will be in that day that the Lord will get together his grain, from the River to the stream of Egypt, and you will be got together with care, O children of Israel.

<sup>13</sup>And it will be in that day that a great horn will be sounded; and those who were wandering in the land of Assyria, and those who had been sent away into the land of Egypt, will come; and they will give worship to the Lord in the holy mountain at Jerusalem.

**28**<sup>1</sup> Ho! crown of pride of those who are given up to wine in Ephraim, and the dead flower of his glory which is on the head of those who are overcome by strong drink!

<sup>2</sup>See, the Lord has a strong and cruel one; like a rain of ice, a storm of destruction, like the overflowing of a strong river, he will violently overcome them.

<sup>3</sup>The crown of pride of those who are given up to wine in Ephraim will be crushed under foot;

<sup>4</sup>And the dead flower of his glory, which is on the head of the fertile valley, will be like the first early fruit before the summer; which a man takes and puts in his mouth the minute he sees it.

<sup>5</sup>In that day will the Lord of armies be a crown of glory, and a fair ornament, to the rest of his people;

<sup>6</sup>And a spirit of wisdom to the judge, and strength to those who keep back the attackers at the door of the town.

<sup>7</sup>And further, these are uncertain through wine, and have gone out of the right way through strong drink: the priest and the prophet are uncertain through strong drink, they are overcome by wine, they have gone out of the way through strong drink; their vision is false, they go wrong in their decisions.

<sup>8</sup>For all the tables are covered with coughed-up food, so that there is not a clean place.

<sup>9</sup>To whom will he give knowledge? and to whom will he make clear the word? Will it be to those who have newly given

up milk, and who have only now been taken from the breast?

<sup>10</sup>For it is one rule after another; one line after another; here a little, there a little.

<sup>11</sup>No, but with broken talk, and with a strange tongue, he will give his word to this people:

<sup>12</sup>To whom he said, This is the rest, give rest to him who is tired; and by this you may get new strength; but they would not give ear.

<sup>13</sup>For this cause the word of the Lord will be to them rule after rule, line after line, here a little, there a little; so that they may go on their way, and falling back may be broken, and taken in the net.

<sup>14</sup>Give ear then to the word of the Lord, you men of pride, the rulers of this people in Jerusalem:

<sup>15</sup>Because you have said, We have made death our friend, and with the underworld we have made an agreement; when the overflowing waters come through they will not come near us; for we are looking to false words for help, taking cover in what is untrue:

<sup>16</sup>For this cause says the Lord God, See, I am placing in Zion as a base, a stone, a tested stone, an angle-stone which is certain and of great value: and he who has faith will not give way.

<sup>17</sup>And I will make right decision the measuring-line, and righteousness the weight: and the ice-storm will take away the safe place of false words, and the secret place will be covered by the flowing waters.

<sup>18</sup>And the help you were looking for from death will come to nothing, and your agreement with the underworld will be broken; when the overflowing waters come through, then you will be overcome by them.

<sup>19</sup>Whenever they come through they will overtake you; for they will come through morning after morning, by day and by night: and the news will be nothing but fear.

<sup>20</sup>For the bed is not long enough for a man to be stretched out on: and the cover is not wide enough for him to be covered with.

<sup>21</sup>For the Lord will come up as on Mount Perazim, he will be moved to wrath as



in the valley of Gibeon; so that he may do his work; strange is his work; and give effect to his act; unnatural is his act.

<sup>22</sup>And now, take care that you do not make sport of him, or your bands will be made strong; for I have had word from the Lord, the Lord of armies, of an end, of a complete end, which is to come on all the land.

<sup>23</sup>Let your ears be open to my voice; give attention to what I say.

<sup>24</sup>Is the ploughman for ever ploughing? does he not get the earth ready and broken up for the seed?

<sup>25</sup>When the face of the earth has been levelled, does he not put in the different sorts of seed, and the grain in lines, and the barley in its place, and the spelt at the edge?

<sup>26</sup>For his God is his teacher, giving him the knowledge of these things.

<sup>27</sup>For the fitches are not crushed with a sharp instrument, and a cart-wheel is not rolled over the cummin; but the grain of the fitches is hammered out with a stick, and of the cummin with a rod.

<sup>28</sup>Is the grain for bread crushed? He does not go on crushing it for ever, but

he lets his cart-wheels and his horses go over it without crushing it.

<sup>29</sup>This comes from the Lord of armies, purposing wonders, and wise in all his acts.

**29**<sup>1</sup> Ho! Ariel, Ariel, the town against which David made war; put year to year, let the feasts come round:

<sup>2</sup>And I will send trouble on Ariel, and there will be weeping and cries of grief; and she will be to me as Ariel.

<sup>3</sup>And I will make war on you like David, and you will be shut in by earthworks, and I will make towers round you.

<sup>4</sup>And you will be made low, and your voice will come out of the earth, and your words will be low out of the dust; and your voice will come out of the earth like that of a spirit, making bird-like noises out of the dust.

<sup>5</sup>And the army of your attackers will be like small dust, and all the cruel ones like dry stems gone before the wind; suddenly it will come about.

<sup>6</sup>The Lord of armies will come in with thunder and earth-shaking and great noise, with rushing wind and storm, and the flame of burning fire.

<sup>7</sup>And all the nations making war on Ariel, and all those who are fighting against her and shutting her in with their towers, will be like a dream, like a vision of the night.

<sup>8</sup>And it will be like a man desiring food, and dreaming that he is feasting; but when he is awake there is nothing in his mouth: or like a man in need of water, dreaming that he is drinking; but when he is awake he is feeble and his soul is full of desire: so will all the nations be which make war on Mount Zion.

<sup>9</sup>Be surprised and full of wonder; let your eyes be covered and be blind: be overcome, but not with wine; go with uncertain steps, but not because of strong drink.

<sup>10</sup>For the Lord has sent on you a spirit of deep sleep; and by him your eyes, the prophets, are shut, and your heads, the seers, are covered.

<sup>11</sup>And the vision of all this has become to you like the words of a book which is shut, which men give to one who has knowledge of writing, saying, Make clear to us what is in the book: and he says, I am not able to, for the book is shut:

<sup>12</sup>And they give it to one without learning, saying, Make clear to us what is in the book: and he says, I have no knowledge of writing.

<sup>13</sup>And the Lord said, because this people come near to me with their mouths, and give honour to me with their lips, but their heart is far from me, and their fear of me is false, a rule given them by the teaching of men;

<sup>14</sup>For this cause I will again do a strange thing among this people, a thing to be wondered at: and the wisdom of their wise men will come to nothing, and the sense of their guides will no longer be seen.

<sup>15</sup>Cursed are those who go deep to keep their designs secret from the Lord, and whose works are in the dark, and who say, Who sees us? and who has knowledge of our acts?

<sup>16</sup>You are turning things upside down! Is the wet earth the same to you as the one who is forming it? will the thing made say of him who made it, He made me not: or the thing formed say of him who gave it form, He has no knowledge?

<sup>17</sup>In a very short time Lebanon will become a fertile field, and the fertile field will seem like a wood.

<sup>18</sup>And in that day those whose ears are stopped will be hearing the words of the book; and the eyes of the blind will see through the mist and the dark.

<sup>19</sup>And the poor will have their joy in the Lord increased, and those in need will be glad in the Holy One of Israel.

<sup>20</sup>For the cruel one has come to nothing; and those who make sport of the Lord are gone; and those who are watching to do evil are cut off:

<sup>21</sup>Who give help to a man in a wrong cause, and who put a net for the feet of him who gives decisions in the public place, taking away a mans right without cause.

<sup>22</sup>For this reason the Lord, the saviour of Abraham, says about the family of Jacob, Jacob will not now be put to shame, or his face be clouded with fear.

<sup>23</sup>But when they, the children of Jacob, see the work of my hands among them, they will give honour to my name; yes, they will give honour to the Holy One

of Jacob, and go in fear of the God of Israel.

<sup>24</sup>Those whose hearts were turned away from him will get knowledge, and those who made an outcry against him will give attention to his teaching.

**30**<sup>1</sup>Ho! uncontrolled children, says the Lord, who give effect to a purpose which is not mine, and who make an agreement, but not by my spirit, increasing their sin:

<sup>2</sup>Who make a move to go down into Egypt, without authority from me; who are looking to the strength of Pharaoh for help, and whose hope is in the shade of Egypt.

<sup>3</sup>And the strength of Pharaoh will be your shame, and your hope in the shade of Egypt will come to nothing.

<sup>4</sup>For his chiefs are at Zoan, and his representatives have come to Hanes.

<sup>5</sup>For they have all come with offerings to a people of no use to them, in whom is no help or profit, but only shame and a bad name.

<sup>6</sup>The word about the Beasts of the South. Through the land of trouble and grief, the land of the she-lion and the

voice of the lion, of the snake and the burning winged snake, they take their wealth on the backs of young asses, and their stores on camels, to a people in whom is no profit.

<sup>7</sup>For there is no use or purpose in the help of Egypt: so I have said about her, She is Rahab, who has come to an end.

<sup>8</sup>Now go, put it in writing before them on a board, and make a record of it in a book, so that it may be for the future, a witness for all time to come.

<sup>9</sup>For they are an uncontrolled people, false-hearted, who will not give ear to the teaching of the Lord:

<sup>10</sup>Who say to the seers, See not; and to the prophets, Do not give us word of what is true, but say false things to give us pleasure:

<sup>11</sup>Get out of the good way, turning from the right road; do not keep the Holy One of Israel before our minds.

<sup>12</sup>For this cause the Holy One of Israel says, Because you will not give ear to this word, and are looking for help in ways of deceit and evil, and are putting your hope in them:

<sup>13</sup>This sin will be to you like a crack in a high wall, causing its fall suddenly and in a minute.

<sup>14</sup>And he will let it be broken as a potters vessel is broken: it will be smashed to bits without mercy; so that there will not be a bit in which one may take fire from the fireplace, or water from the spring.

<sup>15</sup>For the Lord, the Holy One of Israel, said, In quiet and rest is your salvation: peace and hope are your strength: but you would not have it so.

<sup>16</sup>Saying, No, for we will go in flight on horses; so you will certainly go in flight: and, We will go on the backs of quick-running beasts; so those who go after you will be quick-footed.

<sup>17</sup>A thousand will go in fear before one; even before five you will go in flight: till you are like a pillar by itself on the top of a mountain, and like a flag on a hill.

<sup>18</sup>For this cause the Lord will be waiting, so that he may be kind to you; and he will be lifted up, so that he may have mercy on you; for the Lord is a God of righteousness: there is a blessing on all whose hope is in him.



<sup>19</sup>O people, living in Zion, at Jerusalem, your weeping will be ended; he will certainly have mercy on you at the sound of your cry; when it comes to his ear, he will give you an answer.

<sup>20</sup>And though the Lord will give you the bread of trouble and the water of grief, you will no longer put your teacher on one side, but you will see your teacher:

<sup>21</sup>And at your back, when you are turning to the right hand or to the left, a voice will be sounding in your ears, saying, This is the way in which you are to go.

<sup>22</sup>And you will make unclean what is covering your pictured images of silver, and the plating of your images of gold: you will send them away as an unclean thing, saying, Be gone!

<sup>23</sup>And he will give rain for your seed, so that you may put it in the earth; and you will have bread from the produce of the earth, good and more than enough for your needs: in that day the cattle will get their food in wide grass-lands.

<sup>24</sup>And the oxen and the young asses which are used for ploughing, will have

salted grain which has been made free from the waste with fork and basket.

<sup>25</sup> And there will be rivers and streams of water on every tall mountain and on every high hill, in the day when great numbers are put to the sword, when the towers come down.

<sup>26</sup> And the light of the moon will be as the light of the sun, and the light of the sun will be seven times greater, as the light of seven days, in the day when the Lord puts oil on the wounds of his people, and makes them well from the blows they have undergone.

<sup>27</sup> See, the name of the Lord is coming from far, burning with his wrath, with thick smoke going up: his lips are full of passion, and his tongue is like a burning fire:

<sup>28</sup> And his breath is as an overflowing stream, coming up even to the neck, shaking the nations for their destruction, like the shaking of grain in a basket: and he will put a cord in the mouths of the people, turning them out of their way.

<sup>29</sup> You will have a song, as in the night when a holy feast is kept; and you will be glad in heart, as when they go with

music of the pipe to the mountain of the Lord, the Rock of Israel.

<sup>30</sup>And the Lord will send out the sound of his great voice, and they will see his arm stretched out, with the heat of his wrath, and the flame of a burning fire; with a cloud-burst, and storm, and a rain of ice.

<sup>31</sup>For through the voice of the Lord the Assyrian will be broken, and the Lord's rod will be lifted up against him.

<sup>32</sup>And every blow of the rod of his punishment, which the Lord will send on him, will be with the sound of music: and with the waving of his sword the Lord will make war against him.

<sup>33</sup>For a place of fire has long been ready; yes, it has been made ready for the king; he has made it deep and wide: it is massed with fire and much wood; the breath of the Lord, like a stream of fire, puts a light to it.

**31** <sup>1</sup>Cursed are those who go down to Egypt for help, and who put their faith in horses; looking to war-carriages for salvation, because of their numbers; and to horsemen, because they are very strong; but they

are not looking to the Holy One of Israel, or turning their hearts to the Lord;

<sup>2</sup>Though he is wise, and able to send evil, and his purpose will not be changed; but he will go against the house of the evil-doers, and against those to whom they are looking for help.

<sup>3</sup>For the Egyptians are men, and not God; and their horses are flesh, and not spirit: and when the Lords hand is stretched out, the helper and he who is helped will come down together.

<sup>4</sup>For the Lord has said to me, As a lion, or a young lion, makes an angry noise over his food, and if a band of herdsmen come out against him, he will not be in fear of their voices, or give up his food for their noise: so the Lord of armies will come down to make war against Mount Zion and its hill.

<sup>5</sup>Like birds with outstretched wings, so will the Lord of armies be a cover to Jerusalem; he will be a cover and salvation for it, going over it he will keep it from danger.

<sup>6</sup>Come back to him who has been so deeply sinned against by the children of Israel.

<sup>7</sup>For in that day they will all give up their images of silver and of gold, the sin which they made for themselves.

<sup>8</sup>Then the Assyrian will come down by the sword, but not of man; the sword, not of men, will be the cause of his destruction: and he will go in flight from the sword, and his young men will be put to forced work.

<sup>9</sup>And his rock will come to nothing because of fear, and his chiefs will go in flight from the flag, says the Lord, whose fire is in Zion, and his altar in Jerusalem.

**32**<sup>1</sup>See, a king will be ruling in righteousness, and chiefs will give right decisions.

<sup>2</sup>And a man will be as a safe place from the wind, and a cover from the storm; as rivers of water in a dry place, as the shade of a great rock in a waste land.

<sup>3</sup>And the eyes of those who see will not be shut, and those who have hearing will give ear to the word.

<sup>4</sup>The man of sudden impulses will become wise in heart, and he whose tongue is slow will get the power of talking clearly.

<sup>5</sup>The foolish man will no longer be named noble, and they will not say of the false man that he is a man of honour.

<sup>6</sup>For the foolish man will say foolish things, having evil thoughts in his heart, working what is unclean, and talking falsely about the Lord, to keep food from him who is in need of it, and water from him whose soul is desiring it.

<sup>7</sup>The designs of the false are evil, purposing the destruction of the poor man by false words, even when he is in the right.

<sup>8</sup>But the noble-hearted man has noble purposes, and by these he will be guided.

<sup>9</sup>Give ear to my voice, you women who are living in comfort; give attention to my words, you daughters who have no fear of danger.

<sup>10</sup>In not much more than a year, you, who are not looking for evil, will be troubled: for the produce of the vine-gardens will be cut off, and there will be no getting in of the grapes.

<sup>11</sup>Be shaking with fear, you women who are living in comfort; be troubled, you who have no fear of danger: take off your robes and put on clothing of grief.

<sup>12</sup>Have sorrow for the fields, the pleasing fields, the fertile vine;

<sup>13</sup>And for the land of my people, where thorns will come up; even for all the houses of joy in the glad town.

<sup>14</sup>For the fair houses will have no man living in them; the town which was full of noise will become a waste; the hill and the watchtower will be unpeopled for ever, a joy for the asses of the woods, a place of food for the flocks;

<sup>15</sup>Till the spirit comes on us from on high, and the waste land becomes a fertile field, and the fertile field is changed into a wood.

<sup>16</sup>Then in the waste land there will be an upright rule, and righteousness will have its place in the fertile field.

<sup>17</sup>And the work of righteousness will be peace; and the effect of an upright rule will be to take away fear for ever.

<sup>18</sup>And my people will be living in peace, in houses where there is no fear, and in quiet resting-places.

<sup>19</sup>But the tall trees will come down with a great fall, and the town will be low in a low place.

<sup>20</sup>Happy are you who are planting seed by all the waters, and sending out the ox and the ass.

**33**<sup>1</sup> Ho! you who make waste those who did not make you waste; acting falsely to those who were not false to you. When you have come to an end of wasting, you will be made waste, and after your false acts, they will do the same to you.

<sup>2</sup>O Lord, have mercy on us; for we have been waiting for your help: be our strength every morning, our salvation in time of trouble.

<sup>3</sup>At the loud noise the peoples have gone in flight; at your coming up the nations have gone in all directions.

<sup>4</sup>And the goods taken in war will be got together like the massing of young locusts; men will be rushing on them like the rushing of locusts.

<sup>5</sup>The Lord is lifted up; his place is on high: he has made Zion full of righteousness and true religion.

<sup>6</sup>And she will have no more fear of change, being full of salvation, wisdom, and knowledge: the fear of the Lord is her wealth.



<sup>7</sup> See, the men of war are sorrowing outside the town: those who came looking for peace are weeping bitterly.

<sup>8</sup> The highways are waste, no man is journeying there: the agreement is broken, he has made sport of the towns, he has no thought for man.

<sup>9</sup> The earth is sorrowing and wasting away; Lebanon is put to shame and has become waste; Sharon is like the Arabah; and in Bashan and Carmel the leaves are falling.

<sup>10</sup> Now will I come forward, says the Lord; now will I be lifted up; now will my power be seen.

<sup>11</sup> Your designs will be without profit, and their effect will be nothing: you will be burned up by the fire of my breath.

<sup>12</sup> And the peoples will be like the burning of chalk: as thorns cut down, which are burned in the fire.

<sup>13</sup> Give ear, you who are far off, to what I have done: see my power, you who are near.

<sup>14</sup> The sinners in Zion are full of fear; the haters of God are shaking with wonder. Who among us may keep his

place before the burning fire? who among us may see the eternal burnings?

<sup>15</sup>He whose ways are true, and whose words are upright; he who gives no thought to the profits of false acts, whose hands have not taken rewards, who will have no part in putting men to death, and whose eyes are shut against evil;

<sup>16</sup>He will have a place on high: he will be safely shut in by the high rocks: his bread will be given to him; his waters will be certain.

<sup>17</sup>Your eyes will see the king in his glory: they will be looking on a far-stretching land.

<sup>18</sup>Your heart will give thought to the cause of your fear: where is the scribe, where is he who made a record of the payments, where is he by whom the towers were numbered?

<sup>19</sup>Never again will you see the cruel people, a people whose tongue has no sense for you; whose language is strange to you.

<sup>20</sup>Let your eyes be resting on Zion, the town of our holy feasts: you will see Jerusalem, a quiet resting-place, a

tent which will not be moved, whose tent-pins will never be pulled up, and whose cords will never be broken.

<sup>21</sup> But there the Lord will be with us in his glory, wide rivers and streams; where no boat will go with blades, and no fair ship will be sailing.

<sup>22</sup> For the Lord is our judge, the Lord is our law-giver, the Lord is our king; he will be our saviour.

<sup>23</sup> Your cords have become loose; they were not able to make strong the support of their sails, the sail was not stretched out: then the blind will take much property, the feeble-footed will make division of the goods of war.

<sup>24</sup> And the men of Zion will not say, I am ill: for its people will have forgiveness for their sin.

**34**<sup>1</sup> Come near, you nations, and give ear; take note, you peoples: let the earth and everything in it give ear; the world and all those living in it.

<sup>2</sup> For the Lord is angry with all the nations, and his wrath is burning against all their armies: he has put them to the curse, he has given them to destruction.

<sup>3</sup>Their dead bodies will be thick on the face of the earth, and their smell will come up, and the mountains will be flowing with their blood, and all the hills will come to nothing.

<sup>4</sup>And the heavens will be rolled together like the roll of a book: and all their army will be gone, like a dead leaf from the vine, or a dry fruit from the fig-tree.

<sup>5</sup>For my sword in heaven is full of wrath: see, it is coming down on Edom, in punishment on the people of my curse.

<sup>6</sup>The sword of the Lord is full of blood, it is fat with the best of the meat, with the blood of lambs and goats, with the best parts of the sheep: for the Lord has a feast in Bozrah, and much cattle will be put to death in the land of Edom.

<sup>7</sup>And the strong oxen will go down to death together with the smaller cattle.

<sup>8</sup>For it is the day of the Lords punishment, when he gives payment for the wrongs done to Zion.

<sup>9</sup>And its streams will be turned into boiling oil, and its dust into burning stone, and all the land will be on fire.

<sup>10</sup>It will not be put out day or night; its smoke will go up for ever: it will be waste from generation to generation; no one will go through it for ever.

<sup>11</sup>But the birds of the waste land will have their place there; it will be a heritage for the bittern and the raven: and it will be measured out with line and weight as a waste land.

<sup>12</sup>The jackals will be there, and her great ones will be gone; they will say, There is no longer a kingdom there, and all her chiefs will have come to an end.

<sup>13</sup>And thorns will come up in her fair houses, and waste plants in her strong towers: and foxes will make their holes there, and it will be a meeting-place for ostriches.

<sup>14</sup>And the beasts of the waste places will come together with the jackals, and the evil spirits will be crying to one another, even the night-spirit will come and make her resting-place there.

<sup>15</sup>The arrowsnake will make her hole and put her eggs there, and get her young together under her shade: there the hawks will come together by twos.

<sup>16</sup>See what is recorded in the book of the Lord: all these will be there, not one without the other: the mouth of the Lord has given the order, and his spirit has made them come together.

<sup>17</sup>And he has given them their heritage, and by his hand it has been measured out to them: it will be theirs for ever, their resting-place from generation to generation.

**35**<sup>1</sup>The waste land and the dry places will be glad; the lowland will have joy and be full of flowers.

<sup>2</sup>It will be flowering like the rose; it will be full of delight and songs; the glory of Lebanon will be given to it; the pride of Carmel and Sharon: they will see the glory of the Lord, the power of our God.

<sup>3</sup>Make strong the feeble hands, give support to the shaking knees.

<sup>4</sup>Say to those who are full of fear, Be strong and take heart: see, your God will give punishment; the reward of God will come; he himself will come to be your saviour.

<sup>5</sup>Then the eyes of the blind will see, and the ears which are stopped will be open.

<sup>6</sup>Then will the feeble-footed be jumping like a roe, and the voice which was stopped will be loud in song: for in the waste land streams will be bursting out, and waters in the dry places.

<sup>7</sup>And the burning sand will become a pool, and the dry earth springs of waters: the fields where the sheep take their food will become wet land, and water-plants will take the place of grass.

<sup>8</sup>And a highway will be there; its name will be, The Holy Way; the unclean and the sinner may not go over it, and those who go on it will not be turned out of the way by the foolish.

<sup>9</sup>No lion will be there, or any cruel beast; they will not be seen there; but those for whom the Lord has given a price,

<sup>10</sup>Even those whom he has made free, will come back again; they will come with songs to Zion; on their heads will be eternal joy; delight and joy will be theirs, and sorrow and sounds of grief will be gone for ever.

**36**<sup>1</sup>And it came about in the fourteenth year of King Hezekiah that Sennacherib, king of Assyria, came

up against all the walled towns of Judah and took them.

<sup>2</sup>And the king of Assyria sent the Rab-shakeh from Lachish to Jerusalem to King Hezekiah with a strong force, and he took up his position by the stream of the higher pool, by the highway of the washermans

<sup>3</sup>And there came out to him Eliakim, the son of Hilkiah, who was over the house, and Shebna the scribe, and Joah, the son of Asaph, the recorder.

<sup>4</sup>And the Rab-shakeh said to them, Say now to Hezekiah, These are the words of the great king, the king of Assyria: In what are you placing your hope?

<sup>5</sup>You say you have a design and strength for war, but these are only words: now to whom are you looking for support, that you have gone against my authority?

<sup>6</sup>See, you are basing your hope on that broken rod of Egypt, which will go into a mans hand if he makes use of it for a support; for so is Pharaoh, king of Egypt, to all who put their faith in him.

<sup>7</sup>And if you say to me, Our hope is in the Lord our God; is it not he whose high



places and altars Hezekiah has taken away, saying to Judah and Jerusalem that worship may only be given before this altar?

<sup>8</sup>And now, take a chance with my master, the king of Assyria, and I will give you two thousand horses, if you are able to put horsemen on them.

<sup>9</sup>How then may you put to shame the least of my masters servants? and you have put your hope in Egypt for war-carriages and horsemen:

<sup>10</sup>And have I now come to send destruction on this land without the Lords authority? It was the Lord himself who said to me, Go up against this land and make it waste.

<sup>11</sup>Then Eliakim and Shebna and Joah said to the Rab-shakeh, Please make use of the Aramaean language in talking to your servants, for we are used to it, and do not make use of the Jews language in the hearing of the people on the wall.

<sup>12</sup>But the Rab-shakeh said, Is it to your master or to you that my master has sent me to say these words? has he not sent me to the men seated on the wall? for they are the people who will be short

of food with you when the town is shut in.

<sup>13</sup>Then the Rab-shakeh got up and said with a loud voice in the Jews language, Give ear to the words of the great king, the king of Assyria:

<sup>14</sup>This is what the king says: Do not be tricked by Hezekiah, for there is no salvation for you in him.

<sup>15</sup>And do not let Hezekiah make you put your faith in the Lord, saying, The Lord will certainly keep us safe, and this town will not be given into the hands of the king of Assyria.

<sup>16</sup>Do not give ear to Hezekiah, for this is what the king of Assyria says, Make peace with me, and come out to me; and everyone will be free to take the fruit of his vine and of his fig-tree, and the water of his spring;

<sup>17</sup>Till I come and take you away to a land like yours, a land of grain and wine, a land of bread and vine-gardens.

<sup>18</sup>Give no attention to Hezekiah when he says to you, The Lord will keep us safe. Has any one of the gods of the nations kept his land from falling into the hands of the king of Assyria?

<sup>19</sup>Where are the gods of Hamath and of Arpad? where are the gods of Sepharvaim? where are the gods of Samaria? and have they kept Samaria out of my hand?

<sup>20</sup>Who among all the gods of these countries have kept their country from falling into my hand, to give cause for the thought that the Lord will keep Jerusalem from falling into my hand?

<sup>21</sup>But they kept quiet and gave him no answer: for the kings order was, Give him no answer.

<sup>22</sup>Then Eliakim, the son of Hilkiah, who was over the house, and Shebna the scribe, and Joah, the son of Asaph, the recorder, came to Hezekiah with their clothing parted as a sign of grief, and gave him an account of what the Rab-shakeh had said.

**37**<sup>1</sup> And on hearing it Hezekiah took off his robe and put on haircloth and went into the house of the Lord.

<sup>2</sup>And he sent Eliakim, who was over the house, and Shebna the scribe, and the chief priests, dressed in haircloth, to Isaiah the prophet, the son of Amoz.

<sup>3</sup>And they said to him, Hezekiah says, This day is a day of trouble and punishment and shame: for the children are ready to come to birth, but there is no strength to give birth to them.

<sup>4</sup>It may be that the Lord your God will give ear to the words of the Rab-shakeh, whom the king of Assyria, his master, has sent to say evil things against the living God, and will make his words come to nothing: so make your prayer for the rest of the people.

<sup>5</sup>So the servants of King Hezekiah came to Isaiah.

<sup>6</sup>And Isaiah said to them, This is what you are to say to your master: The Lord says, Be not troubled by the words which the servants of the king of Assyria have said against me in your hearing.

<sup>7</sup>See, I will put a spirit into him, and bad news will come to his ears, and he will go back to his land; and there I will have him put to death.

<sup>8</sup>So the Rab-shakeh went back, and when he got there the king of Assyria was making war against Libnah: for it had come to his ears that the king of Assyria had gone away from Lachish.

<sup>9</sup>And when news came to him that Tirhakah, king of Ethiopia, had made an attack on him, And he sent representatives to Hezekiah, king of Judah, saying,

<sup>10</sup>This is what you are to say to Hezekiah, king of Judah: Let not your God, in whom is your faith, give you a false hope, saying, Jerusalem will not be given into the hands of the king of Assyria.

<sup>11</sup>No doubt the story has come to your ears of what the kings of Assyria have done to all lands, putting them to the curse: and will you be kept safe from their fate?

<sup>12</sup>Did the gods of the nations keep safe those on whom my fathers sent destruction, Gozan and Haran and Rezeph, and the children of Eden who were in Telassar?

<sup>13</sup>Where is the king of Hamath, and the king of Arpad, and the king of the town of Sepharvaim, of Hena, and Ivva?

<sup>14</sup>And Hezekiah took the letter from the hands of those who had come with it; and after reading it, Hezekiah went up to

the house of the Lord, opening the letter there before the Lord,

<sup>15</sup>And he made prayer to the Lord, saying,

<sup>16</sup>O Lord of armies, the God of Israel, seated between the winged ones, you only are the God of all the kingdoms of the earth; you have made heaven and earth.

<sup>17</sup>Let your ear be turned to us, O Lord; let your eyes be open, O Lord, and see: take note of all the words of Sennacherib who has sent men to say evil against the living God.

<sup>18</sup>Truly, O Lord, the kings of Assyria have made waste all the nations and their lands,

<sup>19</sup>And have given their gods to the fire: for they were no gods, but wood and stone, the work of mens hands; so they have given them to destruction.

<sup>20</sup>But now, O Lord our God, give us salvation from his hand, so that it may be clear to all the kingdoms of the earth that you, and you only, are the Lord.

<sup>21</sup>Then Isaiah, the son of Amoz, sent to Hezekiah, saying, The Lord, the God of Israel, says, The prayer you have

made to me against Sennacherib, king of Assyria, has come to my ears.

<sup>22</sup>This is the word which the Lord has said about him: In the eyes of the virgin daughter of Zion you are shamed and laughed at; the daughter of Jerusalem has made sport of you.

<sup>23</sup>Against whom have you said evil and bitter things? and against whom has your voice been loud and your eyes lifted up? even against the Holy One of Israel.

<sup>24</sup>You have sent your servants with evil words against the Lord, and have said, With all my war-carriages I have come up to the top of the mountains, to the inmost parts of Lebanon; and its tall cedars will be cut down, and the best trees of its woods: I will come up into his highest places, into his thick woods.

<sup>25</sup>I have made water-holes and taken their waters, and with my foot I have made all the rivers of Egypt dry.

<sup>26</sup>Has it not come to your ears how I did it long before, purposing it in times long past? Now I have given effect to my design, so that by you strong towns might be turned into masses of broken walls.

<sup>27</sup> This is why their townsmen had no power, they were broken and put to shame; they were like the grass of the field, or a green plant; like the grass on the house-tops, which a cold wind makes waste.

<sup>28</sup> But I have knowledge of your getting up and your resting, of your going out and your coming in.

<sup>29</sup> Because your wrath against me and your pride have come to my ears, I will put my hook in your nose and my cord in your lips, and I will make you go back by the way you came.

<sup>30</sup> And this will be the sign to you: you will get your food this year from what comes up of itself, and in the second year from the produce of the same; and in the third year you will put in your seed, and get in the grain, and make vine-gardens, and take of their fruit.

<sup>31</sup> And those of Judah who are still living will again take root in the earth, and give fruit.

<sup>32</sup> For from Jerusalem those who have been kept safe will go out, and those who are still living will go out of Mount



Zion: by the fixed purpose of the Lord of armies this will be done.

<sup>33</sup>For this cause the Lord says about the king of Assyria, He will not come into this town, or send an arrow against it; he will not come before it with arms, or put up an earthwork against it.

<sup>34</sup>By the way he came he will go back, and he will not get into this town.

<sup>35</sup>For I will keep this town safe, for my honour, and for the honour of my servant David.

<sup>36</sup>And the angel of the Lord went out and put to death in the army of the Assyrians a hundred and eighty-five thousand men: and when the people got up early in the morning, there was nothing to be seen but dead bodies.

<sup>37</sup>Sennacherib, king of Assyria, went back to his place at Nineveh.

<sup>38</sup>And it came about, when he was worshipping in the house of Nisroch his god, that his sons Adrammelech and Sharezer put him to death with the sword, and they went in flight into the land of Ararat. And Esar-haddon, his son, became king in his place.

**38**<sup>1</sup> In those days Hezekiah was ill and near death. And Isaiah the prophet, the son of Amoz, came to him, and said to him, The Lord says, Put your house in order; for your death is near.

<sup>2</sup> And Hezekiah, turning his face to the wall, made his prayer to the Lord, saying,

<sup>3</sup> O Lord, keep in mind how I have been true to you with all my heart, and have done what is good in your eyes. And Hezekiah gave way to bitter weeping.

<sup>4</sup> Then the word of the Lord came to Isaiah, saying,

<sup>5</sup> Go to Hezekiah, and say, The Lord, the God of David, your father, says, Your prayer has come to my ears, and I have seen your weeping: see, I will give you fifteen more years of life.

<sup>6</sup> And I will keep you and this town safe from the hands of the king of Assyria: and I will keep watch over this town.

<sup>7</sup> And Isaiah said, This is the sign the Lord will give you, that he will do what he has said:

<sup>8</sup> See, I will make the shade which has gone down on the steps of Ahaz with the sun, go back ten steps. So the shade

went back the ten steps by which it had gone down.

<sup>9</sup>The writing of Hezekiah, king of Judah, after he had been ill, and had got better from his disease.

<sup>10</sup>I said, In the quiet of my days I am going down into the underworld: the rest of my years are being taken away from me.

<sup>11</sup>I said, I will not see the Lord, even the Lord in the land of the living: I will not see man again or those living in the world.

<sup>12</sup>My resting-place is pulled up and taken away from me like a herdsman's tent: my life is rolled up like a linen-workers thread; I am cut off from the cloth on the frame: from day even to night you give me up to pain.

<sup>13</sup>I am crying out with pain till the morning; it is as if a lion was crushing all my bones.

<sup>14</sup>I make cries like a bird; I give out sounds of grief like a dove: my eyes are looking up with desire; O Lord, I am crushed, take up my cause.

<sup>15</sup>What am I to say? seeing that it is he who has done it: all my time of sleeping

I am turning from side to side without rest.

<sup>16</sup>O Lord, for this cause I am waiting for you, give rest to my spirit: make me well again, and let me come back to life.

<sup>17</sup>See, in place of peace my soul had bitter sorrow. but you have kept back my soul from the underworld; for you have put all my sins out of your memory.

<sup>18</sup>For the underworld is not able to give you praise, death gives you no honour: for those who go down into the underworld there is no hope in your mercy.

<sup>19</sup>The living, the living man, he will give you praise, as I do this day: the father will give the story of your mercy to his children.

<sup>20</sup>O Lord, quickly be my saviour; so we will make my songs to corded instruments all the days of our lives in the house of the Lord.

<sup>21</sup>And Isaiah said, Let them take a cake of figs, and put it on the diseased place, and he will get well.

<sup>22</sup>And Hezekiah said, What is the sign that I will go up to the house of the Lord?

**39**<sup>1</sup> At that time Merodach-baladan, the son of Baladan, king of Babylon, sent letters with an offering to Hezekiah, because he had news that Hezekiah had been ill, and was well again.

<sup>2</sup> And Hezekiah was glad at their coming, and let them see all his store of wealth, the silver and the gold and the spices and the oil, and all the house of his arms, and everything there was in his stores: there was nothing in all his house or his kingdom which he did not let them see.

<sup>3</sup> Then Isaiah the prophet came to King Hezekiah, and said to him, What did these men say, and where did they come from? And Hezekiah said, They came from a far country, even from Babylon.

<sup>4</sup> And he said, What have they seen in your house? And Hezekiah said in answer, They saw everything in my house: there is nothing among my stores which I did not let them see.

<sup>5</sup> Then said Isaiah to Hezekiah, Give ear to the word of the Lord of armies:

<sup>6</sup> Truly, the days are coming when everything in your house, and whatever

your fathers have put in store till this day, will be taken away to Babylon: all will be gone.

<sup>7</sup> And your sons, even your offspring, will they take away to be unsexed servants in the house of the king of Babylon.

<sup>8</sup> Then said Hezekiah to Isaiah, Good is the word of the Lord which you have said. And he said in his heart, There will be peace and quiet in my days.

**40** <sup>1</sup> Give comfort, give comfort, to my people, says your God.

<sup>2</sup> Say kind words to the heart of Jerusalem, crying out to her that her time of trouble is ended, that her punishment is complete; that she has been rewarded by the Lords hand twice over for all her sins.

<sup>3</sup> A voice of one crying, Make ready in the waste land the way of the Lord, make level in the lowland a highway for our God.

<sup>4</sup> Let every valley be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low, and let the rough places become level, and the hilltops become a valley,

<sup>5</sup>And the glory of the Lord will be made clear, and all flesh will see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has said it.

<sup>6</sup>A voice of one saying, Give a cry! And I said, What is my cry to be? All flesh is grass, and all its strength like the flower of the field.

<sup>7</sup>The grass becomes dry, the flower is dead; because the breath of the Lord goes over it: truly the people is grass.

<sup>8</sup>The grass is dry, the flower is dead; but the word of our God is eternal.

<sup>9</sup>You who give good news to Zion, get up into the high mountain; you who give good news to Jerusalem, let your voice be strong; let it be sounding without fear; say to the towns of Judah, See, your God!

<sup>10</sup>See, the Lord God will come as a strong one, ruling in power: see, those made free by him are with him, and those whom he has made safe go before him.

<sup>11</sup>He will give food to his flock like a keeper of sheep; with his arm he will get it together, and will take up the lambs on his breast, gently guiding those which are with young.

<sup>12</sup>In the hollow of whose hand have the waters been measured? and who is able to take the heavens in his stretched-out fingers? who has got together the dust of the earth in a measure? who has taken the weight of the mountains, or put the hills into the scales?

<sup>13</sup>By whom has the spirit of the Lord been guided, or who has been his teacher?

<sup>14</sup>Who gave him suggestions, and made clear to him the right way? who gave him knowledge, guiding him in the way of wisdom?

<sup>15</sup>See, the nations are to him like a drop hanging from a bucket, and like the small dust in the scales: he takes up the islands like small dust.

<sup>16</sup>And Lebanon is not enough to make a fire with, or all its cattle enough for a burned offering.

<sup>17</sup>All the nations are as nothing before him; even less than nothing, a thing of no value.

<sup>18</sup>Whom then is God like, in your opinion? or what will you put forward as a comparison with him?



<sup>19</sup>The workman makes an image, and the gold-worker puts gold plates over it, and makes silver bands for it.

<sup>20</sup>The wise workman makes selection of the mulberry-tree of the offering, a wood which will not become soft; so that the image may be fixed to it and not be moved.

<sup>21</sup>Have you no knowledge of it? has it not come to your ears? has not news of it been given to you from the first? has it not been clear to you from the time when the earth was placed on its base?

<sup>22</sup>It is he who is seated over the arch of the earth, and the people in it are as small as locusts; by him the heavens are stretched out like an arch, and made ready like a tent for a living-place.

<sup>23</sup>He makes rulers come to nothing; the judges of the earth are of no value.

<sup>24</sup>They have only now been planted, and their seed put into the earth, and they have only now taken root, when he sends out his breath over them and they become dry, and the storm-wind takes them away like dry grass.

<sup>25</sup>Who then seems to you to be my equal? says the Holy One.

<sup>26</sup>Let your eyes be lifted up on high, and see: who has made these? He who sends out their numbered army: who has knowledge of all their names: by whose great strength, because he is strong in power, all of them are in their places.

<sup>27</sup>Why do you say, O Jacob, such words as these, O Israel, The Lords eyes are not on my way, and my God gives no attention to my cause?

<sup>28</sup>Have you no knowledge of it? has it not come to your ears? The eternal God, the Lord, the Maker of the ends of the earth, is never feeble or tired; there is no searching out of his wisdom.

<sup>29</sup>He gives power to the feeble, increasing the strength of him who has no force.

<sup>30</sup>Even the young men will become feeble and tired, and the best of them will come to the end of his strength;

<sup>31</sup>But those who are waiting for the Lord will have new strength; they will get wings like eagles: running, they will not be tired, and walking, they will have no weariness.

**41** <sup>1</sup>Come quietly before me, O sea-lands, and let the peoples get

together their strength: let them come near; then let them say what they have to say: let us put forward our cause against one another.

<sup>2</sup>Who sent out from the east one who is right wherever he goes? he gives the nations into his hands, and makes him ruler over kings; he gives them as the dust to his sword, as dry stems before the wind to his bow.

<sup>3</sup>He goes after them safely, not touching the road with his feet.

<sup>4</sup>Whose purpose and work was it? His who sent out the generations from the start. I the Lord, the first, and with the last, I am he.

<sup>5</sup>The sea-lands saw it, and were in fear; the ends of the earth were shaking: they came near.

<sup>6</sup>They gave help everyone to his neighbour; and everyone said to his brother, Take heart!

<sup>7</sup>So the metal-worker put heart into the gold-worker, and he who was hammering the metal smooth said kind words to the iron-worker, saying of the plate, It is ready: and he put it together with nails, so that there might be no slipping.

<sup>8</sup>But as for you, Israel, my servant, and you, Jacob, whom I have taken for myself, the seed of Abraham my friend:

<sup>9</sup>You whom I have taken from the ends of the earth, and sent for from its farthest parts, saying to you, You are my servant, whom I have taken for myself, and whom I have not given up:

<sup>10</sup>Have no fear, for I am with you; do not be looking about in trouble, for I am your God; I will give you strength, yes, I will be your helper; yes, my true right hand will be your support.

<sup>11</sup>Truly, all those who are angry with you will be made low and put to shame: those desiring to do you wrong will come to nothing and never again be seen.

<sup>12</sup>You will make search for your haters but they will not be there; those who make war against you will be as nothing and will come to destruction.

<sup>13</sup>For I, the Lord your God, have taken your right hand in mine, saying to you, Have no fear; I will be your helper.

<sup>14</sup>Have no fear, you worm Jacob, and you men of Israel; I will be your helper, says the Lord, even he who takes up your cause, the Holy One of Israel.

<sup>15</sup>See, I will make you like a new grain-crushing instrument with teeth, crushing the mountains small, and making the hills like dry stems.

<sup>16</sup>You will send the wind over them, and it will take them away; they will go in all directions before the storm-wind: you will have joy in the Lord, and be glad in the Holy One of Israel.

<sup>17</sup>The poor and crushed are looking for water where no water is, and their tongue is dry for need of it: I the Lord will give ear to their prayer, I the God of Israel will not give them up.

<sup>18</sup>I will make rivers on the dry mountain-tops, and fountains in the valleys: I will make the waste land a pool of water, and the dry land springs of water.

<sup>19</sup>I will put in the waste land the cedar, the acacia, the myrtle, and the olive-tree; and in the lowland will be planted the fir-tree, the plane, and the cypress together:

<sup>20</sup>So that they may see and be wise and give their mind to it, and that it may be clear to them all that the hand of the

Lord has done this, and that the Holy One of Israel has made it.

<sup>21</sup> Put forward your cause, says the Lord; let your strong argument come out, says the King of Jacob.

<sup>22</sup> Let the future be made clear to us: give us news of the past things, so that we may give thought to them; or of the things to come, so that we may see if they are true.

<sup>23</sup> Give us word of what will be after this, so that we may be certain that you are gods: yes, do good or do evil, so that we may all see it and be surprised.

<sup>24</sup> But you are nothing, and your work is of no value: foolish is he who takes you for his gods.

<sup>25</sup> I have sent for one from the north, and from the dawn he has come; in my name he will get rulers together and go against them; they will be like dust, even as the wet earth is stamped on by the feet of the potter.

<sup>26</sup> Who has given knowledge of it from the first, so that we may be certain of it? and from the start, so that we may say, His word is true? There is no one who

gives news, or says anything, or who gives ear to your words.

<sup>27</sup>I was the first to give word of it to Zion, and I gave the good news to Jerusalem.

<sup>28</sup>And I saw that there was no man, even no wise man among them, who might give an answer to my questions.

<sup>29</sup>Truly they are all nothing, their works are nothing and of no value: their metal images are of no more use than wind.

**42**<sup>1</sup> See my servant, whom I am supporting, my loved one, in whom I take delight: I have put my spirit on him; he will give the knowledge of the true God to the nations.

<sup>2</sup>He will make no cry, his voice will not be loud: his words will not come to mens ears in the streets.

<sup>3</sup>He will not let a crushed stem be quite broken, and he will not let a feebly burning light be put out: he will go on sending out the true word to the peoples.

<sup>4</sup>His light will not be put out, and he will not be crushed, till he has given the knowledge of the true God to the earth, and the sea-lands will be waiting for his teaching.

<sup>5</sup>God the Lord, even he who made the heavens, measuring them out on high; stretching out the earth, and giving its produce; he who gives breath to the people on it, and life to those who go about on it, says:

<sup>6</sup>I the Lord have made you the vessel of my purpose, I have taken you by the hand, and kept you safe, and I have given you to be an agreement to the people, and a light to the nations:

<sup>7</sup>To give eyes to the blind, to make free the prisoners from the prison, to let out those who are shut up in the dark.

<sup>8</sup>I am the Lord; that is my name: I will not give my glory to another, or my praise to pictured images.

<sup>9</sup>See, the things said before have come about, and now I give word of new things: before they come I give you news of them.

<sup>10</sup>Make a new song to the Lord, and let his praise be sounded from the end of the earth; you who go down to the sea, and everything in it, the sea-lands and their people.

<sup>11</sup>Let the waste land and its flocks be glad, the tent-circles of Kedar; let the



people of the rock give a glad cry, from the top of the mountains let them make a sound of joy.

<sup>12</sup>Let them give glory to the Lord, sounding his praise in the sea-lands.

<sup>13</sup>The Lord will go out as a man of war, he will be moved to wrath like a fighting-man: his voice will be strong, he will give a loud cry; he will go against his attackers like a man of war.

<sup>14</sup>I have long been quiet, I have kept myself in and done nothing: now I will make sounds of pain like a woman in childbirth, breathing hard and quickly.

<sup>15</sup>I will make waste mountains and hills, drying up all their plants; and I will make rivers dry, and pools dry land.

<sup>16</sup>And I will take the blind by a way of which they had no knowledge, guiding them by roads strange to them: I will make the dark places light before them, and the rough places level. These things will I do and will not give them up.

<sup>17</sup>They will be turned back and be greatly shamed who put their hope in pictured images, who say to metal images, You are our gods.

<sup>18</sup>Give ear, you whose ears are shut; and let your eyes be open, you blind, so that you may see.

<sup>19</sup>Who is blind, but my servant? who has his ears stopped, but he whom I send? who is blind as my true one, or who has his ears shut like the Lords servant?

<sup>20</sup>Seeing much, but keeping nothing in mind; his ears are open, but there is no hearing.

<sup>21</sup>It was the Lords pleasure, because of his righteousness, to make the teaching great and give it honour.

<sup>22</sup>But this is a people whose property has been taken away from them by force; they are all taken in holes, and shut up in prisons: they are made prisoners, and no one makes them free; they are taken by force and no one says, Give them back.

<sup>23</sup>Who is there among you who will give ear to this? who will give attention to it for the time to come?

<sup>24</sup>Who gave up Jacob to those who took away his goods, and Israel to his attackers? Did not the Lord? he against whom they did wrong, and in whose

ways they would not go, turning away from his teaching.

<sup>25</sup>For this reason he let loose on him the heat of his wrath, and his strength was like a flame; and it put fire round about him, but he did not see it; he was burned, but did not take it to heart.

**43**<sup>1</sup> But now, says the Lord your Maker, O Jacob, and your life-giver, O Israel: have no fear, for I have taken up your cause; naming you by your name, I have made you mine.

<sup>2</sup>When you go through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they will not go over you: when you go through the fire, you will not be burned; and the flame will have no power over you.

<sup>3</sup>For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your saviour; I have given Egypt as a price for you, Ethiopia and Seba for you.

<sup>4</sup>Because of your value in my eyes, you have been honoured, and loved by me; so I will give men for you, and peoples for your life.

<sup>5</sup>Have no fear, for I am with you: I will take your seed from the east, and get you together from the west;

<sup>6</sup>I will say to the north, Give them up; and to the south, Do not keep them back; send back my sons from far, and my daughters from the end of the earth;

<sup>7</sup>Every one who is named by my name, and whom I have made for my glory, who has been formed and designed by me.

<sup>8</sup>Send out the blind people who have eyes, and those who have ears, but they are shut.

<sup>9</sup>Let all the nations come together, and let the peoples be present: who among them is able to make this clear, and give us word of earlier things? let their witnesses come forward, so that they may be seen to be true, and that they may give ear, and say, It is true.

<sup>10</sup>You are my witnesses, says the Lord, and my servant whom I have taken for myself: so that you may see and have faith in me, and that it may be clear to you that I am he; before me there was no God formed, and there will not be after me.

<sup>11</sup> I, even I, am the Lord; and there is no saviour but me.

<sup>12</sup> I gave the word, and made it clear, and there was no strange god among you: for this reason you are my witnesses, says the Lord.

<sup>13</sup> From time long past I am God, and from this day I am he: there is no one who is able to take you out of my hand: when I undertake a thing, by whom will my purpose be changed?

<sup>14</sup> The Lord, who has taken up your cause, the Holy One of Israel, says, Because of you I have sent to Babylon, and made all their seers come south, and the Chaldaeans whose cry is in the ships.

<sup>15</sup> I am the Lord, your Holy One, the Maker of Israel, your King.

<sup>16</sup> This is the word of the Lord, who makes a way in the sea, and a road through the deep waters;

<sup>17</sup> Who sends out the war-carriages and the horses, the army with all its force; they have come down, they will not get up again; like a feebly burning light they are put out.

<sup>18</sup>Give no thought to the things which are past; let the early times go out of your minds.

<sup>19</sup>See, I am doing a new thing; now it is starting; will you not take note of it? I will even make a way in the waste land, and rivers in the dry country.

<sup>20</sup>The beasts of the field will give me honour, the jackals and the ostriches: because I send out waters in the waste land, and rivers in the dry country, to give drink to the people whom I have taken for myself:

<sup>21</sup>Even the people whom I made to be the witnesses of my praise.

<sup>22</sup>But you have made no prayer to me, O Jacob: and you have given no thought to me, O Israel.

<sup>23</sup>You have not made me burned offerings of sheep, or given me honour with your offerings of beasts; I did not make you servants to give me an offering, and I did not make you tired with requests for perfumes.

<sup>24</sup>You have not got me sweet-smelling plants with your money, or given me pleasure with the fat of your offerings: but you have made me a servant to your

sins, and you have made me tired with your evil doings.

<sup>25</sup>I, even I, am he who takes away your sins; and I will no longer keep your evil doings in mind.

<sup>26</sup>Put me in mind of this; let us take up the cause between us: put forward your cause, so that you may be seen to be in the right.

<sup>27</sup>Your first father was a sinner, and your guides have gone against my word.

<sup>28</sup>Your chiefs have made my holy place unclean, so I have made Jacob a curse, and Israel a thing of shame.

**44**<sup>1</sup>And now, give ear, O Jacob my servant, and Israel whom I have taken for myself:

<sup>2</sup>The Lord who made you, forming you in your mothers body, the Lord, your helper, says, Have no fear, O Jacob my servant, and you, Jeshurun, whom I have taken for myself.

<sup>3</sup>For I will send water on the land needing it, and streams on the dry earth: I will let my spirit come down on your seed, and my blessing on your offspring.

<sup>4</sup>And they will come up like grass in a well-watered field, like water-plants by the streams.

<sup>5</sup>One will say, I am the Lords; and another will give himself the name, Jacob; another will put a mark on his hand, I am the Lords, and another will take the name of Israel for himself.

<sup>6</sup>The Lord, the King of Israel, even the Lord of armies who has taken up his cause, says, I am the first and the last, and there is no God but me.

<sup>7</sup>If there is one like me, let him come forward and say it, let him make it clear and put it in order before me: who has made clear in the past the things to come? let him make clear the future to me.

<sup>8</sup>Have no fear, be strong in heart; have I not made it clear to you in the past, and let you see it? and you are my witnesses. Is there any God but me, or a Rock of whom I have no knowledge?

<sup>9</sup>Those who make a pictured image are all of them as nothing, and the things of their desire will be of no profit to them: and their servants see not, and have no knowledge; so they will be put to shame.



<sup>10</sup>Whoever makes a god, makes nothing but a metal image in which there is no profit.

<sup>11</sup>Truly, all those who make use of secret arts will be put to shame, and their words of power are only words of men: let them all come forward together; they will all be in fear and be put to shame.

<sup>12</sup>The iron-worker is heating the metal in the fire, giving it form with his hammers, and working on it with his strong arm: then for need of food his strength gives way, and for need of water he becomes feeble.

<sup>13</sup>The woodworker is measuring out the wood with his line, marking it out with his pencil: after smoothing it with his plane, and making circles on it with his instrument, he gives it the form and glory of a man, so that it may be placed in the house.

<sup>14</sup>He has cedars cut down for himself, he takes an oak and lets it get strong among the trees of the wood; he has an ash-tree planted, and the rain gives it growth.

<sup>15</sup>Then it will be used to make a fire, so that a man may get warm; he has the oven heated with it and makes bread: he makes a god with it, to which he gives worship: he makes a pictured image out of it, and goes down on his face before it.

<sup>16</sup>With part of it he makes a fire, and on the fire he gets meat cooked and takes a full meal: he makes himself warm, and says, Aha! I am warm, I have seen the fire:

<sup>17</sup>And the rest of it he makes into a god, even his pictured image: he goes down on his face before it, giving worship to it, and making prayer to it, saying, Be my saviour; for you are my god.

<sup>18</sup>They have no knowledge or wisdom; for he has put a veil over their eyes, so that they may not see; and on their hearts, so that they may not give attention.

<sup>19</sup>And no one takes note, no one has enough knowledge or wisdom to say, I have put part of it in the fire, and made bread on it; I have had a meal of the flesh cooked with it: and am I now to make the rest of it into a false god? am

I to go down on my face before a bit of wood?

<sup>20</sup>As for him whose food is the dust of a dead fire, he has been turned from the way by a twisted mind, so that he is unable to keep himself safe by saying, What I have here in my hand is false.

<sup>21</sup>Keep these things in mind, O Jacob; and you Israel, for you are my servant: I have made you; you are my servant; O Israel, I will not let you go out of my memory.

<sup>22</sup>I have put your evil doings out of my mind like a thick cloud, and your sins like a mist: come back to me; for I have taken up your cause.

<sup>23</sup>Make a song, O heavens, for the Lord has done it: give a loud cry, you deep parts of the earth: let your voices be loud in song, you mountains, and you woods with all your trees: for the Lord has taken up the cause of Jacob, and will let his glory be seen in Israel.

<sup>24</sup>The Lord, who has taken up your cause, and who gave you life in your mothers body, says, I am the Lord who makes all things; stretching out the

heavens by myself, and giving the earth its limits; who was with me?

<sup>25</sup>Who makes the signs of those who give word of the future come to nothing, so that those who have knowledge of secret arts go off their heads; turning the wise men back, and making their knowledge foolish:

<sup>26</sup>Who makes the word of his servants certain, and gives effect to the purposes of his representatives; who says of Jerusalem, Her people will come back to her; and of the towns of Judah, I will give orders for their building, and will make her waste places fertile again:

<sup>27</sup>Who says to the deep, Be dry, and I will make your rivers dry:

<sup>28</sup>Who says of Cyrus, He will take care of my sheep, and will do all my pleasure: who says of Jerusalem, I will give the word for your building; and of the Temple, Your bases will be put in place.

**45**<sup>1</sup> The Lord says to the man of his selection, to Cyrus, whom I have taken by the right hand, putting down nations before him, and taking away the arms of kings; making the doors open

before him, so that the ways into the towns may not be shut;

<sup>2</sup>I will go before you, and make the rough places level: the doors of brass will be broken, and the iron rods cut in two:

<sup>3</sup>And I will give you the stores of the dark, and the wealth of secret places, so that you may be certain that I am the Lord, who gave you your name, even the God of Israel.

<sup>4</sup>Because of Jacob my servant, and Israel whom I have taken for myself, I have sent for you by name, giving you a name of honour, though you had no knowledge of me.

<sup>5</sup>I am the Lord, and there is no other; there is no God but me: I will make you ready for war, though you had no knowledge of me:

<sup>6</sup>So that they may see from the east and from the west that there is no God but me: I am the Lord, and there is no other.

<sup>7</sup>I am the giver of light and the maker of the dark; causing blessing, and sending troubles; I am the Lord, who does all these things.

<sup>8</sup>Let righteousness come down, O heavens, from on high, and let the sky send it down like rain: let the earth be open to give the fruit of salvation, causing righteousness to come up with it; I the Lord have made it come about.

<sup>9</sup>Cursed is he who has an argument with his Maker, the pot which has an argument with the Potter! Will the wet earth say to him who is working with it, What are you doing, that your work has nothing by which it may be gripped?

<sup>10</sup>Cursed is he who says to a father, To what are you giving life? or to a woman, What are you in birth-pains with?

<sup>11</sup>The Lord, the Holy One of Israel, and his Maker, says, Will you put a question to me about the things which are to come, or will you give me orders about my sons, and the work of my hands?

<sup>12</sup>I have made the earth, forming man on it: by my hands the heavens have been stretched out, and all the stars put in their ordered places.

<sup>13</sup>I have sent him out to overcome the nations, and I will make all his ways straight: I will give him the work of building my town, and he will let

my prisoners go free, without price or reward, says the Lord of armies.

<sup>14</sup>The Lord says, The workmen of Egypt, and the traders of Ethiopia, and the tall Sabaean, will come over the sea to you, and they will be yours; they will go after you; in chains they will come over: and they will go down on their faces before you, and will make prayer to you, saying, Truly, God is among you; and there is no other God.

<sup>15</sup>Truly, you have a secret God, the God of Israel is a Saviour!

<sup>16</sup>All those who have gone against him will be put to shame; the makers of images will be made low.

<sup>17</sup>But the Lord will make Israel free with an eternal salvation: you will not be put to shame or made low for ever and ever.

<sup>18</sup>For this is the word of the Lord who made the heavens; he is God; the maker and designer of the earth; who made it not to be a waste, but as a living-place for man: I am the Lord, and there is no other.

<sup>19</sup>I have not given my word in secret, in a place in the underworld; I did not

say to the seed of Jacob, Go into a waste land to make request of me: I the Lord say what is true, my word is righteousness.

<sup>20</sup> Come together, even come near, you nations who are still living: they have no knowledge who take up their image of wood, and make prayer to a god in whom is no salvation.

<sup>21</sup> Give the word, put forward your cause, let us have a discussion together: who has given news of this in the past? who made it clear in early times? did not I, the Lord? and there is no God but me; a true God and a saviour; there is no other.

<sup>22</sup> Let your hearts be turned to me, so that you may have salvation, all the ends of the earth: for I am God, and there is no other.

<sup>23</sup> By myself have I taken an oath, a true word has gone from my mouth, and will not be changed, that to me every knee will be bent, and every tongue will give honour.

<sup>24</sup> Only in the Lord will Jacob overcome and be strong: together all those who



were angry with him will be put to shame and come to destruction.

<sup>25</sup>In the Lord will all the seed of Israel get their rights, and they will give glory to him.

**46**<sup>1</sup> Bel is bent down, Nebo is falling; their images are on the beasts and on the cattle: the things which you took about have become a weight to the tired beast.

<sup>2</sup>They are bent down, they are falling together: they were not able to keep their images safe, but they themselves have been taken prisoner.

<sup>3</sup>Give ear to me, O family of Jacob, and all the rest of the people of Israel, who have been supported by me from their birth, and have been my care from their earliest days:

<sup>4</sup>Even when you are old I will be the same, and when you are grey-haired I will take care of you: I will still be responsible for what I made; yes, I will take you and keep you safe.

<sup>5</sup>Who in your eyes is my equal? or what comparison will you make with me?

<sup>6</sup>As for those who take gold out of a bag, and put silver in the scales, they

give payment to a gold-worker, to make it into a god; they go down on their faces and give it worship.

<sup>7</sup>They put him on their backs, and take him up, and put him in his fixed place, from which he may not be moved; if a man gives a cry for help to him, he is unable to give an answer, or get him out of his trouble.

<sup>8</sup>Keep this in mind and be shamed; let it come back to your memory, you sinners.

<sup>9</sup>Let the things which are past come to your memory: for I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is no one like me;

<sup>10</sup>Making clear from the first what is to come, and from past times the things which have not so far come about; saying, My purpose is fixed, and I will do all my pleasure;

<sup>11</sup>Sending for a bird of strong flight from the east, the man of my purpose from a far country; I have said it, and I will give effect to it; the thing designed by me will certainly be done.

<sup>12</sup>Give ear to me, you feeble-hearted, who have no faith in my righteousness:

<sup>13</sup> My righteousness is near, it is not far off; salvation will come quickly; and I will make Zion free, and give Israel my glory.

**47** <sup>1</sup> Come and take your seat in the dust, O virgin daughter of Babylon; come down from your seat of power, and take your place on the earth, O daughter of the Chaldeans: for you will never again seem soft and delicate.

<sup>2</sup> Take the crushing-stones and get the meal crushed: take off your veil, put away your robe, let your legs be uncovered, go through the rivers.

<sup>3</sup> The shame of your unclothed condition will be seen by all: I will give punishment without mercy,

<sup>4</sup> Says the Lord who takes up our cause; the Lord of armies is his name, the Holy One of Israel.

<sup>5</sup> Be seated in the dark without a word, O daughter of the Chaldeans: for you will no longer be named, The Queen of Kingdoms.

<sup>6</sup> I was angry with my people, I put shame on my heritage, and gave them into your hands: you had no mercy on

them; you put a cruel yoke on those who were old;

<sup>7</sup> And you said, I will be a queen for ever: you did not give attention to these things, and did not keep in mind what would come after.

<sup>8</sup> So now take note of this, you who are given up to pleasure, living without fear of evil, saying in your heart, I am, and there is no one like me; I will never be a widow, or have my children taken from me.

<sup>9</sup> But these two things will come on you suddenly in one day, the loss of children and of husband: in full measure they will come on you, for all your secret arts, and all your wonders.

<sup>10</sup> For you had faith in your evil-doing; you said, No one sees me; by your wisdom and knowledge you have been turned out of the way: and you have said in your heart, I am, and there is no other.

<sup>11</sup> Because of this evil will come on you, which may not be turned away for any price: and trouble will overtake you, from which no money will give salvation:

destruction will come on you suddenly, without your knowledge.

<sup>12</sup>Go on now with your secret arts, and all your wonder-working, to which you have given yourself up from your earliest days; it may be that they will be of profit to you, or by them you may put fear into your attackers.

<sup>13</sup>But your mind is troubled by the number of your guides: let them now come forward for your salvation: the measurers of the heavens, the watchers of the stars, and those who are able to say from month to month what things are coming on you.

<sup>14</sup>Truly, they have become like dry stems, they have been burned in the fire; they are not able to keep themselves safe from the power of the flame: it is not a coal for warming them, or a fire by which a man may be seated.

<sup>15</sup>Small profit have you had from those who, from your earliest days, got great profit out of you; they have gone in flight, every one straight before him, and you have no saviour.

**48**<sup>1</sup>Give ear to this, O family of Jacob, you who are named by the

name of Israel, and have come out of the body of Judah; who take oaths by the name of the Lord, and make use of the name of the God of Israel, but not truly and not in good faith.

<sup>2</sup>For they say that they are of the holy town, and put their faith in the God of Israel: the Lord of armies is his name.

<sup>3</sup>I gave word in the past of the things which came about; they came from my mouth, and I made them clear: suddenly I did them, and they came about.

<sup>4</sup>Because I saw that your heart was hard, and that your neck was an iron cord, and your brow brass;

<sup>5</sup>For this reason I made it clear to you in the past, before it came I gave you word of it: for fear that you might say, My god did these things, and my pictured and metal images made them come about.

<sup>6</sup>All this has come to your ears and you have seen it; will you not give witness to it? I am now making clear new things, even secret things, of which you had no knowledge.

<sup>7</sup>They have only now been effected, and not in the past: and before this day

they had not come to your ears; for fear that you might say, I had knowledge of them.

<sup>8</sup> Truly you had no word of them, no knowledge of them; no news of them in the past had come to your ears; because I saw how false was your behaviour, and that your heart was turned against me from your earliest days.

<sup>9</sup> Because of my name I will put away my wrath, and for my praise I will keep myself from cutting you off.

<sup>10</sup> See, I have been testing you for myself like silver; I have put you through the fire of trouble.

<sup>11</sup> For myself, even because of my name, I will do it; for I will not let my name be shamed; and my glory I will not give to another.

<sup>12</sup> Give ear to me, Jacob, and Israel, my loved one; I am he, I am the first and I am the last.

<sup>13</sup> Yes, by my hand was the earth placed on its base, and by my right hand the heavens were stretched out; at my word they take up their places.

<sup>14</sup> Come together, all of you, and give ear; who among you has given news of

these things? the Lords loved one will do his pleasure with Babylon, and with the seed of the Chaldaeans.

<sup>15</sup>I, even I, have given the word; I have sent for him: I have made him come, and have given effect to his undertakings.

<sup>16</sup>Come near to me, and give ear to this; from the start I did not keep it secret; from the time of its coming into existence I was there: and now the Lord God has sent me, and given me his spirit.

<sup>17</sup>The Lord who takes up your cause, the Holy One of Israel, says, I am the Lord your God, who is teaching you for your profit, guiding you by the way in which you are to go.

<sup>18</sup>If only you had given ear to my orders, then your peace would have been like a river, and your righteousness as the waves of the sea:

<sup>19</sup>Your seed would have been like the sand, and your offspring like the dust: your name would not be cut off or come to an end before me.

<sup>20</sup>Go out of Babylon, go in flight from the Chaldaeans; with the sound of song make it clear, give the news, let the word



go out even to the end of the earth: say, The Lord has taken up the cause of his servant Jacob.

<sup>21</sup> They had no need of water when he was guiding them through the waste lands: he made water come out of the rock for them: the rock was parted and the waters came flowing out.

<sup>22</sup> There is no peace, says the Lord, for the evil-doers.

**49** <sup>1</sup> Give ear, O sea-lands, to me; and take note, you peoples from far: I have been marked out by the Lord from the first; when I was still in my mothers body, he had my name in mind:

<sup>2</sup> And he has made my mouth like a sharp sword, in the shade of his hand he has kept me; and he has made me like a polished arrow, keeping me in his secret place;

<sup>3</sup> And he said to me, You are my servant, Israel, in whom my glory will be seen;

<sup>4</sup> And I said, I have undergone weariness for nothing, I have given my strength for no purpose or profit: but still the Lord will take up my cause, and my God will give me my reward.

<sup>5</sup>And now, says the Lord, who made me his servant when I was still in my mothers body, so that I might make Jacob come back to him, and so that Israel might come together to him: and I was honoured in the eyes of the Lord, and my God became my strength.

<sup>6</sup>It is not enough for one who is my servant to put the tribes of Jacob again in their place, and to get back those of Israel who have been sent away: my purpose is to give you as a light to the nations, so that you may be my salvation to the end of the earth.

<sup>7</sup>The Lord who takes up Israels cause, even his Holy One, says to him whom men make sport of, who is hated by the nations, a servant of rulers: Kings will see and get up from their places, and chiefs will give worship: because of the Lord who keeps faith; even the Holy One of Israel who has taken you for himself.

<sup>8</sup>This is the word of the Lord: I have given ear to you at a good time, and I have been your helper in a day of salvation: and I will keep you safe, and will make you a glory for the people,

putting the land in order, and giving them the heritages which now are waste;

<sup>9</sup>Saying to those who are in chains, Go free; to those who are in the dark, Come out into the light. They will get food by the way wherever they go, and have grass-lands on all the dry mountain-tops.

<sup>10</sup>They will not be in need of food or drink, or be troubled by the heat or the sun: for he who has mercy on them will be their guide, taking them by the springs of water.

<sup>11</sup>And I will make all my mountains a way, and my highways will be lifted up.

<sup>12</sup>See, these are coming from far; and these from the north and the west; and these from the land of Sinim.

<sup>13</sup>Let your voice be loud in song, O heavens; and be glad, O earth; make sounds of joy, O mountains, for the Lord has given comfort to his people, and will have mercy on his crushed ones.

<sup>14</sup>But Zion said, The Lord has given me up, I have gone from his memory.

<sup>15</sup>Will a woman give up the child at her breast, will she be without pity for the fruit of her body? yes, these may, but I will not let you go out of my memory.

<sup>16</sup>See, your name is marked on my hands; your walls are ever before me.

<sup>17</sup>Your builders are coming quickly; your haters and those who made you waste will go out of you.

<sup>18</sup>Let your eyes be lifted up round about, and see: they are all coming together to you. By my life, says the Lord, truly you will put them all on you as an ornament, and be clothed with them like a bride.

<sup>19</sup>For though the waste places of your land have been given to destruction, now you will not be wide enough for your people, and those who made you waste will be far away.

<sup>20</sup>The children to whom you gave birth in other lands will say in your ears, The place is not wide enough for me: make room for me to have a resting-place.

<sup>21</sup>Then you will say in your heart, Who has given me all these children? when my children had been taken from me, and I was no longer able to have others, who took care of these? when I was by myself, where then were these?

<sup>22</sup>This is the word of the Lord God: See, I will make a sign with my hand to

the nations, and put up my flag for the peoples; and they will take up your sons on their beasts, and your daughters on their backs.

<sup>23</sup>And kings will take care of you, and queens will give you their milk: they will go down on their faces before you, kissing the dust of your feet; and you will be certain that I am the Lord, and that those who put their hope in me will not be shamed.

<sup>24</sup>Will the goods of war be taken from the strong man, or the prisoners of the cruel one be let go?

<sup>25</sup>But the Lord says, Even the prisoners of the strong will be taken from him, and the cruel made to let go his goods: for I will take up your cause against your haters, and I will keep your children safe.

<sup>26</sup>And the flesh of your attackers will be taken by themselves for food; and they will take their blood for drink, as if it was sweet wine: and all men will see that I the Lord am your saviour, even he who takes up your cause, the Strong One of Jacob.

**50**<sup>1</sup> This is the word of the Lord:  
Where is the statement which I  
gave your mother when I put her away?  
or to which of my creditors have I given  
you for money? It was for your sins that  
you were given into the hands of others,  
and for your evil-doing was your mother  
put away.

<sup>2</sup> Why, then, when I came, was there no  
man? and no one to give answer to my  
voice? has my hand become feeble, so  
that it is unable to take up your cause?  
or have I no power to make you free?  
See, at my word the sea becomes dry, I  
make the rivers a waste land: their fish  
are dead for need of water, and make an  
evil smell.

<sup>3</sup> By me the heavens are clothed with  
black, and I make haircloth their robe.

<sup>4</sup> The Lord God has given me the tongue  
of those who are experienced, so that I  
may be able to give the word a special  
sense for the feeble: every morning my  
ear is open to his teaching, like those  
who are experienced:

<sup>5</sup> And I have not put myself against him,  
or let my heart be turned back from him.

<sup>6</sup>I was offering my back to those who gave me blows, and my face to those who were pulling out my hair: I did not keep my face covered from marks of shame.

<sup>7</sup>For the Lord God is my helper; I will not be put to shame: so I have made my face like a rock, and I am certain that he will give me my right.

<sup>8</sup>He who takes up my cause is near; who will go to law with me? let us come together before the judge: who is against me? let him come near to me.

<sup>9</sup>See, the Lord God is my helper; who will give a decision against me? truly, all of them will become old like a robe; they will be food for the worm.

<sup>10</sup>Who among you has the fear of the Lord, giving ear to the voice of his servant who has been walking in the dark and has no light? Let him put his faith in the name of the Lord, looking to his God for support.

<sup>11</sup>See, all you who make a fire, arming yourselves with burning branches: go in the flame of your fire, and among the branches you have put a light to. This

will you have from my hand, you will make your bed in sorrow.

**51** <sup>1</sup>Give ear to me, you who are searching for righteousness, who are looking for the Lord: see the rock from which you were cut out, and the hole out of which you were taken.

<sup>2</sup>Let your thoughts be turned to Abraham, your father, and to Sarah, who gave you birth: for when he was but one, my voice came to him, and I gave him my blessing, and made him a great people.

<sup>3</sup>For the Lord has given comfort to Zion: he has made glad all her broken walls; making her waste places like Eden, and changing her dry land into the garden of the Lord; joy and delight will be there, praise and the sound of melody.

<sup>4</sup>Give attention to me, O my people; and give ear to me, O my nation; for teaching will go out from me, and the knowledge of the true God will be a light to the peoples.

<sup>5</sup>Suddenly will my righteousness come near, and my salvation will be shining out like the light; the sea-lands will be



waiting for me, and they will put their hope in my strong arm.

<sup>6</sup>Let your eyes be lifted up to the heavens, and turned to the earth which is under them: for the heavens will go in flight like smoke, and the earth will become old like a coat, and its people will come to destruction like insects: but my salvation will be for ever, and my righteousness will not come to an end.

<sup>7</sup>Give ear to me, you who have knowledge of righteousness, in whose heart is my law; have no fear of the evil words of men, and give no thought to their curses.

<sup>8</sup>For like a coat they will be food for the insect, the worm will make a meal of them like wool: but my righteousness will be for ever, and my salvation to all generations.

<sup>9</sup>Awake! awake! put on strength, O arm of the Lord, awake! as in the old days, in the generations long past. Was it not by you that Rahab was cut in two, and the dragon Wounded?

<sup>10</sup>Did you not make the sea dry, the waters of the great deep? did you not

make the deep waters of the sea a way for the Lords people to go through?

<sup>11</sup> Those whom the Lord has made free will come back with songs to Zion; and on their heads will be eternal joy: delight and joy will be theirs, and sorrow and sounds of grief will be gone for ever.

<sup>12</sup> I, even I, am your comforter: are you so poor in heart as to be in fear of man who will come to an end, and of the son of man who will be like grass?

<sup>13</sup> And you have given no thought to the Lord your Maker, by whom the heavens were stretched out, and the earth placed on its base; and you went all day in fear of the wrath of the cruel one, when he was making ready for your destruction. And where is the wrath of the cruel one?

<sup>14</sup> The prisoner, bent under his chain, will quickly be made free, and will not go down into the underworld, and his bread will not come to an end.

<sup>15</sup> For I am the Lord your God, who makes the sea calm when its waves are thundering: the Lord of armies is his name.

<sup>16</sup> And I have put my words in your mouth, covering you with the shade of

my hand, stretching out the heavens,  
and placing the earth on its base, and  
saying to Zion, You are my people.

<sup>17</sup>Awake! awake! up! O Jerusalem, you  
who have taken from the Lords hand the  
cup of his wrath; tasting in full measure  
the wine which overcomes.

<sup>18</sup>She has no one among all her  
children to be her guide; not one of the  
sons she has taken care of takes her by  
the hand.

<sup>19</sup>These two things have come on you;  
who will be weeping for you? wasting  
and destruction; death from need of  
food, and from the sword; how may you  
be comforted?

<sup>20</sup>Your sons are overcome, like a roe in  
a net; they are full of the wrath of the  
Lord, the punishment of your God.

<sup>21</sup>So now give ear to this, you who are  
troubled and overcome, but not with  
wine:

<sup>22</sup>This is the word of the Lord your  
master, even your God who takes up  
the cause of his people: See, I have  
taken out of your hand the cup which  
overcomes, even the cup of my wrath; it  
will not again be given to you:

<sup>23</sup> And I will put it into the hand of your cruel masters, and of those whose yoke has been hard on you; who have said to your soul, Down on your face! so that we may go over you: and you have given your backs like the earth, even like the street, for them to go over.

**52** <sup>1</sup> Awake! awake! put on your strength, O Zion; put on your beautiful robes, O Jerusalem, the holy town: for from now there will never again come into you the unclean and those without circumcision.

<sup>2</sup> Make yourself clean from the dust; up! and take the seat of your power, O Jerusalem: the bands of your neck are loose, O prisoned daughter of Zion.

<sup>3</sup> For the Lord says, You were given for nothing, and you will be made free without price.

<sup>4</sup> For the Lord God says, My people went down at first into Egypt, to get a place for themselves there: and the Assyrian put a cruel yoke on them without cause.

<sup>5</sup> Now then, what have I here? says the Lord, for my people are taken away without cause; they are made waste and give cries of sorrow, says the Lord, and

all the day the nations put shame on my name.

<sup>6</sup>For this cause I will make my name clear to my people; in that day they will be certain that it is my word which comes to them; see, here am I.

<sup>7</sup>How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of him who comes with good news, who gives word of peace, saying that salvation is near; who says to Zion, Your God is ruling!

<sup>8</sup>The voice of your watchmen! their voices are loud in song together; for they will see him, eye to eye, when the Lord comes back to Zion.

<sup>9</sup>Give sounds of joy, make melody together, waste places of Jerusalem: for the Lord has given comfort to his people, he has taken up the cause of Jerusalem.

<sup>10</sup>The Lord has let his holy arm be seen by the eyes of all nations; and all the ends of the earth will see the salvation of our God.

<sup>11</sup>Away! away! go out from there, touching no unclean thing; go out from among her; be clean, you who take up the vessels of the Lord.

<sup>12</sup>For you will not go out suddenly, and you will not go in flight: for the Lord will go before you, and the God of Israel will come after you to keep you.

<sup>13</sup>See, my servant will do well in his undertakings, he will be honoured, and lifted up, and be very high.

<sup>14</sup>As peoples were surprised at him, And his face was not beautiful, so as to be desired: his face was so changed by disease as to be unlike that of a man, and his form was no longer that of the sons of men.

<sup>15</sup>So will nations give him honour; kings will keep quiet because of him: for what had not been made clear to them they will see; and they will give their minds to what had not come to their ears.

**53**<sup>1</sup>Who would have had faith in the word which has come to our ears, and to whom had the arm of the Lord been unveiled?

<sup>2</sup>For his growth was like that of a delicate plant before him, and like a root out of a dry place: he had no grace of form, to give us pleasure;

<sup>3</sup>Men made sport of him, turning away from him; he was a man of sorrows, marked by disease; and like one from whom mens faces are turned away, he was looked down on, and we put no value on him.

<sup>4</sup>But it was our pain he took, and our diseases were put on him: while to us he seemed as one diseased, on whom Gods punishment had come.

<sup>5</sup>But it was for our sins he was wounded, and for our evil doings he was crushed: he took the punishment by which we have peace, and by his wounds we are made well.

<sup>6</sup>We all went wandering like sheep; going every one of us after his desire; and the Lord put on him the punishment of us all.

<sup>7</sup>Men were cruel to him, but he was gentle and quiet; as a lamb taken to its death, and as a sheep before those who take her wool makes no sound, so he said not a word.

<sup>8</sup>They took away from him help and right, and who gave a thought to his fate? for he was cut off from the land of

the living: he came to his death for the sin of my people.

<sup>9</sup>And they put his body into the earth with sinners, and his last resting-place was with the evil-doers, though he had done no wrong, and no deceit was in his mouth.

<sup>10</sup>And the Lord was pleased to see a seed, long life, will do well in his hand.

<sup>11</sup>He made clear his righteousness before men, had taken their sins on himself.

<sup>12</sup>For this cause he will have a heritage with the great, and he will have a part in the goods of war with the strong, because he gave up his life, and was numbered with the evil-doers; taking on himself the sins of the people, and making prayer for the wrongdoers.

**54**<sup>1</sup>Let your voice be loud in song, O woman without children; make melody and sounds of joy, you who did not give birth: for the children of her who had no husband are more than those of the married wife, says the Lord.

<sup>2</sup>Make wide the place of your tent, and let the curtains of your house be stretched out without limit: make your cords long, and your tent-pins strong.



<sup>3</sup>For I will make wide your limits on the right hand and on the left; and your seed will take the nations for a heritage, and make the waste towns full of people.

<sup>4</sup>Have no fear; for you will not be shamed or without hope: you will not be put to shame, for the shame of your earlier days will go out of your memory, and you will no longer keep in mind the sorrows of your widowed years.

<sup>5</sup>For your Maker is your husband; the Lord of armies is his name: and the Holy One of Israel is he who takes up your cause; he will be named the God of all the earth.

<sup>6</sup>For the Lord has made you come back to him, like a wife who has been sent away in grief of spirit; for one may not give up the wife of ones early days.

<sup>7</sup>For a short time I gave you up; but with great mercies I will take you back again.

<sup>8</sup>In overflowing wrath my face was veiled from you for a minute, but I will have pity on you for ever, says the Lord who takes up your cause.

<sup>9</sup>For this is like the days of Noah to me: for as I took an oath that the waters

of Noah would never again go over the earth, so have I taken an oath that I will not again be angry with you, or say bitter words to you.

<sup>10</sup>For the mountains may be taken away, and the hills be moved out of their places, but my love will not be taken from you, or my agreement of peace broken, says the Lord, who has had mercy on you.

<sup>11</sup>O troubled one, storm-crushed, un comforted! see, your stones will be framed in fair colours, and your bases will be sapphires.

<sup>12</sup>I will make your towers of rubies, and your doors of carbuncles, and the wall round you will be of all sorts of beautiful stones.

<sup>13</sup>And all your builders will be made wise by the Lord; and great will be the peace of your children.

<sup>14</sup>All your rights will be made certain to you: have no fear of evil, and destruction will not come near you.

<sup>15</sup>See, they may be moved to war, but not by my authority: all those who come together to make an attack on you, will be broken against you.

<sup>16</sup>See, I have made the iron-worker, blowing on the burning coals, and making the instrument of war by his work; and I have made the waster for destruction.

<sup>17</sup>No instrument of war which is formed against you will be of any use; and every tongue which says evil against you will be judged false. This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord, and their righteousness comes from me, says the Lord.

**55** <sup>1</sup>Ho! everyone in need, come to the waters, and he who has no strength, let him get food: come, get bread without money; wine and milk without price.

<sup>2</sup>Why do you give your money for what is not bread, and the fruit of your work for what will not give you pleasure? Give ear to me, so that your food may be good, and you may have the best in full measure.

<sup>3</sup>Give ear, and come to me, take note with care, so that your souls may have life: and I will make an eternal agreement with you, even the certain mercies of David.

<sup>4</sup>See, I have given him as a witness to the peoples, a ruler and a guide to the nations.

<sup>5</sup>See, you will send for a nation of which you had no knowledge, and those who had no knowledge of you will come running to you, because of the Lord your God, and because of the Holy One of Israel, for he has given you glory.

<sup>6</sup>Make search for the Lord while he is there, make prayer to him while he is near:

<sup>7</sup>Let the sinner give up his way, and the evil-doer his purpose: and let him come back to the Lord, and he will have mercy on him; and to our God, for there is full forgiveness with him.

<sup>8</sup>For my thoughts are not your thoughts, or your ways my ways, says the Lord.

<sup>9</sup>For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

<sup>10</sup>For as the rain comes down, and the snow from heaven, and does not go back again, but gives water to the earth,

and makes it fertile, giving seed to the planter, and bread for food;

<sup>11</sup> So will my word be which goes out of my mouth: it will not come back to me with nothing done, but it will give effect to my purpose, and do that for which I have sent it.

<sup>12</sup> For you will go out with joy, and be guided in peace: the mountains and the hills will make melody before you, and all the trees of the fields will make sounds of joy.

<sup>13</sup> In place of the thorn will come up the fir-tree, and in place of the blackberry the myrtle: and it will be to the Lord for a name, for an eternal sign which will not be cut off.

**56** <sup>1</sup> The Lord says, Let your way of life be upright, and let your behaviour be rightly ordered: for my salvation is near, and my righteousness will quickly be seen.

<sup>2</sup> Happy is the man who does this, and the son of man whose behaviour is so ordered; who keeps the Sabbath holy, and his hand from doing any evil.

<sup>3</sup> And let not the man from a strange country, who has been joined to the

Lord, say, The Lord will certainly put a division between me and his people: and let not the unsexed man say, See, I am a dry tree.

<sup>4</sup>For the Lord says, As for the unsexed who keep my Sabbaths, and give their hearts to pleasing me, and keep their agreement with me:

<sup>5</sup>I will give to them in my house, and inside my walls, a place and a name better than that of sons and daughters; I will give them an eternal name which will not be cut off.

<sup>6</sup>And as for those from a strange country, who are joined to the Lord, to give worship to him and honour to his name, to be his servants, even everyone who keeps the Sabbath holy, and keeps his agreement with me:

<sup>7</sup>I will make them come to my holy mountain, and will give them joy in my house of prayer; I will take pleasure in the burned offerings which they make on my altar: for my house will be named a house of prayer for all peoples.

<sup>8</sup>The Lord God, who gets together the wandering ones of Israel, says, I will get

together others in addition to those of Israel who have come back.

<sup>9</sup>All you beasts of the field, come together for your meat, even all you beasts of the wood.

<sup>10</sup>His watchmen are blind, they are all without knowledge; they are all dogs without tongues, unable to make a sound; stretched out dreaming, loving sleep.

<sup>11</sup>Yes, the dogs are for ever looking for food; while these, the keepers of the sheep, are without wisdom: they have all gone after their pleasure, every one looking for profit; they are all the same.

<sup>12</sup>Come, they say, I will get wine, and we will take strong drink in full measure; and tomorrow will be like today, full of pleasure.

**57** <sup>1</sup>The upright man goes to his death, and no one gives a thought to it; and god-fearing men are taken away, and no one is troubled by it; for the upright man is taken away because of evil-doing, and goes into peace.

<sup>2</sup>They are at rest in their last resting-places, every one going straight before him.

<sup>3</sup> But come near, you sons of her who is wise in secret arts, the seed of her who is false to her husband, and of the loose woman.

<sup>4</sup> Of whom do you make sport? against whom is your mouth open wide and your tongue put out? are you not uncontrolled children, a false seed,

<sup>5</sup> You who are burning with evil desire among the oaks, under every green tree; putting children to death in the valleys, under the cracks of the rocks?

<sup>6</sup> Among the smooth stones of the valley is your heritage; they, even they, are your part: even to them have you made a drink offering and a meal offering. Is it possible for such things to be overlooked by me?

<sup>7</sup> You have put your bed on a high mountain: there you went up to make your offering.

<sup>8</sup> And on the back of the doors and on the pillars you have put your sign: for you have been false to me with another; you have made your bed wide, and made an agreement with them; you had a desire for their bed where you saw it



<sup>9</sup>And you went to Melech with oil and much perfume, and you sent your representatives far off, and went as low as the underworld.

<sup>10</sup>You were tired with your long journeys; but you did not say, There is no hope: you got new strength, and so you were not feeble.

<sup>11</sup>And of whom were you in fear, so that you were false, and did not keep me in mind, or give thought to it? Have I not been quiet, keeping myself secret, and so you were not in fear of me?

<sup>12</sup>I will make clear what your righteousness is like and your works; you will have no profit in them.

<sup>13</sup>Your false gods will not keep you safe in answer to your cry; but the wind will take them, they will be gone like a breath: but he who puts his hope in me will take the land, and will have my holy mountain as his heritage.

<sup>14</sup>And I will say, Make it high, make it high, get ready the way, take the stones out of the way of my people.

<sup>15</sup>For this is the word of him who is high and lifted up, whose resting-place is eternal, whose name is Holy: my

resting-place is in the high and holy place, and with him who is crushed and poor in spirit, to give life to the spirit of the poor, and to make strong the heart of the crushed.

<sup>16</sup>For I will not give punishment for ever, or be angry without end: for from me breath goes out; and I it was who made the souls.

<sup>17</sup>I was quickly angry with his evil ways, and sent punishment on him, veiling my face in wrath: and he went on, turning his heart from me.

<sup>18</sup>I have seen his ways, and I will make him well: I will give him rest, comforting him and his people who are sad.

<sup>19</sup>I will give the fruit of the lips: Peace, peace, to him who is near and to him who is far off, says the Lord; and I will make him well.

<sup>20</sup>But the evil-doers are like the troubled sea, for which there is no rest, and its waters send up earth and waste.

<sup>21</sup>There is no peace, says my God, for the evil-doers.

**58**<sup>1</sup> Make a loud cry, do not be quiet, let your voice be sounding like a horn, and make clear to my people their

evil doings, and to the family of Jacob their sins.

<sup>2</sup>Though they make prayer to me every day, and take pleasure in the knowledge of my ways: like a nation which has done righteousness, and has not given up the rules of their God, they make requests to me for the right orders, it is their delight to come near to God.

<sup>3</sup>They say, Why have we kept ourselves from food, and you do not see it? why have we kept ourselves from pleasure, and you take no note of it? If, in the days when you keep from food, you take the chance to do your business, and get in your debts;

<sup>4</sup>If keeping from food makes you quickly angry, ready for fighting and giving blows with evil hands; your holy days are not such as to make your voice come to my ears on high.

<sup>5</sup>Have I given orders for such a day as this? a day for keeping yourselves from pleasure? is it only a question of the bent head, of putting on haircloth, and being seated in the dust? is this what seems to you a holy day, well-pleasing to the Lord?

<sup>6</sup>Is not this the holy day for which I have given orders: to let loose those who have wrongly been made prisoners, to undo the bands of the yoke, and to let the crushed go free, and every yoke be broken?

<sup>7</sup>Is it not to give your bread to those in need, and to let the poor who have no resting-place come into your house? to put a robe on the unclothed one when you see him, and not to keep your eyes shut for fear of seeing his flesh?

<sup>8</sup>Then will light be shining on you like the morning, and your wounds will quickly be well: and your righteousness will go before you, and the glory of the Lord will come after you.

<sup>9</sup>Then at the sound of your voice, the Lord will give an answer; at your cry he will say, Here am I. If you take away from among you the yoke, the putting out of the finger of shame, and the evil word;

<sup>10</sup>And if you give your bread to those in need of it, so that the troubled one may have his desire; then you will have light in the dark, and your night will be as the full light of the sun:

<sup>11</sup> And the Lord will be your guide at all times; in dry places he will give you water in full measure, and will make strong your bones; and you will be like a watered garden, and like an ever-flowing spring.

<sup>12</sup> And your sons will be building again the old waste places: you will make strong the bases of old generations: and you will be named, He who puts up the broken walls, and, He who makes ready the ways for use.

<sup>13</sup> If you keep the Sabbath with care, not doing your business on my holy day; and if the Sabbath seems to you a delight, and the new moon of the Lord a thing to be honoured; and if you give respect to him by not doing your business, or going after your pleasure, or saying unholy words;

<sup>14</sup> Then the Lord will be your delight; and I will put you on the high places of the earth; and I will give you the heritage of Jacob your father: for the mouth of the Lord has said it.

**59**<sup>1</sup> Truly, the Lord's hand has not become short, so that he is unable

to give salvation; and his ear is not shut from hearing:

<sup>2</sup>But your sins have come between you and your God, and by your evil doings his face has been veiled from you, so that he will give you no answer.

<sup>3</sup>For your hands are unclean with blood, and your fingers with sin; your lips have said false things, and your tongue gives out deceit.

<sup>4</sup>No one puts forward an upright cause, or gives a true decision: their hope is in deceit, and their words are false; they are with child with sin, and give birth to evil.

<sup>5</sup>They give birth to snakes eggs, and make spiders threads: whoever takes their eggs for food comes to his death, and the egg which is crushed becomes a poison-snake.

<sup>6</sup>Their twisted threads will not make clothing, and their works will give them nothing for covering themselves: their works are works of sin, and violent acts are in their hands.

<sup>7</sup>Their feet go quickly to evil, and they take delight in the death of the upright; their thoughts are thoughts of

sin; wasting and destruction are in their ways.

<sup>8</sup>They have no knowledge of the way of peace, and there is no sense of what is right in their behaviour: they have made for themselves ways which are not straight; whoever goes in them has no knowledge of peace.

<sup>9</sup>For this cause our right is far from us, and righteousness does not overtake us: we are looking for light, but there is only the dark; for the shining of the sun, but our way is in the night.

<sup>10</sup>We go on our way, like blind men feeling for the wall, even like those who have no eyes: we are running against things in daylight as if it was evening; our place is in the dark like dead men.

<sup>11</sup>We make noises of grief, like bears, and sad sounds like doves: we are looking for our right, but it is not there; for salvation, but it is far from us.

<sup>12</sup>For our evil doings are increased before you, and our sins give witness against us: for our evil doings are with us, and we have knowledge of our sins:

<sup>13</sup>We have gone against the Lord, and been false to him, turning away from our

God, our words have been uncontrolled, and in our hearts are thoughts of deceit.

<sup>14</sup>And the right is turned back, and righteousness is far away: for good faith is not to be seen in the public places, and upright behaviour may not come into the town.

<sup>15</sup>Yes, faith is gone; and he whose heart is turned from evil comes into the power of the cruel: and the Lord saw it, and he was angry that there was no one to take up their cause.

<sup>16</sup>And he saw that there was no man, and was surprised that there was no one to take up their cause: so his arm gave salvation, and he made righteousness his support.

<sup>17</sup>Yes, he put on righteousness as a breastplate, and salvation as a head-dress; and he put on punishment as clothing, and wrath as a robe.

<sup>18</sup>He will give them the right reward of their doings, wrath to his attackers, punishment to his haters, and even on the sea-lands he will send punishment.

<sup>19</sup>So they will see the name of the Lord from the west, and his glory from



the east: for he will come like a rushing stream, forced on by a wind of the Lord.

<sup>20</sup>And as a saviour he will come to Zion, turning away sin from Jacob, says the Lord.

<sup>21</sup>And as for me, this is my agreement with them, says the Lord: my spirit which is on you, and my words which I have put in your mouth, will not go away from your mouth, or from the mouth of your seed, or from the mouth of your seeds seed, says the Lord, from now and for ever.

**60**<sup>1</sup> Up! let your face be bright, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord is shining on you.

<sup>2</sup>For truly, the earth will be dark, and the peoples veiled in blackest night; but the Lord will be shining on you, and his glory will be seen among you.

<sup>3</sup>And nations will come to your light, and kings to your bright dawn.

<sup>4</sup>Let your eyes be lifted up, and see: they are all coming together to you: your sons will come from far, and your daughters taken with loving care.

<sup>5</sup>Then you will see, and be bright with joy, and your heart will be shaking with

increase of delight: for the produce of the sea will be turned to you, the wealth of the nations will come to you.

<sup>6</sup>You will be full of camel-trains, even the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all from Sheba will come, with gold and spices, giving word of the great acts of the Lord.

<sup>7</sup>All the flocks of Kedar will come together to you, the sheep of Nebaioth will be ready for your need; they will be pleasing offerings on my altar, and my house of prayer will be beautiful.

<sup>8</sup>Who are these coming like a cloud, like a flight of doves to their windows?

<sup>9</sup>Vessels of the sea-lands are waiting for me, and the ships of Tarshish first, so that your sons may come from far, and their silver and gold with them, to the place of the name of the Lord your God, and to the Holy One of Israel, because he has made you beautiful.

<sup>10</sup>And men from strange countries will be building up your walls, and their kings will be your servants: for in my wrath I sent punishment on you, but in my grace I have had mercy on you.

<sup>11</sup>Your doors will be open at all times; they will not be shut day or night; so that men may come into you with the wealth of the nations, with their kings at their head.

<sup>12</sup>For the nation or kingdom which will not be your servant will come to destruction; such nations will be completely waste.

<sup>13</sup>The glory of Lebanon will come to you, the cypress, the plane, and the sherbin-tree together, to make my holy place beautiful; and the resting-place of my feet will be full of glory.

<sup>14</sup>And the sons of those who were cruel to you will come before you with bent heads; and those who made sport of you will go down on their faces at your feet; and you will be named, The Town of the Lord, The Zion of the Holy One of Israel.

<sup>15</sup>And though you were turned away from, and hated, and had no helper, I will make you a pride for ever, a joy from generation to generation.

<sup>16</sup>And you will take the milk of the nations, flowing from the breast of kings; and you will see that I, the Lord, am

your saviour, and he who takes up your cause, the Strong One of Jacob.

<sup>17</sup>In place of brass, I will give gold, and for iron silver, and for wood brass, and for stones iron: and I will make Peace your judge, and Righteousness your overseer.

<sup>18</sup>Violent acts will no longer be seen in your land, wasting or destruction in your limits; but your walls will be named, Salvation, and your doors Praise.

<sup>19</sup>The sun will not be your light by day, and the moon will no longer be bright for you by night: but the Lord will be to you an eternal light, and your God your glory.

<sup>20</sup>Your sun will never again go down, or your moon keep back her light: for the Lord will be your eternal light, and the days of your sorrow will be ended.

<sup>21</sup>Your people will all be upright, the land will be their heritage for ever; the branch of my planting, the work of my hands, to be for my glory.

<sup>22</sup>The smallest of their families will become a thousand, and a small one a strong nation: I, the Lord, will make it come quickly in its time.

**61** <sup>1</sup>The spirit of the Lord is on me, because I am marked out by him to give good news to the poor; he has sent me to make the broken-hearted well, to say that the prisoners will be made free, and that those in chains will see the light again;

<sup>2</sup>To give knowledge that the year of the Lords good pleasure has come, and the day of punishment from our God; to give comfort to all who are sad;

<sup>3</sup>To give them a fair head-dress in place of dust, the oil of joy in place of the clothing of grief, praise in place of sorrow; so that they may be named trees of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, and so that he may have glory.

<sup>4</sup>And they will be building again the old broken walls, and will make new the old waste places, and will put up again the towns which have been waste for long generations.

<sup>5</sup>And men from strange countries will be your herdsmen, and those who are not Israelites will be your ploughmen and vine-keepers.

<sup>6</sup>But you will be named the priests of the Lord, the servants of our God: you

will have the wealth of the nations for your food, and you will be clothed with their glory.

<sup>7</sup>As they had twice as much grief, and marks of shame were their heritage, so in their land they will be rewarded twice over, and will have eternal joy.

<sup>8</sup>For I, the Lord, take pleasure in upright judging; I will not put up with the violent taking away of right; and I will certainly give them their reward, and I will make an eternal agreement with them.

<sup>9</sup>And their seed will be noted among the nations, and their offspring among the peoples: it will be clear to all who see them that they are the seed to which the Lord has given his blessing.

<sup>10</sup>I will be full of joy in the Lord, my soul will be glad in my God; for he has put on me the clothing of salvation, covering me with the robe of righteousness, as the husband puts on a fair head-dress, and the bride makes herself beautiful with jewels.

<sup>11</sup>For as the earth puts out buds, and as the garden gives growth to the seeds which are planted in it, so the Lord will

make righteousness and praise to be flowering before all the nations.

**62**<sup>1</sup> Because of Zion I will not keep quiet, and because of Jerusalem I will take no rest, till her righteousness goes out like the shining of the sun, and her salvation like a burning light.

<sup>2</sup> And the nations will see your righteousness, and all kings your glory: and you will have a new name, given by the mouth of the Lord.

<sup>3</sup> And you will be a fair crown in the hand of the Lord, and a kings head-dress in the hand of your God.

<sup>4</sup> You will not now be named, She who is given up; and your land will no longer be named, The waste land: but you will have the name, My pleasure is in her, and your land will be named, Married: for the Lord has pleasure in you, and your land will be married.

<sup>5</sup> For as a young man takes a virgin for his wife, so will your maker be married to you: and as a husband has joy in his bride, so will the Lord your God be glad over you.

<sup>6</sup> I have put watchmen on your walls, O Jerusalem; they will not keep quiet

day or night: you who are the Lords  
recorders, take no rest,

<sup>7</sup>And give him no rest, till he puts  
Jerusalem in her place to be praised in  
the earth.

<sup>8</sup>The Lord has taken an oath by his right  
hand, and by the arm of his strength,  
Truly, I will no longer give your grain  
to be food for your haters; and men of  
strange countries will not take the wine  
for which your work has been done:

<sup>9</sup>But those who have got in the grain  
will have it for their food, and will give  
praise to the Lord; and those who have  
got in the grapes will take the wine of  
them in the open places of my holy  
house.

<sup>10</sup>Go through, go through the doors;  
make ready the way of the people; let  
the highway be lifted up; let the stones  
be taken away; let a flag be lifted up  
over the peoples.

<sup>11</sup>The Lord has sent out word to the end  
of the earth, Say to the daughter of Zion,  
See, your saviour comes; those whom  
he has made free are with him, and  
those to whom he has given salvation go  
before him.



<sup>12</sup>And they will be named, The holy people, Those whose cause has been taken up by the Lord: and you will be named, Desired, A town not given up.

**63**<sup>1</sup>Who is this who comes from Edom, with blood-red robes from Bozrah? he whose clothing is fair, stepping with pride in his great strength? I whose glory is in the right, strong for salvation.

<sup>2</sup>Why is your clothing red, and why are your robes like those of one who is crushing the grapes?

<sup>3</sup>I have been crushing the grapes by myself, and of the peoples there was no man with me: in my wrath and in my passion, they were crushed under my feet; and my robes are marked with their life-blood, and all my clothing is red.

<sup>4</sup>For the day of punishment is in my heart, and the year for the payment of the price for my people has come.

<sup>5</sup>And I saw that there was no helper, and I was wondering that no one gave them support: so my arm did the work of salvation, and my wrath was my support.

<sup>6</sup>And in my passion the peoples were crushed under my feet, and broken in

my wrath, and I put down their strength to the earth.

<sup>7</sup> I will give news of the mercies of the Lord, and his great acts, even all the things the Lord has done for us, in his great grace to the house of Israel; even all he has done for us in his unnumbered mercies.

<sup>8</sup> For he said, Truly they are my people, children who will not be false: so he was their saviour out of all their trouble.

<sup>9</sup> It was not sent one or angel, but he himself who was their saviour: in his love and in his pity he took up their cause, and he took them in his arms, caring for them all through the years.

<sup>10</sup> But they went against him, causing grief to his holy spirit: so he was turned against them, and made war on them.

<sup>11</sup> Then the early days came to their minds, the days of Moses his servant: and they said, Where is he who made the keeper of his flock come up from the sea? where is he who put his holy spirit among them,

<sup>12</sup> He who made the arm of his glory go at the right hand of Moses, by whom

the waters were parted before them, to make himself an eternal name;

<sup>13</sup>He who made them go through the deep waters, like a horse in the waste land?

<sup>14</sup>Like the cattle which go down into the valley, they went without falling, the spirit of the Lord guiding them: so you went before your people, to make yourself a great name.

<sup>15</sup>Let your eyes be looking down from heaven, from your holy and beautiful house: where is your deep feeling, the working of your power? do not keep back the moving of your pity and your mercies:

<sup>16</sup>For you are our father, though Abraham has no knowledge of us, and Israel gives no thought to us: you, O Lord, are our father; from the earliest days you have taken up our cause.

<sup>17</sup>O Lord, why do you send us wandering from your ways, making our hearts hard, so that we have no fear of you? Come back, because of your servants, the tribes of your heritage.

<sup>18</sup>Why have evil men gone over your holy place, so that it has been crushed under the feet of our haters?

<sup>19</sup>We have become as those who were never ruled by you, on whom your name was not named.

**64**<sup>1</sup>O let the heavens be broken open and come down, so that the mountains may be shaking before you,

<sup>2</sup>As when fire puts the brushwood in flames, or as when water is boiling from the heat of the fire: to make your name feared by your haters, so that the nations may be shaking before you;

<sup>3</sup>While you do acts of power for which we are not looking, and which have not come to the ears of men in the past.

<sup>4</sup>The ear has not had news of, or the eye seen, any God but you, working for the man who is waiting for him.

<sup>5</sup>Will you not have mercy on him who takes pleasure in doing righteousness, even on those who keep in mind your ways? Truly you were angry, and we went on doing evil, and sinning against you in the past.

<sup>6</sup>For we have all become like an unclean person, and all our good acts are like a

dirty robe: and we have all become old like a dead leaf, and our sins, like the wind, take us away.

<sup>7</sup> And there is no one who makes prayer to your name, or who is moved to keep true to you: for your face is veiled from us, and you have given us into the power of our sins.

<sup>8</sup> But now, O Lord, you are our father; we are the earth, and you are our maker; and we are all the work of your hand.

<sup>9</sup> Be not very angry, O Lord, and do not keep our sins in mind for ever: give ear to our prayer, for we are all your people.

<sup>10</sup> Your holy towns have become a waste, Zion has become a waste, Jerusalem is a mass of broken walls.

<sup>11</sup> Our holy and beautiful house, where our fathers gave praise to you, is burned with fire; and all the things of our desire have come to destruction.

<sup>12</sup> In view of all this, will you still do nothing, O Lord? will you keep quiet, and go on increasing our punishment?

**65**<sup>1</sup> I have been ready to give an answer to those who did not make prayer to me; I have been offering myself to those who were not searching

for me; I said, Here am I, here am I, to a nation which gave no respect to my name.

<sup>2</sup>All day my hands have been stretched out to an uncontrolled people, who go in an evil way, after the purposes of their hearts;

<sup>3</sup>A people who make me angry every day, making offerings in gardens, and burning perfumes on bricks.

<sup>4</sup>Who are seated in the resting-places of the dead, and by night are in the secret places; who take pigs flesh for food, and have the liquid of disgusting things in their vessels.

<sup>5</sup>Who say, Keep away, do not come near me, for fear that I make you holy: these are a smoke in my nose, a fire burning all day.

<sup>6</sup>See, it is recorded before me, says the Lord: I will not keep back my hand, till I have sent punishment,

<sup>7</sup>For their sins and the sins of their fathers, who were burning perfumes on the mountains, and saying evil things against me on the hills: so I will take the measure of their sins, and will send the punishment for them into their breast.

<sup>8</sup>This is the word of the Lord: As the new wine is seen in the grapes, and they say, Do not send destruction on it, for a blessing is in it: so will I do for my servants, in order that I may not put an end to them all.

<sup>9</sup>And I will take a seed out of Jacob, and out of Judah one who will have my mountains for a heritage: and the people I have taken to be mine will have it for themselves, and my servants will have their resting-place there.

<sup>10</sup>And Sharon will be a grass-land for the flocks, and the valley of Achor a resting-place for the herds: for my people whose hearts have been turned back to me.

<sup>11</sup>But as for you who have given up the Lord, who have no care for my holy mountain, who get ready a table for Chance, and make offerings of mixed wine to Fate;

<sup>12</sup>Your fate will be the sword, and you will all go down to death: because when my voice came to you, you made no answer; you did not give ear to my word; but you did what was evil in my eyes, desiring what was not pleasing to me.

<sup>13</sup>For this cause says the Lord God, My servants will have food, but you will be in need of food: my servants will have drink, but you will be dry: my servants will have joy, but you will be shamed:

<sup>14</sup>My servants will make songs in the joy of their hearts, but you will be crying for sorrow, and making sounds of grief from a broken spirit.

<sup>15</sup>And your name will become a curse to my people, and the Lord God will put you to death, and give his servants another name:

<sup>16</sup>So that he who is requesting a blessing will make use of the name of the true God, and he who takes an oath will do so by the true God; because the past troubles are gone out of mind, and because they are covered from my eyes.

<sup>17</sup>For see, I am making a new heaven and a new earth: and the past things will be gone completely out of mind.

<sup>18</sup>But men will be glad and have joy for ever in what I am making; for I am making Jerusalem a delight, and her people a joy.

<sup>19</sup>And I will be glad over Jerusalem, and have joy in my people: and the voice



of weeping will no longer be sounding in her, or the voice of grief.

<sup>20</sup>No longer will there be there a child whose days are cut short, or an old man whose days have not come to their full measure: for the young man at his death will be a hundred years old, and he whose life is shorter than a hundred years will seem as one cursed.

<sup>21</sup>And they will be building houses and living in them; planting vine-gardens and getting the fruit of them.

<sup>22</sup>They will no longer be building for the use of others, or planting for others to have the fruit: for the days of my people will be like the days of a tree, and my loved ones will have joy in full measure in the work of their hands.

<sup>23</sup>Their work will not be for nothing, and they will not give birth to children for destruction; for they are a seed to whom the Lord has given his blessing, and their offspring will be with them.

<sup>24</sup>And before they make their request I will give an answer, and while they are still making prayer to me, I will give ear.

<sup>25</sup>The wolf and the lamb will take their food together, and the lion will make a

meal of grass like the ox: but dust will be the snakes food. There will be no cause of pain or destruction in all my holy mountain, says the Lord.

**66**<sup>1</sup> The Lord says, Heaven is the seat of my power, and earth is the resting-place for my feet: what sort of house will you make for me, and what place will be my resting-place?

<sup>2</sup> For all these things my hand has made, and they are mine, says the Lord; but to this man only will I give attention, to him who is poor and broken in spirit, fearing my word.

<sup>3</sup> He who puts an ox to death puts a man to death; he who makes an offering of a lamb puts a dog to death; he who makes a meal offering makes an offering of pigs blood; he who makes an offering of perfumes for a sign gives worship to an image: as they have gone after their desires, and their soul takes pleasure in their disgusting things;

<sup>4</sup> So I will go after trouble for them, and will send on them what they are fearing: because no one made answer to my voice, or gave ear to my word; but they

did what was evil in my eyes, going after that in which I took no pleasure.

<sup>5</sup>Give ear to the word of the Lord, you who are in fear at his word: your countrymen, hating you, and driving you out because of my name, have said, Let the Lords glory be made clear, so that we may see your joy; but they will be put to shame.

<sup>6</sup>There is a noise of war from the town, a sound from the Temple, the voice of the Lord giving punishment to his haters.

<sup>7</sup>Before her pains came, she gave birth; before her pains, she gave birth to a man-child.

<sup>8</sup>When has such a story come to mens ears? who has seen such things? will a land come to birth in one day? will a nation be given birth in a minute? For when Zions pains came on her, she gave birth to her children straight away.

<sup>9</sup>Will I by whom the birth was started, not make it complete? says the Lord. Will I who make children come to birth, let them be kept back? says your God.

<sup>10</sup>Have joy with Jerusalem, and be glad with her, all you her lovers: take part in

her joy, all you who are sorrowing for her:

<sup>11</sup> So that you may take of the comfort flowing from her breasts, and be delighted with the full measure of her glory.

<sup>12</sup> For the Lord says, See, I will make her peace like a river, and the glory of the nations like an overflowing stream, and she will take her children in her arms, gently caring for them on her knees.

<sup>13</sup> As to one who is comforted by his mother, so will I give you comfort: and you will be comforted in Jerusalem.

<sup>14</sup> And you will see it and your heart will be glad, and your bones will get new strength, like young grass: and the hand of the Lord will be seen at work for his servants, and his wrath against his haters.

<sup>15</sup> For the Lord is coming with fire, and his war-carriages will be like the storm-wind; to give punishment in the heat of his wrath, and his passion is like flames of fire.

<sup>16</sup> For with fire and sword will the Lord come, judging all the earth, and his

sword will be on all flesh: and great numbers will be put to death by him.

<sup>17</sup>As for those who keep themselves separate, and make themselves clean in the gardens, going after one in the middle, taking pigs flesh for food, and other disgusting things, such as the mouse: their works and their thoughts will come to an end together, says the Lord.

<sup>18</sup>And I am coming to get together all nations and tongues: and they will come and will see my glory.

<sup>19</sup>And I will put a sign among them, and I will send those who are still living to the nations, to Tarshish, Put, and Lud, Meshech and Rosh, Tubal and Javan, to the sea-lands far away, who have not had word of me, or seen my glory; and they will give the knowledge of my glory to the nations.

<sup>20</sup>And they will take your countrymen out of all the nations for an offering to the Lord, on horses, and in carriages, and in carts, and on asses, and on camels, to my holy mountain Jerusalem, says the Lord, as the children of Israel

take their offering in a clean vessel into the house of the Lord.

<sup>21</sup> And some of them will I take for priests and Levites, says the Lord.

<sup>22</sup> For as the new heaven and the new earth which I will make will be for ever before me, says the Lord, so will your seed and your name be for ever.

<sup>23</sup> And it will be, that from new moon to new moon, and from Sabbath to Sabbath, all flesh will come to give worship before me, says the Lord.

<sup>24</sup> And they will go out to see the dead bodies of the men who have done evil against me: for their worm will ever be living, and their fire will never be put out, and they will be a thing of fear to all flesh.

# Jeremiah

**1** <sup>1</sup> The words of Jeremiah, the son of Hilkiah, of the priests who were in Anathoth in the land of Benjamin:

<sup>2</sup> To whom the word of the Lord came in the days of Josiah, the son of Amon, king of Judah, in the thirteenth year of his rule.

<sup>3</sup> And it came again in the days of Jehoiakim, the son of Josiah, king of Judah, up to the eleventh year of Zedekiah, the son of Josiah, king of Judah; till Jerusalem was taken away in the fifth month.

<sup>4</sup> Now the word of the Lord came to me, saying,

<sup>5</sup> Before you were formed in the body of your mother I had knowledge of you, and before your birth I made you holy; I have given you the work of being a prophet to the nations.

<sup>6</sup> Then said I, O Lord God! see, I have no power of words, for I am a child.

<sup>7</sup> But the Lord said to me, Do not say, I am a child: for wherever I send you,

you are to go, and whatever I give you orders to say, you are to say.

<sup>8</sup>Have no fear because of them: for I am with you, to keep you safe, says the Lord.

<sup>9</sup>Then the Lord put out his hand, touching my mouth; and the Lord said to me, See, I have put my words in your mouth:

<sup>10</sup>See, this day I have put you over the nations and over the kingdoms, for uprooting and smashing down, for destruction and overturning, for building up and planting.

<sup>11</sup>Again the word of the Lord came to me, saying, Jeremiah, what do you see? And I said, I see a branch of an almond-tree.

<sup>12</sup>Then the Lord said to me, You have seen well: for I keep watch over my word to give effect to it.

<sup>13</sup>And the word of the Lord came to me a second time, saying, What do you see? And I said, I see a boiling pot, and its face is from the north.

<sup>14</sup>Then the Lord said to me, Out of the north evil will come, bursting out on all the people of the land.



<sup>15</sup>For see, I will send for all the families of the kingdoms of the north, says the Lord; and they will come, everyone placing his high seat at the way into Jerusalem, and against its walls on every side, and against all the towns of Judah.

<sup>16</sup>And I will give my decision against them on account of all their evil-doing; because they have given me up, burning perfumes to other gods and worshipping the works of their hands.

<sup>17</sup>So make yourself ready, and go and say to them everything I give you orders to say: do not be overcome by fear of them, or I will send fear on you before them.

<sup>18</sup>For see, this day have I made you a walled town, and an iron pillar, and walls of brass, against all the land, against the kings of Judah, against its captains, against its priests, and against the people of the land.

<sup>19</sup>They will be fighting against you, but they will not overcome you: for I am with you, says the Lord, to give you salvation.

**2**<sup>1</sup>And the word of the Lord came to me, saying,

<sup>2</sup>Go and say in the ears of Jerusalem, The Lord says, I still keep the memory of your kind heart when you were young, and your love when you became my bride; how you went after me in the waste of sand, in an unplanted land.

<sup>3</sup>Israel was holy to the Lord, the first-fruits of his increase: all who made attacks on him were judged as wrongdoers, evil came on them, says the Lord.

<sup>4</sup>Give ear to the words of the Lord, O sons of Jacob and all the families of Israel:

<sup>5</sup>These are the words of the Lord: What evil have your fathers seen in me that they have gone far from me, and, walking after what is false, have become false?

<sup>6</sup>And they never said, Where is the Lord, who took us up out of the land of Egypt; who was our guide through the waste of sand, through an unplanted land full of deep holes, through a dry land of deep shade, which no one went through and where no man was living?

<sup>7</sup>And I took you into a fertile land, where you were living on its fruit and

its wealth; but when you came in, you made my land unclean, and made my heritage a disgusting thing.

<sup>8</sup>The priests did not say, Where is the Lord? and those who were expert in the law had no knowledge of me: and the rulers did evil against me, and the prophets became prophets of the Baal, going after things without value.

<sup>9</sup>For this reason, I will again put forward my cause against you, says the Lord, even against you and against your childrens children.

<sup>10</sup>For go over to the sea-lands of Kittim and see; send to Kedar and give deep thought to it; and see if there has ever been such a thing.

<sup>11</sup>Has any nation ever made a change in their gods, though they are no gods? but my people have given up their glory in exchange for what is of no profit.

<sup>12</sup>Be full of wonder, O heavens, at this; be overcome with fear, be completely waste, says the Lord.

<sup>13</sup>For my people have done two evils; they have given up me, the fountain of living waters, and have made for themselves water-holes, cut out from

the rock, broken water-holes, of no use for storing water.

<sup>14</sup>Is Israel a servant? has he been a house-servant from birth? why has he been made waste?

<sup>15</sup>The young lions have made an outcry against him with a loud voice: they have made his land waste; his towns are burned up, with no one living in them.

<sup>16</sup>Even the children of Noph and Tahpanhes have put shame on you.

<sup>17</sup>Has not this come on you because you have given up the Lord your God, who was your guide by the way?

<sup>18</sup>And now, what have you to do on the way to Egypt, to get your drink from the waters of the Nile? or what have you to do on the way to Assyria, to get your drink from the waters of the River?

<sup>19</sup>The evil you yourselves have done will be your punishment, your errors will be your judge: be certain then, and see that it is an evil and a bitter thing to give up the Lord your God, and no longer to be moved by fear of me, says the Lord, the Lord of armies.

<sup>20</sup>For in the past, your yoke was broken by your hands and your cords parted;

and you said, I will not be your servant; for on every high hill and under every branching tree, your behaviour was like that of a loose woman

<sup>21</sup> But when you were planted by me, you were a noble vine, in every way a true seed: how then have you been changed into the branching plant of a strange vine?

<sup>22</sup> For even if you are washed with soda and take much soap, still your evil-doing is marked before me, says the Lord God.

<sup>23</sup> How are you able to say, I am not unclean, I have not gone after the Baals? see your way in the valley, be clear about what you have done: you are a quick-footed camel twisting her way in and out;

<sup>24</sup> An untrained ass, used to the waste land, breathing up the wind in her desire; at her time, who is able to send her away? all those who are looking for her will have no need to make themselves tired; in her month they will get her.

<sup>25</sup> Do not let your foot be without shoes, or your throat dry from need of water: but you said, There is no hope: no, for I

have been a lover of strange gods, and after them I will go.

<sup>26</sup>As the thief is shamed when he is taken, so is Israel shamed; they, their kings and their rulers, their priests and their prophets;

<sup>27</sup>Who say to a tree, You are my father; and to a stone, You have given me life: for their backs have been turned to me, not their faces: but in the time of their trouble they will say, Up! and be our saviour.

<sup>28</sup>But where are the gods you have made for yourselves? let them come, if they are able to give you salvation in the time of your trouble: for the number of your gods is as the number of your towns, O Judah.

<sup>29</sup>Why will you put forward your cause against me? You have all done evil against me, says the Lord.

<sup>30</sup>I gave your children blows to no purpose; they got no good from training: your sword has been the destruction of your prophets, like a death-giving lion.

<sup>31</sup>O generation, see the word of the Lord. Have I been a waste land to Israel? or a land of dark night? why do my

people say, We have got loose, we will not come to you again?

<sup>32</sup>Is it possible for a virgin to put out of her memory her ornaments, or a bride her robes? but my people have put me out of their memories for unnumbered days.

<sup>33</sup>With what care are your ways ordered when you are looking for love! so your ways.

<sup>34</sup>And in the skirts of your robe may be seen the life-blood of those who have done no wrong:

<sup>35</sup>And still you said, I have done no wrong; truly, his wrath is turned away from me. See, I will take up the cause against you, because you say, I have done no wrong.

<sup>36</sup>Why do you go about so much for the purpose of changing your way? you will be shamed on account of Egypt, as you were shamed on account of Assyria.

<sup>37</sup>Truly, you will go out from him with your hands on your head: for the Lord has given up those in whom you have put your faith, and they will be of no help to you.

**3**<sup>1</sup> They say, If a man puts away his wife and she goes from him and becomes another mans, will he go back to her again? will not that land have been made unclean? but though you have been acting like a loose woman with a number of lovers, will you now come back to me? says the Lord.

<sup>2</sup> Let your eyes be lifted up to the open hilltops, and see; where have you not been taken by your lovers? You have been seated waiting for them by the wayside like an Arabian in the waste land; you have made the land unclean with your loose ways and your evil-doing.

<sup>3</sup> So the showers have been kept back, and there has been no spring rain; still your brow is the brow of a loose woman, you will not let yourself be shamed.

<sup>4</sup> Will you not, from this time, make your prayer to me, crying, My father, you are the friend of my early years?

<sup>5</sup> Will he be angry for ever? will he keep his wrath to the end? These things you have said, and have done evil and have had your way.



<sup>6</sup>And the Lord said to me in the days of Josiah the king, Have you seen what Israel, turning away from me, has done? She has gone up on every high mountain and under every branching tree, acting like a loose woman there.

<sup>7</sup>And I said, After she has done all these things she will come back to me; but she did not. And her false sister Judah saw it.

<sup>8</sup>And though she saw that, because Israel, turning away from me, had been untrue to me, I had put her away and given her a statement in writing ending the relation between us, still Judah, her false sister, had no fear, but went and did the same.

<sup>9</sup>So that through all her loose behaviour the land became unclean, and she was untrue, giving herself to stones and trees.

<sup>10</sup>But for all this, her false sister Judah has not come back to me with all her heart, but with deceit, says the Lord.

<sup>11</sup>And the Lord said to me, Israel in her turning away is seen to be more upright than false Judah.

<sup>12</sup>Go, and give out these words to the north, and say, Come back, O Israel, though you have been turned away from me, says the Lord; my face will not be against you in wrath: for I am full of mercy, says the Lord, I will not be angry for ever.

<sup>13</sup>Only be conscious of your sin, the evil you have done against the Lord your God; you have gone with strange men under every branching tree, giving no attention to my voice, says the Lord.

<sup>14</sup>Come back, O children who are turned away, says the Lord; for I am a husband to you, and I will take you, one from a town and two from a family, and will make you come to Zion;

<sup>15</sup>And I will give you keepers, pleasing to my heart, who will give you your food with knowledge and wisdom.

<sup>16</sup>And it will come about, when your numbers are increased in the land, in those days, says the Lord, that they will no longer say, The ark of the agreement of the Lord: it will not come into their minds, they will not have any memory of it, or be conscious of the loss of it, and it will not be made again.

<sup>17</sup> At that time Jerusalem will be named the seat of the Lords kingdom; and all the nations will come together to it, to the name of the Lord, to Jerusalem: and no longer will their steps be guided by the purposes of their evil hearts.

<sup>18</sup> In those days the family of Judah will go with the family of Israel, and they will come together out of the land of the north into the land which I gave for a heritage to your fathers.

<sup>19</sup> But I said, How am I to put you among the children, and give you a desired land, a heritage of glory among the armies of the nations? and I said, You are to say to me, My father; and not be turned away from me.

<sup>20</sup> Truly, as a wife is false to her husband, so have you been false to me, O Israel, says the Lord.

<sup>21</sup> A voice is sounding on the open hilltops, the weeping and the prayers of the children of Israel; because their way is twisted, they have not kept the Lord their God in mind.

<sup>22</sup> Come back, you children who have been turned away, and I will take away your desire for wandering. See, we have

come to you, for you are the Lord our God.

<sup>23</sup> Truly, the hills, and the noise of an army on the mountains, are a false hope: truly, in the Lord our God is the salvation of Israel.

<sup>24</sup> But the Baal has taken all the work of our fathers from our earliest days; their flocks and their herds, their sons and their daughters.

<sup>25</sup> Let us be stretched on the earth in our downfall, covering ourselves with our shame: for we have been sinners against the Lord our God, we and our fathers, from our earliest years even till this day: and we have not given ear to the voice of the Lord our God.

**4**<sup>1</sup> If you will come back, O Israel, says the Lord, you will come back to me: and if you will put away your disgusting ways, you will not be sent away from before me.

<sup>2</sup> And you will take your oath, By the living Lord, in good faith and wisdom and righteousness; and the nations will make use of you as a blessing, and in you will they take a pride.

<sup>3</sup>For this is what the Lord says to the men of Judah and to Jerusalem: Get your unworked land ploughed up, do not put in your seeds among thorns.

<sup>4</sup>Undergo a circumcision of the heart, you men of Judah and people of Jerusalem: or my wrath may come out like fire, burning so that no one is able to put it out, because of the evil of your doings.

<sup>5</sup>Say openly in Judah, give it out in Jerusalem, and say, Let the horn be sounded in the land: crying out in a loud voice, Come together, and let us go into the walled towns.

<sup>6</sup>Put up a flag for a sign to Zion: go in flight so that you may be safe, waiting no longer: for I will send evil from the north, and a great destruction.

<sup>7</sup>A lion has gone up from his secret place in the woods, and one who makes waste the nations is on his way; he has gone out from his place, to make your land unpeopled, so that your towns will be made waste, with no man living in them.

<sup>8</sup>For this put on haircloth, with weeping and loud crying: for the burning wrath of the Lord is not turned back from us.

<sup>9</sup>And it will come about in that day, says the Lord, that the heart of the king will be dead in him, and the hearts of the rulers; and the priests will be overcome with fear, and the prophets with wonder.

<sup>10</sup>Then said I, Ah, Lord God! your words were not true when you said to this people and to Jerusalem, You will have peace; when the sword has come even to the soul.

<sup>11</sup>At that time it will be said to this people and to Jerusalem, A burning wind from the open hilltops in the waste land is blowing on the daughter of my people, not for separating or cleaning the grain;

<sup>12</sup>A full wind will come for me: and now I will give my decision against them.

<sup>13</sup>See, he will come up like the clouds, and his war-carriages like the storm-wind: his horses are quicker than eagles. Sorrow is ours, for destruction has come on us.

<sup>14</sup>O Jerusalem, make your heart clean from evil, so that you may have

salvation. How long are evil purposes to have a resting-place in you?

<sup>15</sup>For a voice is sounding from Dan, giving out evil from the hills of Ephraim:

<sup>16</sup>Make this come to the minds of the nations, make a statement openly against Jerusalem, that attackers are coming from a far country and their voices will be loud against the towns of Judah.

<sup>17</sup>Like keepers of a field they are against her on every side; because she has been fighting against me, says the Lord.

<sup>18</sup>Your ways and your doings have made these things come on you; this is your sin; truly it is bitter, going deep into your heart.

<sup>19</sup>My soul, my soul! I am pained to my inmost heart; my heart is troubled in me; I am not able to be quiet, because the sound of the horn, the note of war, has come to my ears.

<sup>20</sup>News is given of destruction on destruction; all the land is made waste: suddenly my tents, straight away my curtains, are made waste.

<sup>21</sup> How long will I go on seeing the flag and hearing the sound of the war-horn?

<sup>22</sup> For my people are foolish, they have no knowledge of me; they are evil-minded children, without sense, all of them: they are wise in evil-doing, but have no knowledge of doing good.

<sup>23</sup> Looking at the earth, I saw that it was waste and without form; and to the heavens, that they had no light.

<sup>24</sup> Looking at the mountains, I saw them shaking, and all the hills were moved about.

<sup>25</sup> Looking, I saw that there was no man, and all the birds of heaven had gone in flight.

<sup>26</sup> Looking, I saw that the fertile field was a waste, and all its towns were broken down before the Lord and before his burning wrath.

<sup>27</sup> For this is what the Lord has said: All the land will become a waste; I will make destruction complete.

<sup>28</sup> The earth will be weeping for this, and the heavens on high will be black: because I have said it, and I will not go back from it; it is my purpose, and it will not be changed.



<sup>29</sup> All the land is in flight because of the noise of the horsemen and the bowmen; they have taken cover in the woodland and up on the rocks: every town has been given up, not a man is living in them.

<sup>30</sup> And you, when you are made waste, what will you do? Though you are clothed in red, though you make yourself beautiful with ornaments of gold, though you make your eyes wide with paint, it is for nothing that you make yourself fair; your lovers have no more desire for you, they have designs on your life.

<sup>31</sup> A voice has come to my ears like the voice of a woman in birth-pains, the pain of one giving birth to her first child, the voice of the daughter of Zion, fighting for breath, stretching out her hands, saying, Now sorrow is mine! for my strength is gone from me before the takers of life.

**5** <sup>1</sup> Go quickly through the streets of Jerusalem, and see now, and get knowledge, and make a search in her wide places if there is a man, if there is one in her who is upright, who keeps faith; and she will have my forgiveness.

<sup>2</sup>And though they say, By the living Lord; truly their oaths are false.

<sup>3</sup>O Lord, do not your eyes see good faith? you have given them punishment, but they were not troubled; you have sent destruction on them, but they did not take your teaching to heart: they have made their faces harder than a rock; they would not come back.

<sup>4</sup>Then I said, But these are the poor: they are foolish, for they have no knowledge of the way of the Lord or of the behaviour desired by their God.

<sup>5</sup>I will go to the great men and have talk with them; for they have knowledge of the way of the Lord and of the behaviour desired by their God. But as for these, their one purpose is a broken yoke and burst bands.

<sup>6</sup>And so a lion from the woods will put them to death, a wolf of the waste land will make them waste, a leopard will keep watch on their towns, and everyone who goes out from them will be food for the beasts; because of the great number of their sins and the increase of their wrongdoing.

<sup>7</sup>How is it possible for you to have my forgiveness for this? your children have given me up, taking their oaths by those who are no gods: when I had given them food in full measure, they were false to their wives, taking their pleasure in the houses of loose women.

<sup>8</sup>They were full of desire, like horses after a meal of grain: everyone went after his neighbours wife.

<sup>9</sup>Am I not to give punishment for these things? says the Lord: will not my soul take payment from such a nation as this?

<sup>10</sup>Go up against her vines and make waste; let the destruction be complete: take away her branches, for they are not the Lords.

<sup>11</sup>For the people of Israel and the people of Judah have been very false to me, says the Lord.

<sup>12</sup>They would have nothing to do with the Lord, saying, He will do nothing, and no evil will come to us; we will not see the sword or be short of food:

<sup>13</sup>And the prophets will become wind, and the word is not in them; so it will be done to them.

<sup>14</sup>For this reason the Lord, the God of armies, has said: Because you have said this, I will make my words in your mouth a fire, and this people wood, and they will be burned up by it.

<sup>15</sup>See, I will send you a nation from far away, O people of Israel, says the Lord; a strong nation and an old nation, a nation whose language is strange to you, so that you may not get the sense of their words.

<sup>16</sup>Their arrows give certain death, they are all men of war.

<sup>17</sup>They will take all the produce of your fields, which would have been food for your sons and your daughters: they will take your flocks and your herds: they will take all your vines and your fig-trees: and with the sword they will make waste your walled towns in which you put your faith.

<sup>18</sup>But even in those days, says the Lord, I will not let your destruction be complete.

<sup>19</sup>And it will come about, when you say, Why has the Lord our God done all these things to us? that you will say to them, As you gave me up, making yourselves

servants to strange gods in your land, so will you be servants to strange men in a land which is not yours.

<sup>20</sup>Say this openly in Jacob and give it out in Judah, saying,

<sup>21</sup>Give ear now to this, O foolish people without sense; who have eyes but see nothing, and ears without the power of hearing:

<sup>22</sup>Have you no fear of me? says the Lord; will you not be shaking with fear before me, who have put the sand as a limit for the sea, by an eternal order, so that it may not go past it? and though it is ever in motion, it is not able to have its way; though the sound of its waves is loud, they are not able to go past it.

<sup>23</sup>But the heart of this people is uncontrolled and turned away from me; they are broken loose and gone.

<sup>24</sup>And they do not say in their hearts, Now let us give worship to our God, who gives the rain, the winter and the spring rain, at the right time; who keeps for us the ordered weeks of the grain-cutting.

<sup>25</sup>Through your evil-doing these things have been turned away, and your sins have kept back good from you.

<sup>26</sup>For there are sinners among my people: they keep watch, like men watching for birds; they put a net and take men in it.

<sup>27</sup>As the fowl-house is full of birds, so are their houses full of deceit: for this reason they have become great and have got wealth.

<sup>28</sup>They have become fat and strong: they have gone far in works of evil: they give no support to the cause of the child without a father, so that they may do well; they do not see that the poor man gets his rights.

<sup>29</sup>Am I not to give punishment for these things? says the Lord: will not my soul take payment from such a nation as this?

<sup>30</sup>A thing of wonder and fear has come about in the land;

<sup>31</sup>The prophets give false words and the priests give decisions by their direction; and my people are glad to have it so: and what will you do in the end?

**6**<sup>1</sup>Go in flight out of Jerusalem, so that you may be safe, you children of Benjamin, and let the horn be sounded in Tekoa, and the flag be lifted up on

Beth-haccherem: for evil is looking out from the north, and a great destruction.

<sup>2</sup>The fair and delicate one, the daughter of Zion, will be cut off by my hand.

<sup>3</sup>Keepers of sheep with their flocks will come to her; they will put up their tents round her; everyone will get food in his place.

<sup>4</sup>Make war ready against her; up! let us go up when the sun is high. Sorrow is ours! for the day is turned and the shades of evening are stretched out.

<sup>5</sup>Up! let us go up by night, and send destruction on her great houses.

<sup>6</sup>For this is what the Lord of armies has said: Let trees be cut down and an earthwork be placed against Jerusalem: sorrow on the false town! inside her there is nothing but cruel ways.

<sup>7</sup>As the spring keeps its waters cold, so she keeps her evil in her: the sound of cruel and violent behaviour is in her; before me at all times are disease and wounds.

<sup>8</sup>Undergo teaching, O Jerusalem, or my soul will be turned away from you, and I will make you a waste, an unpeopled land.

<sup>9</sup>This is what the Lord of armies has said: Everything will be taken from the rest of Israel as the last grapes are taken from the vine; let your hand be turned to the small branches, like one pulling off grapes.

<sup>10</sup>To whom am I to give word, witnessing so that they may take note? see, their ears are stopped, and they are not able to give attention: see, the word of the Lord has been a cause of shame to them, they have no delight in it.

<sup>11</sup>For this reason I am full of the wrath of the Lord, I am tired of keeping it in: may it be let loose on the children in the street, and on the band of the young men together: for even the husband with his wife will be taken, the old man with him who is full of days.

<sup>12</sup>And their houses will be handed over to others, their fields and their wives together: for my hand will be stretched out against the people of the land, says the Lord.

<sup>13</sup>For from the least of them even to the greatest, everyone is given up to getting money; from the prophet even to the priest, everyone is working deceit.



<sup>14</sup>And they have made little of the wounds of my people, saying, Peace, peace; when there is no peace.

<sup>15</sup>Let them be put to shame because they have done disgusting things. They had no shame, they were not able to become red with shame: so they will come down with those who are falling: when my punishment comes on them, they will be made low, says the Lord.

<sup>16</sup>This is what the Lord has said: Take your place looking out on the ways; make search for the old roads, saying, Where is the good way? and go in it that you may have rest for your souls. But they said, We will not go in it.

<sup>17</sup>And I put watchmen over you, saying, Give attention to the sound of the horn; but they said, We will not give attention.

<sup>18</sup>So then, give ear, you nations, and

<sup>19</sup>Give ear, O earth: see, I will make evil come on this people, even the fruit of their thoughts, because they have not given attention to my words, and they would have nothing to do with my law.

<sup>20</sup>To what purpose does sweet perfume come to me from Sheba, and spices from a far country? your burned offerings give

me no pleasure, your offerings of beasts are not pleasing to me.

<sup>21</sup> For this reason the Lord has said, See, I will put stones in the way of this people: and the fathers and the sons together will go falling over them; the neighbour and his friend will come to destruction.

<sup>22</sup> The Lord has said, See, a people is coming from the north country, a great nation will be put in motion from the inmost parts of the earth.

<sup>23</sup> Bows and spears are in their hands; they are cruel and have no mercy; their voice is like the thunder of the sea, and they go on horses; everyone in his place like men going to the fight, against you, O daughter of Zion.

<sup>24</sup> The news of it has come to our ears; our hands have become feeble: trouble has come on us and pain, like the pain of a woman in childbirth.

<sup>25</sup> Go not out into the field or by the way; for there is the sword of the attacker, and fear on every side.

<sup>26</sup> O daughter of my people, put on haircloth, rolling yourself in the dust: give yourself to sorrow, as for an only

son, with most bitter cries of grief; for he who makes waste will come on us suddenly.

<sup>27</sup> I have made you a tester among my people, so that you may have knowledge of their way and put it to the test.

<sup>28</sup> All of them are turned away, going about with false stories; they are brass and iron: they are all workers of deceit.

<sup>29</sup> The blower is blowing strongly, the lead is burned away in the fire: they go on heating the metal to no purpose, for the evil-doers are not taken away.

<sup>30</sup> They will be named waste silver, because the Lord has given them up.

**7** <sup>1</sup> The word which came to Jeremiah from the Lord, saying,

<sup>2</sup> Take your place in the doorway of the Lords house, and give out this word there, and say, Give ear to the word of the Lord, all you of Judah who come inside these doors to give worship to the Lord.

<sup>3</sup> The Lord of armies, the God of Israel, says, Let your ways and your doings be changed for the better and I will let you go on living in this place.

<sup>4</sup> Put no faith in false words, saying, The Temple of the Lord, the Temple of the Lord, the Temple of the Lord, are these.

<sup>5</sup> For if your ways and your doings are truly changed for the better; if you truly give right decisions between a man and his neighbour;

<sup>6</sup> If you are not cruel to the man from a strange country, and to the child without a father, and to the widow, and do not put the upright to death in this place, or go after other gods, causing damage to yourselves:

<sup>7</sup> Then I will let you go on living in this place, in the land which I gave to your fathers in the past and for ever.

<sup>8</sup> See, you put your faith in false words which are of no profit.

<sup>9</sup> Will you take the goods of others, put men to death, and be untrue to your wives, and take false oaths, and have perfumes burned to the Baal, and go after other gods which are strange to you;

<sup>10</sup> And come and take your place before me in this house, which is named by my name, and say, We have been made

safe; so that you may do all these disgusting things?

<sup>11</sup>Has this house, which is named by my name, become a hole of thieves to you? Truly I, even I, have seen it, says the Lord.

<sup>12</sup>But go now to my place which was in Shiloh, where I put my name at first, and see what I did to it because of the evil-doing of my people Israel.

<sup>13</sup>And now, because you have done all these works, says the Lord, and I sent my word to you, getting up early and sending, but you did not give ear; and my voice came to you, but you gave no answer:

<sup>14</sup>For this reason I will do to the house which is named by my name, and in which you have put your faith, and to the place which I gave to you and to your fathers, as I have done to Shiloh.

<sup>15</sup>And I will send you away from before my face, as I have sent away all your brothers, even all the seed of Ephraim.

<sup>16</sup>And as for you (Jeremiah), make no prayers for this people, send up no cry or prayer for them, make no request for them to me: for I will not give ear.

<sup>17</sup> Do you not see what they are doing in the towns of Judah and in the streets of Jerusalem?

<sup>18</sup> The children go for wood, the fathers get the fire burning, the women are working the paste to make cakes for the queen of heaven, and drink offerings are drained out to other gods, moving me to wrath.

<sup>19</sup> Are they moving me to wrath? says the Lord; are they not moving themselves to their shame?

<sup>20</sup> So this is what the Lord God has said: See, my wrath and my passion will be let loose on this place, on man and beast, and on the trees of the field, and on the produce of the earth; it will be burning and will not be put out.

<sup>21</sup> These are the words of the Lord of armies, the God of Israel: Put your burned offerings with your offerings of beasts, and take flesh for your food.

<sup>22</sup> For I said nothing to your fathers, and gave them no orders, on the day when I took them out of Egypt, about burned offerings or offerings of beasts:

<sup>23</sup> But this was the order I gave them, saying, Give ear to my voice, and I will

be your God, and you will be my people: go in all the way ordered by me, so that all may be well for you.

<sup>24</sup> But they took no note and did not give ear, but were guided by the thoughts and the pride of their evil hearts, going back and not forward.

<sup>25</sup> From the day when your fathers came out of Egypt till this day, I have sent my servants the prophets to you, getting up early every day and sending them:

<sup>26</sup> But still they took no note and would not give ear, but they made their necks stiff, doing worse than their fathers.

<sup>27</sup> And you are to say all these words to them, but they will not give ear to you: you will send out your voice to them, but they will give no answer.

<sup>28</sup> And you are to say to them, This is the nation which has not given ear to the voice of their God, or taken his teaching to heart: good faith is dead and is cut off from their mouths.

<sup>29</sup> Let your hair be cut off, O Jerusalem, and let it go, and let a song of grief go up on the open hilltops; for the Lord is

turned away from the generation of his wrath and has given them up.

<sup>30</sup>For the children of Judah have done what is evil in my eyes, says the Lord: they have put their disgusting images in the house which is named by my name, making it unclean.

<sup>31</sup>And they have put up the high place of Topheth in the valley of the son of Hinnom, burning their sons and their daughters there in the fire; a thing which was not ordered by me and never came into my mind.

<sup>32</sup>For this cause, the days are coming, says the Lord, when it will no longer be named Topheth, or, The valley of the son of Hinnom, but, The valley of Death: for they will put the dead into the earth in Topheth till there is no more room.

<sup>33</sup>And the bodies of this people will be food for the birds of heaven and for the beasts of the earth; and there will be no one to send them away.

<sup>34</sup>And in the towns of Judah and in the streets of Jerusalem, I will put an end to the laughing voices, the voice of joy and the voice of the newly-married man and



the voice of the bride: for the land will become a waste.

**8**<sup>1</sup> At that time, says the Lord, they will take the bones of the kings of Judah, and the bones of his rulers, and the bones of the priests, and the bones of the prophets, and the bones of the people of Jerusalem out of their resting-places:

<sup>2</sup> And they will put them out before the sun and the moon and all the stars of heaven, whose lovers and servants they have been, after whom they have gone, to whom they have made prayers, and to whom they have given worship: they will not be put together or placed in the earth; they will be waste on the face of the earth.

<sup>3</sup> And death will be desired more than life by the rest of this evil family who are still living in all the places where I have sent them away, says the Lord of armies.

<sup>4</sup> Further, you are to say to them, This is what the Lord has said: Will those who are falling not be lifted up again? will he who has gone away not come back?

<sup>5</sup> Why do these people of Jerusalem go back, for ever turning away? they will

not give up their deceit, they will not come back.

<sup>6</sup>I took note and gave ear, but no one said what is right: no man had regret for his evil-doing, saying, What have I done? everyone goes off on his way like a horse rushing to the fight.

<sup>7</sup>Truly, the stork in the heavens is conscious of her fixed times; the dove and the swallow and the crane keep to the times of their coming; but my people have no knowledge of the law of the Lord.

<sup>8</sup>How is it that you say, We are wise and the law of the Lord is with us? But see, the false pen of the scribes has made it false.

<sup>9</sup>The wise men are shamed, they are overcome with fear and taken: see, they have given up the word of the Lord; and what use is their wisdom to them?

<sup>10</sup>So I will give their wives to others, and their fields to those who will take them for themselves: for everyone, from the least to the greatest, is given up to getting money; from the priest even to the prophet, everyone is false.

<sup>11</sup> And they have made little of the wounds of the daughter of Zion, saying, Peace, peace; when there is no peace.

<sup>12</sup> Let them be put to shame because they have done disgusting things. They had no shame, they were not able to become red with shame: so they will come down with those who are falling: in the time of their punishment they will be made low, says the Lord.

<sup>13</sup> I will put an end to them completely, says the Lord: there are no grapes on the vine and no figs on the fig-tree, and the leaf is dry.

<sup>14</sup> Why are we seated doing nothing? come together, and let us go to the walled towns, and let destruction overtake us there, for the Lord our God has sent destruction on us, and given us bitter water for our drink, because we have done evil against the Lord.

<sup>15</sup> We were looking for peace, but no good came; and for a time of well-being, but there is only a great fear.

<sup>16</sup> The loud breathing of the horses comes to our ears from Dan: at the sound of the outcry of his war-horses, all the land is shaking with fear; for they

have come, and have made a meal of the land and everything in it; the town and the people living in it.

<sup>17</sup>See, I will send snakes and poison-snakes among you, against which the wonder-worker has no power; and they will give you wounds which may not be made well, says the Lord.

<sup>18</sup>Sorrow has come on me! my heart in me is feeble.

<sup>19</sup>The voice of the cry of the daughter of my people comes from a far land: Is the Lord not in Zion? is not her King in her? Why have they made me angry with their images and their strange gods which are no gods?

<sup>20</sup>The grain-cutting is past, the summer is ended, and no salvation has come to us.

<sup>21</sup>For the destruction of the daughter of my people I am broken: I am dressed in the clothing of grief; fear has taken me in its grip.

<sup>22</sup>Is there no life-giving oil in Gilead? is there no expert in medical arts? why then have my people not been made well?

**9**<sup>1</sup> If only my head was a stream of waters and my eyes fountains of weeping, so that I might go on weeping day and night for the dead of the daughter of my people!

<sup>2</sup> If only I had in the waste land a nights resting-place for travellers, so that I might go away, far from my people! for they are all untrue, a band of false men.

<sup>3</sup> Their tongues are bent like a bow to send out false words: they have become strong in the land, but not for good faith: they go on from evil to evil, and they have no knowledge of me, says the Lord.

<sup>4</sup> Let everyone keep watch on his neighbour, and put no faith in any brother: for every brother will certainly be tricking his brother, and every neighbour will go about saying evil.

<sup>5</sup> Everyone will make sport of his neighbour with deceit, not saying what is true: their tongues have been trained to say false words; they are twisted, hating to come back.

<sup>6</sup> There is wrong on wrong, deceit on deceit; they have given up the knowledge of me, says the Lord.

<sup>7</sup> So the Lord of armies has said, See, I will make them soft in the fire and put them to the test; this I will do because of their evil-doing.

<sup>8</sup> His tongue is an arrow causing death; the words of his mouth are deceit: he says words of peace to his neighbour, but in his heart he is waiting secretly for him.

<sup>9</sup> Am I not to send punishment for these things? says the Lord: will not my soul take payment from such a nation as this?

<sup>10</sup> Give yourselves to weeping, crying out in sorrow for the mountains; and for the fields of the waste land send up a song of grief, because they are burned up, so that no one goes through; there is no sound of cattle; the bird of the heavens and the beast are in flight and are gone.

<sup>11</sup> And I will make Jerusalem a mass of broken stones, the living-place of jackals; and I will make the towns of Judah a waste, with no man living there.

<sup>12</sup> Who is the wise man able to see this? who is he to whom the word of the Lord has come, so that he may make it clear? why is the land given to destruction and

burned up like a waste place, so that no one goes through?

<sup>13</sup>And the Lord said, Because they have given up my law which I put before them, giving no attention to my voice and not being guided by it;

<sup>14</sup>But they have been walking in the pride of their hearts, going after the Baals, as their fathers gave them teaching.

<sup>15</sup>So the Lord of armies, the God of Israel, has said, I will give them, even this people, bitter plants for food and bitter water for drink.

<sup>16</sup>And I will send them wandering among the nations, among people strange to them and to their fathers: and I will send the sword after them till I have put an end to them.

<sup>17</sup>This is what the Lord of armies has said: Take thought and send for the weeping women, so that they may come; and send for the wise women, so that they may come:

<sup>18</sup>Let them quickly make cries of sorrow for us, so that drops may be flowing from our eyes till they are streaming with water.

<sup>19</sup>For a sound of weeping goes up from Zion, a cry, How has destruction come on us? we are overcome with shame because we have gone away from our land; he has sent us out from our house.

<sup>20</sup>But even now, give ear to the word of the Lord, O you women; let your ears be open to the word of his mouth, training your daughters to give cries of sorrow, everyone teaching her neighbour a song of grief.

<sup>21</sup>For death has come up into our windows, forcing its way into our great houses; cutting off the children in the streets and the young men in the wide places.

<sup>22</sup>The bodies of men will be falling like waste on the open fields, and like grain dropped by the grain-cutter, and no one will take them up.

<sup>23</sup>This is the word of the Lord: Let not the wise man take pride in his wisdom, or the strong man in his strength, or the man of wealth in his wealth:

<sup>24</sup>But if any man has pride, let it be in this, that he has the wisdom to have knowledge of me, that I am the Lord, working mercy, giving true decisions,



and doing righteousness in the earth: for in these things I have delight, says the Lord.

<sup>25</sup>See, the day is coming, says the Lord, when I will send punishment on all those who have circumcision in the flesh;

<sup>26</sup>On Egypt and on Judah and on Edom and on the children of Ammon and on Moab and on all who have the ends of their hair cut, who are living in the waste land: for all these nations and all the people of Israel are without circumcision in their hearts.

**10**<sup>1</sup>Give ear to the word which the Lord says to you, O people of Israel:

<sup>2</sup>This is what the Lord has said: Do not go in the way of the nations; have no fear of the signs of heaven, for the nations go in fear of them.

<sup>3</sup>For that which is feared by the people is foolish: it is the work of the hands of the workman; for a tree is cut down by him out of the woods with his axe.

<sup>4</sup>They make it beautiful with silver and gold; they make it strong with nails and hammers, so that it may not be moved.

<sup>5</sup>It is like a pillar in a garden of plants, and has no voice: it has to be lifted, for it has no power of walking. Have no fear of it; for it has no power of doing evil and it is not able to do any good.

<sup>6</sup>There is no one like you, O Lord; you are great and your name is great in power.

<sup>7</sup>Who would not have fear of you, O King of the nations? for it is your right: for among all the wise men of the nations, and in all their kingdoms, there is no one like you.

<sup>8</sup>But they are together like beasts and foolish: the teaching of false gods is wood.

<sup>9</sup>Silver hammered into plates is sent from Tarshish, and gold from Uphaz, the work of the expert workman and of the hands of the gold-worker; blue and purple is their clothing, all the work of expert men.

<sup>10</sup>But the Lord is the true God; he is the living God and an eternal king: when he is angry, the earth is shaking with fear, and the nations give way before his wrath.

<sup>11</sup> This is what you are to say to them: The gods who have not made the heavens and the earth will be cut off from the earth and from under the heavens.

<sup>12</sup> He has made the earth by his power, he has made the world strong in its place by his wisdom, and by his wise design the heavens have been stretched out.

<sup>13</sup> At the sound of his voice there is a massing of waters in the heavens, and he makes the mists go up from the ends of the earth; he makes the thunder-flames for the rain, and sends out the wind from his store-houses.

<sup>14</sup> Then every man becomes like a beast without knowledge; every gold-worker is put to shame by the image he has made: for his metal image is deceit, and there is no breath in them.

<sup>15</sup> They are nothing, a work of error: in the time of their punishment, destruction will overtake them.

<sup>16</sup> The heritage of Jacob is not like these; for the maker of all things is his heritage: the Lord of armies is his name.

<sup>17</sup> Get your goods together and go out of the land, O you who are shut up in the walled town.

<sup>18</sup> For the Lord has said, I will send the people in flight like a stone from the land at this time, troubling them so that they will be conscious of it.

<sup>19</sup> Sorrow is mine for I am wounded! my wound may not be made well; and I said, Cruel is my disease, I may not be free from it.

<sup>20</sup> My tent is pulled down and all my cords are broken: my children have gone from me, and they are not: no longer is there anyone to give help in stretching out my tent and hanging up my curtains.

<sup>21</sup> For the keepers of the sheep have become like beasts, not looking to the Lord for directions: so they have not done wisely and all their flocks have been put to flight.

<sup>22</sup> News is going about, see, it is coming, a great shaking is coming from the north country, so that the towns of Judah may be made waste and become the living-place of jackals.

<sup>23</sup>O Lord, I am conscious that a mans way is not in himself: man has no power of guiding his steps.

<sup>24</sup>O Lord, put me right, but with wise purpose; not in your wrath, or you will make me small.

<sup>25</sup>Let your wrath be let loose on the nations which have no knowledge of you, and on the families who give no worship to your name: for they have made a meal of Jacob, truly they have made a meal of him and put an end to him and made his fields a waste.

**11** <sup>1</sup>The word which came to Jeremiah from the Lord, saying,

<sup>2</sup>Give ear to the words of this agreement, and say to the men of Judah and to the people of Jerusalem,

<sup>3</sup>The Lord, the God of Israel, has said, Let that man be cursed who does not give ear to the words of this agreement,

<sup>4</sup>To the order which I gave your fathers on the day when I took them out of the land of Egypt, out of the oven of iron, saying, Give ear to my voice, and do all the orders I have given you: so you will be my people, and I will be your God:

<sup>5</sup>So that I may give effect to the oath which I made to your fathers, to give them a land flowing with milk and honey as at this day. And I said in answer, So be it, O Lord.

<sup>6</sup>And the Lord said to me, Give out these words in the towns of Judah and in the streets of Jerusalem, saying, Give ear to the words of this agreement and do them.

<sup>7</sup>For I gave certain witness to your fathers on the day when I took them up out of the land of Egypt, and even to this day, getting up early and witnessing and saying, Give ear to my voice.

<sup>8</sup>But they gave no attention and did not give ear, but they went on, every man in the pride of his evil heart: so I sent on them all the curses in this agreement, which I gave them orders to keep, but they did not.

<sup>9</sup>And the Lord said to me, There is an evil design at work among the men of Judah and the people of Jerusalem.

<sup>10</sup>They are turned back to the sins of their fathers, who would not give ear to my words; they have gone after other gods and become their servants: the

people of Israel and the people of Judah have not kept the agreement which I made with their fathers.

<sup>11</sup> So the Lord has said, I will send evil on them, which they will not be able to get away from; and they will send up a cry for help to me, but I will not give ear to them.

<sup>12</sup> Then the towns of Judah and the people of Jerusalem will go crying for help to the gods to whom they have been burning perfumes: but they will give them no salvation in the time of their trouble.

<sup>13</sup> For the number of your gods is as the number of your towns, O Judah; and for every street in Jerusalem you have put up altars to the Baal for burning perfumes to the Baal.

<sup>14</sup> And as for you, make no prayers for this people, send up no cry or prayer for them: for I will not give ear to their cry in the time of their trouble.

<sup>15</sup> About Judah. What have you to do in my house? is it your thought that oaths and holy flesh will get you out of your trouble? will you make yourself safe in this way?

<sup>16</sup>You had been named by the Lord, A branching olive-tree, fair with beautiful fruit: with the noise of a great rushing he has put it on fire and its branches are broken.

<sup>17</sup>For the Lord of armies, by whom you were planted, has given his decision for evil against you, because of the evil which the people of Israel and the people of Judah have done, In moving me to wrath by offering perfumes to the Baal.

<sup>18</sup>And the Lord gave me knowledge of it and I saw it: then you made clear to me their doings.

<sup>19</sup>But I was like a gentle lamb taken to be put to death; I had no thought that they were designing evil against me, saying, Come and let us make trouble his food, cutting him off from the land of the living, so that there may be no more memory of his name.

<sup>20</sup>But, O Lord of armies, judging in righteousness, testing the thoughts and the heart, let me see your punishment come on them: for I have put my cause before you.

<sup>21</sup>So this is what the Lord of armies has said about the men of Anathoth



who have made designs against your life, saying, You are not to be a prophet in the name of the Lord, or death will overtake you by our hands:

<sup>22</sup> So the Lord of armies has said, See, I will send punishment on them: the young men will be put to the sword; their sons and their daughters will come to death through need of food:

<sup>23</sup> Not one of them will keep his life, for I will send evil on the men of Anathoth in the year of their punishment.

**12**<sup>1</sup> You are in the right, O Lord, when I put my cause before you: still let me take up with you the question of your decisions: why does the evil-doer do well? why are the workers of deceit living in comfort?

<sup>2</sup> They have been planted by you, they have taken root; they go on and give fruit: you are near in their mouths but far from their thoughts.

<sup>3</sup> But you, O Lord, have knowledge of me; you see me, searching and testing how my heart is with you: let them be pulled out like sheep to be put to death, make them ready for the day of death.

<sup>4</sup>How long will the land have grief, and the plants of all the land be dry? because of the sins of the people living in it, destruction has overtaken the beasts and the birds; because they said, God does not see our ways.

<sup>5</sup>If running with the fighting-men has made you tired, how will you be able to keep up with horses? and if in a land of peace you go in flight, what will become of you in the thick growth of Jordan?

<sup>6</sup>For even your brothers, your fathers family, even they have been untrue to you, crying loudly after you: have no faith in them, though they say fair words to you.

<sup>7</sup>I have given up my house, I have let my heritage go; I have given the loved one of my soul into the hands of her haters.

<sup>8</sup>My heritage has become like a lion in the woodland to me; her voice has been loud against me; so I have hate for her.

<sup>9</sup>My heritage is like a brightly coloured bird to me; the cruel birds are attacking her on every side: go, get together all the beasts of the field, make them come for destruction.

<sup>10</sup>The keepers of sheep have been the destruction of my vine-garden, crushing my heritage under their feet; they have made my fair heritage an unplanted waste;

<sup>11</sup>They have made it waste; it is weeping to me, being wasted; all the land is made waste, because no man takes it to heart.

<sup>12</sup>Those who make waste have come on all the open hilltops in the waste land; for the sword of the Lord sends destruction from one end of the land to the other end of the land: no flesh has peace.

<sup>13</sup>Though good grain was planted, they have got in thorns: they have given themselves pain without profit: they will be shamed on account of their produce, because of the burning wrath of the Lord.

<sup>14</sup>This is what the Lord has said against all my evil neighbours, who put their hands on the heritage which I gave my people Israel: See, I will have them uprooted from their land, uprooting the people of Judah from among them.

<sup>15</sup>And it will come about that, after they have been uprooted, I will again have pity on them; and I will take them back, every man to his heritage and every man to his land.

<sup>16</sup>And it will be that, if they give their minds to learning the ways of my people, using my name in their oaths, By the living Lord; as they have been teaching my people to take oaths by the Baal; then their place will be made certain among my people.

<sup>17</sup>But if they will not give ear, then I will have that nation uprooted, and given to destruction, says the Lord.

**13**<sup>1</sup>This is what the Lord said to me: Go and get yourself a linen band and put it round you and do not put it in water.

<sup>2</sup>So, as the Lord said, I got a band for a price and put it round my body.

<sup>3</sup>And the word of the Lord came to me a second time, saying,

<sup>4</sup>Take the band which you got for a price, which is round your body, and go to Parah and put it in a secret place there in a hole of the rock.

<sup>5</sup> So I went and put it in a secret place by Parah, as the Lord had said to me.

<sup>6</sup> Then after a long time, the Lord said to me, Up! go to Parah and get the band which I gave you orders to put there.

<sup>7</sup> So I went to Parah and, uncovering the hole, took the band from the place where I had put it away: and the band was damaged and of no use for anything.

<sup>8</sup> Then the word of the Lord came to me, saying,

<sup>9</sup> The Lord has said, In this way I will do damage to the pride of Judah and to the great pride of Jerusalem.

<sup>10</sup> These evil people who say they will not give ear to my words, who go on in the pride of their hearts and have become servants and worshippers of other gods, will become like this band which is of no use for anything.

<sup>11</sup> For as a band goes tightly round a mans body, so I made all the people of Israel and all the people of Judah tightly united to me; so that they might be a people for me and a name and a praise and a glory: but they would not give ear.

<sup>12</sup> So you are to say this word to them: This is the word of the Lord, the God of

Israel: Every skin bottle will be full of wine; and they will say to you, Is it not quite clear to us that every skin bottle will be full of wine?

<sup>13</sup>Then you are to say to them, The Lord has said, I will make all the people of this land, even the kings seated on Davids seat, and the priests and the prophets and all the people of Jerusalem, overcome with strong drink.

<sup>14</sup>I will have them smashed against one another, fathers and sons together, says the Lord: I will have no pity or mercy, I will have no feeling for them to keep me from giving them to destruction.

<sup>15</sup>Give ear and let your ears be open; be not lifted up: for these are the words of the Lord.

<sup>16</sup>Give glory to the Lord your God, before he makes it dark, and before your feet are slipping on the dark mountains, and, while you are looking for a light, he makes it into deep dark, into black night.

<sup>17</sup>But if you do not give ear to it, my soul will be weeping in secret for your pride; my eye will be weeping bitterly, streaming with water, because the Lords flock has been taken away as prisoners.

<sup>18</sup>Say to the king and to the queen-mother, Make yourselves low, be seated on the earth: for the crown of your glory has come down from your heads.

<sup>19</sup>The towns of the south are shut up, and there is no one to make them open: Judah is taken away as prisoners; all Judah is taken away as prisoners.

<sup>20</sup>Let your eyes be lifted up (O Jerusalem), and see those who are coming from the north. Where is the flock which was given to you, your beautiful flock?

<sup>21</sup>What will you say when he puts over you those whom you yourself have made your friends? will not pains take you like a woman in childbirth?

<sup>22</sup>And if you say in your heart, Why have these things come on me? because of the number of your sins, your skirts have been uncovered and violent punishment overtakes you.

<sup>23</sup>Is it possible for the skin of the Ethiopian to be changed, or the markings on the leopard? Then it might be possible for you to do good, who have been trained to do evil.

<sup>24</sup> So I will send them in all directions, as dry grass is taken away by the wind of the waste land.

<sup>25</sup> This is your fate, the part measured out to you by me, says the Lord, because you have put me out of your memory and put your faith in what is false.

<sup>26</sup> So I will have your skirts uncovered before your face, in order that your shame may be seen.

<sup>27</sup> I have seen your disgusting acts, even your false behaviour and your cries of desire and your loose ways on the hills in the field. Unhappy are you, O Jerusalem, you have no desire to be made clean; how long will you be in turning back to me?

**14**<sup>1</sup> The word of the Lord came to Jeremiah when there was no water.

<sup>2</sup> Judah is weeping and its doors are dark with sorrow, and people are seated on the earth clothed in black; and the cry of Jerusalem has gone up.

<sup>3</sup> Their great men have sent their servants for water: they come to the holes and there is no water to be seen; they come back with nothing in their



vessels; they are overcome with shame and fear, covering their heads.

<sup>4</sup>Those who do work on the land are in fear, for there has been no rain on the land, and the farmers are shamed, covering their heads.

<sup>5</sup>And the roe, giving birth in the field, lets her young one be uncared for, because there is no grass.

<sup>6</sup>And the asses of the field on the open hilltops are opening their mouths wide like jackals to get air; their eyes are hollow because there is no grass.

<sup>7</sup>Though our sins give witness against us, do something, O Lord, for the honour of your name: for again and again we have been turned away from you, we have done evil against you.

<sup>8</sup>O you hope of Israel, its saviour in time of trouble, why are you like one who is strange in the land, and like a traveller putting up his tent for a night?

<sup>9</sup>Why are you like a man surprised, like a man of war who is not able to give help? but you, O Lord, are with us, and we are named by your name; do not go away from us.

<sup>10</sup>This is what the Lord has said about this people: Even so they have been glad to go from the right way; they have not kept their feet from wandering, so the Lord has no pleasure in them; now he will keep their wrongdoing in mind and send punishment for their sins.

<sup>11</sup>And the Lord said to me, Make no prayer for this people for their good.

<sup>12</sup>When they go without food, I will not give ear to their cry; when they give burned offerings and meal offerings, I will not take pleasure in them: but I will put an end to them by the sword and by need of food and by disease.

<sup>13</sup>Then I said, Ah, Lord God! see, the prophets say to them, You will not see the sword or be short of food; but I will give you certain peace in this place.

<sup>14</sup>Then the Lord said to me, The prophets say false words in my name, and I gave them no orders, and I said nothing to them: what they say to you is a false vision and wonder-working words without substance, the deceit of their hearts.

<sup>15</sup>So this is what the Lord has said about the prophets who make use of my

name, though I sent them not, and say, The sword and need of food will not be in this land: the sword and need of food will put an end to those prophets.

<sup>16</sup>And the people to whom they are prophets will be pushed out dead into the streets of Jerusalem, because there is no food, and because of the sword; and they will have no one to put their bodies into the earth, them or their wives or their sons or their daughters: for I will let loose their evil-doing on them.

<sup>17</sup>And you are to say this word to them, Let my eyes be streaming with water night and day, and let it not be stopped; for the virgin daughter of my people is wounded with a great wound, with a very bitter blow.

<sup>18</sup>If I go out into the open country, there are those put to death by the sword! and if I go into the town, there are those who are diseased from need of food! for the prophet and the priest go about in the land and have no knowledge.

<sup>19</sup>Have you completely given up Judah? is your soul turned in disgust from Zion? why have you given us blows from which

there is no one to make us well? we were looking for peace, but no good came; and for a time of well-being, but there was only a great fear.

<sup>20</sup>We are conscious, O Lord, of our sin and of the wrongdoing of our fathers: we have done evil against you.

<sup>21</sup>Do not be turned from us in disgust, because of your name; do not put shame on the seat of your glory: keep us in mind, let not your agreement with us be broken.

<sup>22</sup>Are any of the false gods of the nations able to make rain come? are the heavens able to give showers? are you not he, O Lord our God? so we will go on waiting for you, for you have done all these things.

**15**<sup>1</sup> Then the Lord said to me, Even if Moses and Samuel came before me, I would have no desire for this people: send them away from before me, and let them go.

<sup>2</sup>And it will be, when they say to you, Where are we to go? then you are to say to them, The Lord has said, Such as are for death, to death; and such as are for the sword, to the sword; and such

as are to be in need of food, to need of food; and such as are to be taken away prisoners, to be taken away.

<sup>3</sup>And I will put over them four divisions, says the Lord: the sword causing death, dogs pulling the dead bodies about, and the birds of heaven, and the beasts of the earth to take their bodies for food and put an end to them.

<sup>4</sup>And I will make them a cause of fear to all the kingdoms of the earth, because of Manasseh, the son of Hezekiah, king of Judah, and what he did in Jerusalem.

<sup>5</sup>For who will have pity on you, O Jerusalem? and who will have sorrow for you? or who will go out of his way to see how you are?

<sup>6</sup>You have given me up, says the Lord, you have gone back: so my hand is stretched out against you for your destruction; I am tired of changing my purpose.

<sup>7</sup>And I have sent a cleaning wind on them in the public places of the land; I have taken their children from them; I have given my people to destruction; they have not been turned from their ways.

<sup>8</sup>I have let their widows be increased in number more than the sand of the seas: I have sent against them, against the mother and the young men, one who makes waste in the heat of the day, causing pain and fears to come on her suddenly.

<sup>9</sup>The mother of seven is without strength; her spirit is gone from her, her sun has gone down while it is still day: she has been shamed and overcome: and the rest of them I will give up to the sword before their haters, says the Lord.

<sup>10</sup>Sorrow is mine, my mother, because you have given birth to me, a cause of fighting and argument in all the earth! I have not made men my creditors and I am not in debt to any, but every one of them is cursing me.

<sup>11</sup>[KOSONG]

<sup>12</sup>Is it possible for iron to be broken; even iron from the north, and brass?

<sup>13</sup>I will give your wealth and your stores to your attackers, without a price, because of all your sins, even in every part of your land.

<sup>14</sup>They will go away with your haters into a land which is strange to you: for

my wrath is on fire with a flame which will be burning on you.

<sup>15</sup>O Lord, you have knowledge: keep me in mind and come to my help, and give their right reward to those who are attacking me; take me not away, for you are slow to be angry: see how I have undergone shame because of you from all those who make little of your word;

<sup>16</sup>But to me your word is a joy, making my heart glad; for I am named by your name, O Lord God of armies.

<sup>17</sup>I did not take my seat among the band of those who are glad, and I had no joy; I kept by myself because of your hand; for you have made me full of wrath.

<sup>18</sup>Why is my pain unending and my wound without hope of being made well? Sorrow is mine, for you are to me as a stream offering false hope and as waters which are not certain.

<sup>19</sup>For this cause the Lord has said, If you will come back, then I will again let you take your place before me; and if you give out what is of value and not that which has no value, you will be as

my mouth: let them come back to you, but do not go back to them.

<sup>20</sup>And I will make you a strong wall of brass to this people; they will be fighting against you, but they will not overcome you: for I am with you to keep you safe, says the Lord.

<sup>21</sup>I will keep you safe from the hands of the evil-doers, and I will give you salvation from the hands of the cruel ones.

**16**<sup>1</sup> Then again the word of the Lord came to me, saying,

<sup>2</sup>You are not to take a wife for yourself or have sons or daughters in this place.

<sup>3</sup>For this is what the Lord has said about the sons and daughters who come to birth in this place, and about their mothers who have given them birth, and about their fathers who have given life to them in this land:

<sup>4</sup>Death from evil diseases will overtake them; there will be no weeping for them and their bodies will not be put to rest; they will be like waste on the face of the earth: the sword and need of food will put an end to them; their dead bodies



will be meat for the birds of heaven and for the beasts of the earth.

<sup>5</sup>For this is what the Lord has said: Do not go into the house of sorrow, do not go to make weeping or songs of grief for them: for I have taken away my peace from this people, says the Lord, even mercy and pity.

<sup>6</sup>Death will overtake great as well as small in the land: their bodies will not be put in a resting-place, and no one will be weeping for them or wounding themselves or cutting off their hair for them:

<sup>7</sup>No one will make a feast for them in sorrow, to give them comfort for the dead, or put to their lips the cup of comfort on account of their father or their mother.

<sup>8</sup>And you are not to go into the house of feasting, or be seated with them to take food or drink.

<sup>9</sup>For the Lord of armies, the God of Israel, has said, See, before your eyes and in your days I will put an end in this place to the laughing voices and the voice of joy; to the voice of the

newly-married man and the voice of the bride.

<sup>10</sup>And it will be, that when you say all these words to the people, then they will say to you, Why has the Lord done all this evil against us? what is our wrongdoing and what is our sin which we have done against the Lord our God?

<sup>11</sup>Then you will say to them, Because your fathers have given me up, says the Lord, and have gone after other gods and become their servants and their worshippers, and have given me up and have not kept my law;

<sup>12</sup>And you have done worse evil than your fathers; for see, every one of you is guided by the pride of his evil heart, so as not to give ear to me:

<sup>13</sup>For this reason I will send you away out of this land into a land which is strange to you, to you and to your fathers; there you will be the servants of other gods day and night, and you will have no mercy from me.

<sup>14</sup>For this cause, see, the days are coming, says the Lord, when it will no longer be said, By the living Lord, who

took the children of Israel up out of the land of Egypt.

<sup>15</sup>But, By the living Lord, who took the children of Israel up out of the land of the north, and from all the countries where he had sent them: and I will take them back again to their land which I gave to their fathers.

<sup>16</sup>See, I will send for great numbers of fishermen, says the Lord, and they will take them like fish in a net; and after that, I will send for numbers of bowmen, and they will go after them, driving them from every mountain and from every hill, and out of the holes of the rocks.

<sup>17</sup>For my eyes are on all their ways: there is no cover for them from my face, and their evil-doing is not kept secret from my eyes.

<sup>18</sup>And I will give them the reward of their evil-doing and their sin twice over; because they have made my land unclean, and have made my heritage full of the bodies of their unholy and disgusting things.

<sup>19</sup>O Lord, my strength and my strong tower, my safe place in the day of trouble, the nations will come to you

from the ends of the earth, and say, The heritage of our fathers is nothing but deceit, even false things in which there is no profit.

<sup>20</sup>Will a man make for himself gods which are no gods?

<sup>21</sup>For this reason, truly, I will make them see, this once I will give them knowledge of my hand and my power; and they will be certain that my name is the Lord.

**17** <sup>1</sup>The sin of Judah is recorded with a pen of iron, and with the sharp point of a jewel it is cut on their hearts of stone, and on the horns of their altars for a sign to them:

<sup>2</sup>Their altars and their wood pillars under every branching tree, on the high hills and the mountains in the field.

<sup>3</sup>I will give your wealth and all your stores to be taken away in war without a price, because of your sins in every part of your land.

<sup>4</sup>And your hand will have to let go your heritage which I gave you; and I will make you a servant to your haters in a land which is strange to you: for you

have put my wrath on fire with a flame which will go on burning for ever.

<sup>5</sup>This is what the Lord has said: Cursed is the man who puts his faith in man, and makes flesh his arm, and whose heart is turned away from the Lord.

<sup>6</sup>For he will be like the brushwood in the upland, and will not see when good comes; but his living-place will be in the dry places in the waste land, in a salt and unpeopled land.

<sup>7</sup>A blessing is on the man who puts his faith in the Lord, and whose hope the Lord is.

<sup>8</sup>For he will be like a tree planted by the waters, pushing out its roots by the stream; he will have no fear when the heat comes, but his leaf will be green; in a dry year he will have no care, and will go on giving fruit.

<sup>9</sup>The heart is a twisted thing, not to be searched out by man: who is able to have knowledge of it?

<sup>10</sup>I the Lord am the searcher of the heart, the tester of the thoughts, so that I may give to every man the reward of his ways, in keeping with the fruit of his doings.

<sup>11</sup> Like the partridge, getting eggs together but not producing young, is a man who gets wealth but not by right; before half his days are ended, it will go from him, and at his end he will be foolish.

<sup>12</sup> A seat of glory, placed on high from the first, is our holy place.

<sup>13</sup> O Lord, the hope of Israel, all who give you up will be put to shame; those who go away from you will be cut off from the earth, because they have given up the Lord, the fountain of living waters.

<sup>14</sup> Make me well, O Lord, and I will be well; be my saviour, and I will be safe: for you are my hope.

<sup>15</sup> See, they say to me, Where is the word of the Lord? let it come now.

<sup>16</sup> As for me, I have not said; Let the day of trouble come to them quickly; and I have not been hoping for the death-giving day; you have knowledge of what came from my lips; it was open before you.

<sup>17</sup> Be not a cause of fear to me: you are my safe place in the day of evil.

<sup>18</sup> Let them be put to shame who are attacking me, but let me not be shamed;

let them be overcome with fear, but let me not be overcome: send on them the day of evil, and put them to destruction twice over.

<sup>19</sup>This is what the Lord has said to me: Go and take your place in the doorway of Benjamin, where the kings of Judah come in and by which they go out, and in all the doorways of Jerusalem;

<sup>20</sup>And say to them, Give ear to the word of the Lord, you kings of Judah, and all the people of Jerusalem who come in by these doors:

<sup>21</sup>This is what the Lord has said: See to yourselves, that you take up no weight on the Sabbath day, or take it in through the doors of Jerusalem;

<sup>22</sup>And take no weight out of your houses on the Sabbath day, or do any work, but keep the Sabbath day holy, as I gave orders to your fathers;

<sup>23</sup>But they gave no attention and would not give ear, but they made their necks stiff so that they might not give ear and might not get teaching.

<sup>24</sup>And it will be, that if with all care you give ear to me, says the Lord, and take no weight through the doorways of this

town on the Sabbath day, but keep the Sabbath day holy and do no work in it;

<sup>25</sup>Then through the doors of this town there will come kings and princes, seated on the seat of David, going in carriages and on horseback, they and their princes, and the men of Judah and the people of Jerusalem: and this town will keep its place for ever.

<sup>26</sup>And they will come from the towns of Judah, and from the places round about Jerusalem, and from the land of Benjamin, and from the lowlands, and from the mountains, and from the South, with burned offerings and offerings of beasts and meal offerings and perfume and offerings of praise, to the house of the Lord.

<sup>27</sup>But if you do not give ear to me, to keep the Sabbath day holy, and to let no weight be lifted and taken through the doors of Jerusalem on the Sabbath day: then I will put a fire in its doorways, burning up the great houses of Jerusalem, and it will never be put out.

**18**<sup>1</sup>The word which came to Jeremiah from the Lord, saying,



<sup>2</sup>Up! go down to the potters house, and there I will let my words come to your ears.

<sup>3</sup>Then I went down to the potters house, and he was doing his work on the stones.

<sup>4</sup>And when the vessel, which he was forming out of earth, got damaged in the hand of the potter, he made it again into another vessel, as it seemed good to the potter to make it.

<sup>5</sup>Then the word of the Lord came to me, saying,

<sup>6</sup>O Israel, am I not able to do with you as this potter does? says the Lord. See, like earth in the potters hand are you in my hands, O Israel.

<sup>7</sup>Whenever I say anything about uprooting a nation or a kingdom, and smashing it and sending destruction on it;

<sup>8</sup>If, in that very minute, that nation of which I was talking is turned away from its evil, my purpose of doing evil to them will be changed.

<sup>9</sup>And whenever I say anything about building up a nation or a kingdom, and planting it;

<sup>10</sup>If, in that very minute, it does evil in my eyes, going against my orders, then my good purpose, which I said I would do for them, will be changed.

<sup>11</sup>Now, then, say to the men of Judah and to the people of Jerusalem, This is what the Lord has said: See, I am forming an evil thing against you, and designing a design against you: let every man come back now from his evil way, and let your ways and your doings be changed for the better.

<sup>12</sup>But they will say, There is no hope: we will go on in our designs, and every one of us will do what he is moved by the pride of his evil heart to do.

<sup>13</sup>So this is what the Lord has said: Make search among the nations and see who has had word of such things; the virgin of Israel has done a very shocking thing.

<sup>14</sup>Will the white snow go away from the top of Sirion? will the cold waters flowing from the mountains become dry?

<sup>15</sup>For my people have put me out of their memory, burning perfumes to that which is nothing; and because of this, I will put a cause of falling in their ways,

even in the old roads, and will make them go on side-roads, in a way not lifted up;

<sup>16</sup>Making their land a thing of wonder, causing sounds of surprise for ever; everyone who goes by will be overcome with wonder, shaking his head.

<sup>17</sup>I will send them in flight, as from an east wind, before the attacker; I will let them see my back and not my face on the day of their downfall.

<sup>18</sup>Then they said, Come, let us make a design against Jeremiah; for teaching will never be cut off from the priest, or wisdom from the wise, or the word from the prophet. Come, let us make use of his words for an attack on him, and let us give attention with care to what he says.

<sup>19</sup>Give thought to me, O Lord, and give ear to the voice of those who put forward a cause against me.

<sup>20</sup>Is evil to be the reward of good? for they have made a deep hole for my soul. Keep in mind how I took my place before you, to say a good word for them so that your wrath might be turned away from them.

<sup>21</sup> For this cause, let their children be without food, and give them over to the power of the sword; and let their wives be without children and become widows; let their men be overtaken by death, and their young men be put to the sword in the fight.

<sup>22</sup> Let a cry for help go up from their houses, when you send an armed band on them suddenly: for they have made a hole in which to take me, and have put nets for my feet secretly.

<sup>23</sup> But you, Lord, have knowledge of all the designs which they have made against my life; let not their evil-doing be covered or their sin be washed away from before your eyes: but let it be a cause of falling before you: so do to them in the time of your wrath.

**19**<sup>1</sup> This is what the Lord has said: Go and get for money a potters bottle made of earth, and take with you some of the responsible men of the people and of the priests;

<sup>2</sup> And go out to the valley of the son of Hinnom, by the way into the door of broken pots, and there say in a loud voice the words which I will give you;

<sup>3</sup>Say, Give ear to the word of the Lord, O kings of Judah and people of Jerusalem; the Lord of armies, the God of Israel, has said, See, I will send evil on this place which will be bitter to the ears of anyone hearing of it.

<sup>4</sup>Because they have given me up, and made this place a strange place, burning perfumes in it to other gods, of whom they and their fathers and the kings of Judah had no knowledge; and they have made this place full of the blood of those who have done no wrong;

<sup>5</sup>And they have put up the high places of the Baal, burning their sons in the fire; a thing which was not ordered by me, and it was never in my mind:

<sup>6</sup>For this cause, see, a time is coming, says the Lord, when this place will no longer be named Topheth, or, The valley of the son of Hinnom, but, The valley of Death.

<sup>7</sup>I will make the purpose of Judah and Jerusalem come to nothing in this place; I will have them put to the sword by their haters, and by the hands of those who have designs on their life; and their dead bodies I will give to be food for the

birds of heaven and the beasts of the earth.

<sup>8</sup>And I will make this town a thing of wonder and a cause of surprise; everyone who goes by will be overcome with wonder and make sounds of surprise, because of all its troubles.

<sup>9</sup>I will make them take the flesh of their sons and the flesh of their daughters for food, they will be making a meal of one another, because of their bitter need and the cruel grip of their haters and those who have made designs against their life.

<sup>10</sup>Then let the potters bottle be broken before the eyes of the men who have gone with you,

<sup>11</sup>And say to them, This is what the Lord of armies has said: Even so will this people and this town be broken by me, as a potters bottle is broken and may not be put together again: and the bodies of the dead will be put in the earth in Topheth, till there is no more room.

<sup>12</sup>This is what I will do to this place, says the Lord, and to its people, making this town like Topheth:

<sup>13</sup>And the houses of Jerusalem, and the houses of the kings of Judah, which they have made unclean, will be like the place of Topheth, even all the houses on whose roofs perfumes have been burned to all the army of heaven, and drink offerings drained out to other gods.

<sup>14</sup>Then Jeremiah came from Topheth, where the Lord had sent him to give the prophets word; and he took his place in the open square of the Lords house, and said to all the people,

<sup>15</sup>The Lord of armies, the God of Israel, has said: See, I will send on this town and on all her towns all the evil which I have said; because they made their necks stiff, so that they might not give ear to my words.

**20**<sup>1</sup>Now it came to the ears of Pashhur, the son of Immer the priest, who was chief in authority in the house of the Lord, that Jeremiah was saying these things;

<sup>2</sup>And Pashhur gave blows to Jeremiah and had his feet chained in a framework of wood in the higher doorway of Benjamin, which was in the house of the Lord.

<sup>3</sup>Then on the day after, Pashhur let Jeremiah loose. Then Jeremiah said to him, The Lord has given you the name of Magor-missabib (Cause-of-fear-on-every-side), not Pashhur.

<sup>4</sup>For the Lord has said, See, I will make you a cause of fear to yourself and to all your friends: they will come to their death by the sword of their haters, and your eyes will see it: and I will give all Judah into the hands of the king of Babylon, and he will take them away prisoners into Babylon and put them to the sword.

<sup>5</sup>And more than this, I will give all the wealth of this town and all its profits and all its things of value, even all the stores of the kings of Judah will I give into the hands of their haters, who will put violent hands on them and take them away to Babylon.

<sup>6</sup>And you, Pashhur, and all who are in your house, will go away prisoners: you will come to Babylon, and there your body will be put to rest, you and all your friends, to whom you said false words.



<sup>7</sup> O Lord, you have been false to me, and I was tricked; you are stronger than I, and have overcome me: I have become a thing to be laughed at all the day, everyone makes sport of me.

<sup>8</sup> For every word I say is a cry for help; I say with a loud voice, Violent behaviour and wasting: because the word of the Lord is made a shame to me and a cause of laughing all the day.

<sup>9</sup> And if I say, I will not keep him in mind, I will not say another word in his name; then it is in my heart like a burning fire shut up in my bones, and I am tired of keeping myself in, I am not able to do it.

<sup>10</sup> For numbers of them say evil secretly in my hearing (there is fear on every side): they say, Come, let us give witness against him; all my nearest friends, who are watching for my fall, say, It may be that he will be taken by deceit, and we will get the better of him and give him punishment.

<sup>11</sup> But the Lord is with me as a great one, greatly to be feared: so my attackers will have a fall, and they will not overcome me: they will be greatly

shamed, because they have not done wisely, even with an unending shame, kept in memory for ever.

<sup>12</sup>But, O Lord of armies, testing the upright and seeing the thoughts and the heart, let me see your punishment come on them; for I have put my cause before you.

<sup>13</sup>Make melody to the Lord, give praise to the Lord: for he has made the soul of the poor man free from the hands of the evil-doers.

<sup>14</sup>A curse on the day of my birth: let there be no blessing on the day when my mother had me.

<sup>15</sup>A curse on the man who gave the news to my father, saying, You have a male child; making him very glad.

<sup>16</sup>May that man be like the towns overturned by the Lord without mercy: let a cry for help come to his ears in the morning, and the sound of war in the middle of the day;

<sup>17</sup>Because he did not put me to death before my birth took place: so my mothers body would have been my last resting-place, and she would have been with child for ever.

<sup>18</sup>Why did I come from my mother's body to see pain and sorrow, so that my days might be wasted with shame?

**21** <sup>1</sup>The word which came to Jeremiah from the Lord, when King Zedekiah sent to him Pashhur, the son of Malchiah, and Zephaniah, the son of Maaseiah the priest, saying,

<sup>2</sup>Will you get directions from the Lord for us; for Nebuchadrezzar, king of Babylon, is making war against us; it may be that the Lord will do something for us like all the wonders he has done, and make him go away from us.

<sup>3</sup>Then Jeremiah said to them, This is what you are to say to Zedekiah:

<sup>4</sup>The Lord God of Israel has said, See, I am turning back the instruments of war in your hands, with which you are fighting against the king of Babylon and the Chaldeans, who are outside the walls and shutting you in; and I will get them together inside this town.

<sup>5</sup>And I myself will be fighting against you with an outstretched hand and with a strong arm, even with angry feeling and passion and in great wrath.

<sup>6</sup>And I will send a great disease on the people living in this town, on man and on beast, causing their death.

<sup>7</sup>And after that, says the Lord, I will give up Zedekiah, king of Judah, and his servants and his people, even those in the town who have not come to their end from the disease and the sword and from need of food, into the hands of Nebuchadrezzar, king of Babylon, and into the hands of their haters, and into the hands of those desiring their death: he will put them to the sword; he will not let anyone get away, he will have no pity or mercy.

<sup>8</sup>And to this people you are to say, The Lord has said, See, I put before you the way of life and the way of death.

<sup>9</sup>He who keeps in this town will come to his death by the sword and through need of food and through disease; but he who goes out and gives himself up to the Chaldeans who are shutting you in, will go on living, and will keep his life safe.

<sup>10</sup>For my face is turned to this town for evil and not for good, says the Lord: it will be given into the hands of the king

of Babylon, and he will have it burned with fire.

<sup>11</sup> About the family of the king of Judah. Give ear to the word of the Lord;

<sup>12</sup> O family of David, this is what the Lord has said: Do what is right in the morning, and make free from the hands of the cruel one him whose goods have been violently taken away, or my wrath will go out like fire, burning so that no one may put it out, because of the evil of your doings.

<sup>13</sup> See, I am against you, you who are living on the rock of the valley, says the Lord; you who say, Who will come down against us? or who will get into our houses?

<sup>14</sup> I will send punishment on you in keeping with the fruit of your doings, says the Lord: and I will put a fire in her woodlands, burning up everything round about her.

**22** <sup>1</sup> This is what the Lord has said: Go down to the house of the king of Judah and there give him this word,

<sup>2</sup> And say, Give ear to the word of the Lord, O king of Judah, seated on the

seat of David, you and your servants and your people who come in by these doors.

<sup>3</sup>This is what the Lord has said: Do what is right, judging uprightly, and make free from the hands of the cruel one him whose goods have been violently taken away: do no wrong and be not violent to the man from a strange country and the child without a father and the widow, and let not those who have done no wrong be put to death in this place.

<sup>4</sup>For if you truly do this, then there will come in through the doors of this house kings seated on the seat of David, going in carriages and on horseback, he and his servants and his people

<sup>5</sup>But if you do not give ear to these words, I give you my oath by myself, says the Lord, that this house will become a waste.

<sup>6</sup>For this is what the Lord has said about the family of the king of Judah: You are Gilead to me, and the top of Lebanon: but, truly, I will make you waste, with towns unpeopled.

<sup>7</sup>And I will make ready those who will send destruction on you, everyone armed for war: by them your best

cedar-trees will be cut down and put in the fire.

<sup>8</sup>And nations from all sides will go past this town, and every man will say to his neighbour, Why has the Lord done such things to this great town?

<sup>9</sup>And they will say, Because they gave up the agreement of the Lord their God, and became worshippers and servants of other gods.

<sup>10</sup>Let there be no weeping for the dead, and make no songs of grief for him: but make bitter weeping for him who has gone away, for he will never come back or see again the country of his birth.

<sup>11</sup>For this is what the Lord has said about Shallum, the son of Josiah, king of Judah, who became king in place of Josiah his father, who went out from this place: He will never come back there again:

<sup>12</sup>But death will come to him in the place where they have taken him away prisoner, and he will never see this land again.

<sup>13</sup>A curse is on him who is building his house by wrongdoing, and his rooms by doing what is not right; who makes use

of his neighbour without payment, and gives him nothing for his work;

<sup>14</sup>Who says, I will make a wide house for myself, and rooms of great size, and has windows cut out, and has it roofed with cedar and painted with bright red.

<sup>15</sup>Are you to be a king because you make more use of cedar than your father? did not your father take food and drink and do right, judging in righteousness, and then it was well for him?

<sup>16</sup>He was judge in the cause of the poor and those in need; then it was well. Was not this to have knowledge of me? says the Lord.

<sup>17</sup>But your eyes and your heart are fixed only on profit for yourself, on causing the death of him who has done no wrong, and on violent and cruel acts.

<sup>18</sup>So this is what the Lord has said about Jehoiakim, the son of Josiah, king of Judah: They will make no weeping for him, saying, Ah my brother! or, Ah sister! they will make no weeping for him, saying, Ah lord! or, Ah his glory!

<sup>19</sup>They will do to him what they do to the dead body of an ass; his body will



be pulled out and placed on the earth outside the doors of Jerusalem.

<sup>20</sup>Go up to Lebanon and give a cry; let your voice be loud in Bashan, crying out from Abarim; for all your lovers have come to destruction

<sup>21</sup>My word came to you in the time of your well-being; but you said, I will not give ear. This has been your way from your earliest years, you did not give attention to my voice.

<sup>22</sup>All the keepers of your sheep will be food for the wind, and your lovers will be taken away prisoners: truly, then you will be shamed and unhonoured because of all your evil-doing.

<sup>23</sup>O you who are living in Lebanon, making your living-place in the cedars, how greatly to be pitied will you be when pains come on you, as on a woman in childbirth!

<sup>24</sup>By my life, says the Lord, even if Coniah, the son of Jehoiakim, king of Judah, was the ring on my right hand, even from there I would have you pulled off;

<sup>25</sup>And I will give you into the hands of those desiring your death, and into the

hands of those whom you are fearing, even into the hands of Nebuchadrezzar, king of Babylon, and into the hands of the Chaldeans.

<sup>26</sup>I will send you out, and your mother who gave you birth, into another country not the land of your birth; and there death will come to you.

<sup>27</sup>But to the land on which their souls desire is fixed, they will never come back.

<sup>28</sup>Is this man Coniah a broken vessel of no value? is he a vessel in which there is no pleasure? why are they violently sent out, he and his seed, into a land which is strange to them?

<sup>29</sup>O earth, earth, earth, give ear to the word of the Lord!

<sup>30</sup>The Lord has said, Let this man be recorded as having no children, a man who will not do well in all his life: for no man of his seed will do well, seated on the seat of the kingdom of David and ruling again in Judah.

**23**<sup>1</sup>A curse is on the keepers who are causing the destruction and loss of the sheep of my field, says the Lord.

<sup>2</sup>So this is what the Lord, the God of Israel, has said against the keepers who have the care of my people: You have let my flock be broken up, driving them away and not caring for them; see, I will send on you the punishment for the evil of your doings, says the Lord.

<sup>3</sup>And I will get the rest of my flock together from all the countries where I have sent them, and will make them come back again to their resting-place; and they will have offspring and be increased.

<sup>4</sup>And I will put over them keepers who will take care of them: never again will they be overcome with fear or be troubled, and there will not be the loss of one of them, says the Lord.

<sup>5</sup>See, the days are coming, says the Lord, when I will give to David a true Branch, and he will be ruling as king, acting wisely, doing what is right, and judging uprightly in the land.

<sup>6</sup>In his days Judah will have salvation and Israel will be living without fear: and this is the name by which he will be named, The Lord is our righteousness.

<sup>7</sup>And so, truly, the days are coming when they will say no longer, By the living Lord, who took the children of Israel up out of the land of Egypt;

<sup>8</sup>But, By the living Lord, who took up the seed of Israel, and made them come out of the north country, and from all the countries where I had sent them; and they will be living in the land which is theirs.

<sup>9</sup>About the prophets. My heart is broken in me, all my bones are shaking; I am like a man full of strong drink, like a man overcome by wine; because of the Lord, and because of his holy words.

<sup>10</sup>For the land is full of men who are untrue to their wives; because of the curse the land is full of grief; the green fields of the waste land have become dry; and they are quick to do evil, their strength is for what is not right.

<sup>11</sup>For the prophet as well as the priest is unclean; even in my house I have seen their evil-doing, says the Lord.

<sup>12</sup>For this cause their steps will be slipping on their way: they will be forced on into the dark and have a fall there:

for I will send evil on them in the year of their punishment, says the Lord.

<sup>13</sup>And I have seen ways without sense in the prophets of Samaria; they became prophets of the Baal, causing my people Israel to go wrong.

<sup>14</sup>And in the prophets of Jerusalem I have seen a shocking thing; they are untrue to their wives, walking in deceit, and they make strong the hands of evil-doers, so that a man may not be turned back from his evil-doing: they have all become like Sodom to me, and its people like Gomorrah.

<sup>15</sup>So this is what the Lord of armies has said about the prophets: See, I will give them a bitter plant for their food, and bitter water for their drink: for from the prophets of Jerusalem unclean behaviour has gone out into all the land.

<sup>16</sup>This is what the Lord of armies has said: Do not give ear to the words which the prophets say to you: they give you teaching of no value: it is from themselves that their vision comes, and not out of the mouth of the Lord.

<sup>17</sup>They keep on saying to those who have no respect for the word of the Lord,

You will have peace; and to everyone who goes on his way in the pride of his heart, they say, No evil will come to you.

<sup>18</sup>For which of them has knowledge of the secret of the Lord, and has seen him, and given ear to his word? which of them has taken note of his word and given attention to it?

<sup>19</sup>See, the storm-wind of the Lord, even the heat of his wrath, has gone out, a rolling storm, bursting on the heads of the evil-doers.

<sup>20</sup>The wrath of the Lord will not be turned back till he has done, till he has put into effect, the purposes of his heart: in days to come you will have full knowledge of this.

<sup>21</sup>I did not send these prophets, but they went running: I said nothing to them, but they gave out the prophets word.

<sup>22</sup>But if they had been in my secret, then they would have made my people give ear to my words, turning them from their evil way, and from the evil of their doings.

<sup>23</sup>Am I only a God who is near, says the Lord, and not a God at a distance?

<sup>24</sup> In what secret place may a man take cover without my seeing him? says the Lord. Is there any place in heaven or earth where I am not? says the Lord.

<sup>25</sup> My ears have been open to what the prophets have said, who say false words in my name, saying, I have had a dream, I have had a dream, I have had a dream,

<sup>26</sup> Is (my word) in the hearts of the prophets who give out false words, even the prophets of the deceit of their hearts?

<sup>27</sup> Whose purpose is to take away the memory of my name from my people by their dreams, of which every man is talking to his neighbour, as their fathers gave up the memory of my name for the Baal.

<sup>28</sup> If a prophet has a dream, let him give out his dream; and he who has my word, let him give out my word in good faith. What has the dry stem to do with the grain? says the Lord.

<sup>29</sup> Is not my word like fire? says the Lord; and like a hammer, smashing the rock to bits?

<sup>30</sup>For this cause I am against the prophets, says the Lord, who take my words, every one from his neighbour.

<sup>31</sup>See, I am against the prophets, says the Lord, who let their tongues say, He has said.

<sup>32</sup>See, I am against the prophets of false dreams, says the Lord, who give them out and make my people go out of the way by their deceit and their uncontrolled words: but I did not send them or give them orders; and they will be of no profit to this people, says the Lord.

<sup>33</sup>And if this people, or the prophet, or a priest, questioning you, says, What word of weight is there from the Lord? then you are to say to them, You are the word, for I will not be troubled with you any more, says the Lord.

<sup>34</sup>And as for the prophet and the priest and the people who say, A word of weight from the Lord! I will send punishment on that man and on his house.

<sup>35</sup>But this is what you are to say, every man to his neighbour and every man to his brother, What answer has the Lord given? and, What has the Lord said?



<sup>36</sup>And you will no longer put people in mind of the word of weight of the Lord: for every mans word will be a weight on himself; for the words of the living God, of the Lord of armies, our God, have been twisted by you.

<sup>37</sup>This is what you are to say to the prophet, What answer has the Lord given to you? and, What has the Lord said?

<sup>38</sup>But if you say, The word of weight of the Lord; this is what the Lord has said: Because you say, The weight of the Lord, and I have sent to you, saying, You are not to say, The weight of the Lord;

<sup>39</sup>For this reason, truly, I will put you completely out of my memory, and I will put you, and the town which I gave to you and to your fathers, away from before my face:

<sup>40</sup>And I will give you a name without honour for ever, and unending shame which will never go from the memory of men.

**24**<sup>1</sup>The Lord gave me a vision, and I saw two baskets full of figs put in front of the Temple of the Lord, after Nebuchadrezzar, king of Babylon, had taken prisoner Jeconiah, the son of

Jehoiakim, king of Judah, and the chiefs of Judah, and the expert workmen and metal-workers from Jerusalem, and had taken them to Babylon.

<sup>2</sup>One basket had very good figs, like the figs which first come to growth: and the other basket had very bad figs, so bad that they were of no use for food.

<sup>3</sup>Then the Lord said to me, What do you see, Jeremiah? And I said, Figs; the good figs are very good, and the bad very bad, and of no use for food, they are so bad.

<sup>4</sup>And the word of the Lord came to me, saying,

<sup>5</sup>This is what the Lord, the God of Israel, has said: Like these good figs, so in my eyes will be the prisoners of Judah, whom I have sent from this place into the land of the Chaldeans for their good.

<sup>6</sup>For I will keep my eyes on them for good, and I will take them back again to this land, building them up and not pulling them down, planting them and not uprooting them.

<sup>7</sup>And I will give them a heart to have knowledge of me, that I am the Lord:

and they will be my people, and I will be their God: for they will come back to me with all their heart.

<sup>8</sup>And like the bad figs which are so bad that they are of no use for food, so I will give up Zedekiah, king of Judah, and his chiefs and the rest of Jerusalem who are still in this land, and those who are in the land of Egypt:

<sup>9</sup>I will give them up to be a cause of fear and of trouble among all the kingdoms of the earth; to be a name of shame and common talk and a cutting word and a curse in all the places wherever I will send them wandering.

<sup>10</sup>And I will send the sword, and need of food, and disease, among them till they are all cut off from the land which I gave to them and to their fathers.

**25**<sup>1</sup>The word which came to Jeremiah about all the people of Judah in the fourth year of Jehoiakim, the son of Josiah king of Judah; this was the first year of Nebuchadrezzar, king of Babylon.

<sup>2</sup>This word Jeremiah gave out to all the people of Judah and to those living in Jerusalem, saying,

<sup>3</sup>From the thirteenth year of Josiah, the son of Amon, king of Judah, even till this day, for twenty-three years, the word of the Lord has been coming to me, and I have given it to you, getting up early and talking to you; but you have not given ear.

<sup>4</sup>And the Lord has sent to you all his servants the prophets, getting up early and sending them; but you have not given attention and your ear has not been open to give hearing;

<sup>5</sup>Saying, Come back now, everyone from his evil way and from the evil of your doings, and keep your place in the land which the Lord has given to you and to your fathers, from times long past even for ever:

<sup>6</sup>Do not go after other gods to be their servants and to give them worship, and do not make me angry with the work of your hands, causing evil to yourselves.

<sup>7</sup>But you have not given ear to me, says the Lord; so that you have made me angry with the work of your hands, causing evil to yourselves.

<sup>8</sup>So this is what the Lord of armies has said: Because you have not given ear to my words,

<sup>9</sup>See, I will send and take all the families of the north, says the Lord, and Nebuchadrezzar, king of Babylon, my servant, and make them come against this land, and against its people, and against all these nations on every side; and I will give them up to complete destruction, and make them a cause of fear and surprise and a waste place for ever.

<sup>10</sup>And more than this, I will take from them the sound of laughing voices, the voice of joy, the voice of the newly-married man, and the voice of the bride, the sound of the stones crushing the grain, and the shining of lights.

<sup>11</sup>All this land will be a waste and a cause of wonder; and these nations will be the servants of the king of Babylon for seventy years.

<sup>12</sup>And it will come about, after seventy years are ended, that I will send punishment on the king of Babylon, and on that nation, says the Lord, for their evil-doing, and on the land of the

Chaldeans; and I will make it a waste for ever.

<sup>13</sup>And I will make that land undergo everything I have said against it, even everything recorded in this book, which Jeremiah the prophet has said against all the nations.

<sup>14</sup>For a number of nations and great kings will make servants of them, even of them: and I will give them the reward of their acts, even the reward of the work of their hands.

<sup>15</sup>For this is what the Lord, the God of Israel, has said to me: Take the cup of the wine of this wrath from my hand, and make all the nations to whom I send you take of it.

<sup>16</sup>And after drinking it, they will go rolling from side to side, and be off their heads, because of the sword which I will send among them.

<sup>17</sup>Then I took the cup from the Lords hand, and gave a drink from it to all the nations to whom the Lord sent me;

<sup>18</sup>Jerusalem and the towns of Judah and their kings and their princes, to make them a waste place, a cause of

fear and surprise and a curse, as it is this day;

<sup>19</sup>Pharaoh, king of Egypt, and his servants and his princes and all his people;

<sup>20</sup>And all the mixed people and all the kings of the land of Uz, and all the kings of the land of the Philistines, and Ashkelon and Gaza and Ekron and the rest of Ashdod;

<sup>21</sup>Edom and Moab and the children of Ammon,

<sup>22</sup>And all the kings of Tyre, and all the kings of Zidon, and the kings of the lands across the sea;

<sup>23</sup>Dedan and Tema and Buz, and all who have the ends of their hair cut;

<sup>24</sup>And all the kings of Arabia, and all the kings of the mixed people living in the waste land;

<sup>25</sup>And all the kings of Zimri, and all the kings of Elam, and all the kings of the Medes;

<sup>26</sup>And all the kings of the north, far and near, one with another; and all the kingdoms of the world on the face of the earth.

<sup>27</sup> And you are to say to them, This is what the Lord of armies, the God of Israel, has said: Take of this cup and be overcome, and let it come out again from your lips, and from your fall you will never be lifted up again, because of the sword which I will send among you.

<sup>28</sup> And it will be, if they will not take of the cup in your hand, then you are to say to them, This is what the Lord of armies has said: You will certainly take of it.

<sup>29</sup> For see, I am starting to send evil on the town which is named by my name, and are you to be without any punishment? You will not be without punishment: for I will send a sword on all people living on the earth, says the Lord of armies.

<sup>30</sup> So, as a prophet, give out these words among them, and say to them, The voice of the Lord will be sounding like a lion from on high; he will send out his voice from his holy place, like the loud voice of a lion, against his flock; he will give a cry, like those who are crushing the grapes, against all the people of the earth.



<sup>31</sup> A noise will come, even to the end of the earth; for the Lord has a cause against the nations, he will give his decision against all flesh; as for the evil-doers, he will give them to the sword, says the Lord.

<sup>32</sup> This is what the Lord of armies has said: See, evil is going out from nation to nation, and a great storm will come up from the inmost parts of the earth.

<sup>33</sup> And at that day, the bodies of those whom the Lord has put to death will be seen from one end of the earth even to the other end of the earth: there will be no weeping for them, their bodies will not be taken up or put to rest in the earth; they will be like waste on the face of the land.

<sup>34</sup> Give cries of grief, you keepers of sheep; give cries for help, rolling yourselves in the dust, you chiefs of the flock: for the days of your destruction have fully come, and I will send you in all directions, and your fall will be like that of the males of the flock.

<sup>35</sup> There will be no way of flight for the keepers of sheep, no road for the chiefs of the flock to get away safely.

<sup>36</sup>A sound of the cry of the keepers of sheep, and the bitter crying of the chiefs of the flock! for the Lord has made waste their green fields.

<sup>37</sup>And there is no sound in the fields of peace, because of the burning wrath of the Lord.

<sup>38</sup>The lion has come out of his secret place, for the land has become a waste because of the cruel sword, and because of the heat of his wrath.

**26** <sup>1</sup>When Jehoiakim, the son of Josiah, king of Judah, first became king, this word came from the Lord, saying,

<sup>2</sup>This is what the Lord has said: Take your place in the open square of the Lords house and say to all the towns of Judah, who come into the Lords house for worship, everything I give you orders to say to them: keep back not a word;

<sup>3</sup>It may be that they will give ear, and that every man will be turned from his evil way, so that my purpose of sending evil on them because of the evil of their doings may be changed.

<sup>4</sup>And you are to say to them, This is what the Lord has said: If you do not

give ear to me and go in the way of my law which I have put before you,

<sup>5</sup>And give ear to the words of my servants the prophets whom I send to you, getting up early and sending them, though you gave no attention;

<sup>6</sup>Then I will make this house like Shiloh, and will make this town a curse to all the nations of the earth.

<sup>7</sup>And in the hearing of the priests and the prophets and all the people, Jeremiah said these words in the house of the Lord.

<sup>8</sup>Now, when Jeremiah had come to the end of saying everything the Lord had given him orders to say to all the people, the priests and the prophets and all the people took him by force, saying, Death will certainly be your fate.

<sup>9</sup>Why have you said in the name of the Lord, This house will be like Shiloh, and this land a waste with no one living in it? And all the people had come together to Jeremiah in the house of the Lord.

<sup>10</sup>And the rulers of Judah, hearing of these things, came up from the king's house to the house of the Lord, and took

their seats by the new door of the Lords house.

<sup>11</sup> Then the priests and the prophets said to the rulers and to all the people, The right fate for this man is death; for he has said words against this town in your hearing.

<sup>12</sup> Then Jeremiah said to all the rulers and to all the people, The Lord has sent me as his prophet to say against this house and against this town all the words which have come to your ears.

<sup>13</sup> So now, make a change for the better in your ways and your doings, and give ear to the voice of the Lord your God; then the Lord will let himself be turned from the decision he has made against you for evil.

<sup>14</sup> As for me, here I am in your hands: do with me whatever seems good and right in your opinion.

<sup>15</sup> Only be certain that, if you put me to death, you will make yourselves and your town and its people responsible for the blood of one who has done no wrong: for truly, the Lord has sent me to you to say all these words in your ears.

<sup>16</sup>Then the rulers and all the people said to the priests and the prophets, It is not right for this man to be put to death: for he has said words to us in the name of the Lord our God.

<sup>17</sup>Then some of the responsible men of the land got up and said to all the meeting of the people,

<sup>18</sup>Micah the Morashtite, who was a prophet in the days of Hezekiah, king of Judah, said to all the people of Judah, This is what the Lord of armies has said: Zion will become like a ploughed field, and Jerusalem will become a mass of broken walls, and the mountain of the house like the high places of the woodland.

<sup>19</sup>Did Hezekiah and all Judah put him to death? did he not in the fear of the Lord make prayer for the grace of the Lord, and the Lord let himself be turned from the decision he had made against them for evil? By this act we might do great evil against ourselves.

<sup>20</sup>And there was another man who was a prophet of the Lord, Uriah, the son of Shemaiah of Kiriath-jearim; he said

against this town and against this land  
all the words which Jeremiah had said:

<sup>21</sup> And when his words came to the ears of Jehoiakim the king and all his men of war and his captains, the king would have put him to death; but Uriah, hearing of it, was full of fear and went in flight into Egypt:

<sup>22</sup> And Jehoiakim the king sent Elnathan, the son of Achbor, and certain men with him, into Egypt.

<sup>23</sup> And they took Uriah out of Egypt and came back with him to Jehoiakim the king; who put him to death with the sword, and had his dead body put into the resting-place of the bodies of the common people.

<sup>24</sup> But Ahikam, the son of Shaphan, gave Jeremiah his help, so that he was not given into the hands of the people to be put to death.

**27** <sup>1</sup> When Zedekiah, the son of Josiah, king of Judah, first became king this word came to Jeremiah from the Lord, saying,

<sup>2</sup> This is what the Lord has said to me: Make for yourself bands and yokes and put them on your neck;

<sup>3</sup>And send them to the king of Edom, and to the king of Moab, and to the king of the children of Ammon, and to the king of Tyre, and to the king of Zidon, by their servants who come to Jerusalem, to Zedekiah, king of Judah;

<sup>4</sup>And give them orders to say to their masters, This is what the Lord of armies, the God of Israel, has said: Say to your masters,

<sup>5</sup>I have made the earth, and man and beast on the face of the earth, by my great power and by my outstretched arm; and I will give it to anyone at my pleasure.

<sup>6</sup>And now I have given all these lands into the hands of Nebuchadnezzar, the king of Babylon, my servant; and I have given the beasts of the field to him for his use.

<sup>7</sup>And all the nations will be servants to him and to his son and to his sons son, till the time comes for his land to be overcome: and then a number of nations and great kings will take it for their use.

<sup>8</sup>And it will come about, that if any nation does not become a servant to this same Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon,

and does not put its neck under the yoke of the king of Babylon, then I will send punishment on that nation, says the Lord, by the sword and need of food and by disease, till I have given them into his hands.

<sup>9</sup>And you are not to give attention to your prophets or your readers of signs or your dreamers or those who see into the future or those who make use of secret arts, who say to you, You will not become servants of the king of Babylon:

<sup>10</sup>For they say false words to you, so that you may be sent away far from your land, and so that you may be forced out by me and come to destruction.

<sup>11</sup>But as for that nation which puts its neck under the yoke of the king of Babylon and becomes his servant, I will let that nation keep on in its land, farming it and living in it, says the Lord.

<sup>12</sup>And I said all this to Zedekiah, king of Judah, saying, Put your necks under the yoke of the king of Babylon and become his servants and his people, so that you may keep your lives.

<sup>13</sup>Why are you desiring death, you and your people, by the sword, and because



food is gone, and by disease, as the Lord has said of the nation which does not become the servant of the king of Babylon?

<sup>14</sup>And you are not to give ear to the prophets who say to you, You will not become servants of the king of Babylon: for what they say is not true.

<sup>15</sup>For I have not sent them, says the Lord, but they are saying what is false in my name, so that I might send you out by force, causing destruction to come on you and on your prophets.

<sup>16</sup>And I said to the priests and to all the people, This is what the Lord has said: Give no attention to the words of your prophets who say to you, See, in a very little time now the vessels of the Lords house will come back again from Babylon: for what they say to you is false.

<sup>17</sup>Give no attention to them; become servants of the king of Babylon and keep yourselves from death: why let this town become a waste?

<sup>18</sup>But if they are prophets, and if the word of the Lord is with them, let them now make request to the Lord of armies

that the vessels which are still in the house of the Lord and in the house of the king of Judah and at Jerusalem, may not go to Babylon.

<sup>19</sup>For this is what the Lord has said about the rest of the vessels which are still in this town,

<sup>20</sup>Which Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon, did not take away, when he took Jeconiah, the son of Jehoiakim, king of Judah, a prisoner from Jerusalem to Babylon, with all the great men of Judah and Jerusalem;

<sup>21</sup>For this is what the Lord of armies, the God of Israel, has said about the rest of the vessels in the house of the Lord and in the house of the king of Judah and at Jerusalem:

<sup>22</sup>They will be taken away to Babylon, and there they will be till the day when I send their punishment on them, says the Lord. Then I will take them up and put them back in their place.

**28**<sup>1</sup>And it came about in that year, when Zedekiah first became king of Judah, in the fourth year, in the fifth month, that Hananiah, the son of Azzur the prophet, who came from Gibeon,

said to Jeremiah in the house of the Lord,  
before the priests and all the people,

<sup>2</sup>These are the words of the Lord of  
armies, the God of Israel: By me the  
yoke of the king of Babylon has been  
broken.

<sup>3</sup>In the space of two years I will send  
back into this place all the vessels of the  
Lords house which Nebuchadnezzar, king  
of Babylon, took away from this place to  
Babylon:

<sup>4</sup>And I will let Jeconiah, the son of  
Jehoiakim, king of Judah, come back to  
this place, with all the prisoners of Judah  
who went to Babylon, says the Lord:  
for I will have the yoke of the king of  
Babylon broken.

<sup>5</sup>Then the prophet Jeremiah said to the  
prophet Hananiah, before the priests  
and all the people who had come into  
the house of the Lord,

<sup>6</sup>The prophet Jeremiah said, So be it:  
may the Lord do so: may the Lord give  
effect to the words which you have said,  
and let the vessels of the Lords house,  
and all the people who have been taken  
away, come back from Babylon to this  
place.

<sup>7</sup> But still, give ear to this word which I am saying to you and to all the people:

<sup>8</sup> The prophets, who were before me and before you, from early times gave word to a number of countries and great kingdoms about war and destruction and disease.

<sup>9</sup> The prophet whose words are of peace, when his words come true, will be seen to be a prophet whom the Lord has sent.

<sup>10</sup> Then Hananiah the prophet took the yoke from the neck of the prophet Jeremiah and it was broken by his hands.

<sup>11</sup> And before all the people Hananiah said, The Lord has said, Even so will I let the yoke of the king of Babylon be broken off the necks of all the nations in the space of two years. Then the prophet Jeremiah went away.

<sup>12</sup> Then after the yoke had been broken off the neck of the prophet Jeremiah by Hananiah the prophet, the word of the Lord came to Jeremiah, saying,

<sup>13</sup> Go and say to Hananiah, This is what the Lord has said: Yokes of wood have been broken by you, but in their place I will make yokes of iron.

<sup>14</sup>For the Lord of armies, the God of Israel, has said: I have put a yoke of iron on the necks of all these nations, making them servants to Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon; and they are to be his servants: and in addition I have given him the beasts of the field.

<sup>15</sup>Then the prophet Jeremiah said to Hananiah the prophet, Give ear, now, Hananiah; the Lord has not sent you; but you are making this people put their faith in what is false.

<sup>16</sup>For this reason the Lord has said, See, I will send you away from off the face of the earth: this year death will overtake you, because you have said words against the Lord.

<sup>17</sup>So death came to Hananiah the prophet the same year, in the seventh month.

**29**<sup>1</sup>Now these are the words of the letter which Jeremiah the prophet sent from Jerusalem to the responsible men among those who had been taken away, and to the priests and the prophets and to all the rest of the people whom Nebuchadnezzar had

taken away prisoners from Jerusalem to Babylon;

<sup>2</sup>(After Jeconiah the king and the queen-mother and the unsexed servants and the rulers of Judah and Jerusalem and the expert workmen and the metal-workers had gone away from Jerusalem;)

<sup>3</sup>By the hand of Elasah, the son of Shaphan, and Gemariah, the son of Hilkiah, (whom Zedekiah, king of Judah, sent to Babylon, to Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon,) saying,

<sup>4</sup>This is what the Lord of armies, the God of Israel, has said to all those whom I have taken away prisoners from Jerusalem to Babylon:

<sup>5</sup>Go on building houses and living in them, and planting gardens and using the fruit of them;

<sup>6</sup>Take wives and have sons and daughters, and take wives for your sons, and give your daughters to husbands, so that they may have sons and daughters; and be increased in number there and do not become less.

<sup>7</sup>And be working for the peace of the land to which I have had you taken

away prisoners, and make prayer to the Lord for it: for in its peace you will have peace.

<sup>8</sup>For this is what the Lord of armies, the God of Israel, has said: Do not let yourselves be tricked by the prophets who are among you, and the readers of signs, and give no attention to their dreams which they may have;

<sup>9</sup>For they are saying to you what is false in my name: I have not sent them, says the Lord.

<sup>10</sup>For this is what the Lord has said: When seventy years are ended for Babylon, I will have pity on you and give effect to my good purpose for you, causing you to come back to this place.

<sup>11</sup>For I am conscious of my thoughts about you, says the Lord, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you hope at the end.

<sup>12</sup>And you will go on crying to me and making prayer to me, and I will give ear to you.

<sup>13</sup>And you will be searching for me and I will be there, when you have gone after me with all your heart.

<sup>14</sup>I will be near you again, says the Lord, and your fate will be changed, and I will get you together from all the nations and from all the places where I had sent you away, says the Lord; and I will take you back again to the place from which I sent you away prisoners.

<sup>15</sup>For you have said, The Lord has given us prophets in Babylon.

<sup>16</sup>For this is what the Lord has said about the king who is seated on the seat of Davids kingdom, and about all the people living in this town, your countrymen who have not gone out with you as prisoners;

<sup>17</sup>This is what the Lord of armies has said: See, I will send on them the sword and need of food and disease, and will make them like bad figs, which are of no use for food, they are so bad.

<sup>18</sup>I will go after them, attacking them with the sword and with need of food and with disease, and will make them a cause of fear to all the kingdoms of the earth, to be a curse and a wonder and a surprise and a name of shame among all the nations where I have sent them:



<sup>19</sup>Because they have not given ear to my words, says the Lord, when I sent to them my servants the prophets, getting up early and sending them; but you did not give ear, says the Lord.

<sup>20</sup>And now, give ear to the word of the Lord, all you whom I have sent away prisoners from Jerusalem to Babylon.

<sup>21</sup>This is what the Lord of armies, the God of Israel, has said about Ahab, the son of Kolaiah, and about Zedekiah, the son of Maaseiah, who are saying to you what is false in my name: See, I will give them up into the hands of Nebuchadrezzar, king of Babylon, and he will put them to death before your eyes.

<sup>22</sup>And their fate will be used as a curse by all the prisoners of Judah who are in Babylon, who will say, May the Lord make you like Zedekiah and like Ahab, who were burned in the fire by the king of Babylon;

<sup>23</sup>Because they have done shame in Israel, and have taken their neighbours wives, and in my name have said false words, which I did not give them orders to say; and I myself am the witness, says the Lord.

<sup>24</sup> About Shemaiah the Nehelamite.

<sup>25</sup> Shemaiah the Nehelamite sent a letter in his name to Zephaniah, the son of Maaseiah the priest, saying,

<sup>26</sup> The Lord has made you priest in place of Jehoiada the priest, to be an overseer in the house of the Lord for every man who is off his head and is acting as a prophet, to put such men in prison and in chains.

<sup>27</sup> So why have you made no protest against Jeremiah of Anathoth, who is acting as a prophet to you?

<sup>28</sup> For he has sent to us in Babylon saying, The time will be long: go on building houses and living in them, and planting gardens and using the fruit of them.

<sup>29</sup> And Zephaniah the priest made clear to Jeremiah the prophet what was said in the letter, reading it to him.

<sup>30</sup> Then the word of the Lord came to Jeremiah the prophet, saying,

<sup>31</sup> Send to all those who have been taken away, saying, This is what the Lord has said about Shemaiah the Nehelamite: Because Shemaiah has been acting as a prophet to you, and I

did not send him, and has made you put your faith in what is false;

<sup>32</sup>For this cause the Lord has said, Truly I will send punishment on Shemaiah and on his seed; not a man of his family will have a place among this people, and he will not see the good which I am going to do to my people, says the Lord: because he has said words against the Lord.

**30**<sup>1</sup>The word which came to Jeremiah from the Lord, saying,

<sup>2</sup>The Lord, the God of Israel, has said, Put down in a book all the words which I have said to you.

<sup>3</sup>For see, the days are coming, says the Lord, when I will let the fate of my people Israel and Judah be changed, says the Lord: and I will make them come back to the land which I gave to their fathers, so that they may take it for their heritage.

<sup>4</sup>And these are the words which the Lord said about Israel and about Judah.

<sup>5</sup>This is what the Lord has said: A voice of shaking fear has come to our ears, of fear and not of peace.

<sup>6</sup>Put the question and see if it is possible for a man to have birth-pains:

why do I see every man with his hands gripping his sides, as a woman does when the pains of birth are on her, and all faces are turned green?

<sup>7</sup>Ha! for that day is so great that there is no day like it: it is the time of Jacobs trouble: but he will get salvation from it.

<sup>8</sup>For it will come about on that day, says the Lord of armies, that his yoke will be broken off his neck, and his bands will be burst; and men of strange lands will no longer make use of him as their servant:

<sup>9</sup>But they will be servants to the Lord their God and to David their king, whom I will give back to them.

<sup>10</sup>So have no fear, O Jacob, my servant, says the Lord; and do not be troubled, O Israel: for see, I will make you come back from far away, and your seed from the land where they are prisoners; and Jacob will come back, and will be quiet and at peace, and no one will give him cause for fear.

<sup>11</sup>For I am with you, says the Lord, to be your saviour: for I will put an end to all the nations where I have sent you wandering, but I will not put an end

to you completely: though with wise purpose I will put right your errors, and will not let you go quite without punishment.

<sup>12</sup>For the Lord has said, Your disease may not be made well and your wound is bitter.

<sup>13</sup>There is no help for your wound, there is nothing to make you well.

<sup>14</sup>Your lovers have no more thought for you, they go after you no longer; for I have given you the wound of a hater, even cruel punishment;

<sup>15</sup>Why are you crying for help because of your wound? for your pain may never be taken away: because your evil-doing was so great and because your sins were increased, I have done these things to you.

<sup>16</sup>For this cause, all those who take you for their food will themselves become your food; and all your attackers, every one of them, will be taken prisoners; and those who send destruction on you will come to destruction; and all those who take away your goods by force will undergo the same themselves.

<sup>17</sup>For I will make you healthy again and I will make you well from your wounds, says the Lord; because they have given you the name of an outlaw, saying, It is Zion cared for by no man.

<sup>18</sup>The Lord has said, See, I am changing the fate of the tents of Jacob, and I will have pity on his houses; the town will be put up on its hill, and the great houses will be living-places again.

<sup>19</sup>And from them will go out praise and the sound of laughing: and I will make them great in number, and they will not become less; and I will give them glory, and they will not be small.

<sup>20</sup>And their children will be as they were in the old days, and the meeting of the people will have its place before me, and I will send punishment on all who are cruel to them.

<sup>21</sup>And their chief will be of their number; their ruler will come from among themselves; and I will let him be present before me, so that he may come near to me: for who may have strength of heart to come near me? says the Lord.

<sup>22</sup>And you will be my people, and I will be your God.

<sup>23</sup> See, the storm-wind of the Lord, even the heat of his wrath, has gone out, a rolling storm, bursting on the heads of the evil-doers.

<sup>24</sup> The wrath of the Lord will not be turned back till he has done, till he has put into effect, the purposes of his heart: in days to come you will have full knowledge of this.

**31** <sup>1</sup> At that time, says the Lord, I will be the God of all the families of Israel, and they will be my people.

<sup>2</sup> The Lord has said, Grace came in the waste land to a people kept safe from the sword, even to Israel on the way to his resting-place.

<sup>3</sup> From far away he saw the Lord: my love for you is an eternal love: so with mercy I have made you come with me.

<sup>4</sup> I will again make new your buildings, O virgin of Israel, and you will take up your place: again you will take up your instruments of music, and go out in the dances of those who are glad.

<sup>5</sup> Again will your vine-gardens be planted on the hill of Samaria: the planters will be planting and using the fruit.

<sup>6</sup>For there will be a day when those who get in the grapes on the hills of Ephraim will be crying, Up! let us go up to Zion to the Lord our God.

<sup>7</sup>For the Lord has said, Make a glad song for Jacob and give a cry on the top of the mountains: give the news, give praise, and say, The Lord has given salvation to his people, even to the rest of Israel.

<sup>8</sup>See, I will take them from the north country, and get them from the inmost parts of the earth, and with them the blind and the feeble-footed, the woman with child and her who is in birth-pains together: a very great army, they will come back here.

<sup>9</sup>They will come with weeping, and going before them I will be their guide: guiding them by streams of water in a straight way where there is no falling: for I am a father to Israel, and Ephraim is the first of my sons.

<sup>10</sup>Give ear to the word of the Lord, O you nations, and give news of it in the sea-lands far away, and say, He who has sent Israel wandering will get him



together and will keep him as a keeper does his flock.

<sup>11</sup>For the Lord has given a price for Jacob, and made him free from the hands of him who was stronger than he.

<sup>12</sup>So they will come with songs on the high places, flowing together to the good things of the Lord, to the grain and the wine and the oil, to the young ones of the flock and of the herd: their souls will be like a watered garden, and they will have no more sorrow.

<sup>13</sup>Then the virgin will have joy in the dance, and the young men and the old will be glad: for I will have their weeping turned into joy, I will give them comfort and make them glad after their sorrow.

<sup>14</sup>I will give the priests their desired fat things, and my people will have a full measure of my good things, says the Lord.

<sup>15</sup>So has the Lord said: In Ramah there is a sound of crying, weeping and bitter sorrow; Rachel weeping for her children; she will not be comforted for their loss.

<sup>16</sup>The Lord has said this: Keep your voice from sorrow and your eyes from weeping: for your work will be rewarded,

says the Lord; and they will come back from the land of their hater.

<sup>17</sup>And there is hope for the future, says the Lord; and your children will come back to the land which is theirs.

<sup>18</sup>Certainly Ephraim's words of grief have come to my ears, You have given me training and I have undergone it like a young cow unused to the yoke: let me be turned and come back, for you are the Lord my God.

<sup>19</sup>Truly, after I had been turned, I had regret for my ways; and after I had got knowledge, I made signs of sorrow: I was put to shame, truly, I was covered with shame, because I had to undergo the shame of my early years.

<sup>20</sup>Is Ephraim my dear son? is he the child of my delight? for whenever I say things against him, I still keep him in my memory: so my heart is troubled for him; I will certainly have mercy on him, says the Lord.

<sup>21</sup>Put up guiding pillars, make road signs for yourself: give attention to the highway, even the way in which you went: be turned again, O virgin of Israel, be turned to these your towns.

<sup>22</sup>How long will you go on turning this way and that, O wandering daughter? for the Lord has made a new thing on the earth, a woman changed into a man.

<sup>23</sup>So the Lord of armies, the God of Israel, has said, Again will these words be used in the land of Judah and in its towns, when I have let their fate be changed: May the blessing of the Lord be on you, O resting-place of righteousness, O holy mountain.

<sup>24</sup>And Judah and all its towns will be living there together; the farmers and those who go about with flocks.

<sup>25</sup>For I have given new strength to the tired soul and to every sorrowing soul in full measure.

<sup>26</sup>At this, awaking from my sleep, I saw; and my sleep was sweet to me.

<sup>27</sup>See, the days are coming, says the Lord, when I will have Israel and Judah planted with the seed of man and with the seed of beast.

<sup>28</sup>And it will come about that, as I have been watching over them for the purpose of uprooting and smashing down and overturning and sending destruction and causing trouble; so I will be watching

over them for the purpose of building up and planting, says the Lord.

<sup>29</sup>In those days they will no longer say, The fathers have been tasting bitter grapes and the childrens teeth are put on edge.

<sup>30</sup>But everyone will be put to death for the evil which he himself has done: whoever has taken bitter grapes will himself have his teeth put on edge.

<sup>31</sup>See, the days are coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new agreement with the people of Israel and with the people of Judah:

<sup>32</sup>Not like the agreement which I made with their fathers, on the day when I took them by the hand to be their guide out of the land of Egypt; which agreement was broken by them, and I gave them up, says the Lord.

<sup>33</sup>But this is the agreement which I will make with the people of Israel after those days, says the Lord; I will put my law in their inner parts, writing it in their hearts; and I will be their God, and they will be my people.

<sup>34</sup>And no longer will they be teaching every man his neighbour and every man

his brother, saying, Get knowledge of the Lord: for they will all have knowledge of me, from the least of them to the greatest of them, says the Lord: for they will have my forgiveness for their evil-doing, and their sin will go from my memory for ever.

<sup>35</sup> These are the words of the Lord, who has given the sun for a light by day, ordering the moon and stars for a light by night, who puts the sea in motion, causing the thunder of its waves; the Lord of armies is his name.

<sup>36</sup> If the order of these things before me is ever broken, says the Lord, then will the seed of Israel come to an end as a nation before me for ever.

<sup>37</sup> This is what the Lord has said: If the heavens on high may be measured, and the bases of the earth searched out, then I will give up the seed of Israel, because of all they have done, says the Lord.

<sup>38</sup> See, the days are coming, says the Lord, for the building of the Lords town, from the tower of Hananel to the doorway of the angle.

<sup>39</sup>And the measuring-line will go out in front of it as far as the hill Gareb, going round to Goah.

<sup>40</sup>And all the valley of the dead bodies, and all the field of death as far as the stream Kidron, up to the angle of the horses doorway to the east, will be holy to the Lord; it will not again be uprooted or overturned for ever.

**32**<sup>1</sup>The word which came to Jeremiah from the Lord in the tenth year of Zedekiah, king of Judah, which was the eighteenth year of Nebuchadrezzar.

<sup>2</sup>Now at that time the king of Babylons army was round Jerusalem, shutting it in: and Jeremiah the prophet was shut up in the place of the armed watchmen, in the house of the king of Judah.

<sup>3</sup>For Zedekiah, king of Judah, had had him shut up, saying, Why have you, as a prophet, been saying, The Lord has said, See, I will give this town into the hands of the king of Babylon, and he will take it;

<sup>4</sup>And Zedekiah, king of Judah, will not get away from the hands of the Chaldeans, but will certainly be given

up into the hands of the king of Babylon, and will have talk with him, mouth to mouth, and see him, eye to eye.

<sup>5</sup>And he will take Zedekiah away to Babylon, where he will be till I have pity on him, says the Lord: though you are fighting with the Chaldeans, things will not go well for you?

<sup>6</sup>And Jeremiah said, The word of the Lord came to me, saying,

<sup>7</sup>See, Hanamel, the son of Shallum, your fathers brother, will come to you and say, Give the price and get for yourself my property in Anathoth: for you have the right of the nearest relation.

<sup>8</sup>So Hanamel, the son of my fathers brother, came to me, as the Lord had said, to the place of the armed watchmen, and said to me, Give the price and get my property which is in Anathoth in the land of Benjamin: for you have the nearest relations right to the heritage; so get it for yourself. Then it was clear to me that this was the word of the Lord.

<sup>9</sup>So I got for a price the property in Anathoth from Hanamel, the son of

my fathers brother, and gave him the money, seventeen shekels of silver;

<sup>10</sup>And I put it in writing, stamping it with my stamp, and I took witnesses and put the money into the scales.

<sup>11</sup>So I took the paper witnessing the business, one copy rolled up and stamped, and one copy open:

<sup>12</sup>And I gave the paper to Baruch, the son of Neriah, the son of Mahseiah, before the eyes of Hanamel, the son of my fathers brother, and of the witnesses who had put their names to the paper, and before all the Jews who were seated in the place of the armed watchmen.

<sup>13</sup>And I gave orders to Baruch in front of them, saying,

<sup>14</sup>This is what the Lord of armies, the God of Israel, has said: Take these papers, the witness of this business, the one which is rolled up and stamped, and the one which is open; and put them in a vessel of earth so that they may be kept for a long time.

<sup>15</sup>For the Lord of armies, the God of Israel, has said, There will again be trading in houses and fields and vine-gardens in this land.



<sup>16</sup>Now after I had given the paper to Baruch, the son of Neriah, I made my prayer to the Lord, saying,

<sup>17</sup>Ah Lord God! see, you have made the heaven and the earth by your great power and by your outstretched arm, and there is nothing you are not able to do:

<sup>18</sup>You have mercy on thousands, and send punishment for the evil-doing of the fathers on their children after them: the great, the strong God, the Lord of armies is his name:

<sup>19</sup>Great in wisdom and strong in act: whose eyes are open on all the ways of the sons of men, giving to everyone the reward of his ways and the fruit of his doings:

<sup>20</sup>You have done signs and wonders in the land of Egypt, and even to this day, in Israel and among other men; and have made a name for yourself as at this day;

<sup>21</sup>And have taken your people Israel out of the land of Egypt with signs and with wonders and with a strong hand and an outstretched arm, causing great fear;

<sup>22</sup>And have given them this land, which you gave your word to their fathers to give them, a land flowing with milk and honey;

<sup>23</sup>And they came in and took it for their heritage, but they did not give ear to your voice, and were not ruled by your law; they have done nothing of all you gave them orders to do: so you have made all this evil come on them:

<sup>24</sup>See, they have made earthworks against the town to take it; and the town is given into the hands of the Chaldeans who are fighting against it, because of the sword and need of food and disease: and what you have said has taken place, and truly you see it.

<sup>25</sup>And you have said to me, Give the money to get yourself a property, and have the business witnessed; though the town is given into the hands of the Chaldeans.

<sup>26</sup>And the word of the Lord came to Jeremiah, saying,

<sup>27</sup>See, I am the Lord, the God of all flesh: is there anything so hard that I am unable to do it?

<sup>28</sup> So this is what the Lord has said: See, I am giving this town into the hands of the Chaldeans and into the hands of Nebuchadrezzar, the king of Babylon, and he will take it:

<sup>29</sup> And the Chaldeans, who are fighting against this town, will come and put the town on fire, burning it together with the houses, on the roofs of which perfumes have been burned to the Baal, and drink offerings have been drained out to other gods, moving me to wrath.

<sup>30</sup> For the children of Israel and the children of Judah have done nothing but evil in my eyes from their earliest years: the children of Israel have only made me angry with the work of their hands, says the Lord.

<sup>31</sup> For this town has been to me a cause of wrath and of burning passion from the day of its building till this day, so that I put it away from before my face:

<sup>32</sup> Because of all the evil of the children of Israel and of the children of Judah, which they have done to make me angry, they and their kings, their princes, their priests, and their prophets, and the men of Judah and the people of Jerusalem.

<sup>33</sup> And they have been turning their backs and not their faces to me: and though I was their teacher, getting up early and teaching them, their ears were not open to teaching.

<sup>34</sup> But they put their disgusting images into the house which is named by my name, making it unclean.

<sup>35</sup> And they put up the high places of the Baal in the valley of the son of Hinnom, making their sons and their daughters go through the fire to Molech; which I did not give them orders to do, and it never came into my mind that they would do this disgusting thing, causing Judah to be turned out of the way.

<sup>36</sup> And now the Lord, the God of Israel, has said of this town, about which you say, It is given into the hands of the king of Babylon by the sword and by need of food and by disease:

<sup>37</sup> See, I will get them together from all the countries where I have sent them in my wrath and in the heat of my passion and in my bitter feeling; and I will let them come back into this place where they may take their rest safely.

<sup>38</sup> And they will be my people, and I will be their God:

<sup>39</sup> And I will give them one heart and one way, so that they may go on in the worship of me for ever, for their good and the good of their children after them:

<sup>40</sup> And I will make an eternal agreement with them, that I will never give them up, but ever do them good; and I will put the fear of me in their hearts, so that they will not go away from me.

<sup>41</sup> And truly, I will take pleasure in doing them good, and all my heart and soul will be given to planting them in this land in good faith.

<sup>42</sup> For the Lord has said: As I have made all this great evil come on this people, so I will send on them all the good which I said about them.

<sup>43</sup> And there will be trading in fields in this land of which you say, It is a waste, without man or beast; it is given into the hands of the Chaldaeans.

<sup>44</sup> Men will get fields for money, and put the business in writing, stamping the papers and having them witnessed, in the land of Benjamin and in the country

round Jerusalem and in the towns of Judah and in the towns of the hill-country and in the towns of the lowland and in the towns of the South: for I will let their fate be changed, says the Lord.

**33**<sup>1</sup> Then the word of the Lord came to Jeremiah the second time, while he was still shut up in the place of the armed watchmen, saying,

<sup>2</sup> These are the words of the Lord, who is doing it, the Lord who is forming it, to make it certain; the Lord is his name;

<sup>3</sup> Let your cry come to me, and I will give you an answer, and let you see great things and secret things of which you had no knowledge.

<sup>4</sup> For this is what the Lord, the God of Israel, has said about the houses of this town and the houses of the kings of Judah, which have been broken down to make earthworks and;

<sup>5</sup> and to make them full of the dead bodies of men whom I have put to death in my wrath and in my passion, and because of whose evil-doing I have kept my face covered from this town.

<sup>6</sup> See, I will make it healthy and well again, I will even make them well; I will

let them see peace and good faith in full measure.

<sup>7</sup>And I will let the fate of Judah and of Israel be changed, building them up as at first.

<sup>8</sup>And I will make them clean from all their sin, with which they have been sinning against me; I will have forgiveness for all their sins, with which they have been sinning against me, and with which they have done evil against me.

<sup>9</sup>And this town will be to me for a name of joy, for a praise and a glory before all the nations of the earth, who, hearing of all the good which I am doing for them, will be shaking with fear because of all the good and the peace which I am doing for it.

<sup>10</sup>This is what the Lord has said: There will again be sounding in this place, of which you say, It is a waste, without man and without beast; even in the towns of Judah and in the streets of Jerusalem which are waste and unpeopled, without man and without beast,

<sup>11</sup>Happy sounds, the voice of joy, the voice of the newly-married man and

the voice of the bride, the voices of those who say, Give praise to the Lord of armies, for the Lord is good, for his mercy is unchanging for ever: the voices of those who go with praise into the house of the Lord. For I will let the land come back to its first condition, says the Lord.

<sup>12</sup>This is what the Lord of armies has said: Again there will be in this place, which is a waste, without man and without beast, and in all its towns, a resting-place where the keepers of sheep will make their flocks take rest.

<sup>13</sup>In the towns of the hill-country, in the towns of the lowland, and in the towns of the South and in the land of Benjamin and in the country round Jerusalem and in the towns of Judah, the flocks will again go under the hand of him who is numbering them, says the Lord.

<sup>14</sup>See, the days are coming, says the Lord, when I will give effect to the good word which I have said about the people of Israel and the people of Judah.

<sup>15</sup>In those days and at that time, I will let a Branch of righteousness come



up for David; and he will be a judge in righteousness in the land.

<sup>16</sup>In those days, Judah will have salvation and Jerusalem will be safe: and this is the name which will be given to her: The Lord is our righteousness.

<sup>17</sup>For the Lord has said, David will never be without a man to take his place on the seat of the kingdom of Israel;

<sup>18</sup>And the priests and the Levites will never be without a man to come before me, offering burned offerings and perfumes and meal offerings and offerings of beasts at all times.

<sup>19</sup>And the word of the Lord came to Jeremiah, saying,

<sup>20</sup>The Lord has said: If it is possible for my agreement of the day and the night to be broken, so that day and night no longer come at their fixed times,

<sup>21</sup>Then my agreement with my servant David may be broken, so that he no longer has a son to take his place on the seat of the kingdom; and my agreement with the Levites, the priests, my servants.

<sup>22</sup>As it is not possible for the army of heaven to be numbered, or the sand

of the sea measured, so will I make the seed of my servant David, and the Levites my servants.

<sup>23</sup>And the word of the Lord came to Jeremiah, saying,

<sup>24</sup>Have you taken note of what these people have said, The two families, which the Lord took for himself, he has given up? This they say, looking down on my people as being, in their eyes, no longer a nation.

<sup>25</sup>The Lord has said, If I have not made day and night, and if the limits of heaven and earth have not been fixed by me,

<sup>26</sup>Then I will give up caring for the seed of Jacob and of David my servant, so that I will not take of his seed to be rulers over the seed of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob: for I will let their fate be changed and will have mercy on them.

**34**<sup>1</sup>The word which came to Jeremiah from the Lord, when Nebuchadrezzar, king of Babylon, and all his army, and all the kingdoms of the earth which were under his rule, and all the peoples, were fighting against Jerusalem and all its towns, saying,

<sup>2</sup>The Lord, the God of Israel, has said, Go and say to Zedekiah, king of Judah, This is what the Lord has said: See, I will give this town into the hands of the king of Babylon, and he will have it burned with fire:

<sup>3</sup>And you will not get away from him, but will certainly be taken and given up into his hands; and you will see the king of Babylon, eye to eye, and he will have talk with you, mouth to mouth, and you will go to Babylon.

<sup>4</sup>But give ear to the word of the Lord, O Zedekiah, king of Judah; this is what the Lord has said about you: Death will not come to you by the sword:

<sup>5</sup>You will come to your end in peace; and such burnings as they made for your fathers, the earlier kings before you, will be made for you; and they will be weeping for you and saying, Ah lord! for I have said the word, says the Lord.

<sup>6</sup>Then Jeremiah the prophet said all these things to Zedekiah, king of Judah, in Jerusalem,

<sup>7</sup>When the army of the king of Babylon was fighting against Jerusalem and against all the towns of Judah which

had not been taken, against Lachish and against Azekah; for these were the last of the walled towns of Judah.

<sup>8</sup>The word which came to Jeremiah from the Lord, after King Zedekiah had made an agreement with all the people in Jerusalem, to give news in public that servants were to be made free;

<sup>9</sup>That every man was to let his Hebrew man-servant and his Hebrew servant-girl go free; so that no one might make use of a Jew, his countryman, as a servant:

<sup>10</sup>And this was done by all the rulers and the people who had taken part in the agreement, and every one let his man-servant and his servant-girl go free, not to be used as servants any longer; they did so, and let them go.

<sup>11</sup>But later, they took back again the servants and the servant-girls whom they had let go free, and put them again under the yoke as servants and servant-girls.

<sup>12</sup>For this reason the word of the Lord came to Jeremiah from the Lord, saying,

<sup>13</sup>The Lord, the God of Israel, has said, I made an agreement with your fathers

on the day when I took them out of Egypt, out of the prison-house, saying,

<sup>14</sup>At the end of seven years every man is to let go his countryman who is a Hebrew, who has become yours for a price and has been your servant for six years; you are to let him go free: but your fathers gave no attention and did not give ear.

<sup>15</sup>And now, turning away from evil, you had done what is right in my eyes, giving a public undertaking for every man to make his neighbour free; and you had made an agreement before me in the house which is named by my name:

<sup>16</sup>But again you have put shame on my name, and you have taken back, every one his man-servant and his servant-girl, whom you had sent away free, and you have put them under the yoke again to be your servants and servant-girls.

<sup>17</sup>And so the Lord has said, You have not given ear to me and undertaken publicly, every man to let loose his countryman and his neighbour: see, I undertake to let loose against you the sword and disease and need of food; and

I will send you wandering among all the kingdoms of the earth.

<sup>18</sup>And I will give the men who have gone against my agreement and have not given effect to the words of the agreement which they made before me, when the ox was cut in two and they went between the parts of it,

<sup>19</sup>The rulers of Judah and the rulers of Jerusalem, the unsexed servants and the priests and all the people of the land who went between the parts of the ox,

<sup>20</sup>Even these I will give up into the hands of their haters and into the hands of those who have designs against their lives: and their dead bodies will become food for the birds of heaven and the beasts of the earth.

<sup>21</sup>And Zedekiah, king of Judah, and his rulers I will give into the hands of their haters and into the hands of those who have designs against their lives, and into the hands of the king of Babylons army which has gone away from you.

<sup>22</sup>See, I will give orders, says the Lord, and make them come back to this town; and they will make war on it and take it and have it burned with fire: and I

will make the towns of Judah waste and unpeopled.

**35**<sup>1</sup> The word which came to Jeremiah from the Lord, in the days of Jehoiakim, the son of Josiah, king of Judah, saying,

<sup>2</sup> Go into the house of the Rechabites, and have talk with them, and take them into the house of the Lord, into one of the rooms, and give them wine.

<sup>3</sup> Then I took Jaazaniah, the son of Jeremiah, the son of Habazziniah, and his brothers and all his sons and all the Rechabites;

<sup>4</sup> And I took them into the house of the Lord, into the room of the sons of Hanan, the son of Igdaliah, the man of God, which was near the rulers room, which was over the room of Maaseiah, the son of Shallum, the keeper of the door;

<sup>5</sup> And I put before the sons of the Rechabites basins full of wine and cups, and I said to them, Take some wine.

<sup>6</sup> But they said, We will take no wine: for Jonadab, the son of Rechab our father, gave us orders, saying, You are to take no wine, you or your sons, for ever:

<sup>7</sup>And you are to make no houses, or put in seed, or get vine-gardens planted, or have any: but all your days you are to go on living in tents, so that you may have a long life in the land where you are living as in a strange country.

<sup>8</sup>And we have kept the rules of Jonadab, the son of Rechab our father, in everything which he gave us orders to do, drinking no wine all our days, we and our wives and our sons and our daughters;

<sup>9</sup>Building no houses for ourselves, having no vine-gardens or fields or seed:

<sup>10</sup>But we have been living in tents, and have done everything which Jonadab our father gave us orders to do.

<sup>11</sup>But when Nebuchadrezzar, king of Babylon, came up into the land, we said, Come, let us go to Jerusalem, away from the army of the Chaldeans and from the army of the Aramaeans: and so we are living in Jerusalem.

<sup>12</sup>Then the word of the Lord came to Jeremiah, saying,

<sup>13</sup>This is what the Lord of armies, the God of Israel, has said: Go and say to the men of Judah and the people of



Jerusalem, Is there no hope of teaching you to give ear to my words? says the Lord.

<sup>14</sup>The orders which Jonadab, the son of Rechab, gave to his sons to take no wine, are done, and to this day they take no wine, for they do the orders of their father: but I have sent my words to you, getting up early and sending them, and you have not given ear to me.

<sup>15</sup>And I have sent you all my servants the prophets, getting up early and sending them, saying, Come back, now, every man from his evil way, and do better, and go not after other gods to become their servants, and you will go on living in the land which I have given to you and to your fathers: but your ears have not been open, and you have not given attention to me.

<sup>16</sup>Though the sons of Jonadab the son of Rechab have done the orders of their father which he gave them, this people has not given ear to me:

<sup>17</sup>For this reason the Lord, the God of armies, the God of Israel, has said, See, I will send on Judah and on all the people of Jerusalem all the evil which I

said I would do to them: because I sent my words to them, but they did not give ear; crying out to them, but they gave no answer.

<sup>18</sup>But to the Rechabites Jeremiah said, This is what the Lord of armies, the God of Israel, has said: Because you have done the orders of Jonadab your father, and have kept his rules, and done everything as he gave you orders to do it;

<sup>19</sup>For this reason the Lord of armies, the God of Israel, has said, Jonadab, the son of Rechab, will never be without a man to take his place before me.

**36**<sup>1</sup> Now it came about in the fourth year of Jehoiakim, the son of Josiah, king of Judah, that this word came to Jeremiah from the Lord, saying,

<sup>2</sup>Take a book and put down in it all the words I have said to you against Israel and against Judah and against all the nations, from the day when my word came to you in the days of Josiah till this day.

<sup>3</sup>It may be that the people of Judah, hearing of all the evil which it is my purpose to do to them, will be turned,

every man from his evil ways; so that they may have my forgiveness for their evil-doing and their sin.

<sup>4</sup>Then Jeremiah sent for Baruch, the son of Neriah; and Baruch took down from the mouth of Jeremiah all the words of the Lord which he had said to him, writing them in a book.

<sup>5</sup>And Jeremiah gave orders to Baruch, saying, I am shut up, and am not able to go into the house of the Lord:

<sup>6</sup>So you are to go, reading there from the book, which you have taken down from my mouth, the words of the Lord, in the hearing of the people in the Lords house, on a day when they go without food, and in the hearing of all the men of Judah who have come out from their towns.

<sup>7</sup>It may be that their prayer for grace will go up to the Lord, and that every man will be turned from his evil ways: for great is the wrath and the passion made clear by the Lord against this people.

<sup>8</sup>And Baruch, the son of Neriah, did as Jeremiah the prophet gave him orders to

do, reading from the book the words of the Lord in the Lords house.

<sup>9</sup>Now it came about in the fifth year of Jehoiakim, the son of Josiah, king of Judah, in the ninth month, that it was given out publicly that all the people in Jerusalem, and all the people who came from the towns of Judah to Jerusalem, were to keep from food before the Lord.

<sup>10</sup>Then Baruch gave a public reading of the words of Jeremiah from the book, in the house of the Lord, in the room of Gemariah, the son of Shaphan the scribe, in the higher square, as one goes in by the new doorway of the Lords house, in the hearing of all the people.

<sup>11</sup>And Micaiah, the son of Gemariah, the son of Shaphan, after hearing all the words of the Lord from the book,

<sup>12</sup>Went down to the kings house, to the scribes room: and all the rulers were seated there, Elishama the scribe and Delaiah, the son of Shemaiah, and Elnathan, the son of Achbor, and Gemariah, the son of Shaphan, and Zedekiah, the son of Hananiah, and all the rulers.

<sup>13</sup>Then Micaiah gave them an account of all the words which had come to his ears when Baruch was reading the book to the people.

<sup>14</sup>So all the rulers sent Jehudi, the son of Nethaniah, the son of Shelemiah, the son of Cushi, to Baruch, saying, Take in your hand the book from which you have been reading to the people and come. So Baruch, the son of Neriah, took the book in his hand and came down to them.

<sup>15</sup>Then they said to him, Be seated now, and give us a reading from it. So Baruch did so, reading it to them.

<sup>16</sup>Now it came about that, after hearing all the words, they said to one another in fear, We will certainly give the king an account of all these words.

<sup>17</sup>And questioning Baruch, they said, Say now, how did you put all these words down in writing from his mouth?

<sup>18</sup>Then Baruch, answering, said, He said all these things to me by word of mouth, and I put them down with ink in the book.

<sup>19</sup>Then the rulers said to Baruch, Go and put yourself in a safe place, you

and Jeremiah, and let no man have knowledge of where you are.

<sup>20</sup>Then they went into the open square to the king; but the book they put away in the room of Elishama the scribe; and they gave the king an account of all the words.

<sup>21</sup>So the king sent Jehudi to get the book, and he took it from the room of Elishama the scribe. And Jehudi gave a reading of it in the hearing of the king and all the rulers who were by the kings side.

<sup>22</sup>Now the king was seated in the winter house, and a fire was burning in the fireplace in front of him.

<sup>23</sup>And it came about that whenever Jehudi, in his reading, had got through three or four divisions, the king, cutting them with his penknife, put them into the fire, till all the book was burned up in the fire which was burning in the fireplace.

<sup>24</sup>But they had no fear and gave no signs of grief, not the king or any of his servants, after hearing all these words.

<sup>25</sup>And Elnathan and Delaiah and Gemariah had made a strong request to

the king not to let the book be burned, but he would not give ear to them.

<sup>26</sup>And the king gave orders to Jerahmeel, the king's son, and Seraiah, the son of Azriel, and Shelemiah, the son of Abdeel, to take Baruch the scribe and Jeremiah the prophet: but the Lord kept them safe.

<sup>27</sup>Then after the book, in which Baruch had put down the words of Jeremiah, had been burned by the king, the word of the Lord came to Jeremiah, saying,

<sup>28</sup>Take another book and put down in it all the words which were in the first book, which Jehoiakim, king of Judah, put into the fire.

<sup>29</sup>And about Jehoiakim, king of Judah, you are to say, This is what the Lord has said: You have put this book into the fire, saying, Why have you put in it that the king of Babylon will certainly come, causing the destruction of this land and putting an end to every man and beast in it?

<sup>30</sup>For this reason the Lord has said of Jehoiakim, king of Judah, He will have no son to take his place on the seat of David: his dead body will be put out to

undergo the heat of the day and the cold of the night.

<sup>31</sup> And I will send punishment on him and on his seed and on his servants for their evil-doing; I will send on them and on the people of Jerusalem and the men of Judah, all the evil which I said against them, but they did not give ear.

<sup>32</sup> Then Jeremiah took another book, and gave it to Baruch the scribe, the son of Neriah, who put down in it, from the mouth of Jeremiah, all the words of the book which had been burned in the fire by Jehoiakim, king of Judah: and in addition a number of other words of the same sort.

**37** <sup>1</sup> And Zedekiah, the son of Josiah, became king in place of Coniah, the son of Jehoiakim, whom Nebuchadrezzar, king of Babylon, made king in the land of Judah.

<sup>2</sup> But he and his servants and the people of the land did not give ear to the words of the Lord which he said by Jeremiah the prophet.

<sup>3</sup> And Zedekiah the king sent Jehucal, the son of Shelemiah, and Zephaniah, the son of Maaseiah the priest, to the



prophet Jeremiah, saying, Make prayer now to the Lord our God for us.

<sup>4</sup>(Now Jeremiah was going about among the people, for they had not put him in prison.

<sup>5</sup>And Pharaohs army had come out from Egypt: and the Chaldaeans, who were attacking Jerusalem, hearing news of them, went away from Jerusalem.)

<sup>6</sup>Then the word of the Lord came to the prophet Jeremiah, saying,

<sup>7</sup>The Lord, the God of Israel, has said: This is what you are to say to the king of Judah who sent you to get directions from me: See, Pharaohs army, which has come out to your help, will go back to Egypt, to their land.

<sup>8</sup>And the Chaldaeans will come back again and make war against this town and they will take it and put it on fire.

<sup>9</sup>The Lord has said, Have no false hopes, saying to yourselves, The Chaldaeans will go away from us: for they will not go away.

<sup>10</sup>For even if you had overcome all the army of the Chaldaeans fighting against you, and there were only wounded men among them, still they would get up,

every man in his tent, and put this town on fire.

<sup>11</sup> And it came about that when the Chaldaean army outside Jerusalem had gone away for fear of Pharaoh's army,

<sup>12</sup> Jeremiah went out of Jerusalem to go into the land of Benjamin, with the purpose of taking up his heritage there among the people.

<sup>13</sup> But when he was at the Benjamin door, a captain of the watch named Irijah, the son of Shelemiah, the son of Hananiah, who was stationed there, put his hand on Jeremiah the prophet, saying, You are going to give yourself up to the Chaldeans.

<sup>14</sup> Then Jeremiah said, That is not true; I am not going to the Chaldeans. But he would not give ear to him: so Irijah made him prisoner and took him to the rulers.

<sup>15</sup> And the rulers were angry with Jeremiah, and gave him blows and put him in prison in the house of Jonathan the scribe: for they had made that the prison.

<sup>16</sup>So Jeremiah came into the hole of the prison, under the arches, and was there for a long time.

<sup>17</sup>Then King Zedekiah sent and got him out: and the king, questioning him secretly in his house, said, Is there any word from the Lord? And Jeremiah said, There is. Then he said, You will be given up into the hands of the king of Babylon.

<sup>18</sup>Then Jeremiah said to King Zedekiah, What has been my sin against you or against your servants or against this people, that you have put me in prison?

<sup>19</sup>Where now are your prophets who said to you, The king of Babylon will not come against you and against this land?

<sup>20</sup>And now be pleased to give ear, O my lord the king; let my prayer for help come before you, and do not make me go back to the house of Jonathan the scribe, for fear that I may come to my death there.

<sup>21</sup>Then by the order of Zedekiah the king, Jeremiah was put into the place of the armed watchmen, and they gave him every day a cake of bread from the street of the bread-makers, till all the bread in the town was used up. So

Jeremiah was kept in the place of the armed watchmen.

**38**<sup>1</sup> Now it came to the ears of Shephatiah, the son of Mattan, and Gedaliah, the son of Pashhur, and Jucal, the son of Shelemiah, and Pashhur, the son of Malchiah, that Jeremiah had said to all the people,

<sup>2</sup> These are the words of the Lord: Whoever goes on living in this town will come to his death by the sword or through need of food or by disease: but whoever goes out to the Chaldeans will keep his life out of the power of the attackers and be safe.

<sup>3</sup> The Lord has said, This town will certainly be given into the hands of the army of the king of Babylon, and he will take it.

<sup>4</sup> Then the rulers said to the king, Let this man be put to death, because he is putting fear into the hearts of the men of war who are still in the town, and into the hearts of the people, by saying such things to them: this man is not working for the well-being of the people, but for their damage.

<sup>5</sup>Then Zedekiah the king said, See, he is in your hands: for the king was not able to do anything against them.

<sup>6</sup>So they took Jeremiah and put him into the water-hole of Malchiah, the kings son, in the place of the armed watchmen: and they let Jeremiah down with cords. And in the hole there was no water, but wet earth: and Jeremiah went down into the wet earth.

<sup>7</sup>Now it came to the ears of Ebed-melech the Ethiopian, an unsexed servant in the kings house, that they had put Jeremiah into the water-hole; the king at that time being seated in the doorway of Benjamin:

<sup>8</sup>And Ebed-melech went out from the kings house and said to the king,

<sup>9</sup>My lord the king, these men have done evil in all they have done to Jeremiah the prophet, whom they have put into the water-hole; and he will come to his death in the place where he is through need of food: for there is no more bread in the town.

<sup>10</sup>Then the king gave orders to Ebed-melech the Ethiopian, saying, Take with you three men from here and get

Jeremiah out of the water-hole before death overtakes him.

<sup>11</sup> So Ebed-melech took the men with him and went into the house of the king, to the place where the clothing was kept, and got from there old clothing and bits of old cloth, and let them down by cords into the water-hole where Jeremiah was.

<sup>12</sup> And Ebed-melech the Ethiopian said to Jeremiah, Put these bits of old cloth under your arms under the cords. And Jeremiah did so.

<sup>13</sup> So pulling Jeremiah up with the cords they got him out of the water-hole: and Jeremiah was kept in the place of the armed watchmen.

<sup>14</sup> Then King Zedekiah sent for Jeremiah the prophet and took him into the rulers doorway in the house of the Lord: and the king said to Jeremiah, I have a question to put to you; keep nothing back from me.

<sup>15</sup> Then Jeremiah said to Zedekiah, If I give you the answer to your question, will you not certainly put me to death? and if I make a suggestion to you, you will not give it a hearing.

<sup>16</sup>So King Zedekiah gave his oath to Jeremiah secretly, saying, By the living Lord, who gave us our life, I will not put you to death, or give you up to these men who are desiring to take your life.

<sup>17</sup>Then Jeremiah said to Zedekiah, These are the words of the Lord, the God of armies, the God of Israel: If you go out to the king of Babylons captains, then you will have life, and the town will not be burned with fire, and you and your family will be kept from death:

<sup>18</sup>But if you do not go out to the king of Babylons captains, then this town will be given into the hands of the Chaldaeans and they will put it on fire, and you will not get away from them.

<sup>19</sup>And King Zedekiah said to Jeremiah, I am troubled on account of the Jews who have gone over to the Chaldaeans, for fear that they may give me up to them and they will put me to shame.

<sup>20</sup>But Jeremiah said, They will not give you up: be guided now by the word of the Lord as I have given it to you, and it will be well for you, and you will keep your life.

<sup>21</sup> But if you do not go out, this is what the Lord has made clear to me:

<sup>22</sup> See, all the rest of the women in the house of the king of Judah will be taken out to the king of Babylons captains, and these women will say, Your nearest friends have been false to you and have got the better of you: they have made your feet go deep into the wet earth, and they are turned away back from you.

<sup>23</sup> And they will take all your wives and your children out to the Chaldaeans: and you will not get away out of their hands, but will be taken by the hands of the king of Babylon: and this town will be burned with fire.

<sup>24</sup> Then Zedekiah said to Jeremiah, Let no man have knowledge of these words, and you will not be put to death.

<sup>25</sup> But if it comes to the ears of the rulers that I have been talking with you, and they come and say to you, Give us word now of what you have said to the king and what the king said to you, keeping nothing back and we will not put you to death;

<sup>26</sup> Then you are to say to them, I made my request to the king, that he



would not send me back to my death in Jonathans house.

<sup>27</sup> Then all the rulers came to Jeremiah, questioning him: and he gave them an answer in the words the king had given him orders to say. So they said nothing more to him; for the thing was not made public.

<sup>28</sup> So Jeremiah was kept in the place of the armed watchmen till the day when Jerusalem was taken.

**39**<sup>1</sup> And it came about, that when Jerusalem was taken, (in the ninth year of Zedekiah, king of Judah, in the tenth month, Nebuchadrezzar, king of Babylon, with all his army, came against Jerusalem, shutting it in on every side;

<sup>2</sup> In the eleventh year of Zedekiah, in the fourth month, on the ninth day of the month, the town was broken into:)

<sup>3</sup> All the captains of the king of Babylon came in and took their places in the middle doorway of the town, Nergal-shar-ezer, ruler of Sin-magir, the Rabmag, and Nebushazban, the Rab-saris, and all the captains of the king of Babylon.

<sup>4</sup>And when Zedekiah, king of Judah, and all the men of war saw it, they went in flight from the town by night, by the way of the kings garden, through the doorway between the two walls: and they went out by the Arabah.

<sup>5</sup>But the Chaldaean army went after them and overtook Zedekiah in the lowlands of Jericho: and they made him a prisoner and took him up to Nebuchadrezzar, king of Babylon, to Riblah in the land of Hamath, to be judged by him.

<sup>6</sup>Then the king of Babylon put the sons of Zedekiah to death before his eyes in Riblah: and the king of Babylon put to death all the great men of Judah.

<sup>7</sup>And more than this, he put out Zedekiahs eyes, and had him put in chains to take him away to Babylon.

<sup>8</sup>And the Chaldeans put the kings house on fire, as well as the houses of the people, and had the walls of Jerusalem broken down.

<sup>9</sup>Then Nebuzaradan, the captain of the armed men, took away to Babylon as prisoners, all the rest of the workmen who were still in the town, as well as

those who had given themselves up to him, and all the rest of the people.

<sup>10</sup>But Nebuzaradan, the captain of the armed men, let the poorest of the people, who had nothing whatever, go on living in the land of Judah, and gave them vine-gardens and fields at the same time.

<sup>11</sup>Now Nebuchadrezzar, king of Babylon, gave orders about Jeremiah to Nebuzaradan, the captain of the armed men, saying,

<sup>12</sup>Take him and keep an eye on him and see that no evil comes to him; but do with him whatever he says to you.

<sup>13</sup>So Nebuzaradan, the captain of the armed men, sent Nebushazban, the Rab-saris, and Nergal-shar-ezer, the Rabmag, and all the chief captains of the king of Babylon,

<sup>14</sup>And they sent and took Jeremiah out of the place of the watchmen, and gave him into the care of Gedaliah, the son of Ahikam, the son of Shaphan, to take him to his house: so he was living among the people.

<sup>15</sup>Now the word of the Lord came to Jeremiah while he was shut up in the place of the armed watchmen, saying,

<sup>16</sup>Go and say to Ebed-melech the Ethiopian, This is what the Lord of armies, the God of Israel, has said: See, my words will come true for this town, for evil and not for good: they will come about before your eyes on that day.

<sup>17</sup>But I will keep you safe on that day, says the Lord: you will not be given into the hands of the men you are fearing.

<sup>18</sup>For I will certainly let you go free, and you will not be put to the sword, but your life will be given to you out of the hands of your attackers: because you have put your faith in me, says the Lord.

**40**<sup>1</sup>The word which came to Jeremiah from the Lord, after Nebuzaradan, the captain of the armed men, had let him go from Ramah, when he had taken him; for he had been put in chains, among all the prisoners of Jerusalem and Judah who were taken away prisoners to Babylon.

<sup>2</sup>And the captain of the armed men took Jeremiah and said to him, The Lord

your God gave word of the evil which was to come on this place:

<sup>3</sup>\*\*\* and the Lord has made it come, and has done as he said; because of your sin against the Lord in not giving ear to his voice; and that is why this thing has come on you.

<sup>4</sup>Now see, this day I am freeing you from the chains which are on your hands. If it seems good to you to come with me to Babylon, then come, and I will keep an eye on you; but if it does not seem good to you to come with me to Babylon, then do not come: see, all the land is before you; if it seems good and right to you to go on living in the land,

<sup>5</sup>Then go back to Gedaliah, the son of Ahikam, the son of Shaphan, whom the king of Babylon has made ruler over the towns of Judah, and make your living-place with him among the people; or go wherever it seems right to you to go. So the captain of the armed men gave him food and some money and let him go.

<sup>6</sup>So Jeremiah went to Gedaliah, the son of Ahikam, in Mizpah, and was living

with him among the people who were still in the land.

<sup>7</sup> Now when it came to the ears of all the captains of the forces who were in the field, and their men, that the king of Babylon had made Gedaliah, the son of Ahikam, ruler in the land, and had put under his care the men and women and children, all the poorest of the land, those who had not been taken away to Babylon;

<sup>8</sup> Then they came to Gedaliah in Mizpah, even Ishmael, the son of Nethaniah, and Johanan, the son of Kareah, and Seraiah, the son of Tanhumeth, and the sons of Ephai the Netophathite, and Jezaniah, the son of the Maacathite, they and their men.

<sup>9</sup> And Gedaliah, the son of Ahikam, the son of Shaphan, took an oath to them and their men, saying, Have no fear of the servants of the Chaldaeans: go on living in the land, and become the servants of the king of Babylon, and all will be well.

<sup>10</sup> As for me, I will be living in Mizpah as your representative before the Chaldaeans who come to us: but you are

to get in your wine and summer fruits and oil and put them in your vessels, and make living-places for yourselves in the towns which you have taken.

<sup>11</sup> In the same way, when all the Jews who were in Moab and among the children of Ammon and in Edom and in all the countries, had news that the king of Babylon had let Judah keep some of its people and that he had put over them Gedaliah, the son of Ahikam, the son of Shaphan;

<sup>12</sup> Then all the Jews came back from all the places to which they had gone in flight, and came to the land of Judah, to Gedaliah, to Mizpah, and got in a great store of wine and summer fruit.

<sup>13</sup> Now Johanan, the son of Kareah, and all the captains of the forces which were in the field, came to Gedaliah in Mizpah,

<sup>14</sup> And said to him, Has it come to your knowledge that Baalis, the king of the children of Ammon, has sent Ishmael, the son of Nethaniah, to take your life? But Gedaliah, the son of Ahikam, put no faith in what they said.

<sup>15</sup> Then Johanan, the son of Kareah, said to Gedaliah in Mizpah secretly, Let

me now go and put Ishmael, the son of Nethaniah, to death without anyones knowledge: why let him take your life so that all the Jews who have come together to you may be sent in flight, and the rest of the men of Judah come to an end?

<sup>16</sup>But Gedaliah, the son of Ahikam, said to Johanan, the son of Kareah, You are not to do this: for what you say about Ishmael is false.

**41** <sup>1</sup>Now it came about in the seventh month that Ishmael, the son of Nethaniah, the son of Elishama, of the kings seed, having with him ten men, came to Gedaliah, the son of Ahikam, in Mizpah; and they had a meal together in Mizpah.

<sup>2</sup>Then Ishmael, the son of Nethaniah, and the ten men who were with him, got up, and attacking Gedaliah, the son of Ahikam, the son of Shaphan, with the sword, put to death him whom the king of Babylon had made ruler over the land.

<sup>3</sup>And Ishmael put to death all the Jews who were with him, even with Gedaliah, at Mizpah, and the Chaldaean men of war.



<sup>4</sup> Now on the second day after he had put Gedaliah to death, when no one had knowledge of it,

<sup>5</sup> Some people came from Shechem, from Shiloh and Samaria, eighty men, with the hair of their faces cut off and their clothing out of order, and with cuts on their bodies, and in their hands meal offerings and perfumes which they were taking to the house of the Lord.

<sup>6</sup> And Ishmael, the son of Nethaniah, went out from Mizpah with the purpose of meeting them, weeping on his way: and it came about that when he was face to face with them he said, Come to Gedaliah, the son of Ahikam.

<sup>7</sup> And when they came inside the town, Ishmael, the son of Nethaniah, and the men who were with him, put them to death and put their bodies into a deep hole.

<sup>8</sup> But there were ten men among them who said to Ishmael, Do not put us to death, for we have secret stores, in the country, of grain and oil and honey. So he did not put them to death with their countrymen.

<sup>9</sup>Now the hole into which Ishmael had put the dead bodies of the men whom he had put to death, was the great hole which Asa the king had made for fear of Baasha, king of Israel: and Ishmael, the son of Nethaniah, made it full of the bodies of those who had been put to death.

<sup>10</sup>Then Ishmael took away as prisoners all the rest of the people who were in Mizpah, the kings daughters and all the people still in Mizpah, whom Nebuzaradan, the captain of the armed men, had put under the care of Gedaliah, the son of Ahikam: Ishmael, the son of Nethaniah, took them away prisoners with the purpose of going over to the children of Ammon.

<sup>11</sup>But when Johanan, the son of Kareah, and all the captains of the armed forces who were with him, had news of all the evil which Ishmael, the son of Nethaniah, had done,

<sup>12</sup>They took their men and went out to make war on Ishmael, the son of Nethaniah, and they came face to face with him by the great waters in Gibeon.

<sup>13</sup>Now when all the people who were with Ishmael saw Johanan, the son of Kareah, and all the captains of the forces with him, then they were glad.

<sup>14</sup>And all the people whom Ishmael had taken away prisoners from Mizpah, turning round, came back and went to Johanan, the son of Kareah.

<sup>15</sup>But Ishmael, the son of Nethaniah, got away from Johanan, with eight men, and went to the children of Ammon.

<sup>16</sup>Then Johanan, the son of Kareah, and all the captains of the forces who were with him, took all the rest of the people whom Ishmael, the son of Nethaniah, had made prisoners, after he had put to death Gedaliah, the son of Ahikam, the people from Mizpah, that is, the men of war and the women and the children and the unsexed servants, whom he had taken back with him from Gibeon:

<sup>17</sup>And they went and were living in the resting-place of Chimham, which is near Beth-lehem on the way into Egypt,

<sup>18</sup>Because of the Chaldeans: for they were in fear of them because Ishmael, the son of Nethaniah, had put to death Gedaliah, the son of Ahikam, whom the

king of Babylon had made ruler over the land.

**42**<sup>1</sup> Then all the captains of the forces, and Johanan, the son of Kareah, and Jezaniah, the son of Hoshai, and all the people from the least to the greatest, came near,

<sup>2</sup> And said to Jeremiah the prophet, Let our request come before you, and make prayer for us to the Lord your God, even for this small band of us; for we are only a small band out of what was a great number, as your eyes may see:

<sup>3</sup> That the Lord your God may make clear to us the way in which we are to go and what we are to do.

<sup>4</sup> Then Jeremiah the prophet said to them, I have given ear to you; see, I will make prayer to the Lord your God, as you have said; and it will be that, whatever the Lord may say in answer to you, I will give you word of it, keeping nothing back.

<sup>5</sup> Then they said to Jeremiah, May the Lord be a true witness against us in good faith, if we do not do everything which the Lord your God sends you to say to us.

<sup>6</sup>If it is good or if it is evil, we will be guided by the voice of the Lord our God, to whom we are sending you; so that it may be well for us when we give ear to the voice of the Lord our God.

<sup>7</sup>And it came about that after ten days the word of the Lord came to Jeremiah.

<sup>8</sup>And he sent for Johanan, the son of Kareah, and all the captains of the forces who were still with him, and all the people, from the least to the greatest,

<sup>9</sup>And said to them, These are the words of the Lord, the God of Israel, to whom you sent me to put your request before him:

<sup>10</sup>If you still go on living in the land, then I will go on building you up and not pulling you down, planting you and not uprooting you: for my purpose of doing evil to you has been changed.

<sup>11</sup>Have no fear of the king of Babylon, of whom you are now in fear; have no fear of him, says the Lord: for I am with you to keep you safe and to give you salvation from his hands.

<sup>12</sup>And I will have mercy on you, so that he may have mercy on you and let you go back to your land.

<sup>13</sup> But if you say, We have no desire to go on living in this land; and do not give ear to the voice of the Lord your God,

<sup>14</sup> Saying, No, but we will go into the land of Egypt, where we will not see war, or be hearing the sound of the horn, or be in need of food; there we will make our living-place;

<sup>15</sup> Then give ear now to the word of the Lord, O you last of Judah: the Lord of armies, the God of Israel, has said, If your minds are fixed on going into Egypt and stopping there;

<sup>16</sup> Then it will come about that the sword, which is the cause of your fear, will overtake you there in the land of Egypt, and need of food, which you are fearing, will go after you there in Egypt; and there death will come to you.

<sup>17</sup> Such will be the fate of all the men whose minds are fixed on going into Egypt and stopping there; they will come to their end by the sword, by being short of food, and by disease: not one of them will keep his life or get away from the evil which I will send on them.

<sup>18</sup> For this is what the Lord of armies, the God of Israel, has said: As my wrath

and passion have been let loose on the people of Jerusalem, so will my passion be let loose on you when you go into Egypt: and you will become an oath and a cause of wonder and a curse and a name of shame; and you will never see this place again.

<sup>19</sup>The Lord has said about you, O last of Judah, Go not into Egypt: be certain that I have given witness to you this day.

<sup>20</sup>For you have been acting with deceit in your hearts; for you sent me to the Lord your God, saying, Make prayer for us to the Lord our God, and give us word of everything he may say, and we will do it.

<sup>21</sup>And this day I have made it clear to you, and you have not given ear to the voice of the Lord your God in anything for which he has sent me to you.

<sup>22</sup>And now be certain that you will come to your end by the sword and by being short of food and by disease, in the place to which you are pleased to go for a living-place.

**43**<sup>1</sup>And it came about that when Jeremiah had come to the end of giving all the people the words of the

Lord their God, which the Lord their God had sent him to say to them, even all these words,

<sup>2</sup>Then Azariah, the son of Hoshai, and Johanan, the son of Kareah, and all the men of pride, said to Jeremiah, You have said what is false: the Lord our God has not sent you to say, You are not to go into the land of Egypt and make your living-place there:

<sup>3</sup>But Baruch, the son of Neriah, is moving you against us, to give us up into the hands of the Chaldeans so that they may put us to death, and take us away prisoners into Babylon.

<sup>4</sup>So Johanan, the son of Kareah, and all the captains of the forces, and all the people, did not give ear to the order of the Lord that they were to go on living in the land of Judah.

<sup>5</sup>But Johanan, the son of Kareah, and all the captains of the forces took all the rest of Judah who had come back into the land of Judah from all the nations where they had been forced to go;

<sup>6</sup>The men and the women and the children and the kings daughters, and every person whom Nebuzaradan, the



captain of the armed men, had put under the care of Gedaliah, the son of Ahikam, the son of Shaphan, and Jeremiah the prophet and Baruch, the son of Neriah;

<sup>7</sup>And they came into the land of Egypt; for they did not give ear to the voice of the Lord: and they came to Tahpanhes.

<sup>8</sup>Then the word of the Lord came to Jeremiah in Tahpanhes, saying,

<sup>9</sup>Take in your hand some great stones, and put them in a safe place in the paste in the brickwork which is at the way into Pharaohs house in Tahpanhes, before the eyes of the men of Judah;

<sup>10</sup>And say to them, This is what the Lord of armies, the God of Israel, has said: See, I will send and take Nebuchadrezzar, the king of Babylon, my servant, and he will put the seat of his kingdom on these stones which have been put in a safe place here by you; and his tent will be stretched over them.

<sup>11</sup>And he will come and overcome the land of Egypt; those who are for death will be put to death, those who are to be prisoners will be made prisoners, and those who are for the sword will be given to the sword.

<sup>12</sup>And he will put a fire in the houses of the gods of Egypt; and they will be burned by him: and he will make Egypt clean as a keeper of sheep makes clean his clothing; and he will go out from there in peace.

<sup>13</sup>And the stone pillars of Beth-shemesh in the land of Egypt will be broken by him, and the houses of the gods of Egypt burned with fire.

**44**<sup>1</sup>The word which came to Jeremiah about all the Jews who were living in the land of Egypt, in Migdol and at Tahpanhes and at Noph and in the country of Pathros, saying,

<sup>2</sup>The Lord of armies, the God of Israel, has said: You have seen all the evil which I have sent on Jerusalem and on all the towns of Judah; and now, this day they are waste and unpeopled;

<sup>3</sup>Because of the evil which they have done, moving me to wrath by burning perfumes in worship to other gods, who were not their gods or yours or the gods of their fathers.

<sup>4</sup>And I sent all my servants the prophets to you, getting up early and

sending them, saying, Do not do this disgusting thing which is hated by me.

<sup>5</sup>But they gave no attention, and their ears were not open so that they might be turned from their evil-doing and from burning perfume to other gods.

<sup>6</sup>Because of this, my passion and my wrath were let loose, burning in the towns of Judah and in the streets of Jerusalem; and they are waste and unpeopled as at this day.

<sup>7</sup>So now, the Lord, the God of armies, the God of Israel, has said, Why are you doing this great evil against yourselves, causing every man and woman, little child and baby at the breast among you in Judah to be cut off till not one is still living;

<sup>8</sup>Moving me to wrath with the work of your hands, burning perfumes to other gods in the land of Egypt, where you have gone to make a place for yourselves, so that you may become a curse and a name of shame among all the nations of the earth?

<sup>9</sup>Have you no memory of the evil-doing of your fathers, and the evil-doing of the kings of Judah, and the evil-doing

of their wives, and the evil which you yourselves have done, and the evil which your wives have done, in the land of Judah and in the streets of Jerusalem?

<sup>10</sup>Even to this day their hearts are not broken, and they have no fear, and have not gone in the way of my law or of my rules which I gave to you and to your fathers.

<sup>11</sup>So this is what the Lord of armies, the God of Israel, has said: See, my face will be turned against you for evil, for the cutting off of all Judah;

<sup>12</sup>And I will take the last of Judah, whose minds are fixed on going into the land of Egypt and stopping there, and they will all come to their end, falling in the land of Egypt by the sword and by being short of food and by disease; death will overtake them, from the least to the greatest, death by the sword and by need of food: they will become an oath and a cause of wonder and a curse and a name of shame.

<sup>13</sup>For I will send punishment on those who are living in the land of Egypt, as I have sent punishment on Jerusalem, by

the sword and by need of food and by disease:

<sup>14</sup> So that not one of the rest of Judah, who have gone into the land of Egypt and are living there, will get away or keep his life, to come back to the land of Judah where they are hoping to come back and be living again: for not one will come back, but only those who are able to get away.

<sup>15</sup> Then all the men who had knowledge that their wives were burning perfumes to other gods, and all the women who were present, a great meeting, answering Jeremiah, said,

<sup>16</sup> As for the word which you have said to us in the name of the Lord, we will not give ear to you.

<sup>17</sup> But we will certainly do every word which has gone out of our mouths, burning perfumes to the queen of heaven and draining out drink offerings to her as we did, we and our fathers and our kings and our rulers, in the towns of Judah and in the streets of Jerusalem: for then we had food enough and did well and saw no evil.

<sup>18</sup>But from the time when we gave up burning perfumes to the queen of heaven and draining out drink offerings to her, we have been in need of all things, and have been wasted by the sword and by need of food.

<sup>19</sup>And the women said, When we were burning perfumes to the queen of heaven and draining out drink offerings to her, did we make cakes in her image and give her our drink offerings without the knowledge of our husbands?

<sup>20</sup>Then Jeremiah said to all the people, to the men and women and all the people who had given him that answer,

<sup>21</sup>The perfumes which you have been burning in the towns of Judah and in the streets of Jerusalem, you and your fathers and your kings and your rulers and the people of the land, had the Lord no memory of them, and did he not keep them in mind?

<sup>22</sup>And the Lord was no longer able to put up with the evil of your doings and the disgusting things you did; and because of this your land has become a waste and a cause of wonder and a

curse, with no one living in it, as at this day.

<sup>23</sup>Because you have been burning perfumes, and sinning against the Lord, and have not given ear to the voice of the Lord, or gone in the way of his law or his rules or his orders; for this reason this evil has come on you, as it is today.

<sup>24</sup>Further, Jeremiah said to all the people and all the women, Give ear to the word of the Lord, all those of Judah who are living in Egypt:

<sup>25</sup>This is what the Lord of armies, the God of Israel, has said: You women have said with your mouths, and with your hands you have done what you said, We will certainly give effect to the oaths we have made, to have perfumes burned to the queen of heaven and drink offerings drained out to her: then give effect to your oaths and do them.

<sup>26</sup>And now give ear to the word of the Lord, all you of Judah who are living in the land of Egypt: Truly, I have taken an oath by my great name, says the Lord, that my name is no longer to be named in the mouth of any man of Judah in all

the land of Egypt, saying, By the life of the Lord God.

<sup>27</sup> See, I am watching over them for evil and not for good: all the men of Judah who are in the land of Egypt will be wasted by the sword and by need of food till there is an end of them.

<sup>28</sup> And those who get away safe from the sword will come back from the land of Egypt to the land of Judah, a very small number; and all the rest of Judah, who have gone into the land of Egypt and are living there, will see whose word has effect, mine or theirs.

<sup>29</sup> And this will be the sign to you, says the Lord, that I will give you punishment in this place, so that you may see that my words will certainly have effect against you for evil:

<sup>30</sup> The Lord has said, See, I will give up Pharaoh Hophra, king of Egypt, into the hands of those who are fighting against him and desiring to take his life, as I gave Zedekiah, king of Judah, into the hands of Nebuchadrezzar, king of Babylon, his hater, who had designs against his life.



**45** <sup>1</sup>The words which Jeremiah the prophet said to Baruch, the son of Neriah, when he put these words down in a book from the mouth of Jeremiah, in the fourth year of Jehoiakim, the son of Josiah, king of Judah; he said,

<sup>2</sup>This is what the Lord, the God of Israel, has said of you, O Baruch:

<sup>3</sup>You said, Sorrow is mine! for the Lord has given me sorrow in addition to my pain; I am tired with the sound of my sorrow, and I get no rest.

<sup>4</sup>This is what you are to say to him: The Lord has said, Truly, the building which I put up will be broken down, and that which was planted by me will be uprooted, and this through all the land;

<sup>5</sup>And as for you, are you looking for great things for yourself? Have no desire for them: for truly I will send evil on all flesh, says the Lord: but your life I will keep safe from attack wherever you go.

**46** <sup>1</sup>The word of the Lord which came to Jeremiah the prophet about the nations.

<sup>2</sup>Of Egypt: about the army of Pharaoh-neco, king of Egypt, which was by the river Euphrates in Carchemish,

which Nebuchadrezzar, king of Babylon, overcame in the fourth year of Jehoiakim, the son of Josiah, king of Judah.

<sup>3</sup>Get out the breastplate and body-cover, and come together to the fight.

<sup>4</sup>Make the horses ready, and get up, you horsemen, and take your places with your head-dresses; make the spears sharp and put on the breastplates.

<sup>5</sup>What have I seen? they are overcome with fear and turned back; their men of war are broken and have gone in flight, not looking back: fear is on every side, says the Lord.

<sup>6</sup>Let not the quick-footed go in flight, or the man of war get away; on the north, by the river Euphrates, they are slipping and falling.

<sup>7</sup>Who is this coming up like the Nile, whose waters are lifting their heads like the rivers?

<sup>8</sup>Egypt is coming up like the Nile, and his waters are lifting their heads like the rivers, and he says, I will go up, covering the earth; I will send destruction on the town and its people.

<sup>9</sup>Go up, you horses; go rushing on, you carriages of war; go out, you men of war: Cush and Put, gripping the body-cover, and the Ludim, with bent bows.

<sup>10</sup>But that day is the day of the Lord, the Lord of armies, a day of punishment when he will take payment from his haters: and the sword will have all its desire, drinking their blood in full measure: for there is an offering to the Lord, the Lord of armies, in the north country by the river Euphrates.

<sup>11</sup>Go up to Gilead and take sweet oil, O virgin daughter of Egypt: there is no help in all your medical arts; nothing will make you well.

<sup>12</sup>Your shame has come to the ears of the nations, and the earth is full of your cry: for the strong man is falling against the strong, they have come down together.

<sup>13</sup>The word which the Lord said to Jeremiah the prophet, of how Nebuchadrezzar, king of Babylon, would come and make war on the land of Egypt.

<sup>14</sup> Give the news in Migdol, make it public in Noph: say, Take up your positions and make yourselves ready; for on every side of you the sword has made destruction.

<sup>15</sup> Why has Apis, your strong one, gone in flight? he was not able to keep his place, because the Lord was forcing him down with strength.

<sup>16</sup> are stopped in their going, they are falling; and they say one to another, Let us get up and go back to our people, to the land of our birth, away from the cruel sword.

<sup>17</sup> Give a name to Pharaoh, king of Egypt: A noise who has let the time go by.

<sup>18</sup> By my life, says the King, whose name is the Lord of armies, truly, like Tabor among the mountains and like Carmel by the sea, so will he come.

<sup>19</sup> O daughter living in Egypt, make ready the vessels of a prisoner: for Noph will become a waste, it will be burned up and become unpeopled.

<sup>20</sup> Egypt is a fair young cow; but a biting insect has come on her out of the north.

<sup>21</sup> And those who were her fighters for payment are like fat oxen; for they are turned back, they have gone in flight together, they do not keep their place: for the day of their fate has come on them, the time of their punishment.

<sup>22</sup> She makes a sound like the hiss of a snake when they come on with strength; they go against her with axes, like wood-cutters.

<sup>23</sup> They will be cutting down her woods, for they may not be searched out; because they are like locusts, more than may be numbered.

<sup>24</sup> The daughter of Egypt will be put to shame; she will be given up into the hands of the people of the north.

<sup>25</sup> The Lord of armies, the God of Israel, has said: See, I will send punishment on Amon of No and on Pharaoh and on those who put their faith in him;

<sup>26</sup> And I will give them up into the hands of those who will take their lives, and into the hands of Nebuchadrezzar, king of Babylon, and into the hands of his servants: and later, it will be peopled as in the past, says the Lord.

<sup>27</sup> But have no fear, O Jacob, my servant, and do not be troubled, O Israel: for see, I will make you come back from far away, and your seed from the land where they are prisoners; and Jacob will come back, and will be quiet and in peace, and no one will give him cause for fear.

<sup>28</sup> Have no fear, O Jacob, my servant, says the Lord; for I am with you: for I will put an end to all the nations where I have sent you, but I will not put an end to you completely: though with wise purpose I will put right your errors, and will not let you go quite without punishment.

**47** <sup>1</sup> The word of the Lord which came to Jeremiah the prophet about the Philistines, before Pharaohs attack on Gaza.

<sup>2</sup> This is what the Lord has said: See, waters are coming up out of the north, and will become an overflowing stream, overflowing the land and everything in it, the town and those who are living in it; and men will give a cry, and all the people of the land will be crying out in pain.

<sup>3</sup>At the noise of the stamping of the feet of his war-horses, at the rushing of his carriages and the thunder of his wheels, fathers will give no thought to their children, because their hands are feeble;

<sup>4</sup>Because of the day which is coming with destruction on all the Philistines, cutting off from Tyre and Zidon the last of their helpers: for the Lord will send destruction on the Philistines, the rest of the sea-land of Caphtor.

<sup>5</sup>The hair is cut off from the head of Gaza; Ashkelon has come to nothing; the last of the Anakim are deeply wounding themselves.

<sup>6</sup>O sword of the Lord, how long will you have no rest? put yourself back into your cover; be at peace, be quiet.

<sup>7</sup>How is it possible for it to be quiet, seeing that the Lord has given it orders? against Ashkelon and against the sea-land he has given it directions.

**48**<sup>1</sup>Of Moab. The Lord of armies, the God of Israel, has said: Sorrow on Nebo, for it has been made waste; Kiriathaim has been put to shame and is

taken: the strong place is put to shame and broken down.

<sup>2</sup>The praise of Moab has come to an end; as for Heshbon, evil has been designed against her; come, let us put an end to her as a nation. But your mouth will be shut, O Madmen; the sword will go after you.

<sup>3</sup>There is the sound of crying from Horonaim, wasting and great destruction;

<sup>4</sup>Moab is broken; her cry has gone out to Zoar.

<sup>5</sup>For by the slope of Luhith they will go up, weeping all the way; for on the way down to Horonaim the cry of destruction has come to their ears.

<sup>6</sup>Go in flight, get away with your lives, and let your faces be turned to Aroer in the Arabah.

<sup>7</sup>For because you have put your faith in your strong places, you, even you, will be taken: and Chemosh will go out as a prisoner, his priests and his rulers together.

<sup>8</sup>And the attacker will come against every town, not one will be safe; and the valley will be made waste, and



destruction will come to the lowland, as the Lord has said.

<sup>9</sup>Put up a pillar for Moab, for she will come to a complete end: and her towns will become a waste, without anyone living in them.

<sup>10</sup>Let him be cursed who does the Lords work half-heartedly; let him be cursed who keeps back his sword from blood.

<sup>11</sup>From his earliest days, Moab has been living in comfort; like wine long stored he has not been drained from vessel to vessel, he has never gone away as a prisoner: so his taste is still in him, his smell is unchanged.

<sup>12</sup>So truly, the days are coming, says the Lord, when I will send to him men who will have him turned over till there is no more wine in his vessels, and his wine-skins will be completely broken.

<sup>13</sup>And Moab will be shamed on account of Chemosh, as the children of Israel were shamed on account of Beth-el their hope.

<sup>14</sup>How say you, We are men of war and strong fighters?

<sup>15</sup>He who makes Moab waste has gone up against her; and the best of her

young men have gone down to their death, says the King, whose name is the Lord of armies.

<sup>16</sup>The fate of Moab is near, and trouble is coming on him very quickly.

<sup>17</sup>All you who are round about him, give signs of grief for him, and all you who have knowledge of his name, say, How is the strong rod broken, even the beautiful branch!

<sup>18</sup>Come down from your glory, O people of Dibon, and take your seat in the place of the waste; for the attacker of Moab has gone up against you, sending destruction on your strong places.

<sup>19</sup>O daughter of Aroer, take your station by the way, on the watch: questioning him who is in flight, and her who has got away safe, say, What has been done?

<sup>20</sup>Moab has been put to shame, she is broken: make loud sounds of grief, crying out for help; give the news in Arnon, that Moab has been made waste.

<sup>21</sup>And punishment has come on the lowlands; on Holon and Jahzah, and on Mephaath,

<sup>22</sup>And on Dibon, and on Nebo, and on Beth-diblathaim,

<sup>23</sup> And on Kiriathaim, and on Beth-gamul, and on Beth-meon,

<sup>24</sup> And on Keriioth, and on Bozrah, and on all the towns of the land of Moab, far and near.

<sup>25</sup> The horn of Moab is cut off, and his arm is broken, says the Lord.

<sup>26</sup> Make him full of wine, for his heart has been lifted up against the Lord: and Moab will be rolling in the food he was not able to keep down, and everyone will be making sport of him.

<sup>27</sup> For did you not make sport of Israel? was he taken among thieves? for whenever you were talking about him, you were shaking your head over him.

<sup>28</sup> O people of Moab, go away from the towns and take cover in the rock; be like the dove of the Arabah, which makes her living-place in holes.

<sup>29</sup> We have had word of the pride of Moab, how great it is; how he is lifted up in pride; and his great opinion of himself, and that his heart is lifted up.

<sup>30</sup> I have knowledge of his wrath, says the Lord, that it is nothing; his high-sounding words have done nothing.

<sup>31</sup> For this cause I will give cries of grief for Moab, crying out for Moab, even for all of it; I will be sorrowing for the men of Kir-heres.

<sup>32</sup> My weeping for you, O vine of Sibmah, will be more than the weeping of Jazer: your branches have gone over the sea, stretching even to Jazer: destruction has come down on your summer fruits and your cut grapes.

<sup>33</sup> All joy is gone; no longer are they glad for the fertile field and for the land of Moab; I have made the wine come to an end from the crushing vessels: no longer will the grapes be crushed with the sound of glad voices.

<sup>34</sup> The cry of Heshbon comes even to Elealeh; to Jahaz their voice is sounding; from Zoar even to Horonaim and to Eglath-shelishiyah: for the waters of Nimrim will become dry.

<sup>35</sup> And I will put an end in Moab, says the Lord, to him who is making offerings in the high place and burning perfumes to his gods.

<sup>36</sup> So my heart is sounding for Moab like the sound of pipes, and my heart is sounding like pipes for the men of

Kir-heres: for the wealth he has got for himself has come to an end.

<sup>37</sup> For everywhere the hair of the head and the hair of the face is cut off: on every hand there are wounds, and haircloth on every body.

<sup>38</sup> On all the house-tops of Moab and in its streets there is weeping everywhere; for Moab has been broken like a vessel in which there is no pleasure, says the Lord.

<sup>39</sup> How is it broken down! how is Moabs back turned in shame! so Moab will be a cause of sport and of fear to everyone round about him.

<sup>40</sup> For the Lord has said, See, he will come like an eagle in flight, stretching out his wings against Moab.

<sup>41</sup> Kerioth is taken, and the strong places have been forced, and the hearts of Moabs men of war in that day will be like the heart of a woman in birth-pains.

<sup>42</sup> And Moab will come to an end as a people, because he has been lifting himself up against the Lord.

<sup>43</sup> Fear and death and the net have come on you, O people of Moab, says the Lord.

<sup>44</sup> He who goes in flight from the fear will be overtaken by death; and he who gets free from death will be taken in the net: for I will make this come on Moab, even the year of their punishment, says the Lord.

<sup>45</sup> Those who went in flight from the fear are waiting under the shade of Heshbon: for a fire has gone out from Heshbon and a flame from the house of Sihon, burning up the pride of Moab and the crown of the head of the violent ones.

<sup>46</sup> Sorrow is yours, O Moab! the people of Chemosh are overcome: for your sons have been taken away as prisoners, and your daughters made servants.

<sup>47</sup> But still, I will let the fate of Moab be changed in the last days, says the Lord.

**49**<sup>1</sup> About the children of Ammon.  
These are the words of the Lord: Has Israel no sons? has he no one to take the heritage? why then has Milcom taken Gad for himself, putting his people in its towns?

<sup>2</sup> Because of this, see, the days are coming when I will have a cry of war sounded against Rabbah, the town of

the children of Ammon; it will become a waste of broken walls, and her daughter-towns will be burned with fire: then Israel will take the heritage of those who took his heritage, says the Lord.

<sup>3</sup>Make sounds of grief, O Heshbon, for Ai is wasted; give loud cries, O daughters of Rabbah, and put haircloth round you: give yourselves to weeping, running here and there and wounding yourselves; for Milcom will be taken prisoner together with his rulers and his priests.

<sup>4</sup>Why are you lifted up in pride on account of your valleys, your flowing valley, O daughter ever turning away? who puts her faith in her wealth, saying, Who will come against me?

<sup>5</sup>See, I will send fear on you, says the Lord, the Lord of armies, from those who are round you on every side; you will be forced out, every man straight before him, and there will be no one to get together the wanderers.

<sup>6</sup>But after these things, I will let the fate of the children of Ammon be changed, says the Lord.

<sup>7</sup>About Edom. This is what the Lord of armies has said. Is there no more

wisdom in Teman? have wise suggestions come to an end among men of good sense? has their wisdom completely gone?

<sup>8</sup>Go in flight, go back, take cover in deep places, you who are living in Dedan; for I will send the fate of Edom on him, even the time of his punishment.

<sup>9</sup>If men came to get your grapes, would they not let some be uncut on the vines? if thieves came by night, would they not make waste till they had enough?

<sup>10</sup>I have had Esau searched out, uncovering his secret places, so that he may not keep himself covered: his seed is wasted and has come to an end, and there is no help from his neighbours.

<sup>11</sup>Put in my care your children who have no father, and I will keep them safe; and let your widows put their faith in me.

<sup>12</sup>For the Lord has said, Those for whom the cup was not made ready will certainly be forced to take of it; and are you to go without punishment? you will not be without punishment, but will certainly be forced to take from the cup.



<sup>13</sup>For I have taken an oath by myself, says the Lord, that Bozrah will become a cause of wonder, a name of shame, a waste and a curse; and all its towns will be waste places for ever.

<sup>14</sup>Word has come to me from the Lord, and a representative has been sent to the nations, to say, Come together and go up against her, and take your places for the fight.

<sup>15</sup>For see, I have made you small among the nations, looked down on by men.

<sup>16</sup>the pride of your heart has been a false hope, O you who are living in the cracks of the rock, keeping your place on the top of the hill: even if you made your living-place as high as the eagle, I would make you come down, says the Lord.

<sup>17</sup>And Edom will become a cause of wonder: everyone who goes by will be overcome with wonder, and make sounds of fear at all her punishments.

<sup>18</sup>As at the downfall of Sodom and Gomorrah and their neighbouring towns, says the Lord, no man will be living in it, no son of man will have a resting-place there.

<sup>19</sup>See, he will come up like a lion from the thick growth of Jordan against the resting-place of Teman: but I will suddenly make him go in flight from her; and I will put over her the man of my selection: for who is like me? and who will put forward his cause against me? and what keeper of sheep will be able to keep his place before me?

<sup>20</sup>For this cause give ear to the decision of the Lord which he has made against Edom, and to his purposes designed against the people of Teman: Truly, they will be pulled away by the smallest of the flock; truly, he will make waste their fields with them.

<sup>21</sup>The earth is shaking with the noise of their fall; their cry is sounding in the Red Sea.

<sup>22</sup>See, he will come up like an eagle in flight, stretching out his wings against Bozrah: and the hearts of Edoms men of war on that day will be like the heart of a woman in birth-pains.

<sup>23</sup>About Damascus. Hamath is put to shame, and Arpad; for the word of evil has come to their ears, their heart in

its fear is turned to water, it will not be quiet.

<sup>24</sup> Damascus has become feeble, she is turned to flight, fear has taken her in its grip: pain and sorrows have come on her, as on a woman in birth-pains.

<sup>25</sup> How has the town of praise been wasted, the place of joy!

<sup>26</sup> So her young men will be falling in her streets, and all the men of war will be cut off in that day, says the Lord of armies.

<sup>27</sup> And I will have a fire lighted on the wall of Damascus, burning up the great houses of Ben-hadad.

<sup>28</sup> About Kedar and the kingdoms of Hazor, which Nebuchadrezzar, king of Babylon, overcame. This is what the Lord has said: Up! go against Kedar, and make an attack on the children of the east.

<sup>29</sup> Their tents and their flocks they will take; they will take away for themselves their curtains and all their vessels and their camels: they will give a cry to them, Fear on every side.

<sup>30</sup> Go in flight, go wandering far off, take cover in deep places, O people of Hazor,

says the Lord; for Nebuchadrezzar, king of Babylon, has made a design against you, he has a purpose against you in mind.

<sup>31</sup> Up! go against a nation which is living in comfort and without fear of danger, says the Lord, without doors or locks, living by themselves.

<sup>32</sup> And their camels will be taken from them by force, and their great herds will come into the hands of their attackers: those who have the ends of their hair cut I will send in flight to all the winds; and I will send their fate on them from every side, says the Lord.

<sup>33</sup> And Hazer will be a hole for jackals, a waste for ever: no one will be living in it, and no son of man will have a resting-place there.

<sup>34</sup> The word of the Lord which came to Jeremiah the prophet about Elam, when Zedekiah first became king of Judah, saying,

<sup>35</sup> This is what the Lord of armies has said: See, I will have the bow of Elam, their chief strength, broken.

<sup>36</sup> And I will send on Elam four winds from the four quarters of heaven, driving

them out to all those winds; there will be no nation into which the wanderers from Elam do not come.

<sup>37</sup> And I will let Elam be broken before their haters, and before those who are making designs against their lives: I will send evil on them, even my burning wrath, says the Lord; and I will send the sword after them till I have put an end to them:

<sup>38</sup> I will put the seat of my power in Elam, and in Elam I will put an end to kings and rulers, says the Lord.

<sup>39</sup> But it will come about that, in the last days, I will let the fate of Elam be changed, says the Lord.

**50**<sup>1</sup> The word which the Lord said about Babylon, about the land of the Chaldeans, by Jeremiah the prophet.

<sup>2</sup> Give it out among the nations, make it public, and let the flag be lifted up; give the word and keep nothing back; say, Babylon is taken, Bel is put to shame, Merodach is broken, her images are put to shame, her gods are broken.

<sup>3</sup> For out of the north a nation is coming up against her, which will make her land

waste and unpeopled: they are in flight, man and beast are gone.

<sup>4</sup>In those days and in that time, says the Lord, the children of Israel will come, they and the children of Judah together; they will go on their way weeping and making prayer to the Lord their God.

<sup>5</sup>They will be questioning about the way to Zion, with their faces turned in its direction, saying, Come, and be united to the Lord in an eternal agreement which will be kept in mind for ever.

<sup>6</sup>My people have been wandering sheep: their keepers have made them go out of the right way, turning them loose on the mountains: they have gone from mountain to hill, having no memory of their resting-place.

<sup>7</sup>They have been attacked by all those who came across them: and their attackers said, We are doing no wrong, because they have done evil against the Lord in whom is righteousness, against the Lord, the hope of their fathers.

<sup>8</sup>Go in flight out of Babylon, go out of the land of the Chaldaeans, and be like he-goats before the flocks.

<sup>9</sup>For see, I am moving and sending up against Babylon a band of great nations from the north country: and they will put their armies in position against her; and from there she will be taken: their arrows will be like those of an expert man of war; not one will come back without getting its mark.

<sup>10</sup>And the wealth of Chaldaeia will come into the hands of her attackers: all those who take her wealth will have enough, says the Lord.

<sup>11</sup>Because you are glad, because you are lifted up with pride, you wasters of my heritage, because you are playing like a young cow put out to grass, and you make a noise like strong horses;

<sup>12</sup>Your mother will be put to shame; she who gave you birth will be looked down on: see, she will be the last of the nations, a waste place, a dry and unwatered land.

<sup>13</sup>Because of the wrath of the Lord no one will be living in it, and it will be quite unpeopled: everyone who goes by Babylon will be overcome with wonder, and make sounds of fear at all her punishments.

<sup>14</sup>Put your armies in position against Babylon on every side, all you bowmen; let loose your arrows at her, not keeping any back: for she has done evil against the Lord.

<sup>15</sup>Give a loud cry against her on every side; she has given herself up, her supports are overturned, her walls are broken down: for it is the payment taken by the Lord; give her payment; as she has done, so do to her.

<sup>16</sup>Let the planter of seed be cut off from Babylon, and everyone using the curved blade at the time of the grain-cutting: for fear of the cruel sword, everyone will be turned to his people, everyone will go in flight to his land.

<sup>17</sup>Israel is a wandering sheep; the lions have been driving him away: first he was attacked by the king of Assyria, and now his bones have been broken by Nebuchadrezzar, king of Babylon.

<sup>18</sup>So this is what the Lord of armies, the God of Israel, has said: See, I will send punishment on the king of Babylon and on his land, as I have given punishment to the king of Assyria.



<sup>19</sup>And I will make Israel come back to his resting-place, and he will get his food on Carmel and Bashan, and have his desire in full measure on the hills of Ephraim and in Gilead.

<sup>20</sup>In those days and in that time, says the Lord, when the evil-doing of Israel is looked for, there will be nothing; and in Judah no sins will be seen: for I will have forgiveness for those whom I will keep safe.

<sup>21</sup>Go up against the land of Merathaim, even against it, and against the people of Pekod; put them to death and send destruction after them, says the Lord, and do everything I have given you orders to do.

<sup>22</sup>There is a sound of war in the land and of great destruction.

<sup>23</sup>How is the hammer of all the earth cut in two and broken! how has Babylon become a waste among the nations!

<sup>24</sup>I have put a net for you, and you have been taken, O Babylon, without your knowledge: you have been uncovered and taken because you were fighting against the Lord.

<sup>25</sup>From his store-house the Lord has taken the instruments of his wrath: for the Lord, the Lord of armies, has a work to do in the land of the Chaldaeans.

<sup>26</sup>Come up against her one and all, let her store-houses be broken open: make her into a mass of stones, give her to the curse, till there is nothing of her to be seen.

<sup>27</sup>Put all her oxen to the sword; let them go down to death: sorrow is theirs, for their day has come, the time of their punishment.

<sup>28</sup>The voice of those who are in flight, who have got away safe from the land of Babylon, to give news in Zion of punishment from the Lord our God, even payment for his Temple.

<sup>29</sup>Send for the archers to come together against Babylon, all the bowmen; put up your tents against her on every side; let no one get away: give her the reward of her work; as she has done, so do to her: for she has been uplifted in pride against the Lord, against the Holy One of Israel.

<sup>30</sup>For this cause her young men will be falling in her streets, and all her men of

war will be cut off in that day, says the Lord.

<sup>31</sup> See, I am against you, O pride, says the Lord, the Lord of armies, for your day has come, the time when I will send punishment on you.

<sup>32</sup> And pride will go with uncertain steps and have a fall, and there will be no one to come to his help: and I will put a fire in his towns, burning up everything round about him.

<sup>33</sup> This is what the Lord of armies has said: The children of Israel and the children of Judah are crushed down together: all those who took them prisoner keep them in a tight grip; they will not let them go.

<sup>34</sup> Their saviour is strong; the Lord of armies is his name: he will certainly take up their cause, so that he may give rest to the earth and trouble to the people of Babylon.

<sup>35</sup> A sword is on the Chaldaeans, says the Lord, and on the people of Babylon, and on her rulers and on her wise men.

<sup>36</sup> A sword is on the men of pride, and they will become foolish: a sword is on her men of war, and they will be broken.

<sup>37</sup> A sword is on all the mixed people in her, and they will become like women: a sword is on her store-houses, and they will be taken by her attackers.

<sup>38</sup> A sword is on her waters, drying them up; for it is a land of images, and their minds are fixed on false gods.

<sup>39</sup> For this reason the beasts of the waste land with the wolves will make their holes there and the ostriches will be living in it: never again will men be living there, it will be unpeopled from generation to generation.

<sup>40</sup> As when Sodom and Gomorrah and their neighbouring towns were overturned by God, says the Lord, so no man will be living in it, and no son of man will have a resting-place there.

<sup>41</sup> See, a people is coming from the north; a great nation and a number of kings will be put in motion from the inmost parts of the earth.

<sup>42</sup> Bows and spears are in their hands; they are cruel and have no mercy; their voice is like the thunder of the sea, and they go on horses; everyone in his place like men going to the fight, against you, O daughter of Babylon.

<sup>43</sup> The king of Babylon has had news of them, and his hands have become feeble: trouble has come on him and pain like the pain of a woman in childbirth.

<sup>44</sup> See, he will come up like a lion from the thick growth of Jordan against the resting-place of Teman: but I will suddenly make them go in flight from her; and I will put over her the man of my selection: for who is like me? and who will put forward his cause against me? and what keeper of sheep will keep his place before me?

<sup>45</sup> So give ear to the decision of the Lord which he has made against Babylon, and to his purposes designed against the land of the Chaldaeans; Truly, they will be pulled away by the smallest of the flock; truly, he will make waste their fields with them.

<sup>46</sup> At the cry, Babylon is taken! the earth is shaking, and the cry comes to the ears of the nations.

**51** <sup>1</sup> The Lord has said: See, I will make a wind of destruction come up against Babylon and against those who are living in Chaldea;

<sup>2</sup>And I will send men to Babylon to make her clean and get her land cleared: for in the day of trouble they will put up their tents against her on every side.

<sup>3</sup>Against her the bow of the archer is bent, and he puts on his coat of metal: have no mercy on her young men, give all her army up to the curse.

<sup>4</sup>And the dead will be stretched out in the land of the Chaldeans, and the wounded in her streets.

<sup>5</sup>For Israel has not been given up, or Judah, by his God, by the Lord of armies; for their land is full of sin against the Holy One of Israel.

<sup>6</sup>Go in flight out of Babylon, so that every man may keep his life; do not be cut off in her evil-doing: for it is the time of the Lords punishment; he will give her her reward.

<sup>7</sup>Babylon has been a gold cup in the hand of the Lord, which has made all the earth overcome with wine: the nations have taken of her wine, and for this cause the nations have gone off their heads.

<sup>8</sup>Sudden is the downfall of Babylon and her destruction: make cries of grief for

her; take sweet oil for her pain, if it is possible for her to be made well.

<sup>9</sup>We would have made Babylon well, but she is not made well: give her up, and let us go everyone to his country: for her punishment is stretching up to heaven, and lifted up even to the skies.

<sup>10</sup>The Lord has made clear our righteousness: come, and let us give an account in Zion of the work of the Lord our God.

<sup>11</sup>Make bright the arrows; take up the body-covers: the Lord has been moving the spirit of the king of the Medes; because his design against Babylon is its destruction: for it is the punishment from the Lord, the payment for his Temple.

<sup>12</sup>Let the flag be lifted up against the walls of Babylon, make the watch strong, put the watchmen in their places, make ready a surprise attack: for it is the Lords purpose, and he has done what he said about the people of Babylon.

<sup>13</sup>O you whose living-place is by the wide waters, whose stores are great, your end is come, your evil profit is ended.

<sup>14</sup>The Lord of armies has taken an oath by himself, saying, Truly, I will make you full with men as with locusts, and their voices will be loud against you.

<sup>15</sup>He has made the earth by his power, he has made the world strong in its place by his wisdom, and by his wise design the heavens have been stretched out:

<sup>16</sup>At the sound of his voice there is a massing of the waters in the heavens, and he makes the mists go up from the ends of the earth; he makes the thunder-flames for the rain and sends out the wind from his store-houses.

<sup>17</sup>Then every man becomes like a beast without knowledge; every gold-worker is put to shame by the image he has made: for his metal image is deceit, and there is no breath in them.

<sup>18</sup>They are nothing, a work of error: in the time of their punishment, destruction will overtake them.

<sup>19</sup>The heritage of Jacob is not like these; for the maker of all things is his heritage: the Lord of armies is his name.

<sup>20</sup>You are my fighting axe and my instrument of war: with you the nations



will be broken; with you kingdoms will be broken;

<sup>21</sup> With you the horse and the horseman will be broken; with you the war-carriage and he who goes in it will be broken;

<sup>22</sup> With you man and woman will be broken; with you the old man and the boy will be broken; with you the young man and the virgin will be broken;

<sup>23</sup> With you the keeper of sheep with his flock will be broken, and with you the farmer and his oxen will be broken, and with you captains and rulers will be broken.

<sup>24</sup> And I will give to Babylon, and to all the people of Chaldaea, their reward for all the evil they have done in Zion before your eyes, says the Lord.

<sup>25</sup> See, I am against you, says the Lord, O mountain of destruction, causing the destruction of all the earth: and my hand will be stretched out on you, rolling you down from the rocks, and making you a burned mountain.

<sup>26</sup> And they will not take from you a stone for the angle of a wall or the base of a building; but you will be a waste place for ever, says the Lord.

<sup>27</sup> Let a flag be lifted up in the land, let the horn be sounded among the nations, make the nations ready against her; get the kingdoms of Ararat, Minni, and Ashkenaz together against her, make ready a scribe against her; let the horses come up against her like massed locusts.

<sup>28</sup> Make the nations ready for war against her, the king of the Medes and his rulers and all his captains, and all the land under his rule.

<sup>29</sup> And the land is shaking and in pain: for the purposes of the Lord are fixed, to make the land of Babylon an unpeopled waste.

<sup>30</sup> Babylons men of war have kept back from the fight, waiting in their strong places; their strength has given way, they have become like women: her houses have been put on fire, her locks are broken.

<sup>31</sup> One man, running, will give word to another, and one who goes with news will be handing it on to another, to give word to the king of Babylon that his town has been taken from every quarter:

<sup>32</sup> And the ways across the river have been taken, and the water-holes burned

with fire, and the men of war are in the grip of fear.

<sup>33</sup>For these are the words of the Lord of armies, the God of Israel: The daughter of Babylon is like a grain-floor when it is stamped down; before long, the time of her grain-cutting will come.

<sup>34</sup>Nebuchadrezzar, king of Babylon, has made a meal of me, violently crushing me, he has made me a vessel with nothing in it, he has taken me in his mouth like a dragon, he has made his stomach full with my delicate flesh, crushing me with his teeth.

<sup>35</sup>May the violent things done to me, and my downfall, come on Babylon, the daughter of Zion will say; and, May my blood be on the people of Chaldaea, Jerusalem will say.

<sup>36</sup>For this reason the Lord has said: See, I will give support to your cause, and take payment for what you have undergone; I will make her sea dry, and her fountain without water.

<sup>37</sup>And Babylon will become a mass of broken walls, a hole for jackals, a cause of wonder and surprise, without a living man in it.

<sup>38</sup>They will be crying out together like lions, their voices will be like the voices of young lions.

<sup>39</sup>When they are heated, I will make a feast for them, and overcome them with wine, so that they may become unconscious, sleeping an eternal sleep without awaking, says the Lord.

<sup>40</sup>I will make them go down to death like lambs, like he-goats together.

<sup>41</sup>How is Babylon taken! and the praise of all the earth surprised! how has Babylon become a cause of wonder among the nations!

<sup>42</sup>The sea has come up over Babylon; she is covered with the mass of its waves.

<sup>43</sup>Her towns have become a waste, a dry and unwatered land, where no man has his living-place and no son of man goes by.

<sup>44</sup>And I will send punishment on Bel in Babylon, and take out of his mouth what went into it; no longer will the nations be flowing together to him: truly, the wall of Babylon will come down.

<sup>45</sup> My people, go out from her, and let every man get away safe from the burning wrath of the Lord.

<sup>46</sup> So that your hearts may not become feeble and full of fear because of the news which will go about in the land; for a story will go about one year, and after that in another year another story, and violent acts in the land, ruler against ruler.

<sup>47</sup> For this cause, truly, the days are coming when I will send punishment on the images of Babylon, and all her land will be shamed, and her dead will be falling down in her.

<sup>48</sup> And the heaven and the earth and everything in them, will make a song of joy over Babylon: for those who make her waste will come from the north, says the Lord.

<sup>49</sup> As Babylon had the dead of Israel put to the sword, so in Babylon the dead of all the land will be stretched out.

<sup>50</sup> You who have got away safe from the sword, go, waiting for nothing; have the Lord in memory when you are far away, and keep Jerusalem in mind.

<sup>51</sup> We are shamed because bitter words have come to our ears; our faces are covered with shame: for men from strange lands have come into the holy places of the Lords house.

<sup>52</sup> For this reason, see, the days are coming, says the Lord, when I will send punishment on her images; and through all her land the wounded will be crying out in pain.

<sup>53</sup> Even if Babylon was lifted up to heaven, even if she had the high places of her strength shut in with walls, still I would send against her those who will make her waste, says the Lord.

<sup>54</sup> There is the sound of a cry from Babylon, and of a great destruction from the land of the Chaldaeans:

<sup>55</sup> For the Lord is making Babylon waste, and putting an end to the great voice coming out of her; and her waves are thundering like great waters, their voice is sounding loud:

<sup>56</sup> For the waster has come on her, even on Babylon, and her men of war are taken, their bows are broken: for the Lord is a rewarding God, and he will certainly give payment.

<sup>57</sup> And I will make her chiefs and her wise men, her rulers and her captains and her men of war, overcome with wine; their sleep will be an eternal sleep without awaking, says the King; the Lord of armies is his name.

<sup>58</sup> The Lord of armies has said: The wide walls of Babylon will be completely uncovered and her high doorways will be burned with fire; so peoples keep on working for nothing, and the weariness of nations comes to an end in the smoke.

<sup>59</sup> The order which Jeremiah the prophet gave to Seraiah, the son of Neriah, the son of Mahseiah, when he went with Zedekiah, the king of Judah, to Babylon in the fourth year of his rule. Now Seraiah was the chief controller of the house.

<sup>60</sup> And Jeremiah put in a book all the evil which was to come on Babylon.

<sup>61</sup> And Jeremiah said to Seraiah, When you come to Babylon, see that you give them all these words;

<sup>62</sup> And after reading them, say, O Lord, you have said about this place that it is to be cut off, so that no one will be living

in it, not a man or a beast, but it will be unpeopled for ever.

<sup>63</sup>And it will be that, when you have come to an end of reading this book, you are to have a stone fixed to it, and have it dropped into the Euphrates:

<sup>64</sup>And you are to say, So Babylon will go down, never to be lifted up again, because of the evil which I will send on her: and weariness will overcome them. So far, these are the words of Jeremiah.

**52**<sup>1</sup> Zedekiah was twenty-one years old when he became king; he was king for eleven years in Jerusalem: and his mothers name was Hamutal, the daughter of Jeremiah of Libnah.

<sup>2</sup>And he did evil in the eyes of the Lord, as Jehoiakim had done.

<sup>3</sup>And because of the wrath of the Lord this came about in Jerusalem and Judah, till he had sent them away from before him: and Zedekiah took up arms against the king of Babylon.

<sup>4</sup>And in the ninth year of his rule, on the tenth day of the tenth month, Nebuchadrezzar, king of Babylon, came against Jerusalem with all his army and



took up his position before it, building earthworks all round it.

<sup>5</sup>So the town was shut in by their forces till the eleventh year of King Zedekiah.

<sup>6</sup>In the fourth month, on the ninth day of the month, the store of food in the town was almost gone, so that there was no food for the people of the land.

<sup>7</sup>Then an opening was made in the wall of the town, and all the men of war went in flight out of the town by night through the doorway between the two walls which was by the king's garden; (now the Chaldeans were stationed round the town:) and they went by the way of the Arabah.

<sup>8</sup>And the Chaldean army went after King Zedekiah and overtook him on the other side of Jericho, and all his army went in flight from him in every direction.

<sup>9</sup>Then they made the king a prisoner and took him up to the king of Babylon to Riblah in the land of Hamath to be judged.

<sup>10</sup>And the king of Babylon put the sons of Zedekiah to death before his eyes:

and he put to death all the rulers of Judah in Riblah.

<sup>11</sup> And he put out Zedekiahs eyes; and the king of Babylon, chaining him in iron bands, took him to Babylon, and put him in prison till the day of his death.

<sup>12</sup> Now in the fifth month, on the tenth day of the month, in the nineteenth year of King Nebuchadrezzar, king of Babylon, Nebuzaradan, the captain of the armed men, a servant of the king of Babylon, came into Jerusalem.

<sup>13</sup> And he had the house of the Lord and the kings house and all the houses of Jerusalem, even every great house, burned with fire:

<sup>14</sup> And the walls round Jerusalem were broken down by the Chaldaean army which was with the captain.

<sup>15</sup> Then Nebuzaradan, the captain of the armed men, took away as prisoners the rest of the people who were still in the town, and those who had given themselves up to the king of Babylon, and the rest of the workmen.

<sup>16</sup> But Nebuzaradan, the captain of the armed men, let the poorest of the land

go on living there, to take care of the vines and the fields.

<sup>17</sup>And the brass pillars which were in the house of the Lord, and the wheeled bases and the great brass water-vessel in the house of the Lord, were broken up by the Chaldaeans, who took all the brass away to Babylon.

<sup>18</sup>And the pots and the spades and the scissors for the lights and the spoons, and all the brass vessels used in the Lords house, they took away.

<sup>19</sup>And the cups and the fire-trays and the basins and the pots and the supports for the lights and the spoons and the wide basins; the gold of the gold vessels, and the silver of the silver vessels, the captain of the armed men took away.

<sup>20</sup>The two pillars, the great water-vessel, and the twelve brass oxen which were under it, and the ten wheeled bases, which King Solomon had made for the house of the Lord: the brass of all these vessels was without weight.

<sup>21</sup>And as for the pillars, one pillar was eighteen cubits high, and twelve cubits measured all round, and it was as thick as a mans hand: it was hollow.

<sup>22</sup>And there was a crown of brass on it: the crown was five cubits high, circled with a network and apples all of brass; and the second pillar had the same.

<sup>23</sup>There were ninety-six apples on the outside; the number of apples all round the network was a hundred.

<sup>24</sup>And the captain of the armed men took Seraiah, the chief priest, and Zephaniah, the second priest, and the three door-keepers;

<sup>25</sup>And from the town he took the unsexed servant who was over the men of war, and seven of the kings near friends who were in the town, and the scribe of the captain of the army, who was responsible for getting the people of the land together in military order, and sixty men of the people of the land who were in the town.

<sup>26</sup>These Nebuzaradan, the captain of the armed men, took with him to the king of Babylon at Riblah.

<sup>27</sup>And the king of Babylon put them to death at Riblah in the land of Hamath. So Judah was taken prisoner away from his land.

<sup>28</sup>These are the people whom Nebuchadrezzar took away prisoner: in the seventh year, three thousand and twenty-three Jews:

<sup>29</sup>And in the eighteenth year of Nebuchadrezzar he took away as prisoners from Jerusalem eight hundred and thirty-two persons:

<sup>30</sup>In the twenty-third year of Nebuchadrezzar, Nebuzaradan, the captain of the armed men, took away as prisoners seven hundred and forty-five of the Jews: all the persons were four thousand and six hundred.

<sup>31</sup>And in the thirty-seventh year after Jehoiachin, king of Judah, had been taken prisoner, in the twelfth month, on the twenty-fifth day of the month, Evil-merodach, king of Babylon, in the first year after he became king, took Jehoiachin, king of Judah, out of prison.

<sup>32</sup>And he said kind words to him and put his seat higher than the seats of the other kings who were with him in Babylon.

<sup>33</sup>And his prison clothing was changed, and he was a guest at the kings table every day for the rest of his life.

<sup>34</sup> And for his food, the king gave him a regular amount every day till the day of his death, for the rest of his life.

# Lamentations

**1** <sup>1</sup> See her seated by herself, the town which was full of people! She who was great among the nations has become like a widow! She who was a princess among the countries has come under the yoke of forced work!

<sup>2</sup> She is sorrowing bitterly in the night, and her face is wet with weeping; among all her lovers she has no comforter: all her friends have been false to her, they have become her haters.

<sup>3</sup> Judah has been taken away as a prisoner because of trouble and hard work; her living-place is among the nations, there is no rest for her: all her attackers have overtaken her in a narrow place.

<sup>4</sup> The ways of Zion are sad, because no one comes to the holy meeting; all her doorways are made waste, her priests are breathing out sorrow: her virgins are troubled, and it is bitter for her.

<sup>5</sup> Those who are against her have become the head, everything goes well

for her haters; for the Lord has sent sorrow on her because of the great number of her sins: her young children have gone away as prisoners before the attacker.

<sup>6</sup>And all her glory has gone from the daughter of Zion: her rulers have become like harts with no place for food, and they have gone in flight without strength before the attacker.

<sup>7</sup>Jerusalem keeps in mind, in the days of her sorrow and of her wanderings, all the desired things which were hers in days gone by; when her people came into the power of her hater and she had no helper, her attackers saw their desire effected on her and made sport of her destruction.

<sup>8</sup>Great is the sin of Jerusalem; for this cause she has become an unclean thing: all those who gave her honour are looking down on her, because they have seen her shame: now truly, breathing out grief, she is turned back.

<sup>9</sup>In her skirts were her unclean ways; she gave no thought to her end; and her fall has been a wonder; she has no



comforter: see her sorrow, O Lord; for the attacker is lifted up.

<sup>10</sup>The hand of her hater is stretched out over all her desired things; for she has seen that the nations have come into her holy place, about whom you gave orders that they were not to come into the meeting of your people.

<sup>11</sup>Breathing out grief all her people are looking for bread; they have given their desired things for food to give them life: see, O Lord, and take note; for she has become a thing of shame.

<sup>12</sup>Come to me, all you who go by! Keep your eyes on me, and see if there is any pain like the pain of my wound, which the Lord has sent on me in the day of his burning wrath.

<sup>13</sup>From on high he has sent fire into my bones, and it has overcome them: his net is stretched out for my feet, I am turned back by him; he has made me waste and feeble all the day.

<sup>14</sup>A watch is kept on my sins; they are joined together by his hand, they have come on to my neck; he has made my strength give way: the Lord has given

me up into the hands of those against whom I have no power.

<sup>15</sup>The Lord has made sport of all my men of war in me, he has got men together against me to send destruction on my young men: the virgin daughter of Judah has been crushed like grapes under the feet of the Lord.

<sup>16</sup>For these things I am weeping; my eye is streaming with water; because the comforter who might give me new life is far from me: my children are made waste, because the hater is strong.

<sup>17</sup>Zions hands are outstretched; she has no comforter; the Lord has given orders to the attackers of Jacob round about him: Jerusalem has become like an unclean thing among them.

<sup>18</sup>The Lord is upright; for I have gone against his orders: give ear, now, all you peoples, and see my pain, my virgins and my young men have gone away as prisoners.

<sup>19</sup>I sent for my lovers, but they were false to me: my priests and my responsible men were breathing their last breath in the town, while they were looking for food to give them new life.

<sup>20</sup>See, O Lord, for I am in trouble; the inmost parts of my body are deeply moved; my heart is turned in me; for I have been uncontrolled: outside the children are put to the sword, and in the house there is death.

<sup>21</sup>Give ear to the voice of my grief; I have no comforter; all my haters have news of my troubles, they are glad because you have done it: let the day of fate come when they will be like me.

<sup>22</sup>Let all their evil-doing come before you; do to them as you have done to me for all my sins: for loud is the sound of my grief, and the strength of my heart is gone.

**2**<sup>1</sup>How has the daughter of Zion been covered with a cloud by the Lord in his wrath! he has sent down from heaven to earth the glory of Israel, and has not kept in memory the resting-place of his feet in the day of his wrath.

<sup>2</sup>The Lord has given up to destruction all the living-places of Jacob without pity; pulling down in his wrath the strong places of the daughter of Judah, stretching out on the earth the wounded, even her king and her rulers.

<sup>3</sup>In his burning wrath every horn of Israel has been cut off; his right hand has been turned back before the attacker: he has put a fire in Jacob, causing destruction round about.

<sup>4</sup>His bow has been bent for the attack, he has taken his place with his hand ready, in his hate he has put to death all who were pleasing to the eye: on the tent of the daughter of Zion he has let loose his passion like fire.

<sup>5</sup>The Lord has become like one fighting against her, sending destruction on Israel; he has sent destruction on all her great houses, making waste his strong places: increasing the grief and the sorrow of the daughter of Judah.

<sup>6</sup>And he has violently taken away his tent, as from a garden; he has made waste his meeting-place: the Lord has taken away the memory of feast and Sabbath in Zion, and in the passion of his wrath he is against king and priest.

<sup>7</sup>The Lord has given up his altar and has been turned in hate from his holy place; he has given up into the hands of the attacker the walls of her great houses: their voices have been loud in

the house of the Lord as in the day of a holy meeting.

<sup>8</sup>It is the Lords purpose to make waste the wall of the daughter of Zion; his line has been stretched out, he has not kept back his hand from destruction: he has sent sorrow on tower and wall, they have become feeble together.

<sup>9</sup>Her doors have gone down into the earth; he has sent destruction on her locks: her king and her princes are among the nations where the law is not; even her prophets have had no vision from the Lord.

<sup>10</sup>The responsible men of the daughter of Zion are seated on the earth without a word; they have put dust on their heads, they are clothed in haircloth: the heads of the virgins of Jerusalem are bent down to the earth.

<sup>11</sup>My eyes are wasted with weeping, the inmost parts of my body are deeply moved, my inner parts are drained out on the earth, for the destruction of the daughter of my people; because of the young children and babies at the breast who are falling without strength in the open squares of the town.

<sup>12</sup>They say to their mothers, Where is grain and wine? when they are falling like the wounded in the open squares of the town, when their life is drained out on their mothers breast.

<sup>13</sup>What example am I to give you? what comparison am I to make for you, O daughter of Jerusalem? what am I to make equal to you, so that I may give you comfort, O virgin daughter of Zion? for your destruction is great like the sea: who is able to make you well?

<sup>14</sup>The visions which your prophets have seen for you are false and foolish; they have not made clear to you your sin so that your fate might be changed: but they have seen for you false words, driving you away.

<sup>15</sup>All who go by make a noise with their hands at you; they make hisses, shaking their heads at the daughter of Jerusalem, and saying, Is this the town which was the crown of everything beautiful, the joy of all the earth?

<sup>16</sup>All your haters are opening their mouths wide against you; making hisses and whistling through their teeth, they say, We have made a meal of her:

certainly this is the day we have been looking for; it has come, we have seen it.

<sup>17</sup> The Lord has done that which was his purpose; he has put into force the orders which he gave in the days which are past; pulling down without pity, he has made your hater glad over you, lifting up the horn of those who were against you.

<sup>18</sup> Let your cry go up to the Lord: O wall of the daughter of Zion, let your weeping be flowing down like a stream day and night; give yourself no rest, let not your eyes keep back the drops of sorrow.

<sup>19</sup> Up! give cries in the night, at the starting of the night-watches; let your heart be flowing out like water before the face of the Lord, lifting up your hands to him for the life of your young children who are falling down, feeble for need of food, at the top of every street.

<sup>20</sup> Look! O Lord, see to whom you have done this! Are the women to take as their food the fruit of their bodies, the children who are folded in their arms? are the priest and the prophet to be put to death in the holy place of the Lord?

<sup>21</sup> The young men and the old are stretched on the earth in the streets; my virgins and my young men have been put to the sword: you have sent death on them in the day of your wrath, causing death without pity.

<sup>22</sup> As in the day of a holy meeting you have made fears come round me on every side, and no one got away or was kept safe in the day of the Lords wrath: those who were folded in my arms, whom I took care of, have been sent to their destruction by my hater.

**3**<sup>1</sup> I am the man who has seen trouble by the rod of his wrath.

<sup>2</sup> By him I have been made to go in the dark where there is no light.

<sup>3</sup> Truly against me his hand has been turned again and again all the day.

<sup>4</sup> My flesh and my skin have been used up by him and my bones broken.

<sup>5</sup> He has put up a wall against me, shutting me in with bitter sorrow.

<sup>6</sup> He has kept me in dark places, like those who have been long dead.

<sup>7</sup> He has put a wall round me, so that I am not able to go out; he has made great the weight of my chain.



<sup>8</sup>Even when I send up a cry for help, he keeps my prayer shut out.

<sup>9</sup>He has put up a wall of cut stones about my ways, he has made my roads twisted.

<sup>10</sup>He is like a bear waiting for me, like a lion in secret places.

<sup>11</sup>By him my ways have been turned on one side and I have been pulled in bits; he has made me waste.

<sup>12</sup>With his bow bent, he has made me the mark for his arrows.

<sup>13</sup>He has let loose his arrows into the inmost parts of my body.

<sup>14</sup>I have become the sport of all the peoples; I am their song all the day.

<sup>15</sup>He has made my life nothing but pain, he has given me the bitter root in full measure.

<sup>16</sup>By him my teeth have been broken with crushed stones, and I am bent low in the dust.

<sup>17</sup>My soul is sent far away from peace, I have no more memory of good.

<sup>18</sup>And I said, My strength is cut off, and my hope from the Lord.

<sup>19</sup>Keep in mind my trouble and my wandering, the bitter root and the poison.

<sup>20</sup>My soul still keeps the memory of them; and is bent down in me.

<sup>21</sup>This I keep in mind, and because of this I have hope.

<sup>22</sup>It is through the Lords love that we have not come to destruction, because his mercies have no limit.

<sup>23</sup>They are new every morning; great is your good faith.

<sup>24</sup>I said to myself, The Lord is my heritage; and because of this I will have hope in him.

<sup>25</sup>The Lord is good to those who are waiting for him, to the soul which is looking for him.

<sup>26</sup>It is good to go on hoping and quietly waiting for the salvation of the Lord.

<sup>27</sup>It is good for a man to undergo the yoke when he is young.

<sup>28</sup>Let him be seated by himself, saying nothing, because he has put it on him.

<sup>29</sup>Let him put his mouth in the dust, if by chance there may be hope.

<sup>30</sup>Let his face be turned to him who gives him blows; let him be full of shame.

<sup>31</sup>For the Lord does not give a man up for ever.

<sup>32</sup>For though he sends grief, still he will have pity in the full measure of his love.

<sup>33</sup>For he has no pleasure in troubling and causing grief to the children of men.

<sup>34</sup>In a mans crushing under his feet all the prisoners of the earth,

<sup>35</sup>In his turning away the right of a man before the face of the Most High.

<sup>36</sup>In his doing wrong to a man in his cause, the Lord has no pleasure.

<sup>37</sup>Who is able to say a thing, and give effect to it, if it has not been ordered by the Lord?

<sup>38</sup>Do not evil and good come from the mouth of the Most High?

<sup>39</sup>What protest may a living man make, even a man about the punishment of his sin?

<sup>40</sup>Let us make search and put our ways to the test, turning again to the Lord;

<sup>41</sup>Lifting up our hearts with our hands to God in the heavens.

<sup>42</sup>We have done wrong and gone against your law; we have not had your forgiveness.

<sup>43</sup>Covering yourself with wrath you have gone after us, cutting us off without pity;

<sup>44</sup>Covering yourself with a cloud, so that prayer may not get through.

<sup>45</sup>You have made us like waste and that for which there is no use, among the peoples.

<sup>46</sup>The mouths of all our haters are open wide against us.

<sup>47</sup>Fear and deep waters have come on us, wasting and destruction.

<sup>48</sup>Rivers of water are running down from my eyes, for the destruction of the daughter of my people.

<sup>49</sup>My eyes are streaming without stopping, they have no rest,

<sup>50</sup>Till the Lords eye is turned on me, till he sees my trouble from heaven.

<sup>51</sup>The Lord is unkind to my soul, more than all the daughters of my town.

<sup>52</sup>They who are against me without cause have gone hard after me as if I was a bird;

<sup>53</sup> They have put an end to my life in the prison, stoning me with stones.

<sup>54</sup> Waters were flowing over my head; I said, I am cut off.

<sup>55</sup> I was making prayer to your name, O Lord, out of the lowest prison.

<sup>56</sup> My voice came to you; let not your ear be shut to my breathing, to my cry.

<sup>57</sup> You came near in the day when I made my prayer to you: you said, Have no fear.

<sup>58</sup> O Lord, you have taken up the cause of my soul, you have made my life safe.

<sup>59</sup> O Lord, you have seen my wrong; be judge in my cause.

<sup>60</sup> You have seen all the evil rewards they have sent on me, and all their designs against me.

<sup>61</sup> Their bitter words have come to your ears, O Lord, and all their designs against me;

<sup>62</sup> The lips of those who came up against me, and their thoughts against me all the day.

<sup>63</sup> Take note of them when they are seated, and when they get up; I am their song.

<sup>64</sup>You will give them their reward, O Lord, answering to the work of their hands.

<sup>65</sup>You will let their hearts be covered over with your curse on them.

<sup>66</sup>You will go after them in wrath, and put an end to them from under the heavens of the Lord.

**4**<sup>1</sup> How dark has the gold become! how changed the best gold! the stones of the holy place are dropping out at the top of every street.

<sup>2</sup>The valued sons of Zion, whose price was the best gold, are looked on as vessels of earth, the work of the hands of the potter!

<sup>3</sup>Even the beasts of the waste land have full breasts, they give milk to their young ones: the daughter of my people has become cruel like the ostriches in the waste land.

<sup>4</sup>The tongue of the child at the breast is fixed to the roof of his mouth for need of drink: the young children are crying out for bread, and no man gives it to them.

<sup>5</sup>Those who were used to feasting on delicate food are wasted in the streets:

those who as children were dressed in purple are stretched out on the dust.

<sup>6</sup>For the punishment of the daughter of my people is greater than the punishment of Sodom, which was overturned suddenly without any hand falling on her.

<sup>7</sup>Her holy ones were cleaner than snow, they were whiter than milk, their bodies were redder than corals, their form was as the sapphire:

<sup>8</sup>Their face is blacker than night; in the streets no one has knowledge of them: their skin is hanging on their bones, they are dry, they have become like wood.

<sup>9</sup>Those who have been put to the sword are better off than those whose death is caused by need of food; for these come to death slowly, burned up like the fruit of the field.

<sup>10</sup>The hands of kind-hearted women have been boiling their children; they were their food in the destruction of the daughter of my people.

<sup>11</sup>The Lord has given full effect to his passion, he has let loose his burning wrath; he has made a fire in Zion, causing the destruction of its bases.

<sup>12</sup>To the kings of the earth and to all the people of the world it did not seem possible that the attackers and the haters would go into the doors of Jerusalem.

<sup>13</sup>It is because of the sins of her prophets and the evil-doing of her priests, by whom the blood of the upright has been drained out in her.

<sup>14</sup>They are wandering like blind men in the streets, they are made unclean with blood, so that their robes may not be touched by men.

<sup>15</sup>Away! unclean! they were crying out to them, Away! away! let there be no touching: when they went away in flight and wandering, men said among the nations, There is no further resting-place for them.

<sup>16</sup>The face of the Lord has sent them in all directions; he will no longer take care of them: they had no respect for the priests, they gave no honour to the old men.

<sup>17</sup>Our eyes are still wasting away in looking for our false help: we have been watching for a nation unable to give salvation.



<sup>18</sup>They go after our steps so that we may not go in our streets: our end is near, our days are numbered; for our end has come.

<sup>19</sup>Those who went after us were quicker than the eagles of the heaven, driving us before them on the mountains, waiting secretly for us in the waste land.

<sup>20</sup>Our breath of life, he on whom the holy oil was put, was taken in their holes; of whom we said, Under his shade we will be living among the nations.

<sup>21</sup>Have joy and be glad, O daughter of Edom, living in the land of Uz: the cup will be given to you in your turn, and you will be overcome with wine and your shame will be seen.

<sup>22</sup>The punishment of your evil-doing is complete, O daughter of Zion; never again will he take you away as a prisoner: he will give you the reward of your evil-doing, O daughter of Edom; he will let your sin be uncovered.

**5**<sup>1</sup>Keep in mind, O Lord, what has come to us: take note and see our shame.

<sup>2</sup>Our heritage is given up to men of strange lands, our houses to those who are not our countrymen.

<sup>3</sup>We are children without fathers, our mothers are like widows.

<sup>4</sup>We give money for a drink of water, we get our wood for a price.

<sup>5</sup>Our attackers are on our necks: overcome with weariness, we have no rest.

<sup>6</sup>We have given our hands to the Egyptians and to the Assyrians so that we might have enough bread.

<sup>7</sup>Our fathers were sinners and are dead; and the weight of their evil-doing is on us.

<sup>8</sup>Servants are ruling over us, and there is no one to make us free from their hands.

<sup>9</sup>We put our lives in danger to get our bread, because of the sword of the waste land.

<sup>10</sup>Our skin is heated like an oven because of our burning heat from need of food.

<sup>11</sup>They took by force the women in Zion, the virgins in the towns of Judah.

<sup>12</sup>Their hands put princes to death by hanging: the faces of old men were not honoured.

<sup>13</sup>The young men were crushing the grain, and the boys were falling under the wood.

<sup>14</sup>The old men are no longer seated in the doorway, and the music of the young men has come to an end.

<sup>15</sup>The joy of our hearts is ended; our dancing is changed into sorrow.

<sup>16</sup>The crown has been taken from our head: sorrow is ours, for we are sinners.

<sup>17</sup>Because of this our hearts are feeble; for these things our eyes are dark;

<sup>18</sup>Because of the mountain of Zion which is a waste; jackals go over it.

<sup>19</sup>You, O Lord, are seated as King for ever; the seat of your power is eternal.

<sup>20</sup>Why have we gone from your memory for ever? why have you been turned away from us for so long?

<sup>21</sup>Make us come back to you, O Lord, and let us be turned; make our days new again as in the past.

<sup>22</sup>But you have quite given us up; you are full of wrath against us.

# Ezekiel

**1** <sup>1</sup> Now it came about in the thirtieth year, in the fourth month, on the fifth day of the month, while I was by the river Chebar among those who had been made prisoners, that the heavens were made open and I saw visions of God.

<sup>2</sup> On the fifth day of the month, in the fifth year after King Jehoiachin had been made a prisoner,

<sup>3</sup> The word of the Lord came to me, Ezekiel the priest, the son of Buzi, in the land of the Chaldaeans by the river Chebar; and the hand of the Lord was on me there.

<sup>4</sup> And, looking, I saw a storm-wind coming out of the north, a great cloud with flames of fire coming after one another, and a bright light shining round about it and in the heart of it was something coloured like electrum.

<sup>5</sup> And in the heart of it were the forms of four living beings. And this was what they were like; they had the form of a man.

<sup>6</sup>And every one had four faces, and every one of them had four wings.

<sup>7</sup>And their feet were straight feet; and the under sides of their feet were like the feet of oxen; and they were shining like polished brass.

<sup>8</sup>And they had the hands of a man under their wings; the four of them had faces on their four sides.

<sup>9</sup>They went without turning, every one went straight forward.

<sup>10</sup>As for the form of their faces, they had the face of a man, and the four of them had the face of a lion on the right side, and the four of them had the face of an ox on the left side, and the four of them had the face of an eagle.

<sup>11</sup>And their wings were separate at the top; two of the wings of every one were joined one to another, and two were covering their bodies.

<sup>12</sup>Every one of them went straight forward; wherever the spirit was to go they went; they went on without turning.

<sup>13</sup>And between the living beings it was like burning coals of fire, as if flames were going one after the other between

the living beings; and the fire was bright, and out of the fire went thunder-flames.

<sup>14</sup>And the living beings went out and came back as quickly as a thunder-flame.

<sup>15</sup>Now while I was looking at the four living beings, I saw one wheel on the earth, by the side of the living beings, for the four of them.

<sup>16</sup>The form of the wheels and their work was like a beryl; the four of them had the same form and design, and they were like a wheel inside a wheel.

<sup>17</sup>The four of them went straight forward without turning to one side.

<sup>18</sup>And I saw that they had edges, and their edges, even of the four, were full of eyes round about.

<sup>19</sup>And when the living beings went on, the wheels went by their side; and when the living beings were lifted up from the earth, the wheels were lifted up.

<sup>20</sup>Wherever the spirit was to go they went; and the wheels were lifted up by their side: for the spirit of the living beings was in the wheels.

<sup>21</sup>When these went on, the others went; and when these came to rest, the others came to rest; and when these

were lifted up from the earth, the wheels were lifted up by their side: for the spirit of the living beings was in the wheels.

<sup>22</sup>And over the heads of the living beings there was the form of an arch, looking like ice, stretched out over their heads on high.

<sup>23</sup>Under the arch their wings were straight, one stretched out to another: every one had two wings covering their bodies on this side and two covering their bodies on that side.

<sup>24</sup>And when they went, the sound of their wings was like the sound of great waters to my ears, like the voice of the Ruler of all, a sound like the rushing of an army: when they came to rest they let down their wings.

<sup>25</sup>And there was a voice from the top of the arch which was over their heads: when they came to rest they let down their wings.

<sup>26</sup>And on the top of the arch which was over their heads was the form of a kings seat, like a sapphire stone; and on the form of the seat was the form of a man seated on it on high.

<sup>27</sup> And I saw it coloured like electrum, with the look of fire in it and round it, going up from what seemed to be the middle of his body; and going down from what seemed to be the middle of his body I saw what was like fire, and there was a bright light shining round him.

<sup>28</sup> Like the bow in the cloud on a day of rain, so was the light shining round him. And this is what the glory of the Lord was like. And when I saw it I went down on my face, and the voice of one talking came to my ears.

**2**<sup>1</sup> And he said to me, Son of man, get up on your feet, so that I may say words to you.

<sup>2</sup> And at his words the spirit came into me and put me on my feet; and his voice came to my ears.

<sup>3</sup> And he said to me, Son of man, I am sending you to the children of Israel, to an uncontrolled nation which has gone against me: they and their fathers have been sinners against me even to this very day.

<sup>4</sup> And the children are hard and stiff-hearted; I am sending you to them:



and you are to say to them, These are the words of the Lord.

<sup>5</sup>And they, if they give ear to you or if they do not give ear (for they are an uncontrolled people), will see that there has been a prophet among them.

<sup>6</sup>And you, son of man, have no fear of them or of their words, even if sharp thorns are round you and you are living among scorpions: have no fear of their words and do not be overcome by their looks, for they are an uncontrolled people.

<sup>7</sup>And you are to give them my words, if they give ear to you or if they do not: for they are uncontrolled.

<sup>8</sup>But you, son of man, give ear to what I say to you, and do not be uncontrolled like that uncontrolled people: let your mouth be open and take what I give you.

<sup>9</sup>And looking, I saw a hand stretched out to me, and I saw the roll of a book in it;

<sup>10</sup>And he put it open before me, and it had writing on the front and on the back; words of grief and sorrow and trouble were recorded in it.

**3**<sup>1</sup> And he said to me, Son of man, take this roll for your food, and go and say my words to the children of Israel.

<sup>2</sup> And, on my opening my mouth, he made me take the roll as food.

<sup>3</sup> And he said to me, Son of man, let your stomach make a meal of it and let your inside be full of this roll which I am giving you. Then I took it, and it was sweet as honey in my mouth.

<sup>4</sup> And he said to me, Son of man, go now to the children of Israel, and say my words to them.

<sup>5</sup> For you are not sent to a people whose talk is strange and whose language is hard, but to the children of Israel;

<sup>6</sup> Not to a number of peoples whose talk is strange and whose language is hard and whose words are not clear to you. Truly, if I sent you to them they would give ear to you.

<sup>7</sup> But the children of Israel will not give ear to you; for they have no mind to give ear to me: for all the children of Israel have a hard brow and a stiff heart.

<sup>8</sup>See, I have made your face hard against their faces, and your brow hard against their brows.

<sup>9</sup>Like a diamond harder than rock I have made your brow: have no fear of them and do not be overcome by their looks, for they are an uncontrolled people.

<sup>10</sup>Then he said to me, Son of man, take into your heart all my words which I am about to say to you, and let your ears be open to them.

<sup>11</sup>And go now to those who have been taken away as prisoners, to the children of your people, and say to them, This is what the Lord has said; if they give ear or if they do not.

<sup>12</sup>Then I was lifted up by the wind, and at my back the sound of a great rushing came to my ears when the glory of the Lord was lifted up from his place.

<sup>13</sup>And there was the sound of the wings of the living beings touching one another, and the sound of the wheels at their side, the sound of a great rushing.

<sup>14</sup>And the wind, lifting me up, took me away: and I went in the heat of my

spirit, and the hand of the Lord was strong on me.

<sup>15</sup>Then I came to those who had been taken away as prisoners, who were at Telabib by the river Chebar, and I was seated among them full of wonder for seven days.

<sup>16</sup>And at the end of seven days, the word of the Lord came to me, saying,

<sup>17</sup>Son of man, I have made you a watchman for the children of Israel: so give ear to the word of my mouth, and give them word from me of their danger.

<sup>18</sup>When I say to the evil-doer, Death will certainly be your fate; and you give him no word of it and say nothing to make clear to the evil-doer the danger of his evil way, so that he may be safe; that same evil man will come to death in his evil-doing; but I will make you responsible for his blood.

<sup>19</sup>But if you give the evil-doer word of his danger, and he is not turned from his sin or from his evil way, death will overtake him in his evil-doing; but your life will be safe.

<sup>20</sup>Again, when an upright man, turning away from his righteousness, does evil,

and I put a cause of falling in his way, death will overtake him: because you have given him no word of his danger, death will overtake him in his evil-doing, and there will be no memory of the upright acts which he has done; but I will make you responsible for his blood.

<sup>21</sup> But if you say to the upright man that he is not to do evil, he will certainly keep his life because he took note of your word; and your life will be safe.

<sup>22</sup> And the hand of the Lord was on me there; and he said, Get up and go out into the valley and there I will have talk with you.

<sup>23</sup> Then I got up and went out into the valley; and I saw the glory of the Lord resting there as I had seen it by the river Chebar; and I went down on my face.

<sup>24</sup> Then the spirit came into me and put me on my feet; and he had talk with me and said to me, Go and keep yourself shut up inside your house.

<sup>25</sup> But see, O son of man, I will put bands on you, prisoning you in them, and you will not go out among them:

<sup>26</sup> And I will make your tongue fixed to the roof of your mouth, so that you have

no voice and may not make protests to them: for they are an uncontrolled people.

<sup>27</sup> But when I have talk with you I will make your mouth open, and you are to say to them, This is what the Lord has said: Let the hearer give ear; and as for him who will not, let him keep his ears shut: for they are an uncontrolled people.

**4**<sup>1</sup> And you, son of man, take a back and put it before you and on it make a picture of a town, even Jerusalem.

<sup>2</sup> And make an attack on it, shutting it in, building strong places against it, and making high an earthwork against it; and put up tents against it, placing engines all round it for smashing down its walls.

<sup>3</sup> And take a flat iron plate, and put it for a wall of iron between you and the town: and let your face be turned to it, and it will be shut in and you will make an attack on it. This will be a sign to the children of Israel.

<sup>4</sup> Then, stretching yourself out on your left side, take the sin of the children of Israel on yourself: for as long as you are

stretched out, so long will the sin of the children of Israel be on you.

<sup>5</sup>For I have had the years of their sin measured for you by a number of days, even three hundred and ninety days: and you will take on yourself the sin of the children of Israel.

<sup>6</sup>And when these days are ended, turning on your right side, you are to take on yourself the sin of the children of Judah: forty days, a day for a year, I have had it fixed for you.

<sup>7</sup>And let your face be turned to where Jerusalem is shut in, with your arm uncovered, and be a prophet against it.

<sup>8</sup>And see, I will put bands on you; and you will be stretched out without turning from one side to the other till the days of your attack are ended.

<sup>9</sup>And take for yourself wheat and barley and different sorts of grain, and put them in one vessel and make bread for yourself from them; all the days when you are stretched on your side it will be your food.

<sup>10</sup>And you are to take your food by weight, twenty shekels a day: you are to take it at regular times.

<sup>11</sup> And you are to take water by measure, the sixth part of a hin: you are to take it at regular times.

<sup>12</sup> And let your food be barley cakes, cooking it before their eyes with the waste which comes out of a man.

<sup>13</sup> And the Lord said, Even so the children of Israel will have unclean bread for their food among the nations where I am driving them.

<sup>14</sup> Then I said, Ah, Lord! see, my soul has never been unclean, and I have never taken as my food anything which has come to a natural death or has been broken by beasts, from the time when I was young even till now; no disgusting flesh has ever come into my mouth.

<sup>15</sup> Then he said to me, See, I have given you cows waste in place of mans waste, and you will make your bread ready on it.

<sup>16</sup> And he said to me, Son of man, see, I will take away from Jerusalem her necessary bread: they will take their bread by weight and with care, measuring out their drinking-water with fear and wonder:



<sup>17</sup> So that they may be in need of bread and water and be wondering at one another, wasting away in their sin.

**5**<sup>1</sup> And you, son of man, take a sharp sword, using it like a haircutters blade, and making it go over your head and the hair of your chin: and take scales for separating the hair by weight.

<sup>2</sup> You are to have a third part burned with fire inside the town, when the days of the attack are ended; and a third part you are to take and give blows with the sword round about it; and give a third part for the wind to take away, and let loose a sword after them.

<sup>3</sup> And take from them a small number of hairs, folding them in your skirts.

<sup>4</sup> And again take some of these and put them in the fire, burning them up in the fire; and say to all the children of Israel,

<sup>5</sup> This is what the Lord has said: This is Jerusalem: I have put her among the nations, and countries are round her on every side;

<sup>6</sup> And she has gone against my orders by doing evil more than the nations, and against my rules more than the countries round her: for they have given up my

orders, and as for my rules, they have not gone in the way of them.

<sup>7</sup>For this cause the Lord has said: Because you have been more uncontrolled than the nations round about you, and have not been guided by my rules or kept my orders, but have kept the orders of the nations round about you;

<sup>8</sup>For this cause the Lord has said: See, I, even I, am against you; and I will be judging among you before the eyes of the nations.

<sup>9</sup>And I will do in you what I have not done and will not do again, because of all your disgusting ways.

<sup>10</sup>For this cause fathers will take their sons for food among you, and sons will make a meal of their fathers; and I will be judge among you, and all the rest of you I will send away to every wind.

<sup>11</sup>For this cause, by my life, says the Lord, because you have made my holy place unclean with all your hated things and all your disgusting ways, you will become disgusting to me; my eye will have no mercy and I will have no pity.

<sup>12</sup>A third of you will come to death from disease, wasting away among you through need of food; a third will be put to the sword round about you; and a third I will send away to every wind, letting loose a sword after them.

<sup>13</sup>So my wrath will be complete and my passion will come to rest on them; and they will be certain that I the Lord have given the word of decision, when my wrath against them is complete.

<sup>14</sup>And I will make you a waste and a name of shame among the nations round about you, in the eyes of everyone who goes by.

<sup>15</sup>And you will be a name of shame and a cause of bitter words, an example and a wonder to the nations round about you, when I give effect to my judging among you in wrath and in passion and in burning protests: I the Lord have said it:

<sup>16</sup>When I send on you the evil arrows of disease, causing destruction, which I will send to put an end to you; and, further, I will take away your necessary food.

<sup>17</sup>And I will send on you need of food and evil beasts, and they will be a cause

of loss to you; and disease and violent death will go through you; and I will send the sword on you: I the Lord have said it.

**6**<sup>1</sup> And the word of the Lord came to me, saying,

<sup>2</sup> Son of man, let your face be turned to the mountains of Israel, and be a prophet to them, and say,

<sup>3</sup> You mountains of Israel, give ear to the words of the Lord: this is what the Lord has said to the mountains and the hills, to the waterways and the valleys: See, I, even I, am sending on you a sword for the destruction of your high places.

<sup>4</sup> And your altars will be made waste, and your sun-images will be broken: and I will have your dead men placed before your images.

<sup>5</sup> And I will put the dead bodies of the children of Israel in front of their images, sending your bones in all directions about your altars.

<sup>6</sup> In all your living-places the towns will become broken walls, and the high places made waste; so that your altars may be broken down and made waste,

and your images broken and ended, and so that your sun-images may be cut down and your works rubbed out.

<sup>7</sup>And the dead will be falling down among you, and you will be certain that I am the Lord.

<sup>8</sup>But still, I will keep a small band safe from the sword among the nations, when you are sent wandering among the countries.

<sup>9</sup>And those of you who are kept safe will have me in mind among the nations where they have been taken away as prisoners, how I sent punishment on their hearts which were untrue to me, and on their eyes which were turned to their false gods: and they will be full of hate for themselves because of the evil things which they have done in all their disgusting ways.

<sup>10</sup>And they will be certain that I am the Lord: not for nothing did I say that I would do this evil to them.

<sup>11</sup>This is what the Lord has said: Give blows with your hand, stamping with your foot, and say, O sorrow! because of all the evil and disgusting ways of the children of Israel: for death will overtake

them by the sword and through need of food and by disease.

<sup>12</sup>He who is far away will come to his death by disease; he who is near will be put to the sword; he who is shut up will come to his death through need of food; and I will give full effect to my passion against them.

<sup>13</sup>And you will be certain that I am the Lord, when their dead men are stretched among their images round about their altars on every high hill, on all the tops of the mountains, and under every branching tree, and under every thick oak-tree, the places where they made sweet smells to all their images.

<sup>14</sup>And my hand will be stretched out against them, making the land waste and unpeopled, from the waste land to Riblah, through all their living-places: and they will be certain that I am the Lord.

**7**<sup>1</sup> And the word of the Lord came to me, saying,

<sup>2</sup>And you, son of man, say, This is what the Lord has said to the land of Israel: An end has come, the end has come on the four quarters of the land.

<sup>3</sup> Now the end has come on you, and I will send my wrath on you, judging you for your ways, I will send punishment on you for all your disgusting acts.

<sup>4</sup> My eye will not have mercy on you, and I will have no pity: but I will send the punishment of your ways on you, and your disgusting works will be among you: and you will be certain that I am the Lord.

<sup>5</sup> This is what the Lord has said: An evil, even one evil; see, it is coming.

<sup>6</sup> An end has come, the end has come; see, it is coming on you.

<sup>7</sup> The crowning time has come on you, O people of the land: the time has come, the day is near; the day will not be slow in coming, it will not keep back.

<sup>8</sup> Now, in a little time, I will let loose my passion on you, and give full effect to my wrath against you, judging you for your ways, and sending punishment on you for all your disgusting works.

<sup>9</sup> My eye will not have mercy, and I will have no pity: I will send on you the punishment of your ways, and your disgusting works will be among you; and

you will see that I am the Lord who gives punishment.

<sup>10</sup>See, the day; see, it is coming: the crowning time has gone out; the twisted way is flowering, pride has put out buds.

<sup>11</sup>Violent behaviour has been lifted up into a rod of evil; it will not be slow in coming, it will not keep back.

<sup>12</sup>The time has come, the day is near: let not him who gives a price for goods be glad, or him who gets the price have sorrow:

<sup>13</sup>For the trader will not go back to the things for which he had his price, even while he is still living:

<sup>14</sup>And he who has given a price for goods will not get them, for my wrath is on all of them.

<sup>15</sup>Outside is the sword, and inside disease and need of food: he who is in the open country will be put to the sword; he who is in the town will come to his end through need of food and disease.

<sup>16</sup>And those of them who get away safely will go and be in the secret places like the doves of the valleys, all of them will come to death, every one in his sin.



<sup>17</sup> All hands will be feeble and all knees without strength, like water.

<sup>18</sup> And they will put haircloth round them, and deep fear will be covering them; and shame will be on all faces, and the hair gone from all their heads.

<sup>19</sup> They will put out their silver into the streets, and their gold will be as an unclean thing; their silver and their gold will not be able to keep them safe in the day of the wrath of the Lord; they will not get their desire or have food for their need: because it has been the cause of their falling into sin.

<sup>20</sup> As for their beautiful ornament, they had put it on high, and had made the images of their disgusting and hated things in it: for this cause I have made it an unclean thing to them.

<sup>21</sup> And I will give it into the hands of men from strange lands who will take it by force, and to the evil-doers of the earth to have for themselves; and they will make it unholy.

<sup>22</sup> And my face will be turned away from them, and they will make my secret place unholy: violent men will go into it and make it unholy.

<sup>23</sup> Make the chain: for the land is full of crimes of blood, and the town is full of violent acts.

<sup>24</sup> For this reason I will send the worst of the nations and they will take their houses for themselves: I will make the pride of their strength come to an end; and their holy places will be made unclean.

<sup>25</sup> Shaking fear is coming; and they will be looking for peace, and there will be no peace.

<sup>26</sup> Destruction will come on destruction, and one story after another; and the vision of the prophet will be shamed, and knowledge of the law will come to an end among the priests, and wisdom among the old.

<sup>27</sup> The king will give himself up to sorrow, and the ruler will be clothed with wonder, and the hands of the people of the land will be troubled: I will give them punishment for their ways, judging them as it is right for them to be judged; and they will be certain that I am the Lord.

**8**<sup>1</sup> Now in the sixth year, in the sixth month, on the fifth day of the month, when I was in my house and the

responsible men of Judah were seated before me, the hand of the Lord came on me there.

<sup>2</sup>And looking, I saw a form like fire; from the middle of his body and down there was fire: and up from the middle of his body a sort of shining, like electrum.

<sup>3</sup>And he put out the form of a hand and took me by the hair of my head; and the wind, lifting me up between the earth and the heaven, took me in the visions of God to Jerusalem, to the way into the inner door facing to the north; where was the seat of the image of envy.

<sup>4</sup>And I saw the glory of the Lord there, as in the vision which I saw in the valley.

<sup>5</sup>Then he said to me, Son of man, now let your eyes be lifted up in the direction of the north; and on looking in the direction of the north, to the north of the doorway of the altar, I saw this image of envy by the way in.

<sup>6</sup>And he said to me, Son of man, do you see what they are doing? even the very disgusting things which the children of Israel are doing here, causing me to go far away from my holy place? but you will see other most disgusting things.

<sup>7</sup>And he took me to the door of the open place; and looking, I saw a hole in the wall.

<sup>8</sup>And he said to me, Son of man, make a hole in the wall: and after making a hole in the wall I saw a door.

<sup>9</sup>And he said to me, Go in and see the evil and disgusting things which they are doing here.

<sup>10</sup>So I went in and saw; and there every sort of living thing which goes flat on the earth, and unclean beasts, and all the images of the children of Israel, were pictured round about on the wall.

<sup>11</sup>And before them seventy of the responsible men of the children of Israel had taken their places, every man with a vessel for burning perfumes in his hand, and in the middle of them was Jaazaniah, the son of Shaphan; and a cloud of smoke went up from the burning perfume.

<sup>12</sup>And he said to me, Son of man, have you seen what the responsible men of the children of Israel do in the dark, every man in his room of pictured images? for they say, The Lord does not

see us; the Lord has gone away from the land.

<sup>13</sup>Then he said to me, You will see even more disgusting things which they do.

<sup>14</sup>Then he took me to the door of the way into the Lords house looking to the north; and there women were seated weeping for Tammuz.

<sup>15</sup>Then he said to me, Have you seen this, O son of man? you will see even more disgusting things than these.

<sup>16</sup>And he took me into the inner square of the Lords house, and at the door of the Temple of the Lord, between the covered way and the altar, there were about twenty-five men with their backs turned to the Temple of the Lord and their faces turned to the east; and they were worshipping the sun, turning to the east.

<sup>17</sup>Then he said to me, Have you seen this, O son of man? is it a small thing to the children of Judah that they do the disgusting things which they are doing here? for they have made the land full of violent behaviour, making me angry again and again: and see, they put the branch to my nose.

<sup>18</sup>For this reason I will let loose my wrath: my eye will not have mercy, and I will have no pity.

**9**<sup>1</sup>Then crying out in my hearing in a loud voice, he said, Let the overseers of the town come near, every man armed.

<sup>2</sup>And six men came from the way of the higher doorway looking to the north, every man with his axe in his hand: and one man among them was clothed in linen, with a writers inkpot at his side. And they went in and took their places by the brass altar.

<sup>3</sup>And the glory of the God of Israel had gone up from the winged ones on which it was resting, to the doorstep of the house. And crying out to the man clothed in linen who had the writers inkpot at his side,

<sup>4</sup>The Lord said to him, Go through the town, through the middle of Jerusalem, and put a mark on the brows of the men who are sorrowing and crying for all the disgusting things which are done in it.

<sup>5</sup>And to these he said in my hearing, Go through the town after him using your

axes: do not let your eyes have mercy, and have no pity:

<sup>6</sup>Give up to destruction old men and young men and virgins, little children and women: but do not come near any man who has the mark on him: and make a start at my holy place. So they made a start with the old men who were before the house.

<sup>7</sup>And he said to them, Make the house unclean, make the open places full of dead: go forward and send destruction on the town.

<sup>8</sup>Now while they were doing so, and I was untouched, I went down on my face, and crying out, I said, Ah, Lord! will you give all the rest of Israel to destruction in letting loose your wrath on Jerusalem?

<sup>9</sup>Then he said to me, The sin of the children of Israel and Judah is very, very great, and the land is full of blood and the town full of evil ways: for they say, The Lord has gone away from the land, and the Lord does not see.

<sup>10</sup>And as for me, my eye will not have mercy, and I will have no pity, but I will send the punishment of their ways on their heads.

<sup>11</sup> Then the man clothed in linen, who had the inkpot at his side, came back and said, I have done what you gave me orders to do.

**10**<sup>1</sup> Then looking, I saw that on the arch which was over the head of the winged ones there was seen over them what seemed like a sapphire stone, having the form of a kings seat.

<sup>2</sup> And he said to the man clothed in linen, Go in between the wheels, under the winged ones, and get your two hands full of burning coals from between the winged ones and send them in a shower over the town. And he went in before my eyes.

<sup>3</sup> Now the winged ones were stationed on the right side of the house when the man went in; and the inner square was full of the cloud.

<sup>4</sup> And the glory of the Lord went up from the winged ones and came to rest over the doorstep of the house; and the house was full of the cloud and the open square was full of the shining of the Lords glory.



<sup>5</sup>And the sound of the wings of the winged ones was clear even in the outer square, like the voice of the Ruler of all.

<sup>6</sup>And when he gave orders to the man clothed in linen, saying, Take fire from between the wheels, from between the winged ones, then he went in and took his place at the side of a wheel.

<sup>7</sup>And stretching out his hand to the fire which was between the winged ones, he took some of it and went out.

<sup>8</sup>And I saw the form of a mans hands among the winged ones under their wings.

<sup>9</sup>And looking, I saw four wheels by the side of the winged ones, one wheel by the side of a winged one and another wheel by the side of another: and the wheels were like the colour of a beryl stone to the eye.

<sup>10</sup>In form the four of them were all the same, they seemed like a wheel inside a wheel.

<sup>11</sup>When they were moving, they went on their four sides without turning; they went after the head in the direction in which it was looking; they went without turning.

<sup>12</sup>And the edges of the four wheels were full of eyes round about.

<sup>13</sup>As for the wheels, they were named in my hearing, the circling wheels.

<sup>14</sup>And every one had four faces: the first face was the face of a winged one, and the second was the face of a man, and the third the face of a lion, and the fourth the face of an eagle.

<sup>15</sup>And the winged ones went up on high: this is the living being which I saw by the river Chebar.

<sup>16</sup>And when the winged ones went, the wheels went by their side: and when their wings were lifted to take them up from the earth, the wheels were not turned from their side.

<sup>17</sup>When they were at rest in their place, these were at rest; when they were lifted up, these went up with them: for the spirit of life was in them.

<sup>18</sup>Then the glory of the Lord went out from the doorstep of the house, and came to rest over the winged ones.

<sup>19</sup>And the winged ones, lifting up their wings, went up from the earth before my eyes, with the wheels by their side: and they came to rest at the east doorway

of the Lords house; and the glory of the God of Israel was over them on high.

<sup>20</sup>This is the living being which I saw under the God of Israel by the river Chebar; and it was clear to me that they were the winged ones.

<sup>21</sup>Every one had four faces and every one had four wings; and hands like a mans hands were under their wings.

<sup>22</sup>As for the form of their faces, they were the faces whose form I saw by the river Chebar; when they went, every one of them went straight forward.

**11** <sup>1</sup>And the wind, lifting me up, took me to the east doorway of the Lords house, looking to the east: and at the door I saw twenty-five men; and among them I saw Jaazaniah, the son of Azzur, and Pelatiah, the son of Benaiah, rulers of the people.

<sup>2</sup>Then he said to me, Son of man, these are the men who are designing evil, who are teaching evil ways in this town:

<sup>3</sup>Who say, This is not the time for building houses: this town is the cooking-pot and we are the flesh.

<sup>4</sup>For this cause be a prophet against them, be a prophet, O son of man.

<sup>5</sup> And the spirit of the Lord came on me, and he said to me, Say, These are the words of the Lord: This is what you have said, O children of Israel; what comes into your mind is clear to me.

<sup>6</sup> You have made great the number of your dead in this town, you have made its streets full of dead men.

<sup>7</sup> For this reason the Lord has said: Your dead whom you have put down in its streets, they are the flesh, and this town is the cooking-pot: but I will make you come out from inside it.

<sup>8</sup> You have been fearing the sword, and I will send the sword on you, says the Lord.

<sup>9</sup> I will make you come out from inside the town and will give you up into the hands of men from other lands, and will be judge among you.

<sup>10</sup> You will come to your death by the sword; and I will be your judge in the land of Israel; and you will be certain that I am the Lord.

<sup>11</sup> This town will not be your cooking-pot, and you will not be the flesh inside it; I will be your judge at the limit of the land of Israel;

<sup>12</sup>And you will be certain that I am the Lord: for you have not been guided by my rules or given effect to my orders, but you have been living by the orders of the nations round about you.

<sup>13</sup>Now while I was saying these things, death came to Pelatiah, the son of Benaiah. Then falling down on my face and crying out with a loud voice, I said, Ah, Lord! will you put an end to all the rest of Israel?

<sup>14</sup>And the word of the Lord came to me, saying,

<sup>15</sup>Son of man, your countrymen, your relations, and all the children of Israel, all of them, are those to whom the people of Jerusalem have said, Go far from the Lord; this land is given to us for a heritage:

<sup>16</sup>For this reason say, This is what the Lord has said: Though I have had them moved far off among the nations, and though I have sent them wandering among the countries, still I have been a safe place for them for a little time in the countries where they have come.

<sup>17</sup>Then say, This is what the Lord has said: I will get you together from the

peoples, and make you come out of the countries where you have been sent in flight, and I will give you the land of Israel.

<sup>18</sup>And they will come there, and take away all the hated and disgusting things from it.

<sup>19</sup>And I will give them a new heart, and I will put a new spirit in them; and I will take the heart of stone out of their flesh and give them a heart of flesh:

<sup>20</sup>So that they may be guided by my rules and keep my orders and do them: and they will be to me a people, and I will be to them a God.

<sup>21</sup>But as for those whose heart goes after their hated and disgusting things, I will send on their heads the punishment of their ways, says the Lord.

<sup>22</sup>Then the wings of the winged ones were lifted up, and the wheels were by their side; and the glory of the God of Israel was over them on high.

<sup>23</sup>And the glory of the Lord went up from inside the town, and came to rest on the mountain on the east side of the town.

<sup>24</sup> And the wind, lifting me up, took me in the visions of God into Chaldaea, to those who had been taken away as prisoners. So the vision which I had seen went away from me.

<sup>25</sup> Then I gave an account to those who had been taken prisoners of all the things which the Lord had made me see.

**12**<sup>1</sup> And the word of the Lord came to me, saying,

<sup>2</sup> Son of man, you are living among an uncontrolled people, who have eyes to see but see not, and ears for hearing but they do not give ear; for they are an uncontrolled people.

<sup>3</sup> And you, O son of man, by day, before their eyes, get ready the vessels of one who is taken away, and go away from your place to another place before their eyes: it may be that they will see, though they are an uncontrolled people.

<sup>4</sup> By day, before their eyes, take out your vessels like those of one who is taken away: and go out in the evening before their eyes, like those who are taken away as prisoners.

<sup>5</sup> Make a hole in the wall, before their eyes, and go out through it.

<sup>6</sup>And before their eyes, take your goods on your back and go out in the dark; go with your face covered: for I have made you a sign to the children of Israel.

<sup>7</sup>And I did as I was ordered: I took out my vessels by day, like those of one who is taken away, and in the evening I made a hole through the wall with a tent-pin; and in the dark I went out, taking my things on my back before their eyes.

<sup>8</sup>And in the morning the word of the Lord came to me, saying,

<sup>9</sup>Son of man, has not Israel, the uncontrolled people, said to you, What are you doing?

<sup>10</sup>You are to say to them, This is what the Lord has said: This word has to do with the ruler in Jerusalem and all the children of Israel in it.

<sup>11</sup>Say, I am your sign: as I have done, so will it be done to them: they will go away as prisoners.

<sup>12</sup>And the ruler who is among them will take his goods on his back in the dark and go out: he will make a hole in the wall through which to go out: he will have his face covered so that he may not be seen.



<sup>13</sup>And my net will be stretched out on him, and he will be taken in my cords: and I will take him to Babylon to the land of the Chaldaeans; but he will not see it, and there death will come to him.

<sup>14</sup>And all his helpers round about him and all his armies I will send in flight to every wind; and I will let loose a sword after them.

<sup>15</sup>And they will be certain that I am the Lord, when I send them in flight among the nations, driving them out through the countries.

<sup>16</sup>But a small number of them I will keep from the sword, from the need of food, and from disease, so that they may make clear all their disgusting ways among the nations where they come; and they will be certain that I am the Lord.

<sup>17</sup>Then the word of the Lord came to me, saying,

<sup>18</sup>Son of man, take your food with shaking fear, and your water with trouble and care;

<sup>19</sup>And say to the people of the land, This is what the Lord has said about the people of Jerusalem and the land of

Israel: They will take their food with care and their drink with wonder, so that all the wealth of their land may be taken from it because of the violent ways of the people living in it.

<sup>20</sup>And the peopled towns will be made waste, and the land will become a wonder; and you will be certain that I am the Lord.

<sup>21</sup>And the word of the Lord came to me, saying,

<sup>22</sup>Son of man, what is this saying which you have about the land of Israel, The time is long and every vision comes to nothing?

<sup>23</sup>For this cause say to them, This is what the Lord has said: I have made this saying come to an end, and it will no longer be used as a common saying in Israel; but say to them, The days are near, and the effect of every vision.

<sup>24</sup>For there will be no more false visions or smooth use of secret arts in Israel.

<sup>25</sup>For I am the Lord; I will say the word and what I say I will do; it will not be put off: for in your days, O uncontrolled people, I will say the word and do it, says the Lord.

<sup>26</sup> Again the word of the Lord came to me, saying,

<sup>27</sup> Son of man, see, the children of Israel say, The vision which he sees is for the days which are a long way off, and his words are of times still far away.

<sup>28</sup> Say to them then, This is what the Lord has said: Not one of my words will be put off any longer, but what I say I will do, says the Lord.

**13**<sup>1</sup> And the word of the Lord came to me, saying,

<sup>2</sup> Son of man, be a prophet against the prophets of Israel, and say to those prophets whose words are the invention of their hearts, Give ear to the word of the Lord;

<sup>3</sup> This is what the Lord has said: A curse on the foolish prophets who go after the spirit which is in them and have seen nothing!

<sup>4</sup> O Israel, your prophets have been like jackals in the waste places.

<sup>5</sup> You have not gone up into the broken places or made up the wall for the children of Israel to take your place in the fight in the day of the Lord.

<sup>6</sup>They have seen visions without substance and made use of secret arts, who say, The Lord has said; and the Lord has not sent them: hoping that the word would have effect.

<sup>7</sup>Have you not seen a vision without substance and have you not falsely made use of secret arts, when you say, The Lord has said; though I have said nothing?

<sup>8</sup>So this is what the Lord has said: Because your words are without substance and your visions are false, see, I am against you, says the Lord.

<sup>9</sup>And my hand will be against the prophets who see visions without substance and who make false use of secret arts: they will not be in the secret of my people, and they will not be recorded in the list of the children of Israel, and they will not come into the land of Israel; and it will be clear to you that I am the Lord.

<sup>10</sup>Because, even because they have been guiding my people into error, saying, Peace; when there is no peace; and in the building of a division wall they put whitewash on it:

<sup>11</sup> Say to those who put whitewash on it, There will be an overflowing shower; and you, O ice-drops, will come raining down; and it will be broken in two by the storm-wind.

<sup>12</sup> And when the wall has come down, will they not say to you, Where is the whitewash which you put on it?

<sup>13</sup> For this reason, the Lord has said: I will have it broken in two by a storm-wind in my passion; and there will be an overflowing shower in my wrath, and you, O ice-drops, will come raining angrily down.

<sup>14</sup> So I will let the wall, which you were covering with whitewash, be broken down; I will have it levelled to the earth so that its base is uncovered: it will come down, and destruction will come on you with it; and it will be clear to you that I am the Lord.

<sup>15</sup> So I will let loose my passion on the wall in full measure, and on those who put whitewash on it; and I will say to you, Where is the wall, and where are those who put whitewash on it?

<sup>16</sup> Even the prophets of Israel who say words to Jerusalem, who see visions of

peace for her when there is no peace,  
says the Lord.

<sup>17</sup>And you, son of man, let your face  
be turned against the daughters of  
your people, who are acting the part of  
prophets at their pleasure; be a prophet  
against them, and say,

<sup>18</sup>This is what the Lord has said: A  
curse is on the women who are stitching  
bands on all arms and putting veils on  
the heads of those of every size, so that  
they may go after souls! Will you go  
after the souls of my people and keep  
yourselves safe from death?

<sup>19</sup>And you have put me to shame  
among my people for a little barley and  
some bits of bread, sending death on  
souls for whom there is no cause of  
death, and keeping those souls living  
who have no right to life, by the false  
words you say to my people who give  
ear to what is false.

<sup>20</sup>For this cause the Lord has said: See,  
I am against your bands with which you  
go after souls, and I will violently take  
them off their arms; and I will let loose  
the souls, even the souls whom you go  
after freely.

<sup>21</sup> And I will have your veils violently parted in two, and will make my people free from your hands, and they will no longer be in your power for you to go after them; and you will be certain that I am the Lord.

<sup>22</sup> Because with your false words you have given pain to the heart of the upright man when I had not made him sad; in order to make strong the hands of the evil-doer so that he may not be turned from his evil way and get life:

<sup>23</sup> For this cause you will see no more foolish visions or make false use of secret arts: and I will make my people free from your power; and you will be certain that I am the Lord.

**14**<sup>1</sup> Then certain of the responsible men of Israel came to me and took their seats before me.

<sup>2</sup> And the word of the Lord came to me, saying,

<sup>3</sup> Son of man, these men have taken their false gods into their hearts and put before their faces the sin which is the cause of their fall: am I to give ear when they come to me for directions?

<sup>4</sup>For this cause say to them, These are the words of the Lord: Every man of Israel who has taken his false god into his heart, and put before his face the sin which is the cause of his fall, and comes to the prophet; I the Lord will give him an answer by myself in agreement with the number of his false gods;

<sup>5</sup>So as to take the children of Israel in the thoughts of their hearts, because they have become strange to me through their false gods.

<sup>6</sup>For this cause say to the children of Israel, These are the words of the Lord: Come back and give up your false gods and let your faces be turned from your disgusting things.

<sup>7</sup>When any one of the men of Israel, or of those from other lands who are living in Israel, who has become strange to me, and takes his false gods into his heart, and puts before his face the sin which is the cause of his fall, comes to the prophet to get directions from me; I the Lord will give him an answer by myself:

<sup>8</sup>And my face will be turned against that man, and I will make him a sign



and a common saying, cutting him off from among my people; and you will be certain that I am the Lord.

<sup>9</sup>And if the prophet, tricked by deceit, says anything, it is I the Lord by whom he has been tricked, and I will put out my hand against him, and he will be cut off from among my people Israel.

<sup>10</sup>And the punishment of their sin will be on them: the sin of the prophet will be the same as the sin of him who goes to him for directions;

<sup>11</sup>So that the children of Israel may no longer go wandering away from me, or make themselves unclean with all their wrongdoing; but they will be my people, and I will be their God, says the Lord.

<sup>12</sup>And the word of the Lord came to me, saying,

<sup>13</sup>Son of man, when a land, sinning against me, does wrong, and my hand is stretched out against it, and the support of its bread is broken, and I make it short of food, cutting off man and beast from it:

<sup>14</sup>Even if these three men, Noah, Daniel, and Job, were in it, only

themselves would they keep safe by their righteousness, says the Lord.

<sup>15</sup>Or if I send evil beasts through the land causing destruction and making it waste, so that no man may go through because of the beasts:

<sup>16</sup>Even if these three men were in it, by my life, says the Lord, they would not keep safe their sons or daughters, but only themselves, and the land would be made waste.

<sup>17</sup>Or if I send a sword against that land, and say, Sword, go through the land, cutting off from it man and beast:

<sup>18</sup>Even if these three men were in it, by my life, says the Lord, they would not keep safe their sons or daughters, but only themselves.

<sup>19</sup>Or if I send disease into that land, letting loose my wrath on it in blood, cutting off from it man and beast:

<sup>20</sup>Even if Noah, Daniel, and Job were in it, by my life, says the Lord, they would not keep son or daughter safe; only themselves would they keep safe through their righteousness.

<sup>21</sup>For this is what the Lord has said: How much more when I send my four

bitter punishments on Jerusalem, the sword and need of food and evil beasts and disease, cutting off from it man and beast?

<sup>22</sup>But truly, there will still be a small band who will be safe, even sons and daughters: and they will come out to you, and you will see their ways and their doings: and you will be comforted about the evil which I have sent on Jerusalem, even about everything I have sent on it.

<sup>23</sup>They will give you comfort when you see their ways and their doings: and you will be certain that not for nothing have I done all the things I have done in it, says the Lord.

**15**<sup>1</sup>And the word of the Lord came to me, saying,

<sup>2</sup>Son of man, what is the vine-tree more than any branching tree which is among the trees of the woods?

<sup>3</sup>Will its wood be used for any work? do men make of it a pin for hanging any vessel on?

<sup>4</sup>See, it is put into the fire for burning: the fire has made a meal of its two ends

and the middle part of it is burned; is it good for any work?

<sup>5</sup> Truly, before it was cut down, it was not used for any purpose: how much less, when the fire has made a meal of it and it is burned, will it be made into anything?

<sup>6</sup> For this cause the Lord has said: Like the vine-tree among the trees of the woods which I have given to the fire for burning, so will I give the people of Jerusalem.

<sup>7</sup> And my face will be turned against them; and though they have come out of the fire they will be burned up by it; and it will be clear to you that I am the Lord when my face is turned against them.

<sup>8</sup> And I will make the land a waste because they have done evil, says the Lord.

**16** <sup>1</sup> And the word of the Lord came to me, saying,

<sup>2</sup> Son of man, make clear to Jerusalem her disgusting ways,

<sup>3</sup> And say, This is what the Lord has said to Jerusalem: Your start and your birth was from the land of the Canaanite;

an Amorite was your father and your mother was a Hittite.

<sup>4</sup>As for your birth, on the day of your birth your cord was not cut and you were not washed in water to make you clean; you were not salted or folded in linen bands.

<sup>5</sup>No eye had pity on you to do any of these things to you or to be kind to you; but you were put out into the open country, because your life was hated at the time of your birth.

<sup>6</sup>And when I went past you and saw you stretched out in your blood, I said to you, Though you are stretched out in your blood, have life;

<sup>7</sup>And be increased in number like the buds of the field; and you were increased and became great, and you came to the time of love: your breasts were formed and your hair was long; but you were uncovered and without clothing.

<sup>8</sup>Now when I went past you, looking at you, I saw that your time was the time of love; and I put my skirts over you, covering your unclothed body: and I gave you my oath and made an

agreement with you, says the Lord, and you became mine.

<sup>9</sup>Then I had you washed with water, washing away all your blood and rubbing you with oil.

<sup>10</sup>And I had you clothed with needlework, and put leather shoes on your feet, folding fair linen about you and covering you with silk.

<sup>11</sup>And I made you fair with ornaments and put jewels on your hands and a chain on your neck.

<sup>12</sup>And I put a ring in your nose and ear-rings in your ears and a beautiful crown on your head.

<sup>13</sup>So you were made beautiful with gold and silver; and your clothing was of the best linen and silk and needlework; your food was the best meal and honey and oil: and you were very beautiful.

<sup>14</sup>You were so beautiful that the story of you went out into all nations; you were completely beautiful because of my glory which I had put on you, says the Lord.

<sup>15</sup>But you put your faith in the fact that you were beautiful, acting like a loose woman because you were widely

talked of, and offering your cheap love to everyone who went by, whoever it might be.

<sup>16</sup>And you took your robes and made high places for yourself ornamented with every colour, acting like a loose woman on them, without shame or fear.

<sup>17</sup>And you took the fair jewels, my silver and gold which I had given to you, and made for yourself male images, acting like a loose woman with them;

<sup>18</sup>And you took your robes of needlework for their clothing, and put my oil and my perfume before them.

<sup>19</sup>And my bread which I gave you, the best meal and oil and honey which I gave you for your food, you put it before them for a sweet smell, says the Lord.

<sup>20</sup>And you took your sons and your daughters whom I had by you, offering even these to them to be their food. Was your loose behaviour so small a thing,

<sup>21</sup>That you put my children to death and gave them up to go through the fire to them?

<sup>22</sup>And in all your disgusting and false behaviour you had no memory of your early days, when you were uncovered

and without clothing, stretched out in your blood.

<sup>23</sup>And it came about, after all your evil-doing, says the Lord,

<sup>24</sup>That you made for yourself an arched room in every open place.

<sup>25</sup>You put up your high places at the top of every street, and made the grace of your form a disgusting thing, opening your feet to everyone who went by, increasing your loose ways.

<sup>26</sup>And you went with the Egyptians, your neighbours, great of flesh; increasing your loose ways, moving me to wrath.

<sup>27</sup>Now, then, my hand is stretched out against you, cutting down your fixed amount, and I have given you up to the desire of your haters, the daughters of the Philistines who are shamed by your loose ways.

<sup>28</sup>And you went with the Assyrians, because of your desire which was without measure; you were acting like a loose woman with them, and still you had not enough.



<sup>29</sup> And you went on in your loose ways, even as far as the land of Chaldaea, and still you had not enough.

<sup>30</sup> How feeble is your heart, says the Lord, seeing that you do all these things, the work of a loose and overruling woman;

<sup>31</sup> For you have made your arched room at the top of every street, and your high place in every open place; though you were not like a loose woman in getting together your payment.

<sup>32</sup> The untrue wife who takes strange lovers in place of her husband!

<sup>33</sup> They give payment to all loose women: but you give rewards to your lovers, offering them payment so that they may come to you on every side for your cheap love.

<sup>34</sup> And in your loose behaviour you are different from other women, for no one goes after you to make love to you: and because you give payment and no payment is given to you, in this you are different from them.

<sup>35</sup> For this cause, O loose woman, give ear to the voice of the Lord:

<sup>36</sup> This is what the Lord has said:  
Because your unclean behaviour was  
let loose and your body uncovered in  
your loose ways with your lovers and  
with your disgusting images, and for the  
blood of your children which you gave to  
them;

<sup>37</sup> For this cause I will get together  
all your lovers with whom you have  
taken your pleasure, and all those to  
whom you have given your love, with  
all those who were hated by you; I will  
even make them come together against  
you on every side, and I will have you  
uncovered before them so that they may  
see your shame.

<sup>38</sup> And you will be judged by me as  
women are judged who have been  
untrue to their husbands and have taken  
life; and I will let loose against you  
passion and bitter feeling.

<sup>39</sup> I will give you into their hands, and  
your arched room will be overturned  
and your high places broken down; they  
will take your clothing off you and take  
away your fair jewels: and when they  
have done, you will be uncovered and  
shamed.

<sup>40</sup> And they will get together a meeting against you, stoning you with stones and wounding you with their swords.

<sup>41</sup> And they will have you burned with fire, sending punishments on you before the eyes of great numbers of women; and I will put an end to your loose ways, and you will no longer give payment.

<sup>42</sup> And the heat of my wrath against you will have an end, and my bitter feeling will be turned away from you, and I will be quiet and will be angry no longer.

<sup>43</sup> Because you have not kept in mind the days when you were young, but have been troubling me with all these things; for this reason I will make the punishment of your ways come on your head, says the Lord, because you have done this evil thing in addition to all your disgusting acts.

<sup>44</sup> See, in every common saying about you it will be said, As the mother is, so is her daughter.

<sup>45</sup> You are the daughter of your mother whose soul is turned in disgust from her husband and her children; and you are the sister of your sisters who were turned in disgust from their husbands

and their children: your mother was a Hittite and your father an Amorite.

<sup>46</sup>Your older sister is Samaria, living at your left hand, she and her daughters: and your younger sister, living at your right hand, is Sodom and her daughters.

<sup>47</sup>Still you have not gone in their ways or done the disgusting things which they have done; but, as if that was only a little thing, you have gone deeper in evil than they in all your ways.

<sup>48</sup>By my life, says the Lord, Sodom your sister never did, she or her daughters, what you and your daughters have done.

<sup>49</sup>Truly, this was the sin of your sister Sodom: pride, a full measure of food, and the comforts of wealth in peace, were seen in her and her daughters, and she gave no help to the poor or to those in need.

<sup>50</sup>They were full of pride and did what was disgusting to me: and so I took them away as you have seen.

<sup>51</sup>And Samaria has not done half your sins; but you have made the number of your disgusting acts greater than theirs, making your sisters seem more upright

than you by all the disgusting things which you have done.

<sup>52</sup>And you yourself will be put to shame, in that you have given the decision for your sisters; through your sins, which are more disgusting than theirs, they are more upright than you: truly, you will be shamed and made low, for you have made your sisters seem upright.

<sup>53</sup>And I will let their fate be changed, the fate of Sodom and her daughters, and the fate of Samaria and her daughters, and your fate with theirs.

<sup>54</sup>So that you will be shamed and made low because of all you have done, when I have mercy on you.

<sup>55</sup>And your sisters, Sodom and her daughters, will go back to their first condition, and Samaria and her daughters will go back to their first condition, and you and your daughters will go back to your first condition.

<sup>56</sup>Was not your sister Sodom an oath in your mouth in the day of your pride,

<sup>57</sup>Before your shame was uncovered? Now you have become like her a word of shame to the daughters of Edom and all who are round about you, the daughters

of the Philistines who put shame on you round about.

<sup>58</sup>The reward of your evil designs and your disgusting ways has come on you, says the Lord.

<sup>59</sup>For this is what the Lord has said: I will do to you as you have done, you who, putting the oath on one side, have let the agreement be broken.

<sup>60</sup>But still I will keep in mind the agreement made with you in the days when you were young, and I will make with you an eternal agreement.

<sup>61</sup>Then at the memory of your ways you will be overcome with shame, when I take your sisters, the older and the younger, and give them to you for daughters, but not by your agreement.

<sup>62</sup>And I will make my agreement with you; and you will be certain that I am the Lord:

<sup>63</sup>So that, at the memory of these things, you may be at a loss, never opening your mouth because of your shame; when you have my forgiveness for all you have done, says the Lord.

**17**<sup>1</sup> And the word of the Lord came to me, saying,

<sup>2</sup>Son of man, give out a dark saying, and make a comparison for the children of Israel,

<sup>3</sup>And say, This is what the Lord has said: A great eagle with great wings, full of long feathers of different colours, came to Lebanon, and took the top of the cedar:

<sup>4</sup>Biting off the highest of its young branches, he took it to the land of Canaan, and put it in a town of traders.

<sup>5</sup>And he took some of the seed of the land, planting it in fertile earth, placing it by great waters; he put it in like a willow-tree.

<sup>6</sup>And its growth went on and it became a vine, low and widely stretching, whose branches were turned to him and its roots were under him: so it became a vine, putting out branches and young leaves.

<sup>7</sup>And there was another eagle with great wings and thick feathers: and now this vine, pushing out its roots to him, sent out its branches in his direction from the bed where it was planted, so that he might give it water.

<sup>8</sup>He had it planted in a good field by great waters so that it might put out branches and have fruit and be a strong vine.

<sup>9</sup>Say, This is what the Lord has said: Will it do well? will he not have its roots pulled up and its branches cut off, so that all its young leaves may become dry and it may be pulled up by its roots?

<sup>10</sup>And if it is planted will it do well? will it not become quite dry at the touch of the east wind, drying up in the bed where it was planted?

<sup>11</sup>Then the word of the Lord came to me, saying,

<sup>12</sup>Say now to this uncontrolled people, Are these things not clear to you? Say to them, See, the king of Babylon came to Jerusalem and took its king and its rulers away with him to Babylon;

<sup>13</sup>And he took one of the sons of the king and made an agreement with him; and he put him under an oath, and took away the great men of the land:

<sup>14</sup>So that the kingdom might be made low with no power of lifting itself up, but might keep his agreement to be his servants.



<sup>15</sup> But he went against his authority in sending representatives to Egypt to get from them horses and a great army. Will he do well? will he be safe who does such things? if the agreement is broken will he be safe?

<sup>16</sup> By my life, says the Lord, truly in the place of the king who made him king, whose oath he put on one side and let his agreement with him be broken, even in Babylon he will come to his death.

<sup>17</sup> And Pharaoh with his strong army and great forces will be no help to him in the war, when they put up earthworks and make strong walls for the cutting off of lives:

<sup>18</sup> For he put his oath on one side in letting the agreement be broken; and though he had given his hand to it, he did all these things; he will not get away safe.

<sup>19</sup> And so the Lord has said, By my life, truly, for my oath which he put on one side, and my agreement which has been broken, I will send punishment on his head.

<sup>20</sup> My net will be stretched out over him, and he will be taken in my cords, and I

will send him to Babylon, and there I will be his judge for the wrong which he has done against me.

<sup>21</sup> All his best fighting-men will be put to the sword, and the rest will be sent away to every wind: and you will be certain that I the Lord have said it.

<sup>22</sup> This is what the Lord has said: Further, I will take the highest top of the cedar and put it in the earth; cutting off from the highest of his young branches a soft one, I will have it planted on a high and great mountain;

<sup>23</sup> It will be planted on the high mountain of Israel: it will put out branches and have fruit and be a fair cedar: under it all birds of every sort will make their living-place, resting in the shade of its branches.

<sup>24</sup> And it will be clear to all the trees of the field that I the Lord have made low the high tree and made high the low tree, drying up the green tree and making the dry tree full of growth; I the Lord have said it and have done it.

**18**<sup>1</sup> The word of the Lord came to me again, saying,

<sup>2</sup>Why do you make use of this saying about the land of Israel, The fathers have been tasting bitter grapes and the childrens teeth are on edge?

<sup>3</sup>By my life, says the Lord, you will no longer have this saying in Israel.

<sup>4</sup>See, all souls are mine; as the soul of the father, so the soul of the son is mine: death will be the fate of the sinners soul.

<sup>5</sup>But if a man is upright, living rightly and doing righteousness,

<sup>6</sup>And has not taken flesh with the blood for food, or given worship to the images of the children of Israel; if he has not had connection with his neighbours wife, or come near to a woman at the time when she is unclean;

<sup>7</sup>And has done no wrong to any, but has given back to the debtor what is his, and has taken no ones goods by force, and has given food to him who was in need of it, and clothing to him who was without it;

<sup>8</sup>And has not given his money out at interest or taken great profits, and, turning his hand from evil-doing, has kept faith between man and man,

<sup>9</sup>And has been guided by my rules and has kept my laws and done them: he is upright, life will certainly be his, says the Lord.

<sup>10</sup>If he has a son who is a thief, a taker of life, who does any of these things,

<sup>11</sup>Who has taken flesh with the blood as food, and has had connection with his neighbours wife,

<sup>12</sup>Has done wrong to the poor and to him who is in need, and taken property by force, and has not given back to one in his debt what is his, and has given worship to images and has done disgusting things,

<sup>13</sup>And has given out his money at interest and taken great profits: he will certainly not go on living: he has done all these disgusting things: death will certainly be his fate; his blood will be on him.

<sup>14</sup>Now if he has a son who sees all his fathers sins which he has done, and in fear does not do the same:

<sup>15</sup>Who has not taken the flesh with the blood for food, or given worship to the images of the children of Israel, and has

not had connection with his neighbours wife,

<sup>16</sup>Or done wrong to any, or taken anything from one in his debt, or taken goods by force, but has given food to him who was in need of it, and clothing to him who was without it;

<sup>17</sup>Who has kept his hand from evil-doing and has not taken interest or great profits, who has done my orders and been guided by my rules: he will certainly not be put to death for the evil-doing of his father; life will certainly be his.

<sup>18</sup>As for his father, because he was cruel, took goods by force, and did what is not good among his people, truly, death will overtake him in his evil-doing.

<sup>19</sup>But you say, Why does not the son undergo punishment for the evil-doing of the father? When the son has done what is ordered and right, and has kept my rules and done them, life will certainly be his.

<sup>20</sup>The soul which does sin will be put to death: the son will not be made responsible for the evil-doing of the father, or the father for the evil-doing of

the son; the righteousness of the upright will be on himself, and the evil-doing of the evil-doer on himself.

<sup>21</sup> But if the evil-doer, turning away from all the sins which he has done, keeps my rules and does what is ordered and right, life will certainly be his; death will not be his fate.

<sup>22</sup> Not one of the sins which he has done will be kept in memory against him: in the righteousness which he has done he will have life.

<sup>23</sup> Have I any pleasure in the death of the evil-doer? says the Lord: am I not pleased if he is turned from his way so that he may have life?

<sup>24</sup> But when the upright man, turning away from his righteousness, does evil, like all the disgusting things which the evil man does, will he have life? Not one of his upright acts will be kept in memory: in the wrong which he has done and in his sin death will overtake him.

<sup>25</sup> But you say, The way of the Lord is not equal. Give ear, now, O children of Israel; is my way not equal? are not your ways unequal?

<sup>26</sup>When the upright man, turning away from his righteousness, does evil, death will overtake him; in the evil which he has done death will overtake him.

<sup>27</sup>Again, when the evil-doer, turning away from the evil he has done, does what is ordered and right, he will have life for his soul.

<sup>28</sup>Because he had fear and was turned away from all the wrong which he had done, life will certainly be his, death will not be his fate.

<sup>29</sup>But still the children of Israel say, The way of the Lord is not equal. O children of Israel, are my ways not equal? are not your ways unequal?

<sup>30</sup>For this cause I will be your judge, O children of Israel, judging every man by his ways, says the Lord. Come back and be turned from all your sins; so that they may not be the cause of your falling into evil.

<sup>31</sup>Put away all your evil-doing in which you have done sin; and make for yourselves a new heart and a new spirit: why are you desiring death, O children of Israel?

<sup>32</sup>For I have no pleasure in the death of him on whom death comes, says the Lord: be turned back then, and have life.

**19**<sup>1</sup>Take up now a song of grief for the ruler of Israel, and say,

<sup>2</sup>What was your mother? Like a she-lion among lions, stretched out among the young lions she gave food to her little ones.

<sup>3</sup>And one of her little ones came to growth under her care, and became a young lion, learning to go after beasts for his food; and he took men for his meat.

<sup>4</sup>And the nations had news of him; he was taken in the hole they had made: and, pulling him with hooks, they took him into the land of Egypt.

<sup>5</sup>Now when she saw that her hope was made foolish and gone, she took another of her little ones and made him into a young lion.

<sup>6</sup>And he went up and down among the lions and became a young lion, learning to go after beasts for his food; and he took men for his meat.

<sup>7</sup>And he sent destruction on their widows and made waste their towns;



and the land and everything in it became waste because of the loud sound of his voice.

<sup>8</sup>Then the nations came against him from the kingdoms round about: their net was stretched over him and he was taken in the hole they had made.

<sup>9</sup>They made him a prisoner with hooks, and took him to the king of Babylon; they put him in the strong place so that his voice might be sounding no longer on the mountains of Israel.

<sup>10</sup>Your mother was in comparison like a vine, planted by the waters: she was fertile and full of branches because of the great waters.

<sup>11</sup>And she had a strong rod for a rod of authority for the rulers, and it became tall among the clouds and it was seen lifted up among the number of its branches.

<sup>12</sup>But she was uprooted in burning wrath, and made low on the earth; the east wind came, drying her up, and her branches were broken off; her strong rod became dry, the fire made a meal of it.

<sup>13</sup>And now she is planted in the waste land, in a dry and unwatered country.

<sup>14</sup>And fire has gone out from her rod, causing the destruction of her branches, so that there is no strong rod in her to be the rulers rod of authority. This is a song of grief, and it was for a song of grief.

**20**<sup>1</sup>Now it came about in the seventh year, in the fifth month, on the tenth day of the month, that certain of the responsible men of Israel came to get directions from the Lord and were seated before me.

<sup>2</sup>Then the word of the Lord came to me, saying,

<sup>3</sup>Son of man, say to the responsible men of Israel, This is what the Lord has said: Have you come to get directions from me? By my life, says the Lord, you will get no directions from me.

<sup>4</sup>Will you be their judge, O son of man, will you be their judge? make clear to them the disgusting ways of their fathers,

<sup>5</sup>And say to them, This is what the Lord has said: In the day when I took Israel for myself, when I made an oath to the seed of the family of Jacob, and I gave them knowledge of myself in the land of

Egypt, saying to them with an oath, I am the Lord your God;

<sup>6</sup>In that day I gave my oath to take them out of the land of Egypt into a land which I had been searching out for them, a land flowing with milk and honey, the glory of all lands:

<sup>7</sup>And I said to them, Let every man among you put away the disgusting things to which his eyes are turned, and do not make yourselves unclean with the images of Egypt; I am the Lord your God.

<sup>8</sup>But they would not be controlled by me, and did not give ear to me; they did not put away the disgusting things to which their eyes were turned, or give up the images of Egypt: then I said I would let loose my passion on them to give full effect to my wrath against them in the land of Egypt.

<sup>9</sup>And I was acting for the honour of my name, so that it might not be made unclean before the eyes of the nations among whom they were, and before whose eyes I gave them knowledge of myself, by taking them out of the land of Egypt.

<sup>10</sup>So I made them go out of the land of Egypt and took them into the waste land.

<sup>11</sup>And I gave them my rules and made clear to them my orders, which, if a man keeps them, will be life to him.

<sup>12</sup>And further, I gave them my Sabbaths, to be a sign between me and them, so that it might be clear that I, who make them holy, am the Lord.

<sup>13</sup>But the children of Israel would not be controlled by me in the waste land: they were not guided by my rules, and they were turned away from my orders, which, if a man does them, will be life to him; and they had no respect for my Sabbaths: then I said that I would let loose my passion on them in the waste land, and put an end to them.

<sup>14</sup>And I was acting for the honour of my name, so that it might not be made unclean in the eyes of the nations, before whose eyes I had taken them out.

<sup>15</sup>And further, I gave my oath to them in the waste land, that I would not take them into the land which I had given them, a land flowing with milk and honey, the glory of all lands;

<sup>16</sup>Because they were turned away from my orders, and were not guided by my rules, and had no respect for my Sabbaths: for their hearts went after their images.

<sup>17</sup>But still my eye had pity on them and I kept them from destruction and did not put an end to them completely in the waste land.

<sup>18</sup>And I said to their children in the waste land, Do not be guided by the rules of your fathers or keep their orders or make yourselves unclean with their images:

<sup>19</sup>I am the Lord your God; be guided by my rules and keep my orders and do them:

<sup>20</sup>And keep my Sabbaths holy; and they will be a sign between me and you so that it may be clear to you that I am the Lord your God.

<sup>21</sup>But the children would not be controlled by me; they were not guided by my rules, and they did not keep and do my orders, which, if a man does them, will be life to him; and they had no respect for my Sabbaths: then I said I would let loose my passion on them to

give full effect to my wrath against them in the waste land.

<sup>22</sup>And I was acting for the honour of my name, so that it might not be made unclean in the eyes of the nations, before whose eyes I had taken them out.

<sup>23</sup>Further, I gave my oath to them in the waste land that I would send them wandering among the nations, driving them out among the countries;

<sup>24</sup>Because they had not done my orders, but had been turned away from my rules, and had not given respect to my Sabbaths, and their eyes were turned to the images of their fathers.

<sup>25</sup>And further, I gave them rules which were not good and orders in which there was no life for them;

<sup>26</sup>I made them unclean in the offerings they gave, causing them to make every first child go through the fire, so that I might put an end to them.

<sup>27</sup>For this cause, son of man, say to the children of Israel, This is what the Lord has said: In this your fathers have further put shame on my name by doing wrong against me.

<sup>28</sup>For when I had taken them into the land which I made an oath to give to them, then they saw every high hill and every branching tree and made their offerings there, moving me to wrath by their offerings; and there the sweet smell of their offerings went up and their drink offerings were drained out.

<sup>29</sup>Then I said to them, What is this high place where you go to no purpose? And it is named Bamah to this day.

<sup>30</sup>For this cause say to the children of Israel, This is what the Lord has said: Are you making yourselves unclean as your fathers did? are you being untrue to me by going after their disgusting works?

<sup>31</sup>And when you give your offerings, causing your sons to go through the fire, you make yourselves unclean with all your images to this day; and will you come to me for directions, O children of Israel? By my life, says the Lord, you will get no direction from me.

<sup>32</sup>And that which comes into your minds will never take place; when you say, We will be like the nations, like the

families of the countries, servants of wood and stone;

<sup>33</sup>By my life, says the Lord, truly, with a strong hand and with an outstretched arm and with burning wrath let loose, I will be King over you:

<sup>34</sup>And I will take you out from the peoples and get you together out of the countries where you are wandering, with a strong hand and with an outstretched arm and with burning wrath let loose:

<sup>35</sup>And I will take you into the waste land of the peoples, and there I will take up the cause with you face to face.

<sup>36</sup>As I took up the cause with your fathers in the waste land of the land of Egypt, so will I take up the cause with you says the Lord.

<sup>37</sup>And I will make you go under the rod and will make you small in number:

<sup>38</sup>Clearing out from among you all those who are uncontrolled and who are sinning against me; I will take them out of the land where they are living, but they will not come into the land of Israel: and you will be certain that I am the Lord.



<sup>39</sup>As for you, O children of Israel, the Lord has said: Let every man completely put away his images and give ear to me: and let my holy name no longer be shamed by your offerings and your images.

<sup>40</sup>For in my holy mountain, in the high mountain of Israel, says the Lord, there all the children of Israel, all of them, will be my servants in the land; there I will take pleasure in them, and there I will be worshipped with your offerings and the first-fruits of the things you give, and with all your holy things.

<sup>41</sup>I will take pleasure in you as in a sweet smell, when I take you out from the peoples and get you together from the countries where you have been sent in flight; and I will make myself holy in you before the eyes of the nations.

<sup>42</sup>And you will be certain that I am the Lord, when I take you into the land of Israel, into the country which I made an oath to give to your fathers.

<sup>43</sup>And there, at the memory of your ways and of all the things you did to make yourselves unclean, you will have

bitter hate for yourselves because of all the evil things you have done.

<sup>44</sup>And you will be certain that I am the Lord, when I take you in hand for the honour of my name, and not for your evil ways or your unclean doings, O children of Israel, says the Lord.

<sup>45</sup>Then the word of the Lord came to me, saying,

<sup>46</sup>Son of man, let your face be turned to the south, let your words be dropped to the south, and be a prophet against the woodland of the South;

<sup>47</sup>And say to the woodland of the South, Give ear to the words of the Lord: this is what the Lord has said: See, I will have a fire lighted in you, for the destruction of every green tree in you and every dry tree: the flaming flame will not be put out, and all faces from the south to the north will be burned by it.

<sup>48</sup>And all flesh will see that I the Lord have had it lighted: it will not be put out.

<sup>49</sup>Then I said, Ah, Lord! they say of me, Is he not a maker of stories?

**21** <sup>1</sup>And the word of the Lord came to me, saying,

<sup>2</sup>Son of man, let your face be turned to Jerusalem, let your words be dropped in the direction of her holy place, and be a prophet against the land of Israel;

<sup>3</sup>And say to the land of Israel, These are the words of the Lord: See, I am against you, and I will take my sword out of its cover, cutting off from you the upright and the evil.

<sup>4</sup>Because I am going to have the upright and the evil cut off from you, for this cause my sword will go out from its cover against all flesh from the south to the north:

<sup>5</sup>And all flesh will see that I the Lord have taken my sword out of its cover: and it will never go back.

<sup>6</sup>Make sounds of grief, son of man; with body bent and a bitter heart make sounds of grief before their eyes.

<sup>7</sup>And when they say to you, Why are you making sounds of grief? then say, Because of the news, for it is coming: and every heart will become soft, and all hands will be feeble, and every spirit will be burning low, and all knees will be turned to water: see, it is coming and it will be done, says the Lord.

<sup>8</sup>And the word of the Lord came to me, saying,

<sup>9</sup>Son of man, say as a prophet, These are the words of the Lord: Say, A sword, a sword which has been made sharp and polished:

<sup>10</sup>It has been made sharp to give death; it is polished so that it may be like a thunder-flame:

<sup>11</sup>And I have given it to the polisher so that it may be taken in the hand: he has made the sword sharp, he has had it polished, to put it into the hand of him who gives death.

<sup>12</sup>Give loud cries and make sounds of grief, O son of man: for it has come on my people, it has come on all the rulers of Israel: fear of the sword has come on my people: for this cause give signs of grief.

<sup>13</sup>[KOSONG]

<sup>14</sup>So then, son of man, be a prophet, and put your hands together with a loud sound, and give two blows with the sword, and even three; it is the sword of those who are wounded, even the sword of the wounded; the great sword which goes round about them.

<sup>15</sup>In order that hearts may become soft, and the number of those who are falling may be increased, I have sent death by the sword against all their doors: you are made like a flame, you are polished for death.

<sup>16</sup>Be pointed to the right, to the left, wherever your edge is ordered.

<sup>17</sup>And I will put my hands together with a loud sound, and I will let my wrath have rest: I the Lord have said it.

<sup>18</sup>And the word of the Lord came to me again, saying,

<sup>19</sup>And you, son of man, have two ways marked out, so that the sword of the king of Babylon may come; let the two of them come out of one land: and let there be a pillar at the top of the road:

<sup>20</sup>Put a pillar at the top of the road for the sword to come to Rabbah in the land of the children of Ammon, and to Judah and to Jerusalem in the middle of her.

<sup>21</sup>For the king of Babylon took his place at the parting of the ways, at the top of the two roads, to make use of secret arts: shaking the arrows this way and that, he put questions to the images of

his gods, he took note of the inner parts of dead beasts.

<sup>22</sup>At his right hand was the fate of Jerusalem, to give orders for destruction, to send up the war-cry, to put engines of war against the doors, lifting up earthworks, building walls.

<sup>23</sup>And this answer given by secret arts will seem false to those who have given their oaths and have let them be broken: but he will keep the memory of evil-doing so that they may be taken.

<sup>24</sup>For this cause the Lord has said: Because you have made your evil-doing come to mind by the uncovering of your wrongdoing, causing your sins to be seen in all your evil-doings; because you have come to mind, you will be taken in them.

<sup>25</sup>And you, O evil one, wounded to death, O ruler of Israel, whose day has come in the time of the last punishment;

<sup>26</sup>This is what the Lord has said: Take away the holy head-dress, take off the crown: this will not be again: let that which is low be lifted up, and that which is high be made low.

<sup>27</sup> I will let it be overturned, overturned, overturned: this will not be again till he comes whose right it is; and I will give it to him.

<sup>28</sup> And you, son of man, say as a prophet, This is what the Lord has said about the children of Ammon and about their shame: Say, A sword, even a sword let loose, polished for death, to make it shining so that it may be like a flame:

<sup>29</sup> Your vision is to no purpose, your use of secret arts gives a false answer, to put it on the necks of evil-doers who are wounded to death, whose day has come, in the time of the last punishment.

<sup>30</sup> Go back into your cover. In the place where you were made, in the land from which you were taken, I will be your judge.

<sup>31</sup> And I will let loose my burning passion on you, breathing out on you the fire of my wrath: and I will give you up into the hands of men like beasts, trained to destruction.

<sup>32</sup> You will be food for the fire; your blood will be drained out in the land; there will be no more memory of you: for I the Lord have said it.

**22**<sup>1</sup> And the word of the Lord came to me, saying,

<sup>2</sup> And you, son of man, will you be a judge, will you be a judge of the town of blood? then make clear to her all her disgusting ways.

<sup>3</sup> And you are to say, This is what the Lord has said: A town causing blood to be drained out in her streets so that her time may come, and making images in her to make her unclean!

<sup>4</sup> You are responsible for the blood drained out by you, and you are unclean through the images which you have made; and you have made your day come near, and the time of your judging has come; for this cause I have made you a name of shame to the nations and a cause of laughing to all countries.

<sup>5</sup> Those who are near and those who are far from you will make sport of you; your name is unclean, you are full of sounds of fear.

<sup>6</sup> See, the rulers of Israel, every one in his family, have been causing death in you.

<sup>7</sup> In you they have had no respect for father and mother; in you they have



been cruel to the man from a strange land; in you they have done wrong to the child without a father and to the widow.

<sup>8</sup>You have made little of my holy things, and have made my Sabbaths unclean.

<sup>9</sup>In you there are men who say evil of others, causing death; in you they have taken the flesh with the blood for food; in your streets they have put evil designs into effect.

<sup>10</sup>In you they have let the shame of their fathers be seen; in you they have done wrong to a woman at the time when she was unclean.

<sup>11</sup>And in you one man has done what was disgusting with his neighbours wife; and another has made his daughter-in-law unclean; and another has done wrong to his sister, his fathers daughter.

<sup>12</sup>In you they have taken rewards as the price of blood; you have taken interest and great profits, and you have taken away your neighbours goods by force, and have not kept me in mind, says the Lord.

<sup>13</sup>See, then, I have made my hands come together in wrath against your

taking of goods by force and against the blood which has been flowing in you.

<sup>14</sup>Will your heart be high or your hands strong in the days when I take you in hand? I the Lord have said it and will do it.

<sup>15</sup>And I will send you in flight among the nations and wandering among the countries; and I will completely take away out of you everything which is unclean.

<sup>16</sup>And you will be made low before the eyes of the nations; and it will be clear to you that I am the Lord.

<sup>17</sup>And the word of the Lord came to me, saying,

<sup>18</sup>Son of man, the children of Israel have become like the poorest sort of waste metal to me: they are all silver and brass and tin and iron and lead mixed with waste.

<sup>19</sup>For this cause the Lord has said: Because you have all become waste metal, see, I will get you together inside Jerusalem.

<sup>20</sup>As they put silver and brass and iron and lead and tin together inside the oven, heating up the fire on it to make

it soft; so will I get you together in my wrath and in my passion, and, heating the fire with my breath, will make you soft.

<sup>21</sup> Yes, I will take you, breathing on you the fire of my wrath, and you will become soft in it.

<sup>22</sup> As silver becomes soft in the oven, so you will become soft in it; and you will be certain that I the Lord have let loose my passion on you.

<sup>23</sup> And the word of the Lord came to me, saying,

<sup>24</sup> Son of man, say to her, You are a land on which no rain or thunderstorm has come in the day of wrath.

<sup>25</sup> Her rulers in her are like a loud-voiced lion violently taking his food; they have made a meal of souls; they have taken wealth and valued property; they have made great the number of widows in her.

<sup>26</sup> Her priests have been acting violently against my law; they have made my holy things unclean: they have made no division between what is holy and what is common, and they have not made it clear that the unclean is different from the clean, and their eyes have been shut

to my Sabbaths, and I am not honoured among them.

<sup>27</sup> Her rulers in her are like wolves violently taking their food; putting men to death and causing the destruction of souls, so that they may get their profit.

<sup>28</sup> And her prophets have been using whitewash, seeing foolish visions and making false use of secret arts, saying, This is what the Lord has said, when the Lord has said nothing.

<sup>29</sup> The people of the land have been acting cruelly, taking mens goods by force; they have been hard on the poor and those in need, and have done wrong to the man from a strange land.

<sup>30</sup> And I was looking for a man among them who would make up the wall and take his station in the broken place before me for the land, so that I might not send destruction on it: but there was no one.

<sup>31</sup> And I let loose my passion on them, and have put an end to them in the fire of my wrath: I have made the punishment of their ways come on their heads, says the Lord.

**23**<sup>1</sup> The word of the Lord came to me again, saying,

<sup>2</sup> Son of man, there were two women, daughters of one mother:

<sup>3</sup> They were acting like loose women in Egypt; when they were young their behaviour was loose: there their breasts were crushed, even the points of their young breasts were crushed.

<sup>4</sup> Their names were Oholah, the older, and Oholibah, her sister: and they became mine, and gave birth to sons and daughters. As for their names, Samaria is Oholah, and Jerusalem, Oholibah.

<sup>5</sup> And Oholah was untrue to me when she was mine; she was full of desire for her lovers, even for the Assyrians, her neighbours,

<sup>6</sup> Who were clothed in blue, captains and rulers, all of them young men to be desired, horsemen seated on horses.

<sup>7</sup> And she gave her unclean love to them, all of them the noblest men of Assyria: and she made herself unclean with the images of all who were desired by her.

<sup>8</sup> And she has not given up her loose ways from the time when she was in

Egypt; for when she was young they were her lovers, and by them her young breasts were crushed, and they let loose on her their unclean desire.

<sup>9</sup>For this cause I gave her up into the hands of her lovers, into the hands of the Assyrians on whom her desire was fixed.

<sup>10</sup>By these her shame was uncovered: they took her sons and daughters and put her to death with the sword: and she became a cause of wonder to women; for they gave her the punishment which was right.

<sup>11</sup>And her sister Oholibah saw this, but her desire was even more unmeasured, and her loose behaviour was worse than that of her sister.

<sup>12</sup>She was full of desire for the Assyrians, captains and rulers, her neighbours, clothed in blue, horsemen going on horses, all of them young men to be desired.

<sup>13</sup>And I saw that she had become unclean; the two of them went the same way.

<sup>14</sup>And her loose behaviour became worse; for she saw men pictured on a

wall, pictures of the Chaldaeans painted in bright red,

<sup>15</sup>With bands round their bodies and with head-dresses hanging round their heads, all of them looking like rulers, like the Babylonians, the land of whose birth is Chaldaea.

<sup>16</sup>And when she saw them she was full of desire for them, and sent servants to them in Chaldaea.

<sup>17</sup>And the Babylonians came to her, into the bed of love, and made her unclean with their loose desire, and she became unclean with them, and her soul was turned from them.

<sup>18</sup>So her loose behaviour was clearly seen and her shame uncovered: then my soul was turned from her as it had been turned from her sister.

<sup>19</sup>But still she went on the more with her loose behaviour, keeping in mind the early days when she had been a loose woman in the land of Egypt.

<sup>20</sup>And she was full of desire for her lovers, whose flesh is like the flesh of asses and whose seed is like the seed of horses.

<sup>21</sup> And she made the memory of the loose ways of her early years come back to mind, when her young breasts were crushed by the Egyptians.

<sup>22</sup> For this cause, O Oholibah, this is what the Lord has said: See, I will make your lovers come up against you, even those from whom your soul is turned away in disgust; and I will make them come up against you on every side;

<sup>23</sup> The Babylonians and all the Chaldaeans, Pekod and Shoa and Koa, and all the Assyrians with them: young men to be desired, captains and rulers all of them, and chiefs, her neighbours, all of them on horseback.

<sup>24</sup> And they will come against you from the north on horseback, with war-carriages and a great band of peoples; they will put themselves in order against you with breastplate and body-cover and metal head-dress round about you: and I will make them your judges, and they will give their decision against you as seems right to them.

<sup>25</sup> And my bitter feeling will be working against you, and they will take you in hand with passion; they will take away



your nose and your ears, and the rest of you will be put to the sword: they will take your sons and daughters, and the rest of you will be burned up in the fire.

<sup>26</sup>And they will take all your clothing off you and take away your ornaments.

<sup>27</sup>So I will put an end to your evil ways and your loose behaviour which came from the land of Egypt: and your eyes will never be lifted up to them again, and you will have no more memory of Egypt.

<sup>28</sup>For this is what the Lord has said: See, I will give you up into the hands of those who are hated by you, into the hands of those from whom your soul is turned away in disgust:

<sup>29</sup>And they will take you in hand with hate, and take away all the fruit of your work, and let you be unveiled and without clothing: and the shame of your loose behaviour will be uncovered, your evil designs and your loose ways.

<sup>30</sup>They will do these things to you because you have been untrue to me, and have gone after the nations, and have become unclean with their images.

<sup>31</sup> You have gone in the way of your sister; and I will give her cup into your hand.

<sup>32</sup> This is what the Lord has said: You will take a drink from your sisters cup, which is deep and wide: you will be laughed at and looked down on, more than you are able to undergo.

<sup>33</sup> You will be broken and full of sorrow, with the cup of wonder and destruction, with the cup of your sister Samaria.

<sup>34</sup> And after drinking it and draining it out, you will take the last drops of it to the end, pulling off your breasts: for I have said it, says the Lord.

<sup>35</sup> So this is what the Lord has said: Because you have not kept me in your memory, and because your back has been turned to me, you will even undergo the punishment of your evil designs and your loose ways.

<sup>36</sup> Then the Lord said to me: Son of man, will you be the judge of Oholibah? then make clear to her the disgusting things she has done.

<sup>37</sup> For she has been false to me, and blood is on her hands, and with her images she has been untrue; and more

than this, she made her sons, whom she had by me, go through the fire to them to be burned up.

<sup>38</sup>Further, this is what she has done to me: she has made my holy place unclean and has made my Sabbaths unclean.

<sup>39</sup>For when she had made an offering of her children to her images, she came into my holy place to make it unclean; see, this is what she has done inside my house.

<sup>40</sup>And she even sent for men to come from far away, to whom a servant was sent, and they came: for whom she was washing her body and painting her eyes and making herself fair with ornaments.

<sup>41</sup>And she took her seat on a great bed, with a table put ready before it on which she put my perfume and my oil.

<sup>42</sup>and they put jewels on her hands and beautiful crowns on her head.

<sup>43</sup>Then I said now she will go on with her loose ways.

<sup>44</sup>And they went in to her, as men go to a loose woman: so they went in to Oholibah, the loose woman.

<sup>45</sup>And upright men will be her judges, judging her as false wives and women

who take lives are judged; because she has been untrue to me and blood is on her hands.

<sup>46</sup>For this is what the Lord has said: I will make a great meeting of the people come together against her, and will send on her shaking fear and take everything from her.

<sup>47</sup>And the meeting, after stoning her with stones, will put an end to her with their swords; they will put her sons and daughters to death and have her house burned up with fire.

<sup>48</sup>And I will put an end to evil in all the land, teaching all women not to do as you have done.

<sup>49</sup>And I will send on you the punishment of your evil ways, and you will be rewarded for your sins with your images: and you will be certain that I am the Lord.

**24**<sup>1</sup>And the word of the Lord came to me in the ninth year, in the tenth month, on the tenth day of the month, saying,

<sup>2</sup>Son of man, put down in writing this very day: The king of Babylon let

loose the weight of his attack against Jerusalem on this very day.

<sup>3</sup>And make a comparison for this uncontrolled people, and say to them, This is what the Lord has said: Put on the cooking-pot, put it on the fire and put water in it:

<sup>4</sup>And get the bits together, the fat tail, every good part, the leg and the top part of it: make it full of the best bones.

<sup>5</sup>Take the best of the flock, put much wood under it: see that its bits are boiling well; let the bones be cooked inside it.

<sup>6</sup>For this is what the Lord has said: A curse is on the town of blood, the cooking-pot which is unclean inside, which has never been made clean! take out its bits; its fate is still to come on it.

<sup>7</sup>For her blood is in her; she has put it on the open rock not draining it on to the earth so that it might be covered with dust;

<sup>8</sup>In order that it might make wrath come up to give punishment, she has put her blood on the open rock, so that it may not be covered.

<sup>9</sup>For this cause the Lord has said: A curse is on the town of blood! and I will make great the burning mass.

<sup>10</sup>Put on much wood, heating up the fire, boiling the flesh well, and making the soup thick, and let the bones be burned.

<sup>11</sup>And I will put her on the coals so that she may be heated and her brass burned, so that what is unclean in her may become soft and her waste be completely taken away.

<sup>12</sup>I have made myself tired to no purpose: still all the waste which is in her has not come out, it has an evil smell.

<sup>13</sup>As for your unclean purpose: because I have been attempting to make you clean, but you have not been made clean from it, you will not be made clean till I have let loose my passion on you in full measure.

<sup>14</sup>I the Lord have said the word and I will do it; I will not go back or have mercy, and my purpose will not be changed; in the measure of your ways and of your evil doings you will be judged, says the Lord.

<sup>15</sup> And the word of the Lord came to me, saying,

<sup>16</sup> Son of man, see, I am taking away the desire of your eyes by disease: but let there be no sorrow or weeping or drops running from your eyes.

<sup>17</sup> Let there be no sound of sorrow; make no weeping for your dead, put on your head-dress and your shoes on your feet, let not your lips be covered, and do not take the food of those in grief.

<sup>18</sup> So in the morning I was teaching the people and in the evening death took my wife; and in the morning I did what I had been ordered to do.

<sup>19</sup> And the people said to me, Will you not make clear to us the sense of these things; is it for us you do them?

<sup>20</sup> Then I said to them, The word of the Lord came to me, saying,

<sup>21</sup> Say to the people of Israel, The Lord has said, See, I will make my holy place unclean, the pride of your strength, the pleasure of your eyes, and the desire of your soul; and your sons and daughters, who did not come with you here, will be put to the sword.

<sup>22</sup>And you will do as I have done, not covering your lips or taking the food of those in grief.

<sup>23</sup>And your head-dresses will be on your heads and your shoes on your feet: there will be no sorrow or weeping; but you will be wasting away in the punishment of your evil-doing, and you will be looking at one another in wonder.

<sup>24</sup>And Ezekiel will be a sign to you; everything he has done you will do: when this takes place, you will be certain that I am the Lord.

<sup>25</sup>And as for you, son of man, your mouth will be shut in the day when I take from them their strength, the joy of their glory, the desire of their eyes, and that on which their hearts are fixed, and their sons and daughters.

<sup>26</sup>In that day, one who has got away safe will come to you to give you news of it.

<sup>27</sup>In that day your mouth will be open to him who has got away safe, and you will say words to him and your lips will no longer be shut: so you will be a sign to them and they will be certain that I am the Lord.



**25**<sup>1</sup> And the word of the Lord came to me, saying,

<sup>2</sup> Son of man, let your face be turned to the children of Ammon, and be a prophet against them:

<sup>3</sup> And say to the children of Ammon, Give ear to the word of the Lord; this is what the Lord has said: Because you said, Aha! against my holy place when it was made unclean, and against the land of Israel when it was made waste, and against the people of Judah when they were taken away as prisoners;

<sup>4</sup> For this cause I will give you up to the children of the east for their heritage, and they will put their tent-circles in you and make their houses in you; they will take your fruit for their food and your milk for their drink.

<sup>5</sup> And I will make Rabbah a place for housing camels, and the children of Ammon a resting-place for flocks: and you will be certain that I am the Lord.

<sup>6</sup> For the Lord has said, Because you have made sounds of joy with your hands, stamping your feet, and have been glad, putting shame with all your soul on the land of Israel;

<sup>7</sup>For this cause my hand has been stretched out against you, and I will give up your goods to be taken by the nations; I will have you cut off from the peoples and will put an end to you among the countries: I will give you up to destruction; and you will be certain that I am the Lord.

<sup>8</sup>This is what the Lord has said: Because Moab and Seir are saying, See, the people of Judah are like all the nations;

<sup>9</sup>For this cause, I will let the side of Moab be uncovered, and his towns on every side, the glory of the land, Beth-jeshimoth, Baal-meon and as far as Kiriathaim.

<sup>10</sup>To the children of the east I have given her for a heritage, as well as the children of Ammon, so that there may be no memory of her among the nations:

<sup>11</sup>And I will be the judge of Moab; and they will see that I am the Lord.

<sup>12</sup>This is what the Lord has said: Because Edom has taken his payment from the people of Judah, and has done great wrong in taking payment from them;

<sup>13</sup>The Lord has said, My hand will be stretched out against Edom, cutting off from it man and beast: and I will make it waste, from Teman even as far as Dedan they will be put to the sword.

<sup>14</sup>I will take payment from Edom because of my people Israel; and I will take Edom in hand in my wrath and in my passion: and they will have experience of my reward, says the Lord.

<sup>15</sup>This is what the Lord has said: Because the Philistines have taken payment, with the purpose of causing shame and destruction with unending hate;

<sup>16</sup>The Lord has said, See, my hand will be stretched out against the Philistines, cutting off the Cherethites and sending destruction on the rest of the sea-land.

<sup>17</sup>And I will take great payment from them with acts of wrath; and they will be certain that I am the Lord when I send my punishment on them.

**26**<sup>1</sup> Now in the eleventh year, on the first day of the month, the word of the Lord came to me, saying,

<sup>2</sup>Son of man, because Tyre has said against Jerusalem, Aha, she who was

the doorway of the peoples is broken;  
she is turned over to them; she who was  
full is made waste;

<sup>3</sup>For this cause the Lord has said, See,  
I am against you, O Tyre, and will send  
up a number of nations against you as  
the sea sends up its waves.

<sup>4</sup>And they will give the walls of Tyre to  
destruction and have its towers broken:  
and I will take even her dust away from  
her, and make her an uncovered rock

<sup>5</sup>She will be a place for the stretching  
out of nets in the middle of the sea; for  
I have said it, says the Lord: and her  
goods will be given over to the nations.

<sup>6</sup>And her daughters in the open country  
will be put to the sword: and they will be  
certain that I am the Lord.

<sup>7</sup>For this is what the Lord has said:  
See, I will send up from the north  
Nebuchadrezzar, king of Babylon, king  
of kings, against Tyre, with horses and  
war-carriages and with an army and  
great numbers of people.

<sup>8</sup>He will put to the sword your  
daughters in the open country: he will  
make strong walls against you and put

up an earthwork against you, arming himself for war against you.

<sup>9</sup>He will put up his engines of war against your walls, and your towers will be broken down by his axes.

<sup>10</sup>Because of the number of his horses you will be covered with their dust: your walls will be shaking at the noise of the horsemen and of the wheels and of the war-carriages, when he comes through your doorways, as into a town which has been broken open.

<sup>11</sup>Your streets will be stamped down by the feet of his horses: he will put your people to the sword, and will send down the pillars of your strength to the earth.

<sup>12</sup>They will take by force all your wealth and go off with the goods with which you do trade: they will have your walls broken down and all the houses of your desire given up to destruction: they will put your stones and your wood and your dust deep in the water.

<sup>13</sup>I will put an end to the noise of your songs, and the sound of your instruments of music will be gone for ever.

<sup>14</sup>I will make you an uncovered rock: you will be a place for the stretching out of nets; there will be no building you up again: for I the Lord have said it, says the Lord.

<sup>15</sup>This is what the Lord has said to Tyre: Will not the sea-lands be shaking at the sound of your fall, when the wounded give cries of pain, when men are put to the sword in you?

<sup>16</sup>Then all the rulers of the sea will come down from their high seats, and put away their robes and take off their clothing of needlework: they will put on the clothing of grief, they will take their seats on the earth, shaking with fear every minute and overcome with wonder at you.

<sup>17</sup>And they will send up a song of grief for you, and say to you, What destruction has come on you, how are you cut off from the sea, the noted town, which was strong in the sea, she and her people, causing the fear of them to come on all the dry land!

<sup>18</sup>Now the sea-lands will be shaking in the day of your fall; and all the ships on

the sea will be overcome with fear at your going.

<sup>19</sup>For this is what the Lord has said: I will make you a waste town, like the towns which are unpeopled; when I make the deep come upon you, covering you with great waters.

<sup>20</sup>Then I will make you go down with those who go down into the underworld, to the people of the past, causing your living-place to be in the deepest parts of the earth, in places long unpeopled, with those who go down into the deep, so that there will be no one living in you; and you will have no glory in the land of the living.

<sup>21</sup>I will make you a thing of fear, and you will come to an end: even if you are looked for, you will not be seen again for ever, says the Lord.

**27**<sup>1</sup> The word of the Lord came to me again, saying,

<sup>2</sup>And you, son of man, make a song of grief for Tyre;

<sup>3</sup>And say to Tyre, O you who are seated at the doorway of the sea, trading for the peoples with the great sea-lands, these are the words of the Lord: You, O

Tyre, have said, I am a ship completely beautiful.

<sup>4</sup>Your builders have made your outlines in the heart of the seas, they have made you completely beautiful.

<sup>5</sup>They have made all your boards of fir-trees from Senir: they have taken cedars from Lebanon to make the supports for your sails.

<sup>6</sup>Of oak-trees from Bashan they have made your driving blades; they have made your floors of ivory and boxwood from the sea-lands of Kittim.

<sup>7</sup>The best linen with needlework from Egypt was your sail, stretched out to be a flag for you; blue and purple from the sea-lands of Elishah gave you shade.

<sup>8</sup>The people of Zidon and Arvad were your boatmen; the wise men of Zemer were in you; they were guiding your ships;

<sup>9</sup>The responsible men of Gebal and its wise men were in you, making your boards watertight: all the ships of the sea with their seamen were in you trading in your goods.

<sup>10</sup>Cush and Lud and Put were in your army, your men of war, hanging up their



body-covers and head-dresses of war in you: they gave you your glory.

<sup>11</sup> The men of Arvad in your army were on your walls, and were watchmen in your towers, hanging up their arms on your walls round about; they made you completely beautiful.

<sup>12</sup> Tarshish did business with you because of the great amount of your wealth; they gave silver, iron, tin, and lead for your goods.

<sup>13</sup> Javan, Tubal, and Meshech were your traders; they gave living men and brass vessels for your goods.

<sup>14</sup> The people of Togarmah gave horses and war-horses and transport beasts for your goods.

<sup>15</sup> The men of Rodan were your traders: a great number of sea-lands did business with you: they gave you horns of ivory and ebony as an offering.

<sup>16</sup> Edom did business with you because of the great number of things which you made; they gave emeralds, purple, and needlework, and the best linen and coral and rubies for your goods.

<sup>17</sup> Judah and the land of Israel were your traders; they gave grain of Minnith

and sweet cakes and honey and oil and perfume for your goods.

<sup>18</sup> Damascus did business with you because of the great amount of your wealth, with wine of Helbon and white wool.

<sup>19</sup> for your goods: they gave polished iron and spices for your goods.

<sup>20</sup> Dedan did trade with you in cloths for the backs of horses.

<sup>21</sup> Arabia and all the rulers of Kedar did business with you; in lambs and sheep and goats, in these they did business with you.

<sup>22</sup> The traders of Sheba and Raamah did trade with you; they gave the best of all sorts of spices and all sorts of stones of great price and gold for your goods.

<sup>23</sup> Haran and Canneh and Eden, the traders of Asshur and all the Medes:

<sup>24</sup> These were your traders in beautiful robes, in rolls of blue and needlework, and in chests of coloured cloth, corded with cords and made of cedar-wood, in them they did trade with you.

<sup>25</sup> Tarshish ships did business for you in your goods: and you were made full,

and great was your glory in the heart of the seas.

<sup>26</sup>Your boatmen have taken you into great waters: you have been broken by the east wind in the heart of the seas.

<sup>27</sup>Your wealth and your goods, the things in which you do trade, your seamen and those guiding your ships, those who make your boards watertight, and those who do business with your goods, and all your men of war who are in you, with all who have come together in you, will go down into the heart of the seas in the day of your downfall.

<sup>28</sup>At the sound of the cry of your ships guides, the boards of the ship will be shaking.

<sup>29</sup>And all the boatmen, the seamen and those who are expert at guiding a ship through the sea, will come down from their ships and take their places on the land;

<sup>30</sup>And their voices will be sounding over you, and crying bitterly they will put dust on their heads, rolling themselves in the dust:

<sup>31</sup>And they will have the hair of their heads cut off because of you, and will

put haircloth on their bodies, weeping for you with bitter grief in their souls, even with bitter sorrow.

<sup>32</sup>And in their weeping they will make a song of grief for you, sorrowing over you and saying, Who is like Tyre, who has come to an end in the deep sea?

<sup>33</sup>When your goods went out over the seas, you made numbers of peoples full; the wealth of the kings of the earth was increased with your great wealth and all your goods.

<sup>34</sup>Now that you are broken by the seas in the deep waters, your goods and all your people will go down with you.

<sup>35</sup>All the people of the sea-lands are overcome with wonder at you, and their kings are full of fear, their faces are troubled.

<sup>36</sup>Those who do business among the peoples make sounds of surprise at you; you have become a thing of fear, you have come to an end for ever.

**28**<sup>1</sup>The word of the Lord came to me again, saying,

<sup>2</sup>Son of man, say to the ruler of Tyre, This is what the Lord has said: Because your heart has been lifted up, and you

have said, I am a god, I am seated on the seat of God in the heart of the seas; but you are man and not God, though you have made your heart as the heart of God:

<sup>3</sup>See, you are wiser than Daniel; there is no secret which is deeper than your knowledge:

<sup>4</sup>By your wisdom and deep knowledge you have got power for yourself, and put silver and gold in your store-houses:

<sup>5</sup>By your great wisdom and by your trade your power is increased, and your heart is lifted up because of your power:

<sup>6</sup>For this cause the Lord has said: Because you have made your heart as the heart of God,

<sup>7</sup>See, I am sending against you strange men, feared among the nations: they will let loose their swords against your bright wisdom, they will make your glory a common thing.

<sup>8</sup>They will send you down to the underworld, and your death will be the death of those who are put to the sword in the heart of the seas.

<sup>9</sup>Will you say, in the face of those who are taking your life, I am God? but you

are man and not God in the hands of those who are wounding you.

<sup>10</sup>Your death will be the death of those who are without circumcision, by the hands of men from strange lands: for I have said it, says the Lord.

<sup>11</sup>Then the word of the Lord came to me, saying,

<sup>12</sup>Son of man, make a song of grief for the king of Tyre, and say to him, This is what the Lord has said: You are all-wise and completely beautiful;

<sup>13</sup>You were in Eden, the garden of God; every stone of great price was your clothing, the sardius, the topaz, and the diamond, the beryl, the onyx, and the jasper, the emerald and the carbuncle: your store-houses were full of gold, and things of great price were in you; in the day when you were made they were got ready.

<sup>14</sup>I gave you your place with the winged one; I put you on the mountain of God; you went up and down among the stones of fire.

<sup>15</sup>There has been no evil in your ways from the day when you were made, till sin was seen in you.

<sup>16</sup>Through all your trading you have become full of violent ways, and have done evil: so I sent you out shamed from the mountain of God; the winged one put an end to you from among the stones of fire.

<sup>17</sup>Your heart was lifted up because you were beautiful, you made your wisdom evil through your sin: I have sent you down, even to the earth; I have made you low before kings, so that they may see you.

<sup>18</sup>By all your sin, even by your evil trading, you have made your holy places unclean; so I will make a fire come out from you, it will make a meal of you, and I will make you as dust on the earth before the eyes of all who see you.

<sup>19</sup>All who have knowledge of you among the peoples will be overcome with wonder at you: you have become a thing of fear, and you will never be seen again.

<sup>20</sup>And the word of the Lord came to me, saying,

<sup>21</sup>Son of man, let your face be turned to Zidon, and be a prophet against it, and say,

<sup>22</sup>These are the words of the Lord: See, I am against you, O Zidon; and I will get glory for myself in you: and they will be certain that I am the Lord, when I send my punishments on her, and I will be seen to be holy in her.

<sup>23</sup>And I will send on her disease and blood in her streets; and the wounded will be falling in the middle of her, and the sword will be against her on every side; and they will be certain that I am the Lord.

<sup>24</sup>And there will no longer be a plant with sharp points wounding the children of Israel, or a thorn troubling them among any who are round about them, who put shame on them; and they will be certain that I am the Lord.

<sup>25</sup>This is what the Lord has said: When I have got together the children of Israel from the peoples among whom they are wandering, and have been made holy among them before the eyes of the nations, then they will have rest in the land which is theirs, which I gave to my servant Jacob

<sup>26</sup>And they will be safe there, building houses and planting vine-gardens and



living without fear; when I have sent my punishments on all those who put shame on them round about them; and they will be certain that I am the Lord their God.

**29**<sup>1</sup> In the tenth year, in the tenth month, on the twelfth day of the month, the word of the Lord came to me, saying,

<sup>2</sup> Son of man, let your face be turned against Pharaoh, king of Egypt, and be a prophet against him and against all Egypt:

<sup>3</sup> Say to them, These are the words of the Lord: See, I am against you, Pharaoh, king of Egypt, the great river-beast stretched out among his Nile streams, who has said, The Nile is mine, and I have made it for myself.

<sup>4</sup> And I will put hooks in your mouth, and the fish of your streams will be hanging from your skin; and I will make you come up out of your streams, with all the fish of your streams hanging from your skin.

<sup>5</sup> And I will let you be in the waste land, you and all the fish of your streams: you will go down on the face of the land; you will not be taken up or put to rest in the

earth; I have given you for food to the beasts of the field and the birds of the heaven.

<sup>6</sup>And it will be clear to all the people of Egypt that I am the Lord, because you have been a false support to the children of Israel.

<sup>7</sup>When they took a grip of you in their hands, you were crushed so that their arms were broken: and when they put their weight on you for support, you were broken and all their muscles gave way.

<sup>8</sup>For this cause the Lord has said: See, I am sending a sword on you, cutting off from you man and beast.

<sup>9</sup>And the land of Egypt will be an unpeopled waste; and they will be certain that I am the Lord: because he has said, The Nile is mine, and I made it.

<sup>10</sup>See, then, I am against you and against your streams, and I will make the land of Egypt an unpeopled waste, from Migdol to Syene, even as far as the edge of Ethiopia.

<sup>11</sup>No foot of man will go through it and no foot of beast, and it will be unpeopled for forty years.

<sup>12</sup>I will make the land of Egypt a waste among the countries which are made waste, and her towns will be unpeopled among the towns which have been made waste, for forty years: and I will send the Egyptians in flight among the nations and wandering through the countries.

<sup>13</sup>For this is what the Lord has said: At the end of forty years I will get the Egyptians together from the peoples where they have gone in flight:

<sup>14</sup>I will let the fate of Egypt be changed, and will make them come back into the land of Pathros, into the land from which they came; and there they will be an unimportant kingdom.

<sup>15</sup>It will be the lowest of the kingdoms, and never again will it be lifted up over the nations: I will make them small, so that they may not have rule over the nations.

<sup>16</sup>And Egypt will no longer be the hope of the children of Israel, causing sin to come to mind when their eyes are turned to them: and they will be certain that I am the Lord.

<sup>17</sup>Now in the twenty-seventh year, in the first month, on the first day of the

month, the word of the Lord came to me, saying,

<sup>18</sup>Son of man, Nebuchadrezzar, king of Babylon, made his army do hard work against Tyre, and the hair came off every head and every arm was rubbed smooth: but he and his army got no payment out of Tyre for the hard work which he had done against it.

<sup>19</sup>For this cause the Lord has said: See, I am giving the land of Egypt to Nebuchadrezzar, king of Babylon: he will take away her wealth, and take her goods by force and everything which is there; and this will be the payment for his army.

<sup>20</sup>I have given him the land of Egypt as the reward for his hard work, because they were working for me, says the Lord.

<sup>21</sup>In that day I will make a horn put out buds for the children of Israel, and I will let your words come freely among them, and they will be certain that I am the Lord.

**30**<sup>1</sup> The word of the Lord came to me again, saying,

<sup>2</sup>Son of man, be a prophet, and say, These are the words of the Lord: Give a cry, Aha, for the day!

<sup>3</sup>For the day is near, the day of the Lord is near, a day of cloud; it will be the time of the nations.

<sup>4</sup>And a sword will come on Egypt, and cruel pain will be in Ethiopia, when they are falling by the sword in Egypt; and they will take away her wealth and her bases will be broken down.

<sup>5</sup>Ethiopia and Put and Lud and all the mixed people and Libya and the children of the land of the Cherethites will all be put to death with them by the sword.

<sup>6</sup>This is what the Lord has said: The supporters of Egypt will have a fall, and the pride of her power will come down: from Migdol to Syene they will be put to the sword in it, says the Lord.

<sup>7</sup>And she will be made waste among the countries which have been made waste, and her towns will be among the towns which are unpeopled.

<sup>8</sup>And they will be certain that I am the Lord, when I have put a fire in Egypt and all her helpers are broken.

<sup>9</sup>In that day men will go out quickly to take the news, causing fear in untroubled Ethiopia; and bitter pain will come on them as in the day of Egypt; for see, it is coming.

<sup>10</sup>This is what the Lord has said: I will put an end to great numbers of the people of Egypt by the hand of Nebuchadrezzar, king of Babylon.

<sup>11</sup>He and the people with him, causing fear among the nations, will be sent for the destruction of the land; their swords will be let loose against Egypt and the land will be full of dead.

<sup>12</sup>And I will make the Nile streams dry, and will give the land into the hands of evil men, causing the land and everything in it to be wasted by the hands of men from a strange country: I the Lord have said it.

<sup>13</sup>This is what the Lord has said: In addition to this, I will give up the images to destruction and put an end to the false gods in Noph; never again will there be a ruler in the land of Egypt: and I will put a fear in the land of Egypt.

<sup>14</sup>And I will make Pathros a waste, and put a fire in Zoan, and send my punishments on No.

<sup>15</sup>I will let loose my wrath on Sin, the strong place of Egypt, cutting off the mass of the people of No.

<sup>16</sup>And I will put a fire in Egypt; Syene will be twisting in pain, and No will be broken into, as by the onrush of waters.

<sup>17</sup>The young men of On and Pi-beseth will be put to the sword: and these towns will be taken away prisoners.

<sup>18</sup>And at Tehaphnehes the day will become dark, when the yoke of Egypt is broken there, and the pride of her power comes to an end: as for her, she will be covered with a cloud, and her daughters will be taken away prisoners.

<sup>19</sup>And I will send my punishments on Egypt: and they will be certain that I am the Lord.

<sup>20</sup>Now in the eleventh year, in the first month, on the seventh day of the month, the word of the Lord came to me, saying,

<sup>21</sup>Son of man, the arm of Pharaoh, king of Egypt, has been broken by me, and no band has been put round it to make it

well, no band has been twisted round it to make it strong for gripping the sword.

<sup>22</sup>For this cause the Lord has said: See, I am against Pharaoh, king of Egypt, and by me his strong arm will be broken; and I will make the sword go out of his hand.

<sup>23</sup>And I will send the Egyptians in flight among the nations and wandering through the countries.

<sup>24</sup>And I will make the arms of the king of Babylon strong, and will put my sword in his hand: but Pharaohs arms will be broken, and he will give cries of pain before him like the cries of a man wounded to death.

<sup>25</sup>And I will make the arms of the king of Babylon strong, and the arms of Pharaoh will be hanging down; and they will be certain that I am the Lord, when I put my sword into the hand of the king of Babylon and it is stretched out against the land of Egypt.

<sup>26</sup>And I will send the Egyptians in flight among the nations and wandering through the countries; and they will be certain that I am the Lord.

**31** <sup>1</sup>Now in the eleventh year, in the third month, on the first day of



the month, the word of the Lord came to me, saying,

<sup>2</sup>Son of man, say to Pharaoh, king of Egypt, and to his people; Whom are you like in your great power?

<sup>3</sup>See, a pine-tree with beautiful branches and thick growth, giving shade and very tall; and its top was among the clouds.

<sup>4</sup>It got strength from the waters and the deep made it tall: its streams went round about its planted land and it sent out its waterways to all the trees of the field.

<sup>5</sup>In this way it became taller than all the trees of the field; and its branches were increased and its arms became long because of the great waters.

<sup>6</sup>In its branches all the birds of heaven came to rest, and under its arms all the beasts of the field gave birth to their young, and great nations were living in its shade.

<sup>7</sup>So it was beautiful, being so tall and its branches so long, for its root was by great waters.

<sup>8</sup>No cedars were equal to it in the garden of God; the fir-trees were not

like its branches, and plane-trees were as nothing in comparison with its arms; no tree in the garden of God was so beautiful.

<sup>9</sup>I made it beautiful with its mass of branches: so that all the trees in the garden of God were full of envy of it.

<sup>10</sup>For this cause the Lord has said: Because he is tall, and has put his top among the clouds, and his heart is full of pride because he is so high,

<sup>11</sup>I have given him up into the hands of a strong one of the nations; he will certainly give him the reward of his sin, driving him out.

<sup>12</sup>And men from strange lands, who are to be feared among the nations, after cutting him off, have let him be: on the mountains and in all the valleys his branches have come down; his arms are broken by all the waterways of the land; all the peoples of the earth have gone from his shade, and have let him be.

<sup>13</sup>All the birds of heaven have come to rest on his broken stem where it is stretched on the earth, and all the beasts of the field will be on his branches:

<sup>14</sup>In order that no trees by the waters may be lifted up in their growth, putting their tops among the clouds; and that no trees which are watered may take their place on high: for they are all given up to death, to the lowest parts of the earth among the children of men, with those who go down to the underworld.

<sup>15</sup>This is what the Lord has said: The day when he goes down to the underworld, I will make the deep full of grief for him; I will keep back her streams and the great waters will be stopped: I will make Lebanon dark for him, and all the trees of the field will be feeble because of him.

<sup>16</sup>I will send shaking on the nations at the sound of his fall, when I send him down to the underworld with those who go down into the deep: and on earth they will be comforting themselves, all the trees of Eden, the best of Lebanon, even all the watered ones.

<sup>17</sup>And they will go down with him to the underworld, to those who have been put to the sword; even those who were his helpers, living under his shade among the nations

<sup>18</sup>Whom then are you like? for you will be sent down with the trees of Eden into the lowest parts of the earth: there you will be stretched out among those without circumcision, with those who were put to the sword. This is Pharaoh and all his people, says the Lord.

**32**<sup>1</sup> And it came about in the twelfth year, in the twelfth month, on the first day of the month, that the word of the Lord came to me, saying,

<sup>2</sup>Son of man, make a song of grief for Pharaoh, king of Egypt, and say to him, Young lion of the nations, destruction has come on you; and you were like a sea-beast in the seas, sending out bursts of water, troubling the waters with your feet, making their streams dirty.

<sup>3</sup>This is what the Lord has said: My net will be stretched out over you, and I will take you up in my fishing-net.

<sup>4</sup>And I will let you be stretched on the land; I will send you out violently into the open field; I will let all the birds of heaven come to rest on you and will make the beasts of all the earth full of you.

<sup>5</sup>And I will put your flesh on the mountains, and make the valleys full of your blood.

<sup>6</sup>And the land will be watered with your blood, and the waterways will be full of you.

<sup>7</sup>And when I put out your life, the heaven will be covered and its stars made dark; I will let the sun be covered with a cloud and the moon will not give her light.

<sup>8</sup>All the bright lights of heaven I will make dark over you, and put dark night on your land, says the Lord.

<sup>9</sup>And the hearts of numbers of peoples will be troubled, when I send your prisoners among the nations, into a country which is strange to you.

<sup>10</sup>And I will make a number of peoples overcome with wonder at you, and their kings will be full of fear because of you, when my sword is waved before them: they will be shaking every minute, every man fearing for his life, in the day of your fall.

<sup>11</sup>For this is what the Lord has said: The sword of the king of Babylon will come on you.

<sup>12</sup>I will let the swords of the strong be the cause of the fall of your people; all of them men to be feared among the nations: and they will make waste the pride of Egypt, and all its people will come to destruction.

<sup>13</sup>And I will put an end to all her beasts which are by the great waters, and they will never again be troubled by the foot of man or by the feet of beasts.

<sup>14</sup>Then I will make their waters clear and their rivers will be flowing like oil, says the Lord.

<sup>15</sup>When I make Egypt an unpeopled waste, cutting off from the land all the things in it; when I send punishment on all those living in it, then it will be clear to them that I am the Lord.

<sup>16</sup>It is a song of grief, and people will give voice to it, the daughters of the nations will give voice to it, even for Egypt and all her people, says the Lord.

<sup>17</sup>And in the twelfth year, on the fifteenth day of the month, the word of the Lord came to me, saying,

<sup>18</sup>Son of man, let your voice be loud in sorrow for the people of Egypt and send them down, even you and the daughters

of the nations; I will send them down into the lowest parts of the earth, with those who go down into the underworld.

<sup>19</sup>Are you more beautiful than any? go down, and take your rest among those without circumcision,

<sup>20</sup>Among those who have been put to the sword: they will give a resting-place with them to all their people.

<sup>21</sup>The strong among the great ones will say to him from the underworld, Are you more beautiful than any? go down, you and your helpers, and take your rest among those without circumcision, and those who have been put to the sword.

<sup>22</sup>There is Asshur and all her army, round about her last resting-place: all of them put to death by the sword:

<sup>23</sup>Whose resting-places are in the inmost parts of the underworld, who were a cause of fear in the land of the living.

<sup>24</sup>There is Elam and all her people, round about her last resting-place: all of them put to death by the sword, who have gone down without circumcision into the lowest parts of the earth, who were a cause of fear in the land of the

living, and are put to shame with those who go down to the underworld:

<sup>25</sup>They have made a bed for her among the dead, and all her people are round about her resting-place: all of them without circumcision, put to death with the sword; for they were a cause of fear in the land of the living, and are put to shame with those who go down to the underworld: they have been given a place among those who have been put to the sword.

<sup>26</sup>There is Meshech, Tubal, and all her people, round about her last resting-place: all of them without circumcision, put to death by the sword; for they were a cause of fear in the land of the living.

<sup>27</sup>And they have been put to rest with the fighting men who came to their end in days long past, who went down to the underworld with their instruments of war, placing their swords under their heads, and their body-covers are over their bones; for their strength was a cause of fear in the land of the living.

<sup>28</sup>But you will have your bed among those without circumcision, and will be



put to rest with those who have been put to death with the sword.

<sup>29</sup>There is Edom, her kings and all her princes, who have been given a resting-place with those who were put to the sword: they will be resting among those without circumcision, even with those who go down to the underworld.

<sup>30</sup>There are the chiefs of the north, all of them, and all the Zidonians, who have gone down with those who have been put to the sword: they are shamed on account of all the fear caused by their strength; they are resting there without circumcision, among those who have been put to the sword, and are put to shame with those who go down to the underworld.

<sup>31</sup>Pharaoh will see them and be comforted on account of all his people: even Pharaoh and all his army, put to death by the sword, says the Lord.

<sup>32</sup>For he put his fear in the land of the living: and he will be put to rest among those without circumcision, with those who have been put to death with the sword, even Pharaoh and all his people, says the Lord.

**33**<sup>1</sup> And the word of the Lord came to me, saying,

<sup>2</sup> Son of man, give a word to the children of your people, and say to them, When I make the sword come on a land, if the people of the land take a man from among their number and make him their watchman:

<sup>3</sup> If, when he sees the sword coming on the land, by sounding the horn he gives the people news of their danger;

<sup>4</sup> Then anyone who, hearing the sound of the horn, does not take note of it, will himself be responsible for his death, if the sword comes and takes him away.

<sup>5</sup> On hearing the sound of the horn, he did not take note; his blood will be on him; for if he had taken note his life would have been safe.

<sup>6</sup> But if the watchman sees the sword coming, and does not give a note on the horn, and the people have no word of the danger, and the sword comes and takes any person from among them; he will be taken away in his sin, but I will make the watchman responsible for his blood.

<sup>7</sup> So you, son of man, I have made you a watchman for the children of Israel; and you are to give ear to the word of my mouth and give them news from me of their danger.

<sup>8</sup> When I say to the evil-doer, Death will certainly overtake you; and you say nothing to make clear to the evil-doer the danger of his way; death will overtake that evil man in his evil-doing, but I will make you responsible for his blood.

<sup>9</sup> But if you make clear to the evil-doer the danger of his way for the purpose of turning him from it, and he is not turned from his way, death will overtake him in his evil-doing, but your life will be safe.

<sup>10</sup> And you, son of man, say to the children of Israel, You say, Our wrongdoing and our sins are on us and we are wasting away in them; how then may we have life?

<sup>11</sup> Say to them, By my life, says the Lord, I have no pleasure in the death of the evil-doer; it is more pleasing to me if he is turned from his way and has life: be turned, be turned from your evil

ways; why are you looking for death, O children of Israel?

<sup>12</sup>And you, son of man, say to the children of your people, The righteousness of the upright man will not make him safe in the day when he does wrong; and the evil-doing of the evil man will not be the cause of his fall in the day when he is turned from his evil-doing; and the upright man will not have life because of his righteousness in the day when he does evil.

<sup>13</sup>When I say to the upright that life will certainly be his; if he puts his faith in his righteousness and does evil, not one of his upright acts will be kept in memory; but in the evil he has done, death will overtake him.

<sup>14</sup>And when I say to the evil-doer, Death will certainly be your fate; if he is turned from his sin and does what is ordered and right;

<sup>15</sup>If the evil-doer lets one who is in his debt have back what is his, and gives back what he had taken by force, and is guided by the rules of life, doing no evil; life will certainly be his, death will not overtake him.

<sup>16</sup>Not one of the sins which he has done will be kept in mind against him: he has done what is ordered and right, life will certainly be his.

<sup>17</sup>But the children of your people say, The way of the Lord is not equal: when it is they whose way is not equal.

<sup>18</sup>When the upright man, turning away from his righteousness, does evil, death will overtake him in it.

<sup>19</sup>And when the evil man, turning away from his evil-doing, does what is ordered and right, he will get life by it.

<sup>20</sup>And still you say, The way of the Lord is not equal. O children of Israel, I will be your judge, giving to everyone the reward of his ways.

<sup>21</sup>Now in the twelfth year after we had been taken away prisoners, in the tenth month, on the fifth day of the month, one who had got away in flight from Jerusalem came to me, saying, The town has been taken.

<sup>22</sup>Now the hand of the Lord had been on me in the evening, before the man who had got away came to me; and he made my mouth open, ready for his coming to me in the morning; and my

mouth was open and I was no longer without voice.

<sup>23</sup> And the word of the Lord came to me, saying,

<sup>24</sup> Son of man, those who are living in these waste places in the land of Israel say, Abraham was but one, and he had land for his heritage: but we are a great number; the land is given to us for our heritage.

<sup>25</sup> For this cause say to them, This is what the Lord has said: You take your meat with the blood, your eyes are lifted up to your images, and you are takers of life: are you to have the land for your heritage?

<sup>26</sup> You put your faith in your swords, you do disgusting things, everyone takes his neighbours wife: are you to have the land for your heritage?

<sup>27</sup> This is what you are to say to them: The Lord has said, By my life, truly, those who are in the waste places will be put to the sword, and him who is in the open field I will give to the beasts for their food, and those who are in the strong places and in holes in the rocks will come to their death by disease.

<sup>28</sup>And I will make the land a waste and a cause of wonder, and the pride of her strength will come to an end; and the mountains of Israel will be made waste so that no one will go through.

<sup>29</sup>Then they will be certain that I am the Lord, when I have made the land a waste and a cause of wonder, because of all the disgusting things which they have done,

<sup>30</sup>And as for you, son of man, the children of your people are talking together about you by the walls and in the doorways of the houses, saying to one another, Come now, give ear to the word which comes from the Lord.

<sup>31</sup>And they come to you as my people come, and are seated before you as my people, hearing your words but doing them not: for deceit is in their mouth and their heart goes after profit for themselves.

<sup>32</sup>And truly you are to them like a love song by one who has a very pleasing voice and is an expert player on an instrument: for they give ear to your words but do them not.

<sup>33</sup>And when this comes about (see, it is coming), then it will be clear to them that a prophet has been among them.

**34**<sup>1</sup>And the word of the Lord came to me, saying,

<sup>2</sup>Son of man, be a prophet against the keepers of the flock of Israel, and say to them, O keepers of the sheep! this is the word of the Lord: A curse is on the keepers of the flock of Israel who take the food for themselves! is it not right for the keepers to give the food to the sheep?

<sup>3</sup>You take the milk and are clothed with the wool, you put the fat beasts to death, but you give the sheep no food.

<sup>4</sup>You have not made the diseased ones strong or made well that which was ill; you have not put bands on the broken or got back that which had been sent away or made search for the wandering ones; and the strong you have been ruling cruelly.

<sup>5</sup>And they were wandering in every direction because there was no keeper: and they became food for all the beasts of the field.



<sup>6</sup>And my sheep went out of the way, wandering through all the mountains and on every high hill: my sheep went here and there over all the face of the earth; and no one was troubled about them or went in search of them.

<sup>7</sup>For this cause, O keepers of the flock, give ear to the word of the Lord:

<sup>8</sup>By my life, says the Lord, truly, because my sheep have been taken away, and my sheep became food for all the beasts of the field, because there was no keeper, and my keepers did not go in search of the sheep, but the keepers took food for themselves and gave my sheep no food;

<sup>9</sup>For this reason, O you keepers of the flock, give ear to the word of the Lord;

<sup>10</sup>This is what the Lord has said: See I am against the keepers of the flock, and I will make search and see what they have done with my sheep, and will let them be keepers of my sheep no longer; and the keepers will no longer get food for themselves; I will take my sheep out of their mouths so that they may not be food for them.

<sup>11</sup> For this is what the Lord has said: Truly, I, even I, will go searching and looking for my sheep.

<sup>12</sup> As the keeper goes looking for his flock when he is among his wandering sheep, so I will go looking for my sheep, and will get them safely out of all the places where they have been sent wandering in the day of clouds and black night.

<sup>13</sup> And I will take them out from among the peoples, and get them together from the countries, and will take them into their land; and I will give them food on the mountains of Israel by the water-streams and wherever men are living in the country.

<sup>14</sup> I will give them good grass-land for their food, and their safe place will be the mountains of the high place of Israel: there they will take their rest in a good place, and on fat grass-land they will take their food on the mountains of Israel.

<sup>15</sup> I myself will give food to my flock, and I will give them rest, says the Lord.

<sup>16</sup> I will go in search of that which had gone wandering from the way, and will

get back that which had been sent in flight, and will put bands on that which was broken, and give strength to that which was ill: but the fat and the strong I will give up to destruction; I will give them for their food the punishment which is theirs by right.

<sup>17</sup>And as for you, O my flock, says the Lord, truly, I will be judge between sheep and sheep, the he-sheep and the he-goats.

<sup>18</sup>Does it seem a small thing to you to have taken your food on good grass-land while the rest of your grass-land is stamped down under your feet? and that after drinking from clear waters you make the rest of the waters dirty with your feet?

<sup>19</sup>And as for my sheep, their food is the grass which has been stamped on by your feet, and their drink the water which has been made dirty by your feet.

<sup>20</sup>For this reason the Lord has said to them, Truly, I, even I, will be judge between the fat sheep and the thin sheep.

<sup>21</sup>Because you have been pushing with side and leg, pushing the diseased with

your horns till they were sent away in every direction;

<sup>22</sup>I will make my flock safe, and they will no longer be taken away, and I will be judge between sheep and sheep.

<sup>23</sup>And I will put over them one keeper, and he will give them food, even my servant David; he will give them food and be their keeper.

<sup>24</sup>And I the Lord will be their God and my servant David their ruler; I the Lord have said it.

<sup>25</sup>And I will make with them an agreement of peace, and will put an end to evil beasts through all the land: and they will be living safely in the waste land, sleeping in the woods.

<sup>26</sup>And I will give the rain at the right time, and I will make the shower come down at the right time; there will be showers of blessing.

<sup>27</sup>And the tree of the field will give its fruit and the earth will give its increase, and they will be safe in their land; and they will be certain that I am the Lord, when I have had their yoke broken and have given them salvation from the hands of those who made them servants.

<sup>28</sup>And their goods will no longer be taken by the nations, and they will not again be food for the beasts of the earth; but they will be living safely and no one will be a cause of fear to them.

<sup>29</sup>And I will give them planting-places of peace, and they will no longer be wasted from need of food or put to shame by the nations.

<sup>30</sup>And they will be certain that I the Lord their God am with them, and that they, the children of Israel, are my people, says the Lord.

<sup>31</sup>And you are my sheep, the sheep of my grass-lands, and I am your God, says the Lord.

**35**<sup>1</sup>Then the word of the Lord came to me, saying,

<sup>2</sup>Son of man, let your face be turned to Mount Seir, and be a prophet against it,

<sup>3</sup>And say to it, This is what the Lord has said: See, I am against you, O Mount Seir, and my hand will be stretched out against you, and I will make you a waste and a cause for wonder.

<sup>4</sup>I will make your towns unpeopled and you will be a waste; and you will be certain that I am the Lord.

<sup>5</sup>Because yours has been a hate without end, and you have given up the children of Israel to the power of the sword in the time of their trouble, in the time of the punishment of the end:

<sup>6</sup>For this cause, by my life, says the Lord, because you have been sinning through blood, blood will come after you.

<sup>7</sup>And I will make Mount Seir a cause for wonder and a waste, cutting off from it all comings and goings.

<sup>8</sup>I will make his mountains full of those who have been put to death; in your valleys and in all your water-streams men will be falling by the sword.

<sup>9</sup>I will make you waste for ever, and your towns will be unpeopled: and you will be certain that I am the Lord.

<sup>10</sup>Because you have said, The two nations and the two countries are to be mine, and we will take them for our heritage; though the Lord was there:

<sup>11</sup>For this cause, by my life, says the Lord, I will do to you as you have done in your wrath and in your envy, which you have made clear in your hate for them; and I will make clear to you who I am when you are judged by me.

<sup>12</sup>And you will see that I the Lord have had knowledge of all the bitter things which you have said against the mountains of Israel, saying, They have been made waste, they are given to us to take for our heritage.

<sup>13</sup>And you have made yourselves great against me with your mouths, increasing your words against me; and it has come to my ears.

<sup>14</sup>This is what the Lord has said: Because you were glad over my land when it was a waste, so will I do to you:

<sup>15</sup>You will become a waste, O Mount Seir, and all Edom, even all of it: and you will be certain that I am the Lord.

**36**<sup>1</sup>And you, son of man, be a prophet about the mountains of Israel, and say, You mountains of Israel, give ear to the word of the Lord:

<sup>2</sup>This is what the Lord has said: Because your hater has said against you, Aha! and, The old waste places are our heritage, we have taken them:

<sup>3</sup>For this cause be a prophet, and say, This is what the Lord has said: Because, even because they have been glad over you and put you to shame on every side,

because you have become a heritage for the rest of the nations, and you are taken up on the lips of talkers and in the evil talk of the people:

<sup>4</sup>For this reason, you mountains of Israel, give ear to the word of the Lord; this is what the Lord has said to the mountains and to the hills, to the streams and to the valleys, to the unpeopled wastes and to the towns where no one is living, from which the goods have been taken and which have been put to shame by the rest of the nations who are round about:

<sup>5</sup>For this cause the Lord has said: Truly, in the heat of my bitter feeling I have said things against the rest of the nations and against all Edom, who have taken my land as a heritage for themselves with the joy of all their heart, and with bitter envy of soul have made attacks on it:

<sup>6</sup>For this cause be a prophet about the land of Israel, and say to the mountains and to the hills, to the streams and to the valleys, This is what the Lord has said: Truly, in my bitter feeling and in my wrath I have said these things, because



you have undergone the shame of the nations:

<sup>7</sup>For this cause the Lord has said, See, I have taken an oath that the nations which are round about you are themselves to undergo the shame which they have put on you.

<sup>8</sup>But you, O mountains of Israel, will put out your branches and give your fruit to my people Israel; for they are ready to come.

<sup>9</sup>For truly I am for you, and I will be turned to you, and you will be ploughed and planted:

<sup>10</sup>And I will let your numbers be increased, all the children of Israel, even all of them: and the towns will be peopled and the waste places will have buildings;

<sup>11</sup>Man and beast will be increased in you, and they will have offspring and be fertile: I will make you thickly peopled as you were before, and will do more for you than at the first: and you will be certain that I am the Lord.

<sup>12</sup>Yes, I will have you walked on by the feet of men, even my people Israel; they will have you for a heritage and you will

be theirs, and never again will you take their children from them.

<sup>13</sup>This is what the Lord has said: Because they say to you, You, O land, are the destruction of men, causing loss of children to your nation;

<sup>14</sup>For this reason you will no longer take the lives of men and will never again be the cause of loss of children to your nation, says the Lord.

<sup>15</sup>And I will not let the shaming of the nations come to your ears, and no longer will you be looked down on by the peoples, says the Lord.

<sup>16</sup>Then the word of the Lord came to me, saying,

<sup>17</sup>Son of man, when the children of Israel were living in their land, they made it unclean by their way and their acts: their way before me was as when a woman is unclean at the time when she is kept separate.

<sup>18</sup>So I let loose my wrath on them because of those whom they had violently put to death in the land, and because they had made it unclean with their images:

<sup>19</sup>And I sent them in flight among the nations and wandering through the countries: I was their judge, rewarding them for their way and their acts.

<sup>20</sup>And when they came among the nations, wherever they went, they made my holy name unclean, when it was said of them, These are the people of the Lord who have gone out from his land.

<sup>21</sup>But I had pity for my holy name which the children of Israel had made unclean wherever they went.

<sup>22</sup>For this cause say to the children of Israel, This is what the Lord has said: I am doing this, not because of you, O children of Israel, but because of my holy name, which you have made unclean among the nations wherever you went.

<sup>23</sup>And I will make holy my great name which has been made unclean among the nations, which you have made unclean among them; and it will be clear to the nations that I am the Lord, says the Lord, when I make myself holy in you before their eyes.

<sup>24</sup>For I will take you out from among the nations, and get you together from

all the countries, and take you into your land.

<sup>25</sup> And I will put clean water on you so that you may be clean: from all your unclean ways and from all your images I will make you clean.

<sup>26</sup> And I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you: I will take away the heart of stone from your flesh, and give you a heart of flesh.

<sup>27</sup> And I will put my spirit in you, causing you to be guided by my rules, and you will keep my orders and do them.

<sup>28</sup> So that you may go on living in the land which I gave to your fathers; and you will be to me a people, and I will be to you a God.

<sup>29</sup> And I will make you free from all your unclean ways: and at my voice the grain will come up and be increased, and I will not let you be short of food.

<sup>30</sup> And I will make the tree give more fruit and the field fuller produce, and no longer will you be shamed among the nations for need of food.

<sup>31</sup> And at the memory of your evil ways and your wrongdoings, you will have bitter hate for yourselves because of

your evil-doings and your disgusting ways, O children of Israel.

<sup>32</sup>Not because of you am I doing it, says the Lord; let it be clear to you, and be shamed and made low because of your ways, O children of Israel.

<sup>33</sup>This is what the Lord has said: In the day when I make you clean from all your evil-doings I will let the towns be peopled and there will be building on the waste places.

<sup>34</sup>And the land which was waste will be farmed, in place of being a waste in the eyes of everyone who went by.

<sup>35</sup>And they will say, This land which was waste has become like the garden of Eden; and the towns which were unpeopled and wasted and pulled down are walled and peopled.

<sup>36</sup>Then the rest of the nations round about you will be certain that I the Lord am the builder of the places which were pulled down and the planter of that which was waste: I the Lord have said it, and I will do it.

<sup>37</sup>This is what the Lord has said: The children of Israel will again make prayer to me for this, that I may do it for them;

I will make them increased with men like a flock.

<sup>38</sup>Like sheep for the offerings, like the sheep of Jerusalem at her fixed feasts, so the unpeopled towns will be made full of men: and they will be certain that I am the Lord.

**37** <sup>1</sup>The hand of the Lord had been on me, and he took me out in the spirit of the Lord and put me down in the middle of the valley; and it was full of bones;

<sup>2</sup>And he made me go past them round about: and I saw that there was a very great number of them on the face of the wide valley, and they were very dry.

<sup>3</sup>And he said to me, Son of man, is it possible for these bones to come to life? And I made answer, and said, It is for you to say, O Lord.

<sup>4</sup>And again he said to me, Be a prophet to these bones, and say to them, O you dry bones, give ear to the word of the Lord.

<sup>5</sup>This is what the Lord has said to these bones: See, I will make breath come into you so that you may come to life;

<sup>6</sup>And I will put muscles on you and make flesh come on you, and put skin over you, and breath into you, so that you may have life; and you will be certain that I am the Lord.

<sup>7</sup>So I gave the word as I was ordered: and at my words there was a shaking of the earth, and the bones came together, bone to bone.

<sup>8</sup>And looking I saw that there were muscles on them and flesh came up, and they were covered with skin: but there was no breath in them.

<sup>9</sup>And he said to me, Be a prophet to the wind, be a prophet, son of man, and say to the wind, The Lord has said: Come from the four winds, O wind, breathing on these dead so that they may come to life.

<sup>10</sup>And I gave the word at his orders, and breath came into them, and they came to life and got up on their feet, a very great army.

<sup>11</sup>Then he said to me, Son of man, these bones are all the children of Israel: and see, they are saying, Our bones have become dry our hope is gone, we are cut off completely.

<sup>12</sup>For this cause be a prophet to them, and say, This is what the Lord has said: See, I am opening the resting-places of your dead, and I will make you come up out of your resting-places, O my people; and I will take you into the land of Israel.

<sup>13</sup>And you will be certain that I am the Lord by my opening the resting-places of your dead and making you come up out of your resting-places, O my people.

<sup>14</sup>And I will put my spirit in you, so that you may come to life, and I will give you a rest in your land: and you will be certain that I the Lord have said it and have done it, says the Lord.

<sup>15</sup>And the word of the Lord came to me, saying,

<sup>16</sup>And you, son of man, take one stick, writing on it, For Judah and for the children of Israel who are in his company: then take another stick, writing on it, For Joseph, the stick of Ephraim, and all the children of Israel who are in his company:

<sup>17</sup>Then, joining them one to another, make them one stick, so that they may be one in your hand.



<sup>18</sup>And when the children of your people say to you, Will you not make clear to us what these things have to do with us?

<sup>19</sup>Then say to them, This is what the Lord has said: See, I am taking the stick of Joseph, which is in the hand of Ephraim, and the tribes of Israel who are in his company; and I will put it on the stick of Judah and make them one stick, and they will be one in my hand.

<sup>20</sup>And the sticks with your writing on them will be in your hand before their eyes.

<sup>21</sup>And say to them, These are the words of the Lord: See, I am taking the children of Israel from among the nations where they have gone, and will get them together on every side, and take them into their land:

<sup>22</sup>And I will make them one nation in the land, on the mountains of Israel; and one king will be king over them all: and they will no longer be two nations, and will no longer be parted into two kingdoms:

<sup>23</sup>And they will no longer make themselves unclean with their images or with their hated things or with any of

their sins: but I will give them salvation from all their turning away in which they have done evil, and will make them clean; and they will be to me a people, and I will be to them a God.

<sup>24</sup>And my servant David will be king over them; and they will all have one keeper: and they will be guided by my orders and will keep my rules and do them.

<sup>25</sup>And they will be living in the land which I gave to Jacob, my servant, in which your fathers were living; and they will go on living there, they and their children and their childrens children, for ever: and David, my servant, will be their ruler for ever.

<sup>26</sup>And I will make an agreement of peace with them: it will be an eternal agreement with them: and I will have mercy on them and make their numbers great, and will put my holy place among them for ever.

<sup>27</sup>And my House will be over them; and I will be to them a God, and they will be to me a people.

<sup>28</sup>And the nations will be certain that I who make Israel holy am the Lord, when my holy place is among them for ever.

**38**<sup>1</sup>And the word of the Lord came to me, saying,

<sup>2</sup>Son of man, let your face be turned against Gog, of the land of Magog, the ruler of Rosh, Meshech, and Tubal, and be a prophet against him,

<sup>3</sup>And say, This is what the Lord has said: See, I am against you, O Gog, ruler of Rosh, Meshech, and Tubal:

<sup>4</sup>And turning you round, I will put hooks in your mouth and make you come out with all your army, horses and horsemen, all of them in full war-dress, a great force with breastplate and body-cover, all of them armed with swords:

<sup>5</sup>Persia, Cush, and Put with them; all of them with body-cover and metal head-dress:

<sup>6</sup>Gomer and all her forces; the people of Togarmah in the inmost parts of the north, with all his forces: a great number of peoples with you.

<sup>7</sup>Be ready, make yourself ready, you and all the forces who are with you, and be ready for my orders.

<sup>8</sup>After a long time you will get your orders: in the last years you will come into the land which has been given back from the sword, which has been got together out of a great number of peoples, on the mountains of Israel which have ever been a waste: but it has been taken out from the peoples and they will be living, all of them, without fear of danger.

<sup>9</sup>And you will go up, you will come like a storm, you will be like a cloud covering the land, you and all your forces, and a great number of peoples with you.

<sup>10</sup>This is what the Lord has said: In that day it will come about that things will come into your mind, and you will have thoughts of an evil design:

<sup>11</sup>And you will say, I will go up to the land of small unwalled towns; I will go to those who are quiet, living, all of them, without fear of danger, without walls or locks or doors:

<sup>12</sup>To take their property by force and go off with their goods; turning your hand against the waste places which now are peopled, and against the people who have been got together out of the

nations, who have got cattle and goods for themselves, who are living in the middle of the earth.

<sup>13</sup>Sheba, and Dedan and her traders, Tarshish with all her traders, will say to you, Have you come to take our goods? have you got your armies together to take away our property by force? to take away silver and gold, cattle and goods, to go off with great wealth?

<sup>14</sup>For this cause, son of man, be a prophet and say to Gog, These are the words of the Lord: In that day, when my people Israel are living without fear of danger, will you not be moved against them?

<sup>15</sup>And you will come from your place in the inmost parts of the north, you and a great number of peoples with you, all of them on horseback, a great force and a strong army:

<sup>16</sup>And you will come up against my people Israel, like a cloud covering the land; and it will come about, in the last days, that I will make you come against my land, so that the nations may have knowledge of me when I make myself holy in you, O Gog, before their eyes.

<sup>17</sup> This is what the Lord has said: You are he of whom I gave them word in earlier times by my servants, the prophets of Israel, who in those days went on saying, year after year, that I would make you come up against them.

<sup>18</sup> And it will come about in that day, when Gog comes up against the land of Israel, says the Lord, that my wrath will come up, and my passion and my bitter feeling.

<sup>19</sup> For in the fire of my wrath I have said, Truly, in that day there will be a great shaking in the land of Israel;

<sup>20</sup> So that the fish of the sea and the birds of heaven and the beasts of the field and everything moving on the earth, and all the men who are on the face of the earth, will be shaking before me, and the mountains will be overturned and the high places will come down, and every wall will come falling down to the earth.

<sup>21</sup> And I will send to all my mountains for a sword against him, says the Lord: every mans sword will be against his brother.

<sup>22</sup>And I will take up my cause against him with disease and with blood; and I will send down on him and on his forces and on the peoples who are with him, an overflowing shower and great ice-drops, fire, and burning.

<sup>23</sup>And I will make my name great and make myself holy, and I will make myself clear to a number of nations; and they will be certain that I am the Lord.

**39**<sup>1</sup>And you, son of man, be a prophet against Gog, and say, These are the words of the Lord: See, I am against you, O Gog, ruler of Rosh, Meshech, and Tubal:

<sup>2</sup>And turning you round, I will be your guide, and make you come up from the inmost parts of the north; I will make you come on to the mountains of Israel:

<sup>3</sup>And with a blow I will send your bow out of your left hand and your arrows falling from your right hand.

<sup>4</sup>On the mountains of Israel you will come down, you and all your forces and the peoples who are with you: I will give you to cruel birds of every sort and to the beasts of the field to be their food.

<sup>5</sup>You will come down in the open field: for I have said it, says the Lord.

<sup>6</sup>And I will send a fire on Magog, and on those who are living in the sea-lands without fear: and they will be certain that I am the Lord.

<sup>7</sup>And I will make clear my holy name among my people Israel; I will no longer let my holy name be made unclean: and the nations will be certain that I am the Lord, the Holy One in Israel.

<sup>8</sup>See, it is coming and it will be done, says the Lord; this is the day of which I have given word.

<sup>9</sup>And those who are living in the towns of Israel will go out and make fires of the instruments of war, burning the body-covers and the breastplates, the bows and the arrows and the sticks and the spears, and for seven years they will make fires of them:

<sup>10</sup>And they will take no wood out of the field or have any cut down in the woods; for they will make their fires of the instruments of war: and they will take by force the property of those who took their property, and go off with the



goods of those who took their goods,  
says the Lord.

<sup>11</sup>And it will come about in those days,  
that I will give to Gog a last resting-place  
there in Israel, in the valley of Abarim on  
the east of the sea: and those who go  
through will be stopped: and there Gog  
and all his people will be put to rest, and  
the place will be named, The valley of  
Hamon-gog.

<sup>12</sup>And the children of Israel will be  
seven months putting them in the earth,  
so as to make the land clean.

<sup>13</sup>And all the people of the land will put  
them in the earth; and it will be to their  
honour in the day when I let my glory be  
seen, says the Lord.

<sup>14</sup>And they will put on one side men  
to do no other work but to go through  
the land and put in the earth the rest  
of those who are still on the face of  
the land, to make it clean: after seven  
months are ended they are to make a  
search.

<sup>15</sup>And while they go through the land,  
if anyone sees a mans bone, he is to put  
up a sign by the place till those who are

doing the work have put it in the earth in the valley of Hamon-gog.

<sup>16</sup>And there they will put all the army of Gog in the earth. So they will make the land clean.

<sup>17</sup>And you, son of man, this is what the Lord has said: Say to the birds of every sort and to all the beasts of the field, Get together and come; come together on every side to the offering which I am putting to death for you, a great offering on the mountains of Israel, so that you may have flesh for your food and blood for your drink.

<sup>18</sup>The flesh of the men of war will be your food, and your drink the blood of the princes of the earth, of sheep and lambs, of he-goats, of oxen, all of them fat beasts of Bashan.

<sup>19</sup>You will go on feasting on the fat till you are full, and drinking the blood till you are overcome with it, of my offering which I have put to death for you.

<sup>20</sup>At my table you will have food in full measure, horses and war-carriages, great men and all the men of war, says the Lord.

<sup>21</sup> And I will put my glory among the nations, and all the nations will see my punishments which I have put into effect, and my hand which I have put on them.

<sup>22</sup> So the children of Israel will be certain that I am the Lord their God, from that day and for the future.

<sup>23</sup> And it will be clear to the nations that the children of Israel were taken away prisoners for their evil-doing; because they did wrong against me, and my face was covered from them: so I gave them up into the hands of their attackers, and they all came to their end by the sword.

<sup>24</sup> In the measure of their unclean ways and their sins, so I did to them; and I kept my face covered from them.

<sup>25</sup> For this cause the Lord has said, Now I will let the fate of Jacob be changed, and I will have mercy on all the children of Israel, and will take care of the honour of my holy name.

<sup>26</sup> And they will be conscious of their shame and of all the wrong which they have done against me, when they are living in their land with no sense of

danger and with no one to be a cause of fear to them;

<sup>27</sup>When I have taken them back from among the peoples and got them together out of the lands of their haters, and have made myself holy in them before the eyes of a great number of nations.

<sup>28</sup>And they will be certain that I am the Lord their God, because I sent them away as prisoners among the nations, and have taken them together back to their land; and I have not let one of them be there any longer.

<sup>29</sup>And my face will no longer be covered from them: for I have sent the out-flowing of my spirit on the children of Israel, says the Lord.

**40**<sup>1</sup>In the twenty-fifth year after we had been taken away prisoners, in the first month of the year, on the tenth day of the month, in the fourteenth year after the town was taken, on the very same day, the hand of the Lord was on me, and he took me there.

<sup>2</sup>In the visions of God he took me into the land of Israel, and put me down on a very high mountain, on which there

was, as it seemed, a building like a town opposite me.

<sup>3</sup>He took me there, and I saw a man, looking like brass, with a linen cord in his hand and a measuring rod: and he was stationed in the doorway.

<sup>4</sup>And the man said to me, Son of man, see with your eyes and give hearing with your ears, and take to heart everything I am going to let you see; for in order that I might let you see them, you have come here: and give an account of all you see to the children of Israel.

<sup>5</sup>And there was a wall on the outside of the house all round, and in the mans hand there was a measuring rod six cubits long by a cubit and a hands measure: so he took the measure of the building from side to side, one rod; and from base to top, one rod.

<sup>6</sup>Then he came to the doorway looking to the east, and went up by its steps; and he took the measure of the doorstep, one rod wide.

<sup>7</sup>And the watchmens rooms were one rod long and one rod wide; and the space between the rooms was five cubits; the

doorstep of the doorway, by the covered way of the doorway inside, was one rod.

<sup>8</sup>And he took the measure of the covered way of the doorway inside,

<sup>9</sup>Eight cubits; and its uprights, two cubits; the covered way of the doorway was inside.

<sup>10</sup>And the rooms of the doorway on the east were three on this side and three on that; all three were of the same size; and the uprights on this side and on that were of the same size.

<sup>11</sup>And he took the measure of the opening of the doorway, ten cubits wide; and the way down the doorway was thirteen cubits;

<sup>12</sup>And the space in front of the rooms, a cubit on this side and a cubit on that side; and the rooms six cubits on this side and six cubits on that.

<sup>13</sup>And he took the measure of the doorway from the back of one room to the back of the other, twenty-five cubits across, from door to door.

<sup>14</sup>And he took the measure of the covered way, twenty cubits; and opening from the covered way of the doorway was the open square round about.

<sup>15</sup>And from before the opening of the doorway to before the inner covered way of the doorway was fifty cubits.

<sup>16</sup>And the rooms and their uprights had sloping windows inside the doorway all round, and in the same way the covered way had windows all round on the inside: and on every upright there were palm-trees.

<sup>17</sup>Then he took me into the outer square, and there were rooms and a stone floor made for the open square all round: there were thirty rooms on the stone floor.

<sup>18</sup>And the stone floor was by the side of the doorways, and was as wide as the doorways were long, even the lower floor.

<sup>19</sup>Then he took the measure of the square across, from before the lower doorway inside to before the inner doorway outside, one hundred cubits. And he took me in the direction of the north,

<sup>20</sup>And there was a doorway to the outer square, looking to the north; and he took the measure of it to see how wide and how long it was.

<sup>21</sup> And it had three rooms on this side of it and three on that; its uprights and its covered ways were the same size as those of the first doorway: it was fifty cubits long and twenty-five cubits wide.

<sup>22</sup> And its windows, and the windows of its covered ways, and its palm-trees, were the same as those of the doorway looking to the east; and there were seven steps up to it; and the covered way went inside.

<sup>23</sup> And there was a doorway to the inner square opposite the doorway on the north, like the doorway on the east; and he took the measure from doorway to doorway, a hundred cubits.

<sup>24</sup> And he took me to the south, and I saw a doorway looking to the south: and he took the measure of its rooms and its uprights and its covered ways by these measures.

<sup>25</sup> And there were windows in it and in the covered way all round, like the other windows: it was fifty cubits long and twenty-five cubits wide.

<sup>26</sup> And there were seven steps up to it, and its covered way went inside: and it



had palm-trees, one on this side and one on that, on its uprights.

<sup>27</sup> And there was a doorway to the inner square looking to the south: he took the measure from doorway to doorway to the south, a hundred cubits.

<sup>28</sup> Then he took me to the inner square by the south doorway: and he took the measure of the south doorway by these measures;

<sup>29</sup> And the rooms in it and the uprights and the covered ways, by these measures:

<sup>30</sup> And there were windows in it and in the covered way all round: it was fifty cubits long and twenty-five cubits wide.

<sup>31</sup> The covered way was on the side nearest the outer square; and there were palm-trees on the uprights: and there were eight steps going up to it.

<sup>32</sup> And he took me into the inner square facing the east: and he took the measure of the doorway by these measures;

<sup>33</sup> And of the rooms in it and its uprights and its covered ways, by these measures: and there were windows in it and in the covered way round about:

it was fifty cubits long and twenty-five cubits wide.

<sup>34</sup>And the covered way was on the side nearest the outer square; there were palm-trees on the uprights, on this side and on that: and there were eight steps going up to it.

<sup>35</sup>And he took me to the north doorway: and he took the measure of it by these measures;

<sup>36</sup>Its rooms, its uprights, and its covered way had the same measures, and its covered way had windows all round: it was fifty cubits long and twenty-five cubits wide.

<sup>37</sup>Its uprights were on the side nearest to the outer square; there were palm-trees on the uprights, on this side and on that: and there were eight steps going up to it.

<sup>38</sup>And there was a room with a door in the covered way of the doorway, where the burned offering was washed.

<sup>39</sup>And in the covered way of the doorway there were two tables on this side and two tables on that side, on which the burned offering and the

sin-offering and the offering for error were put to death:

<sup>40</sup>On the outer side, to the north, as one goes up to the opening of the doorway, were two tables.

<sup>41</sup>There were four tables on one side and four tables on the other, by the side of the doorway; eight tables, on which they put to death the beasts for the offerings.

<sup>42</sup>And there were four tables for the burned offering, made of cut stone, one and a half cubits long, one and a half cubits wide and a cubit high, where the instruments were placed which were used for putting to death the burned offering and the beasts for the offerings.

<sup>43</sup>And they had edges all round as wide as a mans hand: and on the tables was the flesh of the offerings.

<sup>44</sup>And he took me into the inner square, and there were two rooms in the inner square, one at the side of the north doorway, facing south; and one at the side of the south doorway, facing north.

<sup>45</sup>And he said to me, This room, facing south, is for the priests who have the care of the house.

<sup>46</sup>And the room facing north is for the priests who have the care of the altar: these are the sons of Zadok, who, from among the sons of Levi, come near to the Lord to do the work of his house.

<sup>47</sup>And he took the measure of the open square, a hundred cubits long and a hundred cubits wide, being square; and the altar was in front of the house.

<sup>48</sup>Then he took me to the covered way before the house, and took the measure of its uprights, five cubits on one side and five cubits on the other: and the doorway was fourteen cubits wide; and the side-walls of the doorway were three cubits on one side and three cubits on the other.

<sup>49</sup>The covered way was twenty cubits long and twelve cubits wide, and they went up to it by ten steps; and there were pillars by the uprights, one on one side and one on the other.

**41** <sup>1</sup>And he took me to the Temple, and took the measure of the uprights, six cubits wide on one side and six cubits wide on the other.

<sup>2</sup>And the door-opening was ten cubits wide; and the side walls of the

door-opening were five cubits on one side and five cubits on the other: and it was forty cubits long and twenty cubits wide.

<sup>3</sup>And he went inside and took the measure of the uprights of the door-opening, two cubits: and the door-opening, six cubits; and the side-walls of the door-opening were seven cubits on one side and seven cubits on the other.

<sup>4</sup>And by his measure it was twenty cubits long and twenty cubits wide in front of the Temple: and he said to me, This is the most holy place.

<sup>5</sup>Then he took the measure of the wall of the house, which was six cubits; and of the side-rooms round the house, which were four cubits wide.

<sup>6</sup>And the side-rooms, room over room, were three times thirty; there were inlets in the wall of the house for the side-rooms round about, for supports in the wall of the house.

<sup>7</sup>The side-rooms became wider as they went higher up the house, by the amount of the space let into the wall up round about the house, because of the inlets in the house; and one went up from the

lowest floor by steps to the middle, and from the middle to the upper floor.

<sup>8</sup>And I saw that the house had a stone floor all round; the bases of the side-rooms were a full rod of six great cubits high.

<sup>9</sup>The wall supporting the side-rooms on the outside was five cubits thick: and there was a free space of five cubits between the side-rooms of the house.

<sup>10</sup>And between the rooms was a space twenty cubits wide all round the house.

<sup>11</sup>And the free space had doors opening from the side-rooms, one door on the north and one door on the south: and the free space was five cubits wide all round.

<sup>12</sup>And the building which was in front of the separate place at the side to the west was seventy cubits wide; the wall of the building was five cubits thick all round and ninety cubits long.

<sup>13</sup>And he took the measure of the house; it was a hundred cubits long; and the separate place and the building with its walls was a hundred cubits long;

<sup>14</sup>And the east front of the house and of the separate place was a hundred cubits wide.

<sup>15</sup>And he took the measure of the building in front of the separate place which was at the back of it, and the pillared walks on one side and on the other side; they were a hundred cubits long; and the Temple and the inner part and its outer covered way were covered in;

<sup>16</sup>And the sloping windows and the covered ways round all three of them were of shakiph-wood all round from the level of the earth up to the windows;

<sup>17</sup>And there was a roof over the doorway and as far as the inner house, and to the outside and on the wall all round, inside and outside.

<sup>18</sup>And it had pictured forms of winged beings and palm-trees; a palm-tree between two winged ones, and every winged one had two faces;

<sup>19</sup>So that there was the face of a man turned to the palm-tree on one side, and the face of a young lion on the other side: so it was made all round the house.

<sup>20</sup>From earth level up to the windows there were winged ones and palm-trees pictured on the wall.

<sup>21</sup> [KOSONG]

<sup>22</sup>The altar was made of wood, and was three cubits high and two cubits long; it had angles, and its base and sides were of wood; and he said to me, This is the table which is before the Lord.

<sup>23</sup>The Temple had two doors.

<sup>24</sup>And the holy place had two doors, and the doors had two turning leaves, two for one and two for the other.

<sup>25</sup>And on them were pictured winged ones and palm-trees, as on the walls; and aof wood was on the front of the covered way outside.

<sup>26</sup>And there were sloping windows and palm-trees on one side and on the other, on the sides of the covered way: and the side-rooms of the house and the

**42**<sup>1</sup>And he took me out into the inner square in the direction of the north: and he took me into the rooms which were opposite the separate place and opposite the building to the north.



<sup>2</sup>On the north side it was a hundred cubits long and fifty cubits wide,

<sup>3</sup>Opposite the space of twenty cubits which was part of the inner square, and opposite the stone floor of the outer square. There were covered ways facing one another on the third floor.

<sup>4</sup>And in front of the rooms was a walk, ten cubits wide and a hundred cubits long; and their doors were facing north.

<sup>5</sup>And the higher rooms were shorter: for the covered ways took up more space from these than from the lower and middle rooms.

<sup>6</sup>For they were on three floors, and they had no pillars like the pillars of the outer square; so the highest was narrower than the lowest and middle floors from the earth level.

<sup>7</sup>And the wall which went outside by the side of the rooms, in the direction of the outer square in front of the rooms, was fifty cubits long.

<sup>8</sup>For the rooms in the outer square were fifty cubits long: and in front of the Temple was a space of a hundred cubits.

<sup>9</sup>And under these rooms was the way in from the east side, as one goes into

them from the outer square at the head of the outer wall.

<sup>10</sup>(And he took me) to the south, and in front of the separate place and in front of the building there were rooms.

<sup>11</sup>And there was a walk in front of them like that by the rooms on the north; they were equally long and wide; and the ways out of them were the same in design and had the same sort of doors.

<sup>12</sup>And under the rooms on the south was a door at the head of the outer wall in the direction of the east as one goes in.

<sup>13</sup>And he said to me, The north rooms and the south rooms in front of the separate place are the holy rooms, where the priests who come near the Lord take the most holy things for their food: there the most holy things are placed, with the meal offering and the sin-offering and the offering for error; for the place is holy.

<sup>14</sup>When the priests go in, they may not go out of the holy place into the outer square, and there they are to put the robes in which they do the work of the Lords house, for they are holy: and they

have to put on other clothing before they come near that which has to do with the people.

<sup>15</sup>And when he had come to the end of measuring the inner house, he took me out to the doorway looking to the east, and took its measure all round.

<sup>16</sup>He went round and took the measure of it on the east side with the measuring rod, five hundred, measured with the rod all round.

<sup>17</sup>And he went round and took the measure of it on the north side with the measuring rod, five hundred, measured with the rod all round.

<sup>18</sup>And he went round and took the measure of it on the south side with the measuring rod, five hundred, measured with the rod all round.

<sup>19</sup>And he went round and took the measure of it on the west side with the measuring rod, five hundred, measured with the rod all round.

<sup>20</sup>He took its measure on the four sides: and it had a wall all round, five hundred long and five hundred wide, separating what was holy from what was common.

**43**<sup>1</sup> And he took me to the doorway looking to the east:

<sup>2</sup> And there was the glory of the God of Israel coming from the way of the east: and his voice was like the sound of great waters, and the earth was shining with his glory.

<sup>3</sup> And the vision which I saw was like the vision I had seen when he came for the destruction of the town: and like the vision which I saw by the river Chebar; and I went down on my face.

<sup>4</sup> And the glory of the Lord came into the house by the way of the doorway looking to the east.

<sup>5</sup> And the spirit, lifting me up, took me into the inner square; and I saw that the house was full of the glory of the Lord.

<sup>6</sup> And the voice of one talking to me came to my ears from inside the house; and the man was by my side.

<sup>7</sup> And he said to me, Son of man, this is the place where the seat of my power is and the resting-place of my feet, where I will be among the children of Israel for ever: and no longer will the people of Israel make my holy name unclean, they

or their kings, by their loose ways and by the dead bodies of their kings;

<sup>8</sup>By putting their doorstep by my doorstep, and the pillar of their door by the pillar of my door, with only a wall between me and them; and they have made my holy name unclean by the disgusting things which they have done: so in my wrath I sent destruction on them.

<sup>9</sup>Now let them put their loose ways and the dead bodies of their kings far from me, and I will be among them for ever.

<sup>10</sup>You, son of man, give the children of Israel an account of this house, so that they may be shamed because of their evil-doing: and let them see the vision of it and its image.

<sup>11</sup>And they will be shamed by what they have done; so give them the knowledge of the form of the house and its structure, and the ways out of it and into it, and all its laws and its rules, writing it down for them: so that they may keep all its laws and do them.

<sup>12</sup>This is the law of the house: On the top of the mountain all the space round

it on every side will be most holy. See, this is the law of the house.

<sup>13</sup>And these are the measures of the altar in cubits: (the cubit being a cubit and a hands measure;) its hollow base is a cubit high and a cubit wide, and it has an overhanging edge as wide as a hand-stretch all round it:

<sup>14</sup>And from the base on the earth level to the lower shelf, the altar is two cubits high and a cubit wide; and from the smaller shelf to the greater shelf it is four cubits high and a cubit wide.

<sup>15</sup>And the fireplace is four cubits high: and coming up from the fireplace are the horns, a cubit high.

<sup>16</sup>And the fireplace is twelve cubits long and twelve cubits wide, square on its four sides.

<sup>17</sup>And the shelf is fourteen cubits long and fourteen cubits wide, on its four sides; the edge round it is half a cubit; the base of it is a cubit all round, and its steps are facing the east.

<sup>18</sup>And he said to me, Son of man, the Lord God has said, These are the rules for the altar, when they make it, for the

offering of burned offerings on it and the draining out of the blood.

<sup>19</sup>You are to give to the priests, the Levites of the seed of Zadok, who come near to me, says the Lord God, to do my work, a young ox for a sin-offering.

<sup>20</sup>You are to take some of its blood and put it on the four horns and on the four angles of the shelf and on the edge all round: and you are to make it clean and free from sin.

<sup>21</sup>And you are to take the ox of the sin-offering, and have it burned in the special place ordered for it in the house, outside the holy place.

<sup>22</sup>And on the second day you are to have a he-goat without any mark on it offered for a sin-offering; and they are to make the altar clean as they did with the young ox.

<sup>23</sup>And after you have made it clean, let a young ox without a mark be offered, and a male sheep from the flock without a mark.

<sup>24</sup>And you are to take them before the Lord, and the priests will put salt on them, offering them up for a burned offering to the Lord.

<sup>25</sup> Every day for seven days you are to give a goat for a sin-offering: and let them give in addition a young ox and a male sheep from the flock without any mark on them.

<sup>26</sup> For seven days they are to make offerings to take away sin from the altar and to make it clean; so they are to make it holy.

<sup>27</sup> And when these days have come to an end, then on the eighth day and after, the priests will make your burned offerings on the altar and your peace-offerings; and I will take pleasure in you, says the Lord.

**44**<sup>1</sup> And he took me back to the outer doorway of the holy place, looking to the east; and it was shut.

<sup>2</sup> And the Lord said to me, This doorway is to be shut, it is not to be open, and no man is to go in by it, because the Lord, the God of Israel, has gone in by it; and it is to be shut.

<sup>3</sup> But the ruler will be seated there to take his food before the Lord; he will go in by the covered way to the door, and will come out by the same way.



<sup>4</sup>And he took me to the north doorway in front of the house; and, looking, I saw that the house of the Lord was full of the glory of the Lord; and I went down on my face.

<sup>5</sup>And the Lord said to me, Son of man, take to heart, and let your eyes see and your ears be open to everything I say to you about all the rules of the house of the Lord and all its laws; and take note of the ways into the house and all the ways out of the holy place.

<sup>6</sup>And say to the uncontrolled children of Israel, This is what the Lord has said: O you children of Israel, let it be enough for you, among the disgusting things which you have done,

<sup>7</sup>To have let men from strange lands, without circumcision of heart or flesh, come into my holy place, making my house unclean; and to have made the offering of my food, even the fat and the blood; and in addition to all your disgusting ways, you have let my agreement be broken.

<sup>8</sup>And you have not taken care of my holy things; but you have put them as

keepers to take care of my work in my holy place.

<sup>9</sup>For this cause the Lord has said, No man from a strange land, without circumcision of heart and flesh, of all those who are living among the children of Israel, is to come into my holy place.

<sup>10</sup>But as for the Levites, who went far from me, when Israel went out of the right way, turning away from me to go after their images; their punishment will come on them.

<sup>11</sup>But they may be caretakers in my holy place, and overseers at the doors of the house, doing the work of the house: they will put to death the burned offering and the beasts offered for the people, and they will take their place before them as their servants.

<sup>12</sup>Because they did this work for them before their images, and became a cause of sin to the children of Israel; for this cause my hand has been lifted up against them, says the Lord, and their punishment will be on them.

<sup>13</sup>And they will not come near me to do the work of priests to me, or come near any of my holy things, or the things

which are most holy: but their shame will be on them, and the punishment for the disgusting things which they have done.

<sup>14</sup> But I will make them responsible for the care of the house and all its work and everything which is done in it.

<sup>15</sup> But as for the priests, the sons of Zadok, who took care of my holy place when the children of Israel were turned away from me, they are to come near me to do my work, they will take their places before me, offering to me the fat and the blood, says the Lord;

<sup>16</sup> They are to come into my holy place and they are to come near to my table, to do my work and have the care of my house.

<sup>17</sup> And when they come in by the doorways of the inner square, they are to be clothed in linen robes; there is to be no wool on them while they are doing my work in the doorway of the inner square and inside the house.

<sup>18</sup> They are to have linen head-dresses on their heads and linen trousers on their legs, and they are to have nothing

round them to make their skin wet with heat.

<sup>19</sup>And when they go out into the outer square to the people, they are to take off the robes in which they do the work of priests, and put them away in the holy rooms, and put on other clothing, so that the people may not be made holy by their robes.

<sup>20</sup>They are not to have all the hair cut off their heads, and they are not to let their hair get long, but they are to have the ends of their hair cut.

<sup>21</sup>The priests are not to take wine when they go into the inner square.

<sup>22</sup>And they are not to take as wives any widow or woman whose husband has put her away: but they may take virgins of the seed of Israel, or a widow who is the widow of a priest.

<sup>23</sup>And they are to make clear to my people the division between what is holy and what is common, and to give them the knowledge of what is clean and what is unclean.

<sup>24</sup>In any cause, they are to be in the position of judges, judging in harmony with my decisions: they are to keep my

laws and my rules in all my fixed feasts; and they are to keep my Sabbaths holy.

<sup>25</sup>They are not to come near any dead person so as to become unclean: but for a father or mother or son or daughter or brother or for a sister who has no husband, they may make themselves unclean.

<sup>26</sup>And after he has been made clean, seven days are to be numbered for him.

<sup>27</sup>And on the day when he goes into the inner square, to do the work of the holy place, he is to make his sin-offering, says the Lord.

<sup>28</sup>And they are to have no heritage; I am their heritage: you are to give them no property in Israel; I am their property.

<sup>29</sup>Their food is to be the meal offering and the sin-offering and the offering for error; and everything given specially to the Lord in Israel will be theirs.

<sup>30</sup>And the best of all the first-fruits of everything, and every offering which is lifted up of all your offerings, will be for the priests: and you are to give the priest the first of your bread-making,

so causing a blessing to come on your house.

<sup>31</sup> The priests may not take for food any bird or beast which has come to a natural death or whose death has been caused by another animal.

**45** <sup>1</sup> And when you are making a distribution of the land, by the decision of the Lord, for your heritage, you are to make an offering to the Lord of a part of the land as holy: it is to be twenty-five thousand long and twenty thousand wide: all the land inside these limits is to be holy.

<sup>2</sup> Of this, a square five hundred long and five hundred wide is to be for the holy place, with a space of fifty cubits all round it.

<sup>3</sup> And of this measure, let a space be measured, twenty-five thousand long and ten thousand wide: in it there will be the holy place, even the most holy.

<sup>4</sup> This holy part of the land is to be for the priests, the servants of the holy place, who come near to the Lord to do his work; it is to be a place for their houses and for grass-land and for cattle.

<sup>5</sup>A space of land twenty-five thousand long and ten thousand wide is to be for the Levites, the servants of the house, a property for themselves, for towns for their living-places.

<sup>6</sup>And as the property for the town you are to have a part five thousand wide and twenty-five thousand long, by the side of the offering of the holy part of the land: this is to be for all the children of Israel.

<sup>7</sup>And for the ruler there is to be a part on one side and on the other side of the holy offering and of the property of the town, in front of the holy offering and in front of the property of the town on the west of it and on the east: measured in the same line as one of the parts of the land, from its limit on the west to its limit on the east of the land.

<sup>8</sup>And this will be his heritage in Israel: and my rulers will no longer be cruel masters to my people; but they will give the land as a heritage to the children of Israel by their tribes.

<sup>9</sup>This is what the Lord has said: Let this be enough for you, O rulers of Israel: let there be an end of violent behaviour

and wasting; do what is right, judging uprightly; let there be no more driving out of my people, says the Lord.

<sup>10</sup>Have true scales and a true ephah and a true bath.

<sup>11</sup>The ephah and the bath are to be of the same measure, so that the bath is equal to a tenth of a homer, and the ephah to a tenth of a homer: the unit of measure is to be a homer.

<sup>12</sup>And the shekel is to be twenty gerahs: five shekels are five, and ten shekels are ten, and your maneh is to be fifty shekels

<sup>13</sup>This is the offering you are to give: a sixth of an ephah out of a homer of wheat, and a sixth of an ephah out of a homer of barley;

<sup>14</sup>And the fixed measure of oil is to be a tenth of a bath from the cor, for ten baths make up the cor;

<sup>15</sup>And one lamb from the flock out of every two hundred, from all the families of Israel, for a meal offering and for a burned offering and for peace-offerings, to take away their sin, says the Lord.

<sup>16</sup>All the people are to give this offering to the ruler.



<sup>17</sup> And the ruler will be responsible for the burned offering and the meal offering and the drink offering, at the feasts and the new moons and the Sabbaths, at all the fixed feasts of the children of Israel: he will give the sin-offering and meal offering and burned offering and the peace-offerings, to take away the sin of the children of Israel.

<sup>18</sup> This is what the Lord has said: In the first month, on the first day of the month, you are to take a young ox without any mark on him, and you are to make the holy place clean.

<sup>19</sup> And the priest is to take some of the blood of the sin-offering and put it on the uprights at the sides of the doors of the house, and on the four angles of the shelf of the altar, and on the sides of the doorway of the inner square.

<sup>20</sup> And this you are to do on the seventh day of the month for everyone who is in error and for the feeble-minded: you are to make the house free from sin.

<sup>21</sup> In the first month, on the fourteenth day of the month, you are to have the Passover, a feast of seven days; unleavened bread is to be your food.

<sup>22</sup>And on that day the ruler is to give for himself and for all the people of the land an ox for a sin-offering.

<sup>23</sup>And on the seven days of the feast he is to give a burned offering to the Lord, seven oxen and seven sheep without any mark on them, every day for seven days; and a he-goat every day for a sin-offering.

<sup>24</sup>And he is to give a meal offering, an ephah for every ox and an ephah for every sheep and a hin of oil to every ephah.

<sup>25</sup>In the seventh month, on the fifteenth day of the month, at the feast, he is to give the same for seven days; the sin-offering, the burned offering, the meal offering, and the oil as before.

**46**<sup>1</sup> This is what the Lord has said: The doorway of the inner square looking to the east is to be shut on the six working days; but on the Sabbath it is to be open, and at the time of the new moon it is to be open.

<sup>2</sup>And the ruler is to go in through the covered way of the outer doorway outside, and take his place by the pillar of the doorway, and the priests

will make his burned offering and his peace-offerings and he will give worship at the doorstep of the doorway; then he will go out, and the door will not be shut till the evening.

<sup>3</sup>And the people of the land are to give worship at the door of that doorway before the Lord on the Sabbaths and at the new moons.

<sup>4</sup>And the burned offering offered to the Lord by the ruler on the Sabbath day is to be six lambs without a mark on them and a male sheep without a mark;

<sup>5</sup>And the meal offering is to be an ephah for the sheep, and for the lambs whatever he is able to give, and a hin of oil to an ephah.

<sup>6</sup>And at the time of the new moon it is to be a young ox of the herd without a mark on him, and six lambs and a male sheep, all without a mark:

<sup>7</sup>And he is to give a meal offering, an ephah for the ox and an ephah for the sheep, and for the lambs whatever he is able to give, and a hin of oil to an ephah.

<sup>8</sup>And when the ruler comes in, he is to go in through the covered way of the

doorway, and he is to go out by the same way.

<sup>9</sup>But when the people of the land come before the Lord at the fixed feasts, he who comes in by the north doorway to give worship is to go out by the south doorway; and he who comes in by the south doorway is to go out by the north doorway: he is not to come back by the doorway through which he went in, but is to go straight before him.

<sup>10</sup>And the ruler, when they come in, is to come among them, and is to go out when they go out.

<sup>11</sup>At the feasts and the fixed meetings the meal offerings are to be an ephah for an ox, and an ephah for a male sheep, and for the lambs whatever he is able to give, and a hin of oil to an ephah.

<sup>12</sup>And when the ruler makes a free offering, a burned offering or a peace-offering freely given to the Lord, the doorway looking to the east is to be made open for him, and he is to make his burned offering and his peace-offerings as he does on the Sabbath day: and he will go out; and the door will be shut after he has gone out.

<sup>13</sup>And you are to give a lamb a year old without any mark on it for a burned offering to the Lord every day: morning by morning you are to give it.

<sup>14</sup>And you are to give, morning by morning, a meal offering with it, a sixth of an ephah and a third of a hin of oil dropped on the best meal; a meal offering offered to the Lord at all times by an eternal order.

<sup>15</sup>And they are to give the lamb and the meal offering and the oil, morning by morning, for a burned offering at all times.

<sup>16</sup>This is what the Lord has said: If the ruler gives a property to any of his sons, it is his heritage and will be the property of his sons; it is theirs for their heritage.

<sup>17</sup>And if he gives a part of his heritage to one of his servants, it will be his till the year of making free, and then it will go back to the ruler; for it is his sons heritage, and is to be theirs.

<sup>18</sup>And the ruler is not to take the heritage of any of the people, driving them out of their property; he is to give a heritage to his sons out of the property

which is his: so that my people may not be sent away from their property.

<sup>19</sup>And he took me through by the way in at the side of the doorway into the holy rooms which are the priests, looking to the north: and I saw a place at the side of them to the west.

<sup>20</sup>And he said to me, This is the place where the offering for error and the sin-offering are to be cooked in water by the priests, and where the meal offering is to be cooked in the oven; so that they may not be taken out into the outer square to make the people holy.

<sup>21</sup>And he took me out into the outer square and made me go by the four angles of the square; and I saw that in every angle of the open square there was a space shut in.

<sup>22</sup>In the four angles there were spaces walled in, forty cubits long and thirty wide; the four were of the same size.

<sup>23</sup>And there was a line of wall all round inside them, round all four, and boiling-places were made under it all round about.

<sup>24</sup>And he said to me, These are the boiling-rooms, where the offering of the

people is cooked by the servants of the house.

**47** <sup>1</sup>And he took me back to the door of the house; and I saw that waters were flowing out from under the doorstep of the house on the east, for the house was facing east: and the waters came down from under, from the right side of the house, on the south side of the altar.

<sup>2</sup>And he took me out by the north doorway, and made me go round to the outside of the doorway looking to the east; and I saw waters running slowly out on the south side.

<sup>3</sup>And the man went out to the east with the line in his hand, and after measuring a thousand cubits, he made me go through the waters, which came over my feet.

<sup>4</sup>And again, measuring a thousand cubits, he made me go through the waters which came up to my knees. Again, measuring a thousand, he made me go through the waters up to the middle of my body.

<sup>5</sup>Again, after his measuring a thousand, it became a river which it was not

possible to go through: for the waters had become deep enough for swimming, a river it was not possible to go through.

<sup>6</sup>And he said to me, Son of man, have you seen this? Then he took me to the rivers edge.

<sup>7</sup>And he took me back, and I saw at the edge of the river a very great number of trees on this side and on that.

<sup>8</sup>And he said to me, These waters are flowing out to the east part of the land and down into the Arabah; and they will go to the sea, and the waters will be made sweet.

<sup>9</sup>And it will come about that every living and moving thing, wherever their streams come, will have life; and there will be very much fish because these waters have come there and have been made sweet: and everything wherever the river comes will have life.

<sup>10</sup>And fishermen will take up their places by it: from En-gedi as far as En-eglaim will be a place for the stretching out of nets; the fish will be of every sort, like the fish of the Great Sea, a very great number.



<sup>11</sup> The wet places and the pools will not be made sweet; they will be given up to salt.

<sup>12</sup> And by the edge of the river, on this side and on that, will come up every tree used for food, whose leaves will ever be green and its fruit will not come to an end: it will have new fruit every month, because its waters come out from the holy place: the fruit will be for food and the leaf will make well those who are ill.

<sup>13</sup> This is what the Lord has said: These are the limits by which you will take up your heritage in the land among the twelve tribes of Israel: Joseph is to have two parts.

<sup>14</sup> And you are to make an equal division of it; as I gave my oath to your fathers to give it to you: for this land is to be your heritage.

<sup>15</sup> And this is to be the limit of the land: on the north side, from the Great Sea, in the direction of Hethlon, as far as the way into Hamath;

<sup>16</sup> To Zedad, Berothah, Sibraim, which is between the limit of Damascus and the limit of Hazar-hatticon, which is on the limit of Hauran.

<sup>17</sup> And this is the limit from the sea in the direction of Hazar-enon; and the limit of Damascus is to the north, and on the north is the limit of Hamath. This is the north side.

<sup>18</sup> And the east side will be from Hazar-enon, which is between Hauran and Damascus; and between Gilead and the land of Israel the Jordan will be the limit, to the east sea, to Tamar. This is the east side.

<sup>19</sup> And the south side to the south will be from Tamar as far as the waters of Meribath-kadesh, to the stream of Egypt, to the Great Sea. This is the south side, on the south.

<sup>20</sup> And the west side will be the Great Sea, from the limit on the south to a point opposite the way into Hamath. This is the west side.

<sup>21</sup> You will make a division of the land among you, tribe by tribe.

<sup>22</sup> And you are to make a distribution of it, by the decision of the Lord, for a heritage to you and to the men from other lands who are living among you and who have children in your land: they will be the same to you as if they were

Israelites by birth, they will have their heritage with you among the tribes of Israel.

<sup>23</sup>In whatever tribe the man from a strange land is living, there you are to give him his heritage, says the Lord.

**48**<sup>1</sup> Now these are the names of the tribes: from the north end, from the west on the way of Hethlon to the way into Hamath, in the direction of Hazar-enon, with the limit of Damascus to the north, by Hamath; and on the limit from the east side to the west side: Dan, one part.

<sup>2</sup>And on the limit of Dan, from the east side to the west side: Asher, one part.

<sup>3</sup>And on the limit of Asher, from the east side to the west side: Naphtali, one part.

<sup>4</sup>And on the limit of Naphtali, from the east side to the west side: Manasseh, one part.

<sup>5</sup>And on the limit of Manasseh, from the east side to the west side: Ephraim, one part.

<sup>6</sup>And on the limit of Ephraim, from the east side to the west side: Reuben, one part.

<sup>7</sup>And on the limit of Reuben, from the east side to the west side: Judah, one part.

<sup>8</sup>And on the limit of Judah, from the east side to the west side, will be the offering which you are to make, twenty-five thousand wide, and as long as one of the parts, from the east side to the west side: and the holy place will be in the middle of it.

<sup>9</sup>The offering you will give to the Lord is to be twenty-five thousand long and twenty-five thousand wide.

<sup>10</sup>And for these, that is the priests, the holy offering is to be twenty-five thousand long to the north, ten thousand wide to the west, ten thousand wide to the east and twenty-five thousand long to the south; and the holy place of the Lord will be in the middle of it.

<sup>11</sup>For the priests who have been made holy, those of the sons of Zadok who kept the orders I gave them, who did not go out of the right way when the children of Israel went from the way, as the Levites did,

<sup>12</sup>Even for them will be the offering from the offering of the land, a thing

most holy, on the limit of the land given to the Levites.

<sup>13</sup>And the Levites are to have a part of the land equal to the limit of the priests, twenty-five thousand long and ten thousand wide, all of it together to be twenty-five thousand long and twenty thousand wide.

<sup>14</sup>And they are not to let any of it go for a price, or give it in exchange; and the part of the land given to the Lord is not to go into other hands: for it is holy to the Lord.

<sup>15</sup>And the other five thousand, measured from side to side, in front of the twenty-five thousand, is to be for common use, for the town, for living in and for a free space: and the town will be in the middle of it.

<sup>16</sup>And these will be its measures: the north side, four thousand five hundred, and the south side, four thousand five hundred, and on the east side, four thousand five hundred, and on the west side, four thousand five hundred.

<sup>17</sup>And the town will have a free space on the north of two hundred and fifty, on the south of two hundred and fifty, on

the east of two hundred and fifty, and on the west of two hundred and fifty.

<sup>18</sup>And the rest, in measure as long as the holy offering, will be ten thousand to the east and ten thousand to the west: and its produce will be for food for the workers of the town.

<sup>19</sup>It will be farmed by workers of the town from all the tribes of Israel.

<sup>20</sup>The size of the offering all together is to be twenty-five thousand by twenty-five thousand: you are to make the holy offering a square, together with the property of the town.

<sup>21</sup>And the rest is to be for the prince, on this side and on that side of the holy offering and of the property of the town, in front of the twenty-five thousand to the east, as far as the east limit, and to the west, in front of the twenty-five thousand, as far as the west limit, and of the same measure as those parts; it will be the property of the prince: and the holy offering and holy place of the house will be in the middle of it.

<sup>22</sup>And the property of the Levites and the property of the town will be in the middle of the princes property; between

the limit of Judah's part and the limit of Benjamin's part will be for the prince.

<sup>23</sup>And as for the rest of the tribes: from the east side to the west side: Benjamin, one part.

<sup>24</sup>And on the limit of Benjamin, from the east side to the west side: Simeon, one part.

<sup>25</sup>And on the limit of Simeon, from the east side to the west side: Issachar, one part.

<sup>26</sup>And on the limit of Issachar, from the east side to the west side: Zebulun, one part.

<sup>27</sup>And on the limit of Zebulun, from the east side to the west side: Gad one part.

<sup>28</sup>And on the limit of Gad, on the south side and to the south of it, the limit will be from Tamar to the waters of Meribath-kadesh, to the stream, to the Great Sea.

<sup>29</sup>This is the land of which distribution is to be made by the decision of the Lord, among the tribes of Israel for their heritage, and these are their heritages, says the Lord.

<sup>30</sup>And these are the outskirts of the town: on the north side, four thousand five hundred by measure;

<sup>31</sup>And the doors of the town are to be named by the names of the tribes of Israel; three doors on the north, one for Reuben, one for Judah, one for Levi;

<sup>32</sup>And at the east side, four thousand five hundred by measure, and three doors, one for Joseph, one for Benjamin, one for Dan;

<sup>33</sup>And at the south side, four thousand five hundred by measure, and three doors, one for Simeon, one for Issachar, one for Zebulun;

<sup>34</sup>At the west side, four thousand five hundred by measure, with their three doors, one for Gad, one for Asher, one for Naphtali.

<sup>35</sup>It is to be eighteen thousand all round: and the name of the town from that day will be, The Lord is there.



# Daniel

**1** <sup>1</sup>In the third year of the rule of Jehoiakim, king of Judah, Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon, came to Jerusalem, shutting it in with his forces.

<sup>2</sup>And the Lord gave into his hands Jehoiakim, king of Judah, with some of the vessels of the house of God; and he took them away into the land of Shinar to the house of his god; and he put the vessels into the store-house of his god.

<sup>3</sup>And the king gave orders to Ashpenaz, the captain of his unsexed servants, to take in some of the children of Israel, certain of the kings family, and those of high birth;

<sup>4</sup>Young men who were strong and healthy, good-looking, and trained in all wisdom, having a good education and much knowledge, and able to take positions in the kings house; and to have them trained in the writing and language of the Chaldeans.

<sup>5</sup>And a regular amount of food and wine every day from the kings table was ordered for them by the king; and they were to be cared for for three years so that at the end of that time they might take their places before the king.

<sup>6</sup>And among these there were, of the children of Judah, Daniel, Hananiah, Mishaël, and Azariah.

<sup>7</sup>And the captain of the unsexed servants gave them names; to Daniel he gave the name of Belteshazzar, to Hananiah the name of Shadrach, to Mishaël the name of Meshach, and to Azariah the name of Abed-nego.

<sup>8</sup>And Daniel had come to the decision that he would not make himself unclean with the kings food or wine; so he made a request to the captain of the unsexed servants that he might not make himself unclean.

<sup>9</sup>And God put into the heart of the captain of the unsexed servants kind feelings and pity for Daniel.

<sup>10</sup>And the captain of the unsexed servants said to Daniel, I am in fear of my lord the king, who has given orders about your food and your drink; what if

he sees you looking less happy than the other young men of your generation? then you would have put my head in danger from the king.

<sup>11</sup> Then Daniel said to the keeper in whose care the captain of the unsexed servants had put Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah:

<sup>12</sup> Put your servants to the test for ten days; let them give us grain for our food and water for our drink.

<sup>13</sup> Then take a look at our faces and the faces of the young men who have food from the kings table; and, having seen them, do to your servants as it seems right to you.

<sup>14</sup> So he gave ear to them in this thing and put them to the test for ten days.

<sup>15</sup> And at the end of ten days their faces seemed fairer and they were fatter in flesh than all the young men who had their food from the kings table.

<sup>16</sup> So the keeper regularly took away their meat and the wine which was to have been their drink, and gave them grain.

<sup>17</sup> Now as for these four young men, God gave them knowledge and made

them expert in all book-learning and wisdom: and Daniel was wise in all visions and dreams.

<sup>18</sup>Now at the end of the time fixed by the king for them to go in, the captain of the unsexed servants took them in to Nebuchadnezzar.

<sup>19</sup>And the king had talk with them; and among them all there was no one like Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah; so they were given places before the king.

<sup>20</sup>And in any business needing wisdom and good sense, about which the king put questions to them, he saw that they were ten times better than all the wonder-workers and users of secret arts in all his kingdom.

<sup>21</sup>And Daniel went on till the first year of King Cyrus.

**2**<sup>1</sup>In the second year of the rule of Nebuchadnezzar, Nebuchadnezzar had dreams; and his spirit was troubled and his sleep went from him.

<sup>2</sup>Then the king gave orders that the wonder-workers, and the users of secret arts, and those who made use of evil powers, and the Chaldaeans, were to be

sent for to make clear to the king his dreams. So they came and took their places before the king.

<sup>3</sup>And the king said to them, I have had a dream, and my spirit is troubled by the desire to have the dream made clear to me.

<sup>4</sup>Then the Chaldaeans said to the king in the Aramaean language, O King, have life for ever: give your servants an account of your dream, and we will make clear to you the sense of it.

<sup>5</sup>The king made answer and said to the Chaldaeans, This is my decision: if you do not make clear to me the dream and the sense of it, you will be cut in bits and your houses made waste.

<sup>6</sup>But if you make clear the dream and the sense of it, you will have from me offerings and rewards and great honour: so make clear to me the dream and the sense of it.

<sup>7</sup>A second time they said in answer, Let the king give his servants an account of his dream, and we will make clear the sense.

<sup>8</sup>The king made answer and said, I am certain that you are attempting to get

more time, because you see that my decision is fixed;

<sup>9</sup>That if you do not make my dream clear to me there is only one fate for you: for you have made ready false and evil words to say before me till the times are changed: so give me an account of the dream, and I will be certain that you are able to make the sense of it clear.

<sup>10</sup>Then the Chaldeans said to the king in answer, There is not a man on earth able to make clear the kings business; for no king, however great his power, has ever made such a request to any wonder-worker or user of secret arts or Chaldaean.

<sup>11</sup>The kings request is a very hard one, and there is no other who is able to make it clear to the king, but the gods, whose living-place is not with flesh.

<sup>12</sup>Because of this the king was angry and full of wrath, and gave orders for the destruction of all the wise men of Babylon.

<sup>13</sup>So the order went out that the wise men were to be put to death; and they were looking for Daniel and his friends to put them to death.

<sup>14</sup>Then Daniel gave an answer with wisdom and good sense to Arioch, the captain of the kings armed men, who had gone out to put to death the wise men of Babylon;

<sup>15</sup>He made answer and said to Arioch, O captain of the king, why is the kings order so cruel? Then Arioch gave Daniel an account of the business.

<sup>16</sup>And Daniel went in and made a request to the king to give him time and he would make clear the sense of his dream to the king.

<sup>17</sup>And Daniel went to his house and gave his friends Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah the news:

<sup>18</sup>So that they might make a request for the mercy of the God of heaven in the question of this secret; so that Daniel and his friends might not come to destruction with the rest of the wise men of Babylon.

<sup>19</sup>Then the secret was made clear to Daniel in a vision of the night. And Daniel gave blessing to the God of heaven.

<sup>20</sup>And Daniel said in answer, May the name of God be praised for ever and ever: for wisdom and strength are his:

<sup>21</sup> By him times and years are changed: by him kings are taken away and kings are lifted up: he gives wisdom to the wise, and knowledge to those whose minds are awake:

<sup>22</sup> He is the unveiler of deep and secret things: he has knowledge of what is in the dark, and the light has its living-place with him.

<sup>23</sup> I give you praise and worship, O God of my fathers, who have given me wisdom and strength, and have now made clear to me what we were requesting from you: for you have given us knowledge of the kings business.

<sup>24</sup> For this reason Daniel went to Arioch, to whom the king had given orders for the destruction of the wise men of Babylon, and said to him, Do not put to death the wise men of Babylon: take me in before the king and I will make clear to him the sense of the dream.

<sup>25</sup> Then Arioch quickly took Daniel in before the king, and said to him, Here is a man from among the prisoners of Judah, who will make clear to the king the sense of the dream.



<sup>26</sup>The king made answer and said to Daniel, whose name was Belteshazzar, Are you able to make clear to me the dream which I saw and its sense?

<sup>27</sup>Then Daniel said in answer to the king, No wise men, or users of secret arts, or wonder-workers, or readers of signs, are able to make clear to the king the secret he is searching for;

<sup>28</sup>But there is a God in heaven, the unveiler of secrets, and he has given to King Nebuchadnezzar knowledge of what will take place in the last days. Your dreams and the visions of your head on your bed are these:

<sup>29</sup>As for you, O King, the thoughts which came to you on your bed were of what will come about after this: and the unveiler of secrets has made clear to you what is to come.

<sup>30</sup>As for me, this secret is not made clear to me because of any wisdom which I have more than any living man, but in order that the sense of the dream may be made clear to the king, and that you may have knowledge of the thoughts of your heart.

<sup>31</sup> You, O King, were looking, and a great image was there. This image, which was very great, and whose glory was very bright, was placed before you: its form sent fear into the heart.

<sup>32</sup> As for this image, its head was made of the best gold, its breast and its arms were of silver, its middle and its sides were of brass,

<sup>33</sup> Its legs of iron, its feet were in part of iron and in part of potters earth.

<sup>34</sup> While you were looking at it, a stone was cut out, but not by hands, and it gave the image a blow on its feet, which were of iron and earth, and they were broken in bits.

<sup>35</sup> Then the iron and the earth, the brass and the silver and the gold, were smashed together, and became like the dust on the floors where grain is crushed in summer; and the wind took them away so that no sign of them was to be seen: and the stone which gave the image a blow became a great mountain, covering all the earth.

<sup>36</sup> This is the dream; and we will make clear to the king the sense of it.

<sup>37</sup> You, O King, king of kings, to whom the God of heaven has given the kingdom, the power, and the strength, and the glory,

<sup>38</sup> Wherever the children of men are living; into whose hands he has given the beasts of the field and the birds of heaven, and has made you ruler over them all, you are the head of gold.

<sup>39</sup> And after you another kingdom, lower than you, will come to power; and a third kingdom, of brass, ruling over all the earth.

<sup>40</sup> And the fourth kingdom will be strong as iron: because, as all things are broken and overcome by iron, so it will have the power of crushing and smashing down all the earth.

<sup>41</sup> And as you saw the feet and toes, part of potters work and part of iron, there will be a division in the kingdom; but there will be some of the strength of iron in it, because you saw the iron mixed with the potters earth.

<sup>42</sup> And as the toes of the feet were in part of iron and in part of earth, so part of the kingdom will be strong and part of it will readily be broken.

<sup>43</sup> And as you saw the iron mixed with earth, they will give their daughters to one another as wives: but they will not be united one with another, even as iron is not mixed with earth.

<sup>44</sup> And in the days of those kings, the God of heaven will put up a kingdom which will never come to destruction, and its power will never be given into the hands of another people, and all these kingdoms will be broken and overcome by it, but it will keep its place for ever.

<sup>45</sup> Because you saw that a stone was cut out of the mountain without hands, and that by it the iron and the brass and the earth and the silver and the gold were broken to bits, a great God has given the king knowledge of what is to take place in the future: the dream is fixed, and its sense is certain.

<sup>46</sup> Then King Nebuchadnezzar, falling down on his face, gave worship to Daniel, and gave orders for an offering and spices to be given to him;

<sup>47</sup> And the king made answer to Daniel and said, Truly, your God is a God of gods and a Lord of kings, and an unveiler

of secrets, for you have been able to make this secret clear.

<sup>48</sup>Then the king made Daniel great, and gave him offerings in great number, and made him ruler over all the land of Babylon, and chief over all the wise men of Babylon.

<sup>49</sup>And at Daniels request, the king gave Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego authority over the business of the land of Babylon: but Daniel was kept near the kings person.

**3**<sup>1</sup>Nebuchadnezzar the king made an image of gold, sixty cubits high and six cubits wide: he put it up in the valley of Dura, in the land of Babylon.

<sup>2</sup>And Nebuchadnezzar the king sent to get together all the captains, the chiefs, the rulers, the wise men, the keepers of public money, the judges, the overseers, and all the rulers of the divisions of the country, to come to see the unveiling of the image which Nebuchadnezzar the king had put up.

<sup>3</sup>Then the captains, the chiefs, the rulers, the wise men, the keepers of public money, the judges, the overseers, and all the rulers of the divisions of

the country, came together to see the unveiling of the image which Nebuchadnezzar the king had put up; and they took their places before the image which Nebuchadnezzar had put up.

<sup>4</sup>Then one of the kings criers said in a loud voice, To you the order is given, O peoples, nations, and languages,

<sup>5</sup>That when the sound of the horn, pipe, harp, trigon, psaltery, bagpipe, and all sorts of instruments, comes to your ears, you are to go down on your faces in worship before the image of gold which Nebuchadnezzar the king has put up:

<sup>6</sup>And anyone not falling down and worshipping will that same hour be put into a burning and flaming fire.

<sup>7</sup>So at that time, all the people, when the sound of the horn, pipe, harp, trigon, psaltery, and all sorts of instruments, came to their ears, went down on their faces in worship before the image of gold which Nebuchadnezzar the king had put up.

<sup>8</sup>At that time certain Chaldaeans came near and made a statement against the Jews.

<sup>9</sup>They made answer and said to Nebuchadnezzar the king, O King, have life for ever.

<sup>10</sup>You, O King, have given an order that every man, when the sound of the horn, pipe, harp, trigon, psaltery, bagpipe, and all sorts of instruments, comes to his ears, is to go down on his face in worship before the image of gold:

<sup>11</sup>And anyone not falling down and worshipping is to be put into a burning and flaming fire.

<sup>12</sup>There are certain Jews whom you have put over the business of the land of Babylon, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego; these men have not given attention to you, O King: they are not servants of your gods or worshippers of the gold image which you have put up.

<sup>13</sup>Then Nebuchadnezzar in his wrath and passion gave orders for Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego to be sent for. Then they made these men come in before the king.

<sup>14</sup>Nebuchadnezzar made answer and said to them, Is it true, O Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego, that you will not be servants of my god or give

worship to the image of gold which I have put up?

<sup>15</sup>Now if you are ready, on hearing the sound of the horn, pipe, harp, trigon, psaltery, bagpipe, and all sorts of instruments, to go down on your faces in worship before the image which I have made, it is well: but if you will not give worship, that same hour you will be put into a burning and flaming fire; and what god is there who will be able to take you out of my hands?

<sup>16</sup>Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego, answering Nebuchadnezzar the king, said, There is no need for us to give you an answer to this question.

<sup>17</sup>If our God, whose servants we are, is able to keep us safe from the burning and flaming fire, and from your hands, O King, he will keep us safe.

<sup>18</sup>But if not, be certain, O King, that we will not be the servants of your gods, or give worship to the image of gold which you have put up.

<sup>19</sup>Then Nebuchadnezzar was full of wrath, and the form of his face was changed against Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego: and he gave orders that



the fire was to be heated up seven times more than it was generally heated.

<sup>20</sup>And he gave orders to certain strong men in his army to put cords on Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-nego and put them into the burning and flaming fire.

<sup>21</sup>Then these men had cords put round them as they were, in their coats, their trousers, their hats, and their clothing, and were dropped into the burning and flaming fire.

<sup>22</sup>And because the kings order was not to be put on one side, and the heat of the fire was so great, the men who took up Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego were burned to death by the flame of the fire.

<sup>23</sup>And these three men, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego, with the cords about them, went down into the burning and flaming fire.

<sup>24</sup>Then King Nebuchadnezzar, full of fear and wonder, got up quickly, and said to his wise men, Did we not put three men in cords into the fire? and they made answer and said to the king, True, O King.

<sup>25</sup> He made answer and said, Look! I see four men loose, walking in the middle of the fire, and they are not damaged; and the form of the fourth is like a son of the gods.

<sup>26</sup> Then Nebuchadnezzar came near the door of the burning and flaming fire: he made answer and said, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego, you servants of the Most High God, come out and come here. Then Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego came out of the fire.

<sup>27</sup> And the captains, the chiefs, and the rulers, and the kings wise men who had come together, saw these men, over whose bodies the fire had no power, and not a hair of their heads was burned, and their coats were not changed, and there was no smell of fire about them.

<sup>28</sup> Nebuchadnezzar made answer and said, Praise be to the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego, who has sent his angel and kept his servants safe who had faith in him, and who put the kings word on one side and gave up their bodies to the fire, so that they might not be servants or worshippers of any other god but their God.

<sup>29</sup> And it is my decision that any people, nation, or language saying evil against the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego, will be cut to bits and their houses made waste: because there is no other god who is able to give salvation such as this.

<sup>30</sup> Then the king gave Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego even greater authority in the land of Babylon.

**4**<sup>1</sup> Nebuchadnezzar the king, to all the peoples, nations, and languages living in all the earth: May your peace be increased.

<sup>2</sup> It has seemed good to me to make clear the signs and wonders which the Most High God has done with me.

<sup>3</sup> How great are his signs! and how full of power are his wonders! his kingdom is an eternal kingdom and his rule goes on from generation to generation.

<sup>4</sup> I, Nebuchadnezzar, was at rest in my place, and all things were going well for me in my great house:

<sup>5</sup> I saw a dream which was a cause of great fear to me; I was troubled by the images of my mind on my bed, and by the visions of my head.

<sup>6</sup>And I gave orders for all the wise men of Babylon to come in before me so that they might make clear to me the sense of my dream.

<sup>7</sup>Then the wonder-workers, the users of secret arts, the Chaldeans, and the readers of signs came in to me: and I put the dream before them but they did not make clear the sense of it to me.

<sup>8</sup>But at last Daniel came in before me, he whose name was Belteshazzar, after the name of my god, and in whom is the spirit of the holy gods: and I put the dream before him, saying,

<sup>9</sup>O Belteshazzar, master of the wonder-workers, because I am certain that the spirit of the holy gods is in you, and you are troubled by no secret; this is the dream which I saw: make clear to me its sense.

<sup>10</sup>On my bed I saw a vision: there was a tree in the middle of the earth, and it was very high.

<sup>11</sup>And the tree became tall and strong, stretching up to heaven, and to be seen from the ends of the earth:

<sup>12</sup>Its leaves were fair and it had much fruit, and in it was food enough for all:

the beasts of the field had shade under it, and the birds of heaven were resting in its branches, and it gave food to all living things.

<sup>13</sup>In the visions of my head on my bed I saw a watcher, a holy one, coming down from heaven,

<sup>14</sup>Crying out with a loud voice; and this is what he said: Let the tree be cut down and its branches broken off; let its leaves be taken off and its fruit sent in every direction: let the beasts get away from under it and the birds from its branches:

<sup>15</sup>But keep its broken end and its roots still in the earth, even with a band of iron and brass; let him have the young grass of the field for food, and let him be wet with the dew of heaven, and let his part be with the beasts.

<sup>16</sup>Let his heart be changed from that of a man, and the heart of a beast be given to him; and let seven times go by him.

<sup>17</sup>This order is fixed by the watchers, and the decision is by the word of the holy ones: so that the living may be certain that the Most High is ruler over the kingdom of men, and gives it to any

man at his pleasure, lifting up over it the lowest of men.

<sup>18</sup>This dream I, King Nebuchadnezzar, saw; and do you, O Belteshazzar, make clear the sense of it, for all the wise men of my kingdom are unable to make the sense of it clear to me; but you are able, for the spirit of the holy gods is in you.

<sup>19</sup>Then Daniel, whose name was Belteshazzar, was at a loss for a time, his thoughts troubling him. The king made answer and said, Belteshazzar, do not be troubled by the dream or by the sense of it. Belteshazzar, answering, said, My lord, may the dream be about your haters, and its sense about those who are against you.

<sup>20</sup>The tree which you saw, which became tall and strong, stretching up to heaven and seen from the ends of the earth;

<sup>21</sup>Which had fair leaves and much fruit, and had in it food for all; under which the beasts of the field were living, and in the branches of which the birds of heaven had their resting-places:

<sup>22</sup>It is you, O King, who have become great and strong: for your power is

increased and stretching up to heaven, and your rule to the end of the earth.

<sup>23</sup>And as for the vision which the king saw of a watcher, a holy one, coming down from heaven, saying, Let the tree be cut down and given to destruction;

<sup>24</sup>This is the sense of it, O King, and it is the decision of the Most High which has come on my lord the king:

<sup>25</sup>That they will send you out from among men, to be with the beasts of the field; they will give you grass for your food like the oxen, and you will be wet with the dew of heaven, and seven times will go by you, till you are certain that the Most High is ruler in the kingdom of men, and gives it to any man at his pleasure.

<sup>26</sup>And as they gave orders to let the broken end and the roots of the tree be, so your kingdom will be safe for you after it is clear to you that the heavens are ruling.

<sup>27</sup>For this cause, O King, let my suggestion be pleasing to you, and let your sins be covered by righteousness and your evil-doing by mercy to the

poor, so that the time of your well-being may be longer.

<sup>28</sup>All this came to King Nebuchadnezzar.

<sup>29</sup>At the end of twelve months he was walking on the roof of his great house in Babylon.

<sup>30</sup>The king made answer and said, Is this not great Babylon, which I have made for the living-place of kings, by the strength of my power and for the glory of my honour?

<sup>31</sup>While the word was still in the kings mouth, a voice came down from heaven, saying, O King Nebuchadnezzar, to you it is said: The kingdom has gone from you:

<sup>32</sup>And they will send you out from among men, to be with the beasts of the field; they will give you grass for your food like the oxen, and seven times will go by you, till you are certain that the Most High is ruler in the kingdom of men, and gives it to any man at his pleasure.

<sup>33</sup>That very hour the order about Nebuchadnezzar was put into effect: and he was sent out from among men, and had grass for his food like the oxen, and his body was wet with the dew of heaven, till his hair became long as



eagles feathers and his nails like those of birds.

<sup>34</sup>And at the end of the days, I, Nebuchadnezzar, lifting up my eyes to heaven, got back my reason, and, blessing the Most High, I gave praise and honour to him who is living for ever, whose rule is an eternal rule and whose kingdom goes on from generation to generation.

<sup>35</sup>And all the people of the earth are as nothing: he does his pleasure in the army of heaven and among the people of the earth: and no one is able to keep back his hand, or say to him, What are you doing?

<sup>36</sup>At the same time my reason came back to me; and for the glory of my kingdom, my honour and my great name came back to me; and my wise men and my lords were turned to me again; and I was made safe in my kingdom and had more power than before.

<sup>37</sup>Now I, Nebuchadnezzar, give worship and praise and honour to the King of heaven; for all his works are true and his ways are right: and those who go in pride he is able to make low.

**5**<sup>1</sup> Belshazzar the king made a great feast for a thousand of his lords, drinking wine before the thousand.

<sup>2</sup> Belshazzar, while he was overcome with wine, gave orders for them to put before him the gold and silver vessels which Nebuchadnezzar, his father, had taken from the Temple in Jerusalem; so that the king and his lords, his wives and his other women, might take their drink from them.

<sup>3</sup> Then they took in the gold and silver vessels which had been in the Temple of the house of God at Jerusalem; and the king and his lords, his wives and his other women, took wine from them.

<sup>4</sup> They took their wine and gave praise to the gods of gold and silver, of brass and iron and wood and stone.

<sup>5</sup> In that very hour the fingers of a mans hand were seen, writing opposite the support for the light on the white wall of the kings house, and the king saw the part of the hand which was writing.

<sup>6</sup> Then the colour went from the kings face, and he was troubled by his thoughts; strength went from his body, and his knees were shaking.

<sup>7</sup> The king, crying out with a loud voice, said that the users of secret arts, the Chaldeans, and the readers of signs, were to be sent for. The king made answer and said to the wise men of Babylon, Whoever is able to make out this writing, and make clear to me the sense of it, will be clothed in purple and have a chain of gold round his neck, and will be a ruler of high authority in the kingdom.

<sup>8</sup> Then all the king's wise men came in: but they were not able to make out the writing or give the sense of it to the king.

<sup>9</sup> Then King Belshazzar was greatly troubled and the colour went from his face, and his lords were at a loss.

<sup>10</sup> The queen, because of the words of the king and his lords, came into the house of the feast: the queen made answer and said, O King, have life for ever; do not be troubled by your thoughts or let the colour go from your face:

<sup>11</sup> There is a man in your kingdom in whom is the spirit of the holy gods; and in the days of your father, light and reason like the wisdom of the gods were

seen in him: and King Nebuchadnezzar, your father, made him master of the wonder-workers, and the users of secret arts, and the Chaldeans, and the readers of signs;

<sup>12</sup>Because a most special spirit, and knowledge and reason and the power of reading dreams and unfolding dark sayings and answering hard questions, were seen to be in him, even in Daniel (named Belteshazzar by the king): now let Daniel be sent for, and he will make clear the sense of the writing.

<sup>13</sup>Then they took Daniel in before the king; the king made answer and said to Daniel, So you are that Daniel, of the prisoners of Judah, whom my father took out of Judah.

<sup>14</sup>And I have had news of you, that the spirit of the gods is in you, and that light and reason and special wisdom have been seen in you.

<sup>15</sup>And now the wise men, the users of secret arts, have been sent in before me for the purpose of reading this writing and making clear to me the sense of it: but they are not able to make clear the sense of the thing:

<sup>16</sup>And I have had news of you, that you have the power of making things clear, and of answering hard questions: now if you are able to make out the writing and give me the sense of it, you will be clothed in purple and have a gold chain round your neck and be a ruler of high authority in the kingdom.

<sup>17</sup>Then Daniel made answer and said to the king, Keep your offerings for yourself, and give your rewards to another; but I, after reading the writing to the king, will give him the sense of it.

<sup>18</sup>As for you, O King, the Most High God gave to Nebuchadnezzar, your father, the kingdom and great power and glory and honour:

<sup>19</sup>And because of the great power he gave him, all peoples and nations and languages were shaking in fear before him: some he put to death and others he kept living, at his pleasure, lifting up some and putting others down as it pleased him.

<sup>20</sup>But when his heart was lifted up and his spirit became hard with pride, he was put down from his place as king, and they took his glory from him:

<sup>21</sup> And he was sent out from among the sons of men; and his heart was made like the beasts, and he was living with the asses of the fields; he had grass for his food like the oxen, and his body was wet with the dew of heaven, till he was certain that the Most High is ruler in the kingdom of men, and gives power over it to anyone at his pleasure.

<sup>22</sup> And you, his son, O Belshazzar, have not kept your heart free from pride, though you had knowledge of all this;

<sup>23</sup> But you have been lifting yourself up against the Lord of heaven, and they have put the vessels of his house before you, and you and your lords, your wives and your women, have taken wine in them; and you have given praise to gods of silver and gold, of brass and iron and wood and stone, who are without the power of seeing or hearing, and without knowledge: and to the God in whose hand your breath is, and whose are all your ways, you have not given glory;

<sup>24</sup> Then the part of the hand was sent out from before him, and this writing was recorded.

<sup>25</sup>And this is the writing which was recorded, Mene, tekel, peres.

<sup>26</sup>This is the sense of the words: Mene; your kingdom has been numbered by God and ended.

<sup>27</sup>Tekel; you have been put in the scales and seen to be under weight.

<sup>28</sup>Peres; your kingdom has been cut up and given to the Medes and Persians.

<sup>29</sup>Then, by the order of Belshazzar, they put a purple robe on Daniel, and a gold chain round his neck, and a public statement was made that he was to be a ruler of high authority in the kingdom.

<sup>30</sup>That very night Belshazzar, the king of the Chaldeans, was put to death.

<sup>31</sup>And Darius the Mede took the kingdom, being then about sixty-two years old.

**6**<sup>1</sup>Darius was pleased to put over the kingdom a hundred and twenty captains, who were to be all through the kingdom;

<sup>2</sup>And over them were three chief rulers, of whom Daniel was one; and the captains were to be responsible to the chief rulers, so that the king might undergo no loss.

<sup>3</sup>Then this Daniel did his work better than the chief rulers and the captains, because there was a special spirit in him; and it was the kings purpose to put him over all the kingdom.

<sup>4</sup>Then the chief rulers and the captains were looking for some cause for putting Daniel in the wrong in connection with the kingdom, but they were unable to put forward any wrongdoing or error against him; because he was true, and no error or wrong was to be seen in him.

<sup>5</sup>Then these men said, We will only get a reason for attacking Daniel in connection with the law of his God.

<sup>6</sup>Then these chief rulers and the captains came to the king and said to him, O King Darius, have life for ever.

<sup>7</sup>All the chief rulers of the kingdom, the chiefs and the captains, the wise men and the rulers, have made a common decision to put in force a law having the kings authority, and to give a strong order, that whoever makes any request to any god or man but you, O King, for thirty days, is to be put into the lions hole.



<sup>8</sup>Now, O King, put the order in force, signing the writing so that it may not be changed, like the law of the Medes and Persians which may not come to an end.

<sup>9</sup>For this reason King Darius put his name on the writing and the order.

<sup>10</sup>And Daniel, on hearing that the writing had been signed, went into his house; (now he had windows in his room on the roof opening in the direction of Jerusalem;) and three times a day he went down on his knees in prayer and praise before his God, as he had done before.

<sup>11</sup>Then these men were watching and saw Daniel making prayers and requesting grace before his God.

<sup>12</sup>Then they came near before the king and said, O King, have you not put your name to an order that any man who makes a request to any god or man but you, O King, for thirty days, is to be put into the lions hole? The king made answer and said, The thing is fixed by the law of the Medes and Persians which may not come to an end.

<sup>13</sup>Then they made answer and said before the king, Daniel, one of the

prisoners of Judah, has no respect for you, O King, or for the order signed by you, but three times a day he makes his prayer to God.

<sup>14</sup>When this thing came to the kings ears, it was very evil to him, and his heart was fixed on keeping Daniel safe, and till the going down of the sun he was doing everything in his power to get him free.

<sup>15</sup>Then these men said to the king, Be certain, O King, that by the law of the Medes and Persians no order or law which the king has put into force may be changed.

<sup>16</sup>Then the king gave the order, and they took Daniel and put him into the lions hole. The king made answer and said to Daniel, Your God, whose servant you are at all times, will keep you safe.

<sup>17</sup>Then they got a stone and put it over the mouth of the hole, and it was stamped with the kings stamp and with the stamp of the lords, so that the decision about Daniel might not be changed.

<sup>18</sup>Then the king went to his great house, and took no food that night, and

nowere placed before him, and his sleep went from him.

<sup>19</sup>Then very early in the morning the king got up and went quickly to the lions hole.

<sup>20</sup>And when he came near the hole where Daniel was, he gave a loud cry of grief; the king made answer and said to Daniel, O Daniel, servant of the living God, is your God, whose servant you are at all times, able to keep you safe from the lions?

<sup>21</sup>Then Daniel said to the king, O King, have life for ever.

<sup>22</sup>My God has sent his angel to keep the lions mouths shut, and they have done me no damage: because I was seen to be without sin before him; and further, before you, O King, I have done no wrong.

<sup>23</sup>Then the king was very glad, and gave orders for them to take Daniel up out of the hole. So Daniel was taken up out of the hole and he was seen to be untouched, because he had faith in his God.

<sup>24</sup>And at the kings order, they took those men who had said evil against

Daniel, and put them in the lions hole, with their wives and their children; and they had not got to the floor of the hole before the lions overcame them and all their bones were broken.

<sup>25</sup> Then King Darius sent a letter to all the peoples, nations, and languages, living in all the earth: May your peace be increased.

<sup>26</sup> It is my order that in all the kingdom of which I am ruler, men are to be shaking with fear before the God of Daniel: for he is the living God, unchanging for ever, and his kingdom is one which will never come to destruction, his rule will go on to the end.

<sup>27</sup> He gives salvation and makes men free from danger, and does signs and wonders in heaven and earth, who has kept Daniel safe from the power of the lions.

<sup>28</sup> So this Daniel did well in the kingdom of Darius and in the kingdom of Cyrus the Persian.

**7**<sup>1</sup> In the first year of Belshazzar, king of Babylon, Daniel saw a dream, and visions came into his head on his bed: then he put the dream in writing.

<sup>2</sup>I had a vision by night, and saw the four winds of heaven violently moving the great sea.

<sup>3</sup>And four great beasts came up from the sea, different one from another.

<sup>4</sup>The first was like a lion and had eagles wings; while I was watching its wings were pulled off, and it was lifted up from the earth and placed on two feet like a man, and a mans heart was given to it.

<sup>5</sup>And I saw another beast, like a bear, and it was lifted up on one side, and three side-bones were in its mouth, between its teeth: and they said to it, Up! take much flesh.

<sup>6</sup>After this I saw another beast, like a leopard, which had on its back four wings like those of a bird; and the beast had four heads, and the power of a ruler was given to it.

<sup>7</sup>After this, in my vision of the night, I saw a fourth beast, a thing causing fear and very troubling, full of power and very strong; and it had great iron teeth: it took its food, crushing some of it to bits and stamping down the rest with its feet: it was different from all the beasts before it; and it had ten horns.

<sup>8</sup>I was watching the horns with care, and I saw another coming up among them, a little one, before which three of the first horns were pulled up by the roots: and there were eyes like a mans eyes in this horn, and a mouth saying great things.

<sup>9</sup>I went on looking till the seats of kings were placed, and one like a very old man took his seat: his clothing was white as snow, and the hair of his head was like clean wool; his seat was flames of fire and its wheels burning fire.

<sup>10</sup>A stream of fire was flowing and coming out from before him: a thousand thousands were his servants, and ten thousand times ten thousand were in their places before him: the judge was seated and the books were open.

<sup>11</sup>Then I sawbecause of the voice of the great words which the horn saidI saw till the beast was put to death, and its body was given to destruction, and the beast was given to the burning of fire.

<sup>12</sup>As for the rest of the beasts, their authority was taken away: but they let them go on living for a measure of time.

<sup>13</sup>I saw in visions of the night, and there was coming with the clouds of heaven one like a man, and he came to the one who was very old, and they took him near before him.

<sup>14</sup>And to him was given authority and glory and a kingdom; and all peoples, nations, and languages were his servants: his authority is an eternal authority which will not come to an end, and his kingdom is one which will not come to destruction.

<sup>15</sup>As for me, Daniel, my spirit was pained because of this, and the visions of my head were troubling me.

<sup>16</sup>I came near to one of those who were waiting there, questioning him about what all this was. And he said to me that he would make clear to me the sense of these things.

<sup>17</sup>These great beasts are four kings who will be cut off from the earth.

<sup>18</sup>But the saints of the Most High will take the kingdom, and it will be theirs for ever, even for ever and ever.

<sup>19</sup>Then it was my desire to have certain knowledge about the fourth beast, which was different from all the others, a cause

of great fear, whose teeth were of iron and his nails of brass; who took his food, crushing some of it to bits and stamping on the rest with his feet;

<sup>20</sup>And about the ten horns on his head and the other which came up, causing the fall of three; that horn which had eyes, and a mouth saying great things, which seemed to be greater than the other horns.

<sup>21</sup>And I saw how that horn made war on the saints and overcame them,

<sup>22</sup>Till he came, who was very old, and the decision was made and the authority was given to the saints of the Most High; and the time came when the saints took the kingdom.

<sup>23</sup>This is what he said: The fourth beast is a fourth kingdom which will come on earth, different from all the kingdoms, and it will overcome all the earth, crushing it down and smashing it.

<sup>24</sup>And as for the ten horns, out of this kingdom ten kings will come to power; and after them another will come up: he will be different from the first ones and will put down three kings.



<sup>25</sup>And he will say words against the Most High, attempting to put an end to the saints of the Most High; and he will have the idea of changing times and law; and the saints will be given into his hands for a time and times and half a time.

<sup>26</sup>But the judge will be seated, and they will put an end to his authority, to overcome it and send complete destruction on it.

<sup>27</sup>And the kingdom and the authority and the power of the kingdoms under all the heaven will be given to the people of the saints of the Most High: his kingdom is an eternal kingdom, and all powers will be his servants and do his pleasure.

<sup>28</sup>Here is the end of the account. As for me, Daniel, I was greatly troubled by my thoughts, and the colour went from my face: but I kept the thing in my heart.

**8**<sup>1</sup>In the third year of the rule of Belshazzar the king, a vision was seen by me, Daniel, after the one I saw at first.

<sup>2</sup>And I saw in the vision; and when I saw it, I was in the strong town Shushan, which is in the country of Elam; and in

the vision I was by the water-door of the Ulai.

<sup>3</sup>And lifting up my eyes, I saw, there before the stream, a male sheep with two horns: and the two horns were high, but one was higher than the other, the higher one coming up last.

<sup>4</sup>I saw the sheep pushing to the west and to the north and to the south; and no beasts were able to keep their place before him, and no one was able to get people out of his power; but he did whatever his pleasure was and made himself great.

<sup>5</sup>And while I was giving thought to this, I saw a he-goat coming from the west over the face of all the earth without touching the earth: and the he-goat had a great horn between his eyes.

<sup>6</sup>And he came to the two-horned sheep which I saw before the stream, rushing at him in the heat of his power.

<sup>7</sup>And I saw him come right up to the sheep, and he was moved with wrath against him, attacking the sheep so that his two horns were broken; and the sheep had not strength to keep his place before him, but was pushed down on the

earth and crushed under his feet: and there was no one to get the sheep out of his power.

<sup>8</sup>And the he-goat became very great: and when he was strong, the great horn was broken, and in its place came up four other horns turned to the four winds of heaven.

<sup>9</sup>And out of one of them came another horn, a little one, which became very great, stretching to the south and to the east and to the beautiful land.

<sup>10</sup>And it became great, even as high as the army of heaven, pulling down some of the army, even of the stars, to the earth and crushing them under its feet.

<sup>11</sup>It made itself great, even as great as the lord of the army; and by it the regular burned offering was taken away, and the place overturned and the holy place made waste.

<sup>12</sup>against the regular burned offering; and crushed down to the earth, and it did its pleasure and things went well for it.

<sup>13</sup>Then there came to my ears the voice of a holy one talking; and another holy one said to that certain one who was talking, How long will the vision be while

the regular burned offering is taken away, and the unclean thing causing fear is put up, and the holy place crushed under foot?

<sup>14</sup>And he said to him, For two thousand, three hundred evenings and mornings; then the holy place will be made clean.

<sup>15</sup>And it came about that when I, Daniel, had seen this vision, I had a desire for the sense of it to be unfolded; and I saw one before me in the form of a man.

<sup>16</sup>And the voice of a man came to my ears between the sides of the Ulai, crying out and saying, Gabriel, make the vision clear to this man.

<sup>17</sup>So he came and took his place near where I was; and when he came, I was full of fear and went down on my face: but he said to me, Let it be clear to you, O son of man; for the vision has to do with the time of the end.

<sup>18</sup>Now while he was talking to me, I went into a deep sleep with my face to the earth: but touching me, he put me on my feet where I had been.

<sup>19</sup>And he said, See, I will make clear to you what is to come in the later time of

the wrath: for it has to do with the fixed time of the end.

<sup>20</sup>The sheep which you saw with two horns, they are the kings of Media and Persia.

<sup>21</sup>And the he-goat is the king of Greece: and the great horn between his eyes is the first king.

<sup>22</sup>And as for that which was broken, in place of which four came up, four kingdoms will come up from his nation, but not with his power.

<sup>23</sup>And in the later years of their kingdom, when their evil doings have become complete, there will come up a king full of pride and expert in dark sayings.

<sup>24</sup>And his power will be great, and he will be purposing strange things. And all will go well for him and he will do his pleasure; and he will send destruction on the strong ones.

<sup>25</sup>And his designs will be turned against the holy people, causing deceit to do well in his hand; in his heart he will make himself great, and send destruction on numbers who are living unconscious of their danger; and he will put himself up

against the prince of princes; but he will be broken, though not by mens hands.

<sup>26</sup>And the vision of evenings and mornings which has been talked of is true: and keep the vision secret; for it has to do with the far-off future.

<sup>27</sup>And I, Daniel, was ill for some days; then I got up and did the kings business: and I was full of wonder at the vision, but no one was able to give the sense of it.

**9**<sup>1</sup>In the first year of Darius, the son of Ahasuerus, of the seed of the Medes, who was made king over the kingdom of the Chaldaeans;

<sup>2</sup>In the first year of his rule, I, Daniel, saw clearly from the books the number of years given by the word of the Lord to the prophet Jeremiah, in which the making waste of Jerusalem was to be complete, that is, seventy years.

<sup>3</sup>And turning my face to the Lord God, I gave myself up to prayer, requesting his grace, going without food, in haircloth and dust.

<sup>4</sup>And I made prayer to the Lord my God, putting our sins before him, and said, O Lord, the great God, greatly to

be feared. keeping your agreement and mercy with those who have love for you and do your orders;

<sup>5</sup>We are sinners, acting wrongly and doing evil; we have gone against you, turning away from your orders and from your laws:

<sup>6</sup>We have not given ear to your servants the prophets, who said words in your name to our kings and our rulers and our fathers and all the people of the land.

<sup>7</sup>O Lord, righteousness is yours, but shame is on us, even to this day; and on the men of Judah and the people of Jerusalem, and on all Israel, those who are near and those who are far off, in all the countries where you have sent them because of the sin which they have done against you.

<sup>8</sup>O Lord, shame is on us, on our kings and our rulers and our fathers, because of our sin against you.

<sup>9</sup>With the Lord our God are mercies and forgiveness, for we have gone against him;

<sup>10</sup>And have not given ear to the voice of the Lord our God to go in the way of

his laws which he put before us by the mouth of his servants the prophets.

<sup>11</sup>And all Israel have been sinners against your law, turning away so as not to give ear to your voice: and the curse has been let loose on us, and the oath recorded in the law of Moses, the servant of God, for we have done evil against him.

<sup>12</sup>And he has given effect to his words which he said against us and against those who were our judges, by sending a great evil on us: for under all heaven there has not been done what has been done to Jerusalem.

<sup>13</sup>As it was recorded in the law of Moses, all this evil has come on us: but we have made no prayer for grace from the Lord our God that we might be turned from our evil doings and come to true wisdom.

<sup>14</sup>So the Lord has been watching over this evil and has made it come on us: for the Lord our God is upright in all his acts which he has done, and we have not given ear to his voice.

<sup>15</sup>And now, O Lord our God, who took your people out of the land of Egypt with



a strong hand and made a great name for yourself even to this day; we are sinners, we have done evil.

<sup>16</sup>O Lord, because of your righteousness, let your wrath and your passion be turned away from your town Jerusalem, your holy mountain: because, through our sins and the evil-doing of our fathers, Jerusalem and your people have become a cause of shame to all who are round about us.

<sup>17</sup>And now, give ear, O our God, to the prayer of your servant and to his request for grace, and let your face be shining on your holy place which is made waste, because of your servants, O Lord.

<sup>18</sup>O my God, let your ear be turned and give hearing; let your eyes be open and see how we have been made waste and the town which is named by your name: for we are not offering our prayers before you because of our righteousness, but because of your great mercies.

<sup>19</sup>O Lord, give ear; O Lord, have forgiveness; O Lord, take note and do; let there be no more waiting; for the honour of your name, O my God,

because your town and your people are named by your name.

<sup>20</sup>And while I was still saying these words in prayer, and putting my sins and the sins of my people Israel before the Lord, and requesting grace from the Lord my God for the holy mountain of my God;

<sup>21</sup>Even while I was still in prayer, the man Gabriel, whom I had seen in the vision at first when my weariness was great, put his hand on me about the time of the evening offering.

<sup>22</sup>And teaching me and talking to me he said, O Daniel, I have come now to give you wisdom.

<sup>23</sup>At the first word of your prayer a word went out, and I have come to give you knowledge; for you are a man dearly loved: so give thought to the word and let the vision be clear to you.

<sup>24</sup>Seventy weeks have been fixed for your people and your holy town, to let wrongdoing be complete and sin come to its full limit, and for the clearing away of evil-doing and the coming in of eternal righteousness: so that the vision and the word of the prophet may be stamped as

true, and to put the holy oil on a most holy place.

<sup>25</sup> Have then the certain knowledge that from the going out of the word for the building again of Jerusalem till the coming of a prince, on whom the holy oil has been put, will be seven weeks: in sixty-two weeks its building will be complete, with square and earthwork.

<sup>26</sup> And at the end of the times, even after the sixty-two weeks, one on whom the holy oil has been put will be cut off and have no; and the town and the holy place will be made waste together with a prince; and the end will come with an overflowing of waters, and even to the end there will be war; the making waste which has been fixed.

<sup>27</sup> And a strong order will be sent out against the great number for one week; and so for half of the week the offering and the meal offering will come to an end; and in its place will be an unclean thing causing fear; till the destruction which has been fixed is let loose on him who has made waste.

**10**<sup>1</sup> In the third year of Cyrus, king of Persia, a secret was unfolded to

Daniel, whose name was Belteshazzar; and the thing was true, even a hard work: and he had knowledge of it, and the vision was clear to him.

<sup>2</sup>In those days I, Daniel, gave myself up to grief for three full weeks.

<sup>3</sup>I had no pleasing food, no meat or wine came into my mouth, and I put no oil on my body till three full weeks were ended.

<sup>4</sup>And on the twenty-fourth day of the first month I was by the side of the great river;

<sup>5</sup>And lifting up my eyes I saw the form of a man clothed in a linen robe, and round him there was a band of gold, of the best gold:

<sup>6</sup>And his body was like the beryl, and his face had the look of a thunder-flame, and his eyes were like burning lights, and his arms and feet like the colour of polished brass, and the sound of his voice was like the sound of an army.

<sup>7</sup>And I, Daniel, was the only one who saw the vision, for the men who were with me did not see it; but a great shaking came on them and they went in flight to take cover.

<sup>8</sup>So I was by myself, and I saw this great vision, and all my strength went from me; and the colour went from my face.

<sup>9</sup>But the sound of his words came to my ears, and on hearing his voice I went into a deep sleep with my face to the earth.

<sup>10</sup>Then a hand gave me a touch, awaking me, and putting me on my knees and my hands.

<sup>11</sup>And he said to me, O Daniel, you man dearly loved, take in the sense of the words I say to you and get up on to your feet: for to you I am now sent; and when he had said this to me I got on to my feet, shaking with fear.

<sup>12</sup>Then he said to me, Have no fear, Daniel; for from the first day when you gave your heart to getting wisdom and making yourself poor in spirit before your God, your words have come to his ears: and I have come because of your words.

<sup>13</sup>But the angel of the kingdom of Persia put himself against me for twenty-one days; but Michael, one of the chief angels, came to my help; and when I

came he was still there with the angel of the kings of Persia.

<sup>14</sup>Now I have come to give you knowledge of the fate of your people in the later days; for there is still a vision for the days.

<sup>15</sup>And after he had said these words to me, I kept my face turned to the earth and was unable to say anything.

<sup>16</sup>Then one whose form was like the sons of men put his finger on my lips; and opening my mouth, I said to him who was before me, O my lord, because of the vision my pains have come on me, and I have no more strength.

<sup>17</sup>For how may this servant of my lord have talk with my lord? for, as for me, straight away my strength went from me and there was no breath in my body.

<sup>18</sup>Then again one having the form of a man put his hand on me and gave me strength.

<sup>19</sup>And he said to me, O man greatly loved, have no fear: peace be with you, be strong and let your heart be lifted up. And at his words I became strong, and said, Let my lord say on, for you have given me strength.

<sup>20</sup>Then he said, It is clear to you why I have come to you. And now I will give you an account of what is recorded in the true writings:

<sup>21</sup>But I am going back to make war with the angel of Persia, and when I am gone, the angel of Greece will come. And there is no one on my side against these, but Michael, your angel.

**11** <sup>1</sup>And as for me, in the first year of Darius the Mede I was on his side to make his position safe and make him strong.

<sup>2</sup>And now I will make clear to you what is true. There are still three kings to come in Persia, and the fourth will have much greater wealth than all of them: and when he has become strong through his wealth, he will put his forces in motion against all the kingdoms of Greece.

<sup>3</sup>And a strong king will come to power, ruling with great authority and doing whatever is his pleasure.

<sup>4</sup>And when he has become strong, his kingdom will be broken and parted to the four winds of heaven; but not to his offspring, for it will be uprooted; and

his kingdom will be for the others and not for these: but not with the same authority as his.

<sup>5</sup>And the king of the south will be strong, but one of his captains will be stronger than he and will be ruler; and his rule will be a great rule.

<sup>6</sup>And at the end of years they will be joined together; and the daughter of the king of the south will come to the king of the north to make an agreement: but she will not keep the strength of her arm; and his offspring will not keep their place; but she will be uprooted, with those who were the cause of her coming, and her son, and he who took her in those times.

<sup>7</sup>But out of a branch from her roots one will come up to take his place, who will come against the army, forcing his way into the strong place of the king of the north, and he will take them in hand and overcome them:

<sup>8</sup>And their gods and their metal images and their fair vessels of silver and gold he will take away into the south; and for some years he will keep away from the king of the north.



<sup>9</sup>And he will come into the kingdom of the king of the south, but he will go back to his land.

<sup>10</sup>And his son will make war, and will get together an army of great forces, and he will make an attack on him, overflowing and going past: and he will again take the war even to his strong place.

<sup>11</sup>And the king of the south will be moved with wrath, and will come out and make war on him, on this same king of the north: and he will get together a great army, but the army will be given into his hand.

<sup>12</sup>And the army will be taken away, and his heart will be uplifted: he will be the cause of the downfall of tens of thousands, but he will not be strong.

<sup>13</sup>And again the king of the north will get together an army greater than the first; and he will make an attack on him at the end of years, with a great army and much wealth.

<sup>14</sup>In those times, a number will take up arms against the king of the south: and the children of the violent among your people will be lifting themselves up to

make the vision come true; but it will be their downfall.

<sup>15</sup>So the king of the north will come, and put up earthworks and take a well-armed town: and the forces of the king of the south will make an attempt to keep their position, even the best of his army, but they will not have strength to do so.

<sup>16</sup>And he who comes against him will do his pleasure, and no one will be able to keep his place before him: he will take up his position in the beautiful land and in his hand there will be destruction.

<sup>17</sup>And it will be his purpose to come with the strength of all his kingdom, but in place of this he will make an agreement with him; and he will give him the daughter of women to send destruction on it; but this will not take place or come about.

<sup>18</sup>After this, his face will be turned to the islands, and he will take a number of them: but a chief, by his destruction, will put an end to the shame offered by him; and more than this, he will make his shame come back on him.

<sup>19</sup>Then his face will be turned to the strong places of his land: but his way will be stopped, causing his downfall, and he will not be seen again.

<sup>20</sup>Then his place will be taken by one who will send out a man with the glory of a king to get wealth together; but after a short time destruction will overtake him, but not in wrath or in the fight.

<sup>21</sup>And his place will be taken by a low person, to whom the honour of the kingdom had not been given: but he will come in time of peace and will get the kingdom by fair words.

<sup>22</sup>And his forces will be completely taken away from before him and broken; and even the ruler of the agreement will have the same fate.

<sup>23</sup>And from the time when they make an agreement with him, he will be working falsely: for he will take up arms suddenly with a small force,

<sup>24</sup>Against fertile places, and will make waste a part of the country; and he will do what his fathers have not done, or his fathers fathers; he will make distribution among them of goods taken in war and by force, and of property: he will even

make designs against the strong places for a time.

<sup>25</sup>And he will put in motion his power and his strength against the king of the south with a great army; and the king of the south will go to war with a very great and strong army: but he will be forced to give way, because of their designs against him;

<sup>26</sup>And his fears will overcome him and be the cause of his downfall, and his army will come to complete destruction, and a great number will be put to the sword.

<sup>27</sup>And as for these two kings, their hearts will be fixed on doing evil and they will say false words at one table; but it will come to nothing: for the end will be at the time fixed.

<sup>28</sup>And he will go back to his land with great wealth; and his heart will be against the holy agreement; and he will do his pleasure and go back to his land.

<sup>29</sup>At the time fixed he will come back and come into the south; but in the later time it will not be as it was before.

<sup>30</sup>For those who go out from the west will come against him, and he will be

in fear and will go back, full of wrath against the holy agreement; and he will do his pleasure: and he will go back and be united with those who have given up the holy agreement.

<sup>31</sup> And armies sent by him will take up their position and they will make unclean the holy place, even the strong place, and take away the regular burned offering and put in its place an unclean thing causing fear.

<sup>32</sup> And those who do evil against the agreement will be turned to sin by his fair words: but the people who have knowledge of their God will be strong and do well.

<sup>33</sup> And those who are wise among the people will be the teachers of the mass of the people: but they will come to their downfall by the sword and by the flame, being made prisoners and undergoing loss for a long time.

<sup>34</sup> Now at the time of their downfall they will have a little help, but numbers will be joined to them in the town, and in their separate heritages.

<sup>35</sup> And some of those who are wise will have wisdom in testing themselves and

making themselves clean, till the time of the end: for it is still for the fixed time.

<sup>36</sup>And the king will do his pleasure; he will put himself on high, lifting himself over every god, and saying things to be wondered at against the God of gods; and all will be well for him till the wrath is complete; for what has been purposed will be done.

<sup>37</sup>He will have no respect for the gods of his fathers or for the god desired by women; he will have no respect for any god: for he will put himself on high over all.

<sup>38</sup>But in place of this he will give honour to the god of armed places, and to a god of whom his fathers had no knowledge he will give honour with gold and silver and jewels and things to be desired.

<sup>39</sup>And he will make use of the people of a strange god to keep his strongest places; to those whom he takes note of he will give high honour: and he will make them rulers over the mass of the people, and will make division of the land for a price.

<sup>40</sup>And at the time of the end, the king of the south will make an attack

on him: and the king of the north will come against him like a storm-wind, with war-carriages and horsemen and numbers of ships; and he will go through many lands like overflowing waters.

<sup>41</sup> And he will come into the beautiful land, and tens of thousands will be overcome: but these will be kept from falling into his hands: Edom and Moab and the chief of the children of Ammon.

<sup>42</sup> And his hand will be stretched out on the countries: and the land of the south will not be safe from him.

<sup>43</sup> But he will have power over the stores of gold and silver, and over all the valued things of the south: and the Libyans and the Ethiopians will be at his steps.

<sup>44</sup> But he will be troubled by news from the east and from the north; and he will go out in great wrath, to send destruction on, and put an end to, great numbers.

<sup>45</sup> He will put the tents of his great house between the sea and the beautiful holy mountain: but he will come to his end with no helper.

**12**<sup>1</sup> And at that time Michael will take up his place, the great angel, who is the supporter of the children of your people: and there will be a time of trouble, such as there never was from the time there was a nation even till that same time: and at that time your people will be kept safe, everyone who is recorded in the book.

<sup>2</sup> And a number of those who are sleeping in the dust of the earth will come out of their sleep, some to eternal life and some to eternal shame.

<sup>3</sup> And those who are wise will be shining like the light of the outstretched sky; and those by whom numbers have been turned to righteousness will be like the stars for ever and ever.

<sup>4</sup> But as for you, O Daniel, let the words be kept secret and the book rolled up and kept shut till the time of the end: numbers will be going out of the way and troubles will be increased.

<sup>5</sup> Then I, Daniel, looking, saw two others, one at the edge of the river on this side and one at the edge of the river on that side.



<sup>6</sup>And I said to the man clothed in linen, who was over the waters of the river, How long will it be to the end of these wonders?

<sup>7</sup>Then in my hearing the man clothed in linen, who was over the river, lifting up his right hand and his left hand to heaven, took an oath by him who is living for ever that it would be a time, times, and a half; and when the power of the crusher of the holy people comes to an end, all these things will be ended.

<sup>8</sup>And the words came to my ears, but the sense of them was not clear to me: then I said, O my lord, what is the sense of these things?

<sup>9</sup>And he said, Go on your way, Daniel: for the words are secret and shut up till the time of the end;

<sup>10</sup>Till a number are tested and make themselves clean; and the evil-doers will do evil; for not one of the evil-doers will have knowledge; but all will be made clear to those who are wise.

<sup>11</sup>And from the time when the regular burned offering is taken away, and an unclean thing causing fear is put up,

there will be a thousand, two hundred and ninety days.

<sup>12</sup>A blessing will be on the man who goes on waiting, and comes to the thousand, three hundred and thirty-five days.

<sup>13</sup>But you, go on your way and take your rest: for you will be in your place at the end of the days.

# Hosea

**1** <sup>1</sup>The word of the Lord which came to Hosea, the son of Beeri, in the days of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, kings of Judah, and in the days of Jeroboam, the son of Joash, king of Israel.

<sup>2</sup>The start of the word of the Lord by Hosea: And the Lord said to Hosea, Go, take for yourself a wife of loose ways, and children of the same, for the land has been untrue to the Lord.

<sup>3</sup>So he took as his wife Gomer, the daughter of Diblaim, and she gave birth to a son.

<sup>4</sup>And the Lord said to him, Give him the name of Jezreel, for after a little time I will send punishment for the blood of Jezreel on the line of Jehu, and put an end to the kingdom of Israel.

<sup>5</sup>And in that day I will let the bow of Israel be broken in the valley of Jezreel.

<sup>6</sup>And after that she gave birth to a daughter. And the Lord said, Give her the name Lo-ruhamah; for I will not

again have mercy on Israel, to give them forgiveness.

<sup>7</sup> But I will have mercy on Judah and will give them salvation by the Lord their God, but not by the bow or the sword or by fighting or by horses or horsemen.

<sup>8</sup> Now when Lo-ruhamah had been taken from the breast, the woman gave birth to a son.

<sup>9</sup> And the Lord said, Give him the name Lo-ammi; for you are not my people, and I will not be your God.

<sup>10</sup> But still the number of the children of Israel will be like the sand of the sea, which may not be measured or numbered; and in place of its being said to them, You are not my people, it will be said to them, You are the sons of the living God

<sup>11</sup> And the children of Israel and the children of Judah will come together and take for themselves one head, and will go up from the land, for great will be the day of Jezreel.

**2**<sup>1</sup> Say to your brothers, Ammi; and to your sisters, Ruhamah.

<sup>2</sup> Take up the cause against your mother, take it up, for she is not my

wife, and I am not her husband; let her put away her loose ways from her face, and her false ways from between her breasts;

<sup>3</sup>For fear that I may take away her robe from her, making her uncovered as in the day of her birth; making her like a waste place and a dry land, causing her death through need of water.

<sup>4</sup>And I will have no mercy on her children, for they are the children of her loose ways.

<sup>5</sup>For their mother has been untrue; she who gave them birth has done things of shame, for she said, I will go after my lovers, who give me my bread and my water, my wool and my linen, my oil and my wine.

<sup>6</sup>For this cause I will put thorns in her road, building up a wall round her so that she may not go on her way.

<sup>7</sup>And if she goes after her lovers she will not overtake them; if she makes search for them she will not see them; then will she say, I will go back to my first husband, for then it was better for me than now.

<sup>8</sup>For she had no knowledge that it was I who gave her the grain and the wine and the oil, increasing her silver and gold which they gave to the Baal.

<sup>9</sup>So I will take away again my grain in its time and my wine, and I will take away my wool and my linen with which her body might have been covered.

<sup>10</sup>And now I will make her shame clear before the eyes of her lovers, and no one will take her out of my hand.

<sup>11</sup>And I will put an end to all her joy, her feasts, her new moons, and her Sabbaths, and all her regular meetings.

<sup>12</sup>And I will make waste her vines and her fig-trees, of which she has said, These are the payments which my lovers have made to me; and I will make them a waste of trees, and the beasts of the field will take them for food.

<sup>13</sup>And I will give her punishment for the days of the Baals, to whom she has been burning perfumes, when she made herself fair with her nose-rings and her jewels, and went after her lovers, giving no thought to me, says the Lord.

<sup>14</sup>For this cause I will make her come into the waste land and will say words of comfort to her.

<sup>15</sup>And I will give her vine-gardens from there, and the valley of Achor for a door of hope; and she will give her answer there as in the days when she was young, and as in the time when she came up out of the land of Egypt.

<sup>16</sup>And in that day, says the Lord, you will say to me, I shi; and you will never again give me the name of Baali;

<sup>17</sup>For I will take away the names of the Baals out of her mouth, and never again will she say their names.

<sup>18</sup>And in that day I will make an agreement for them with the beasts of the field and the birds of heaven and the things which go low on the earth; I will put an end to the bow and the sword and war in all the land, and will make them take their rest in peace.

<sup>19</sup>And I will take you as my bride for ever; truly, I will take you as my bride in righteousness and in right judging, in love and in mercies.

<sup>20</sup>I will take you as my bride in good faith, and you will have knowledge of the Lord.

<sup>21</sup>And it will be, in that day, says the Lord, that I will give an answer to the heavens, and the heavens to the earth;

<sup>22</sup>And the earth will give its answer to the grain and the wine and the oil, and they will give an answer to Jezreel;

<sup>23</sup>And I will put her as seed in the earth, and I will have mercy on her to whom no mercy was given; and I will say to those who were not my people, You are my people, and they will say, My God.

**3**<sup>1</sup>And the Lord said to me, Give your love again to a woman who has a lover and is false to her husband, even as the Lord has love for the children of Israel, though they are turned to other gods and are lovers of grape-cakes.

<sup>2</sup>So I got her for myself for fifteen shekels of silver and a homer and a half of barley;

<sup>3</sup>And I said to her, You are to be mine for a long space of time; you are not to be false to me, and no other man is to



have you for his wife; and so will I be to you.

<sup>4</sup>For the children of Israel will for a long time be without king and without ruler, without offerings and without pillars, and without ephod or images.

<sup>5</sup>And after that, the children of Israel will come back and go in search of the Lord their God and David their king; and they will come in fear to the Lord and to his mercies in the days to come.

**4**<sup>1</sup> Give ear to the word of the Lord, O children of Israel; for the Lord has a cause against the people of this land, because there is no good faith in it, and no mercy and no knowledge of God in the land.

<sup>2</sup>There is cursing and broken faith, violent death and attacks on property, men are untrue in married life, houses are broken into, and there is blood touching blood.

<sup>3</sup>Because of this the land will be dry, and everyone living in it will be wasted away, with the beasts of the field and the birds of heaven; even the fishes of the sea will be taken away.

<sup>4</sup>Let no man go to law or make protests, for your people are like those who go to law with a priest.

<sup>5</sup>You will not be able to keep on your feet by day, and by night the prophet will be falling down with you, and I will give your mother to destruction.

<sup>6</sup>Destruction has overtaken my people because they have no knowledge; because you have given up knowledge, I will give you up, so that you will be no priest to me, because you have not kept in mind the law of your God, I will not keep your children in my memory.

<sup>7</sup>Even while they were increasing in number they were sinning against me; I will let their glory be changed into shame.

<sup>8</sup>The sin of my people is like food to them; and their desire is for their wrongdoing.

<sup>9</sup>And the priest will be like the people; I will give them punishment for their evil ways, and the reward of their acts.

<sup>10</sup>They will have food, but they will not be full; they will be false to me, but they will not be increased, because they no longer give thought to the Lord.

<sup>11</sup> Loose ways and new wine take away wisdom.

<sup>12</sup> My people get knowledge from their tree, and their rod gives them news; for a false spirit is the cause of their wandering, and they have been false to their God.

<sup>13</sup> They make offerings on the tops of mountains, burning perfumes in high places, under trees of every sort, because their shade is good: and so your daughters are given up to loose ways and your brides are false to their husbands.

<sup>14</sup> I will not give punishment to your daughters or your brides for their evil behaviour; for they make themselves separate with loose women, and make offerings with those who are used for sex purposes in the worship of the gods: the people who have no wisdom will be sent away.

<sup>15</sup> Do not you, O Israel, come into error; do not you, O Judah, come to Gilgal, or go up to Beth-aven, or take an oath, By the living Lord.

<sup>16</sup> For Israel is uncontrolled, like a cow which may not be controlled; now will

the Lord give them food like a lamb in a wide place.

<sup>17</sup>Ephraim is joined to false gods; let him be.

<sup>18</sup>Their drink has become bitter; they are completely false; her rulers take pleasure in shame.

<sup>19</sup>They are folded in the skirts of the wind; they will be shamed because of their offerings.

**5**<sup>1</sup> Give ear to this, O priests; give attention, O Israel, and you, family of the king; for you are to be judged; you have been a deceit at Mizpah and a net stretched out on Tabor.

<sup>2</sup>They have gone deep in the evil ways of Shittim, but I am the judge of all.

<sup>3</sup>I have knowledge of Ephraim, and Israel is not secret from me; for now, O Ephraim, you have been false to me, Israel has become unclean.

<sup>4</sup>Their works will not let them come back to their God, for a false spirit is in them and they have no knowledge of the Lord.

<sup>5</sup>And the pride of Israel gives an answer to his face; and Ephraim will have a fall

through his sins, and the fall of Judah will be the same as theirs.

<sup>6</sup>They will go, with their flocks and their herds, in search of the Lord, but they will not see him; he has taken himself out of their view.

<sup>7</sup>They have been false to the Lord; they have given birth to strange children; now the new moon will make them waste with their fields.

<sup>8</sup>Let the horn be sounded in Gibeah and in Ramah; give a loud cry in Beth-aven, They are after you, O Benjamin.

<sup>9</sup>Ephraim will become a waste in the day of punishment; I have given knowledge among the tribes of Israel of what is certain.

<sup>10</sup>The rulers of Judah are like those who take away a landmark; I will let loose my wrath on them like flowing water.

<sup>11</sup>Ephraim is troubled; he is crushed by his judges, because he took pleasure in walking after deceit.

<sup>12</sup>And so to Ephraim I am like a wasting insect, and a destruction to the children of Judah.

<sup>13</sup>When Ephraim saw his disease and Judah his wound, then Ephraim went to

Assyria and sent to the great king; but he is not able to make you well or give you help for your wound.

<sup>14</sup>For I will be to Ephraim as a lion, and as a young lion to the children of Judah; I, even I, will give him wounds and go away; I will take him away, and there will be no helper.

<sup>15</sup>I will go back to my place till they are made waste; in their trouble they will go after me early and will make search for me.

**6**<sup>1</sup> Come, let us go back to the Lord; for he has given us wounds and he will make us well; he has given blows and he will give help.

<sup>2</sup>After two days he will give us life, and on the third day he will make us get up, and we will be living before him.

<sup>3</sup>And let us have knowledge, let us go after the knowledge of the Lord; his going out is certain as the dawn, his decisions go out like the light; he will come to us like the rain, like the spring rain watering the earth.

<sup>4</sup>O Ephraim, what am I to do to you? O Judah, what am I to do to you? For your

love is like a morning cloud, and like the dew which goes early away.

<sup>5</sup>So I have had it cut in stones; I gave them teaching by the words of my mouth;

<sup>6</sup>Because my desire is for mercy and not offerings; for the knowledge of God more than for burned offerings.

<sup>7</sup>But like a man, they have gone against the agreement; there they were false to me.

<sup>8</sup>Gilead is a town of evil-doers, marked with blood.

<sup>9</sup>And like a band of thieves waiting for a man, so are the priests watching secretly the way of those going quickly to Shechem, for they are working with an evil design.

<sup>10</sup>In Israel I have seen a very evil thing; there false ways are seen in Ephraim, Israel is unclean;

<sup>11</sup>And Judah has put up disgusting images for himself.

**7**<sup>1</sup>When my desire was for the fate of my people to be changed and to make Israel well, then the sin of Ephraim was made clear, and the evil-doing of Samaria; for their ways are false, and

the thief comes into the house, while the band of outlaws takes property by force in the streets.

<sup>2</sup>And they do not say to themselves that I keep in mind all their sin; now their evil acts come round them on every side; they are before my face.

<sup>3</sup>In their sin they make a king for themselves, and rulers in their deceit.

<sup>4</sup>They are all untrue; they are like a burning oven; the bread-maker does not make up the fire from the time when the paste is mixed till it is leavened.

<sup>5</sup>On the day of our king, the rulers made him ill with the heat of wine; his hand was stretched out with the men of pride.

<sup>6</sup>For they have made their hearts ready like an oven, while they are waiting secretly; their wrath is sleeping all night; in the morning it is burning like a flaming fire.

<sup>7</sup>They are all heated like an oven, and they put an end to their judges; all their kings have been made low; not one among them makes prayer to me.

<sup>8</sup>Ephraim is mixed with the peoples; Ephraim is a cake not turned.



<sup>9</sup>Men from other lands have made waste his strength, and he is not conscious of it; grey hairs have come on him here and there, and he has no knowledge of it.

<sup>10</sup>And the pride of Israel gives an answer to his face; but for all this, they have not gone back to the Lord their God, or made search for him.

<sup>11</sup>And Ephraim is like a foolish dove, without wisdom; they send out their cry to Egypt, they go to Assyria.

<sup>12</sup>When they go, my net will be stretched out over them; I will take them like the birds of heaven, I will give them punishment, I will take them away in the net for their sin.

<sup>13</sup>May trouble be theirs! for they have gone far away from me; and destruction, for they have been sinning against me; I was ready to be their saviour, but they said false words against me.

<sup>14</sup>And they have not made prayer to me in their hearts, but they make loud cries on their beds; they are cutting themselves for food and wine, they are turned against me.

<sup>15</sup>Though I have given training and strength to their arms, they have evil designs against me.

<sup>16</sup>They have gone to what is of no value; they are like a false bow; their captains will come to destruction by the sword, and their ruler by my wrath; for this, the land of Egypt will make sport of them.

**8**<sup>1</sup>Put the horn to your mouth. He comes like an eagle against the house of the Lord; because they have gone against my agreement, they have not kept my law.

<sup>2</sup>They will send up to me a cry for help: We, Israel, have knowledge of you, O God of Israel.

<sup>3</sup>Israel has given up what is good; his haters will go after him.

<sup>4</sup>They have put up kings, but not by me; they have made princes, but I had no knowledge of it; they have made images of silver and gold, so that they may be cut off.

<sup>5</sup>I will have nothing to do with your young ox, O Samaria; my wrath is burning against them; how long will it

be before the children of Israel make themselves clean?

<sup>6</sup>The workman made it, it is no god; the ox of Samaria will be broken into bits.

<sup>7</sup>For they have been planting the wind, and their fruit will be the storm; his grain has no stem, it will give no meal, and if it does, a strange nation will take it.

<sup>8</sup>Israel has come to destruction; now they are among the nations like a cup in which there is no pleasure.

<sup>9</sup>For they have gone up to Assyria like an ass going by himself; Ephraim has given money to get lovers.

<sup>10</sup>But though they give money to the nations for help, still I will send them in all directions; and in a short time they will be without a king and rulers.

<sup>11</sup>Because Ephraim has been increasing altars for sin, altars have become a cause of sin to him.

<sup>12</sup>Though I put my law in writing for him in ten thousand rules, they are to him as a strange thing.

<sup>13</sup>He gives the offerings of his lovers, and takes the flesh for food; but the Lord has no pleasure in them; now he will

keep in mind their evil-doing and give them the punishment of their sins; they will go back to Egypt.

<sup>14</sup>For Israel has no memory of his Maker, and has put up the houses of kings; and Judah has made great the number of his walled towns. But I will send a fire on his towns and put an end to his great houses.

**9**<sup>1</sup>Have no joy, O Israel, and do not be glad like the nations; for you have been untrue to your God; your desire has been for the loose womans reward on every grain-floor.

<sup>2</sup>The grain-floor and the place where the grapes are crushed will not give them food; there will be no new wine for them.

<sup>3</sup>They will have no resting-place in the Lords land, but Ephraim will go back to Egypt, and they will take unclean food in Assyria.

<sup>4</sup>They will give no wine offering to the Lord, they will not make offerings ready for him; their bread will be like the bread of those in sorrow; all who take it will be unclean, because their bread will be only

for their desire, it will not come into the house of the Lord.

<sup>5</sup>What will you do on the day of worship, and on the day of the feast of the Lord?

<sup>6</sup>For see, they are going away into Assyria; Egypt will get them together, Memphis will be their last resting-place; their fair silver vessels will be covered over with field plants, and thorns will come up in their tents.

<sup>7</sup>The days of punishment, the days of reward are come; Israel will be put to shame; the prophet is foolish, the man who has the spirit is off his head, because of your great sin.

<sup>8</sup>There is great hate against the watchman of Ephraim, the people of my God; as for the prophet, there is a net in all his ways, and hate in the house of his God.

<sup>9</sup>They have gone deep in evil as in the days of Gibeah; he will keep in mind their wrongdoing, he will give them punishment for their sins.

<sup>10</sup>I made discovery of Israel as of grapes in the waste land; I saw your fathers as the first-fruits of the fig-tree

in her early fruit time; but they came to Baal-peor, and made themselves holy to the thing of shame, and became disgusting like that to which they gave their love.

<sup>11</sup>As for Ephraim, their glory will go in flight like a bird: there will be no birth and no one with child and no giving of life.

<sup>12</sup>Even though their children have come to growth I will take them away, so that not a man will be there; for their evil-doing will be complete and they will be put to shame because of it.

<sup>13</sup>As I have seen a beast whose young have been taken from her, so Ephraim will give birth to children only for them to be put to death.

<sup>14</sup>O Lord, what will you give them? Give them bodies which may not give birth and breasts without milk.

<sup>15</sup>All their evil-doing is in Gilgal; there I had hate for them; because of their evil-doing I will send them out of my house; they will no longer be dear to me; all their rulers are uncontrolled.

<sup>16</sup>The rod has come on Ephraim, their root is dry, let them have no fruit; even

though they give birth, I will put to death the dearest fruit of their bodies.

<sup>17</sup>My God will give them up because they did not give ear to him; they will be wandering among the nations.

**10**<sup>1</sup> Israel is a branching vine, full of fruit; as his fruit is increased, so the number of his altars is increased; as the land is fair, so they have made fair pillars.

<sup>2</sup>Their mind is taken away; now they will be made waste: he will have their altars broken down, he will give their pillars to destruction.

<sup>3</sup>Now, truly, they will say, We have no king, we have no fear of the Lord; and the king, what is he able to do for us?

<sup>4</sup>Their words are foolish; they make agreements with false oaths, so punishment will come up like a poison-plant in a ploughed field.

<sup>5</sup>The people of Samaria will be full of fear because of the ox of Beth-aven; its people will have sorrow for it, and its priests will give cries of grief for its glory, for the glory has gone in flight.

<sup>6</sup>And they will take it to Assyria and give it to the great king; shame will

come on Ephraim, and Israel will be shamed because of its image.

<sup>7</sup>As for Samaria, her king is cut off, like mist on the water.

<sup>8</sup>And the high places of Aven, the sin of Israel, will come to destruction; thorns and waste plants will come up on their altars; they will say to the mountains, Be a cover over us; and to the hills, Come down on us.

<sup>9</sup>O Israel, you have done evil from the days of Gibeah; there they took up their position, so that the fighting against the children of evil might not overtake them in Gibeah.

<sup>10</sup>I will come and give them punishment; and the peoples will come together against them when I give them the reward of their two sins.

<sup>11</sup>And Ephraim is a trained cow, taking pleasure in crushing the grain; but I have put a yoke on her fair neck; I will put a horseman on the back of Ephraim; Judah will be working the plough, Jacob will be turning up the earth.

<sup>12</sup>Put in the seed of righteousness, get in your grain in mercy, let your unploughed earth be turned up: for it is



time to make search for the Lord, till he comes and sends righteousness on you like rain.

<sup>13</sup>You have been ploughing sin, you have got in a store of evil, the fruit of deceit has been your food: for you put faith in your way, in the number of your men of war.

<sup>14</sup>So a great outcry will go up from among your people, and all your strong places will be broken, as Beth-arbel was broken by Shalman in the day of war, as the mother was broken on the rocks with her children.

<sup>15</sup>So will Beth-el do to you because of your evil-doing; at dawn will the king of Israel be cut off completely.

**11** <sup>1</sup>When Israel was a child he was dear to me; and I took my son out of Egypt.

<sup>2</sup>When I sent for them, then they went away from me; they made offerings to the Baals, burning perfumes to images.

<sup>3</sup>But I was guiding Ephraim's footsteps; I took them up in my arms, but they were not conscious that I was ready to make them well.

<sup>4</sup>I made them come after me with the cords of a man, with the bands of love; I was to them as one who took the yoke from off their mouths, putting meat before them.

<sup>5</sup>He will go back to the land of Egypt and the Assyrian will be his king, because they would not come back to me.

<sup>6</sup>And the sword will go through his towns, wasting his children and causing destruction because of their evil designs.

<sup>7</sup>My people are given up to sinning against me; though their voice goes up on high, no one will be lifting them up.

<sup>8</sup>How may I give you up, O Ephraim? how may I be your saviour, O Israel? how may I make you like Admah? how may I do to you as I did to Zeboim? My heart is turned in me, it is soft with pity.

<sup>9</sup>I will not put into effect the heat of my wrath; I will not again send destruction on Ephraim; for I am God and not man, the Holy One among you; I will not put an end to you.

<sup>10</sup>They will go after the Lord; his cry will be like that of a lion; his cry will be loud, and the children will come from the west, shaking with fear;

<sup>11</sup> Shaking with fear like a bird, they will come out of Egypt, like a dove out of the land of Assyria: and I will give them rest in their houses, says the Lord.

<sup>12</sup> The deceit of Ephraim and the false words of Israel are about me on every side.

**12**<sup>1</sup> Ephraim's food is the wind, and he goes after the east wind: deceit and destruction are increasing day by day; they make an agreement with Assyria, and take oil into Egypt.

<sup>2</sup> The Lord has a cause against Judah, and will give punishment to Jacob for his ways; he will give him the reward of his acts.

<sup>3</sup> In the body of his mother he took his brother by the foot, and in his strength he was fighting with God;

<sup>4</sup> He had a fight with the angel and overcame him; he made request for grace to him with weeping; he came face to face with him in Beth-el and there his words came to him;

<sup>5</sup> Even the Lord, the God of armies; the Lord is his name.

<sup>6</sup>So then, come back to your God; keep mercy and right, and be waiting at all times on your God.

<sup>7</sup>As for Canaan, the scales of deceit are in his hands; he takes pleasure in twisted ways.

<sup>8</sup>And Ephraim said, Now I have got wealth and much property; in all my works no sin may be seen in me.

<sup>9</sup>But I am the Lord your God from the land of Egypt; I will give you tents for your living-places again as in the days of the holy meeting.

<sup>10</sup>My word came to the ears of the prophets and I gave them visions in great number, and by the mouths of the prophets I made use of comparisons.

<sup>11</sup>In Gilead there is evil. They are quite without value; in Gilgal they make offerings of oxen; truly their altars are like masses of stones in the hollows of a ploughed field.

<sup>12</sup>And Jacob went in flight into the field of Aram, and Israel became a servant for a wife, and for a wife he kept sheep.

<sup>13</sup>And by a prophet the Lord made Israel come up out of Egypt, and by a prophet he was kept safe.

<sup>14</sup>I have been bitterly moved to wrath by Ephraim; so that his blood will be on him, and the Lord will make his shame come back on him.

**13**<sup>1</sup> When the words of my law came from Ephraim, he was lifted up in Israel; but when he did evil through the Baal, death overtook him.

<sup>2</sup> And now their sins are increased; they have made themselves a metal image, false gods from their silver, after their designs, all of them the work of the metal-workers; they say of them, Let them give offerings, let men give kisses to the oxen.

<sup>3</sup> So they will be like the morning cloud, like the dew which goes early away, like the dust of the grain which the wind is driving out of the crushing-floor, like smoke going up from the fireplace.

<sup>4</sup> But I am the Lord your God, from the land of Egypt; you have knowledge of no other God and there is no saviour but me.

<sup>5</sup> I had knowledge of you in the waste land where no water was.

<sup>6</sup>When I gave them food they were full, and their hearts were full of pride, and they did not keep me in mind.

<sup>7</sup>So I will be like a lion to them; as a cruel beast I will keep watch by the road;

<sup>8</sup>I will come face to face with them like a bear whose young ones have been taken from her, and their inmost hearts will be broken; there the dogs will make a meal of them; they will be wounded by the beasts of the field.

<sup>9</sup>I have sent destruction on you, O Israel; who will be your helper?

<sup>10</sup>Where is your king, that he may be your saviour? and all your rulers, that they may take up your cause? of whom you said, Give me a king and rulers.

<sup>11</sup>I have given you a king, because I was angry, and have taken him away in my wrath.

<sup>12</sup>The wrongdoing of Ephraim is shut up; his sin is put away in secret.

<sup>13</sup>The pains of a woman in childbirth will come on him: he is an unwise son, for at this time it is not right for him to keep his place when children come to birth.

<sup>14</sup>I will give the price to make them free from the power of the underworld, I will be their saviour from death: O death! where are your pains? O underworld! where is your destruction? my eyes will have no pity.

<sup>15</sup>Though he gives fruit among his brothers, an east wind will come, the wind of the Lord coming up from the waste land, and his spring will become dry, his fountain will be without water: it will make waste the store of all the vessels of his desire.

<sup>16</sup>Samaria will be made waste, for she has gone against her God: they will be cut down by the sword, their little children will be broken on the rocks, their women who are with child will be cut open.

**14**<sup>1</sup>O Israel, come back to the Lord your God; for your evil-doing has been the cause of your fall.

<sup>2</sup>Take with you words, and come back to the Lord; say to him, Let there be forgiveness for all wrongdoing, so that we may take what is good, and give in payment the fruit of our lips.

<sup>3</sup> Assyria will not be our salvation; we will not go on horses; we will not again say to the work of our hands, You are our gods; for in you there is mercy for the child who has no father.

<sup>4</sup> I will put right their errors; freely will my love be given to them, for my wrath is turned away from him.

<sup>5</sup> I will be as the dew to Israel; he will put out flowers like a lily, and send out his roots like Lebanon.

<sup>6</sup> His branches will be stretched out, he will be beautiful as the olive-tree and sweet-smelling as Lebanon.

<sup>7</sup> They will come back and have rest in his shade; their life will be made new like the grain, and they will put out flowers like the vine; his name will be like the wine of Lebanon.

<sup>8</sup> As for Ephraim, what has he to do with false gods any longer? I have given an answer and I will keep watch over him; I am like a branching fir-tree, from me comes your fruit.

<sup>9</sup> He who is wise will see these things; he who has good sense will have knowledge of them. For the ways of the Lord are straight, and the upright will



go in them, but sinners will be falling in them.

# Joel

**1** <sup>1</sup> The word of the Lord which came to Joel, the son of Pethuel.

<sup>2</sup> Give ear to this, you old men, and take note, you people of the land. Has this ever been in your days, or in the days of your fathers?

<sup>3</sup> Give the story of it to your children, and let them give it to their children, and their children to another generation.

<sup>4</sup> What the worm did not make a meal of, has been taken by the locust; and what the locust did not take, has been food for the plant-worm; and what the plant-worm did not take, has been food for the field-fly.

<sup>5</sup> Come out of your sleep, you who are overcome with wine, and give yourselves to weeping; give cries of sorrow, all you drinkers of wine, because of the sweet wine; for it has been cut off from your mouths.

<sup>6</sup> For a nation has come up over my land, strong and without number; his

teeth are the teeth of a lion, and he has the back teeth of a great lion.

<sup>7</sup>By him my vine is made waste and my fig-tree broken: he has taken all its fruit and sent it down to the earth; its branches are made white.

<sup>8</sup>Make sounds of grief like a virgin dressed in haircloth for the husband of her early years.

<sup>9</sup>The meal offering and the drink offering have been cut off from the house of the Lord; the priests, the Lords servants, are sorrowing.

<sup>10</sup>The fields are wasted, the land has become dry; for the grain is wasted, the new wine is kept back, the oil is poor.

<sup>11</sup>The farmers are shamed, the workers in the vine-gardens give cries of grief, for the wheat and the barley; for the produce of the fields has come to destruction.

<sup>12</sup>The vine has become dry and the fig-tree is feeble; the pomegranate and the palm-tree and the apple-tree, even all the trees of the field, are dry: because joy has gone from the sons of men.

<sup>13</sup>Put haircloth round you and give yourselves to sorrow, you priests; give

cries of grief, you servants of the altar: come in, and, clothed in haircloth, let the night go past, you servants of my God: for the meal offering and the drink offering have been kept back from the house of your God.

<sup>14</sup>Let a time be fixed for going without food, have a holy meeting, let the old men, even all the people of the land, come together to the house of the Lord your God, crying out to the Lord.

<sup>15</sup>Sorrow for the day! for the day of the Lord is near, and as destruction from the Ruler of all it will come.

<sup>16</sup>Is not food cut off before our eyes? joy and delight from the house of our God?

<sup>17</sup>The grains have become small and dry under the spade; the store-houses are made waste, the grain-stores are broken down; for the grain is dry and dead.

<sup>18</sup>What sounds of pain come from the beasts! the herds of cattle are at a loss because there is no grass for them; even the flocks of sheep are no longer to be seen.

<sup>19</sup>O Lord, my cry goes up to you: for fire has put an end to the grass-lands of the waste, and all the trees of the field are burned with its flame.

<sup>20</sup>The beasts of the field are turning to you with desire: for the water-streams are dry and fire has put an end to the grass-lands of the waste.

**2**<sup>1</sup> Let the horn be sounded in Zion, and a war-cry in my holy mountain; let all the people of the land be troubled: for the day of the Lord is coming;

<sup>2</sup>For a day of dark and deep shade is near, a day of cloud and black night: like a black cloud a great and strong people is covering the mountains; there has never been any like them and will not be after them again, from generation to generation.

<sup>3</sup>Before them fire sends destruction, and after them flame is burning: the land is like the garden of Eden before them, and after them an unpeopled waste; truly, nothing has been kept safe from them.

<sup>4</sup>Their form is like the form of horses, and they are running like war-horses.

<sup>5</sup>Like the sound of war-carriages  
they go jumping on the tops of the  
mountains; like the noise of a flame of  
fire burning up the grain-stems, like a  
strong people lined up for the fight.

<sup>6</sup>At their coming the people are bent  
with pain: all faces become red together.

<sup>7</sup>They are running like strong men,  
they go over the wall like men of war;  
every man goes straight on his way,  
their lines are not broken.

<sup>8</sup>No one is pushing against another;  
everyone goes straight on his way:  
bursting through the sword points, their  
order is not broken.

<sup>9</sup>They make a rush on the town,  
running on the wall; they go up into the  
houses and in through the windows like  
a thief.

<sup>10</sup>The earth is troubled before them  
and the heavens are shaking: the sun  
and the moon have become dark, and  
the stars keep back their shining:

<sup>11</sup>And the Lord is thundering before  
his forces; for very great is his army;  
for he is strong who gives effect to his  
word: for the day of the Lord is great

and greatly to be feared, and who has strength against it?

<sup>12</sup>But even now, says the Lord, come back to me with all your heart, keeping from food, with weeping and with sorrow:

<sup>13</sup>Let your hearts be broken, and not your clothing, and come back to the Lord your God: for he is full of grace and pity, slow to be angry and great in mercy, ready to be turned from his purpose of punishment.

<sup>14</sup>May it not be that he will again let his purpose be changed and let a blessing come after him, even a meal offering and a drink offering for the Lord your God?

<sup>15</sup>Let a horn be sounded in Zion, let a time be fixed for going without food, have a holy meeting:

<sup>16</sup>Get the people together, make the mass of the people holy, send for the old men, get together the children and babies at the breast: let the newly married man come out of his room and the bride from her tent.

<sup>17</sup>Let the priests, the servants of the Lord, be weeping between the covered

way and the altar, and let them say,  
Have mercy on your people, O Lord, do  
not give up your heritage to shame, so  
that the nations become their rulers:  
why let them say among the peoples,  
Where is their God?

<sup>18</sup>Then the Lord had a care for the  
honour of his land and had pity on his  
people.

<sup>19</sup>And the Lord made answer and said  
to his people, See, I will send you grain  
and wine and oil in full measure: and I  
will no longer let you be shamed among  
the nations:

<sup>20</sup>I will send the one from the north far  
away from you, driving him into a dry  
and waste land, with his front to the sea  
of the east and his back to the sea of the  
west, and the smell of him will go up,  
even his evil smell will go up.

<sup>21</sup>Have no fear, O land; be glad with  
great joy; for the Lord has done great  
things.

<sup>22</sup>Have no fear, you beasts of the  
field, for the grass-lands of the waste  
are becoming green, for the trees are  
producing fruit, the fig-tree and the vine  
give out their strength.



<sup>23</sup> Be glad, then, you children of Zion, and have joy in the Lord your God: for he gives you food in full measure, making the rain come down for you, the early and the late rain as at the first.

<sup>24</sup> And the floors will be full of grain, and the crushing-places overflowing with wine and oil.

<sup>25</sup> I will give back to you the years which were food for the locust, the plant-worm, the field-fly, and the worm, my great army which I sent among you.

<sup>26</sup> You will have food in full measure, and give praise to the name of the Lord your God, who has done wonders for you:

<sup>27</sup> And you will be certain that I am in Israel, and that I am the Lord your God, and there is no other: and my people will never be shamed.

<sup>28</sup> And after that, it will come about, says the Lord, that I will send my spirit on all flesh; and your sons and your daughters will be prophets, your old men will have dreams, your young men will see visions:

<sup>29</sup>And on the servants and the servant-girls in those days I will send my spirit.

<sup>30</sup>And I will let wonders be seen in the heavens and on the earth, blood and fire and pillars of smoke.

<sup>31</sup>The sun will be made dark and the moon turned to blood, before the great day of the Lord comes, a day to be feared.

<sup>32</sup>And it will be that whoever makes his prayer to the name of the Lord will be kept safe: for in Mount Zion and in Jerusalem some will be kept safe, as the Lord has said, and will be among the small band marked out by the Lord.

**3**<sup>1</sup>For in those days and in that time, when I let the fate of Judah and Jerusalem be changed,

<sup>2</sup>I will get together all the nations, and make them come down into the valley of Jehoshaphat; and there I will take up with them the cause of my people and of my heritage Israel, whom they have sent wandering among the nations, and of my land which has been parted by them.

<sup>3</sup>And they have put the fate of my people to the decision of chance: giving

a boy for the price of a loose woman and a girl for a drink of wine.

<sup>4</sup>And further, what are you to me, O Tyre and Zidon and all the circle of Philistia? will you give me back any payment? and if you do, quickly and suddenly I will send it back on your head,

<sup>5</sup>For you have taken my silver and my gold, putting in the houses of your gods my beautiful and pleasing things.

<sup>6</sup>And the children of Judah and the children of Jerusalem you have given for a price to the sons of the Greeks, to send them far away from their land:

<sup>7</sup>See, I will have them moved from the place where you have sent them, and will let what you have done come back on your head;

<sup>8</sup>I will give your sons and your daughters into the hands of the children of Judah for a price, and they will give them for a price to the men of Sheba, a nation far off: for the Lord has said it.

<sup>9</sup>Give this out among the nations; make ready for war: get the strong men awake; let all the men of war come near, let them come up.

<sup>10</sup>Get your plough-blades hammered into swords, and your vine-knives into spears: let the feeble say, I am strong.

<sup>11</sup>Come quickly, all you nations round about, and get yourselves together there: make your strong ones come down, O Lord.

<sup>12</sup>Let the nations be awake, and come to the valley of Jehoshaphat: for there I will be seated as judge of all the nations round about.

<sup>13</sup>Put in the blade, for the grain is ready: come, get you down, for the wine-crusher is full, the vessels are overflowing; for great is their evil-doing.

<sup>14</sup>Masses on masses in the valley of decision! for the day of the Lord is near in the valley of decision.

<sup>15</sup>The sun and the moon have become dark, and the stars keep back their shining.

<sup>16</sup>And the Lord will be thundering from Zion, and his voice will be sounding from Jerusalem; and the heavens and the earth will be shaking: but the Lord will be a breastplate for his people and a strong place for the children of Israel.

<sup>17</sup> And you will be certain that I am the Lord your God, living in Zion, my holy mountain: and Jerusalem will be holy, and no strange person will ever again go through her.

<sup>18</sup> And it will come about in that day that the mountains will be dropping sweet wine, and the hills will be flowing with milk, and all the streams of Judah will be flowing with water; and a fountain will come out from the house of the Lord, watering the valley of acacia-trees.

<sup>19</sup> Egypt will be a waste and Edom a land of destruction, because of the evil done to the children of Judah, because they have let blood be drained out in their land without cause.

<sup>20</sup> But Judah will be peopled for ever, and Jerusalem from generation to generation.

<sup>21</sup> And I will send punishment for their blood, for which punishment has not been sent, for the Lord is living in Zion.

# Amos

**1** <sup>1</sup> The words of Amos, who was among the herdsmen of Tekoa; what he saw about Israel in the days of Uzziah, king of Judah, and in the days of Jeroboam, the son of Joash, king of Israel, two years before the earth-shock.

<sup>2</sup> And he said, The Lord will give a lions cry from Zion, his voice will be sounding from Jerusalem; and the fields of the keepers of sheep will become dry, and the top of Carmel will be wasted away.

<sup>3</sup> These are the words of the Lord: For three crimes of Damascus, and for four, I will not let its fate be changed; because they have been crushing Gilead with iron grain-crushing instruments.

<sup>4</sup> And I will send a fire into the house of Hazael, burning up the great houses of Ben-hadad.

<sup>5</sup> And I will have the locks of the door of Damascus broken, and him who is seated in power cut off from the valley of Aven, and him in whose hand is the rod from the house of Eden; and the people

of Aram will go away as prisoners into Kir, says the Lord.

<sup>6</sup>These are the words of the Lord: For three crimes of Gaza, and for four, I will not let its fate be changed; because they took all the people away prisoners, to give them up to Edom.

<sup>7</sup>And I will send a fire on the wall of Gaza, burning up its great houses:

<sup>8</sup>Him who is seated in power I will have cut off from Ashdod, and him in whose hand is the rod from Ashkelon; and my hand will be turned against Ekron, and the rest of the Philistines will come to destruction, says the Lord God.

<sup>9</sup>These are the words of the Lord: For three crimes of Tyre, and for four, I will not let its fate be changed; because they gave up all the people prisoners to Edom, without giving a thought to the brothers agreement between them.

<sup>10</sup>And I will send a fire on the wall of Tyre, burning up its great houses.

<sup>11</sup>These are the words of the Lord: For three crimes of Edom, and for four, I will not let its fate be changed; because his sword was turned against his brother,

without pity, and his wrath was burning at all times, and he was angry for ever.

<sup>12</sup>And I will send a fire on Teman, burning up the great houses of Bozrah.

<sup>13</sup>These are the words of the Lord: For three crimes of the children of Ammon, and for four, I will not let its fate be changed; because in Gilead they had women with child cut open, so that they might make wider the limits of their land.

<sup>14</sup>And I will make a fire in the wall of Rabbah, burning up its great houses, with loud cries in the days of war, with a storm in the day of the great wind:

<sup>15</sup>And their king will be made prisoner, he and his captains together, says the Lord.

**2**<sup>1</sup>These are the words of the Lord: For three crimes of Moab, and for four, I will not let its fate be changed; because he had the bones of the king of Edom burned to dust.

<sup>2</sup>And I will send a fire on Moab, burning up the great houses of Kerioth: and death will come on Moab with noise and outcries and the sound of the horn:



<sup>3</sup>And I will have the judge cut off from among them, and all their captains I will put to death with him, says the Lord.

<sup>4</sup>These are the words of the Lord: For three crimes of Judah, and for four, I will not let its fate be changed; because they have given up the law of the Lord, and have not kept his rules; and their false ways, in which their fathers went, have made them go out of the right way.

<sup>5</sup>And I will send a fire on Judah, burning up the great houses of Jerusalem.

<sup>6</sup>These are the words of the Lord: For three crimes of Israel, and for four, I will not let its fate be changed; because they have given the upright man for silver, and the poor for the price of two shoes;

<sup>7</sup>Crushing the head of the poor, and turning the steps of the gentle out of the way: and a man and his father go in to the same young woman, putting shame on my holy name:

<sup>8</sup>By every altar they are stretched on clothing taken from those who are in their debt, drinking in the house of their god the wine of those who have made payment for wrongdoing.

<sup>9</sup>Though I sent destruction on the Amorite before them, who was tall as the cedar and strong as the oak-tree, cutting off his fruit from on high and his roots from under the earth.

<sup>10</sup>And I took you up out of the land of Egypt, guiding you for forty years in the waste land, so that you might take for your heritage the land of the Amorite.

<sup>11</sup>And some of your sons I made prophets, and some of your young men I made separate for myself. Is it not even so, O children of Israel? says the Lord.

<sup>12</sup>But to those who were separate you gave wine for drink; and to the prophets you said, Be prophets no longer.

<sup>13</sup>See, I am crushing you down, as one is crushed under a cart full of grain.

<sup>14</sup>And flight will be impossible for the quick-footed, and the force of the strong will become feeble, and the man of war will not get away safely:

<sup>15</sup>And the bowman will not keep his place; he who is quick-footed will not get away safely: and the horseman will not keep his life.

<sup>16</sup>And he who is without fear among the fighting men will go in flight without his clothing in that day, says the Lord.

**3**<sup>1</sup>Give ear to this word which the Lord has said against you, O children of Israel, against all the family which I took up out of the land of Egypt, saying,

<sup>2</sup>You only of all the families of the earth have I taken care of: for this reason I will send punishment on you for all your sins.

<sup>3</sup>Is it possible for two to go walking together, if not by agreement?

<sup>4</sup>Will a lion give his loud cry in the woodland when no food is there? will the voice of the young lion be sounding from his hole if he has taken nothing?

<sup>5</sup>Is it possible for a bird to be taken in a net on the earth where no net has been put for him? will the net come up from the earth if it has taken nothing at all?

<sup>6</sup>If the horn is sounded in the town will the people not be full of fear? will evil come on a town if the Lord has not done it?

<sup>7</sup>Certainly the Lord will do nothing without making clear his secret to his servants, the prophets.

<sup>8</sup>The cry of the lion is sounding; who will not have fear? The Lord God has said the word; is it possible for the prophet to keep quiet?

<sup>9</sup>Give out the news in the great houses of Assyria and in the land of Egypt, and say, Come together on the mountains of Samaria, and see what great outcries are there, and what cruel acts are done in it.

<sup>10</sup>For they have no knowledge of how to do what is right, says the Lord, who are storing up violent acts and destruction in their great houses.

<sup>11</sup>For this reason, says the Lord, an attacker will come, shutting in the land on every side; and your strength will come down and your great houses will be made waste.

<sup>12</sup>These are the words of the Lord: As the keeper of sheep takes out of the mouth of the lion two legs or part of an ear; so will the children of Israel be made safe, who are resting in Samaria on seats of honour or on the silk cushions of a bed.

<sup>13</sup>Give ear now, and give witness against the family of Jacob, says the Lord God, the God of armies;

<sup>14</sup>For in the day when I give Israel punishment for his sins, I will send punishment on the altars of Beth-el, and the horns of the altar will be cut off and come down to the earth.

<sup>15</sup>And I will send destruction on the winter house with the summer house; the ivory houses will be falling down and the great houses will come to an end, says the Lord.

**4**<sup>1</sup>Give ear to this word, you cows of Bashan, who are in the hill of Samaria, by whom the poor are kept down, and those in need are crushed; who say to their lords, Get out the wine and give us drink.

<sup>2</sup>The Lord God has taken an oath by his holy name, that the days are coming when they will take you away with hooks, and the rest of you with fish-hooks.

<sup>3</sup>And you will go out through the broken places, every one going straight before her, and you will be sent into Harmon, says the Lord.

<sup>4</sup> Come to Beth-el and do evil; to Gilgal, increasing the number of your sins; come with your offerings every morning and your tenths every three days:

<sup>5</sup> Let that which is leavened be burned as a praise-offering, let the news of your free offerings be given out publicly; for this is pleasing to you, O children of Israel, says the Lord.

<sup>6</sup> But in all your towns I have kept food from your teeth, and in all your places there has been need of bread: and still you have not come back to me, says the Lord.

<sup>7</sup> And I have kept back the rain from you, when it was still three months before the grain-cutting: I sent rain on one town and kept it back from another: one part was rained on, and the part where there was no rain became a waste.

<sup>8</sup> So two or three towns went wandering to one town looking for water, and did not get enough: and still you have not come back to me, says the Lord.

<sup>9</sup> I have sent destruction on your fields by burning and disease: the increase of your gardens and your vine-gardens,

your fig-trees and your olive-trees, has been food for worms: and still you have not come back to me, says the Lord.

<sup>10</sup>I have sent disease among you, as it was in Egypt: I have put your young men to the sword, and have taken away your horses; I have made the evil smell from your tents come up to your noses: and still you have not come back to me, says the Lord.

<sup>11</sup>And I have sent destruction among you, as when God sent destruction on Sodom and Gomorrah, and you were like a burning stick pulled out of the fire: and still you have not come back to me, says the Lord.

<sup>12</sup>So this is what I will do to you, O Israel: and because I will do this to you, be ready for a meeting with your God, O Israel.

<sup>13</sup>For see, he who gave form to the mountains and made the wind, giving knowledge of his purpose to man, who makes the morning dark, and is walking on the high places of the earth: the Lord, the God of armies, is his name.

**5**<sup>1</sup>Give ear to this word, my song of sorrow over you, O children of Israel.

<sup>2</sup>The virgin of Israel has been made low, never again to be lifted up: she is stretched out by herself on her land; there is no one to put her on her feet again.

<sup>3</sup>For these are the words of the Lord God: The town which was able to send out a thousand, will have only a hundred; and that which sent out a hundred, will have only ten, in Israel.

<sup>4</sup>For these are the words of the Lord to the children of Israel: Let your hearts be turned to me, so that you may have life:

<sup>5</sup>Do not be looking for help to Beth-el, and do not go to Gilgal, or make your way to Beer-sheba: for Gilgal will certainly be taken prisoner, and Beth-el will come to nothing.

<sup>6</sup>Go to the Lord for help so that you may have life; for fear that he may come like fire bursting out in the family of Joseph, causing destruction, and there will be no one to put it out in Beth-el.

<sup>7</sup>You who make the work of judging a bitter thing, crushing down righteousness to the earth;

<sup>8</sup>Go for help to him who makes Orion and the Pleiades, by whom the deep dark



is turned into morning, who makes the day black with night; whose voice goes out to the waters of the sea, sending them out over the face of the earth: the Lord is his name;

<sup>9</sup>Who sends sudden destruction on the strong, so that destruction comes on the walled town.

<sup>10</sup>They have hate for him who makes protest against evil in the public place, and he whose words are upright is disgusting to them.

<sup>11</sup>So because the poor man is crushed under your feet, and you take taxes from him of grain: you have made for yourselves houses of cut stone, but you will not take your rest in them; the fair vine-gardens planted by your hands will not give you wine.

<sup>12</sup>For I have seen how your evil-doing is increased and how strong are your sins, you troublers of the upright, who take rewards and do wrong to the cause of the poor in the public place.

<sup>13</sup>So the wise will say nothing in that time; for it is an evil time.

<sup>14</sup>Go after good and not evil, so that life may be yours: and so the Lord, the

God of armies, will be with you, as you say.

<sup>15</sup> Be haters of evil and lovers of good, and let right be done in the public place: it may be that the Lord, the God of armies, will have mercy on the rest of Joseph.

<sup>16</sup> So these are the words of the Lord, the God of armies, the Lord: There will be weeping in all the open spaces; and in all the streets they will say, Sorrow! sorrow! and they will get in the farmer to the weeping, and the makers of sad songs to give cries of grief.

<sup>17</sup> In all the vine-gardens there will be cries of grief: for I will go through among you, says the Lord.

<sup>18</sup> Sorrow to you who are looking for the day of the Lord! what is the day of the Lord to you? it is dark and not light.

<sup>19</sup> As if a man, running away from a lion, came face to face with a bear; or went into the house and put his hand on the wall and got a bite from a snake.

<sup>20</sup> Will not the day of the Lord be dark and not light? even very dark, with no light shining in it?

<sup>21</sup> Your feasts are disgusting to me, I will have nothing to do with them; I will take no delight in your holy meetings.

<sup>22</sup> Even if you give me your burned offerings and your meal offerings, I will not take pleasure in them: I will have nothing to do with the peace-offerings of your fat beasts.

<sup>23</sup> Take away from me the noise of your songs; my ears are shut to the melody of your instruments.

<sup>24</sup> But let the right go rolling on like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

<sup>25</sup> Did you come to me with offerings of beasts and meal offerings in the waste land for forty years, O Israel?

<sup>26</sup> Truly, you will take up Saccuth your king and Kaiwan your images, the star of your god, which you made for yourselves.

<sup>27</sup> And I will send you away as prisoners farther than Damascus, says the Lord, whose name is the God of armies.

**6**<sup>1</sup> Sorrow to those who are resting in comfort in Zion, and to those who have no fear of danger in the mountain of Samaria, the noted men of the chief

of the nations, to whom the people of Israel come!

<sup>2</sup>Go on to Calneh and see; and from there go to Hamath the great; then go down to Gath of the Philistines: are you better than these kingdoms? or is your land wider than theirs?

<sup>3</sup>You who put far away the evil day, causing the rule of the violent to come near;

<sup>4</sup>Who are resting on beds of ivory, stretched out on soft seats, feasting on lambs from the flock and young oxen from the cattle-house;

<sup>5</sup>Making foolish songs to the sound of corded instruments, and designing for themselves instruments of music, like David;

<sup>6</sup>Drinking wine in basins, rubbing themselves with the best oils; but they have no grief for the destruction of Joseph.

<sup>7</sup>So now they will go away prisoners with the first of those who are made prisoners, and the loud cry of those who were stretched out will come to an end.

<sup>8</sup>The Lord God has taken an oath by himself, says the Lord, the God of

armies: the pride of Jacob is disgusting to me, and I have hate for his great houses: so I will give up the town with everything in it.

<sup>9</sup>Then it will come about that if there are still ten men in a house, death will overtake them.

<sup>10</sup>And when a mans relation, even the one who is responsible for burning his body, lifting him up to take his bones out of the house, says to him who is in the inmost part of the house, Is there still anyone with you? and he says, No; then he will say, Keep quiet, for the name of the Lord may not be named.

<sup>11</sup>For see, at the order of the Lord the great house will be full of cracks and the little house will be broken.

<sup>12</sup>Is it possible for horses to go running on the rock? may the sea be ploughed with oxen? for the right to be turned by you into poison, and the fruit of righteousness into a bitter plant?

<sup>13</sup>You whose joy is in a thing of no value, who say, Have we not taken for ourselves horns by the strength which is ours?

<sup>14</sup>For see, I will send against you a nation, O Israel, says the Lord, the God of armies, ruling you cruelly from the way into Hamath as far as the stream of the Arabah.

**7**<sup>1</sup>This is what the Lord God let me see: and I saw that, when the growth of the late grass was starting, he made locusts; it was the late growth after the kings cutting was done.

<sup>2</sup>And it came about that after they had taken all the grass of the land, I said, O Lord God, have mercy: how will Jacob be able to keep his place? for he is small.

<sup>3</sup>The Lord, changing his purpose about this, said, It will not be.

<sup>4</sup>This is what the Lord let me see: and I saw that the Lord God sent for a great fire to be the instrument of his punishment; and, after burning up the great deep, it was about to put an end to the Lords heritage.

<sup>5</sup>Then said I, O Lord God, let there be an end: how will Jacob be able to keep his place? for he is small.

<sup>6</sup>The Lord, changing his purpose about this, said, And this will not be.

<sup>7</sup>This is what he let me see: and I saw the Lord stationed by a wall made straight by a weighted line, and he had a weighted line in his hand.

<sup>8</sup>And the Lord said to me, Amos, what do you see? And I said, A weighted line. Then the Lord said, See, I will let down a weighted line among my people Israel; never again will my eyes be shut to their sin:

<sup>9</sup>And the high places of Isaac will be unpeopled, and the holy places of Israel will be made waste; and I will come up against the family of Jeroboam with the sword.

<sup>10</sup>Then Amaziah, the priest of Beth-el, sent to Jeroboam, king of Israel, saying, Amos has made designs against you among the people of Israel: the land is troubled by his words.

<sup>11</sup>For Amos has said, Jeroboam will be put to the sword, and Israel will certainly be taken away as a prisoner out of his land.

<sup>12</sup>And Amaziah said to Amos, O seer, go in flight into the land of Judah, and there get your living by working as a prophet:

<sup>13</sup> But be a prophet no longer at Beth-el: for it is the holy place of the king, and the kings house.

<sup>14</sup> Then Amos in answer said to Amaziah, I am no prophet, or one of the sons of the prophets; I am a herdman and one who takes care of sycamore-trees:

<sup>15</sup> And the Lord took me from the flock, and the Lord said to me, Go, be a prophet to my people Israel.

<sup>16</sup> Now then, give ear to the word of the Lord: You say, Be no prophet to Israel, and say not a word against the people of Isaac.

<sup>17</sup> So this is what the Lord has said: Your wife will be a loose woman in the town, and your sons and your daughters will be put to the sword, and your land will be cut up into parts by a line; and you yourself will come to your end in an unclean land, and Israel will certainly be taken away a prisoner out of his land.

**8**<sup>1</sup> This is what the Lord God let me see: and I saw a basket of summer fruit.

<sup>2</sup> And he said, Amos, what do you see? And I said, A basket of summer fruit.



Then the Lord said to me, The end has come to my people Israel; never again will my eyes be shut to their sin.

<sup>3</sup>And the songs of the kings house will be cries of pain in that day, says the Lord God: great will be the number of the dead bodies, and everywhere they will put them out without a word.

<sup>4</sup>Give ear to this, you who are crushing the poor, and whose purpose is to put an end to those who are in need in the land,

<sup>5</sup>Saying, When will the new moon be gone, so that we may do trade in grain? and the Sabbath, so that we may put out in the market the produce of our fields? making the measure small and the price great, and trading falsely with scales of deceit;

<sup>6</sup>Getting the poor for silver, and him who is in need for the price of two shoes, and taking a price for the waste parts of the grain.

<sup>7</sup>The Lord has taken an oath by the pride of Jacob, Truly I will ever keep in mind all their works.

<sup>8</sup>Will not the land be shaking with fear because of this, and everyone in it have sorrow? and all of it will be overflowing

like the River; and it will be troubled and go down again like the River of Egypt.

<sup>9</sup>And it will come about in that day, says the Lord God, that I will make the sun go down in the middle of the day, and I will make the earth dark in daylight:

<sup>10</sup>Your feasts will be turned into sorrow and all your melody into songs of grief; everyone will be clothed with haircloth, and the hair of every head will be cut; I will make the weeping like that for an only son, and the end of it like a bitter day.

<sup>11</sup>See, the days are coming, says the Lord God, when I will send times of great need on the land, not need of food or desire for water, but for hearing the words of the Lord.

<sup>12</sup>And they will go wandering from sea to sea, and from the north even to the east, running here and there in search of the word of the Lord, and they will not get it.

<sup>13</sup>In that day the fair virgins and the young men will be feeble from need of water.

<sup>14</sup>Those who make their oaths by the sin of Samaria and say, By the life of

your God, O Dan; and, By the living way of Beer-sheba; even they will go down, never again to be lifted up.

**9**<sup>1</sup> I saw the Lord stationed by the side of the altar, giving blows to the tops of the pillars so that the doorsteps were shaking: and he said, I will let all of them be broken with earth-shocks; I will put the last of them to the sword: if any one of them goes in flight he will not get away, not one of them will be safe.

<sup>2</sup> Even if they go deep into the underworld, my hand will take them up from there; if they go up to heaven, I will get them down:

<sup>3</sup> Though they take cover on the top of Carmel, I will go in search of them and get them out; though they keep themselves from my eyes in the bed of the sea, I will give orders to the great snake there and he will give them a bite:

<sup>4</sup> And though they are taken away as prisoners by their attackers, even there will I give orders to the sword to put them to death: my eyes will be fixed on them for evil and not for good.

<sup>5</sup> For the Lord, the God of armies, is he at whose touch the land is turned to

water, and everyone in it will be given up to sorrow; all of it will be overflowing like the River, and will go down again like the River of Egypt;

<sup>6</sup>It is he who makes his rooms in the heaven, basing his arch on the earth; whose voice goes out to the waters of the sea, and sends them flowing over the face of the earth; the Lord is his name.

<sup>7</sup>Are you not as the children of the Ethiopians to me, O children of Israel? says the Lord. Have I not taken Israel up out of the land of Egypt, and the Philistines from Caphtor, and the Aramaeans from Kir?

<sup>8</sup>See, the eyes of the Lord are on the evil kingdom, and I will put an end to it in all the earth; but I will not send complete destruction on Jacob, says the Lord.

<sup>9</sup>For see, I will give orders, and I will have Israel moved about among all the nations, as grain is moved about by the shaking of the tray, but not the smallest seed will be dropped on the earth.

<sup>10</sup>All those sinners among my people will be put to the sword who say, Evil

will not overtake us or come face to face with us.

<sup>11</sup>In that day I will put up the tent of David which has come down, and make good its broken places; and I will put up again his damaged walls, building it up as in the past;

<sup>12</sup>So that the rest of Edom may be their heritage, and all the nations who have been named by my name, says the Lord, who is doing this.

<sup>13</sup>See, the days will come, says the Lord, when the ploughman will overtake him who is cutting the grain, and the crusher of the grapes him who is planting seed; and sweet wine will be dropping from the mountains, and the hills will be turned into streams of wine.

<sup>14</sup>And I will let the fate of my people Israel be changed, and they will be building up again the waste towns and living in them; they will again be planting vine-gardens and taking the wine for their drink; and they will make gardens and get the fruit of them.

<sup>15</sup>And I will have them planted in their land, and never again will they be

uprooted from their land which I have given them, says the Lord your God.

# Obadiah

**1** <sup>1</sup> The vision of Obadiah. This is what the Lord has said about Edom: We have had word from the Lord, and a representative has been sent among the nations, saying, Up! and let us make war against her.

<sup>2</sup> See, I have made you small among the nations: you are much looked down on.

<sup>3</sup> You have been tricked by the pride of your heart, O you whose living-place is in the cracks of the rock, whose house is high up; who has said in his heart, Who will make me come down to earth?

<sup>4</sup> Though you go up on high like an eagle, though your house is placed among the stars, I will make you come down from there, says the Lord.

<sup>5</sup> If thieves came, attacking you by night, (how are you cut off!) would they not go on taking till they had enough? if men came cutting your grapes would they take them all?

<sup>6</sup>How are the things of Esau searched out! how are his secret stores looked for!

<sup>7</sup>All the men who were united with you have been false to you, driving you out to the edge of the land: the men who were at peace with you have overcome you; they have taken their heritage in your place.

<sup>8</sup>Will I not, in that day, says the Lord, take away the wise men out of Edom, and wisdom out of the mountain of Esau?

<sup>9</sup>And your men of war, O Teman, will be overcome with fear, so that every one of them may be cut off from the mountain of Esau.

<sup>10</sup>Because you were the cause of violent death and because of your cruel behaviour to your brother Jacob, you will be covered with shame and will be cut off for ever.

<sup>11</sup>Because you were there watching when men from other lands took away his goods, and strange men came into his doors, and put the fate of Jerusalem to the decision of chance; you were like one of them.

<sup>12</sup>Do not see with pleasure your brothers evil day, the day of his fate, and



do not be glad over the children of Judah on the day of their destruction, or make wide your mouth on the day of trouble.

<sup>13</sup>Do not go into the doors of my people on the day of their downfall; do not be looking on their trouble with pleasure on the day of their downfall, or put your hands on their goods on the day of their downfall.

<sup>14</sup>And do not take your place at the cross-roads, cutting off those of his people who get away; and do not give up to their haters those who are still there in the day of trouble.

<sup>15</sup>For the day of the Lord is coming quickly on all nations: as you have done it will be done to you; the reward of your acts will come on your head.

<sup>16</sup>For as you have been drinking on my holy mountain, so will all the nations go on drinking without end; they will go on drinking and the wine will go down their throats, and they will be as if they had never been.

<sup>17</sup>But in Mount Zion some will be kept safe, and it will be holy; and the children of Jacob will take their heritage.

<sup>18</sup>And the children of Jacob will be a fire and those of Joseph a flame, and the children of Esau dry stems of grass, burned up by them till all is gone: and there will be no people living in Esau; for the Lord has said it.

<sup>19</sup>And they will take the South, and the lowland, and the country of Ephraim, and Gilead, as their heritage.

<sup>20</sup>And those of the children of Israel who were the first to be taken away as prisoners, will have their heritage among the Canaanites as far as Zarephath; and those who were taken away from Jerusalem, who are in Sepharad, will have the towns of the South.

<sup>21</sup>And those who have been kept safe will come up from Mount Zion to be judges of the mountain of Esau; and the kingdom will be the Lords.

# Jonah

**1** <sup>1</sup> And the word of the Lord came to Jonah, the son of Amittai, saying,

<sup>2</sup> Up! go to Nineveh, that great town, and let your voice come to it; for their evil-doing has come up before me.

<sup>3</sup> And Jonah got up to go in flight to Tarshish, away from the Lord; and he went down to Joppa, and saw there a ship going to Tarshish: so he gave them the price of the journey and went down into it to go with them to Tarshish, away from the Lord.

<sup>4</sup> And the Lord sent out a great wind on to the sea and there was a violent storm in the sea, so that the ship seemed in danger of being broken.

<sup>5</sup> Then the sailors were full of fear, every man crying to his god; and the goods in the ship were dropped out into the sea to make the weight less. But Jonah had gone down into the inmost part of the ship where he was stretched out in a deep sleep.

<sup>6</sup>And the ships captain came to him and said to him, What are you doing sleeping? Up! say a prayer to your God, if by chance God will give a thought to us, so that we may not come to destruction.

<sup>7</sup>And they said to one another, Come, let us put this to the decision of chance and see on whose account this evil has come on us. So they did so, and Jonah was seen to be the man.

<sup>8</sup>Then they said to him, Now make clear to us what is your work, and where you come from? what is your country, and who are your people?

<sup>9</sup>And he said to them, I am a Hebrew, a worshipper of the Lord, the God of heaven, who made the sea and the dry land.

<sup>10</sup>And the men were in great fear, and they said to him, What is this you have done? For the men had knowledge of his flight from the Lord because he had not kept it from them.

<sup>11</sup>And they said to him, What are we to do to you so that the sea may become calm for us? For the sea was getting rougher and rougher.

<sup>12</sup>And he said to them, Take me up and put me into the sea, and the sea will become calm for you: for I am certain that because of me this great storm has come on you.

<sup>13</sup>And the men were working hard to get back to the land, but they were not able to do so: for the sea got rougher and rougher against them.

<sup>14</sup>So, crying to the Lord, they said, Give ear to our prayer, O Lord, give ear, and do not let destruction overtake us because of this mans life; do not put on us the sin of taking life without cause: for you, O Lord, have done what seemed good to you.

<sup>15</sup>So they took Jonah up and put him into the sea: and the sea was no longer angry.

<sup>16</sup>Then great was the mens fear of the Lord; and they made an offering to the Lord and took oaths to him.

<sup>17</sup>And the Lord made ready a great fish to take Jonah into its mouth; and Jonah was inside the fish for three days and three nights.

**2**<sup>1</sup> Then Jonah made prayer to the Lord his God from the inside of the fish, and said,

<sup>2</sup> In my trouble I was crying to the Lord, and he gave me an answer; out of the deepest underworld I sent up a cry, and you gave ear to my voice.

<sup>3</sup> For you have put me down into the deep, into the heart of the sea; and the river was round about me; all your waves and your rolling waters went over me.

<sup>4</sup> And I said, I have been sent away from before your eyes; how may I ever again see your holy Temple?

<sup>5</sup> The waters were circling round me, even to the neck; the deep was about me; the sea-grass was twisted round my head.

<sup>6</sup> I went down to the bases of the mountains; as for the earth, her walls were about me for ever: but you have taken up my life from the underworld, O Lord my God.

<sup>7</sup> When my soul in me was overcome, I kept the memory of the Lord: and my prayer came in to you, into your holy Temple.

<sup>8</sup>The worshippers of false gods have given up their only hope.

<sup>9</sup>But I will make an offering to you with the voice of praise; I will give effect to my oaths. Salvation is the Lords.

<sup>10</sup>And at the Lords order, the fish sent Jonah out of its mouth on to the dry land.

**3**<sup>1</sup>And the word of the Lord came to Jonah a second time, saying,

<sup>2</sup>Up! go to Nineveh, that great town, and give it the word which I have given you.

<sup>3</sup>So Jonah got up and went to Nineveh as the Lord had said. Now Nineveh was a very great town, three days journey from end to end.

<sup>4</sup>And Jonah first of all went a days journey into the town, and crying out said, In forty days destruction will overtake Nineveh.

<sup>5</sup>And the people of Nineveh had belief in God; and a time was fixed for going without food, and they put on haircloth, from the greatest to the least.

<sup>6</sup>And the word came to the king of Nineveh, and he got up from his seat of authority, and took off his robe, and

covering himself with haircloth, took his seat in the dust.

<sup>7</sup>And he had it given out in Nineveh, By the order of the king and his great men, no man or beast, herd or flock, is to have a taste of anything; let them have no food or water:

<sup>8</sup>And let man and beast be covered with haircloth, and let them make strong prayers to God: and let everyone be turned from his evil way and the violent acts of their hands.

<sup>9</sup>Who may say that God will not be turned, changing his purpose and turning away from his burning wrath, so that destruction may not overtake us?

<sup>10</sup>And God saw what they did, how they were turned from their evil way; and Gods purpose was changed as to the evil which he said he would do to them, and he did it not.

**4**<sup>1</sup> But this seemed very wrong to Jonah, and he was angry.

<sup>2</sup>And he made prayer to the Lord and said, O Lord, is this not what I said when I was still in my country? This is why I took care to go in flight to Tarshish: for I was certain that you were a loving God,



full of pity, slow to be angry and great in mercy, and ready to be turned from your purpose of evil.

<sup>3</sup>So now, O Lord, give ear to my prayer and take my life from me; for death is better for me than life.

<sup>4</sup>And the Lord said, Have you any right to be angry?

<sup>5</sup>Then Jonah went out of the town, and took his seat on the east side of the town and made himself a roof of branches and took his seat under its shade till he saw what would become of the town.

<sup>6</sup>And the Lord God made a vine come up over Jonah to give him shade over his head. And Jonah was very glad because of the vine.

<sup>7</sup>But early on the morning after, God made ready a worm for the destruction of the vine, and it became dry and dead.

<sup>8</sup>Then when the sun came up, God sent a burning east wind: and so great was the heat of the sun on his head that Jonah was overcome, and, requesting death for himself, said, Death is better for me than life.

<sup>9</sup>And the Lord said to Jonah, Have you any right to be angry about the vine?

And he said, I have a right to be truly angry.

<sup>10</sup>And the Lord said, You had pity on the vine, for which you did no work and for the growth of which you were not responsible; which came up in a night and came to an end in a night;

<sup>11</sup>And am I not to have mercy on Nineveh, that great town, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons without the power of judging between right and left, as well as much cattle?

# Micah

**1** <sup>1</sup> The word of the Lord which came to Micah the Morashtite, in the days of Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, kings of Judah: his vision about Samaria and Jerusalem.

<sup>2</sup> Give ear, you peoples, all of you; give attention, O earth and everything in it: let the Lord God be witness against you, the Lord from his holy Temple.

<sup>3</sup> For see, the Lord is coming out from his place, and will come down, stepping on the high places of the earth.

<sup>4</sup> And the mountains will be turned to water under him, and the deep valleys will be broken open, like wax before the fire, like waters flowing down a slope.

<sup>5</sup> All this is because of the wrongdoing of Jacob and the sins of the children of Israel. What is the wrongdoing of Jacob? is it not Samaria? and what are the high places of Judah? are they not Jerusalem?

<sup>6</sup> So I will make Samaria into a field and the plantings of a vine-garden: I

will send its stones falling down into the valley, uncovering its bases.

<sup>7</sup>And all her pictured images will be hammered into bits, and all the payments for her loose ways will be burned with fire, and all the images of her gods I will make waste: for with the price of a loose woman she got them together, and as the price of a loose woman will they be given back.

<sup>8</sup>For this I will be full of sorrow and give cries of grief; I will go uncovered and unclothed: I will give cries of grief like the jackals and will be in sorrow like the ostriches.

<sup>9</sup>For her wounds may not be made well: for it has come even to Judah, stretching up to the doorway of my people, even to Jerusalem.

<sup>10</sup>Give no word of it in Gath, let there be no weeping at all: at Beth-le-aphrah be rolling in the dust.

<sup>11</sup>Be uncovered and go away, you who are living in Shaphir: the one living in Zaanan has not come out of her town; Beth-ezel is taken away from its base, even from its resting-place.

<sup>12</sup>For the one living in Maroth is waiting for good: for evil has come down from the Lord to the doorways of Jerusalem.

<sup>13</sup>Let the war-carriage be yoked to the quick-running horse, you who are living in Lachish: she was the first cause of sin to the daughter of Zion; for the wrongdoings of Israel were seen in you.

<sup>14</sup>For this cause give a parting offering to Moresheth-gath: the daughter of Achzib will be a deceit to the king of Israel.

<sup>15</sup>Even now will the taker of your heritage come to you, you who are living in Mareshah: the glory of Israel will come to destruction for ever.

<sup>16</sup>Let your head be uncovered and your hair cut off in sorrow for the children of your delight: let the hair be pulled from your head like an eagles; for they have been taken away from you as prisoners.

**2**<sup>1</sup>A curse on the designers of evil, working on their beds! in the morning light they do it, because it is in their power.

<sup>2</sup>They have a desire for fields and take them by force; and for houses and take them away: they are cruel to a man

and his family, even to a man and his heritage.

<sup>3</sup>For this cause the Lord has said, See, against this family I am purposing an evil from which you will not be able to take your necks away, and you will be weighted down by it; for it is an evil time.

<sup>4</sup>In that day this saying will be said about you, and this song of grief will be made: The heritage of my people is measured out, and there is no one to give it back; those who have made us prisoners have taken our fields from us, and complete destruction has come to us.

<sup>5</sup>For this cause you will have no one to make the decision by the measuring line in the meeting of the Lord.

<sup>6</sup>Let not words like these be dropped, they say: Shame and the curse will not come to the family of Jacob!

<sup>7</sup>Is the Lord quickly made angry? are these his doings? do not his words do good to his people Israel?

<sup>8</sup>As for you, you have become haters of those who were at peace with you: you take the clothing of those who go by

without fear, and make them prisoners of war.

<sup>9</sup>The women of my people you have been driving away from their dearly loved children; from their young ones you are taking my glory for ever.

<sup>10</sup>Up! and go; for this is not your rest: because it has been made unclean, the destruction ordered will come on you.

<sup>11</sup>If a man came with a false spirit of deceit, saying, I will be a prophet to you of wine and strong drink: he would be the sort of prophet for this people.

<sup>12</sup>I will certainly make all of you, O Jacob, come together; I will get together the rest of Israel; I will put them together like the sheep in their circle: like a flock in their green field; they will be full of the noise of men.

<sup>13</sup>The opener of the way will go up before them: forcing their way out they will go on to the doorway and out through it: their king will go on before them, and the Lord at their head.

**3**<sup>1</sup>And I said, Give ear, now, you heads of Jacob and rulers of the people of Israel: is it not for you to have knowledge of what is right?

<sup>2</sup>You who are haters of good and lovers of evil, pulling off their skin from them and their flesh from their bones;

<sup>3</sup>Like meat they take the flesh of my people for their food, skinning them and crushing their bones, yes, cutting them up as if for the pot, like flesh inside the cooking-pot.

<sup>4</sup>Then they will be crying to the Lord for help, but he will not give them an answer: yes, he will keep his face veiled from them at that time, because their acts have been evil.

<sup>5</sup>This is what the Lord has said about the prophets by whom my people have been turned from the right way; who, biting with their teeth, say, Peace; and if anyone puts nothing in their mouths they make ready for war against him.

<sup>6</sup>For this cause it will be night for you, without a vision; and it will be dark for you, without knowledge of the future; the sun will go down over the prophets, and the day will be black over them.

<sup>7</sup>And the seers will be shamed, and the readers of the future will be at a loss, all of them covering their lips; for there is no answer from God.



<sup>8</sup>But I truly am full of the spirit of the Lord, with power of judging and with strength to make clear to Jacob his wrongdoing and to Israel his sin.

<sup>9</sup>Then give ear to this, you heads of the children of Jacob, you rulers of the children of Israel, hating what is right, twisting what is straight.

<sup>10</sup>They are building up Zion with blood, and Jerusalem with evil-doing.

<sup>11</sup>Its heads take rewards for judging, and the priests take payment for teaching, and the prophets get silver for reading the future: but still, supporting themselves on the Lord, they say, Is not the Lord among us? no evil will overtake us.

<sup>12</sup>For this reason, Zion will be ploughed like a field because of you, and Jerusalem will become a mass of broken walls, and the mountain of the house like a high place in the woods.

**4**<sup>1</sup>But in the last days it will come about that the mountain of the Lords house will be placed on the top of the mountains, and be lifted up over the hills; and peoples will be flowing to it.

<sup>2</sup>And a number of 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 give us knowledge of his ways and we will be guided by his word: for from Zion the law will go out, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.

<sup>3</sup>And he will be judge between great peoples, and strong nations far away will be ruled by his decisions; their swords will be hammered into plough-blades and their spears into vine-knives: nations will no longer be lifting up their swords against one another, and knowledge of war will have gone for ever.

<sup>4</sup>But every man will be seated under his vine and under his fig-tree, and no one will be a cause of fear to them: for the mouth of the Lord of armies has said it.

<sup>5</sup>For all the peoples will be walking, every one in the name of his god, and we will be walking in the name of the Lord our God for ever and ever.

<sup>6</sup>In that day, says the Lord, I will get together her who goes with uncertain steps, I will get together her who has

been sent away, and her on whom I have sent evil;

<sup>7</sup> And I will make her whose steps were uncertain a small band, and her who was feeble a strong nation: and the Lord will be their King in Mount Zion from now and for ever.

<sup>8</sup> And you, O tower of the flock, Ophel of the daughter of Zion, to you it will come, even the earlier authority, the kingdom of the daughter of Jerusalem.

<sup>9</sup> Now why are you crying so loudly? is there no king in you? has destruction come on your wise helper? so that pains have taken you like the pains of a woman in childbirth:

<sup>10</sup> Be in pain, make sounds of grief, O daughter of Zion, like a woman in childbirth: for now you will go out of the town, living in the open country, and will come even to Babylon; there you will have salvation; there the Lord will make you free from the hands of your haters.

<sup>11</sup> And now a number of nations have come together against you, and they say, Let her be made unclean and let our eyes see the fate of Zion.

<sup>12</sup> But they have no knowledge of the thoughts of the Lord, their minds are not able to see his purpose: for he has got them together like stems of grain to the crushing-floor.

<sup>13</sup> Up! and let the grain be crushed, O daughter of Zion, for I will make your horn iron and your feet brass, and a number of peoples will be broken by you, and you will give up their increase to the Lord and their wealth to the Lord of all the earth.

**5**<sup>1</sup> Now you will give yourselves deep wounds for grief; they will put up a wall round us: they will give the judge of Israel a blow on the face with a rod.

<sup>2</sup> And you, Beth-lehem Ephrathah, the least among the families of Judah, out of you one will come to me who is to be ruler in Israel; whose going out has been purposed from time past, from the eternal days.

<sup>3</sup> For this cause he will give them up till the time when she who is with child has given birth: then the rest of his brothers will come back to the children of Israel.

<sup>4</sup> And he will take his place and give food to his flock in the strength of the

Lord, in the glory of the name of the Lord his God; and their resting-place will be safe: for now he will be great to the ends of the earth.

<sup>5</sup>And this will be our peace: when the Assyrian comes into our country and his feet are in our land, then we will put up against him seven keepers of the flocks and eight chiefs among men.

<sup>6</sup>And they will make waste the land of Assyria with the sword, and the land of Nimrod with the edge of the sword: he will give us salvation from the Assyrian when he comes into our country, when his feet come inside the limit of our land.

<sup>7</sup>And the rest of Jacob will be among the mass of peoples like dew from the Lord, like showers on the grass, which may not be kept back by man, or be waiting for the sons of men.

<sup>8</sup>And the rest of Jacob will be among the nations, in the middle of the mass of peoples, like a lion among the beasts of the woods, like a young lion among the flocks of sheep: if he goes through, they will be crushed under foot and pulled to bits, and there will be no saviour.

<sup>9</sup>Your hand is lifted up against those who are against you, and all your haters will be cut off.

<sup>10</sup>And it will come about in that day, says the Lord, that I will take away your horses from you, and will give your war-carriages to destruction:

<sup>11</sup>I will have the towns of your land cut off and all your strong places pulled down:

<sup>12</sup>I will put an end to your use of secret arts, and you will have no more readers of signs:

<sup>13</sup>And I will have your images and your pillars cut off from you; and you will no longer give worship to the work of your hands.

<sup>14</sup>I will have your Asherahs pulled up from among you: and I will send destruction on your images.

<sup>15</sup>And my punishment will be effected on the nations with such burning wrath as they have not had word of.

**6**<sup>1</sup> Give ear now to the words of the Lord: Up! put forward your cause before the mountains, let your voice be sounding among the hills.

<sup>2</sup>Give ear, O you mountains, to the Lords cause, and take note, you bases of the earth: for the Lord has a cause against his people, and he will take it up with Israel.

<sup>3</sup>O my people, what have I done to you? how have I been a weariness to you? give answer against me.

<sup>4</sup>For I took you up out of the land of Egypt and made you free from the prison-house; I sent before you Moses, Aaron, and Miriam.

<sup>5</sup>O my people, keep in mind now what was designed by Balak, king of Moab, and the answer which Balaam, son of Beor, gave him; the events, from Shittim to Gilgal, so that you may be certain of the upright acts of the Lord.

<sup>6</sup>With what am I to come before the Lord and go with bent head before the high God? am I to come before him with burned offerings, with young oxen a year old?

<sup>7</sup>Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of sheep or with ten thousand rivers of oil? am I to give my first child for my wrongdoing, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?

<sup>8</sup>He has made clear to you, O man, what is good; and what is desired from you by the Lord; only doing what is right, and loving mercy, and walking without pride before your God.

<sup>9</sup>The voice of the Lord is crying out to the town: Give ear, you tribes and the meeting of the town.

<sup>10</sup>Am I to let the stores of the evil-doer go out of my memory, and the short measure, which is cursed?

<sup>11</sup>Is it possible for me to let wrong scales and the bag of false weights go without punishment?

<sup>12</sup>For its men of wealth are cruel, and its people have said what is not true, and their tongue is false in their mouth.

<sup>13</sup>So I have made a start with your punishment; I have made you waste because of your sins.

<sup>14</sup>You will have food, but not enough; your shame will be ever with you: you will get your goods moved, but you will not take them away safely; and what you do take away I will give to the sword.

<sup>15</sup>You will put in seed, but you will not get in the grain; you will be crushing olives, but your bodies will not be rubbed



with the oil; and you will get in the grapes, but you will have no wine.

<sup>16</sup>For you have kept the laws of Omri and all the works of the family of Ahab, and you have been guided by their designs: so that I might make you a cause of wonder and your people a cause of hisses; and the shame of my people will be on you.

**7** <sup>1</sup>Sorrow is mine! for I am as when they have got in the summer fruits, like the last of the grapes: there is nothing for food, not even an early fig for my desire.

<sup>2</sup>The good man is gone from the earth, there is no one upright among men: they are all waiting secretly for blood, every man is going after his brother with a net.

<sup>3</sup>Their hands are made ready to do evil; the ruler makes requests for money, and the judge is looking for a reward; and the great man gives decisions at his pleasure, and the right is twisted.

<sup>4</sup>The best of them is like a waste plant, and their upright ones are like a wall of thorns. Sorrow! the day of their fate has come; now will trouble come on them.

<sup>5</sup> Put no faith in a friend, do not let your hope be placed in a relation: keep watch on the doors of your mouth against her who is resting on your breast.

<sup>6</sup> For the son puts shame on his father, the daughter goes against her mother and the daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law; and a mans haters are those of his family.

<sup>7</sup> But as for me, I am looking to the Lord; I am waiting for the God of my salvation: the ears of my God will be open to me.

<sup>8</sup> Do not be glad because of my sorrow, O my hater: after my fall I will be lifted up; when I am seated in the dark, the Lord will be a light to me.

<sup>9</sup> I will undergo the wrath of the Lord, because of my sin against him; till he takes up my cause and does what is right for me: when he makes me come out into the light, I will see his righteousness;

<sup>10</sup> And my hater will see it and be covered with shame; she who said to me, Where is the Lord your God? my eyes will see their desire effected on her,

now she will be crushed under foot like the dust of the streets.

<sup>11</sup> A day for building your walls! in that day will your limits be stretched far and wide.

<sup>12</sup> In that day they will come to you from Assyria and the towns of Egypt, and from Egypt even to the River, and from sea to sea and from mountain to mountain.

<sup>13</sup> But the land will become a waste because of its people, as the fruit of their works.

<sup>14</sup> Keep your people safe with your rod, the flock of your heritage, living by themselves in the woods in the middle of Carmel: let them get their food in Bashan and Gilead as in the past.

<sup>15</sup> As in the days when you came out from the land of Egypt, let us see things of wonder.

<sup>16</sup> The nations will see and be shamed because of all their strength; they will put their hands on their mouths, their ears will be stopped.

<sup>17</sup> They will take dust as their food like a snake, like the things which go flat on the earth; they will come shaking with

fear out of their secret places: they will come with fear to the Lord our God, full of fear because of you.

<sup>18</sup>Who is a God like you, offering forgiveness for evil-doing and overlooking the sins of the rest of his heritage? he does not keep his wrath for ever, because his delight is in mercy.

<sup>19</sup>He will again have pity on us; he will put our sins under his feet: and you will send all our sins down into the heart of the sea.

<sup>20</sup>You will make clear your good faith to Jacob and your mercy to Abraham, as you gave your oath to our fathers from times long past.

# Nahum

**1** <sup>1</sup> The word about Nineveh. The book of the vision of Nahum the Elkoshite.

<sup>2</sup> The Lord is a God who takes care of his honour and gives punishment for wrong; the Lord gives punishment and is angry; the Lord sends punishment on those who are against him, being angry with his haters.

<sup>3</sup> The Lord is slow to get angry and great in power, and will not let the sinner go without punishment: the way of the Lord is in the wind and the storm, and the clouds are the dust of his feet.

<sup>4</sup> He says sharp words to the sea and makes it dry, drying up all the rivers: Bashan is feeble, and Carmel, and the flower of Lebanon is without strength.

<sup>5</sup> The mountains are shaking because of him, and the hills flowing away; the earth is falling to bits before him, the world and all who are in it.

<sup>6</sup> Who may keep his place before his wrath? and who may undergo the heat of his passion? his wrath is let loose like

fire and the rocks are broken open by him.

<sup>7</sup>The Lord is good, a strong place in the day of trouble; and he has knowledge of those who take him for their safe cover.

<sup>8</sup>But like water overflowing he will take them away; he will put an end to those who come up against him, driving his haters into the dark.

<sup>9</sup>What are you designing against the Lord? he will put an end to it: his haters will not come up again a second time.

<sup>10</sup>For though they are like twisted thorns, and are overcome as with drink, they will come to destruction like stems of grass fully dry.

<sup>11</sup>One has gone out from you who is designing evil against the Lord, whose purposes are of no value.

<sup>12</sup>This is what the Lord has said: The days of my cause against you are ended; they are cut off and past. Though I have sent trouble on you, you will no longer be troubled.

<sup>13</sup>And now I will let his yoke be broken off you, and your chains be parted.

<sup>14</sup>The Lord has given an order about you, that no more of your name are

to be planted: from the house of your gods I will have the pictured and metal images cut off; I will make your last resting-place a place of shame; for you are completely evil.

<sup>15</sup> See on the mountains the feet of him who comes with good news, giving word of peace! Keep your feasts, O Judah, give effect to your oaths: for the good-for-nothing man will never again go through you; he is completely cut off.

**2**<sup>1</sup> A crusher has come up before your face: keep a good look-out, let the way be watched, make yourself strong, let your power be greatly increased.

<sup>2</sup> For the Lord will make good the vine of Jacob, as well as the vine of Israel: for the wasters have made them waste and sent destruction on the branches of their vine.

<sup>3</sup> The body-covers of his fighting men have been made red, the men of war are clothed in bright red: the war-carriages are like flames of fire in the day when he gets ready, the horses are shaking.

<sup>4</sup> The war-carriages are rushing through the streets, pushing against one another

in the wide ways, looking like burning lights, running like thunder-flames.

<sup>5</sup>He takes the record of his great men: they go falling on their way; they go quickly to the wall, the cover is made ready.

<sup>6</sup>The river doorways are forced open, and the king's house is flowing away.

<sup>7</sup>And the queen is uncovered, she is taken away and her servant-girls are weeping like the sound of doves, hammering on their breasts.

<sup>8</sup>But Nineveh is like a pool of water whose waters are flowing away; Keep your place, they say; but no one is turning back.

<sup>9</sup>Take silver, take gold; for there is no end to the store; take for yourselves a weight of things to be desired.

<sup>10</sup>Everything has been taken from her, all is gone, she has nothing more: the heart is turned to water, the knees are shaking, all are twisted in pain, and colour has gone from all faces.

<sup>11</sup>Where is the lion's hole, the place where the young lions got their food, where the lion and the she-lion were



walking with their young, without cause for fear?

<sup>12</sup>Food enough for his young and for his she-lions was pulled down by the lion; his hole was full of flesh and his resting-place stored with meat.

<sup>13</sup>See, I am against you, says the Lord of armies, and I will have your war-carriages burned in the smoke, and your young lions will be food for the sword: you will no longer get your food by force on the earth, and the voice of your she-lions will be stopped for ever.

**3**<sup>1</sup>A curse is on the town of blood; it is full of deceit and violent acts; and there is no end to the taking of life.

<sup>2</sup>The noise of the whip, and the noise of thundering wheels; horses rushing and war-carriages jumping,

<sup>3</sup>Horsemen driving forward, and the shining sword and the bright spear: and a great number of wounded, and masses of dead bodies; they are falling over the bodies of the dead:

<sup>4</sup>Because of all the false ways of the loose woman, expert in attraction and wise in secret arts, who takes nations in

the net of her false ways, and families through her secret arts.

<sup>5</sup>See, I am against you, says the Lord of armies, and I will have your skirts pulled over your face, and let the nations see you unclothed, and the kingdoms your shame.

<sup>6</sup>I will make you completely disgusting and full of shame, and will put you up to be looked at by all.

<sup>7</sup>And it will come about that all who see you will go in flight from you and say, Nineveh is made waste: who will be weeping for her? where am I to get comforters for her?

<sup>8</sup>Are you better than No-amon, seated on the Nile streams, with waters all round her; whose wall was the sea and her earthwork the waters?

<sup>9</sup>Ethiopia was her strength and Egyptians without number; Put and Lubim were her helpers.

<sup>10</sup>But even she has been taken away, she has gone away as a prisoner: even her young children are smashed to bits at the top of all the streets: the fate of her honoured men is put to the decision

of chance, and all her great men are put in chains.

<sup>11</sup> And you will be overcome with wine, you will become feeble; you will be looking for a safe place from those who are fighting against you.

<sup>12</sup> All your walled places will be like fig-trees and your people like the first figs, falling at a shake into the mouth which is open for them.

<sup>13</sup> See, the people who are in you are women; the doorways of your land are wide open to your attackers: the locks of your doors have been burned away in the fire.

<sup>14</sup> Get water for the time when you are shut in, make strong your towns: go into the potters earth, stamping it down with your feet, make strong the brickworks.

<sup>15</sup> There the fire will make you waste; you will be cut off by the sword: make yourself as great in number as the worms, as great in number as the locusts.

<sup>16</sup> Let your traders be increased more than the stars of heaven:

<sup>17</sup> Your crowned ones are like the locusts, and your scribes like the clouds

of insects which take cover in the walls on a cold day, but when the sun comes up they go in flight, and are seen no longer in their place.

<sup>18</sup>Sorrow! how are the keepers of your flock sleeping, O king of Assyria! your strong men are at rest; your people are wandering on the mountains, and there is no one to get them together.

<sup>19</sup>Your pain may not be made better; you are wounded to death: all those hearing the news about you will be waving their hands in joy over you: for who has not undergone the weight of your evil-doing again and again?

# Habakkuk

**1** <sup>1</sup> The word which Habakkuk the prophet saw.

<sup>2</sup> How long, O Lord, will your ears be shut to my voice? I make an outcry to you about violent behaviour, but you do not send salvation.

<sup>3</sup> Why do you make me see evil-doing, and why are my eyes fixed on wrong? for wasting and violent acts are before me: and there is fighting and bitter argument.

<sup>4</sup> For this reason the law is feeble and decisions are not effected: for the upright man is circled round by evil-doers; because of which right is twisted.

<sup>5</sup> See among the nations, and take note, and be full of wonder: for in your days I am doing a work in which you will have no belief, even if news of it is given to you.

<sup>6</sup> For see, I am sending the Chaldaeans, that bitter and quick-moving nation; who go through the wide spaces of the earth

to get for themselves living-places which are not theirs.

<sup>7</sup>They are greatly to be feared: their right comes from themselves.

<sup>8</sup>And their horses are quicker than leopards and their horsemen more cruel than evening wolves; they come from far away, like an eagle in flight rushing on its food.

<sup>9</sup>They are coming all of them with force; the direction of their faces is forward, the number of their prisoners is like the sands of the sea.

<sup>10</sup>He makes little of kings, rulers are a sport to him; all the strong places are to be laughed at; for he makes earthworks and takes them.

<sup>11</sup>Then his purpose will be changed, over-stepping the limit; he will make his strength his god.

<sup>12</sup>Are you not eternal, O Lord my God, my Holy One? for you there is no death. O Lord, he has been ordered by you for our punishment; and by you, O Rock, he has been marked out to put us right.

<sup>13</sup>Before your holy eyes sin may not be seen, and you are unable to put up with wrong; why, then, are your eyes on the

false? why do you say nothing when the evil-doer puts an end to one who is more upright than himself?

<sup>14</sup>He has made men like the fishes of the sea, like the worms which have no ruler over them.

<sup>15</sup>He takes them all up with his hook, he takes them in his net, getting them together in his fishing-net: for which cause he is glad and full of joy.

<sup>16</sup>For this reason he makes an offering to his net, burning perfume to his fishing-net; because by them he gets much food and his meat is fat.

<sup>17</sup>For this cause his net is ever open, and there is no end to his destruction of the nations.

**2**<sup>1</sup>I will take my position and be on watch, placing myself on my tower, looking out to see what he will say to me, and what answer he will give to my protest.

<sup>2</sup>And the Lord gave me an answer, and said, Put the vision in writing and make it clear on stones, so that the reader may go quickly.

<sup>3</sup>For the vision is still for the fixed time, and it is moving quickly to the end, and

it will not be false: even if it is slow in coming, go on waiting for it; because it will certainly come, it will not be kept back.

<sup>4</sup>As for the man of pride, my soul has no pleasure in him; but the upright man will have life through his good faith.

<sup>5</sup>A curse on the cruel and false one! the man full of pride, who never has enough; who makes his desires wide as the underworld! he is like death; he is never full, but he makes all nations come to him, getting all peoples together to himself.

<sup>6</sup>Will not all these take up a word of shame against him and a bitter saying against him, and say, A curse on him who goes on taking what is not his and is weighted down with the property of debtors!

<sup>7</sup>Will not your creditors suddenly be moved against you, and your troublers get up from their sleep, and you will be to them like goods taken in war?

<sup>8</sup>Because you have taken their goods from great nations, all the rest of the peoples will take your goods from you; because of mens blood and violent acts



against the land and the town and all who are living in it.

<sup>9</sup>A curse on him who gets evil profits for his family, so that he may put his resting-place on high and be safe from the hand of the wrongdoer!

<sup>10</sup>You have been a cause of shame to your house by cutting off a number of peoples, and sinning against your soul.

<sup>11</sup>For the stone will give a cry out of the wall, and it will be answered by the board out of the woodwork.

<sup>12</sup>A curse on him who is building a place with blood, and basing a town on evil-doing!

<sup>13</sup>See, is it not the pleasure of the Lord of armies that the peoples are working for the fire and using themselves up for nothing?

<sup>14</sup>For the earth will be full of the knowledge of the glory of the Lord as the sea is covered by the waters.

<sup>15</sup>A curse on him who gives his neighbour the wine of his wrath, making him overcome with strong drink from the cup of his passion, so that you may be a witness of their shame!

<sup>16</sup>You are full of shame in place of glory: take your part in the drinking, and let your shame be uncovered: the cup of the Lords right hand will come round to you and your glory will be covered with shame.

<sup>17</sup>For the violent acts against Lebanon will come on you, and the destruction of the cattle will be a cause of fear to you, because of mens blood and the violent acts against the land and the town and all who are living in it.

<sup>18</sup>What profit is the pictured image to its maker? and as for the metal image, the false teacher, why does its maker put his faith in it, making false gods without a voice?

<sup>19</sup>A curse on him who says to the wood, Awake! to the unbreathing stone, Up! let it be a teacher! See, it is plated with gold and silver, and there is no breath at all inside it.

<sup>20</sup>But the Lord is in his holy Temple: let all the earth be quiet before him.

**3**<sup>1</sup>A prayer of Habakkuk the prophet, put to Shigionoth.

<sup>2</sup>O Lord, word of you has come to my ears; I have seen your work, O Lord;

when the years come near make it clear;  
in wrath keep mercy in mind.

<sup>3</sup>God came from Teman, and the Holy One from Mount Paran. Selah. The heavens were covered with his glory, and the earth was full of his praise.

<sup>4</sup>He was shining like the light; he had rays coming out from his hand: there his power was kept secret.

<sup>5</sup>Before him went disease, and flames went out at his feet.

<sup>6</sup>From his high place he sent shaking on the earth; he saw and nations were suddenly moved: and the eternal mountains were broken, the unchanging hills were bent down; his ways are eternal.

<sup>7</sup>The curtains of Cushan were troubled, and the tents of Midian were shaking.

<sup>8</sup>Was your wrath burning against the rivers? were you angry with the sea, that you went on your horses, on your war-carriages of salvation?

<sup>9</sup>Your bow was quite uncovered. Selah. By you the earth was cut through with rivers.

<sup>10</sup>The mountains saw you and were moved with fear; the clouds were

streaming with water: the voice of the deep was sounding; the sun did not come up, and the moon kept still in her place.

<sup>11</sup>At the light of your arrows they went away, at the shining of your polished spear.

<sup>12</sup>You went stepping through the land in wrath, crushing the nations in your passion.

<sup>13</sup>You went out for the salvation of your people, for the salvation of the one on whom your holy oil was put; wounding the head of the family of the evil-doer, uncovering the base even to the neck. Selah.

<sup>14</sup>You have put your spears through his head, his horsemen were sent in flight like dry stems; they had joy in driving away the poor, in making a meal of them secretly.

<sup>15</sup>The feet of your horses were on the sea, on the mass of great waters.

<sup>16</sup>Hearing it, my inner parts were moved, and my lips were shaking at the sound; my bones became feeble, and my steps were uncertain under me: I gave sounds of grief in the day of trouble,

when his forces came up against the people in bands.

<sup>17</sup>For though the fig-tree has no flowers, and there is no fruit on the vine, and work on the olive comes to nothing, and the fields give no food; and the flock is cut off from its resting-place, and there is no herd in the cattle-house:

<sup>18</sup>Still, I will be glad in the Lord, my joy will be in the God of my salvation.

<sup>19</sup>The Lord God is my strength, and he makes my feet like roes feet, guiding me on my high places. For the chief music-maker on corded instruments.

# Zephaniah

**1** <sup>1</sup> The word of the Lord which came to Zephaniah, the son of Cushi, the son of Gedaliah, the son of Amariah, the son of Hezekiah, in the days of Josiah, the son of Amon, king of Judah.

<sup>2</sup> I will take away everything from the face of the earth, says the Lord.

<sup>3</sup> I will take away man and beast; I will take away the birds of the heaven and the fishes of the sea; causing the downfall of the evil-doers, and cutting man off from the face of the earth, says the Lord.

<sup>4</sup> And my hand will be stretched out on Judah and on all the people of Jerusalem, cutting off the name of the Baal from this place, and the name of the false priests,

<sup>5</sup> And the worshippers of the army of heaven on the house-tops, and the Lords worshippers who take oaths by Milcom,

<sup>6</sup> And those who are turned back from going after the Lord, and those who have not made prayer to the Lord or got directions from him.

<sup>7</sup> Let there be no sound before the Lord God: for the day of the Lord is near: for the Lord has made ready an offering, he has made his guests holy.

<sup>8</sup> And it will come about in the day of the Lords offering, that I will send punishment on the rulers and the kings sons and all who are clothed in robes from strange lands.

<sup>9</sup> And in that day I will send punishment on all those who come jumping over the doorstep and make their masters house full of violent behaviour and deceit.

<sup>10</sup> And in that day, says the Lord, there will be the sound of a cry from the fish doorway, and an outcry from the new town, and a great thundering from the hills, and cries of grief from the people of the Hollow;

<sup>11</sup> Because of the downfall of all the people of Canaan: all those who were weighted down with silver have been cut off.

<sup>12</sup> And it will come about at that time, that I will go searching through Jerusalem with lights; and I will send punishment on the men who have become like wine stored over-long, who

say to themselves, The Lord will not do good and will not do evil.

<sup>13</sup>And their wealth will be violently taken away, and their houses will be made waste: they will go on building houses and never living in them, and planting vine-gardens but not drinking the wine from them.

<sup>14</sup>The great day of the Lord is near, it is near and coming very quickly; the bitter day of the Lord is near, coming on more quickly than a man of war.

<sup>15</sup>That day is a day of wrath, a day of trouble and sorrow, a day of wasting and destruction, a day of dark night and deep shade, a day of cloud and thick dark.

<sup>16</sup>A day of sounding the horn and the war-cry against the walled towns and the high towers.

<sup>17</sup>And I will send trouble on men so that they will go about like the blind, because they have done evil against the Lord: and their blood will be drained out like dust, and their strength like waste.

<sup>18</sup>Even their silver and their gold will not be able to keep them safe in the day of the Lords wrath; but all the land will be burned up in the fire of his bitter



wrath: for he will put an end, even suddenly, to all who are living in the land.

**2**<sup>1</sup> Come together, make everyone come together, O nation without shame;

<sup>2</sup> Before the Lord sends you violently away in flight like the waste from the grain; before the burning wrath of the Lord comes on you, before the day of the Lords wrath comes on you.

<sup>3</sup> Make search for the Lord, all you quiet ones of the earth, who have done what is right in his eyes; make search for righteousness and a quiet heart: it may be that you will be safely covered in the day of the Lords wrath.

<sup>4</sup> For Gaza will be given up and Ashkelon will become waste: they will send Ashdod out in the middle of the day, and Ekron will be uprooted.

<sup>5</sup> Sorrow to the people living by the sea, the nation of the Cherethites! The word of the Lord is against you, O Canaan, the land of the Philistines; I will send destruction on you till there is no one living in you.

<sup>6</sup>And the land by the sea will be grass-land, with houses for keepers of sheep and walled places for flocks.

<sup>7</sup>The land by the sea will be for the rest of the children of Judah; by the sea they will give their flocks food: in the houses of Ashkelon they will take their rest in the evening; for the Lord their God will take them in hand and their fate will be changed.

<sup>8</sup>My ears have been open to the bitter words of Moab and the words of shame of the children of Ammon, which they have said against my people, lifting themselves up against the limit of their land.

<sup>9</sup>For this cause, by my life, says the Lord of armies, the God of Israel, truly Moab will become like Sodom and the children of Ammon like Gomorrah, given up to waste plants and salt pools and unpeopled for ever: the rest of my people will take their property, the overflow of my nation will take their heritage.

<sup>10</sup>This will be their fate because of their pride, because they have said evil, lifting

themselves up against the people of the Lord of armies.

<sup>11</sup> The Lord will let himself be seen by them: for he will make all the gods of the earth feeble; and men will go down before him in worship, everyone from his place, even all the sea-lands of the nations.

<sup>12</sup> And you Ethiopians will be put to death by my sword.

<sup>13</sup> And his hand will be stretched out against the north, for the destruction of Assyria; and he will make Nineveh unpeopled and dry like the waste land.

<sup>14</sup> And herds will take their rest in the middle of her, all the beasts of the valley: the pelican and the porcupine will make their living-places on the tops of its pillars; the owl will be crying in the window; the raven will be seen on the doorstep.

<sup>15</sup> This is the town which was full of joy, living without fear of danger, saying in her heart, I am, and there is no other: how has she been made waste, a place for beasts to take their rest in! everyone who goes by her will make hisses, waving his hand.

**3**<sup>1</sup> Sorrow to her who is uncontrolled and unclean, the cruel town!

<sup>2</sup> She gave no attention to the voice, she had no use for teaching, she put no faith in the Lord, she did not come near to her God.

<sup>3</sup> Her rulers are like loud-voiced lions in her; her judges are wolves of the evening, crushing up the bones before the morning.

<sup>4</sup> Her prophets are good-for-nothing persons, full of deceit: her priests have made the holy place unclean and have gone violently against the law.

<sup>5</sup> The Lord in her is upright; he will not do evil; every morning he lets his righteousness be seen, he is unchanging; but the evil-doer has no sense of shame.

<sup>6</sup> I have had the nations cut off, their towers are broken down; I have made their streets a waste so that no one goes through them: destruction has overtaken their towns, so that there is no man living in them.

<sup>7</sup> I said, Certainly you will go in fear of me, and come under my training, so that whatever I may send on her may not be

cut off before her eyes: but they got up early and made all their works evil.

<sup>8</sup>For this reason, go on waiting for me, says the Lord, till the day when I come up as a witness: for my purpose is to send for the nations and to get the kingdoms together, so that I may let loose on them my passion, even all my burning wrath: for all the earth will be burned up in the fire of my bitter passion.

<sup>9</sup>For then I will give the people a clean language, so that they may all make prayer to the Lord and be his servants with one mind.

<sup>10</sup>From over the rivers of Ethiopia, and from the sides of the north, they will come to me with an offering.

<sup>11</sup>In that day you will have no shame on account of all the things in which you did evil against me: for then I will take away from among you those who were lifted up in pride, and you will no longer be lifted up with pride in my holy mountain.

<sup>12</sup>But I will still have among you a quiet and poor people, and they will put their faith in the name of the Lord.

<sup>13</sup>The rest of Israel will do no evil and say no false words; the tongue of deceit will not be seen in their mouth: for they will take their food and their rest, and no one will be a cause of fear to them.

<sup>14</sup>Make melody, O daughter of Zion; give a loud cry, O Israel; be glad and let your heart be full of joy, O daughter of Jerusalem.

<sup>15</sup>The Lord has taken away those who were judging you, he has sent your haters far away: the King of Israel, even the Lord, is among you: you will have no more fear of evil.

<sup>16</sup>In that day it will be said to Jerusalem, Have no fear: O Zion, let not your hands be feeble.

<sup>17</sup>The Lord your God is among you, as a strong saviour: he will be glad over you with joy, he will make his love new again, he will make a song of joy over you as in the time of a holy feast.

<sup>18</sup>I will take away your troubles, lifting up your shame from off you.

<sup>19</sup>See, at that time I will put an end to all who have been troubling you: I will give salvation to her whose steps are uncertain, and get together her who has

been sent in flight; and I will make them a cause of praise and an honoured name in all the earth, when I let their fate be changed.

<sup>20</sup>At that time I will make you come in, at that time I will get you together: for I will make you a name and a praise among all the peoples of the earth when I let your fate be changed before your eyes, says the Lord.

# Haggai

**1** <sup>1</sup>In the second year of Darius the king, in the sixth month, on the first day of the month, came the word of the Lord by Haggai the prophet to Zerubbabel, the son of Shealtiel, ruler of Judah, and to Joshua, the son of Jehozadak, the high priest, saying,

<sup>2</sup>These are the words of the Lord of armies: These people say, The time has not come for building the Lords house.

<sup>3</sup>Then the word of the Lord came by Haggai the prophet, saying,

<sup>4</sup>Is it a time for you to be living in roofed houses while this house is a waste?

<sup>5</sup>For this cause the Lord of armies has said, Give thought to your ways.

<sup>6</sup>Much has been planted, but little got in; you take food, but have not enough; you take drink, but are not full; you are clothed, but no one is warm; and he who gets payment for his work, gets it to put it into a bag full of holes.



<sup>7</sup>This is what the Lord of armies has said: Give thought to your ways.

<sup>8</sup>Go up to the hills and get wood and put up the house; and I will take pleasure in it and be honoured, says the Lord.

<sup>9</sup>You were looking for much, and it came to little; and when you got it into your house, I took it away with a breath. Why? says the Lord of armies. Because of my house which is a waste, while every man takes care of the house which is his.

<sup>10</sup>For this cause the heaven over you is kept from giving dew, and the earth from giving her fruit.

<sup>11</sup>And by my order no rain came on the land or on the mountains or the grain or the wine or the oil or the produce of the earth or on men or cattle or on any work of mans hands.

<sup>12</sup>Then Zerubbabel, the son of Shealtiel, and Joshua, the son of Jehozadak, the high priest, and all the rest of the people, gave ear to the voice of the Lord their God and to the words of Haggai the prophet, because the Lord their God had

sent him, and the people were in fear before the Lord.

<sup>13</sup>Then Haggai, whom the Lord had sent to give his words to the people, said, I am with you, says the Lord.

<sup>14</sup>And the spirit of Zerubbabel, the son of Shealtiel, ruler of Judah, was moved by the Lord, as was the spirit of Joshua, the son of Jehozadak, the high priest, and the spirit of all the rest of the people; and they came and did work in the house of the Lord of armies, their God.

<sup>15</sup>On the twenty-fourth day of the month, in the sixth month, in the second year of Darius the king.

**2**<sup>1</sup>In the seventh month, on the twenty-first day of the month, the word of the Lord came by Haggai the prophet, saying,

<sup>2</sup>Say now to Zerubbabel, the son of Shealtiel, ruler of Judah, and to Joshua, the son of Jehozadak, the high priest, and to the rest of the people,

<sup>3</sup>Who is there still among you who saw this house in its first glory? and how do you see it now? is it not in your eyes as nothing?

<sup>4</sup>But now be strong, O Zerubbabel, says the Lord; and be strong, O Joshua, son of Jehozadak, the high priest; and be strong, all you people of the land, says the Lord, and get to work: for I am with you, says the Lord of armies:

<sup>5</sup>The agreement which I made with you when you came out of Egypt, and my spirit, are with you still; have no fear.

<sup>6</sup>For this is what the Lord of armies has said: In a short time I will make a shaking of the heavens and the earth and the sea and the dry land;

<sup>7</sup>And I will make a shaking of all the nations, and the desired things of all nations will come: and I will make this house full of my glory, says the Lord of armies.

<sup>8</sup>The silver is mine and the gold is mine, says the Lord of armies.

<sup>9</sup>The second glory of this house will be greater than the first, says the Lord of armies: and in this place I will give peace, says the Lord of armies.

<sup>10</sup>On the twenty-fourth day of the ninth month, in the second year of Darius, the word of the Lord came by Haggai the prophet, saying,

<sup>11</sup> These are the words of the Lord of armies: Put now a point of law to the priests, saying,

<sup>12</sup> If anyone has some holy flesh folded in the skirt of his robe, will bread or soup or wine or oil or any other food be made holy if touched by his skirt? And the priests answering said, No.

<sup>13</sup> Then Haggai said, Will any of these be made unclean by the touch of one who is unclean through touching a dead body? And the priests answering said, It will be made unclean.

<sup>14</sup> Then Haggai said, So is this people and so is this nation before me, says the Lord; and so is every work of their hands; and the offering they give there is unclean.

<sup>15</sup> And now, give thought, looking back from this day to the time before one stone was put on another in the Temple of the Lord:

<sup>16</sup> How, when anyone came to a store of twenty measures, there were only ten: when anyone went to the wine-store to get fifty vessels full, there were only twenty.

<sup>17</sup> And I sent burning and wasting and a rain of ice-drops on all the works of your hands; but still you were not turned to me, says the Lord.

<sup>18</sup> And now, give thought; looking on from this day, from the twenty-fourth day of the ninth month, from the time when the base of the Lords house was put in its place, give thought to it.

<sup>19</sup> Is the seed still in the store-house? have the vine and the fig-tree, the pomegranate and the olive-tree, still not given their fruit? from this day I will send my blessing on you.

<sup>20</sup> And the word of the Lord came a second time to Haggai, on the twenty-fourth day of the month, saying,

<sup>21</sup> Say to Zerubbabel, ruler of Judah, I will make a shaking of the heavens and the earth,

<sup>22</sup> Overturning the power of kingdoms; and I will send destruction on the strength of the kingdoms of the nations; by me war-carriages will be overturned with those who are in them; and the horses and the horsemen will come down, everyone by the sword of his brother.

<sup>23</sup>In that day, says the Lord of armies, I will take you, O Zerubbabel, my servant, the son of Shealtiel, says the Lord, and will make you as a jewelled ring: for I have taken you to be mine, says the Lord of armies.

# Zechariah

**1** <sup>1</sup>In the eighth month, in the second year of Darius, the word of the Lord came to Zechariah, the son of Berechiah, the son of Iddo the prophet, saying,

<sup>2</sup>The Lord has been very angry with your fathers:

<sup>3</sup>And you are to say to them, These are the words of the Lord of armies: Come back to me, says the Lord of armies, and I will come back to you.

<sup>4</sup>Be not like your fathers, to whom the voice of the earlier prophets came, saying, Be turned now from your evil ways and from your evil doings: but they did not give ear to me or take note, says the Lord.

<sup>5</sup>Your fathers, where are they? and the prophets, do they go on living for ever?

<sup>6</sup>But my words and my orders, which I gave to my servants the prophets, have they not overtaken your fathers? and turning back they said, As it was the purpose of the Lord of armies to do

to us, in reward for our ways and our doings, so has he done.

<sup>7</sup>On the twenty-fourth day of the eleventh month, the month Shebat, in the second year of Darius, the word of the Lord came to Zechariah, the son of Berechiah, the son of Iddo the prophet, saying,

<sup>8</sup>I saw in the night a man on a red horse, between the mountains in the valley, and at his back were horses, red, black, white, and of mixed colours.

<sup>9</sup>Then I said, O my lord, what are these? And the angel who was talking to me said to me, I will make clear to you what they are.

<sup>10</sup>And the man who was between the mountains, answering me, said, These are those whom the Lord has sent to go up and down through the earth.

<sup>11</sup>And the man who was between the mountains, answering, said to the angel of the Lord, We have gone up and down through the earth, and all the earth is quiet and at rest.

<sup>12</sup>Then the angel of the Lord, answering, said, O Lord of armies, how long will it be before you have mercy on



Jerusalem and on the towns of Judah against which your wrath has been burning for seventy years?

<sup>13</sup>And the Lord gave an answer in good and comforting words to the angel who was talking to me.

<sup>14</sup>And the angel who was talking to me said to me, Let your voice be loud and say, These are the words of the Lord of armies: I am greatly moved about the fate of Jerusalem and of Zion.

<sup>15</sup>And I am very angry with the nations who are living untroubled: for when I was only a little angry, they made the evil worse.

<sup>16</sup>So this is what the Lord has said: I have come back to Jerusalem with mercies; my house is to be put up in her, says the Lord of armies, and a line is to be stretched out over Jerusalem.

<sup>17</sup>And again let your voice be loud and say, This is what the Lord of armies has said: My towns will again be overflowing with good things, and again the Lord will give comfort to Zion and take Jerusalem for himself.

<sup>18</sup>And lifting up my eyes I saw four horns.

<sup>19</sup>And I said to the angel who was talking to me, What are these? And he said to me, These are the horns which have sent Judah, Israel, and Jerusalem in flight.

<sup>20</sup>And the Lord gave me a vision of four metal-workers.

<sup>21</sup>Then I said, What have these come to do? And he said, These are the horns which sent Judah in flight, and kept him from lifting up his head: but these men have come to send fear on them and to put down the nations who are lifting up their horns against the land of Judah to send it in flight.

**2**<sup>1</sup>And lifting up my eyes, I saw a man with a measuring-line in his hand.

<sup>2</sup>And I said to him, Where are you going? And he said to me, To take the measure of Jerusalem, to see how wide and how long it is.

<sup>3</sup>And the angel who was talking to me went out, and another angel went out, and, meeting him,

<sup>4</sup>Said to him, Go quickly and say to this young man, Jerusalem will be an unwallled town, because of the great number of men and cattle in her.

<sup>5</sup>For I, says the Lord, will be a wall of fire round about her, and I will be the glory inside her.

<sup>6</sup>Ho, ho! go in flight from the land of the north, says the Lord: for I have sent you far and wide to the four winds of heaven, says the Lord.

<sup>7</sup>Ho! Zion, go in flight from danger, you who are living with the daughter of Babylon.

<sup>8</sup>For this is what the Lord of armies has said: In the way of glory he has sent me to the nations which have taken your goods: for anyone touching you is touching what is most dear to him.

<sup>9</sup>For at the shaking of my hand over them, their goods will be taken by those who were their servants: and you will see that the Lord of armies has sent me.

<sup>10</sup>Give songs of joy, O daughter of Zion: for I come, and I will make my resting-place among you, says the Lord.

<sup>11</sup>And a number of nations will be joined to the Lord in that day, and will become my people; and I will be living among you, and you will see that the Lord of armies has sent me to you.

<sup>12</sup>And Judah will be the Lords heritage in the holy land, and Jerusalem will again be his.

<sup>13</sup>Let all flesh be quiet and make no sound before the Lord: for he is awake and has come from his holy resting-place.

**3**<sup>1</sup>And he let me see Joshua, the high priest, in his place before the angel of the Lord, and the Satan at his right hand ready to take up a cause against him.

<sup>2</sup>And the Lord said to the Satan, May the Lords word be sharp against you, O Satan, the word of the Lord who has taken Jerusalem for himself: is this not a burning branch pulled out of the fire?

<sup>3</sup>Now Joshua was clothed in unclean robes, and he was in his place before the angel.

<sup>4</sup>And he made answer and said to those who were there before him, Take the unclean robes off him, and let him be clothed in clean robes;

<sup>5</sup>And let them put a clean head-dress on his head. So they put a clean head-dress on his head, clothing him with clean robes: and to him he said,

See, I have taken your sin away from you.

<sup>6</sup>And the angel of the Lord made a statement to Joshua, and said,

<sup>7</sup>These are the words of the Lord of armies: If you will go in my ways and keep what I have put in your care, then you will be judge over my Temple and have the care of my house, and I will give you the right to come in among those who are there.

<sup>8</sup>Give ear now, O Joshua, the high priest, you and your friends who are seated before you; for these are men who are a sign: for see, I will let my servant the Branch be seen.

<sup>9</sup>For see, the stone which I have put before Joshua; on one stone are seven eyes: see, the design cut on it will be my work, says the Lord of armies, and I will take away the sin of that land in one day.

<sup>10</sup>In that day, says the Lord of armies, you will be one anothers guests under the vine and under the fig-tree.

**4**<sup>1</sup>And the angel who was talking to me came again, awaking me as a man out of his sleep.

<sup>2</sup>And he said to me, What do you see? And I said, I see a light-support, made all of gold, with its cup on the top of it and seven lights on it; and there are seven pipes to every one of the lights which are on the top of it;

<sup>3</sup>And two olive-trees by it, one on the right side of the cup and one on the left.

<sup>4</sup>And I made answer and said to the angel who was talking to me, What are these, my lord?

<sup>5</sup>Then the angel who was talking to me, answering me, said, Have you no knowledge of what these are? And I said, No, my lord.

<sup>6</sup>This is the word of the Lord to Zerubbabel, saying, Not by force or by power, but by my spirit, says the Lord of armies.

<sup>7</sup>Who are you, O great mountain? before Zerubbabel you will become level: and he will let all see the headstone, with cries of Grace, grace, to it.

<sup>8</sup>Then the word of the Lord came to me, saying,

<sup>9</sup>The hands of Zerubbabel have put the base of this house in place, and his hands will make it complete; and it will

be clear to you that the Lord of armies has sent me to you.

<sup>10</sup>For who has had a poor opinion of the day of small things? for they will be glad when they see the weighted measuring-line in the hand of Zerubbabel. Then he said in answer to me, These seven lights are the eyes of the Lord which go quickly up and down through all the earth.

<sup>11</sup>And I made answer and said to him, What are these two olive-trees on the right side of the light-support and on the left?

<sup>12</sup>And answering a second time, I said to him, What are these two olive branches, through whose gold pipes the oil is drained out?

<sup>13</sup>And he said in answer to me, Have you no knowledge what these are? And I said, No, my lord.

<sup>14</sup>And he said, These are the two sons of oil, whose place is by the Lord of all the earth.

**5**<sup>1</sup>Then again lifting up my eyes I saw a roll in flight through the air.

<sup>2</sup>And he said to me, What do you see? And I said, A roll going through the air;

it is twenty cubits long and ten cubits wide.

<sup>3</sup>Then he said to me, This is the curse which goes out over the face of all the land: for long enough has every thief gone without punishment, and long enough has every taker of false oaths gone without punishment.

<sup>4</sup>And I will send it out, says the Lord of armies, and it will go into the house of the thief and into the house of him who takes a false oath by my name: and it will be in his house, causing its complete destruction, with its woodwork and its stones.

<sup>5</sup>And the angel who was talking to me went out and said to me, Let your eyes be lifted up now, and see the ephah which is going out.

<sup>6</sup>And I said, What is it? And he said, This is an ephah which is going out. And he said further, This is their evil-doing in all the land.

<sup>7</sup>And I saw a round cover of lead lifted up; and a woman was seated in the middle of the ephah.



<sup>8</sup>And he said, This is Sin; and pushing her down into the ephah, he put the weight of lead on the mouth of it.

<sup>9</sup>And lifting up my eyes I saw two women coming out, and the wind was in their wings; and they had wings like the wings of a stork: and they took the ephah, lifting it up between earth and heaven.

<sup>10</sup>And I said to the angel who was talking to me, Where are they taking the ephah?

<sup>11</sup>And he said to me, To make a house for her in the land of Shinar: and they will make a place ready, and put her there in the place which is hers.

**6**<sup>1</sup>And again lifting up my eyes I saw four war-carriages coming out from between the two mountains; and the mountains were mountains of brass.

<sup>2</sup>In the first war-carriage were red horses; and in the second, black horses;

<sup>3</sup>And in the third, white horses; and in the fourth, horses of mixed colour.

<sup>4</sup>And I made answer and said to the angel who was talking to me, What are these, my lord?

<sup>5</sup>And the angel, answering, said to me, These go out to the four winds of heaven from their place before the Lord of all the earth.

<sup>6</sup>The carriage in which are the black horses goes in the direction of the north country; the white go to the west; and those of mixed colour go in the direction of the south country.

<sup>7</sup>And the red ones go to the east; and they made request that they might go up and down through the earth: and he said, Go up and down through the earth. So they went up and down through the earth.

<sup>8</sup>Then crying out to me, he said, See, those who are going to the north country have given rest to the spirit of the Lord in the north country.

<sup>9</sup>And the word of the Lord came to me, saying,

<sup>10</sup>Take the offerings of those who went away as prisoners, from Heldai, Tobijah, and Jedaiah, and from the family of Josiah, the son of Zephaniah, who have come from Babylon;

<sup>11</sup> And take silver and gold and make a crown and put it on the head of Zerubbabel;

<sup>12</sup> And say to him, These are the words of the Lord of armies: See, the man whose name is the Branch, under whom there will be fertile growth.

<sup>13</sup> And he will be the builder of the Temple of the Lord; and the glory will be his, and he will take his place as ruler on the seat of power; and Joshua will be a priest at his right hand, and between them there will be a design of peace.

<sup>14</sup> And the crown will be for grace to Heldai and Tobijah and Jedaiah and the son of Zephaniah, to keep their memory living in the house of the Lord.

<sup>15</sup> And those who are far away will come and be builders in the Temple of the Lord, and it will be clear to you that the Lord of armies has sent me to you.

**7**<sup>1</sup> And it came about in the fourth year of King Darius, that the word of the Lord came to Zechariah on the fourth day of the ninth month, the month Chislev.

<sup>2</sup> Now they of Beth-el had sent Sharezer and Regem-melech to make a request for grace from the Lord,

<sup>3</sup> And to say to the priests of the house of the Lord of armies and to the prophets, Am I to go on weeping in the fifth month, separating myself as I have done in past years?

<sup>4</sup> Then the word of the Lord of armies came to me, saying

<sup>5</sup> Say to all the people of the land and to the priests, When you went without food and gave yourselves to grief in the fifth and the seventh months for these seventy years, did you ever do it because of me?

<sup>6</sup> And when you are feasting and drinking, are you not doing it only for yourselves?

<sup>7</sup> Are not these the words which the Lord said to you by the earlier prophets, when Jerusalem was full of people and wealth, and the towns round about her and the South and the Lowland were peopled?

<sup>8</sup> And the word of the Lord came to Zechariah, saying,

<sup>9</sup>This is what the Lord of armies has said: Let your judging be upright and done in good faith, let every man have mercy and pity for his brother:

<sup>10</sup>Do not be hard on the widow, or the child without a father, on the man from a strange country, or on the poor; let there be no evil thought in your heart against your brother.

<sup>11</sup>But they would not give attention, turning their backs and stopping their ears from hearing;

<sup>12</sup>And they made their hearts like the hardest stone, so that they might not give ear to the law and the words which the Lord of armies had said by the earlier prophets: and there came great wrath from the Lord of armies.

<sup>13</sup>And it came about that as they would not give ear to his voice, so I would not give ear to their voice, says the Lord of armies:

<sup>14</sup>But with a storm-wind I sent them in flight among all the nations of whom they had no knowledge. So the land was waste after them, so that no man went through or came back: for they had made waste the desired land.

**8**<sup>1</sup> And the word of the Lord of armies came to me, saying,

<sup>2</sup> These are the words of the Lord of armies: I am angry about the fate of Zion, I am angry about her with great wrath.

<sup>3</sup> This is what the Lord has said: I have come back to Zion, and will make my living-place in Jerusalem: and Jerusalem will be named The town of good faith; and the mountain of the Lord of armies The holy mountain.

<sup>4</sup> This is what the Lord of armies has said: There will again be old men and old women seated in the open spaces of Jerusalem, every man with his stick in his hand because he is so old.

<sup>5</sup> And the open spaces of the town will be full of boys and girls playing in its open spaces.

<sup>6</sup> This is what the Lord of armies has said: If this is a wonder to the rest of this people, is it a wonder to me? says the Lord of armies.

<sup>7</sup> This is what the Lord of armies has said: See, I will be the saviour of my people from the east country, and from the west country;

<sup>8</sup>And I will make them come and be living in Jerusalem and they will be to me a people and I will be to them a God, in good faith and in righteousness.

<sup>9</sup>This is what the Lord of armies has said: Let your hands be strong, you who are now hearing these words from the mouths of the prophets, that is to say, in the days when the base of the house of the Lord of armies has been put in place for the building of the house, that is the Temple.

<sup>10</sup>For before those days there was no payment for a mans work, or for the use of a beast, and there was no peace for him who went out or him who came in, because of the attacker: for I had every man turned against his neighbour.

<sup>11</sup>But now I will not be to the rest of this people as I was in the past, says the Lord of armies.

<sup>12</sup>For I will let the seed of peace be planted; the vine will give her fruit and the land will give her increase and the heavens will give their dew; and I will give to the rest of this people all these things for their heritage.

<sup>13</sup>And it will come about that, as you were a curse among the nations, O children of Judah and children of Israel, so I will give you salvation and you will be a blessing: have no fear and let your hands be strong.

<sup>14</sup>For this is what the Lord of armies has said: As it was my purpose to do evil to you when your fathers made me angry, says the Lord of armies, and my purpose was not changed:

<sup>15</sup>So in these days it is again my purpose to do good to Jerusalem and to the children of Judah: have no fear.

<sup>16</sup>These are the things which you are to do: Let every man say what is true to his neighbour; and let your judging give peace in your towns.

<sup>17</sup>Let no one have any evil thought in his heart against his neighbour; and have no love for false oaths: for all these things are hated by me, says the Lord.

<sup>18</sup>And the word of the Lord of armies came to me, saying,

<sup>19</sup>This is what the Lord of armies has said: The times of going without food in the fourth month and in the fifth and the seventh and the tenth months, will be



for the people of Judah times of joy and happy meetings; so be lovers of good faith and of peace.

<sup>20</sup>This is what the Lord of armies has said: It will again come about that when peoples and those living in great towns come,

<sup>21</sup>And the people of one town go to another and say, Let us certainly go with a request for grace from the Lord, and to give worship to the Lord of armies, then I will go with you.

<sup>22</sup>And great peoples and strong nations will come to give worship to the Lord of armies in Jerusalem and to make requests for grace from the Lord.

<sup>23</sup>This is what the Lord of armies has said: In those days, ten men from all the languages of the nations will put out their hands and take a grip of the skirt of him who is a Jew, saying, We will go with you, for it has come to our ears that God is with you.

**9**<sup>1</sup>A word of the Lord: The Lord has come to the land of Hadrach, and Damascus is his resting-place: for the towns of Aram are the Lords,

<sup>2</sup>As well as Hamath, which is by its limit, and Tyre and Zidon, because they are very wise.

<sup>3</sup>And Tyre made for herself a strong place, and got together silver like dust and the best gold like the earth of the streets.

<sup>4</sup>See, the Lord will take away her heritage, overturning her power in the sea; and she will be burned up with fire.

<sup>5</sup>Ashkelon will see it with fear, and Gaza, bent with pain; and Ekron, for her hope will be shamed: and the king will be cut off from Gaza, and Ashkelon will be unpeopled.

<sup>6</sup>And a mixed people will be living in Ashdod, and I will have the pride of the Philistines cut off.

<sup>7</sup>And I will take away his blood from his mouth, and his disgusting things from between his teeth; and some of his people will be kept for our God: and he will be as a family in Judah, and Ekron as one living in Jerusalem.

<sup>8</sup>And I will put my forces in position round my house, so that there may be no coming and going: and no cruel

master will again go through them: for now I have seen his trouble.

<sup>9</sup>Be full of joy, O daughter of Zion; give a glad cry, O daughter of Jerusalem: see, your king comes to you: he is upright and has overcome; gentle and seated on an ass, on a young ass.

<sup>10</sup>And he will have the war-carriage cut off from Ephraim, and the horse from Jerusalem, and the bow of war will be cut off: and he will say words of peace to the nations: and his rule will be from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth.

<sup>11</sup>And as for you, because of the blood of your agreement, I have sent out your prisoners from the deep hole in which there is no water.

<sup>12</sup>And they will come back to you, O daughter of Zion, as prisoners of hope: today I say to you that I will give you back twice as much;

<sup>13</sup>For I have made Judah a bow bent for my use, I have made Ephraim the arrows of the bow; I will make your sons, O Zion, take up arms against your sons, O Greece, and will make you like the sword of a man of war.

<sup>14</sup>And the Lord will be seen over them, and his arrow will go out like the thunder-flame: and the Lord God, sounding the war-horn, will go in the storm-winds of the South.

<sup>15</sup>The Lord of armies will be a cover for them; and they will overcome, crushing under foot the armed men; they will take their blood for drink like wine: they will be full like the sides of the altar.

<sup>16</sup>And the Lord their God will be their saviour in that day, giving them food like the flock of his people: for they will be like the jewels of a crown shining over his land.

<sup>17</sup>For how good it is and how beautiful! grain will make the young men strong and new wine the virgins.

**10**<sup>1</sup>Make your request to the Lord for rain in the time of the spring rains, even to the Lord who makes the thunder-flames; and he will give them showers of rain, to every man grass in the field.

<sup>2</sup>For the images have said what is not true, and the readers of signs have seen deceit; they have given accounts of false dreams, they give comfort to no

purpose: so they go out of the way like sheep, they are troubled because they have no keeper.

<sup>3</sup>My wrath is burning against the keepers of the flock, and I will send punishment on the he-goats: for the Lord of armies takes care of his flock, the people of Judah, and will make them like the horse of his pride in the fight.

<sup>4</sup>From him will come the keystone, from him the nail, from him the bow of war, from him will come every ruler;

<sup>5</sup>Together they will be like men of war, crushing down their haters into the earth of the streets in the fight; they will make war because the Lord is with them: and the horsemen will be shamed.

<sup>6</sup>And I will make the children of Judah strong, and I will be the saviour of the children of Joseph, and I will make them come back again, for I have had mercy on them: they will be as if I had not given them up: for I am the Lord their God and I will give them an answer.

<sup>7</sup>And Ephraim will be like a man of war, and their hearts will be glad as with wine; and their children will see it with joy; their hearts will be glad in the Lord.

<sup>8</sup>With the sound of the pipe I will get them together; for I have given the price to make them free: and they will be increased as they were increased.

<sup>9</sup>Though I had them planted among the peoples, they will keep me in mind in far countries: and they will take care of their children and will come back.

<sup>10</sup>And I will make them come back out of the land of Egypt, and will get them together out of Assyria; and I will take them into the land of Gilead, and it will not be wide enough for them.

<sup>11</sup>And they will go through the sea of Egypt, and all the deep waters of the Nile will become dry: and the pride of Assyria will be made low, and the power of Egypt will be taken away.

<sup>12</sup>And their strength will be in the Lord; and their pride will be in his name, says the Lord.

**11** <sup>1</sup>Let your doors be open, O Lebanon, so that fire may be burning among your cedars.

<sup>2</sup>Give a cry of grief, O fir-tree, for the fall of the cedar, because the great ones have been made low: give cries of grief,

O you oaks of Bashan, for the strong trees of the wood have come down.

<sup>3</sup>The sound of the crying of the keepers of the flock! for their glory is made waste: the sound of the loud crying of the young lions! for the pride of Jordan is made waste.

<sup>4</sup>This is what the Lord my God has said: Take care of the flock of death;

<sup>5</sup>Whose owners put them to death and have no sense of sin; and those who get a price for them say, May the Lord be praised for I have much wealth: and the keepers of the flock have no pity for them.

<sup>6</sup>For I will have no more pity for the people of the land, says the Lord; but I will give up everyone into his neighbours hand and into the hand of his king: and they will make the land waste, and I will not keep them safe from their hands.

<sup>7</sup>So I took care of the flock of death, for those who made profit out of the flock; and I took for myself two rods, naming one Beautiful, and the other Bands; and I took care of the flock.

<sup>8</sup>And in one month I put an end to the three keepers of the flock; for my soul

was tired of them, and their souls were disgusted with me.

<sup>9</sup>And I said, I will not take care of you: If death comes to any, let death be its fate; if any is cut off, let it be cut off; and let the rest take one anothers flesh for food.

<sup>10</sup>And I took my rod Beautiful, cutting it in two, so that the Lords agreement, which he had made with all the peoples, might be broken.

<sup>11</sup>And it was broken on that day: and the sheep-traders, who were watching me, were certain that it was the word of the Lord.

<sup>12</sup>And I said to them, If it seems good to you, give me my payment; and if not, do not give it. So they gave me my payment by weight, thirty shekels of silver.

<sup>13</sup>And the Lord said to me, Put it into the store-house, the price at which I was valued by them. And I took the thirty shekels of silver and put them into the store-house in the house of the Lord.

<sup>14</sup>Then I took my other rod, the one named Bands, cutting it in two, so that



the relation of brothers between Judah and Israel might be broken.

<sup>15</sup>And the Lord said to me, Take again the instruments of a foolish keeper of sheep.

<sup>16</sup>For see, I will put a sheep-keeper over the land, who will have no care for that which is cut off, and will not go in search of the wanderers, or make well what is broken, and he will not give food to that which is ill, but he will take for his food the flesh of the fat, and let their feet be broken.

<sup>17</sup>A curse on the foolish keeper who goes away from the flock! the sword will be on his arm and on his right eye: his arm will become quite dry and his eye will be made completely dark.

**12**<sup>1</sup>The word of the Lord about Israel. The Lord by whom the heavens are stretched out and the bases of the earth put in place, and the spirit of man formed inside him, has said:

<sup>2</sup>See, I will make Jerusalem a cup of shaking fear to all the peoples round about, when Jerusalem is shut in.

<sup>3</sup>And it will come about in that day that I will make Jerusalem a stone of great

weight for all the peoples; all those who take it up will be badly wounded; and all the nations of the earth will come together against it.

<sup>4</sup>In that day, says the Lord, I will put fear into every horse and make every horseman go off his head: and my eyes will be open on the people of Judah, and I will make every horse of the peoples blind.

<sup>5</sup>And the families of Judah will say in their hearts, The people of Jerusalem have their strength in the Lord of armies, their God.

<sup>6</sup>In that day I will make the families of Judah like a pot with fire in it among trees, and like a flaming stick among cut grain; they will send destruction on all the peoples round about, on the right hand and on the left: and Jerusalem will be living again in the place which is hers, that is, in Jerusalem.

<sup>7</sup>And the Lord will give salvation to the tents of Judah first, so that the glory of the family of David and the glory of the people of Jerusalem may not be greater than that of Judah.

<sup>8</sup>In that day the Lord will be a cover over the people of Jerusalem; and he who is feeble among them in that day will be as strong as David, and the family of David will be as God, as the angel of the Lord before them.

<sup>9</sup>And it will come about on that day that I will take in hand the destruction of all the nations who come against Jerusalem.

<sup>10</sup>And I will send down on the family of David and on the people of Jerusalem the spirit of grace and of prayer; and their eyes will be turned to the one who was wounded by their hands: and they will be weeping for him as for an only son, and their grief for him will be bitter, like the grief of one sorrowing for his oldest son.

<sup>11</sup>In that day there will be a great weeping in Jerusalem, like the weeping of Hadad-rimmon in the valley of Megiddon.

<sup>12</sup>And the land will give itself to weeping, every family separately; the family of David by themselves, and their wives by themselves; the family of

Nathan by themselves, and their wives by themselves;

<sup>13</sup>The family of Levi by themselves, and their wives by themselves; the family of Shimei by themselves, and their wives by themselves;

<sup>14</sup>And all the other families by themselves, and their wives by themselves.

**13**<sup>1</sup>In that day there will be a fountain open to the family of David and to the people of Jerusalem, for sin and for that which is unclean.

<sup>2</sup>And it will come about on that day, says the Lord of armies, that I will have the names of the images cut off out of the land, and there will be no more memory of them: and I will send all the prophets and the unclean spirit away from the land.

<sup>3</sup>And if anyone goes on acting as a prophet, then his father and his mother who gave him life will say to him, You may not go on living, for you are saying what is false in the name of the Lord; and his father and his mother will put a sword through him when he does so.

<sup>4</sup>And it will come about in that day that the prophets will be shamed, every man on account of his vision, when he is talking as a prophet; and they will not put on a robe of hair for purposes of deceit:

<sup>5</sup>But he will say, I am no prophet, but a worker on the land; for I have been an owner of land from the time when I was young.

<sup>6</sup>And if anyone says to him, What are these wounds between your hands? then he will say, Those with which I was wounded in the house of my friends.

<sup>7</sup>Awake! O sword, against the keeper of my flock, and against him who is with me, says the Lord of armies: put to death the keeper of the sheep, and the sheep will go in flight: and my hand will be turned against the little ones.

<sup>8</sup>And it will come about that in all the land, says the Lord, two parts of it will be cut off and come to an end; but the third will be still living there.

<sup>9</sup>And I will make the third part go through the fire, cleaning them as silver is made clean, and testing them as gold is tested: and they will make their prayer

to me and I will give them an answer: I will say, It is my people; and they will say, The Lord is my God.

**14**<sup>1</sup> See, a day of the Lord is coming when they will make division of your goods taken by force before your eyes.

<sup>2</sup> For I will get all the nations together to make war against Jerusalem; and the town will be overcome, and the goods taken from the houses, and the women taken by force: and half the town will go away as prisoners, and the rest of the people will not be cut off from the town.

<sup>3</sup> Then the Lord will go out and make war against those nations, as he did in the day of the fight.

<sup>4</sup> And in that day his feet will be on the Mount of Olives, which is opposite Jerusalem on the east, and the Mount of Olives will be parted in the middle to the east and to the west, forming a very great valley; and half the mountain will be moved to the north and half of it to the south.

<sup>5</sup> And the valley will be stopped and you will go in flight as you went in flight from the earth-shock in the days of Uzziah,

king of Judah: and the Lord my God will come, and all his holy ones with him.

<sup>6</sup>And in that day there will be no heat or cold or ice;

<sup>7</sup>And it will be unbroken day, such as the Lord has knowledge of, without change of day and night, and even at nightfall it will be light.

<sup>8</sup>And on that day living waters will go out from Jerusalem; half of them flowing to the sea on the east and half to the sea on the west: in summer and in winter it will be so.

<sup>9</sup>And the Lord will be King over all the earth: in that day there will be one Lord and his name one.

<sup>10</sup>And all the land will become like the Arabah, from Geba to Rimmon south of Jerusalem; and she will be lifted up and be living in her place; from the doorway of Benjamin to the place of the first doorway, to the doorway of the angle, and from the tower of Hananel to the kings wine-crushing places, men will be living in her.

<sup>11</sup>And there will be no more curse; but Jerusalem will be living without fear of danger.

<sup>12</sup>And this will be the disease which the Lord will send on all the peoples which have been warring against Jerusalem: their flesh will be wasted away while they are on their feet, their eyes will be wasted in their heads and their tongues in their mouths.

<sup>13</sup>And it will be on that day that a great fear will be sent among them from the Lord; and everyone will take his neighbours hand, and every mans hand will be lifted against his neighbours.

<sup>14</sup>And even Judah will be fighting against Jerusalem; and the wealth of all the nations round about will be massed together, a great store of gold and silver and clothing.

<sup>15</sup>And the horses and the transport beasts, the camels and the asses and all the beasts in those tents will be attacked by the same disease.

<sup>16</sup>And it will come about that everyone who is still living, of all those nations who came against Jerusalem, will go up from year to year to give worship to the King, the Lord of armies, and to keep the feast of tents.



<sup>17</sup> And it will be that if any one of all the families of the earth does not go up to Jerusalem to give worship to the King, the Lord of armies, on them there will be no rain.

<sup>18</sup> And if the family of Egypt does not go up or come there, they will be attacked by the disease which the Lord will send on the nations:

<sup>19</sup> This will be the punishment of Egypt, and the punishment of all the nations who do not go up to keep the feast of tents.

<sup>20</sup> On that day all the bells of the horses will be holy to the Lord, and the pots in the Lords house will be like the basins before the altar.

<sup>21</sup> And every pot in Jerusalem and in Judah will be holy to the Lord of armies: and all those who make offerings will come and take them for boiling their offerings: in that day there will be no more traders in the house of the Lord of armies.

# Malachi

**1** <sup>1</sup> The word of the Lord to Israel by Malachi.

<sup>2</sup> You have been loved by me, says the Lord. But you say, Where was your love for us? Was not Esau Jacobs brother? says the Lord: but Jacob was loved by me,

<sup>3</sup> And Esau was hated, and I sent destruction on his mountains, and gave his heritage to the beasts of the waste land.

<sup>4</sup> Though Edom says, We are crushed down but we will come back, building up the waste places; this is what the Lord of armies has said: They may put up buildings, but I will have them pulled down; and they will be named The land of evil-doing, and The people against whom the Lord keeps his wrath for ever.

<sup>5</sup> And your eyes will see it; and you will say, The Lord is great even outside the limits of Israel.

<sup>6</sup> A son gives honour to his father, and a servant has fear of his master: if then

I am a father, where is my honour? and if I am a master, where is the fear of me? says the Lord of armies to you, O priests, who give no value to my name. And you say, How have we not given value to your name?

<sup>7</sup>You put unclean bread on my altar. And you say, How have we made it unclean? By your saying, The table of the Lord is of no value.

<sup>8</sup>And when you give what is blind for an offering, it is no evil! and when you give what is damaged and ill, it is no evil! Give it now to your ruler; will he be pleased with you, or will you have his approval? says the Lord of armies.

<sup>9</sup>And now, make request for the grace of God so that he may have mercy on us: this has been your doing: will he give his approval to any of you? says the Lord of armies.

<sup>10</sup>If only there was one among you who would see that the doors were shut, so that you might not put a light to the fire on my altar for nothing! I have no pleasure in you, says the Lord of armies, and I will not take an offering from your hands.

<sup>11</sup> For, from the coming up of the sun till its going down, my name is great among the Gentiles; and in every place the smell of burning flesh is offered to my name, and a clean offering: for my name is great among the Gentiles, says the Lord of armies.

<sup>12</sup> But you make it unholy by saying, The Lords table has become unclean, and his food is of no value.

<sup>13</sup> And you say, See, what a weariness it is! and you let out your breath at it, says the Lord of armies; and you have given what has been cut about by beasts, and what is damaged in its feet and ill; this is the offering you give: will this be pleasing to me from your hands? says the Lord.

<sup>14</sup> A curse on the false man who has a male in his flock, and takes his oath, and gives to the Lord a damaged thing: for I am a great King, says the Lord of armies, and my name is to be feared among the Gentiles.

**2**<sup>1</sup> And now, O you priests, this order is for you.

<sup>2</sup> If you will not give ear and take it to heart, to give glory to my name, says

the Lord of armies, then I will send the curse on you and will put a curse on your blessing: truly, even now I have put a curse on it, because you do not take it to heart.

<sup>3</sup>See, I will have your arm cut off, and will put waste on your faces, even the waste from your feasts; and you will be taken away with it.

<sup>4</sup>And you will be certain that I have sent this order to you, so that it might be my agreement with Levi, says the Lord of armies.

<sup>5</sup>My agreement with him was on my side life and peace, and I gave them to him; on his side fear, and he had fear of me and gave honour to my name.

<sup>6</sup>True teaching was in his mouth, and no evil was seen on his lips: he was walking with me in peace and righteousness, turning numbers of people away from evil-doing.

<sup>7</sup>For it is right for the priests lips to keep knowledge, and for men to be waiting for the law from his mouth: for he is the servant sent from the Lord of armies.

<sup>8</sup>But you are turned out of the way; you have made the law hard for numbers of people; you have made the agreement of Levi of no value, says the Lord of armies.

<sup>9</sup>And so I have taken away your honour and made you low before all the people, even as you have not kept my ways, and have given no thought to me in using the law.

<sup>10</sup>Have we not all one father? has not one God made us? why are we, every one of us, acting falsely to his brother, putting shame on the agreement of our fathers?

<sup>11</sup>Judah has been acting falsely, and a disgusting thing has been done in Jerusalem; for Judah has made unclean the holy place of the Lord which is dear to him, and has taken as his wife the daughter of a strange god.

<sup>12</sup>The Lord will have the man who does this cut off root and branch out of the tents of Jacob, and him who makes an offering to the Lord of armies.

<sup>13</sup>And this again you do: covering the altar of the Lord with weeping and with grief, so that he gives no more thought

to the offering, and does not take it with pleasure from your hand.

<sup>14</sup>But you say, For what reason? Because the Lord has been a witness between you and the wife of your early years, to whom you have been untrue, though she is your friend and the wife to whom you have given your word.

<sup>15</sup>So give thought to your spirit, and let no one be false to the wife of his early years.

<sup>16</sup>For I am against the putting away of a wife, says the Lord, the God of Israel, and against him who is clothed with violent acts, says the Lord of armies: so give thought to your spirit and do not be false in your acts.

<sup>17</sup>You have made the Lord tired with your words. And still you say, How have we made him tired? By your saying, Everyone who does evil is good in the eyes of the Lord, and he has delight in them; or, Where is God the judge?

**3**<sup>1</sup>See, I am sending my servant, and he will make ready the way before me; and the Lord, whom you are looking for, will suddenly come to his Temple; and the angel of the agreement, in whom

you have delight, see, he is coming, says the Lord of armies.

<sup>2</sup>But by whom may the day of his coming be faced? and who may keep his place when he is seen? for he is like the metal-testers fire and the cleaners soap.

<sup>3</sup>He will take his seat, testing and cleaning the sons of Levi, burning away the evil from them as from gold and silver; so that they may make offerings to the Lord in righteousness.

<sup>4</sup>Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord, as in days gone by, and as in past years.

<sup>5</sup>And I will come near to you for judging; I will quickly be a witness against the wonder-workers, against those who have been untrue in married life, against those who take false oaths; against those who keep back from the servant his payment, and who are hard on the widow and the child without a father, who do not give his rights to the man from a strange country, and have no fear of me, says the Lord of armies.

<sup>6</sup>For I am the Lord, I am unchanged; and so you, O sons of Jacob, have not been cut off.



<sup>7</sup>From the days of your fathers you have been turned away from my rules and have not kept them. Come back to me, and I will come back to you, says the Lord of armies. But you say, How are we to come back?

<sup>8</sup>Will a man keep back from God what is right? But you have kept back what is mine. But you say, What have we kept back from you? Tenthhs and offerings.

<sup>9</sup>You are cursed with a curse; for you have kept back from me what is mine, even all this nation.

<sup>10</sup>Let your tenths come into the store-house so that there may be food in my house, and put me to the test by doing so, says the Lord of armies, and see if I do not make the windows of heaven open and send down such a blessing on you that there is no room for it.

<sup>11</sup>And on your account I will keep back the locusts from wasting the fruits of your land; and the fruit of your vine will not be dropped on the field before its time, says the Lord of armies

<sup>12</sup>And you will be named happy by all nations: for you will be a land of delight, says the Lord of armies.

<sup>13</sup>Your words have been strong against me, says the Lord. And still you say, What have we said against you?

<sup>14</sup>You have said, It is no use worshipping God: what profit have we had from keeping his orders, and going in clothing of sorrow before the Lord of armies?

<sup>15</sup>And now to us the men of pride seem happy; yes, the evil-doers are doing well; they put God to the test and are safe.

<sup>16</sup>Then those in whom was the fear of the Lord had talk together: and the Lord gave ear, and it was recorded in a book to be kept in mind before him, for those who had the fear of the Lord and gave thought to his name.

<sup>17</sup>And they will be mine, says the Lord, in the day when I make them my special property; and I will have mercy on them as a man has mercy on his son who is his servant.

<sup>18</sup>Then you will again see how the upright man is different from the sinner,

and the servant of God from him who is not.

**4**<sup>1</sup> For see, the day is coming, it is burning like an oven; all the men of pride and all who do evil will be dry stems of grass: and in the day which is coming they will be burned up, says the Lord of armies, till they have not a root or a branch.

<sup>2</sup> But to you who give worship to my name, the sun of righteousness will come up with new life in its wings; and you will go out, playing like young oxen full of food.

<sup>3</sup> And the evil-doers will be crushed under you, they will be dust under your feet, in the day when I do my work, says the Lord of armies.

<sup>4</sup> Keep in mind the law of Moses, my servant, which I gave him in Horeb for all Israel, even the rules and the decisions.

<sup>5</sup> See, I am sending you Elijah the prophet before the day of the Lord comes, that great day, greatly to be feared.

<sup>6</sup> And by him the hearts of fathers will be turned to their children, and the hearts of children to their fathers; for

fear that I may come and put the earth  
under a curse.

Bible in Basic English - Date Apr. 1994

1949/1964 Bible In Basic English  
Public Domain

The Bible In Basic English was printed  
in 1965 by Cambridge Press in England.

PLEASE MAKE COPIES FOR YOUR FRIENDS, NO ROYALTY DUE.