

New King James Version

Old Testament
(Psalms – Malachi)

Psalms

1 ¹ Blessed is the man Who walks not
in the counsel of the ungodly, Nor
stands in the path of sinners, Nor sits in
the seat of the scornful;

² But his delight is in the law of the
LORD, And in His law he meditates day
and night.

³ He shall be like a tree Planted by the
rivers of water, That brings forth its
fruit in its season, Whose leaf also shall
not wither; And whatever he does shall
prosper.

⁴ The ungodly are not so, But are like
the chaff which the wind drives away.

⁵ Therefore the ungodly shall not stand
in the judgment, Nor sinners in the
congregation of the righteous.

⁶ For the LORD knows the way of the righteous, But the way of the ungodly shall perish.

2 ¹ Why do the nations rage, And the people plot a vain thing?

² The kings of the earth set themselves, And the rulers take counsel together, Against the LORD and against His Anointed, saying,

³ "Let us break Their bonds in pieces And cast away Their cords from us."

⁴ He who sits in the heavens shall laugh; The Lord shall hold them in derision.

⁵ Then He shall speak to them in His wrath, And distress them in His deep displeasure:

⁶ "Yet I have set My King On My holy hill of Zion."

⁷ "I will declare the decree: The LORD has said to Me, 'You are My Son, Today I have begotten You.

⁸ Ask of Me, and I will give You The nations for Your inheritance, And the ends of the earth for Your possession.

⁹ You shall break them with a rod of iron; You shall dash them to pieces like a potter's vessel."

¹⁰ Now therefore, be wise, O kings; Be instructed, you judges of the earth.

¹¹ Serve the LORD with fear, And rejoice with trembling.

¹² Kiss the Son, lest He be angry, And you perish in the way, When His wrath is kindled but a little. Blessed are all those who put their trust in Him.

3 ¹ "A Psalm of David when he fled from Absalom his son." LORD, how they have increased who trouble me! Many are they who rise up against me.

² Many are they who say of me, "There is no help for him in God." Selah

³ But You, O LORD, are a shield for me,
My glory and the One who lifts up my
head.

⁴ I cried to the LORD with my voice, And
He heard me from His holy hill. Selah

⁵ I lay down and slept; I awoke, for the
LORD sustained me.

⁶ I will not be afraid of ten thousands of
people Who have set themselves against
me all around.

⁷ Arise, O LORD; Save me, O my God!
For You have struck all my enemies on
the cheekbone; You have broken the
teeth of the ungodly.

⁸ Salvation belongs to the LORD. Your
blessing is upon Your people. Selah

4¹ “To the Chief Musician. With
stringed instruments. A Psalm of
David.” Hear me when I call, O God of
my righteousness! You have relieved me
in my distress; Have mercy on me, and
hear my prayer.

² How long, O you sons of men, Will you turn my glory to shame? How long will you love worthlessness And seek falsehood? Selah

³ But know that the LORD has set apart for Himself him who is godly; The LORD will hear when I call to Him.

⁴ Be angry, and do not sin. Meditate within your heart on your bed, and be still. Selah

⁵ Offer the sacrifices of righteousness, And put your trust in the LORD.

⁶ There are many who say, "Who will show us any good?" LORD, lift up the light of Your countenance upon us.

⁷ You have put gladness in my heart, More than in the season that their grain and wine increased.

⁸ I will both lie down in peace, and sleep; For You alone, O LORD, make me dwell in safety.

5 ¹ “To the Chief Musician. With flutes.
A Psalm of David.” Give ear to my
words, O LORD, Consider my meditation.

² Give heed to the voice of my cry, My
King and my God, For to You I will pray.

³ My voice You shall hear in the
morning, O LORD; In the morning I will
direct it to You, And I will look up.

⁴ For You are not a God who takes
pleasure in wickedness, Nor shall evil
dwell with You.

⁵ The boastful shall not stand in Your
sight; You hate all workers of iniquity.

⁶ You shall destroy those who speak
falsehood; The LORD abhors the
bloodthirsty and deceitful man.

⁷ But as for me, I will come into Your
house in the multitude of Your mercy;
In fear of You I will worship toward Your
holy temple.

⁸ Lead me, O LORD, in Your righteousness because of my enemies; Make Your way straight before my face.

⁹ For there is no faithfulness in their mouth; Their inward part is destruction; Their throat is an open tomb; They flatter with their tongue.

¹⁰ Pronounce them guilty, O God! Let them fall by their own counsels; Cast them out in the multitude of their transgressions, For they have rebelled against You.

¹¹ But let all those rejoice who put their trust in You; Let them ever shout for joy, because You defend them; Let those also who love Your name Be joyful in You.

¹² For You, O LORD, will bless the righteous; With favor You will surround him as with a shield.

6¹ “To the Chief Musician. With stringed instruments. On an eight-stringed harp. A Psalm of David.” O

LORD, do not rebuke me in Your anger,
Nor chasten me in Your hot displeasure.

² Have mercy on me, O LORD, for I am weak; O LORD, heal me, for my bones are troubled.

³ My soul also is greatly troubled; But You, O LORD—how long?

⁴ Return, O LORD, deliver me! Oh, save me for Your mercies' sake!

⁵ For in death there is no remembrance of You; In the grave who will give You thanks?

⁶ I am weary with my groaning; All night I make my bed swim; I drench my couch with my tears.

⁷ My eye wastes away because of grief; It grows old because of all my enemies.

⁸ Depart from me, all you workers of iniquity; For the LORD has heard the voice of my weeping.

⁹ The LORD has heard my supplication; The LORD will receive my prayer.

¹⁰ Let all my enemies be ashamed and greatly troubled; Let them turn back and be ashamed suddenly.

7 ¹ “A Meditation of David, which he sang to the LORD concerning the words of Cush, a Benjamite.” O LORD my God, in You I put my trust; Save me from all those who persecute me; And deliver me,

² Lest they tear me like a lion, Rending me in pieces, while there is none to deliver.

³ O LORD my God, if I have done this: If there is iniquity in my hands,

⁴ If I have repaid evil to him who was at peace with me, Or have plundered my enemy without cause,

⁵ Let the enemy pursue me and overtake me; Yes, let him trample my life to the earth, And lay my honor in the dust. Selah

⁶ Arise, O LORD, in Your anger; Lift Yourself up because of the rage of my enemies; Rise up for me to the judgment You have commanded!

⁷ So the congregation of the peoples shall surround You; For their sakes, therefore, return on high.

⁸ The LORD shall judge the peoples; Judge me, O LORD, according to my righteousness, And according to my integrity within me.

⁹ Oh, let the wickedness of the wicked come to an end, But establish the just; For the righteous God tests the hearts and minds.

¹⁰ My defense is of God, Who saves the upright in heart.

¹¹ God is a just judge, And God is angry with the wicked every day.

¹² If he does not turn back, He will sharpen His sword; He bends His bow and makes it ready.

¹³ He also prepares for Himself instruments of death; He makes His arrows into fiery shafts.

¹⁴ Behold, the wicked brings forth iniquity; Yes, he conceives trouble and brings forth falsehood.

¹⁵ He made a pit and dug it out, And has fallen into the ditch which he made.

¹⁶ His trouble shall return upon his own head, And his violent dealing shall come down on his own crown.

¹⁷ I will praise the LORD according to His righteousness, And will sing praise to the name of the LORD Most High.

8¹ “To the Chief Musician. On the instrument of Gath. A Psalm of David.” O LORD, our Lord, How excellent is Your name in all the earth, Who have set Your glory above the heavens!

² Out of the mouth of babes and nursing infants You have ordained strength,

Because of Your enemies, That You may silence the enemy and the avenger.

³ When I consider Your heavens, the work of Your fingers, The moon and the stars, which You have ordained,

⁴ What is man that You are mindful of him, And the son of man that You visit him?

⁵ For You have made him a little lower than the angels, And You have crowned him with glory and honor.

⁶ You have made him to have dominion over the works of Your hands; You have put all things under his feet,

⁷ All sheep and oxen—Even the beasts of the field,

⁸ The birds of the air, And the fish of the sea That pass through the paths of the seas.

⁹ O LORD, our Lord, How excellent is Your name in all the earth!

9¹ "To the Chief Musician. To the tune of "Death of the Son." A Psalm of David." I will praise You, O LORD, with my whole heart; I will tell of all Your marvelous works.

² I will be glad and rejoice in You; I will sing praise to Your name, O Most High.

³ When my enemies turn back, They shall fall and perish at Your presence.

⁴ For You have maintained my right and my cause; You sat on the throne judging in righteousness.

⁵ You have rebuked the nations, You have destroyed the wicked; You have blotted out their name forever and ever.

⁶ O enemy, destructions are finished forever! And you have destroyed cities; Even their memory has perished.

⁷ But the LORD shall endure forever; He has prepared His throne for judgment.

⁸ He shall judge the world in righteousness, And He shall administer judgment for the peoples in uprightness.

⁹ The LORD also will be a refuge for the oppressed, A refuge in times of trouble.

¹⁰ And those who know Your name will put their trust in You; For You, LORD, have not forsaken those who seek You.

¹¹ Sing praises to the LORD, who dwells in Zion! Declare His deeds among the people.

¹² When He avenges blood, He remembers them; He does not forget the cry of the humble.

¹³ Have mercy on me, O LORD! Consider my trouble from those who hate me, You who lift me up from the gates of death,

¹⁴ That I may tell of all Your praise In the gates of the daughter of Zion. I will rejoice in Your salvation.

¹⁵ The nations have sunk down in the pit which they made; In the net which they hid, their own foot is caught.

¹⁶ The LORD is known by the judgment He executes; The wicked is snared in the work of his own hands. Meditation. Selah

¹⁷ The wicked shall be turned into hell, And all the nations that forget God.

¹⁸ For the needy shall not always be forgotten; The expectation of the poor shall not perish forever.

¹⁹ Arise, O LORD, Do not let man prevail; Let the nations be judged in Your sight.

²⁰ Put them in fear, O LORD, That the nations may know themselves to be but men. Selah

10 ¹ Why do You stand afar off, O LORD? Why do You hide in times of trouble?

² The wicked in his pride persecutes the poor; Let them be caught in the plots which they have devised.

³ For the wicked boasts of his heart's desire; He blesses the greedy and renounces the LORD.

⁴ The wicked in his proud countenance does not seek God; God is in none of his thoughts.

⁵ His ways are always prospering; Your judgments are far above, out of his sight; As for all his enemies, he sneers at them.

⁶ He has said in his heart, "I shall not be moved; I shall never be in adversity."

⁷ His mouth is full of cursing and deceit and oppression; Under his tongue is trouble and iniquity.

⁸ He sits in the lurking places of the villages; In the secret places he murders the innocent; His eyes are secretly fixed on the helpless.

⁹ He lies in wait secretly, as a lion in his den; He lies in wait to catch the poor; He catches the poor when he draws him into his net.

¹⁰ So he crouches, he lies low, That the helpless may fall by his strength.

¹¹ He has said in his heart, "God has forgotten; He hides His face; He will never see."

¹² Arise, O LORD! O God, lift up Your hand! Do not forget the humble.

¹³ Why do the wicked renounce God? He has said in his heart, "You will not require an account."

¹⁴ But You have seen, for You observe trouble and grief, To repay it by Your hand. The helpless commits himself to You; You are the helper of the fatherless.

¹⁵ Break the arm of the wicked and the evil man; Seek out his wickedness until You find none.

¹⁶ The LORD is King forever and ever;
The nations have perished out of His
land.

¹⁷ LORD, You have heard the desire of
the humble; You will prepare their heart;
You will cause Your ear to hear,

¹⁸ To do justice to the fatherless and the
oppressed, That the man of the earth
may oppress no more.

11 ¹ “To the Chief Musician. A Psalm
of David.” In the LORD I put my
trust; How can you say to my soul, “Flee
as a bird to your mountain”?

² For look! The wicked bend their bow,
They make ready their arrow on the
string, That they may shoot secretly at
the upright in heart.

³ If the foundations are destroyed,
What can the righteous do?

⁴ The LORD is in His holy temple, The
LORD’S throne is in heaven; His eyes
behold, His eyelids test the sons of men.

⁵ The LORD tests the righteous, But the wicked and the one who loves violence His soul hates.

⁶ Upon the wicked He will rain coals; Fire and brimstone and a burning wind Shall be the portion of their cup.

⁷ For the LORD is righteous, He loves righteousness; His countenance beholds the upright.

12 ¹ “To the Chief Musician. On an eight–stringed harp. A Psalm of David.” Help, LORD, for the godly man ceases! For the faithful disappear from among the sons of men.

² They speak idly everyone with his neighbor; With flattering lips and a double heart they speak.

³ May the LORD cut off all flattering lips, And the tongue that speaks proud things,

⁴ Who have said, "With our tongue we will prevail; Our lips are our own; Who is lord over us?"

⁵ "For the oppression of the poor, for the sighing of the needy, Now I will arise," says the LORD; "I will set him in the safety for which he yearns."

⁶ The words of the LORD are pure words, Like silver tried in a furnace of earth, Purified seven times.

⁷ You shall keep them, O LORD, You shall preserve them from this generation forever.

⁸ The wicked prowl on every side, When vileness is exalted among the sons of men.

13 ¹ "To the Chief Musician. A Psalm of David." How long, O LORD? Will You forget me forever? How long will You hide Your face from me?

² How long shall I take counsel in my soul, Having sorrow in my heart daily?

How long will my enemy be exalted over me?

³ Consider and hear me, O LORD my God; Enlighten my eyes, Lest I sleep the sleep of death;

⁴ Lest my enemy say, "I have prevailed against him"; Lest those who trouble me rejoice when I am moved.

⁵ But I have trusted in Your mercy; My heart shall rejoice in Your salvation.

⁶ I will sing to the LORD, Because He has dealt bountifully with me.

14 ¹ "To the Chief Musician. A Psalm of David." The fool has said in his heart, "There is no God." They are corrupt, They have done abominable works, There is none who does good.

² The LORD looks down from heaven upon the children of men, To see if there are any who understand, who seek God.

³ They have all turned aside, They have together become corrupt; There is none who does good, No, not one.

⁴ Have all the workers of iniquity no knowledge, Who eat up my people as they eat bread, And do not call on the LORD?

⁵ There they are in great fear, For God is with the generation of the righteous.

⁶ You shame the counsel of the poor, But the LORD is his refuge.

⁷ Oh, that the salvation of Israel would come out of Zion! When the LORD brings back the captivity of His people, Let Jacob rejoice and Israel be glad.

15 ¹ “A Psalm of David.” LORD, who may abide in Your tabernacle? Who may dwell in Your holy hill?

² He who walks uprightly, And works righteousness, And speaks the truth in his heart;

³ He who does not backbite with his tongue, Nor does evil to his neighbor, Nor does he take up a reproach against his friend;

⁴ In whose eyes a vile person is despised, But he honors those who fear the LORD; He who swears to his own hurt and does not change;

⁵ He who does not put out his money at usury, Nor does he take a bribe against the innocent. He who does these things shall never be moved.

16 ¹ "A Michtam of David." Preserve me, O God, for in You I put my trust.

² O my soul, you have said to the LORD, "You are my Lord, My goodness is nothing apart from You."

³ As for the saints who are on the earth, "They are the excellent ones, in whom is all my delight."

⁴ Their sorrows shall be multiplied who hasten after another god; Their drink offerings of blood I will not offer, Nor take up their names on my lips.

⁵ O LORD, You are the portion of my inheritance and my cup; You maintain my lot.

⁶ The lines have fallen to me in pleasant places; Yes, I have a good inheritance.

⁷ I will bless the LORD who has given me counsel; My heart also instructs me in the night seasons.

⁸ I have set the LORD always before me; Because He is at my right hand I shall not be moved.

⁹ Therefore my heart is glad, and my glory rejoices; My flesh also will rest in hope.

¹⁰ For You will not leave my soul in Sheol, Nor will You allow Your Holy One to see corruption.

¹¹ You will show me the path of life; In Your presence is fullness of joy; At Your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

17 ¹ “A Prayer of David.” Hear a just cause, O LORD, Attend to my cry; Give ear to my prayer which is not from deceitful lips.

² Let my vindication come from Your presence; Let Your eyes look on the things that are upright.

³ You have tested my heart; You have visited me in the night; You have tried me and have found nothing; I have purposed that my mouth shall not transgress.

⁴ Concerning the works of men, By the word of Your lips, I have kept away from the paths of the destroyer.

⁵ Uphold my steps in Your paths, That my footsteps may not slip.

⁶ I have called upon You, for You will hear me, O God; Incline Your ear to me, and hear my speech.

⁷ Show Your marvelous lovingkindness by Your right hand, O You who save those who trust in You From those who rise up against them.

⁸ Keep me as the apple of Your eye; Hide me under the shadow of Your wings,

⁹ From the wicked who oppress me, From my deadly enemies who surround me.

¹⁰ They have closed up their fat hearts; With their mouths they speak proudly.

¹¹ They have now surrounded us in our steps; They have set their eyes, crouching down to the earth,

¹² As a lion is eager to tear his prey, And like a young lion lurking in secret places.

¹³ Arise, O LORD, Confront him, cast him down; Deliver my life from the wicked with Your sword,

¹⁴ With Your hand from men, O LORD, From men of the world who have their portion in this life, And whose belly You fill with Your hidden treasure. They are satisfied with children, And leave the rest of their possession for their babes.

¹⁵ As for me, I will see Your face in righteousness; I shall be satisfied when I awake in Your likeness.

18 ¹ “To the Chief Musician. A Psalm of David the servant of the LORD, who spoke to the LORD the words of this song on the day that the LORD delivered him from the hand of all his enemies and from the hand of Saul. And he said:” I will love You, O LORD, my strength.

² The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer; My God, my strength,

in whom I will trust; My shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.

³ I will call upon the LORD, who is worthy to be praised; So shall I be saved from my enemies.

⁴ The pangs of death surrounded me, And the floods of ungodliness made me afraid.

⁵ The sorrows of Sheol surrounded me; The snares of death confronted me.

⁶ In my distress I called upon the LORD, And cried out to my God; He heard my voice from His temple, And my cry came before Him, even to His ears.

⁷ Then the earth shook and trembled; The foundations of the hills also quaked and were shaken, Because He was angry.

⁸ Smoke went up from His nostrils, And devouring fire from His mouth; Coals were kindled by it.

⁹ He bowed the heavens also, and came down With darkness under His feet.

¹⁰ And He rode upon a cherub, and flew; He flew upon the wings of the wind.

¹¹ He made darkness His secret place; His canopy around Him was dark waters And thick clouds of the skies.

¹² From the brightness before Him, His thick clouds passed with hailstones and coals of fire.

¹³ The LORD thundered from heaven, And the Most High uttered His voice, Hailstones and coals of fire.

¹⁴ He sent out His arrows and scattered the foe, Lightnings in abundance, and He vanquished them.

¹⁵ Then the channels of the sea were seen, The foundations of the world were uncovered At Your rebuke, O LORD, At the blast of the breath of Your nostrils.

¹⁶ He sent from above, He took me; He drew me out of many waters.

¹⁷ He delivered me from my strong enemy, From those who hated me, For they were too strong for me.

¹⁸ They confronted me in the day of my calamity, But the LORD was my support.

¹⁹ He also brought me out into a broad place; He delivered me because He delighted in me.

²⁰ The LORD rewarded me according to my righteousness; According to the cleanness of my hands He has recompensed me.

²¹ For I have kept the ways of the LORD, And have not wickedly departed from my God.

²² For all His judgments were before me, And I did not put away His statutes from me.

²³ I was also blameless before Him, And I kept myself from my iniquity.

²⁴ Therefore the LORD has recompensed me according to my

righteousness, According to the cleanness of my hands in His sight.

²⁵ With the merciful You will show Yourself merciful; With a blameless man You will show Yourself blameless;

²⁶ With the pure You will show Yourself pure; And with the devious You will show Yourself shrewd.

²⁷ For You will save the humble people, But will bring down haughty looks.

²⁸ For You will light my lamp; The LORD my God will enlighten my darkness.

²⁹ For by You I can run against a troop, By my God I can leap over a wall.

³⁰ As for God, His way is perfect; The word of the LORD is proven; He is a shield to all who trust in Him.

³¹ For who is God, except the LORD? And who is a rock, except our God?

³² It is God who arms me with strength, And makes my way perfect.

³³ He makes my feet like the feet of deer, And sets me on my high places.

³⁴ He teaches my hands to make war, So that my arms can bend a bow of bronze.

³⁵ You have also given me the shield of Your salvation; Your right hand has held me up, Your gentleness has made me great.

³⁶ You enlarged my path under me, So my feet did not slip.

³⁷ I have pursued my enemies and overtaken them; Neither did I turn back again till they were destroyed.

³⁸ I have wounded them, So that they could not rise; They have fallen under my feet.

³⁹ For You have armed me with strength for the battle; You have subdued under me those who rose up against me.

⁴⁰ You have also given me the necks of my enemies, So that I destroyed those who hated me.

⁴¹ They cried out, but there was none to save; Even to the LORD, but He did not answer them.

⁴² Then I beat them as fine as the dust before the wind; I cast them out like dirt in the streets.

⁴³ You have delivered me from the strivings of the people; You have made me the head of the nations; A people I have not known shall serve me.

⁴⁴ As soon as they hear of me they obey me; The foreigners submit to me.

⁴⁵ The foreigners fade away, And come frightened from their hideouts.

⁴⁶ The LORD lives! Blessed be my Rock! Let the God of my salvation be exalted.

⁴⁷ It is God who avenges me, And subdues the peoples under me;

⁴⁸ He delivers me from my enemies. You also lift me up above those who rise against me; You have delivered me from the violent man.

⁴⁹ Therefore I will give thanks to You,
O LORD, among the Gentiles, And sing
praises to Your name.

⁵⁰ Great deliverance He gives to
His king, And shows mercy to His
anointed, To David and his descendants
forevermore.

19 ¹ “To the Chief Musician. A Psalm
of David.” The heavens declare
the glory of God; And the firmament
shows His handiwork.

² Day unto day utters speech, And night
unto night reveals knowledge.

³ There is no speech nor language
Where their voice is not heard.

⁴ Their line has gone out through all the
earth, And their words to the end of the
world. In them He has set a tabernacle
for the sun,

⁵ Which is like a bridegroom coming out
of his chamber, And rejoices like a strong
man to run its race.

⁶ Its rising is from one end of heaven,
And its circuit to the other end; And
there is nothing hidden from its heat.

⁷ The law of the LORD is perfect,
converting the soul; The testimony
of the LORD is sure, making wise the
simple;

⁸ The statutes of the LORD are right,
rejoicing the heart; The commandment
of the LORD is pure, enlightening the
eyes;

⁹ The fear of the LORD is clean, enduring
forever; The judgments of the LORD are
true and righteous altogether.

¹⁰ More to be desired are they than
gold, Yea, than much fine gold; Sweeter
also than honey and the honeycomb.

¹¹ Moreover by them Your servant is
warned, And in keeping them there is
great reward.

¹² Who can understand his errors?
Cleanse me from secret faults.

¹³ Keep back Your servant also from presumptuous sins; Let them not have dominion over me. Then I shall be blameless, And I shall be innocent of great transgression.

¹⁴ Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart Be acceptable in Your sight, O LORD, my strength and my Redeemer.

20 ¹ “To the Chief Musician. A Psalm of David.” May the LORD answer you in the day of trouble; May the name of the God of Jacob defend you;

² May He send you help from the sanctuary, And strengthen you out of Zion;

³ May He remember all your offerings, And accept your burnt sacrifice. Selah

⁴ May He grant you according to your heart’s desire, And fulfill all your purpose.

⁵ We will rejoice in your salvation, And in the name of our God we will set up our banners! May the LORD fulfill all your petitions.

⁶ Now I know that the LORD saves His anointed; He will answer him from His holy heaven With the saving strength of His right hand.

⁷ Some trust in chariots, and some in horses; But we will remember the name of the LORD our God.

⁸ They have bowed down and fallen; But we have risen and stand upright.

⁹ Save, LORD! May the King answer us when we call.

21 ¹ “To the Chief Musician. A Psalm of David.” The king shall have joy in Your strength, O LORD; And in Your salvation how greatly shall he rejoice!

² You have given him his heart’s desire, And have not withheld the request of his lips. Selah

³ For You meet him with the blessings of goodness; You set a crown of pure gold upon his head.

⁴ He asked life from You, and You gave it to him—Length of days forever and ever.

⁵ His glory is great in Your salvation; Honor and majesty You have placed upon him.

⁶ For You have made him most blessed forever; You have made him exceedingly glad with Your presence.

⁷ For the king trusts in the LORD, And through the mercy of the Most High he shall not be moved.

⁸ Your hand will find all Your enemies; Your right hand will find those who hate You.

⁹ You shall make them as a fiery oven in the time of Your anger; The LORD shall swallow them up in His wrath, And the fire shall devour them.

¹⁰ Their offspring You shall destroy from the earth, And their descendants from among the sons of men.

¹¹ For they intended evil against You; They devised a plot which they are not able to perform.

¹² Therefore You will make them turn their back; You will make ready Your arrows on Your string toward their faces.

¹³ Be exalted, O LORD, in Your own strength! We will sing and praise Your power.

22 ¹ "To the Chief Musician. Set to "The Deer of the Dawn." A Psalm of David." My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me? Why are You so far from helping Me, And from the words of My groaning?

² O My God, I cry in the daytime, but You do not hear; And in the night season, and am not silent.

³ But You are holy, Enthroned in the praises of Israel.

⁴ Our fathers trusted in You; They trusted, and You delivered them.

⁵ They cried to You, and were delivered; They trusted in You, and were not ashamed.

⁶ But I am a worm, and no man; A reproach of men, and despised by the people.

⁷ All those who see Me ridicule Me; They shoot out the lip, they shake the head, saying,

⁸ "He trusted in the LORD, let Him rescue Him; Let Him deliver Him, since He delights in Him!"

⁹ But You are He who took Me out of the womb; You made Me trust while on My mother's breasts.

¹⁰ I was cast upon You from birth. From My mother's womb You have been My God.

¹¹ Be not far from Me, For trouble is near; For there is none to help.

¹² Many bulls have surrounded Me; Strong bulls of Bashan have encircled Me.

¹³ They gape at Me with their mouths, Like a raging and roaring lion.

¹⁴ I am poured out like water, And all My bones are out of joint; My heart is like wax; It has melted within Me.

¹⁵ My strength is dried up like a potsherd, And My tongue clings to My jaws; You have brought Me to the dust of death.

¹⁶ For dogs have surrounded Me; The congregation of the wicked has enclosed Me. They pierced My hands and My feet;

¹⁷ I can count all My bones. They look and stare at Me.

¹⁸ They divide My garments among them, And for My clothing they cast lots.

¹⁹ But You, O LORD, do not be far from Me; O My Strength, hasten to help Me!

²⁰ Deliver Me from the sword, My precious life from the power of the dog.

²¹ Save Me from the lion's mouth And from the horns of the wild oxen! You have answered Me.

²² I will declare Your name to My brethren; In the midst of the assembly I will praise You.

²³ You who fear the LORD, praise Him! All you descendants of Jacob, glorify Him, And fear Him, all you offspring of Israel!

²⁴ For He has not despised nor abhorred the affliction of the afflicted; Nor has He hidden His face from Him; But when He cried to Him, He heard.

²⁵ My praise shall be of You in the great assembly; I will pay My vows before those who fear Him.

²⁶ The poor shall eat and be satisfied;
Those who seek Him will praise the
LORD. Let your heart live forever!

²⁷ All the ends of the world Shall
remember and turn to the LORD, And all
the families of the nations Shall worship
before You.

²⁸ For the kingdom is the LORD'S, And
He rules over the nations.

²⁹ All the prosperous of the earth Shall
eat and worship; All those who go down
to the dust Shall bow before Him, Even
he who cannot keep himself alive.

³⁰ A posterity shall serve Him. It will
be recounted of the Lord to the next
generation,

³¹ They will come and declare His
righteousness to a people who will be
born, That He has done this.

23 ¹ "A Psalm of David." The LORD is
my shepherd; I shall not want.

² He makes me to lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside the still waters.

³ He restores my soul; He leads me in the paths of righteousness For His name's sake.

⁴ Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; For You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.

⁵ You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; You anoint my head with oil; My cup runs over.

⁶ Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me All the days of my life; And I will dwell in the house of the LORD Forever.

24 ¹ "A Psalm of David." The earth is the LORD'S, and all its fullness, The world and those who dwell therein.

² For He has founded it upon the seas, And established it upon the waters.

³ Who may ascend into the hill of the LORD? Or who may stand in His holy place?

⁴ He who has clean hands and a pure heart, Who has not lifted up his soul to an idol, Nor sworn deceitfully.

⁵ He shall receive blessing from the LORD, And righteousness from the God of his salvation.

⁶ This is Jacob, the generation of those who seek Him, Who seek Your face.
Selah

⁷ Lift up your heads, O you gates! And be lifted up, you everlasting doors! And the King of glory shall come in.

⁸ Who is this King of glory? The LORD strong and mighty, The LORD mighty in battle.

⁹ Lift up your heads, O you gates! Lift up, you everlasting doors! And the King of glory shall come in.

¹⁰ Who is this King of glory? The LORD of hosts, He is the King of glory. Selah

25 ¹ “A Psalm of David.” To You, O LORD, I lift up my soul.

² O my God, I trust in You; Let me not be ashamed; Let not my enemies triumph over me.

³ Indeed, let no one who waits on You be ashamed; Let those be ashamed who deal treacherously without cause.

⁴ Show me Your ways, O LORD; Teach me Your paths.

⁵ Lead me in Your truth and teach me, For You are the God of my salvation; On You I wait all the day.

⁶ Remember, O LORD, Your tender mercies and Your lovingkindnesses, For they are from of old.

⁷ Do not remember the sins of my youth, nor my transgressions; According to Your mercy remember me, For Your goodness' sake, O LORD.

⁸ Good and upright is the LORD;
Therefore He teaches sinners in the way.

⁹ The humble He guides in justice, And
the humble He teaches His way.

¹⁰ All the paths of the LORD are mercy
and truth, To such as keep His covenant
and His testimonies.

¹¹ For Your name's sake, O LORD,
Pardon my iniquity, for it is great.

¹² Who is the man that fears the
LORD? Him shall He teach in the way He
chooses.

¹³ He himself shall dwell in prosperity,
And his descendants shall inherit the
earth.

¹⁴ The secret of the LORD is with those
who fear Him, And He will show them
His covenant.

¹⁵ My eyes are ever toward the LORD,
For He shall pluck my feet out of the net.

¹⁶ Turn Yourself to me, and have mercy
on me, For I am desolate and afflicted.

¹⁷ The troubles of my heart have enlarged; Bring me out of my distresses!

¹⁸ Look on my affliction and my pain,
And forgive all my sins.

¹⁹ Consider my enemies, for they are many; And they hate me with cruel hatred.

²⁰ Keep my soul, and deliver me; Let me not be ashamed, for I put my trust in You.

²¹ Let integrity and uprightness preserve me, For I wait for You.

²² Redeem Israel, O God, Out of all their troubles!

26 ¹ “A Psalm of David.” Vindicate me, O LORD, For I have walked in my integrity. I have also trusted in the LORD; I shall not slip.

² Examine me, O LORD, and prove me; Try my mind and my heart.

³ For Your lovingkindness is before my eyes, And I have walked in Your truth.

⁴ I have not sat with idolatrous mortals,
Nor will I go in with hypocrites.

⁵ I have hated the assembly of evildoers,
And will not sit with the wicked.

⁶ I will wash my hands in innocence; So
I will go about Your altar, O LORD,

⁷ That I may proclaim with the voice
of thanksgiving, And tell of all Your
wondrous works.

⁸ LORD, I have loved the habitation of
Your house, And the place where Your
glory dwells.

⁹ Do not gather my soul with sinners,
Nor my life with bloodthirsty men,

¹⁰ In whose hands is a sinister scheme,
And whose right hand is full of bribes.

¹¹ But as for me, I will walk in my
integrity; Redeem me and be merciful to
me.

¹² My foot stands in an even place; In
the congregations I will bless the LORD.

27 ¹ “A Psalm of David.” The LORD is my light and my salvation; Whom shall I fear? The LORD is the strength of my life; Of whom shall I be afraid?

² When the wicked came against me To eat up my flesh, My enemies and foes, They stumbled and fell.

³ Though an army may encamp against me, My heart shall not fear; Though war should rise against me, In this I will be confident.

⁴ One thing I have desired of the LORD, That will I seek: That I may dwell in the house of the LORD All the days of my life, To behold the beauty of the LORD, And to inquire in His temple.

⁵ For in the time of trouble He shall hide me in His pavilion; In the secret place of His tabernacle He shall hide me; He shall set me high upon a rock.

⁶ And now my head shall be lifted up above my enemies all around me;

Therefore I will offer sacrifices of joy in His tabernacle; I will sing, yes, I will sing praises to the LORD.

⁷ Hear, O LORD, when I cry with my voice! Have mercy also upon me, and answer me.

⁸ When You said, "Seek My face," My heart said to You, "Your face, LORD, I will seek."

⁹ Do not hide Your face from me; Do not turn Your servant away in anger; You have been my help; Do not leave me nor forsake me, O God of my salvation.

¹⁰ When my father and my mother forsake me, Then the LORD will take care of me.

¹¹ Teach me Your way, O LORD, And lead me in a smooth path, because of my enemies.

¹² Do not deliver me to the will of my adversaries; For false witnesses have

risen against me, And such as breathe out violence.

¹³ I would have lost heart, unless I had believed That I would see the goodness of the LORD In the land of the living.

¹⁴ Wait on the LORD; Be of good courage, And He shall strengthen your heart; Wait, I say, on the LORD!

28 ¹ “A Psalm of David.” To You I will cry, O LORD my Rock: Do not be silent to me, Lest, if You are silent to me, I become like those who go down to the pit.

² Hear the voice of my supplications When I cry to You, When I lift up my hands toward Your holy sanctuary.

³ Do not take me away with the wicked And with the workers of iniquity, Who speak peace to their neighbors, But evil is in their hearts.

⁴ Give them according to their deeds, And according to the wickedness of their

endeavors; Give them according to the work of their hands; Render to them what they deserve.

⁵ Because they do not regard the works of the LORD, Nor the operation of His hands, He shall destroy them And not build them up.

⁶ Blessed be the LORD, Because He has heard the voice of my supplications!

⁷ The LORD is my strength and my shield; My heart trusted in Him, and I am helped; Therefore my heart greatly rejoices, And with my song I will praise Him.

⁸ The LORD is their strength, And He is the saving refuge of His anointed.

⁹ Save Your people, And bless Your inheritance; Shepherd them also, And bear them up forever.

29 ¹ “A Psalm of David.” Give unto the LORD, O you mighty ones, Give unto the LORD glory and strength.

² Give unto the LORD the glory due to His name; Worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.

³ The voice of the LORD is over the waters; The God of glory thunders; The LORD is over many waters.

⁴ The voice of the LORD is powerful; The voice of the LORD is full of majesty.

⁵ The voice of the LORD breaks the cedars, Yes, the LORD splinters the cedars of Lebanon.

⁶ He makes them also skip like a calf, Lebanon and Sirion like a young wild ox.

⁷ The voice of the LORD divides the flames of fire.

⁸ The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness; The LORD shakes the Wilderness of Kadesh.

⁹ The voice of the LORD makes the deer give birth, And strips the forests bare; And in His temple everyone says, "Glory!"

¹⁰ The LORD sat enthroned at the Flood,
And the LORD sits as King forever.

¹¹ The LORD will give strength to His
people; The LORD will bless His people
with peace.

30 ¹ “A Psalm. A Song at the
dedication of the house of David.”
I will extol You, O LORD, for You have
lifted me up, And have not let my foes
rejoice over me.

² O LORD my God, I cried out to You,
And You healed me.

³ O LORD, You brought my soul up from
the grave; You have kept me alive, that I
should not go down to the pit.

⁴ Sing praise to the LORD, You saints of
His, And give thanks at the remembrance
of His holy name.

⁵ For His anger is but for a moment, His
favor is for life; Weeping may endure for
a night, But joy comes in the morning.

⁶ Now in my prosperity I said, "I shall never be moved."

⁷ LORD, by Your favor You have made my mountain stand strong; You hid Your face, and I was troubled.

⁸ I cried out to You, O LORD; And to the LORD I made supplication:

⁹ "What profit is there in my blood, When I go down to the pit? Will the dust praise You? Will it declare Your truth?"

¹⁰ Hear, O LORD, and have mercy on me; LORD, be my helper!"

¹¹ You have turned for me my mourning into dancing; You have put off my sackcloth and clothed me with gladness,

¹² To the end that my glory may sing praise to You and not be silent. O LORD my God, I will give thanks to You forever.

31 ¹ "To the Chief Musician. A Psalm of David." In You, O LORD, I put my trust; Let me never be ashamed; Deliver me in Your righteousness.

² Bow down Your ear to me, Deliver me speedily; Be my rock of refuge, A fortress of defense to save me.

³ For You are my rock and my fortress; Therefore, for Your name's sake, Lead me and guide me.

⁴ Pull me out of the net which they have secretly laid for me, For You are my strength.

⁵ Into Your hand I commit my spirit; You have redeemed me, O LORD God of truth.

⁶ I have hated those who regard useless idols; But I trust in the LORD.

⁷ I will be glad and rejoice in Your mercy, For You have considered my trouble; You have known my soul in adversities,

⁸ And have not shut me up into the hand of the enemy; You have set my feet in a wide place.

⁹ Have mercy on me, O LORD, for I am in trouble; My eye wastes away with grief, Yes, my soul and my body!

¹⁰ For my life is spent with grief, And my years with sighing; My strength fails because of my iniquity, And my bones waste away.

¹¹ I am a reproach among all my enemies, But especially among my neighbors, And am repulsive to my acquaintances; Those who see me outside flee from me.

¹² I am forgotten like a dead man, out of mind; I am like a broken vessel.

¹³ For I hear the slander of many; Fear is on every side; While they take counsel together against me, They scheme to take away my life.

¹⁴ But as for me, I trust in You, O LORD; I say, "You are my God."

¹⁵ My times are in Your hand; Deliver me from the hand of my enemies, And from those who persecute me.

¹⁶ Make Your face shine upon Your servant; Save me for Your mercies' sake.

¹⁷ Do not let me be ashamed, O LORD, for I have called upon You; Let the wicked be ashamed; Let them be silent in the grave.

¹⁸ Let the lying lips be put to silence, Which speak insolent things proudly and contemptuously against the righteous.

¹⁹ Oh, how great is Your goodness, Which You have laid up for those who fear You, Which You have prepared for those who trust in You In the presence of the sons of men!

²⁰ You shall hide them in the secret place of Your presence From the plots of man; You shall keep them secretly in a pavilion From the strife of tongues.

²¹ Blessed be the LORD, For He has shown me His marvelous kindness in a strong city!

²² For I said in my haste, "I am cut off from before Your eyes"; Nevertheless You heard the voice of my supplications When I cried out to You.

²³ Oh, love the LORD, all you His saints! For the LORD preserves the faithful, And fully repays the proud person.

²⁴ Be of good courage, And He shall strengthen your heart, All you who hope in the LORD.

32 ¹ "A Psalm of David. A Contemplation." Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven, Whose sin is covered.

² Blessed is the man to whom the LORD does not impute iniquity, And in whose spirit there is no deceit.

³ When I kept silent, my bones grew old Through my groaning all the day long.

⁴ For day and night Your hand was heavy upon me; My vitality was turned into the drought of summer. Selah

⁵ I acknowledged my sin to You, And my iniquity I have not hidden. I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD," And You forgave the iniquity of my sin. Selah

⁶ For this cause everyone who is godly shall pray to You In a time when You may be found; Surely in a flood of great waters They shall not come near him.

⁷ You are my hiding place; You shall preserve me from trouble; You shall surround me with songs of deliverance. Selah

⁸ I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will guide you with My eye.

⁹ Do not be like the horse or like the mule, Which have no understanding,

Which must be harnessed with bit and bridle, Else they will not come near you.

¹⁰ Many sorrows shall be to the wicked; But he who trusts in the LORD, mercy shall surround him.

¹¹ Be glad in the LORD and rejoice, you righteous; And shout for joy, all you upright in heart!

33 ¹ Rejoice in the LORD, O you righteous! For praise from the upright is beautiful.

² Praise the LORD with the harp; Make melody to Him with an instrument of ten strings.

³ Sing to Him a new song; Play skillfully with a shout of joy.

⁴ For the word of the LORD is right, And all His work is done in truth.

⁵ He loves righteousness and justice; The earth is full of the goodness of the LORD.

⁶ By the word of the LORD the heavens were made, And all the host of them by the breath of His mouth.

⁷ He gathers the waters of the sea together as a heap; He lays up the deep in storehouses.

⁸ Let all the earth fear the LORD; Let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of Him.

⁹ For He spoke, and it was done; He commanded, and it stood fast.

¹⁰ The LORD brings the counsel of the nations to nothing; He makes the plans of the peoples of no effect.

¹¹ The counsel of the LORD stands forever, The plans of His heart to all generations.

¹² Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD, The people He has chosen as His own inheritance.

¹³ The LORD looks from heaven; He sees all the sons of men.

¹⁴ From the place of His dwelling He looks On all the inhabitants of the earth;

¹⁵ He fashions their hearts individually; He considers all their works.

¹⁶ No king is saved by the multitude of an army; A mighty man is not delivered by great strength.

¹⁷ A horse is a vain hope for safety; Neither shall it deliver any by its great strength.

¹⁸ Behold, the eye of the LORD is on those who fear Him, On those who hope in His mercy,

¹⁹ To deliver their soul from death, And to keep them alive in famine.

²⁰ Our soul waits for the LORD; He is our help and our shield.

²¹ For our heart shall rejoice in Him, Because we have trusted in His holy name.

²² Let Your mercy, O LORD, be upon us, Just as we hope in You.

34 ¹ “A Psalm of David when he pretended madness before Abimelech, who drove him away, and he departed.” I will bless the LORD at all times; His praise shall continually be in my mouth.

² My soul shall make its boast in the LORD; The humble shall hear of it and be glad.

³ Oh, magnify the LORD with me, And let us exalt His name together.

⁴ I sought the LORD, and He heard me, And delivered me from all my fears.

⁵ They looked to Him and were radiant, And their faces were not ashamed.

⁶ This poor man cried out, and the LORD heard him, And saved him out of all his troubles.

⁷ The angel of the LORD encamps all around those who fear Him, And delivers them.

⁸ Oh, taste and see that the LORD is good; Blessed is the man who trusts in Him!

⁹ Oh, fear the LORD, you His saints! There is no want to those who fear Him.

¹⁰ The young lions lack and suffer hunger; But those who seek the LORD shall not lack any good thing.

¹¹ Come, you children, listen to me; I will teach you the fear of the LORD.

¹² Who is the man who desires life, And loves many days, that he may see good?

¹³ Keep your tongue from evil, And your lips from speaking deceit.

¹⁴ Depart from evil and do good; Seek peace and pursue it.

¹⁵ The eyes of the LORD are on the righteous, And His ears are open to their cry.

¹⁶ The face of the LORD is against those who do evil, To cut off the remembrance of them from the earth.

¹⁷ The righteous cry out, and the LORD hears, And delivers them out of all their troubles.

¹⁸ The LORD is near to those who have a broken heart, And saves such as have a contrite spirit.

¹⁹ Many are the afflictions of the righteous, But the LORD delivers him out of them all.

²⁰ He guards all his bones; Not one of them is broken.

²¹ Evil shall slay the wicked, And those who hate the righteous shall be condemned.

²² The LORD redeems the soul of His servants, And none of those who trust in Him shall be condemned.

35 ¹ “A Psalm of David.” Plead my cause, O LORD, with those who strive with me; Fight against those who fight against me.

² Take hold of shield and buckler, And stand up for my help.

³ Also draw out the spear, And stop those who pursue me. Say to my soul, "I am your salvation."

⁴ Let those be put to shame and brought to dishonor Who seek after my life; Let those be turned back and brought to confusion Who plot my hurt.

⁵ Let them be like chaff before the wind, And let the angel of the LORD chase them.

⁶ Let their way be dark and slippery, And let the angel of the LORD pursue them.

⁷ For without cause they have hidden their net for me in a pit, Which they have dug without cause for my life.

⁸ Let destruction come upon him unexpectedly, And let his net that he has hidden catch himself; Into that very destruction let him fall.

⁹ And my soul shall be joyful in the LORD; It shall rejoice in His salvation.

¹⁰ All my bones shall say, "LORD, who is like You, Delivering the poor from him who is too strong for him, Yes, the poor and the needy from him who plunders him?"

¹¹ Fierce witnesses rise up; They ask me things that I do not know.

¹² They reward me evil for good, To the sorrow of my soul.

¹³ But as for me, when they were sick, My clothing was sackcloth; I humbled myself with fasting; And my prayer would return to my own heart.

¹⁴ I paced about as though he were my friend or brother; I bowed down heavily, as one who mourns for his mother.

¹⁵ But in my adversity they rejoiced And gathered together; Attackers gathered against me, And I did not know it; They tore at me and did not cease;

¹⁶ With ungodly mockers at feasts They gnashed at me with their teeth.

¹⁷ Lord, how long will You look on? Rescue me from their destructions, My precious life from the lions.

¹⁸ I will give You thanks in the great assembly; I will praise You among many people.

¹⁹ Let them not rejoice over me who are wrongfully my enemies; Nor let them wink with the eye who hate me without a cause.

²⁰ For they do not speak peace, But they devise deceitful matters Against the quiet ones in the land.

²¹ They also opened their mouth wide against me, And said, "Aha, aha! Our eyes have seen it."

²² This You have seen, O LORD; Do not keep silence. O Lord, do not be far from me.

²³ Stir up Yourself, and awake to my vindication, To my cause, my God and my Lord.

²⁴ Vindicate me, O LORD my God, according to Your righteousness; And let them not rejoice over me.

²⁵ Let them not say in their hearts, "Ah, so we would have it!" Let them not say, "We have swallowed him up."

²⁶ Let them be ashamed and brought to mutual confusion Who rejoice at my hurt; Let them be clothed with shame and dishonor Who exalt themselves against me.

²⁷ Let them shout for joy and be glad, Who favor my righteous cause; And let them say continually, "Let the LORD be magnified, Who has pleasure in the prosperity of His servant."

²⁸ And my tongue shall speak of Your righteousness And of Your praise all the day long.

36 ¹ “To the Chief Musician. A Psalm of David the servant of the LORD.”

An oracle within my heart concerning the transgression of the wicked: There is no fear of God before his eyes.

² For he flatters himself in his own eyes, When he finds out his iniquity and when he hates.

³ The words of his mouth are wickedness and deceit; He has ceased to be wise and to do good.

⁴ He devises wickedness on his bed; He sets himself in a way that is not good; He does not abhor evil.

⁵ Your mercy, O LORD, is in the heavens; Your faithfulness reaches to the clouds.

⁶ Your righteousness is like the great mountains; Your judgments are a great deep; O LORD, You preserve man and beast.

⁷ How precious is Your lovingkindness, O God! Therefore the children of men

put their trust under the shadow of Your wings.

⁸ They are abundantly satisfied with the fullness of Your house, And You give them drink from the river of Your pleasures.

⁹ For with You is the fountain of life; In Your light we see light.

¹⁰ Oh, continue Your lovingkindness to those who know You, And Your righteousness to the upright in heart.

¹¹ Let not the foot of pride come against me, And let not the hand of the wicked drive me away.

¹² There the workers of iniquity have fallen; They have been cast down and are not able to rise.

37 ¹ “A Psalm of David.” Do not fret because of evildoers, Nor be envious of the workers of iniquity.

² For they shall soon be cut down like the grass, And wither as the green herb.

³ Trust in the LORD, and do good; Dwell in the land, and feed on His faithfulness.

⁴ Delight yourself also in the LORD, And He shall give you the desires of your heart.

⁵ Commit your way to the LORD, Trust also in Him, And He shall bring it to pass.

⁶ He shall bring forth your righteousness as the light, And your justice as the noonday.

⁷ Rest in the LORD, and wait patiently for Him; Do not fret because of him who prospers in his way, Because of the man who brings wicked schemes to pass.

⁸ Cease from anger, and forsake wrath; Do not fret—it only causes harm.

⁹ For evildoers shall be cut off; But those who wait on the LORD, They shall inherit the earth.

¹⁰ For yet a little while and the wicked shall be no more; Indeed, you will look

carefully for his place, But it shall be no more.

¹¹ But the meek shall inherit the earth,
And shall delight themselves in the
abundance of peace.

¹² The wicked plots against the just,
And gnashes at him with his teeth.

¹³ The Lord laughs at him, For He sees
that his day is coming.

¹⁴ The wicked have drawn the sword
And have bent their bow, To cast down
the poor and needy, To slay those who
are of upright conduct.

¹⁵ Their sword shall enter their own
heart, And their bows shall be broken.

¹⁶ A little that a righteous man has
Is better than the riches of many wicked.

¹⁷ For the arms of the wicked shall
be broken, But the LORD upholds the
righteous.

¹⁸ The LORD knows the days of the upright, And their inheritance shall be forever.

¹⁹ They shall not be ashamed in the evil time, And in the days of famine they shall be satisfied.

²⁰ But the wicked shall perish; And the enemies of the LORD, Like the splendor of the meadows, shall vanish. Into smoke they shall vanish away.

²¹ The wicked borrows and does not repay, But the righteous shows mercy and gives.

²² For those blessed by Him shall inherit the earth, But those cursed by Him shall be cut off.

²³ The steps of a good man are ordered by the LORD, And He delights in his way.

²⁴ Though he fall, he shall not be utterly cast down; For the LORD upholds him with His hand.

²⁵ I have been young, and now am old; Yet I have not seen the righteous forsaken, Nor his descendants begging bread.

²⁶ He is ever merciful, and lends; And his descendants are blessed.

²⁷ Depart from evil, and do good; And dwell forevermore.

²⁸ For the LORD loves justice, And does not forsake His saints; They are preserved forever, But the descendants of the wicked shall be cut off.

²⁹ The righteous shall inherit the land, And dwell in it forever.

³⁰ The mouth of the righteous speaks wisdom, And his tongue talks of justice.

³¹ The law of his God is in his heart; None of his steps shall slide.

³² The wicked watches the righteous, And seeks to slay him.

³³ The LORD will not leave him in his hand, Nor condemn him when he is judged.

³⁴ Wait on the LORD, And keep His way, And He shall exalt you to inherit the land; When the wicked are cut off, you shall see it.

³⁵ I have seen the wicked in great power, And spreading himself like a native green tree.

³⁶ Yet he passed away, and behold, he was no more; Indeed I sought him, but he could not be found.

³⁷ Mark the blameless man, and observe the upright; For the future of that man is peace.

³⁸ But the transgressors shall be destroyed together; The future of the wicked shall be cut off.

³⁹ But the salvation of the righteous is from the LORD; He is their strength in the time of trouble.

⁴⁰ And the LORD shall help them and deliver them; He shall deliver them from the wicked, And save them, Because they trust in Him.

38 ¹ “A Psalm of David. To bring to remembrance.” O LORD, do not rebuke me in Your wrath, Nor chasten me in Your hot displeasure!

² For Your arrows pierce me deeply, And Your hand presses me down.

³ There is no soundness in my flesh Because of Your anger, Nor any health in my bones Because of my sin.

⁴ For my iniquities have gone over my head; Like a heavy burden they are too heavy for me.

⁵ My wounds are foul and festering Because of my foolishness.

⁶ I am troubled, I am bowed down greatly; I go mourning all the day long.

⁷ For my loins are full of inflammation, And there is no soundness in my flesh.

⁸ I am feeble and severely broken; I groan because of the turmoil of my heart.

⁹ Lord, all my desire is before You; And my sighing is not hidden from You.

¹⁰ My heart pants, my strength fails me; As for the light of my eyes, it also has gone from me.

¹¹ My loved ones and my friends stand aloof from my plague, And my relatives stand afar off.

¹² Those also who seek my life lay snares for me; Those who seek my hurt speak of destruction, And plan deception all the day long.

¹³ But I, like a deaf man, do not hear; And I am like a mute who does not open his mouth.

¹⁴ Thus I am like a man who does not hear, And in whose mouth is no response.

¹⁵ For in You, O LORD, I hope; You will hear, O Lord my God.

¹⁶ For I said, "Hear me, lest they rejoice over me, Lest, when my foot slips, they exalt themselves against me."

¹⁷ For I am ready to fall, And my sorrow is continually before me.

¹⁸ For I will declare my iniquity; I will be in anguish over my sin.

¹⁹ But my enemies are vigorous, and they are strong; And those who hate me wrongfully have multiplied.

²⁰ Those also who render evil for good, They are my adversaries, because I follow what is good.

²¹ Do not forsake me, O LORD; O my God, be not far from me!

²² Make haste to help me, O Lord, my salvation!

39 ¹ "To the Chief Musician. To Jeduthun. A Psalm of David." I said, "I will guard my ways, Lest I sin with

my tongue; I will restrain my mouth with a muzzle, While the wicked are before me."

² I was mute with silence, I held my peace even from good; And my sorrow was stirred up.

³ My heart was hot within me; While I was musing, the fire burned. Then I spoke with my tongue:

⁴ "LORD, make me to know my end, And what is the measure of my days, That I may know how frail I am.

⁵ Indeed, You have made my days as handbreadths, And my age is as nothing before You; Certainly every man at his best state is but vapor. Selah

⁶ Surely every man walks about like a shadow; Surely they busy themselves in vain; He heaps up riches, And does not know who will gather them.

⁷ "And now, Lord, what do I wait for? My hope is in You.

⁸ Deliver me from all my transgressions;
Do not make me the reproach of the
foolish.

⁹ I was mute, I did not open my mouth,
Because it was You who did it.

¹⁰ Remove Your plague from me; I am
consumed by the blow of Your hand.

¹¹ When with rebukes You correct man
for iniquity, You make his beauty melt
away like a moth; Surely every man is
vapor. Selah

¹² "Hear my prayer, O LORD, And give
ear to my cry; Do not be silent at my
tears; For I am a stranger with You, A
sojourner, as all my fathers were.

¹³ Remove Your gaze from me, that I
may regain strength, Before I go away
and am no more."

40 ¹ "To the Chief Musician. A Psalm
of David." I waited patiently for
the LORD; And He inclined to me, And
heard my cry.

² He also brought me up out of a horrible pit, Out of the miry clay, And set my feet upon a rock, And established my steps.

³ He has put a new song in my mouth— Praise to our God; Many will see it and fear, And will trust in the LORD.

⁴ Blessed is that man who makes the LORD his trust, And does not respect the proud, nor such as turn aside to lies.

⁵ Many, O LORD my God, are Your wonderful works Which You have done; And Your thoughts toward us Cannot be recounted to You in order; If I would declare and speak of them, They are more than can be numbered.

⁶ Sacrifice and offering You did not desire; My ears You have opened. Burnt offering and sin offering You did not require.

⁷ Then I said, "Behold, I come; In the scroll of the book it is written of me.

⁸ I delight to do Your will, O my God,
And Your law is within my heart."

⁹ I have proclaimed the good news of
righteousness In the great assembly;
Indeed, I do not restrain my lips, O LORD,
You Yourself know.

¹⁰ I have not hidden Your righteousness
within my heart; I have declared Your
faithfulness and Your salvation; I have
not concealed Your lovingkindness and
Your truth From the great assembly.

¹¹ Do not withhold Your tender
mercies from me, O LORD; Let
Your lovingkindness and Your truth
continually preserve me.

¹² For innumerable evils have
surrounded me; My iniquities have
overtaken me, so that I am not able to
look up; They are more than the hairs of
my head; Therefore my heart fails me.

¹³ Be pleased, O LORD, to deliver me; O
LORD, make haste to help me!

¹⁴ Let them be ashamed and brought to mutual confusion Who seek to destroy my life; Let them be driven backward and brought to dishonor Who wish me evil.

¹⁵ Let them be confounded because of their shame, Who say to me, "Aha, aha!"

¹⁶ Let all those who seek You rejoice and be glad in You; Let such as love Your salvation say continually, "The LORD be magnified!"

¹⁷ But I am poor and needy; Yet the Lord thinks upon me. You are my help and my deliverer; Do not delay, O my God.

41 ¹ "To the Chief Musician. A Psalm of David." Blessed is he who considers the poor; The LORD will deliver him in time of trouble.

² The LORD will preserve him and keep him alive, And he will be blessed on the

earth; You will not deliver him to the will of his enemies.

³ The LORD will strengthen him on his bed of illness; You will sustain him on his sickbed.

⁴ I said, "LORD, be merciful to me; Heal my soul, for I have sinned against You."

⁵ My enemies speak evil of me: "When will he die, and his name perish?"

⁶ And if he comes to see me, he speaks lies; His heart gathers iniquity to itself; When he goes out, he tells it.

⁷ All who hate me whisper together against me; Against me they devise my hurt.

⁸ "An evil disease," they say, "clings to him. And now that he lies down, he will rise up no more."

⁹ Even my own familiar friend in whom I trusted, Who ate my bread, Has lifted up his heel against me.

¹⁰ But You, O LORD, be merciful to me,
and raise me up, That I may repay them.

¹¹ By this I know that You are well
pleased with me, Because my enemy
does not triumph over me.

¹² As for me, You uphold me in my
integrity, And set me before Your face
forever.

¹³ Blessed be the LORD God of Israel
From everlasting to everlasting! Amen
and Amen.

42 ¹ “To the Chief Musician. A
Contemplation of the sons of
Korah.” As the deer pants for the water
brooks, So pants my soul for You, O God.

² My soul thirsts for God, for the living
God. When shall I come and appear
before God?

³ My tears have been my food day and
night, While they continually say to me,
"Where is your God?"

⁴ When I remember these things, I pour out my soul within me. For I used to go with the multitude; I went with them to the house of God, With the voice of joy and praise, With a multitude that kept a pilgrim feast.

⁵ Why are you cast down, O my soul? And why are you disquieted within me? Hope in God, for I shall yet praise Him For the help of His countenance.

⁶ O my God, my soul is cast down within me; Therefore I will remember You from the land of the Jordan, And from the heights of Hermon, From the Hill Mizar.

⁷ Deep calls unto deep at the noise of Your waterfalls; All Your waves and billows have gone over me.

⁸ The LORD will command His lovingkindness in the daytime, And in the night His song shall be with me—A prayer to the God of my life.

⁹ I will say to God my Rock, "Why have You forgotten me? Why do I go mourning because of the oppression of the enemy?"

¹⁰ As with a breaking of my bones, My enemies reproach me, While they say to me all day long, "Where is your God?"

¹¹ Why are you cast down, O my soul? And why are you disquieted within me? Hope in God; For I shall yet praise Him, The help of my countenance and my God.

43 ¹ Vindicate me, O God, And plead my cause against an ungodly nation; Oh, deliver me from the deceitful and unjust man!

² For You are the God of my strength; Why do You cast me off? Why do I go mourning because of the oppression of the enemy?

³ Oh, send out Your light and Your truth!
Let them lead me; Let them bring me to
Your holy hill And to Your tabernacle.

⁴ Then I will go to the altar of God, To
God my exceeding joy; And on the harp I
will praise You, O God, my God.

⁵ Why are you cast down, O my soul?
And why are you disquieted within me?
Hope in God; For I shall yet praise Him,
The help of my countenance and my
God.

44 ¹ “To the Chief Musician. A
Contemplation of the sons of
Korah.” We have heard with our ears, O
God, Our fathers have told us, The deeds
You did in their days, In days of old:

² You drove out the nations with
Your hand, But them You planted; You
afflicted the peoples, and cast them out.

³ For they did not gain possession of the
land by their own sword, Nor did their
own arm save them; But it was Your

right hand, Your arm, and the light of Your countenance, Because You favored them.

⁴ You are my King, O God; Command victories for Jacob.

⁵ Through You we will push down our enemies; Through Your name we will trample those who rise up against us.

⁶ For I will not trust in my bow, Nor shall my sword save me.

⁷ But You have saved us from our enemies, And have put to shame those who hated us.

⁸ In God we boast all day long, And praise Your name forever. Selah

⁹ But You have cast us off and put us to shame, And You do not go out with our armies.

¹⁰ You make us turn back from the enemy, And those who hate us have taken spoil for themselves.

¹¹ You have given us up like sheep intended for food, And have scattered us among the nations.

¹² You sell Your people for next to nothing, And are not enriched by selling them.

¹³ You make us a reproach to our neighbors, A scorn and a derision to those all around us.

¹⁴ You make us a byword among the nations, A shaking of the head among the peoples.

¹⁵ My dishonor is continually before me, And the shame of my face has covered me,

¹⁶ Because of the voice of him who reproaches and reviles, Because of the enemy and the avenger.

¹⁷ All this has come upon us; But we have not forgotten You, Nor have we dealt falsely with Your covenant.

¹⁸ Our heart has not turned back, Nor have our steps departed from Your way;

¹⁹ But You have severely broken us in the place of jackals, And covered us with the shadow of death.

²⁰ If we had forgotten the name of our God, Or stretched out our hands to a foreign god,

²¹ Would not God search this out? For He knows the secrets of the heart.

²² Yet for Your sake we are killed all day long; We are accounted as sheep for the slaughter.

²³ Awake! Why do You sleep, O Lord? Arise! Do not cast us off forever.

²⁴ Why do You hide Your face, And forget our affliction and our oppression?

²⁵ For our soul is bowed down to the dust; Our body clings to the ground.

²⁶ Arise for our help, And redeem us for Your mercies' sake.

45 ¹ "To the Chief Musician. Set to "The Lillies." A Contemplation of the sons of Korah. A Song of Love." My heart is overflowing with a good theme; I recite my composition concerning the King; My tongue is the pen of a ready writer.

² You are fairer than the sons of men; Grace is poured upon Your lips; Therefore God has blessed You forever.

³ Gird Your sword upon Your thigh, O Mighty One, With Your glory and Your majesty.

⁴ And in Your majesty ride prosperously because of truth, humility, and righteousness; And Your right hand shall teach You awesome things.

⁵ Your arrows are sharp in the heart of the King's enemies; The peoples fall under You.

⁶ Your throne, O God, is forever and ever; A scepter of righteousness is the scepter of Your kingdom.

⁷ You love righteousness and hate wickedness; Therefore God, Your God, has anointed You With the oil of gladness more than Your companions.

⁸ All Your garments are scented with myrrh and aloes and cassia, Out of the ivory palaces, by which they have made You glad.

⁹ Kings' daughters are among Your honorable women; At Your right hand stands the queen in gold from Ophir.

¹⁰ Listen, O daughter, Consider and incline your ear; Forget your own people also, and your father's house;

¹¹ So the King will greatly desire your beauty; Because He is your Lord, worship Him.

¹² And the daughter of Tyre will come with a gift; The rich among the people will seek your favor.

¹³ The royal daughter is all glorious within the palace; Her clothing is woven with gold.

¹⁴ She shall be brought to the King in robes of many colors; The virgins, her companions who follow her, shall be brought to You.

¹⁵ With gladness and rejoicing they shall be brought; They shall enter the King's palace.

¹⁶ Instead of Your fathers shall be Your sons, Whom You shall make princes in all the earth.

¹⁷ I will make Your name to be remembered in all generations; Therefore the people shall praise You forever and ever.

46 ¹ “To the Chief Musician. A Psalm of the sons of Korah. A Song

for Alamothe.” God is our refuge and strength, A very present help in trouble.

² Therefore we will not fear, Even though the earth be removed, And though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea;

³ Though its waters roar and be troubled, Though the mountains shake with its swelling. Selah

⁴ There is a river whose streams shall make glad the city of God, The holy place of the tabernacle of the Most High.

⁵ God is in the midst of her, she shall not be moved; God shall help her, just at the break of dawn.

⁶ The nations raged, the kingdoms were moved; He uttered His voice, the earth melted.

⁷ The LORD of hosts is with us; The God of Jacob is our refuge. Selah

⁸ Come, behold the works of the LORD, Who has made desolations in the earth.

⁹ He makes wars cease to the end of the earth; He breaks the bow and cuts the spear in two; He burns the chariot in the fire.

¹⁰ Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!

¹¹ The LORD of hosts is with us; The God of Jacob is our refuge. Selah

47 ¹ “To the Chief Musician. A Psalm of the sons of Korah.” Oh, clap your hands, all you peoples! Shout to God with the voice of triumph!

² For the LORD Most High is awesome; He is a great King over all the earth.

³ He will subdue the peoples under us, And the nations under our feet.

⁴ He will choose our inheritance for us, The excellence of Jacob whom He loves. Selah

⁵ God has gone up with a shout, The LORD with the sound of a trumpet.

⁶ Sing praises to God, sing praises! Sing praises to our King, sing praises!

⁷ For God is the King of all the earth; Sing praises with understanding.

⁸ God reigns over the nations; God sits on His holy throne.

⁹ The princes of the people have gathered together, The people of the God of Abraham. For the shields of the earth belong to God; He is greatly exalted.

48 ¹ “A Song. A Psalm of the sons of Korah.” Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised In the city of our God, In His holy mountain.

² Beautiful in elevation, The joy of the whole earth, Is Mount Zion on the sides of the north, The city of the great King.

³ God is in her palaces; He is known as her refuge.

⁴ For behold, the kings assembled, They passed by together.

⁵ They saw it, and so they marveled;
They were troubled, they hastened
away.

⁶ Fear took hold of them there, And
pain, as of a woman in birth pangs,

⁷ As when You break the ships of
Tarshish With an east wind.

⁸ As we have heard, So we have seen In
the city of the LORD of hosts, In the city
of our God: God will establish it forever.
Selah

⁹ We have thought, O God, on Your
lovingkindness, In the midst of Your
temple.

¹⁰ According to Your name, O God, So
is Your praise to the ends of the earth;
Your right hand is full of righteousness.

¹¹ Let Mount Zion rejoice, Let the
daughters of Judah be glad, Because of
Your judgments.

¹² Walk about Zion, And go all around
her. Count her towers;

¹³ Mark well her bulwarks; Consider her palaces; That you may tell it to the generation following.

¹⁴ For this is God, Our God forever and ever; He will be our guide Even to death.

49 ¹ “To the Chief Musician. A Psalm of the sons of Korah.” Hear this, all peoples; Give ear, all inhabitants of the world,

² Both low and high, Rich and poor together.

³ My mouth shall speak wisdom, And the meditation of my heart shall give understanding.

⁴ I will incline my ear to a proverb; I will disclose my dark saying on the harp.

⁵ Why should I fear in the days of evil, When the iniquity at my heels surrounds me?

⁶ Those who trust in their wealth And boast in the multitude of their riches,

⁷ None of them can by any means
redeem his brother, Nor give to God a
ransom for him—

⁸ For the redemption of their souls is
costly, And it shall cease forever—

⁹ That he should continue to live
eternally, And not see the Pit.

¹⁰ For he sees wise men die; Likewise
the fool and the senseless person perish,
And leave their wealth to others.

¹¹ Their inner thought is that their
houses will last forever, Their dwelling
places to all generations; They call their
lands after their own names.

¹² Nevertheless man, though in honor,
does not remain; He is like the beasts
that perish.

¹³ This is the way of those who are
foolish, And of their posterity who
approve their sayings. Selah

¹⁴ Like sheep they are laid in the grave;
Death shall feed on them; The upright

shall have dominion over them in the morning; And their beauty shall be consumed in the grave, far from their dwelling.

¹⁵ But God will redeem my soul from the power of the grave, For He shall receive me. Selah

¹⁶ Do not be afraid when one becomes rich, When the glory of his house is increased;

¹⁷ For when he dies he shall carry nothing away; His glory shall not descend after him.

¹⁸ Though while he lives he blesses himself (For men will praise you when you do well for yourself),

¹⁹ He shall go to the generation of his fathers; They shall never see light.

²⁰ A man who is in honor, yet does not understand, Is like the beasts that perish.

50 ¹ “A Psalm of Asaph.” The Mighty One, God the LORD, Has spoken

and called the earth From the rising of the sun to its going down.

² Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty, God will shine forth.

³ Our God shall come, and shall not keep silent; A fire shall devour before Him, And it shall be very tempestuous all around Him.

⁴ He shall call to the heavens from above, And to the earth, that He may judge His people:

⁵ "Gather My saints together to Me, Those who have made a covenant with Me by sacrifice."

⁶ Let the heavens declare His righteousness, For God Himself is Judge. Selah

⁷ "Hear, O My people, and I will speak, O Israel, and I will testify against you; I am God, your God!

⁸ I will not rebuke you for your sacrifices
Or your burnt offerings, Which are
continually before Me.

⁹ I will not take a bull from your house,
Nor goats out of your folds.

¹⁰ For every beast of the forest is Mine,
And the cattle on a thousand hills.

¹¹ I know all the birds of the mountains,
And the wild beasts of the field are Mine.

¹² "If I were hungry, I would not tell you;
For the world is Mine, and all its fullness.

¹³ Will I eat the flesh of bulls, Or drink
the blood of goats?

¹⁴ Offer to God thanksgiving, And pay
your vows to the Most High.

¹⁵ Call upon Me in the day of trouble;
I will deliver you, and you shall glorify
Me."

¹⁶ But to the wicked God says: "What
right have you to declare My statutes, Or
take My covenant in your mouth,

¹⁷ Seeing you hate instruction And cast
My words behind you?

¹⁸ When you saw a thief, you consented
with him, And have been a partaker with
adulterers.

¹⁹ You give your mouth to evil, And your
tongue frames deceit.

²⁰ You sit and speak against your
brother; You slander your own mother's
son.

²¹ These things you have done, and
I kept silent; You thought that I was
altogether like you; But I will rebuke you,
And set them in order before your eyes.

²² "Now consider this, you who forget
God, Lest I tear you in pieces, And there
be none to deliver:

²³ Whoever offers praise glorifies Me;
And to him who orders his conduct
aright I will show the salvation of God."

51 ¹ "To the Chief Musician. A
Psalm of David when Nathan

the prophet went to him, after he had gone in to Bathsheba.” Have mercy upon me, O God, According to Your lovingkindness; According to the multitude of Your tender mercies, Blot out my transgressions.

² Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,
And cleanse me from my sin.

³ For I acknowledge my transgressions,
And my sin is always before me.

⁴ Against You, You only, have I sinned,
And done this evil in Your sight—That
You may be found just when You speak,
And blameless when You judge.

⁵ Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity,
And in sin my mother conceived me.

⁶ Behold, You desire truth in the inward
parts, And in the hidden part You will
make me to know wisdom.

⁷ Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be
clean; Wash me, and I shall be whiter
than snow.

⁸ Make me hear joy and gladness, That
the bones You have broken may rejoice.

⁹ Hide Your face from my sins, And blot
out all my iniquities.

¹⁰ Create in me a clean heart, O God,
And renew a steadfast spirit within me.

¹¹ Do not cast me away from Your
presence, And do not take Your Holy
Spirit from me.

¹² Restore to me the joy of Your
salvation, And uphold me by Your
generous Spirit.

¹³ Then I will teach transgressors Your
ways, And sinners shall be converted to
You.

¹⁴ Deliver me from the guilt of
bloodshed, O God, The God of my
salvation, And my tongue shall sing
aloud of Your righteousness.

¹⁵ O Lord, open my lips, And my mouth
shall show forth Your praise.

¹⁶ For You do not desire sacrifice, or else I would give it; You do not delight in burnt offering.

¹⁷ The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit, A broken and a contrite heart— These, O God, You will not despise.

¹⁸ Do good in Your good pleasure to Zion; Build the walls of Jerusalem.

¹⁹ Then You shall be pleased with the sacrifices of righteousness, With burnt offering and whole burnt offering; Then they shall offer bulls on Your altar.

52 ¹ “To the Chief Musician. A Contemplation of David when Doeg the Edomite went and told Saul, and said to him, “David has gone to the house of Ahimelech.”” Why do you boast in evil, O mighty man? The goodness of God endures continually.

² Your tongue devises destruction, Like a sharp razor, working deceitfully.

³ You love evil more than good, Lying rather than speaking righteousness.
Selah

⁴ You love all devouring words, You deceitful tongue.

⁵ God shall likewise destroy you forever; He shall take you away, and pluck you out of your dwelling place, And uproot you from the land of the living. Selah

⁶ The righteous also shall see and fear, And shall laugh at him, saying,

⁷ "Here is the man who did not make God his strength, But trusted in the abundance of his riches, And strengthened himself in his wickedness."

⁸ But I am like a green olive tree in the house of God; I trust in the mercy of God forever and ever.

⁹ I will praise You forever, Because You have done it; And in the presence of Your saints I will wait on Your name, for it is good.

53 ¹ "To the Chief Musician. Set to
"Mahalath." A Contemplation of
David." The fool has said in his heart,
"There is no God." They are corrupt, and
have done abominable iniquity; There is
none who does good.

² God looks down from heaven upon
the children of men, To see if there are
any who understand, who seek God.

³ Every one of them has turned aside;
They have together become corrupt;
There is none who does good, No, not
one.

⁴ Have the workers of iniquity no
knowledge, Who eat up my people as
they eat bread, And do not call upon
God?

⁵ There they are in great fear Where
no fear was, For God has scattered the
bones of him who encamps against you;
You have put them to shame, Because
God has despised them.

⁶ Oh, that the salvation of Israel would come out of Zion! When God brings back the captivity of His people, Let Jacob rejoice and Israel be glad.

54 ¹ “To the Chief Musician.
With stringed instruments. A
Contemplation of David when the
Ziphites went and said to Saul, "Is David
not hiding with us?"” Save me, O God,
by Your name, And vindicate me by Your
strength.

² Hear my prayer, O God; Give ear to
the words of my mouth.

³ For strangers have risen up against
me, And oppressors have sought after
my life; They have not set God before
them. Selah

⁴ Behold, God is my helper; The Lord is
with those who uphold my life.

⁵ He will repay my enemies for their
evil. Cut them off in Your truth.

⁶ I will freely sacrifice to You; I will praise Your name, O LORD, for it is good.

⁷ For He has delivered me out of all trouble; And my eye has seen its desire upon my enemies.

55 ¹ “To the Chief Musician. With stringed instruments. A Contemplation of David.” Give ear to my prayer, O God, And do not hide Yourself from my supplication.

² Attend to me, and hear me; I am restless in my complaint, and moan noisily,

³ Because of the voice of the enemy, Because of the oppression of the wicked; For they bring down trouble upon me, And in wrath they hate me.

⁴ My heart is severely pained within me, And the terrors of death have fallen upon me.

⁵ Fearfulness and trembling have come upon me, And horror has overwhelmed me.

⁶ So I said, "Oh, that I had wings like a dove! I would fly away and be at rest.

⁷ Indeed, I would wander far off, And remain in the wilderness. Selah

⁸ I would hasten my escape From the windy storm and tempest."

⁹ Destroy, O Lord, and divide their tongues, For I have seen violence and strife in the city.

¹⁰ Day and night they go around it on its walls; Iniquity and trouble are also in the midst of it.

¹¹ Destruction is in its midst; Oppression and deceit do not depart from its streets.

¹² For it is not an enemy who reproaches me; Then I could bear it. Nor is it one who hates me who has exalted himself against me; Then I could hide from him.

¹³ But it was you, a man my equal, My companion and my acquaintance.

¹⁴ We took sweet counsel together, And walked to the house of God in the throng.

¹⁵ Let death seize them; Let them go down alive into hell, For wickedness is in their dwellings and among them.

¹⁶ As for me, I will call upon God, And the LORD shall save me.

¹⁷ Evening and morning and at noon I will pray, and cry aloud, And He shall hear my voice.

¹⁸ He has redeemed my soul in peace from the battle that was against me, For there were many against me.

¹⁹ God will hear, and afflict them, Even He who abides from of old. Selah Because they do not change, Therefore they do not fear God.

²⁰ He has put forth his hands against those who were at peace with him; He has broken his covenant.

²¹ The words of his mouth were smoother than butter, But war was in his heart; His words were softer than oil, Yet they were drawn swords.

²² Cast your burden on the LORD, And He shall sustain you; He shall never permit the righteous to be moved.

²³ But You, O God, shall bring them down to the pit of destruction; Bloodthirsty and deceitful men shall not live out half their days; But I will trust in You.

56 ¹ “To the Chief Musician. Set to “The Silent Dove in Distant Lands.” A Michtam of David when the Philistines captured him in Gath.” Be merciful to me, O God, for man would swallow me up; Fighting all day he oppresses me.

² My enemies would hound me all day,
For there are many who fight against
me, O Most High.

³ Whenever I am afraid, I will trust in
You.

⁴ In God (I will praise His word), In God
I have put my trust; I will not fear. What
can flesh do to me?

⁵ All day they twist my words; All their
thoughts are against me for evil.

⁶ They gather together, They hide, they
mark my steps, When they lie in wait for
my life.

⁷ Shall they escape by iniquity? In anger
cast down the peoples, O God!

⁸ You number my wanderings; Put my
tears into Your bottle; Are they not in
Your book?

⁹ When I cry out to You, Then my
enemies will turn back; This I know,
because God is for me.

¹⁰ In God (I will praise His word), In the LORD (I will praise His word),

¹¹ In God I have put my trust; I will not be afraid. What can man do to me?

¹² Vows made to You are binding upon me, O God; I will render praises to You,

¹³ For You have delivered my soul from death. Have You not kept my feet from falling, That I may walk before God In the light of the living?

57 ¹ “To the Chief Musician. Set to “Do Not Destroy.” A Michtam of David when he fled from Saul into the cave.” Be merciful to me, O God, be merciful to me! For my soul trusts in You; And in the shadow of Your wings I will make my refuge, Until these calamities have passed by.

² I will cry out to God Most High, To God who performs all things for me.

³ He shall send from heaven and save me; He reproaches the one who would

swallow me up. Selah God shall send forth His mercy and His truth.

⁴ My soul is among lions; I lie among the sons of men Who are set on fire, Whose teeth are spears and arrows, And their tongue a sharp sword.

⁵ Be exalted, O God, above the heavens; Let Your glory be above all the earth.

⁶ They have prepared a net for my steps; My soul is bowed down; They have dug a pit before me; Into the midst of it they themselves have fallen. Selah

⁷ My heart is steadfast, O God, my heart is steadfast; I will sing and give praise.

⁸ Awake, my glory! Awake, lute and harp! I will awaken the dawn.

⁹ I will praise You, O Lord, among the peoples; I will sing to You among the nations.

¹⁰ For Your mercy reaches unto the heavens, And Your truth unto the clouds.

¹¹ Be exalted, O God, above the heavens; Let Your glory be above all the earth.

58 ¹ “To the Chief Musician. Set to “Do Not Destroy.” A Michtam of David.” Do you indeed speak righteousness, you silent ones? Do you judge uprightly, you sons of men?

² No, in heart you work wickedness; You weigh out the violence of your hands in the earth.

³ The wicked are estranged from the womb; They go astray as soon as they are born, speaking lies.

⁴ Their poison is like the poison of a serpent; They are like the deaf cobra that stops its ear,

⁵ Which will not heed the voice of charmers, Charming ever so skillfully.

⁶ Break their teeth in their mouth, O God! Break out the fangs of the young lions, O LORD!

⁷ Let them flow away as waters which run continually; When he bends his bow, Let his arrows be as if cut in pieces.

⁸ Let them be like a snail which melts away as it goes, Like a stillborn child of a woman, that they may not see the sun.

⁹ Before your pots can feel the burning thorns, He shall take them away as with a whirlwind, As in His living and burning wrath.

¹⁰ The righteous shall rejoice when he sees the vengeance; He shall wash his feet in the blood of the wicked,

¹¹ So that men will say, "Surely there is a reward for the righteous; Surely He is God who judges in the earth."

59 ¹ "To the Chief Musician. Set to "Do Not Destroy." A Michtam of David when Saul sent men, and they watched the house in order to kill him." Deliver me from my enemies, O my

God; Defend me from those who rise up against me.

² Deliver me from the workers of iniquity, And save me from bloodthirsty men.

³ For look, they lie in wait for my life; The mighty gather against me, Not for my transgression nor for my sin, O LORD.

⁴ They run and prepare themselves through no fault of mine. Awake to help me, and behold!

⁵ You therefore, O LORD God of hosts, the God of Israel, Awake to punish all the nations; Do not be merciful to any wicked transgressors. Selah

⁶ At evening they return, They growl like a dog, And go all around the city.

⁷ Indeed, they belch with their mouth; Swords are in their lips; For they say, "Who hears?"

⁸ But You, O LORD, shall laugh at them; You shall have all the nations in derision.

⁹ I will wait for You, O You his Strength;
For God is my defense;

¹⁰ My God of mercy shall come to meet
me; God shall let me see my desire on
my enemies.

¹¹ Do not slay them, lest my people
forget; Scatter them by Your power, And
bring them down, O Lord our shield.

¹² For the sin of their mouth and the
words of their lips, Let them even be
taken in their pride, And for the cursing
and lying which they speak.

¹³ Consume them in wrath, consume
them, That they may not be; And let
them know that God rules in Jacob To
the ends of the earth. Selah

¹⁴ And at evening they return, They
growl like a dog, And go all around the
city.

¹⁵ They wander up and down for food,
And howl if they are not satisfied.

¹⁶ But I will sing of Your power; Yes, I will sing aloud of Your mercy in the morning; For You have been my defense And refuge in the day of my trouble.

¹⁷ To You, O my Strength, I will sing praises; For God is my defense, My God of mercy.

60 ¹ “To the Chief Musician. Set to “Lily of the Testimony.” A Michtam of David. For teaching. When he fought against Mesopotamia and Syria of Zobah, and Joab returned and killed twelve thousand Edomites in the Valley of Salt.” O God, You have cast us off; You have broken us down; You have been displeased; Oh, restore us again!

² You have made the earth tremble; You have broken it; Heal its breaches, for it is shaking.

³ You have shown Your people hard things; You have made us drink the wine of confusion.

⁴ You have given a banner to those who fear You, That it may be displayed because of the truth. Selah

⁵ That Your beloved may be delivered, Save with Your right hand, and hear me.

⁶ God has spoken in His holiness: "I will rejoice; I will divide Shechem And measure out the Valley of Succoth.

⁷ Gilead is Mine, and Manasseh is Mine; Ephraim also is the helmet for My head; Judah is My lawgiver.

⁸ Moab is My washpot; Over Edom I will cast My shoe; Philistia, shout in triumph because of Me."

⁹ Who will bring me to the strong city? Who will lead me to Edom?

¹⁰ Is it not You, O God, who cast us off? And You, O God, who did not go out with our armies?

¹¹ Give us help from trouble, For the help of man is useless.

¹² Through God we will do valiantly,
For it is He who shall tread down our
enemies.

61 ¹ “To the Chief Musician. On a
stringed instrument. A Psalm of
David.” Hear my cry, O God; Attend to
my prayer.

² From the end of the earth I will cry to
You, When my heart is overwhelmed;
Lead me to the rock that is higher than I.

³ For You have been a shelter for me, A
strong tower from the enemy.

⁴ I will abide in Your tabernacle forever;
I will trust in the shelter of Your wings.
Selah

⁵ For You, O God, have heard my vows;
You have given me the heritage of those
who fear Your name.

⁶ You will prolong the king’s life, His
years as many generations.

⁷ He shall abide before God forever. Oh, prepare mercy and truth, which may preserve him!

⁸ So I will sing praise to Your name forever, That I may daily perform my vows.

62 ¹ “To the Chief Musician. To Jeduthun. A Psalm of David.” Truly my soul silently waits for God; From Him comes my salvation.

² He only is my rock and my salvation; He is my defense; I shall not be greatly moved.

³ How long will you attack a man? You shall be slain, all of you, Like a leaning wall and a tottering fence.

⁴ They only consult to cast him down from his high position; They delight in lies; They bless with their mouth, But they curse inwardly. Selah

⁵ My soul, wait silently for God alone, For my expectation is from Him.

⁶ He only is my rock and my salvation;
He is my defense; I shall not be moved.

⁷ In God is my salvation and my glory;
The rock of my strength, And my refuge,
is in God.

⁸ Trust in Him at all times, you people;
Pour out your heart before Him; God is a
refuge for us. Selah

⁹ Surely men of low degree are a vapor,
Men of high degree are a lie; If they
are weighed on the scales, They are
altogether lighter than vapor.

¹⁰ Do not trust in oppression, Nor vainly
hope in robbery; If riches increase, Do
not set your heart on them.

¹¹ God has spoken once, Twice I have
heard this: That power belongs to God.

¹² Also to You, O Lord, belongs mercy;
For You render to each one according to
his work.

63 ¹ “A Psalm of David when he was
in the wilderness of Judah.” O

God, You are my God; Early will I seek You; My soul thirsts for You; My flesh longs for You In a dry and thirsty land Where there is no water.

² So I have looked for You in the sanctuary, To see Your power and Your glory.

³ Because Your lovingkindness is better than life, My lips shall praise You.

⁴ Thus I will bless You while I live; I will lift up my hands in Your name.

⁵ My soul shall be satisfied as with marrow and fatness, And my mouth shall praise You with joyful lips.

⁶ When I remember You on my bed, I meditate on You in the night watches.

⁷ Because You have been my help, Therefore in the shadow of Your wings I will rejoice.

⁸ My soul follows close behind You; Your right hand upholds me.

⁹ But those who seek my life, to destroy it, Shall go into the lower parts of the earth.

¹⁰ They shall fall by the sword; They shall be a portion for jackals.

¹¹ But the king shall rejoice in God; Everyone who swears by Him shall glory; But the mouth of those who speak lies shall be stopped.

64 ¹ “To the Chief Musician. A Psalm of David.” Hear my voice, O God, in my meditation; Preserve my life from fear of the enemy.

² Hide me from the secret plots of the wicked, From the rebellion of the workers of iniquity,

³ Who sharpen their tongue like a sword, And bend their bows to shoot their arrows—bitter words,

⁴ That they may shoot in secret at the blameless; Suddenly they shoot at him and do not fear.

⁵ They encourage themselves in an evil matter; They talk of laying snares secretly; They say, "Who will see them?"

⁶ They devise iniquities: "We have perfected a shrewd scheme." Both the inward thought and the heart of man are deep.

⁷ But God shall shoot at them with an arrow; Suddenly they shall be wounded.

⁸ So He will make them stumble over their own tongue; All who see them shall flee away.

⁹ All men shall fear, And shall declare the work of God; For they shall wisely consider His doing.

¹⁰ The righteous shall be glad in the LORD, and trust in Him. And all the upright in heart shall glory.

65 ¹ "To the Chief Musician. A Psalm of David. A Song." Praise is awaiting You, O God, in Zion; And to You the vow shall be performed.

² O You who hear prayer, To You all flesh will come.

³ Iniquities prevail against me; As for our transgressions, You will provide atonement for them.

⁴ Blessed is the man You choose, And cause to approach You, That he may dwell in Your courts. We shall be satisfied with the goodness of Your house, Of Your holy temple.

⁵ By awesome deeds in righteousness You will answer us, O God of our salvation, You who are the confidence of all the ends of the earth, And of the far-off seas;

⁶ Who established the mountains by His strength, Being clothed with power;

⁷ You who still the noise of the seas, The noise of their waves, And the tumult of the peoples.

⁸ They also who dwell in the farthest parts are afraid of Your signs; You make

the outgoings of the morning and evening rejoice.

⁹ You visit the earth and water it, You greatly enrich it; The river of God is full of water; You provide their grain, For so You have prepared it.

¹⁰ You water its ridges abundantly, You settle its furrows; You make it soft with showers, You bless its growth.

¹¹ You crown the year with Your goodness, And Your paths drip with abundance.

¹² They drop on the pastures of the wilderness, And the little hills rejoice on every side.

¹³ The pastures are clothed with flocks; The valleys also are covered with grain; They shout for joy, they also sing.

66 ¹ “To the Chief Musician. A Song. A Psalm.” Make a joyful shout to God, all the earth!

² Sing out the honor of His name; Make His praise glorious.

³ Say to God, "How awesome are Your works! Through the greatness of Your power Your enemies shall submit themselves to You.

⁴ All the earth shall worship You And sing praises to You; They shall sing praises to Your name." Selah

⁵ Come and see the works of God; He is awesome in His doing toward the sons of men.

⁶ He turned the sea into dry land; They went through the river on foot. There we will rejoice in Him.

⁷ He rules by His power forever; His eyes observe the nations; Do not let the rebellious exalt themselves. Selah

⁸ Oh, bless our God, you peoples! And make the voice of His praise to be heard,

⁹ Who keeps our soul among the living,
And does not allow our feet to be
moved.

¹⁰ For You, O God, have tested us; You
have refined us as silver is refined.

¹¹ You brought us into the net; You laid
affliction on our backs.

¹² You have caused men to ride over
our heads; We went through fire and
through water; But You brought us out
to rich fulfillment.

¹³ I will go into Your house with burnt
offerings; I will pay You my vows,

¹⁴ Which my lips have uttered And my
mouth has spoken when I was in trouble.

¹⁵ I will offer You burnt sacrifices of fat
animals, With the sweet aroma of rams;
I will offer bulls with goats. Selah

¹⁶ Come and hear, all you who fear God,
And I will declare what He has done for
my soul.

¹⁷ I cried to Him with my mouth, And He was extolled with my tongue.

¹⁸ If I regard iniquity in my heart, The Lord will not hear.

¹⁹ But certainly God has heard me; He has attended to the voice of my prayer.

²⁰ Blessed be God, Who has not turned away my prayer, Nor His mercy from me!

67¹ “To the Chief Musician. On stringed instruments. A Psalm. A Song.” God be merciful to us and bless us, And cause His face to shine upon us. Selah

² That Your way may be known on earth, Your salvation among all nations.

³ Let the peoples praise You, O God; Let all the peoples praise You.

⁴ Oh, let the nations be glad and sing for joy! For You shall judge the people righteously, And govern the nations on earth. Selah

⁵ Let the peoples praise You, O God; Let all the peoples praise You.

⁶ Then the earth shall yield her increase; God, our own God, shall bless us.

⁷ God shall bless us, And all the ends of the earth shall fear Him.

68 ¹ “To the Chief Musician. A Psalm of David. A Song.” Let God arise, Let His enemies be scattered; Let those also who hate Him flee before Him.

² As smoke is driven away, So drive them away; As wax melts before the fire, So let the wicked perish at the presence of God.

³ But let the righteous be glad; Let them rejoice before God; Yes, let them rejoice exceedingly.

⁴ Sing to God, sing praises to His name; Extol Him who rides on the clouds, By His name YAH, And rejoice before Him.

⁵ A father of the fatherless, a defender of widows, Is God in His holy habitation.

⁶ God sets the solitary in families; He brings out those who are bound into prosperity; But the rebellious dwell in a dry land.

⁷ O God, when You went out before Your people, When You marched through the wilderness, Selah

⁸ The earth shook; The heavens also dropped rain at the presence of God; Sinai itself was moved at the presence of God, the God of Israel.

⁹ You, O God, sent a plentiful rain, Whereby You confirmed Your inheritance, When it was weary.

¹⁰ Your congregation dwelt in it; You, O God, provided from Your goodness for the poor.

¹¹ The Lord gave the word; Great was the company of those who proclaimed it:

¹² "Kings of armies flee, they flee, And she who remains at home divides the spoil.

¹³ Though you lie down among the sheepfolds, You will be like the wings of a dove covered with silver, And her feathers with yellow gold."

¹⁴ When the Almighty scattered kings in it, It was white as snow in Zalmon.

¹⁵ A mountain of God is the mountain of Bashan; A mountain of many peaks is the mountain of Bashan.

¹⁶ Why do you fume with envy, you mountains of many peaks? This is the mountain which God desires to dwell in; Yes, the LORD will dwell in it forever.

¹⁷ The chariots of God are twenty thousand, Even thousands of thousands; The Lord is among them as in Sinai, in the Holy Place.

¹⁸ You have ascended on high, You have led captivity captive; You have

received gifts among men, Even from the rebellious, That the LORD God might dwell there.

¹⁹ Blessed be the Lord, Who daily loads us with benefits, The God of our salvation! Selah

²⁰ Our God is the God of salvation; And to GOD the Lord belong escapes from death.

²¹ But God will wound the head of His enemies, The hairy scalp of the one who still goes on in His trespasses.

²² The Lord said, "I will bring back from Bashan, I will bring them back from the depths of the sea,

²³ That your foot may crush them in blood, And the tongues of your dogs may have their portion from your enemies."

²⁴ They have seen Your procession, O God, The procession of my God, my King, into the sanctuary.

²⁵ The singers went before, the players on instruments followed after; Among them were the maidens playing timbrels.

²⁶ Bless God in the congregations, The Lord, from the fountain of Israel.

²⁷ There is little Benjamin, their leader, The princes of Judah and their company, The princes of Zebulun and the princes of Naphtali.

²⁸ Your God has commanded your strength; Strengthen, O God, what You have done for us.

²⁹ Because of Your temple at Jerusalem, Kings will bring presents to You.

³⁰ Rebuke the beasts of the reeds, The herd of bulls with the calves of the peoples, Till everyone submits himself with pieces of silver. Scatter the peoples who delight in war.

³¹ Envoys will come out of Egypt; Ethiopia will quickly stretch out her hands to God.

³² Sing to God, you kingdoms of the earth; Oh, sing praises to the Lord, Selah

³³ To Him who rides on the heaven of heavens, which were of old! Indeed, He sends out His voice, a mighty voice.

³⁴ Ascribe strength to God; His excellence is over Israel, And His strength is in the clouds.

³⁵ O God, You are more awesome than Your holy places. The God of Israel is He who gives strength and power to His people. Blessed be God!

69 ¹ "To the Chief Musician. Set to "The Lilies." A Psalm of David." Save me, O God! For the waters have come up to my neck.

² I sink in deep mire, Where there is no standing; I have come into deep waters, Where the floods overflow me.

³ I am weary with my crying; My throat is dry; My eyes fail while I wait for my God.

⁴ Those who hate me without a cause
Are more than the hairs of my head;
They are mighty who would destroy me,
Being my enemies wrongfully; Though I
have stolen nothing, I still must restore
it.

⁵ O God, You know my foolishness; And
my sins are not hidden from You.

⁶ Let not those who wait for You, O
Lord GOD of hosts, be ashamed because
of me; Let not those who seek You be
confounded because of me, O God of
Israel.

⁷ Because for Your sake I have borne
reproach; Shame has covered my face.

⁸ I have become a stranger to my
brothers, And an alien to my mother's
children;

⁹ Because zeal for Your house has eaten
me up, And the reproaches of those who
reproach You have fallen on me.

¹⁰ When I wept and chastened my soul with fasting, That became my reproach.

¹¹ I also made sackcloth my garment; I became a byword to them.

¹² Those who sit in the gate speak against me, And I am the song of the drunkards.

¹³ But as for me, my prayer is to You, O LORD, in the acceptable time; O God, in the multitude of Your mercy, Hear me in the truth of Your salvation.

¹⁴ Deliver me out of the mire, And let me not sink; Let me be delivered from those who hate me, And out of the deep waters.

¹⁵ Let not the floodwater overflow me, Nor let the deep swallow me up; And let not the pit shut its mouth on me.

¹⁶ Hear me, O LORD, for Your lovingkindness is good; Turn to me according to the multitude of Your tender mercies.

¹⁷ And do not hide Your face from Your servant, For I am in trouble; Hear me speedily.

¹⁸ Draw near to my soul, and redeem it; Deliver me because of my enemies.

¹⁹ You know my reproach, my shame, and my dishonor; My adversaries are all before You.

²⁰ Reproach has broken my heart, And I am full of heaviness; I looked for someone to take pity, but there was none; And for comforters, but I found none.

²¹ They also gave me gall for my food, And for my thirst they gave me vinegar to drink.

²² Let their table become a snare before them, And their well-being a trap.

²³ Let their eyes be darkened, so that they do not see; And make their loins shake continually.

²⁴ Pour out Your indignation upon them, And let Your wrathful anger take hold of them.

²⁵ Let their dwelling place be desolate; Let no one live in their tents.

²⁶ For they persecute the ones You have struck, And talk of the grief of those You have wounded.

²⁷ Add iniquity to their iniquity, And let them not come into Your righteousness.

²⁸ Let them be blotted out of the book of the living, And not be written with the righteous.

²⁹ But I am poor and sorrowful; Let Your salvation, O God, set me up on high.

³⁰ I will praise the name of God with a song, And will magnify Him with thanksgiving.

³¹ This also shall please the LORD better than an ox or bull, Which has horns and hooves.

³² The humble shall see this and be glad; And you who seek God, your hearts shall live.

³³ For the LORD hears the poor, And does not despise His prisoners.

³⁴ Let heaven and earth praise Him, The seas and everything that moves in them.

³⁵ For God will save Zion And build the cities of Judah, That they may dwell there and possess it.

³⁶ Also, the descendants of His servants shall inherit it, And those who love His name shall dwell in it.

70 ¹ “To the Chief Musician. A Psalm of David. To bring to remembrance.” Make haste, O God, to deliver me! Make haste to help me, O LORD!

² Let them be ashamed and confounded Who seek my life; Let them be turned back and confused Who desire my hurt.

³ Let them be turned back because of their shame, Who say, "Aha, aha!"

⁴ Let all those who seek You rejoice and be glad in You; And let those who love Your salvation say continually, "Let God be magnified!"

⁵ But I am poor and needy; Make haste to me, O God! You are my help and my deliverer; O LORD, do not delay.

71 ¹ In You, O LORD, I put my trust; Let me never be put to shame.

² Deliver me in Your righteousness, and cause me to escape; Incline Your ear to me, and save me.

³ Be my strong refuge, To which I may resort continually; You have given the commandment to save me, For You are my rock and my fortress.

⁴ Deliver me, O my God, out of the hand of the wicked, Out of the hand of the unrighteous and cruel man.

⁵ For You are my hope, O Lord GOD; You are my trust from my youth.

⁶ By You I have been upheld from birth; You are He who took me out of my mother's womb. My praise shall be continually of You.

⁷ I have become as a wonder to many, But You are my strong refuge.

⁸ Let my mouth be filled with Your praise And with Your glory all the day.

⁹ Do not cast me off in the time of old age; Do not forsake me when my strength fails.

¹⁰ For my enemies speak against me; And those who lie in wait for my life take counsel together,

¹¹ Saying, "God has forsaken him; Pursue and take him, for there is none to deliver him."

¹² O God, do not be far from me; O my God, make haste to help me!

¹³ Let them be confounded and consumed Who are adversaries of my life; Let them be covered with reproach and dishonor Who seek my hurt.

¹⁴ But I will hope continually, And will praise You yet more and more.

¹⁵ My mouth shall tell of Your righteousness And Your salvation all the day, For I do not know their limits.

¹⁶ I will go in the strength of the Lord GOD; I will make mention of Your righteousness, of Yours only.

¹⁷ O God, You have taught me from my youth; And to this day I declare Your wondrous works.

¹⁸ Now also when I am old and grayheaded, O God, do not forsake me, Until I declare Your strength to this generation, Your power to everyone who is to come.

¹⁹ Also Your righteousness, O God, is very high, You who have done great things; O God, who is like You?

²⁰ You, who have shown me great and severe troubles, Shall revive me again, And bring me up again from the depths of the earth.

²¹ You shall increase my greatness, And comfort me on every side.

²² Also with the lute I will praise you—And Your faithfulness, O my God! To You I will sing with the harp, O Holy One of Israel.

²³ My lips shall greatly rejoice when I sing to You, And my soul, which You have redeemed.

²⁴ My tongue also shall talk of Your righteousness all the day long; For they are confounded, For they are brought to shame Who seek my hurt.

72 ¹ “A Psalm of Solomon.” Give the king Your judgments, O God, And Your righteousness to the king’s Son.

² He will judge Your people with righteousness, And Your poor with justice.

³ The mountains will bring peace to the people, And the little hills, by righteousness.

⁴ He will bring justice to the poor of the people; He will save the children of the needy, And will break in pieces the oppressor.

⁵ They shall fear You As long as the sun and moon endure, Throughout all generations.

⁶ He shall come down like rain upon the grass before mowing, Like showers that water the earth.

⁷ In His days the righteous shall flourish, And abundance of peace, Until the moon is no more.

⁸ He shall have dominion also from sea to sea, And from the River to the ends of the earth.

⁹ Those who dwell in the wilderness will bow before Him, And His enemies will lick the dust.

¹⁰ The kings of Tarshish and of the isles Will bring presents; The kings of Sheba and Seba Will offer gifts.

¹¹ Yes, all kings shall fall down before Him; All nations shall serve Him.

¹² For He will deliver the needy when he cries, The poor also, and him who has no helper.

¹³ He will spare the poor and needy, And will save the souls of the needy.

¹⁴ He will redeem their life from oppression and violence; And precious shall be their blood in His sight.

¹⁵ And He shall live; And the gold of Sheba will be given to Him; Prayer also

will be made for Him continually, And daily He shall be praised.

¹⁶ There will be an abundance of grain in the earth, On the top of the mountains; Its fruit shall wave like Lebanon; And those of the city shall flourish like grass of the earth.

¹⁷ His name shall endure forever; His name shall continue as long as the sun. And men shall be blessed in Him; All nations shall call Him blessed.

¹⁸ Blessed be the LORD God, the God of Israel, Who only does wondrous things!

¹⁹ And blessed be His glorious name forever! And let the whole earth be filled with His glory. Amen and Amen.

²⁰ The prayers of David the son of Jesse are ended.

73 ¹ “A Psalm of Asaph.” Truly God is good to Israel, To such as are pure in heart.

² But as for me, my feet had almost stumbled; My steps had nearly slipped.

³ For I was envious of the boastful, When I saw the prosperity of the wicked.

⁴ For there are no pangs in their death, But their strength is firm.

⁵ They are not in trouble as other men, Nor are they plagued like other men.

⁶ Therefore pride serves as their necklace; Violence covers them like a garment.

⁷ Their eyes bulge with abundance; They have more than heart could wish.

⁸ They scoff and speak wickedly concerning oppression; They speak loftily.

⁹ They set their mouth against the heavens, And their tongue walks through the earth.

¹⁰ Therefore his people return here, And waters of a full cup are drained by them.

¹¹ And they say, "How does God know?
And is there knowledge in the Most
High?"

¹² Behold, these are the ungodly, Who
are always at ease; They increase in
riches.

¹³ Surely I have cleansed my heart
in vain, And washed my hands in
innocence.

¹⁴ For all day long I have been plagued,
And chastened every morning.

¹⁵ If I had said, "I will speak thus,"
Behold, I would have been untrue to the
generation of Your children.

¹⁶ When I thought how to understand
this, It was too painful for me—

¹⁷ Until I went into the sanctuary of
God; Then I understood their end.

¹⁸ Surely You set them in slippery places;
You cast them down to destruction.

¹⁹ Oh, how they are brought to desolation, as in a moment! They are utterly consumed with terrors.

²⁰ As a dream when one awakes, So, Lord, when You awake, You shall despise their image.

²¹ Thus my heart was grieved, And I was vexed in my mind.

²² I was so foolish and ignorant; I was like a beast before You.

²³ Nevertheless I am continually with You; You hold me by my right hand.

²⁴ You will guide me with Your counsel, And afterward receive me to glory.

²⁵ Whom have I in heaven but You? And there is none upon earth that I desire besides You.

²⁶ My flesh and my heart fail; But God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever.

²⁷ For indeed, those who are far from You shall perish; You have destroyed all those who desert You for harlotry.

²⁸ But it is good for me to draw near to God; I have put my trust in the Lord GOD, That I may declare all Your works.

74 ¹ “A Contemplation of Asaph.”
O God, why have You cast us off forever? Why does Your anger smoke against the sheep of Your pasture?

² Remember Your congregation, which You have purchased of old, The tribe of Your inheritance, which You have redeemed—This Mount Zion where You have dwelt.

³ Lift up Your feet to the perpetual desolations. The enemy has damaged everything in the sanctuary.

⁴ Your enemies roar in the midst of Your meeting place; They set up their banners for signs.

⁵ They seem like men who lift up Axes among the thick trees.

⁶ And now they break down its carved work, all at once, With axes and hammers.

⁷ They have set fire to Your sanctuary; They have defiled the dwelling place of Your name to the ground.

⁸ They said in their hearts, "Let us destroy them altogether." They have burned up all the meeting places of God in the land.

⁹ We do not see our signs; There is no longer any prophet; Nor is there any among us who knows how long.

¹⁰ O God, how long will the adversary reproach? Will the enemy blaspheme Your name forever?

¹¹ Why do You withdraw Your hand, even Your right hand? Take it out of Your bosom and destroy them.

¹² For God is my King from of old,
Working salvation in the midst of the
earth.

¹³ You divided the sea by Your strength;
You broke the heads of the sea serpents
in the waters.

¹⁴ You broke the heads of Leviathan
in pieces, And gave him as food to the
people inhabiting the wilderness.

¹⁵ You broke open the fountain and the
flood; You dried up mighty rivers.

¹⁶ The day is Yours, the night also is
Yours; You have prepared the light and
the sun.

¹⁷ You have set all the borders of the
earth; You have made summer and
winter.

¹⁸ Remember this, that the enemy has
reproached, O LORD, And that a foolish
people has blasphemed Your name.

¹⁹ Oh, do not deliver the life of Your turtledove to the wild beast! Do not forget the life of Your poor forever.

²⁰ Have respect to the covenant; For the dark places of the earth are full of the haunts of cruelty.

²¹ Oh, do not let the oppressed return ashamed! Let the poor and needy praise Your name.

²² Arise, O God, plead Your own cause; Remember how the foolish man reproaches You daily.

²³ Do not forget the voice of Your enemies; The tumult of those who rise up against You increases continually.

75 ¹ "To the Chief Musician. Set to "Do Not Destroy." A Psalm of Asaph. A Song." We give thanks to You, O God, we give thanks! For Your wondrous works declare that Your name is near.

² "When I choose the proper time, I will judge uprightly.

³ The earth and all its inhabitants are dissolved; I set up its pillars firmly. Selah

⁴ 'I said to the boastful, 'Do not deal boastfully,' And to the wicked, 'Do not lift up the horn.

⁵ Do not lift up your horn on high; Do not speak with a stiff neck.'"

⁶ For exaltation comes neither from the east Nor from the west nor from the south.

⁷ But God is the Judge: He puts down one, And exalts another.

⁸ For in the hand of the LORD there is a cup, And the wine is red; It is fully mixed, and He pours it out; Surely its dregs shall all the wicked of the earth Drain and drink down.

⁹ But I will declare forever, I will sing praises to the God of Jacob.

¹⁰ 'All the horns of the wicked I will also cut off, But the horns of the righteous shall be exalted."

76 ¹ “To the Chief Musician. On stringed instruments. A Psalm of Asaph. A Song.” In Judah God is known; His name is great in Israel.

² In Salem also is His tabernacle, And His dwelling place in Zion.

³ There He broke the arrows of the bow, The shield and sword of battle. Selah

⁴ You are more glorious and excellent Than the mountains of prey.

⁵ The stouthearted were plundered; They have sunk into their sleep; And none of the mighty men have found the use of their hands.

⁶ At Your rebuke, O God of Jacob, Both the chariot and horse were cast into a dead sleep.

⁷ You, Yourself, are to be feared; And who may stand in Your presence When once You are angry?

⁸ You caused judgment to be heard from heaven; The earth feared and was still,

⁹ When God arose to judgment, To deliver all the oppressed of the earth. Selah

¹⁰ Surely the wrath of man shall praise You; With the remainder of wrath You shall gird Yourself.

¹¹ Make vows to the LORD your God, and pay them; Let all who are around Him bring presents to Him who ought to be feared.

¹² He shall cut off the spirit of princes; He is awesome to the kings of the earth.

77 ¹ “To the Chief Musician. To Jeduthun. A Psalm of Asaph.” I cried out to God with my voice—To God with my voice; And He gave ear to me.

² In the day of my trouble I sought the Lord; My hand was stretched out in the

night without ceasing; My soul refused to be comforted.

³ I remembered God, and was troubled; I complained, and my spirit was overwhelmed. Selah

⁴ You hold my eyelids open; I am so troubled that I cannot speak.

⁵ I have considered the days of old, The years of ancient times.

⁶ I call to remembrance my song in the night; I meditate within my heart, And my spirit makes diligent search.

⁷ Will the Lord cast off forever? And will He be favorable no more?

⁸ Has His mercy ceased forever? Has His promise failed forevermore?

⁹ Has God forgotten to be gracious? Has He in anger shut up His tender mercies? Selah

¹⁰ And I said, "This is my anguish; But I will remember the years of the right hand of the Most High."

¹¹ I will remember the works of the LORD; Surely I will remember Your wonders of old.

¹² I will also meditate on all Your work, And talk of Your deeds.

¹³ Your way, O God, is in the sanctuary; Who is so great a God as our God?

¹⁴ You are the God who does wonders; You have declared Your strength among the peoples.

¹⁵ You have with Your arm redeemed Your people, The sons of Jacob and Joseph. Selah

¹⁶ The waters saw You, O God; The waters saw You, they were afraid; The depths also trembled.

¹⁷ The clouds poured out water; The skies sent out a sound; Your arrows also flashed about.

¹⁸ The voice of Your thunder was in the whirlwind; The lightnings lit up the world; The earth trembled and shook.

¹⁹ Your way was in the sea, Your path in the great waters, And Your footsteps were not known.

²⁰ You led Your people like a flock By the hand of Moses and Aaron.

78 ¹ “A Contemplation of Asaph.”
Give ear, O my people, to my law;
Incline your ears to the words of my mouth.

² I will open my mouth in a parable; I will utter dark sayings of old,

³ Which we have heard and known, And our fathers have told us.

⁴ We will not hide them from their children, Telling to the generation to come the praises of the LORD, And His strength and His wonderful works that He has done.

⁵ For He established a testimony in Jacob, And appointed a law in Israel, Which He commanded our fathers, That

they should make them known to their children;

⁶ That the generation to come might know them, The children who would be born, That they may arise and declare them to their children,

⁷ That they may set their hope in God, And not forget the works of God, But keep His commandments;

⁸ And may not be like their fathers, A stubborn and rebellious generation, A generation that did not set its heart aright, And whose spirit was not faithful to God.

⁹ The children of Ephraim, being armed and carrying bows, Turned back in the day of battle.

¹⁰ They did not keep the covenant of God; They refused to walk in His law,

¹¹ And forgot His works And His wonders that He had shown them.

¹² Marvelous things He did in the sight of their fathers, In the land of Egypt, in the field of Zoan.

¹³ He divided the sea and caused them to pass through; And He made the waters stand up like a heap.

¹⁴ In the daytime also He led them with the cloud, And all the night with a light of fire.

¹⁵ He split the rocks in the wilderness, And gave them drink in abundance like the depths.

¹⁶ He also brought streams out of the rock, And caused waters to run down like rivers.

¹⁷ But they sinned even more against Him By rebelling against the Most High in the wilderness.

¹⁸ And they tested God in their heart By asking for the food of their fancy.

¹⁹ Yes, they spoke against God: They said, "Can God prepare a table in the wilderness?"

²⁰ Behold, He struck the rock, So that the waters gushed out, And the streams overflowed. Can He give bread also? Can He provide meat for His people?"

²¹ Therefore the LORD heard this and was furious; So a fire was kindled against Jacob, And anger also came up against Israel,

²² Because they did not believe in God, And did not trust in His salvation.

²³ Yet He had commanded the clouds above, And opened the doors of heaven,

²⁴ Had rained down manna on them to eat, And given them of the bread of heaven.

²⁵ Men ate angels' food; He sent them food to the full.

²⁶ He caused an east wind to blow
in the heavens; And by His power He
brought in the south wind.

²⁷ He also rained meat on them like the
dust, Feathered fowl like the sand of the
seas;

²⁸ And He let them fall in the midst of
their camp, All around their dwellings.

²⁹ So they ate and were well filled, For
He gave them their own desire.

³⁰ They were not deprived of their
craving; But while their food was still in
their mouths,

³¹ The wrath of God came against them,
And slew the stoutest of them, And
struck down the choice men of Israel.

³² In spite of this they still sinned, And
did not believe in His wondrous works.

³³ Therefore their days He consumed in
futility, And their years in fear.

³⁴ When He slew them, then they sought Him; And they returned and sought earnestly for God.

³⁵ Then they remembered that God was their rock, And the Most High God their Redeemer.

³⁶ Nevertheless they flattered Him with their mouth, And they lied to Him with their tongue;

³⁷ For their heart was not steadfast with Him, Nor were they faithful in His covenant.

³⁸ But He, being full of compassion, forgave their iniquity, And did not destroy them. Yes, many a time He turned His anger away, And did not stir up all His wrath;

³⁹ For He remembered that they were but flesh, A breath that passes away and does not come again.

⁴⁰ How often they provoked Him in the wilderness, And grieved Him in the desert!

⁴¹ Yes, again and again they tempted God, And limited the Holy One of Israel.

⁴² They did not remember His power: The day when He redeemed them from the enemy,

⁴³ When He worked His signs in Egypt, And His wonders in the field of Zoan;

⁴⁴ Turned their rivers into blood, And their streams, that they could not drink.

⁴⁵ He sent swarms of flies among them, which devoured them, And frogs, which destroyed them.

⁴⁶ He also gave their crops to the caterpillar, And their labor to the locust.

⁴⁷ He destroyed their vines with hail, And their sycamore trees with frost.

⁴⁸ He also gave up their cattle to the hail, And their flocks to fiery lightning.

⁴⁹ He cast on them the fierceness of His anger, Wrath, indignation, and trouble, By sending angels of destruction among them.

⁵⁰ He made a path for His anger; He did not spare their soul from death, But gave their life over to the plague,

⁵¹ And destroyed all the firstborn in Egypt, The first of their strength in the tents of Ham.

⁵² But He made His own people go forth like sheep, And guided them in the wilderness like a flock;

⁵³ And He led them on safely, so that they did not fear; But the sea overwhelmed their enemies.

⁵⁴ And He brought them to His holy border, This mountain which His right hand had acquired.

⁵⁵ He also drove out the nations before them, Allotted them an inheritance by

survey, And made the tribes of Israel dwell in their tents.

⁵⁶ Yet they tested and provoked the Most High God, And did not keep His testimonies,

⁵⁷ But turned back and acted unfaithfully like their fathers; They were turned aside like a deceitful bow.

⁵⁸ For they provoked Him to anger with their high places, And moved Him to jealousy with their carved images.

⁵⁹ When God heard this, He was furious, And greatly abhorred Israel,

⁶⁰ So that He forsook the tabernacle of Shiloh, The tent He had placed among men,

⁶¹ And delivered His strength into captivity, And His glory into the enemy's hand.

⁶² He also gave His people over to the sword, And was furious with His inheritance.

⁶³ The fire consumed their young men,
And their maidens were not given in
marriage.

⁶⁴ Their priests fell by the sword, And
their widows made no lamentation.

⁶⁵ Then the Lord awoke as from sleep,
Like a mighty man who shouts because
of wine.

⁶⁶ And He beat back His enemies; He
put them to a perpetual reproach.

⁶⁷ Moreover He rejected the tent of
Joseph, And did not choose the tribe of
Ephraim,

⁶⁸ But chose the tribe of Judah, Mount
Zion which He loved.

⁶⁹ And He built His sanctuary like the
heights, Like the earth which He has
established forever.

⁷⁰ He also chose David His servant, And
took him from the sheepfolds;

⁷¹ From following the ewes that had
young He brought him, To shepherd

Jacob His people, And Israel His inheritance.

⁷² So he shepherded them according to the integrity of his heart, And guided them by the skillfulness of his hands.

79 ¹ “A Psalm of Asaph.” O God, the nations have come into Your inheritance; Your holy temple they have defiled; They have laid Jerusalem in heaps.

² The dead bodies of Your servants They have given as food for the birds of the heavens, The flesh of Your saints to the beasts of the earth.

³ Their blood they have shed like water all around Jerusalem, And there was no one to bury them.

⁴ We have become a reproach to our neighbors, A scorn and derision to those who are around us.

⁵ How long, LORD? Will You be angry forever? Will Your jealousy burn like fire?

⁶ Pour out Your wrath on the nations that do not know You, And on the kingdoms that do not call on Your name.

⁷ For they have devoured Jacob, And laid waste his dwelling place.

⁸ Oh, do not remember former iniquities against us! Let Your tender mercies come speedily to meet us, For we have been brought very low.

⁹ Help us, O God of our salvation, For the glory of Your name; And deliver us, and provide atonement for our sins, For Your name's sake!

¹⁰ Why should the nations say, "Where is their God?" Let there be known among the nations in our sight The avenging of the blood of Your servants which has been shed.

¹¹ Let the groaning of the prisoner come before You; According to the greatness of Your power Preserve those who are appointed to die;

¹² And return to our neighbors
sevenfold into their bosom Their
reproach with which they have
reproached You, O Lord.

¹³ So we, Your people and sheep of Your
pasture, Will give You thanks forever;
We will show forth Your praise to all
generations.

80 ¹ “To the Chief Musician. Set
to "The Lillies." A Testimony of
Asaph. A Psalm.” Give ear, O Shepherd of
Israel, You who lead Joseph like a flock;
You who dwell between the cherubim,
shine forth!

² Before Ephraim, Benjamin, and
Manasseh, Stir up Your strength, And
come and save us!

³ Restore us, O God; Cause Your face to
shine, And we shall be saved!

⁴ O LORD God of hosts, How long will
You be angry Against the prayer of Your
people?

⁵ You have fed them with the bread of tears, And given them tears to drink in great measure.

⁶ You have made us a strife to our neighbors, And our enemies laugh among themselves.

⁷ Restore us, O God of hosts; Cause Your face to shine, And we shall be saved!

⁸ You have brought a vine out of Egypt; You have cast out the nations, and planted it.

⁹ You prepared room for it, And caused it to take deep root, And it filled the land.

¹⁰ The hills were covered with its shadow, And the mighty cedars with its boughs.

¹¹ She sent out her boughs to the Sea, And her branches to the River.

¹² Why have You broken down her hedges, So that all who pass by the way pluck her fruit?

¹³ The boar out of the woods uproots it,
And the wild beast of the field devours
it.

¹⁴ Return, we beseech You, O God of
hosts; Look down from heaven and see,
And visit this vine

¹⁵ And the vineyard which Your right
hand has planted, And the branch that
You made strong for Yourself.

¹⁶ It is burned with fire, it is cut down;
They perish at the rebuke of Your
countenance.

¹⁷ Let Your hand be upon the man of
Your right hand, Upon the son of man
whom You made strong for Yourself.

¹⁸ Then we will not turn back from You;
Revive us, and we will call upon Your
name.

¹⁹ Restore us, O LORD God of hosts;
Cause Your face to shine, And we shall
be saved!

81 ¹ “To the Chief Musician. On an instrument of Gath. A Psalm of Asaph.” Sing aloud to God our strength; Make a joyful shout to the God of Jacob.

² Raise a song and strike the timbrel, The pleasant harp with the lute.

³ Blow the trumpet at the time of the New Moon, At the full moon, on our solemn feast day.

⁴ For this is a statute for Israel, A law of the God of Jacob.

⁵ This He established in Joseph as a testimony, When He went throughout the land of Egypt, Where I heard a language I did not understand.

⁶ “I removed his shoulder from the burden; His hands were freed from the baskets.

⁷ You called in trouble, and I delivered you; I answered you in the secret place of thunder; I tested you at the waters of Meribah. Selah

⁸ "Hear, O My people, and I will admonish you! O Israel, if you will listen to Me!

⁹ There shall be no foreign god among you; Nor shall you worship any foreign god.

¹⁰ I am the LORD your God, Who brought you out of the land of Egypt; Open your mouth wide, and I will fill it.

¹¹ "But My people would not heed My voice, And Israel would have none of Me.

¹² So I gave them over to their own stubborn heart, To walk in their own counsels.

¹³ "Oh, that My people would listen to Me, That Israel would walk in My ways!

¹⁴ I would soon subdue their enemies, And turn My hand against their adversaries.

¹⁵ The haters of the LORD would pretend submission to Him, But their fate would endure forever.

¹⁶ He would have fed them also with the finest of wheat; And with honey from the rock I would have satisfied you."

82 ¹ "A Psalm of Asaph." God stands in the congregation of the mighty; He judges among the gods.

² How long will you judge unjustly, And show partiality to the wicked? Selah

³ Defend the poor and fatherless; Do justice to the afflicted and needy.

⁴ Deliver the poor and needy; Free them from the hand of the wicked.

⁵ They do not know, nor do they understand; They walk about in darkness; All the foundations of the earth are unstable.

⁶ I said, "You are gods, And all of you are children of the Most High.

⁷ But you shall die like men, And fall like one of the princes."

⁸ Arise, O God, judge the earth; For You shall inherit all nations.

83 ¹ "A Song. A Psalm of Asaph." Do not keep silent, O God! Do not hold Your peace, And do not be still, O God!

² For behold, Your enemies make a tumult; And those who hate You have lifted up their head.

³ They have taken crafty counsel against Your people, And consulted together against Your sheltered ones.

⁴ They have said, "Come, and let us cut them off from being a nation, That the name of Israel may be remembered no more."

⁵ For they have consulted together with one consent; They form a confederacy against You:

⁶ The tents of Edom and the Ishmaelites;
Moab and the Hagrites;

⁷ Gebal, Ammon, and Amalek; Philistia
with the inhabitants of Tyre;

⁸ Assyria also has joined with them;
They have helped the children of Lot.
Selah

⁹ Deal with them as with Midian, As
with Sisera, As with Jabin at the Brook
Kishon,

¹⁰ Who perished at En Dor, Who
became as refuse on the earth.

¹¹ Make their nobles like Oreb and like
Zeeb, Yes, all their princes like Zebah and
Zalmunna,

¹² Who said, "Let us take for ourselves
The pastures of God for a possession."

¹³ O my God, make them like the
whirling dust, Like the chaff before the
wind!

¹⁴ As the fire burns the woods, And as
the flame sets the mountains on fire,

¹⁵ So pursue them with Your tempest,
And frighten them with Your storm.

¹⁶ Fill their faces with shame, That they
may seek Your name, O LORD.

¹⁷ Let them be confounded and
dismayed forever; Yes, let them be put
to shame and perish,

¹⁸ That they may know that You, whose
name alone is the LORD, Are the Most
High over all the earth.

84 ¹ “To the Chief Musician. On an
instrument of Gath. A Psalm of
the sons of Korah.” How lovely is Your
tabernacle, O LORD of hosts!

² My soul longs, yes, even faints For the
courts of the LORD; My heart and my
flesh cry out for the living God.

³ Even the sparrow has found a home,
And the swallow a nest for herself,
Where she may lay her young—Even
Your altars, O LORD of hosts, My King
and my God.

⁴ Blessed are those who dwell in Your house; They will still be praising You.
Selah

⁵ Blessed is the man whose strength is in You, Whose heart is set on pilgrimage.

⁶ As they pass through the Valley of Baca, They make it a spring; The rain also covers it with pools.

⁷ They go from strength to strength; Each one appears before God in Zion.

⁸ O LORD God of hosts, hear my prayer; Give ear, O God of Jacob! Selah

⁹ O God, behold our shield, And look upon the face of Your anointed.

¹⁰ For a day in Your courts is better than a thousand. I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God Than dwell in the tents of wickedness.

¹¹ For the LORD God is a sun and shield; The LORD will give grace and glory; No good thing will He withhold From those who walk uprightly.

¹² O LORD of hosts, Blessed is the man who trusts in You!

85 ¹ “To the Chief Musician. A Psalm of the sons of Korah.” LORD, You have been favorable to Your land; You have brought back the captivity of Jacob.

² You have forgiven the iniquity of Your people; You have covered all their sin. Selah

³ You have taken away all Your wrath; You have turned from the fierceness of Your anger.

⁴ Restore us, O God of our salvation, And cause Your anger toward us to cease.

⁵ Will You be angry with us forever? Will You prolong Your anger to all generations?

⁶ Will You not revive us again, That Your people may rejoice in You?

⁷ Show us Your mercy, LORD, And grant us Your salvation.

⁸ I will hear what God the LORD will speak, For He will speak peace To His people and to His saints; But let them not turn back to folly.

⁹ Surely His salvation is near to those who fear Him, That glory may dwell in our land.

¹⁰ Mercy and truth have met together; Righteousness and peace have kissed.

¹¹ Truth shall spring out of the earth, And righteousness shall look down from heaven.

¹² Yes, the LORD will give what is good; And our land will yield its increase.

¹³ Righteousness will go before Him, And shall make His footsteps our pathway.

86 ¹ “A Prayer of David” Bow down Your ear, O LORD, hear me; For I am poor and needy.

² Preserve my life, for I am holy; You are my God; Save Your servant who trusts in You!

³ Be merciful to me, O Lord, For I cry to You all day long.

⁴ Rejoice the soul of Your servant, For to You, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

⁵ For You, Lord, are good, and ready to forgive, And abundant in mercy to all those who call upon You.

⁶ Give ear, O LORD, to my prayer; And attend to the voice of my supplications.

⁷ In the day of my trouble I will call upon You, For You will answer me.

⁸ Among the gods there is none like You, O Lord; Nor are there any works like Your works.

⁹ All nations whom You have made Shall come and worship before You, O Lord, And shall glorify Your name.

¹⁰ For You are great, and do wondrous things; You alone are God.

¹¹ Teach me Your way, O LORD; I will walk in Your truth; Unite my heart to fear Your name.

¹² I will praise You, O Lord my God, with all my heart, And I will glorify Your name forevermore.

¹³ For great is Your mercy toward me, And You have delivered my soul from the depths of Sheol.

¹⁴ O God, the proud have risen against me, And a mob of violent men have sought my life, And have not set You before them.

¹⁵ But You, O Lord, are a God full of compassion, and gracious, Longsuffering and abundant in mercy and truth.

¹⁶ Oh, turn to me, and have mercy on me! Give Your strength to Your servant, And save the son of Your maidservant.

¹⁷ Show me a sign for good, That those who hate me may see it and be

ashamed, Because You, LORD, have helped me and comforted me.

87¹ "A Psalm of the sons of Korah. A Song." His foundation is in the holy mountains.

² The LORD loves the gates of Zion More than all the dwellings of Jacob.

³ Glorious things are spoken of you, O city of God! Selah

⁴ "I will make mention of Rahab and Babylon to those who know Me; Behold, O Philistia and Tyre, with Ethiopia: 'This one was born there.'"

⁵ And of Zion it will be said, "This one and that one were born in her; And the Most High Himself shall establish her."

⁶ The LORD will record, When He registers the peoples: "This one was born there." Selah

⁷ Both the singers and the players on instruments say, "All my springs are in you."

88 ¹ "A Song. A Psalm of the sons of Korah. To the Chief Musician. Set to "Mahalath Leannoth." A Contemplation of Heman the Ezrahite." O LORD, God of my salvation, I have cried out day and night before You.

² Let my prayer come before You; Incline Your ear to my cry.

³ For my soul is full of troubles, And my life draws near to the grave.

⁴ I am counted with those who go down to the pit; I am like a man who has no strength,

⁵ Adrift among the dead, Like the slain who lie in the grave, Whom You remember no more, And who are cut off from Your hand.

⁶ You have laid me in the lowest pit, In darkness, in the depths.

⁷ Your wrath lies heavy upon me, And You have afflicted me with all Your waves. Selah

⁸ You have put away my acquaintances far from me; You have made me an abomination to them; I am shut up, and I cannot get out;

⁹ My eye wastes away because of affliction. LORD, I have called daily upon You; I have stretched out my hands to You.

¹⁰ Will You work wonders for the dead? Shall the dead arise and praise You? Selah

¹¹ Shall Your lovingkindness be declared in the grave? Or Your faithfulness in the place of destruction?

¹² Shall Your wonders be known in the dark? And Your righteousness in the land of forgetfulness?

¹³ But to You I have cried out, O LORD, And in the morning my prayer comes before You.

¹⁴ LORD, why do You cast off my soul? Why do You hide Your face from me?

¹⁵ I have been afflicted and ready to die from my youth; I suffer Your terrors; I am distraught.

¹⁶ Your fierce wrath has gone over me; Your terrors have cut me off.

¹⁷ They came around me all day long like water; They engulfed me altogether.

¹⁸ Loved one and friend You have put far from me, And my acquaintances into darkness.

89 ¹ “A Contemplation of Ethan the Ezrahite.” I will sing of the mercies of the LORD forever; With my mouth will I make known Your faithfulness to all generations.

² For I have said, “Mercy shall be built up forever; Your faithfulness You shall establish in the very heavens.”

³ “I have made a covenant with My chosen, I have sworn to My servant David:

⁴ ‘Your seed I will establish forever, And build up your throne to all generations.’”
Selah

⁵ And the heavens will praise Your wonders, O LORD; Your faithfulness also in the assembly of the saints.

⁶ For who in the heavens can be compared to the LORD? Who among the sons of the mighty can be likened to the LORD?

⁷ God is greatly to be feared in the assembly of the saints, And to be held in reverence by all those around Him.

⁸ O LORD God of hosts, Who is mighty like You, O LORD? Your faithfulness also surrounds You.

⁹ You rule the raging of the sea; When its waves rise, You still them.

¹⁰ You have broken Rahab in pieces, as one who is slain; You have scattered Your enemies with Your mighty arm.

¹¹ The heavens are Yours, the earth also is Yours; The world and all its fullness, You have founded them.

¹² The north and the south, You have created them; Tabor and Hermon rejoice in Your name.

¹³ You have a mighty arm; Strong is Your hand, and high is Your right hand.

¹⁴ Righteousness and justice are the foundation of Your throne; Mercy and truth go before Your face.

¹⁵ Blessed are the people who know the joyful sound! They walk, O LORD, in the light of Your countenance.

¹⁶ In Your name they rejoice all day long, And in Your righteousness they are exalted.

¹⁷ For You are the glory of their strength, And in Your favor our horn is exalted.

¹⁸ For our shield belongs to the LORD, And our king to the Holy One of Israel.

¹⁹ Then You spoke in a vision to Your holy one, And said: "I have given help to one who is mighty; I have exalted one chosen from the people.

²⁰ I have found My servant David; With My holy oil I have anointed him,

²¹ With whom My hand shall be established; Also My arm shall strengthen him.

²² The enemy shall not outwit him, Nor the son of wickedness afflict him.

²³ I will beat down his foes before his face, And plague those who hate him.

²⁴ "But My faithfulness and My mercy shall be with him, And in My name his horn shall be exalted.

²⁵ Also I will set his hand over the sea, And his right hand over the rivers.

²⁶ He shall cry to Me, 'You are my Father, My God, and the rock of my salvation.'

²⁷ Also I will make him My firstborn,
The highest of the kings of the earth.

²⁸ My mercy I will keep for him forever,
And My covenant shall stand firm with
him.

²⁹ His seed also I will make to endure
forever, And his throne as the days of
heaven.

³⁰ "If his sons forsake My law And do
not walk in My judgments,

³¹ If they break My statutes And do not
keep My commandments,

³² Then I will punish their transgression
with the rod, And their iniquity with
stripes.

³³ Nevertheless My lovingkindness I will
not utterly take from him, Nor allow My
faithfulness to fail.

³⁴ My covenant I will not break, Nor
alter the word that has gone out of My
lips.

³⁵ Once I have sworn by My holiness; I will not lie to David:

³⁶ His seed shall endure forever, And his throne as the sun before Me;

³⁷ It shall be established forever like the moon, Even like the faithful witness in the sky." Selah

³⁸ But You have cast off and abhorred, You have been furious with Your anointed.

³⁹ You have renounced the covenant of Your servant; You have profaned his crown by casting it to the ground.

⁴⁰ You have broken down all his hedges; You have brought his strongholds to ruin.

⁴¹ All who pass by the way plunder him; He is a reproach to his neighbors.

⁴² You have exalted the right hand of his adversaries; You have made all his enemies rejoice.

⁴³ You have also turned back the edge of his sword, And have not sustained him in the battle.

⁴⁴ You have made his glory cease, And cast his throne down to the ground.

⁴⁵ The days of his youth You have shortened; You have covered him with shame. Selah

⁴⁶ How long, LORD? Will You hide Yourself forever? Will Your wrath burn like fire?

⁴⁷ Remember how short my time is; For what futility have You created all the children of men?

⁴⁸ What man can live and not see death? Can he deliver his life from the power of the grave? Selah

⁴⁹ Lord, where are Your former lovingkindnesses, Which You swore to David in Your truth?

⁵⁰ Remember, Lord, the reproach of
Your servants—How I bear in my bosom
the reproach of all the many peoples,

⁵¹ With which Your enemies have
reproached, O LORD, With which they
have reproached the footsteps of Your
anointed.

⁵² Blessed be the LORD forevermore!
Amen and Amen.

90 ¹ “A Prayer of Moses the man of
God.” Lord, You have been our
dwelling place in all generations.

² Before the mountains were brought
forth, Or ever You had formed the earth
and the world, Even from everlasting to
everlasting, You are God.

³ You turn man to destruction, And say,
"Return, O children of men."

⁴ For a thousand years in Your sight Are
like yesterday when it is past, And like a
watch in the night.

⁵ You carry them away like a flood; They are like a sleep. In the morning they are like grass which grows up:

⁶ In the morning it flourishes and grows up; In the evening it is cut down and withers.

⁷ For we have been consumed by Your anger, And by Your wrath we are terrified.

⁸ You have set our iniquities before You, Our secret sins in the light of Your countenance.

⁹ For all our days have passed away in Your wrath; We finish our years like a sigh.

¹⁰ The days of our lives are seventy years; And if by reason of strength they are eighty years, Yet their boast is only labor and sorrow; For it is soon cut off, and we fly away.

¹¹ Who knows the power of Your anger? For as the fear of You, so is Your wrath.

¹² So teach us to number our days, That we may gain a heart of wisdom.

¹³ Return, O LORD! How long? And have compassion on Your servants.

¹⁴ Oh, satisfy us early with Your mercy, That we may rejoice and be glad all our days!

¹⁵ Make us glad according to the days in which You have afflicted us, The years in which we have seen evil.

¹⁶ Let Your work appear to Your servants, And Your glory to their children.

¹⁷ And let the beauty of the LORD our God be upon us, And establish the work of our hands for us; Yes, establish the work of our hands.

91 ¹ He who dwells in the secret place of the Most High Shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty.

² I will say of the LORD, "He is my refuge and my fortress; My God, in Him I will trust."

³ Surely He shall deliver you from the snare of the fowler And from the perilous pestilence.

⁴ He shall cover you with His feathers, And under His wings you shall take refuge; His truth shall be your shield and buckler.

⁵ You shall not be afraid of the terror by night, Nor of the arrow that flies by day,

⁶ Nor of the pestilence that walks in darkness, Nor of the destruction that lays waste at noonday.

⁷ A thousand may fall at your side, And ten thousand at your right hand; But it shall not come near you.

⁸ Only with your eyes shall you look, And see the reward of the wicked.

⁹ Because you have made the LORD,
who is my refuge, Even the Most High,
your dwelling place,

¹⁰ No evil shall befall you, Nor shall any
plague come near your dwelling;

¹¹ For He shall give His angels charge
over you, To keep you in all your ways.

¹² In their hands they shall bear you up,
Lest you dash your foot against a stone.

¹³ You shall tread upon the lion and the
cobra, The young lion and the serpent
you shall trample underfoot.

¹⁴ "Because he has set his love upon
Me, therefore I will deliver him; I will set
him on high, because he has known My
name.

¹⁵ He shall call upon Me, and I will
answer him; I will be with him in trouble;
I will deliver him and honor him.

¹⁶ With long life I will satisfy him, And
show him My salvation."

92 ¹ “A Psalm. A Song for the Sabbath day.” It is good to give thanks to the LORD, And to sing praises to Your name, O Most High;

² To declare Your lovingkindness in the morning, And Your faithfulness every night,

³ On an instrument of ten strings, On the lute, And on the harp, With harmonious sound.

⁴ For You, LORD, have made me glad through Your work; I will triumph in the works of Your hands.

⁵ O LORD, how great are Your works! Your thoughts are very deep.

⁶ A senseless man does not know, Nor does a fool understand this.

⁷ When the wicked spring up like grass, And when all the workers of iniquity flourish, It is that they may be destroyed forever.

⁸ But You, LORD, are on high forevermore.

⁹ For behold, Your enemies, O LORD, For behold, Your enemies shall perish; All the workers of iniquity shall be scattered.

¹⁰ But my horn You have exalted like a wild ox; I have been anointed with fresh oil.

¹¹ My eye also has seen my desire on my enemies; My ears hear my desire on the wicked Who rise up against me.

¹² The righteous shall flourish like a palm tree, He shall grow like a cedar in Lebanon.

¹³ Those who are planted in the house of the LORD Shall flourish in the courts of our God.

¹⁴ They shall still bear fruit in old age; They shall be fresh and flourishing,

¹⁵ To declare that the LORD is upright; He is my rock, and there is no unrighteousness in Him.

93 ¹ The LORD reigns, He is clothed with majesty; The LORD is clothed, He has girded Himself with strength. Surely the world is established, so that it cannot be moved.

² Your throne is established from of old; You are from everlasting.

³ The floods have lifted up, O LORD, The floods have lifted up their voice; The floods lift up their waves.

⁴ The LORD on high is mightier Than the noise of many waters, Than the mighty waves of the sea.

⁵ Your testimonies are very sure; Holiness adorns Your house, O LORD, forever.

94 ¹ O LORD God, to whom vengeance belongs—O God, to whom vengeance belongs, shine forth!

² Rise up, O Judge of the earth; Render punishment to the proud.

³ LORD, how long will the wicked, How long will the wicked triumph?

⁴ They utter speech, and speak insolent things; All the workers of iniquity boast in themselves.

⁵ They break in pieces Your people, O LORD, And afflict Your heritage.

⁶ They slay the widow and the stranger, And murder the fatherless.

⁷ Yet they say, "The LORD does not see, Nor does the God of Jacob understand."

⁸ Understand, you senseless among the people; And you fools, when will you be wise?

⁹ He who planted the ear, shall He not hear? He who formed the eye, shall He not see?

¹⁰ He who instructs the nations, shall He not correct, He who teaches man knowledge?

¹¹ The LORD knows the thoughts of man, That they are futile.

¹² Blessed is the man whom You instruct, O LORD, And teach out of Your law,

¹³ That You may give him rest from the days of adversity, Until the pit is dug for the wicked.

¹⁴ For the LORD will not cast off His people, Nor will He forsake His inheritance.

¹⁵ But judgment will return to righteousness, And all the upright in heart will follow it.

¹⁶ Who will rise up for me against the evildoers? Who will stand up for me against the workers of iniquity?

¹⁷ Unless the LORD had been my help, My soul would soon have settled in silence.

¹⁸ If I say, "My foot slips," Your mercy, O LORD, will hold me up.

¹⁹ In the multitude of my anxieties within me, Your comforts delight my soul.

²⁰ Shall the throne of iniquity, which devises evil by law, Have fellowship with You?

²¹ They gather together against the life of the righteous, And condemn innocent blood.

²² But the LORD has been my defense, And my God the rock of my refuge.

²³ He has brought on them their own iniquity, And shall cut them off in their own wickedness; The LORD our God shall cut them off.

95 ¹ Oh come, let us sing to the LORD! Let us shout joyfully to the Rock of our salvation.

² Let us come before His presence with thanksgiving; Let us shout joyfully to Him with psalms.

³ For the LORD is the great God, And the great King above all gods.

⁴ In His hand are the deep places of the earth; The heights of the hills are His also.

⁵ The sea is His, for He made it; And His hands formed the dry land.

⁶ Oh come, let us worship and bow down; Let us kneel before the LORD our Maker.

⁷ For He is our God, And we are the people of His pasture, And the sheep of His hand. Today, if you will hear His voice:

⁸ "Do not harden your hearts, as in the rebellion, As in the day of trial in the wilderness,

⁹ When your fathers tested Me; They tried Me, though they saw My work.

¹⁰ For forty years I was grieved with that generation, And said, 'It is a people

who go astray in their hearts, And they do not know My ways.'

¹¹ So I swore in My wrath, 'They shall not enter My rest.'"

96 ¹ Oh, sing to the LORD a new song! Sing to the LORD, all the earth.

² Sing to the LORD, bless His name; Proclaim the good news of His salvation from day to day.

³ Declare His glory among the nations, His wonders among all peoples.

⁴ For the LORD is great and greatly to be praised; He is to be feared above all gods.

⁵ For all the gods of the peoples are idols, But the LORD made the heavens.

⁶ Honor and majesty are before Him; Strength and beauty are in His sanctuary.

⁷ Give to the LORD, O families of the peoples, Give to the LORD glory and strength.

⁸ Give to the LORD the glory due His name; Bring an offering, and come into His courts.

⁹ Oh, worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness! Tremble before Him, all the earth.

¹⁰ Say among the nations, "The LORD reigns; The world also is firmly established, It shall not be moved; He shall judge the peoples righteously."

¹¹ Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad; Let the sea roar, and all its fullness;

¹² Let the field be joyful, and all that is in it. Then all the trees of the woods will rejoice

¹³ before the LORD. (96:13) For He is coming, for He is coming to judge the earth. He shall judge the world with righteousness, And the peoples with His truth.

97 ¹ The LORD reigns; Let the earth rejoice; Let the multitude of isles be glad!

² Clouds and darkness surround Him; Righteousness and justice are the foundation of His throne.

³ A fire goes before Him, And burns up His enemies round about.

⁴ His lightnings light the world; The earth sees and trembles.

⁵ The mountains melt like wax at the presence of the LORD, At the presence of the Lord of the whole earth.

⁶ The heavens declare His righteousness, And all the peoples see His glory.

⁷ Let all be put to shame who serve carved images, Who boast of idols. Worship Him, all you gods.

⁸ Zion hears and is glad, And the daughters of Judah rejoice Because of Your judgments, O LORD.

⁹ For You, LORD, are most high above all the earth; You are exalted far above all gods.

¹⁰ You who love the LORD, hate evil! He preserves the souls of His saints; He delivers them out of the hand of the wicked.

¹¹ Light is sown for the righteous, And gladness for the upright in heart.

¹² Rejoice in the LORD, you righteous, And give thanks at the remembrance of His holy name.

98 ¹ “A Psalm.” Oh, sing to the LORD a new song! For He has done marvelous things; His right hand and His holy arm have gained Him the victory.

² The LORD has made known His salvation; His righteousness He has revealed in the sight of the nations.

³ He has remembered His mercy and His faithfulness to the house of Israel;

All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

⁴ Shout joyfully to the LORD, all the earth; Break forth in song, rejoice, and sing praises.

⁵ Sing to the LORD with the harp, With the harp and the sound of a psalm,

⁶ With trumpets and the sound of a horn; Shout joyfully before the LORD, the King.

⁷ Let the sea roar, and all its fullness, The world and those who dwell in it;

⁸ Let the rivers clap their hands; Let the hills be joyful together

⁹ before the LORD, (98:9) For He is coming to judge the earth. With righteousness He shall judge the world, And the peoples with equity.

99 ¹ The LORD reigns; Let the peoples tremble! He dwells between the cherubim; Let the earth be moved!

² The LORD is great in Zion, And He is high above all the peoples.

³ Let them praise Your great and awesome name—He is holy.

⁴ The King's strength also loves justice; You have established equity; You have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob.

⁵ Exalt the LORD our God, And worship at His footstool—He is holy.

⁶ Moses and Aaron were among His priests, And Samuel was among those who called upon His name; They called upon the LORD, and He answered them.

⁷ He spoke to them in the cloudy pillar; They kept His testimonies and the ordinance He gave them.

⁸ You answered them, O LORD our God; You were to them God—Who—Forgives, Though You took vengeance on their deeds.

⁹ Exalt the LORD our God, And worship at His holy hill; For the LORD our God is holy.

100 ¹ “A Psalm of Thanksgiving.”
Make a joyful shout to the LORD, all you lands!

² Serve the LORD with gladness; Come before His presence with singing.

³ Know that the LORD, He is God; It is He who has made us, and not we ourselves; We are His people and the sheep of His pasture.

⁴ Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, And into His courts with praise. Be thankful to Him, and bless His name.

⁵ For the LORD is good; His mercy is everlasting, And His truth endures to all generations.

101 ¹ “A Psalm of David.” I will sing of mercy and justice; To You, O LORD, I will sing praises.

² I will behave wisely in a perfect way. Oh, when will You come to me? I will walk within my house with a perfect heart.

³ I will set nothing wicked before my eyes; I hate the work of those who fall away; It shall not cling to me.

⁴ A perverse heart shall depart from me; I will not know wickedness.

⁵ Whoever secretly slanders his neighbor, Him I will destroy; The one who has a haughty look and a proud heart, Him I will not endure.

⁶ My eyes shall be on the faithful of the land, That they may dwell with me; He who walks in a perfect way, He shall serve me.

⁷ He who works deceit shall not dwell within my house; He who tells lies shall not continue in my presence.

⁸ Early I will destroy all the wicked of the land, That I may cut off all the evildoers from the city of the LORD.

102 ¹ “A Prayer of the afflicted when he is overwhelmed and pours out his complaint before the LORD.” Hear my prayer, O LORD, And let my cry come to You.

² Do not hide Your face from me in the day of my trouble; Incline Your ear to me; In the day that I call, answer me speedily.

³ For my days are consumed like smoke, And my bones are burned like a hearth.

⁴ My heart is stricken and withered like grass, So that I forget to eat my bread.

⁵ Because of the sound of my groaning My bones cling to my skin.

⁶ I am like a pelican of the wilderness; I am like an owl of the desert.

⁷ I lie awake, And am like a sparrow alone on the housetop.

⁸ My enemies reproach me all day long,
Those who deride me swear an oath
against me.

⁹ For I have eaten ashes like bread, And
mingled my drink with weeping,

¹⁰ Because of Your indignation and Your
wrath; For You have lifted me up and
cast me away.

¹¹ My days are like a shadow that
lengthens, And I wither away like grass.

¹² But You, O LORD, shall endure
forever, And the remembrance of Your
name to all generations.

¹³ You will arise and have mercy on
Zion; For the time to favor her, Yes, the
set time, has come.

¹⁴ For Your servants take pleasure in her
stones, And show favor to her dust.

¹⁵ So the nations shall fear the name of
the LORD, And all the kings of the earth
Your glory.

¹⁶ For the LORD shall build up Zion; He shall appear in His glory.

¹⁷ He shall regard the prayer of the destitute, And shall not despise their prayer.

¹⁸ This will be written for the generation to come, That a people yet to be created may praise the LORD.

¹⁹ For He looked down from the height of His sanctuary; From heaven the LORD viewed the earth,

²⁰ To hear the groaning of the prisoner, To release those appointed to death,

²¹ To declare the name of the LORD in Zion, And His praise in Jerusalem,

²² When the peoples are gathered together, And the kingdoms, to serve the LORD.

²³ He weakened my strength in the way; He shortened my days.

²⁴ I said, "O my God, Do not take me away in the midst of my days; Your years are throughout all generations.

²⁵ Of old You laid the foundation of the earth, And the heavens are the work of Your hands.

²⁶ They will perish, but You will endure; Yes, they will all grow old like a garment; Like a cloak You will change them, And they will be changed.

²⁷ But You are the same, And Your years will have no end.

²⁸ The children of Your servants will continue, And their descendants will be established before You."

103 ¹ "A Psalm of David." Bless the LORD, O my soul; And all that is within me, bless His holy name!

² Bless the LORD, O my soul, And forget not all His benefits:

³ Who forgives all your iniquities, Who heals all your diseases,

⁴ Who redeems your life from destruction, Who crowns you with lovingkindness and tender mercies,

⁵ Who satisfies your mouth with good things, So that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

⁶ The LORD executes righteousness And justice for all who are oppressed.

⁷ He made known His ways to Moses, His acts to the children of Israel.

⁸ The LORD is merciful and gracious, Slow to anger, and abounding in mercy.

⁹ He will not always strive with us, Nor will He keep His anger forever.

¹⁰ He has not dealt with us according to our sins, Nor punished us according to our iniquities.

¹¹ For as the heavens are high above the earth, So great is His mercy toward those who fear Him;

¹² As far as the east is from the west, So far has He removed our transgressions from us.

¹³ As a father pities his children, So the LORD pities those who fear Him.

¹⁴ For He knows our frame; He remembers that we are dust.

¹⁵ As for man, his days are like grass; As a flower of the field, so he flourishes.

¹⁶ For the wind passes over it, and it is gone, And its place remembers it no more.

¹⁷ But the mercy of the LORD is from everlasting to everlasting On those who fear Him, And His righteousness to children's children,

¹⁸ To such as keep His covenant, And to those who remember His commandments to do them.

¹⁹ The LORD has established His throne in heaven, And His kingdom rules over all.

²⁰ Bless the LORD, you His angels, Who excel in strength, who do His word, Heeding the voice of His word.

²¹ Bless the LORD, all you His hosts, You ministers of His, who do His pleasure.

²² Bless the LORD, all His works, In all places of His dominion. Bless the LORD, O my soul!

104 ¹ Bless the LORD, O my soul!
O LORD my God, You are very great: You are clothed with honor and majesty,

² Who cover Yourself with light as with a garment, Who stretch out the heavens like a curtain.

³ He lays the beams of His upper chambers in the waters, Who makes the clouds His chariot, Who walks on the wings of the wind,

⁴ Who makes His angels spirits, His ministers a flame of fire.

⁵ You who laid the foundations of the earth, So that it should not be moved forever,

⁶ You covered it with the deep as with a garment; The waters stood above the mountains.

⁷ At Your rebuke they fled; At the voice of Your thunder they hastened away.

⁸ They went up over the mountains; They went down into the valleys, To the place which You founded for them.

⁹ You have set a boundary that they may not pass over, That they may not return to cover the earth.

¹⁰ He sends the springs into the valleys, They flow among the hills.

¹¹ They give drink to every beast of the field; The wild donkeys quench their thirst.

¹² By them the birds of the heavens have their home; They sing among the branches.

¹³ He waters the hills from His upper chambers; The earth is satisfied with the fruit of Your works.

¹⁴ He causes the grass to grow for the cattle, And vegetation for the service of man, That he may bring forth food from the earth,

¹⁵ And wine that makes glad the heart of man, Oil to make his face shine, And bread which strengthens man's heart.

¹⁶ The trees of the LORD are full of sap, The cedars of Lebanon which He planted,

¹⁷ Where the birds make their nests; The stork has her home in the fir trees.

¹⁸ The high hills are for the wild goats; The cliffs are a refuge for the rock badgers.

¹⁹ He appointed the moon for seasons; The sun knows its going down.

²⁰ You make darkness, and it is night, In which all the beasts of the forest creep about.

²¹ The young lions roar after their prey, And seek their food from God.

²² When the sun rises, they gather together And lie down in their dens.

²³ Man goes out to his work And to his labor until the evening.

²⁴ O LORD, how manifold are Your works! In wisdom You have made them all. The earth is full of Your possessions—

²⁵ This great and wide sea, In which are innumerable teeming things, Living things both small and great.

²⁶ There the ships sail about; There is that Leviathan Which You have made to play there.

²⁷ These all wait for You, That You may give them their food in due season.

²⁸ What You give them they gather in;
You open Your hand, they are filled with
good.

²⁹ You hide Your face, they are troubled;
You take away their breath, they die and
return to their dust.

³⁰ You send forth Your Spirit, they are
created; And You renew the face of the
earth.

³¹ May the glory of the LORD endure
forever; May the LORD rejoice in His
works.

³² He looks on the earth, and it
trembles; He touches the hills, and they
smoke.

³³ I will sing to the LORD as long as I
live; I will sing praise to my God while I
have my being.

³⁴ May my meditation be sweet to Him;
I will be glad in the LORD.

³⁵ May sinners be consumed from the earth, And the wicked be no more. Bless the LORD, O my soul! Praise the LORD!

105 ¹ Oh, give thanks to the LORD! Call upon His name; Make known His deeds among the peoples!

² Sing to Him, sing psalms to Him; Talk of all His wondrous works!

³ Glory in His holy name; Let the hearts of those rejoice who seek the LORD!

⁴ Seek the LORD and His strength; Seek His face evermore!

⁵ Remember His marvelous works which He has done, His wonders, and the judgments of His mouth,

⁶ O seed of Abraham His servant, You children of Jacob, His chosen ones!

⁷ He is the LORD our God; His judgments are in all the earth.

⁸ He remembers His covenant forever, The word which He commanded, for a thousand generations,

⁹ The covenant which He made with Abraham, And His oath to Isaac,

¹⁰ And confirmed it to Jacob for a statute, To Israel as an everlasting covenant,

¹¹ Saying, "To you I will give the land of Canaan As the allotment of your inheritance,"

¹² When they were few in number, Indeed very few, and strangers in it.

¹³ When they went from one nation to another, From one kingdom to another people,

¹⁴ He permitted no one to do them wrong; Yes, He rebuked kings for their sakes,

¹⁵ Saying, "Do not touch My anointed ones, And do My prophets no harm."

¹⁶ Moreover He called for a famine in the land; He destroyed all the provision of bread.

17 He sent a man before them—
Joseph—who was sold as a slave.

18 They hurt his feet with fetters, He
was laid in irons.

19 Until the time that his word came to
pass, The word of the LORD tested him.

20 The king sent and released him, The
ruler of the people let him go free.

21 He made him lord of his house, And
ruler of all his possessions,

22 To bind his princes at his pleasure,
And teach his elders wisdom.

23 Israel also came into Egypt, And
Jacob dwelt in the land of Ham.

24 He increased His people greatly, And
made them stronger than their enemies.

25 He turned their heart to hate His
people, To deal craftily with His servants.

26 He sent Moses His servant, And
Aaron whom He had chosen.

27 They performed His signs among
them, And wonders in the land of Ham.

²⁸ He sent darkness, and made it dark;
And they did not rebel against His word.

²⁹ He turned their waters into blood,
And killed their fish.

³⁰ Their land abounded with frogs, Even
in the chambers of their kings.

³¹ He spoke, and there came swarms of
flies, And lice in all their territory.

³² He gave them hail for rain, And
flaming fire in their land.

³³ He struck their vines also, and their
fig trees, And splintered the trees of
their territory.

³⁴ He spoke, and locusts came, Young
locusts without number,

³⁵ And ate up all the vegetation in their
land, And devoured the fruit of their
ground.

³⁶ He also destroyed all the firstborn in
their land, The first of all their strength.

³⁷ He also brought them out with silver and gold, And there was none feeble among His tribes.

³⁸ Egypt was glad when they departed, For the fear of them had fallen upon them.

³⁹ He spread a cloud for a covering, And fire to give light in the night.

⁴⁰ The people asked, and He brought quail, And satisfied them with the bread of heaven.

⁴¹ He opened the rock, and water gushed out; It ran in the dry places like a river.

⁴² For He remembered His holy promise, And Abraham His servant.

⁴³ He brought out His people with joy, His chosen ones with gladness.

⁴⁴ He gave them the lands of the Gentiles, And they inherited the labor of the nations,

⁴⁵ That they might observe His statutes
And keep His laws. Praise the LORD!

106 ¹ Praise the LORD! Oh, give
thanks to the LORD, for He is
good! For His mercy endures forever.

² Who can utter the mighty acts of the
LORD? Who can declare all His praise?

³ Blessed are those who keep justice,
And he who does righteousness at all
times!

⁴ Remember me, O LORD, with the
favor You have toward Your people; Oh,
visit me with Your salvation,

⁵ That I may see the benefit of Your
chosen ones, That I may rejoice in the
gladness of Your nation, That I may glory
with Your inheritance.

⁶ We have sinned with our fathers, We
have committed iniquity, We have done
wickedly.

⁷ Our fathers in Egypt did not
understand Your wonders; They did

not remember the multitude of Your mercies, But rebelled by the sea—the Red Sea.

⁸ Nevertheless He saved them for His name's sake, That He might make His mighty power known.

⁹ He rebuked the Red Sea also, and it dried up; So He led them through the depths, As through the wilderness.

¹⁰ He saved them from the hand of him who hated them, And redeemed them from the hand of the enemy.

¹¹ The waters covered their enemies; There was not one of them left.

¹² Then they believed His words; They sang His praise.

¹³ They soon forgot His works; They did not wait for His counsel,

¹⁴ But lusted exceedingly in the wilderness, And tested God in the desert.

¹⁵ And He gave them their request, But sent leanness into their soul.

¹⁶ When they envied Moses in the camp, And Aaron the saint of the LORD,

¹⁷ The earth opened up and swallowed Dathan, And covered the faction of Abiram.

¹⁸ A fire was kindled in their company; The flame burned up the wicked.

¹⁹ They made a calf in Horeb, And worshiped the molded image.

²⁰ Thus they changed their glory Into the image of an ox that eats grass.

²¹ They forgot God their Savior, Who had done great things in Egypt,

²² Wondrous works in the land of Ham, Awesome things by the Red Sea.

²³ Therefore He said that He would destroy them, Had not Moses His chosen one stood before Him in the breach, To turn away His wrath, lest He destroy them.

²⁴ Then they despised the pleasant land;
They did not believe His word,

²⁵ But complained in their tents, And did not heed the voice of the LORD.

²⁶ Therefore He raised up His hand in an oath against them,
To overthrow them in the wilderness,

²⁷ To overthrow their descendants among the nations,
And to scatter them in the lands.

²⁸ They joined themselves also to Baal of Peor,
And ate sacrifices made to the dead.

²⁹ Thus they provoked Him to anger with their deeds,
And the plague broke out among them.

³⁰ Then Phinehas stood up and intervened,
And the plague was stopped.

³¹ And that was accounted to him for righteousness
To all generations forevermore.

³² They angered Him also at the waters of strife, So that it went ill with Moses on account of them;

³³ Because they rebelled against His Spirit, So that he spoke rashly with his lips.

³⁴ They did not destroy the peoples, Concerning whom the LORD had commanded them,

³⁵ But they mingled with the Gentiles And learned their works;

³⁶ They served their idols, Which became a snare to them.

³⁷ They even sacrificed their sons And their daughters to demons,

³⁸ And shed innocent blood, The blood of their sons and daughters, Whom they sacrificed to the idols of Canaan; And the land was polluted with blood.

³⁹ Thus they were defiled by their own works, And played the harlot by their own deeds.

⁴⁰ Therefore the wrath of the LORD was kindled against His people, So that He abhorred His own inheritance.

⁴¹ And He gave them into the hand of the Gentiles, And those who hated them ruled over them.

⁴² Their enemies also oppressed them, And they were brought into subjection under their hand.

⁴³ Many times He delivered them; But they rebelled in their counsel, And were brought low for their iniquity.

⁴⁴ Nevertheless He regarded their affliction, When He heard their cry;

⁴⁵ And for their sake He remembered His covenant, And relented according to the multitude of His mercies.

⁴⁶ He also made them to be pitied By all those who carried them away captive.

⁴⁷ Save us, O LORD our God, And gather us from among the Gentiles, To give

thanks to Your holy name, To triumph in
Your praise.

⁴⁸ Blessed be the LORD God of Israel
From everlasting to everlasting! And let
all the people say, "Amen!" Praise the
LORD!

107 ¹ Oh, give thanks to the LORD,
for He is good! For His mercy
endures forever.

² Let the redeemed of the LORD say so,
Whom He has redeemed from the hand
of the enemy,

³ And gathered out of the lands, From
the east and from the west, From the
north and from the south.

⁴ They wandered in the wilderness in
a desolate way; They found no city to
dwell in.

⁵ Hungry and thirsty, Their soul fainted
in them.

⁶ Then they cried out to the LORD in their trouble, And He delivered them out of their distresses.

⁷ And He led them forth by the right way, That they might go to a city for a dwelling place.

⁸ Oh, that men would give thanks to the LORD for His goodness, And for His wonderful works to the children of men!

⁹ For He satisfies the longing soul, And fills the hungry soul with goodness.

¹⁰ Those who sat in darkness and in the shadow of death, Bound in affliction and irons—

¹¹ Because they rebelled against the words of God, And despised the counsel of the Most High,

¹² Therefore He brought down their heart with labor; They fell down, and there was none to help.

¹³ Then they cried out to the LORD in their trouble, And He saved them out of their distresses.

¹⁴ He brought them out of darkness and the shadow of death, And broke their chains in pieces.

¹⁵ Oh, that men would give thanks to the LORD for His goodness, And for His wonderful works to the children of men!

¹⁶ For He has broken the gates of bronze, And cut the bars of iron in two.

¹⁷ Fools, because of their transgression, And because of their iniquities, were afflicted.

¹⁸ Their soul abhorred all manner of food, And they drew near to the gates of death.

¹⁹ Then they cried out to the LORD in their trouble, And He saved them out of their distresses.

²⁰ He sent His word and healed them, And delivered them from their destructions.

²¹ Oh, that men would give thanks to the LORD for His goodness, And for His wonderful works to the children of men!

²² Let them sacrifice the sacrifices of thanksgiving, And declare His works with rejoicing.

²³ Those who go down to the sea in ships, Who do business on great waters,

²⁴ They see the works of the LORD, And His wonders in the deep.

²⁵ For He commands and raises the stormy wind, Which lifts up the waves of the sea.

²⁶ They mount up to the heavens, They go down again to the depths; Their soul melts because of trouble.

²⁷ They reel to and fro, and stagger like a drunken man, And are at their wits' end.

²⁸ Then they cry out to the LORD in their trouble, And He brings them out of their distresses.

²⁹ He calms the storm, So that its waves are still.

³⁰ Then they are glad because they are quiet; So He guides them to their desired haven.

³¹ Oh, that men would give thanks to the LORD for His goodness, And for His wonderful works to the children of men!

³² Let them exalt Him also in the assembly of the people, And praise Him in the company of the elders.

³³ He turns rivers into a wilderness, And the watersprings into dry ground;

³⁴ A fruitful land into barrenness, For the wickedness of those who dwell in it.

³⁵ He turns a wilderness into pools of water, And dry land into watersprings.

³⁶ There He makes the hungry dwell,
That they may establish a city for a
dwelling place,

³⁷ And sow fields and plant vineyards,
That they may yield a fruitful harvest.

³⁸ He also blesses them, and they
multiply greatly; And He does not let
their cattle decrease.

³⁹ When they are diminished and
brought low Through oppression,
affliction, and sorrow,

⁴⁰ He pours contempt on princes, And
causes them to wander in the wilderness
where there is no way;

⁴¹ Yet He sets the poor on high, far from
affliction, And makes their families like a
flock.

⁴² The righteous see it and rejoice, And
all iniquity stops its mouth.

⁴³ Whoever is wise will observe these
things, And they will understand the
lovingkindness of the LORD.

108 ¹ "A Song. A Psalm of David."

O God, my heart is steadfast;
I will sing and give praise, even with my
glory.

² Awake, lute and harp! I will awaken
the dawn.

³ I will praise You, O LORD, among the
peoples, And I will sing praises to You
among the nations.

⁴ For Your mercy is great above the
heavens, And Your truth reaches to the
clouds.

⁵ Be exalted, O God, above the heavens,
And Your glory above all the earth;

⁶ That Your beloved may be delivered,
Save with Your right hand, and hear me.

⁷ God has spoken in His holiness: "I
will rejoice; I will divide Shechem And
measure out the Valley of Succoth.

⁸ Gilead is Mine; Manasseh is Mine;
Ephraim also is the helmet for My head;
Judah is My lawgiver.

⁹ Moab is My washpot; Over Edom I will cast My shoe; Over Philistia I will triumph."

¹⁰ Who will bring me into the strong city? Who will lead me to Edom?

¹¹ Is it not You, O God, who cast us off? And You, O God, who did not go out with our armies?

¹² Give us help from trouble, For the help of man is useless.

¹³ Through God we will do valiantly, For it is He who shall tread down our enemies.

109¹ "To the Chief Musician. A Psalm of David." Do not keep silent, O God of my praise!

² For the mouth of the wicked and the mouth of the deceitful Have opened against me; They have spoken against me with a lying tongue.

³ They have also surrounded me with words of hatred, And fought against me without a cause.

⁴ In return for my love they are my accusers, But I give myself to prayer.

⁵ Thus they have rewarded me evil for good, And hatred for my love.

⁶ Set a wicked man over him, And let an accuser stand at his right hand.

⁷ When he is judged, let him be found guilty, And let his prayer become sin.

⁸ Let his days be few, And let another take his office.

⁹ Let his children be fatherless, And his wife a widow.

¹⁰ Let his children continually be vagabonds, and beg; Let them seek their bread also from their desolate places.

¹¹ Let the creditor seize all that he has, And let strangers plunder his labor.

¹² Let there be none to extend mercy to him, Nor let there be any to favor his fatherless children.

¹³ Let his posterity be cut off, And in the generation following let their name be blotted out.

¹⁴ Let the iniquity of his fathers be remembered before the LORD, And let not the sin of his mother be blotted out.

¹⁵ Let them be continually before the LORD, That He may cut off the memory of them from the earth;

¹⁶ Because he did not remember to show mercy, But persecuted the poor and needy man, That he might even slay the broken in heart.

¹⁷ As he loved cursing, so let it come to him; As he did not delight in blessing, so let it be far from him.

¹⁸ As he clothed himself with cursing as with his garment, So let it enter his body like water, And like oil into his bones.

¹⁹ Let it be to him like the garment which covers him, And for a belt with which he girds himself continually.

²⁰ Let this be the LORD'S reward to my accusers, And to those who speak evil against my person.

²¹ But You, O GOD the Lord, Deal with me for Your name's sake; Because Your mercy is good, deliver me.

²² For I am poor and needy, And my heart is wounded within me.

²³ I am gone like a shadow when it lengthens; I am shaken off like a locust.

²⁴ My knees are weak through fasting, And my flesh is feeble from lack of fatness.

²⁵ I also have become a reproach to them; When they look at me, they shake their heads.

²⁶ Help me, O LORD my God! Oh, save me according to Your mercy,

²⁷ That they may know that this is Your hand—That You, LORD, have done it!

²⁸ Let them curse, but You bless; When they arise, let them be ashamed, But let Your servant rejoice.

²⁹ Let my accusers be clothed with shame, And let them cover themselves with their own disgrace as with a mantle.

³⁰ I will greatly praise the LORD with my mouth; Yes, I will praise Him among the multitude.

³¹ For He shall stand at the right hand of the poor, To save him from those who condemn him.

110 ¹ “A Psalm of David.” The LORD said to my Lord, “Sit at My right hand, Till I make Your enemies Your footstool.”

² The LORD shall send the rod of Your strength out of Zion. Rule in the midst of Your enemies!

³ Your people shall be volunteers In the day of Your power; In the beauties of holiness, from the womb of the morning, You have the dew of Your youth.

⁴ The LORD has sworn And will not relent, "You are a priest forever According to the order of Melchizedek."

⁵ The Lord is at Your right hand; He shall execute kings in the day of His wrath.

⁶ He shall judge among the nations, He shall fill the places with dead bodies, He shall execute the heads of many countries.

⁷ He shall drink of the brook by the wayside; Therefore He shall lift up the head.

111 ¹ Praise the LORD! I will praise the LORD with my whole heart, In the assembly of the upright and in the congregation.

² The works of the LORD are great,
Studied by all who have pleasure in
them.

³ His work is honorable and glorious,
And His righteousness endures forever.

⁴ He has made His wonderful works to
be remembered; The LORD is gracious
and full of compassion.

⁵ He has given food to those who fear
Him; He will ever be mindful of His
covenant.

⁶ He has declared to His people the
power of His works, In giving them the
heritage of the nations.

⁷ The works of His hands are verity and
justice; All His precepts are sure.

⁸ They stand fast forever and ever, And
are done in truth and uprightness.

⁹ He has sent redemption to His people;
He has commanded His covenant
forever: Holy and awesome is His name.

¹⁰ The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; A good understanding have all those who do His commandments. His praise endures forever.

112 ¹ Praise the LORD! Blessed is the man who fears the LORD, Who delights greatly in His commandments.

² His descendants will be mighty on earth; The generation of the upright will be blessed.

³ Wealth and riches will be in his house, And his righteousness endures forever.

⁴ Unto the upright there arises light in the darkness; He is gracious, and full of compassion, and righteous.

⁵ A good man deals graciously and lends; He will guide his affairs with discretion.

⁶ Surely he will never be shaken; The righteous will be in everlasting remembrance.

⁷ He will not be afraid of evil tidings; His heart is steadfast, trusting in the LORD.

⁸ His heart is established; He will not be afraid, Until he sees his desire upon his enemies.

⁹ He has dispersed abroad, He has given to the poor; His righteousness endures forever; His horn will be exalted with honor.

¹⁰ The wicked will see it and be grieved; He will gnash his teeth and melt away; The desire of the wicked shall perish.

113 ¹ Praise the LORD! Praise, O servants of the LORD, Praise the name of the LORD!

² Blessed be the name of the LORD From this time forth and forevermore!

³ From the rising of the sun to its going down The LORD'S name is to be praised.

⁴ The LORD is high above all nations, His glory above the heavens.

⁵ Who is like the LORD our God, Who dwells on high,

⁶ Who humbles Himself to behold The things that are in the heavens and in the earth?

⁷ He raises the poor out of the dust, And lifts the needy out of the ash heap,

⁸ That He may seat him with princes— With the princes of His people.

⁹ He grants the barren woman a home, Like a joyful mother of children. Praise the LORD!

114 ¹ When Israel went out of Egypt, The house of Jacob from a people of strange language,

² Judah became His sanctuary, And Israel His dominion.

³ The sea saw it and fled; Jordan turned back.

⁴ The mountains skipped like rams, The little hills like lambs.

⁵ What ails you, O sea, that you fled? O Jordan, that you turned back?

⁶ O mountains, that you skipped like rams? O little hills, like lambs?

⁷ Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the Lord, At the presence of the God of Jacob,

⁸ Who turned the rock into a pool of water, The flint into a fountain of waters.

115 ¹ Not unto us, O LORD, not unto us, But to Your name give glory, Because of Your mercy, Because of Your truth.

² Why should the Gentiles say, "So where is their God?"

³ But our God is in heaven; He does whatever He pleases.

⁴ Their idols are silver and gold, The work of men's hands.

⁵ They have mouths, but they do not speak; Eyes they have, but they do not see;

⁶ They have ears, but they do not hear;
Noses they have, but they do not smell;

⁷ They have hands, but they do not
handle; Feet they have, but they do not
walk; Nor do they mutter through their
throat.

⁸ Those who make them are like them;
So is everyone who trusts in them.

⁹ O Israel, trust in the LORD; He is their
help and their shield.

¹⁰ O house of Aaron, trust in the LORD;
He is their help and their shield.

¹¹ You who fear the LORD, trust in the
LORD; He is their help and their shield.

¹² The LORD has been mindful of us; He
will bless us; He will bless the house of
Israel; He will bless the house of Aaron.

¹³ He will bless those who fear the
LORD, Both small and great.

¹⁴ May the LORD give you increase
more and more, You and your children.

¹⁵ May you be blessed by the LORD,
Who made heaven and earth.

¹⁶ The heaven, even the heavens, are
the LORD'S; But the earth He has given
to the children of men.

¹⁷ The dead do not praise the LORD,
Nor any who go down into silence.

¹⁸ But we will bless the LORD From this
time forth and forevermore. Praise the
LORD!

116 ¹ I love the LORD, because He
has heard My voice and my
supplications.

² Because He has inclined His ear to me,
Therefore I will call upon Him as long as I
live.

³ The pains of death surrounded me,
And the pangs of Sheol laid hold of me; I
found trouble and sorrow.

⁴ Then I called upon the name of the
LORD: "O LORD, I implore You, deliver
my soul!"

⁵ Gracious is the LORD, and righteous;
Yes, our God is merciful.

⁶ The LORD preserves the simple; I was
brought low, and He saved me.

⁷ Return to your rest, O my soul, For the
LORD has dealt bountifully with you.

⁸ For You have delivered my soul from
death, My eyes from tears, And my feet
from falling.

⁹ I will walk before the LORD In the land
of the living.

¹⁰ I believed, therefore I spoke, "I am
greatly afflicted."

¹¹ I said in my haste, "All men are liars."

¹² What shall I render to the LORD For
all His benefits toward me?

¹³ I will take up the cup of salvation,
And call upon the name of the LORD.

¹⁴ I will pay my vows to the LORD Now
in the presence of all His people.

¹⁵ Precious in the sight of the LORD Is
the death of His saints.

¹⁶ O LORD, truly I am Your servant;
I am Your servant, the son of Your
maidservant; You have loosed my bonds.

¹⁷ I will offer to You the sacrifice of
thanksgiving, And will call upon the
name of the LORD.

¹⁸ I will pay my vows to the LORD Now
in the presence of all His people,

¹⁹ In the courts of the LORD'S house, In
the midst of you, O Jerusalem. Praise the
LORD!

117 ¹ Praise the LORD, all you
Gentiles! Laud Him, all you
peoples!

² For His merciful kindness is great
toward us, And the truth of the LORD
endures forever. Praise the LORD!

118 ¹ Oh, give thanks to the LORD,
for He is good! For His mercy
endures forever.

² Let Israel now say, "His mercy endures
forever."

³ Let the house of Aaron now say, "His mercy endures forever."

⁴ Let those who fear the LORD now say, "His mercy endures forever."

⁵ I called on the LORD in distress; The LORD answered me and set me in a broad place.

⁶ The LORD is on my side; I will not fear. What can man do to me?

⁷ The LORD is for me among those who help me; Therefore I shall see my desire on those who hate me.

⁸ It is better to trust in the LORD Than to put confidence in man.

⁹ It is better to trust in the LORD Than to put confidence in princes.

¹⁰ All nations surrounded me, But in the name of the LORD I will destroy them.

¹¹ They surrounded me, Yes, they surrounded me; But in the name of the LORD I will destroy them.

¹² They surrounded me like bees; They were quenched like a fire of thorns; For in the name of the LORD I will destroy them.

¹³ You pushed me violently, that I might fall, But the LORD helped me.

¹⁴ The LORD is my strength and song, And He has become my salvation.

¹⁵ The voice of rejoicing and salvation Is in the tents of the righteous; The right hand of the LORD does valiantly.

¹⁶ The right hand of the LORD is exalted; The right hand of the LORD does valiantly.

¹⁷ I shall not die, but live, And declare the works of the LORD.

¹⁸ The LORD has chastened me severely, But He has not given me over to death.

¹⁹ Open to me the gates of righteousness; I will go through them, And I will praise the LORD.

²⁰ This is the gate of the LORD, Through which the righteous shall enter.

²¹ I will praise You, For You have answered me, And have become my salvation.

²² The stone which the builders rejected Has become the chief cornerstone.

²³ This was the LORD'S doing; It is marvelous in our eyes.

²⁴ This is the day the LORD has made; We will rejoice and be glad in it.

²⁵ Save now, I pray, O LORD; O LORD, I pray, send now prosperity.

²⁶ Blessed is he who comes in the name of the LORD! We have blessed you from the house of the LORD.

²⁷ God is the LORD, And He has given us light; Bind the sacrifice with cords to the horns of the altar.

²⁸ You are my God, and I will praise You; You are my God, I will exalt You.

²⁹ Oh, give thanks to the LORD, for He is good! For His mercy endures forever.

119 ¹ ALEPH. Blessed are the undefiled in the way, Who walk in the law of the LORD!

² Blessed are those who keep His testimonies, Who seek Him with the whole heart!

³ They also do no iniquity; They walk in His ways.

⁴ You have commanded us To keep Your precepts diligently.

⁵ Oh, that my ways were directed To keep Your statutes!

⁶ Then I would not be ashamed, When I look into all Your commandments.

⁷ I will praise You with uprightness of heart, When I learn Your righteous judgments.

⁸ I will keep Your statutes; Oh, do not forsake me utterly!

⁹ BETH. How can a young man cleanse his way? By taking heed according to Your word.

¹⁰ With my whole heart I have sought You; Oh, let me not wander from Your commandments!

¹¹ Your word I have hidden in my heart, That I might not sin against You!

¹² Blessed are You, O LORD! Teach me Your statutes!

¹³ With my lips I have declared All the judgments of Your mouth.

¹⁴ I have rejoiced in the way of Your testimonies, As much as in all riches.

¹⁵ I will meditate on Your precepts, And contemplate Your ways.

¹⁶ I will delight myself in Your statutes; I will not forget Your word.

¹⁷ GIMEL. Deal bountifully with Your servant, That I may live and keep Your word.

¹⁸ Open my eyes, that I may see
Wondrous things from Your law.

¹⁹ I am a stranger in the earth; Do not
hide Your commandments from me.

²⁰ My soul breaks with longing For Your
judgments at all times.

²¹ You rebuke the proud—the cursed,
Who stray from Your commandments.

²² Remove from me reproach and
contempt, For I have kept Your
testimonies.

²³ Princes also sit and speak against
me, But Your servant meditates on Your
statutes.

²⁴ Your testimonies also are my delight
And my counselors.

²⁵ DALETH. My soul clings to the dust;
Revive me according to Your word.

²⁶ I have declared my ways, and You
answered me; Teach me Your statutes.

²⁷ Make me understand the way of Your precepts; So shall I meditate on Your wondrous works.

²⁸ My soul melts from heaviness; Strengthen me according to Your word.

²⁹ Remove from me the way of lying, And grant me Your law graciously.

³⁰ I have chosen the way of truth; Your judgments I have laid before me.

³¹ I cling to Your testimonies; O LORD, do not put me to shame!

³² I will run the course of Your commandments, For You shall enlarge my heart.

³³ HE. Teach me, O LORD, the way of Your statutes, And I shall keep it to the end.

³⁴ Give me understanding, and I shall keep Your law; Indeed, I shall observe it with my whole heart.

³⁵ Make me walk in the path of Your commandments, For I delight in it.

³⁶ Incline my heart to Your testimonies,
And not to covetousness.

³⁷ Turn away my eyes from looking at
worthless things, And revive me in Your
way.

³⁸ Establish Your word to Your servant,
Who is devoted to fearing You.

³⁹ Turn away my reproach which I
dread, For Your judgments are good.

⁴⁰ Behold, I long for Your precepts;
Revive me in Your righteousness.

⁴¹ WAW. Let Your mercies come also to
me, O LORD—Your salvation according
to Your word.

⁴² So shall I have an answer for him who
reproaches me, For I trust in Your word.

⁴³ And take not the word of truth utterly
out of my mouth, For I have hoped in
Your ordinances.

⁴⁴ So shall I keep Your law continually,
Forever and ever.

⁴⁵ And I will walk at liberty, For I seek
Your precepts.

⁴⁶ I will speak of Your testimonies also
before kings, And will not be ashamed.

⁴⁷ And I will delight myself in Your
commandments, Which I love.

⁴⁸ My hands also I will lift up to Your
commandments, Which I love, And I will
meditate on Your statutes.

⁴⁹ ZAYIN. Remember the word to Your
servant, Upon which You have caused
me to hope.

⁵⁰ This is my comfort in my affliction,
For Your word has given me life.

⁵¹ The proud have me in great derision,
Yet I do not turn aside from Your law.

⁵² I remembered Your judgments of old,
O LORD, And have comforted myself.

⁵³ Indignation has taken hold of me
Because of the wicked, who forsake Your
law.

⁵⁴ Your statutes have been my songs In the house of my pilgrimage.

⁵⁵ I remember Your name in the night, O LORD, And I keep Your law.

⁵⁶ This has become mine, Because I kept Your precepts.

⁵⁷ HETH. You are my portion, O LORD; I have said that I would keep Your words.

⁵⁸ I entreated Your favor with my whole heart; Be merciful to me according to Your word.

⁵⁹ I thought about my ways, And turned my feet to Your testimonies.

⁶⁰ I made haste, and did not delay To keep Your commandments.

⁶¹ The cords of the wicked have bound me, But I have not forgotten Your law.

⁶² At midnight I will rise to give thanks to You, Because of Your righteous judgments.

⁶³ I am a companion of all who fear You, And of those who keep Your precepts.

⁶⁴ The earth, O LORD, is full of Your mercy; Teach me Your statutes.

⁶⁵ TETH. You have dealt well with Your servant, O LORD, according to Your word.

⁶⁶ Teach me good judgment and knowledge, For I believe Your commandments.

⁶⁷ Before I was afflicted I went astray, But now I keep Your word.

⁶⁸ You are good, and do good; Teach me Your statutes.

⁶⁹ The proud have forged a lie against me, But I will keep Your precepts with my whole heart.

⁷⁰ Their heart is as fat as grease, But I delight in Your law.

⁷¹ It is good for me that I have been afflicted, That I may learn Your statutes.

⁷² The law of Your mouth is better to me Than thousands of coins of gold and silver.

⁷³ YOD. Your hands have made me and fashioned me; Give me understanding, that I may learn Your commandments.

⁷⁴ Those who fear You will be glad when they see me, Because I have hoped in Your word.

⁷⁵ I know, O LORD, that Your judgments are right, And that in faithfulness You have afflicted me.

⁷⁶ Let, I pray, Your merciful kindness be for my comfort, According to Your word to Your servant.

⁷⁷ Let Your tender mercies come to me, that I may live; For Your law is my delight.

⁷⁸ Let the proud be ashamed, For they treated me wrongfully with falsehood; But I will meditate on Your precepts.

⁷⁹ Let those who fear You turn to me, Those who know Your testimonies.

⁸⁰ Let my heart be blameless regarding
Your statutes, That I may not be
ashamed.

⁸¹ KAPH. My soul faints for Your
salvation, But I hope in Your word.

⁸² My eyes fail from searching Your
word, Saying, "When will You comfort
me?"

⁸³ For I have become like a wineskin in
smoke, Yet I do not forget Your statutes.

⁸⁴ How many are the days of Your
servant? When will You execute
judgment on those who persecute me?

⁸⁵ The proud have dug pits for me,
Which is not according to Your law.

⁸⁶ All Your commandments are faithful;
They persecute me wrongfully; Help me!

⁸⁷ They almost made an end of me
on earth, But I did not forsake Your
precepts.

⁸⁸ Revive me according to Your lovingkindness, So that I may keep the testimony of Your mouth.

⁸⁹ LAMED. Forever, O LORD, Your word is settled in heaven.

⁹⁰ Your faithfulness endures to all generations; You established the earth, and it abides.

⁹¹ They continue this day according to Your ordinances, For all are Your servants.

⁹² Unless Your law had been my delight, I would then have perished in my affliction.

⁹³ I will never forget Your precepts, For by them You have given me life.

⁹⁴ I am Yours, save me; For I have sought Your precepts.

⁹⁵ The wicked wait for me to destroy me, But I will consider Your testimonies.

⁹⁶ I have seen the consummation of all perfection, But Your commandment is exceedingly broad.

⁹⁷ MEM. Oh, how I love Your law! It is my meditation all the day.

⁹⁸ You, through Your commandments, make me wiser than my enemies; For they are ever with me.

⁹⁹ I have more understanding than all my teachers, For Your testimonies are my meditation.

¹⁰⁰ I understand more than the ancients, Because I keep Your precepts.

¹⁰¹ I have restrained my feet from every evil way, That I may keep Your word.

¹⁰² I have not departed from Your judgments, For You Yourself have taught me.

¹⁰³ How sweet are Your words to my taste, Sweeter than honey to my mouth!

¹⁰⁴ Through Your precepts I get understanding; Therefore I hate every false way.

¹⁰⁵ NUN. Your word is a lamp to my feet And a light to my path.

¹⁰⁶ I have sworn and confirmed That I will keep Your righteous judgments.

¹⁰⁷ I am afflicted very much; Revive me, O LORD, according to Your word.

¹⁰⁸ Accept, I pray, the freewill offerings of my mouth, O LORD, And teach me Your judgments.

¹⁰⁹ My life is continually in my hand, Yet I do not forget Your law.

¹¹⁰ The wicked have laid a snare for me, Yet I have not strayed from Your precepts.

¹¹¹ Your testimonies I have taken as a heritage forever, For they are the rejoicing of my heart.

¹¹² I have inclined my heart to perform Your statutes Forever, to the very end.

¹¹³ SAMEK. I hate the double-minded,
But I love Your law.

¹¹⁴ You are my hiding place and my
shield; I hope in Your word.

¹¹⁵ Depart from me, you evildoers, For
I will keep the commandments of my
God!

¹¹⁶ Uphold me according to Your word,
that I may live; And do not let me be
ashamed of my hope.

¹¹⁷ Hold me up, and I shall be safe, And
I shall observe Your statutes continually.

¹¹⁸ You reject all those who stray
from Your statutes, For their deceit is
falsehood.

¹¹⁹ You put away all the wicked of the
earth like dross; Therefore I love Your
testimonies.

¹²⁰ My flesh trembles for fear of You,
And I am afraid of Your judgments.

¹²¹ AYIN. I have done justice and righteousness; Do not leave me to my oppressors.

¹²² Be surety for Your servant for good; Do not let the proud oppress me.

¹²³ My eyes fail from seeking Your salvation And Your righteous word.

¹²⁴ Deal with Your servant according to Your mercy, And teach me Your statutes.

¹²⁵ I am Your servant; Give me understanding, That I may know Your testimonies.

¹²⁶ It is time for You to act, O LORD, For they have regarded Your law as void.

¹²⁷ Therefore I love Your commandments More than gold, yes, than fine gold!

¹²⁸ Therefore all Your precepts concerning all things I consider to be right; I hate every false way.

¹²⁹ PE. Your testimonies are wonderful; Therefore my soul keeps them.

¹³⁰ The entrance of Your words gives light; It gives understanding to the simple.

¹³¹ I opened my mouth and panted, For I longed for Your commandments.

¹³² Look upon me and be merciful to me, As Your custom is toward those who love Your name.

¹³³ Direct my steps by Your word, And let no iniquity have dominion over me.

¹³⁴ Redeem me from the oppression of man, That I may keep Your precepts.

¹³⁵ Make Your face shine upon Your servant, And teach me Your statutes.

¹³⁶ Rivers of water run down from my eyes, Because men do not keep Your law.

¹³⁷ TSADDE. Righteous are You, O LORD, And upright are Your judgments.

¹³⁸ Your testimonies, which You have commanded, Are righteous and very faithful.

¹³⁹ My zeal has consumed me, Because my enemies have forgotten Your words.

¹⁴⁰ Your word is very pure; Therefore Your servant loves it.

¹⁴¹ I am small and despised, Yet I do not forget Your precepts.

¹⁴² Your righteousness is an everlasting righteousness, And Your law is truth.

¹⁴³ Trouble and anguish have overtaken me, Yet Your commandments are my delights.

¹⁴⁴ The righteousness of Your testimonies is everlasting; Give me understanding, and I shall live.

¹⁴⁵ QOPH. I cry out with my whole heart; Hear me, O LORD! I will keep Your statutes.

¹⁴⁶ I cry out to You; Save me, and I will keep Your testimonies.

¹⁴⁷ I rise before the dawning of the morning, And cry for help; I hope in Your word.

¹⁴⁸ My eyes are awake through the night watches, That I may meditate on Your word.

¹⁴⁹ Hear my voice according to Your lovingkindness; O LORD, revive me according to Your justice.

¹⁵⁰ They draw near who follow after wickedness; They are far from Your law.

¹⁵¹ You are near, O LORD, And all Your commandments are truth.

¹⁵² Concerning Your testimonies, I have known of old that You have founded them forever.

¹⁵³ RESH. Consider my affliction and deliver me, For I do not forget Your law.

¹⁵⁴ Plead my cause and redeem me; Revive me according to Your word.

¹⁵⁵ Salvation is far from the wicked, For they do not seek Your statutes.

¹⁵⁶ Great are Your tender mercies, O LORD; Revive me according to Your judgments.

¹⁵⁷ Many are my persecutors and my enemies, Yet I do not turn from Your testimonies.

¹⁵⁸ I see the treacherous, and am disgusted, Because they do not keep Your word.

¹⁵⁹ Consider how I love Your precepts; Revive me, O LORD, according to Your lovingkindness.

¹⁶⁰ The entirety of Your word is truth, And every one of Your righteous judgments endures forever.

¹⁶¹ SHIN. Princes persecute me without a cause, But my heart stands in awe of Your word.

¹⁶² I rejoice at Your word As one who finds great treasure.

¹⁶³ I hate and abhor lying, But I love Your law.

¹⁶⁴ Seven times a day I praise You, Because of Your righteous judgments.

¹⁶⁵ Great peace have those who love
Your law, And nothing causes them to
stumble.

¹⁶⁶ LORD, I hope for Your salvation, And
I do Your commandments.

¹⁶⁷ My soul keeps Your testimonies,
And I love them exceedingly.

¹⁶⁸ I keep Your precepts and Your
testimonies, For all my ways are before
You.

¹⁶⁹ TAU. Let my cry come before You, O
LORD; Give me understanding according
to Your word.

¹⁷⁰ Let my supplication come before
You; Deliver me according to Your word.

¹⁷¹ My lips shall utter praise, For You
teach me Your statutes.

¹⁷² My tongue shall speak of Your
word, For all Your commandments are
righteousness.

¹⁷³ Let Your hand become my help, For
I have chosen Your precepts.

¹⁷⁴ I long for Your salvation, O LORD,
And Your law is my delight.

¹⁷⁵ Let my soul live, and it shall praise
You; And let Your judgments help me.

¹⁷⁶ I have gone astray like a lost sheep;
Seek Your servant, For I do not forget
Your commandments.

120 ¹ “A Song of Ascents.” In my
distress I cried to the LORD,
And He heard me.

² Deliver my soul, O LORD, from lying
lips And from a deceitful tongue.

³ What shall be given to you, Or what
shall be done to you, You false tongue?

⁴ Sharp arrows of the warrior, With
coals of the broom tree!

⁵ Woe is me, that I dwell in Meshech,
That I dwell among the tents of Kedar!

⁶ My soul has dwelt too long With one
who hates peace.

⁷ I am for peace; But when I speak, they
are for war.

121 ¹ “A Song of Ascents.” I will lift up my eyes to the hills—From whence comes my help?

² My help comes from the LORD, Who made heaven and earth.

³ He will not allow your foot to be moved; He who keeps you will not slumber.

⁴ Behold, He who keeps Israel Shall neither slumber nor sleep.

⁵ The LORD is your keeper; The LORD is your shade at your right hand.

⁶ The sun shall not strike you by day, Nor the moon by night.

⁷ The LORD shall preserve you from all evil; He shall preserve your soul.

⁸ The LORD shall preserve your going out and your coming in From this time forth, and even forevermore.

122 ¹ “A Song of Ascents. Of David.” I was glad when they

said to me, "Let us go into the house of the LORD."

² Our feet have been standing Within your gates, O Jerusalem!

³ Jerusalem is built As a city that is compact together,

⁴ Where the tribes go up, The tribes of the LORD, To the Testimony of Israel, To give thanks to the name of the LORD.

⁵ For thrones are set there for judgment, The thrones of the house of David.

⁶ Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: "May they prosper who love you.

⁷ Peace be within your walls, Prosperity within your palaces."

⁸ For the sake of my brethren and companions, I will now say, "Peace be within you."

⁹ Because of the house of the LORD our God I will seek your good.

123 ¹ “A Song of Ascents.” Unto You I lift up my eyes, O You who dwell in the heavens.

² Behold, as the eyes of servants look to the hand of their masters, As the eyes of a maid to the hand of her mistress, So our eyes look to the LORD our God, Until He has mercy on us.

³ Have mercy on us, O LORD, have mercy on us! For we are exceedingly filled with contempt.

⁴ Our soul is exceedingly filled With the scorn of those who are at ease, With the contempt of the proud.

124 ¹ “A Song of Ascents. Of David.” “If it had not been the LORD who was on our side,” Let Israel now say—

² “If it had not been the LORD who was on our side, When men rose up against us,

³ Then they would have swallowed us
alive, When their wrath was kindled
against us;

⁴ Then the waters would have
overwhelmed us, The stream would
have gone over our soul;

⁵ Then the swollen waters Would have
gone over our soul."

⁶ Blessed be the LORD, Who has not
given us as prey to their teeth.

⁷ Our soul has escaped as a bird from
the snare of the fowlers; The snare is
broken, and we have escaped.

⁸ Our help is in the name of the LORD,
Who made heaven and earth.

125 ¹ "A Song of Ascents." Those
who trust in the LORD Are like
Mount Zion, Which cannot be moved,
but abides forever.

² As the mountains surround Jerusalem,
So the LORD surrounds His people From
this time forth and forever.

³ For the scepter of wickedness shall not rest On the land allotted to the righteous, Lest the righteous reach out their hands to iniquity.

⁴ Do good, O LORD, to those who are good, And to those who are upright in their hearts.

⁵ As for such as turn aside to their crooked ways, The LORD shall lead them away With the workers of iniquity. Peace be upon Israel!

126 ¹ “A Song of Ascents.” When the LORD brought back the captivity of Zion, We were like those who dream.

² Then our mouth was filled with laughter, And our tongue with singing. Then they said among the nations, “The LORD has done great things for them.”

³ The LORD has done great things for us, And we are glad.

⁴ Bring back our captivity, O LORD, As the streams in the South.

⁵ Those who sow in tears Shall reap in joy.

⁶ He who continually goes forth weeping, Bearing seed for sowing, Shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, Bringing his sheaves with him.

127 ¹ “A Song of Ascents. Of Solomon.” Unless the LORD builds the house, They labor in vain who build it; Unless the LORD guards the city, The watchman stays awake in vain.

² It is vain for you to rise up early, To sit up late, To eat the bread of sorrows; For so He gives His beloved sleep.

³ Behold, children are a heritage from the LORD, The fruit of the womb is a reward.

⁴ Like arrows in the hand of a warrior, So are the children of one's youth.

⁵ Happy is the man who has his quiver full of them; They shall not be ashamed, But shall speak with their enemies in the gate.

128 ¹ “A Song of Ascents.” Blessed is every one who fears the LORD, Who walks in His ways.

² When you eat the labor of your hands, You shall be happy, and it shall be well with you.

³ Your wife shall be like a fruitful vine In the very heart of your house, Your children like olive plants All around your table.

⁴ Behold, thus shall the man be blessed Who fears the LORD.

⁵ The LORD bless you out of Zion, And may you see the good of Jerusalem All the days of your life.

⁶ Yes, may you see your children’s children. Peace be upon Israel!

129 ¹ "A Song of Ascents." "Many a time they have afflicted me from my youth," Let Israel now say—

² "Many a time they have afflicted me from my youth; Yet they have not prevailed against me.

³ The plowers plowed on my back; They made their furrows long."

⁴ The LORD is righteous; He has cut in pieces the cords of the wicked.

⁵ Let all those who hate Zion Be put to shame and turned back.

⁶ Let them be as the grass on the housetops, Which withers before it grows up,

⁷ With which the reaper does not fill his hand, Nor he who binds sheaves, his arms.

⁸ Neither let those who pass by them say, "The blessing of the LORD be upon you; We bless you in the name of the LORD!"

130¹ “A Song of Ascents.” Out of the depths I have cried to You, O LORD;

² Lord, hear my voice! Let Your ears be attentive To the voice of my supplications.

³ If You, LORD, should mark iniquities, O Lord, who could stand?

⁴ But there is forgiveness with You, That You may be feared.

⁵ I wait for the LORD, my soul waits, And in His word I do hope.

⁶ My soul waits for the Lord More than those who watch for the morning—Yes, more than those who watch for the morning.

⁷ O Israel, hope in the LORD; For with the LORD there is mercy, And with Him is abundant redemption.

⁸ And He shall redeem Israel From all his iniquities.

131 ¹ “A Song of Ascents. Of David.” LORD, my heart is not haughty, Nor my eyes lofty. Neither do I concern myself with great matters, Nor with things too profound for me.

² Surely I have calmed and quieted my soul, Like a weaned child with his mother; Like a weaned child is my soul within me.

³ O Israel, hope in the LORD From this time forth and forever.

132 ¹ “A Song of Ascents.” LORD, remember David And all his afflictions;

² How he swore to the LORD, And vowed to the Mighty One of Jacob:

³ “Surely I will not go into the chamber of my house, Or go up to the comfort of my bed;

⁴ I will not give sleep to my eyes Or slumber to my eyelids,

⁵ Until I find a place for the LORD, A dwelling place for the Mighty One of Jacob."

⁶ Behold, we heard of it in Ephrathah; We found it in the fields of the woods.

⁷ Let us go into His tabernacle; Let us worship at His footstool.

⁸ Arise, O LORD, to Your resting place, You and the ark of Your strength.

⁹ Let Your priests be clothed with righteousness, And let Your saints shout for joy.

¹⁰ For Your servant David's sake, Do not turn away the face of Your Anointed.

¹¹ The LORD has sworn in truth to David; He will not turn from it: "I will set upon your throne the fruit of your body.

¹² If your sons will keep My covenant And My testimony which I shall teach them, Their sons also shall sit upon your throne forevermore."

¹³ For the LORD has chosen Zion; He has desired it for His dwelling place:

¹⁴ "This is My resting place forever; Here I will dwell, for I have desired it.

¹⁵ I will abundantly bless her provision; I will satisfy her poor with bread.

¹⁶ I will also clothe her priests with salvation, And her saints shall shout aloud for joy.

¹⁷ There I will make the horn of David grow; I will prepare a lamp for My Anointed.

¹⁸ His enemies I will clothe with shame, But upon Himself His crown shall flourish."

133 ¹ "A Song of Ascents. Of David." Behold, how good and how pleasant it is For brethren to dwell together in unity!

² It is like the precious oil upon the head, Running down on the beard, The

beard of Aaron, Running down on the edge of his garments.

³ It is like the dew of Hermon,
Descending upon the mountains of Zion;
For there the LORD commanded the blessing—Life forevermore.

134 ¹ “A Song of Ascents.” Behold,
bless the LORD, All you
servants of the LORD, Who by night
stand in the house of the LORD!

² Lift up your hands in the sanctuary,
And bless the LORD.

³ The LORD who made heaven and
earth Bless you from Zion!

135 ¹ Praise the LORD! Praise the
name of the LORD; Praise Him,
O you servants of the LORD!

² You who stand in the house of the
LORD, In the courts of the house of our
God,

³ Praise the LORD, for the LORD is good; Sing praises to His name, for it is pleasant.

⁴ For the LORD has chosen Jacob for Himself, Israel for His special treasure.

⁵ For I know that the LORD is great, And our Lord is above all gods.

⁶ Whatever the LORD pleases He does, In heaven and in earth, In the seas and in all deep places.

⁷ He causes the vapors to ascend from the ends of the earth; He makes lightning for the rain; He brings the wind out of His treasuries.

⁸ He destroyed the firstborn of Egypt, Both of man and beast.

⁹ He sent signs and wonders into the midst of you, O Egypt, Upon Pharaoh and all his servants.

¹⁰ He defeated many nations And slew mighty kings—

¹¹ Sihon king of the Amorites, Og king of Bashan, And all the kingdoms of Canaan—

¹² And gave their land as a heritage, A heritage to Israel His people.

¹³ Your name, O LORD, endures forever, Your fame, O LORD, throughout all generations.

¹⁴ For the LORD will judge His people, And He will have compassion on His servants.

¹⁵ The idols of the nations are silver and gold, The work of men's hands.

¹⁶ They have mouths, but they do not speak; Eyes they have, but they do not see;

¹⁷ They have ears, but they do not hear; Nor is there any breath in their mouths.

¹⁸ Those who make them are like them; So is everyone who trusts in them.

¹⁹ Bless the LORD, O house of Israel! Bless the LORD, O house of Aaron!

²⁰ Bless the LORD, O house of Levi! You who fear the LORD, bless the LORD!

²¹ Blessed be the LORD out of Zion, Who dwells in Jerusalem! Praise the LORD!

136 ¹ Oh, give thanks to the LORD, for He is good! For His mercy endures forever.

² Oh, give thanks to the God of gods! For His mercy endures forever.

³ Oh, give thanks to the Lord of lords! For His mercy endures forever:

⁴ To Him who alone does great wonders, For His mercy endures forever;

⁵ To Him who by wisdom made the heavens, For His mercy endures forever;

⁶ To Him who laid out the earth above the waters, For His mercy endures forever;

⁷ To Him who made great lights, For His mercy endures forever—

⁸ The sun to rule by day, For His mercy endures forever;

⁹ The moon and stars to rule by night, For His mercy endures forever.

¹⁰ To Him who struck Egypt in their firstborn, For His mercy endures forever;

¹¹ And brought out Israel from among them, For His mercy endures forever;

¹² With a strong hand, and with an outstretched arm, For His mercy endures forever;

¹³ To Him who divided the Red Sea in two, For His mercy endures forever;

¹⁴ And made Israel pass through the midst of it, For His mercy endures forever;

¹⁵ But overthrew Pharaoh and his army in the Red Sea, For His mercy endures forever;

¹⁶ To Him who led His people through the wilderness, For His mercy endures forever;

¹⁷ To Him who struck down great kings,
For His mercy endures forever;

¹⁸ And slew famous kings, For His mercy
endures forever—

¹⁹ Sihon king of the Amorites, For His
mercy endures forever;

²⁰ And Og king of Bashan, For His mercy
endures forever—

²¹ And gave their land as a heritage, For
His mercy endures forever;

²² A heritage to Israel His servant, For
His mercy endures forever.

²³ Who remembered us in our lowly
state, For His mercy endures forever;

²⁴ And rescued us from our enemies,
For His mercy endures forever;

²⁵ Who gives food to all flesh, For His
mercy endures forever.

²⁶ Oh, give thanks to the God of heaven!
For His mercy endures forever.

137 ¹ By the rivers of Babylon,
There we sat down, yea, we
wept When we remembered Zion.

² We hung our harps Upon the willows
in the midst of it.

³ For there those who carried us away
captive asked of us a song, And those
who plundered us requested mirth,
Saying, "Sing us one of the songs of
Zion!"

⁴ How shall we sing the LORD'S song In
a foreign land?

⁵ If I forget you, O Jerusalem, Let my
right hand forget its skill!

⁶ If I do not remember you, Let my
tongue cling to the roof of my mouth—If
I do not exalt Jerusalem Above my chief
joy.

⁷ Remember, O LORD, against the sons
of Edom The day of Jerusalem, Who said,
"Raze it, raze it, To its very foundation!"

⁸ O daughter of Babylon, who are to be destroyed, Happy the one who repays you as you have served us!

⁹ Happy the one who takes and dashes Your little ones against the rock!

138 ¹ “A Psalm of David.” I will praise You with my whole heart; Before the gods I will sing praises to You.

² I will worship toward Your holy temple, And praise Your name For Your lovingkindness and Your truth; For You have magnified Your word above all Your name.

³ In the day when I cried out, You answered me, And made me bold with strength in my soul.

⁴ All the kings of the earth shall praise You, O LORD, When they hear the words of Your mouth.

⁵ Yes, they shall sing of the ways of the LORD, For great is the glory of the LORD.

⁶ Though the LORD is on high, Yet He regards the lowly; But the proud He knows from afar.

⁷ Though I walk in the midst of trouble, You will revive me; You will stretch out Your hand Against the wrath of my enemies, And Your right hand will save me.

⁸ The LORD will perfect that which concerns me; Your mercy, O LORD, endures forever; Do not forsake the works of Your hands.

139 ¹ “For the Chief Musician. A Psalm of David.” O LORD, You have searched me and known me.

² You know my sitting down and my rising up; You understand my thought afar off.

³ You comprehend my path and my lying down, And are acquainted with all my ways.

⁴ For there is not a word on my tongue,
But behold, O LORD, You know it
altogether.

⁵ You have hedged me behind and
before, And laid Your hand upon me.

⁶ Such knowledge is too wonderful for
me; It is high, I cannot attain it.

⁷ Where can I go from Your Spirit? Or
where can I flee from Your presence?

⁸ If I ascend into heaven, You are there;
If I make my bed in hell, behold, You are
there.

⁹ If I take the wings of the morning, And
dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,

¹⁰ Even there Your hand shall lead me,
And Your right hand shall hold me.

¹¹ If I say, "Surely the darkness shall
fall on me," Even the night shall be light
about me;

¹² Indeed, the darkness shall not hide
from You, But the night shines as the

day; The darkness and the light are both alike to You.

¹³ For You formed my inward parts; You covered me in my mother's womb.

¹⁴ I will praise You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; Marvelous are Your works, And that my soul knows very well.

¹⁵ My frame was not hidden from You, When I was made in secret, And skillfully wrought in the lowest parts of the earth.

¹⁶ Your eyes saw my substance, being yet unformed. And in Your book they all were written, The days fashioned for me, When as yet there were none of them.

¹⁷ How precious also are Your thoughts to me, O God! How great is the sum of them!

¹⁸ If I should count them, they would be more in number than the sand; When I awake, I am still with You.

¹⁹ Oh, that You would slay the wicked,
O God! Depart from me, therefore, you
bloodthirsty men.

²⁰ For they speak against You wickedly;
Your enemies take Your name in vain.

²¹ Do I not hate them, O LORD, who
hate You? And do I not loathe those who
rise up against You?

²² I hate them with perfect hatred; I
count them my enemies.

²³ Search me, O God, and know my
heart; Try me, and know my anxieties;

²⁴ And see if there is any wicked way in
me, And lead me in the way everlasting.

140¹ “To the Chief Musician. A
Psalm of David.” Deliver me, O
LORD, from evil men; Preserve me from
violent men,

² Who plan evil things in their hearts;
They continually gather together for war.

³ They sharpen their tongues like a serpent; The poison of asps is under their lips. Selah

⁴ Keep me, O LORD, from the hands of the wicked; Preserve me from violent men, Who have purposed to make my steps stumble.

⁵ The proud have hidden a snare for me, and cords; They have spread a net by the wayside; They have set traps for me. Selah

⁶ I said to the LORD: "You are my God; Hear the voice of my supplications, O LORD.

⁷ O GOD the Lord, the strength of my salvation, You have covered my head in the day of battle.

⁸ Do not grant, O LORD, the desires of the wicked; Do not further his wicked scheme, Lest they be exalted. Selah

⁹ "As for the head of those who surround me, Let the evil of their lips cover them;

¹⁰ Let burning coals fall upon them; Let them be cast into the fire, Into deep pits, that they rise not up again.

¹¹ Let not a slanderer be established in the earth; Let evil hunt the violent man to overthrow him."

¹² I know that the LORD will maintain The cause of the afflicted, And justice for the poor.

¹³ Surely the righteous shall give thanks to Your name; The upright shall dwell in Your presence.

141 ¹ "A Psalm of David." LORD, I cry out to You; Make haste to me! Give ear to my voice when I cry out to You.

² Let my prayer be set before You as incense, The lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.

³ Set a guard, O LORD, over my mouth;
Keep watch over the door of my lips.

⁴ Do not incline my heart to any evil
thing, To practice wicked works With
men who work iniquity; And do not let
me eat of their delicacies.

⁵ Let the righteous strike me; It shall be
a kindness. And let him rebuke me; It
shall be as excellent oil; Let my head not
refuse it. For still my prayer is against the
deeds of the wicked.

⁶ Their judges are overthrown by the
sides of the cliff, And they hear my
words, for they are sweet.

⁷ Our bones are scattered at the mouth
of the grave, As when one plows and
breaks up the earth.

⁸ But my eyes are upon You, O GOD the
Lord; In You I take refuge; Do not leave
my soul destitute.

⁹ Keep me from the snares they have laid for me, And from the traps of the workers of iniquity.

¹⁰ Let the wicked fall into their own nets, While I escape safely.

142 ¹ “A Contemplation of David. A Prayer when he was in the cave.” I cry out to the LORD with my voice; With my voice to the LORD I make my supplication.

² I pour out my complaint before Him; I declare before Him my trouble.

³ When my spirit was overwhelmed within me, Then You knew my path. In the way in which I walk They have secretly set a snare for me.

⁴ Look on my right hand and see, For there is no one who acknowledges me; Refuge has failed me; No one cares for my soul.

⁵ I cried out to You, O LORD: I said, "You are my refuge, My portion in the land of the living.

⁶ Attend to my cry, For I am brought very low; Deliver me from my persecutors, For they are stronger than I.

⁷ Bring my soul out of prison, That I may praise Your name; The righteous shall surround me, For You shall deal bountifully with me."

143 ¹ "A Psalm of David." Hear my prayer, O LORD, Give ear to my supplications! In Your faithfulness answer me, And in Your righteousness.

² Do not enter into judgment with Your servant, For in Your sight no one living is righteous.

³ For the enemy has persecuted my soul; He has crushed my life to the ground; He has made me dwell in darkness, Like those who have long been dead.

⁴ Therefore my spirit is overwhelmed within me; My heart within me is distressed.

⁵ I remember the days of old; I meditate on all Your works; I muse on the work of Your hands.

⁶ I spread out my hands to You; My soul longs for You like a thirsty land. Selah

⁷ Answer me speedily, O LORD; My spirit fails! Do not hide Your face from me, Lest I be like those who go down into the pit.

⁸ Cause me to hear Your lovingkindness in the morning, For in You do I trust; Cause me to know the way in which I should walk, For I lift up my soul to You.

⁹ Deliver me, O LORD, from my enemies; In You I take shelter.

¹⁰ Teach me to do Your will, For You are my God; Your Spirit is good. Lead me in the land of uprightness.

¹¹ Revive me, O LORD, for Your name's sake! For Your righteousness' sake bring my soul out of trouble.

¹² In Your mercy cut off my enemies, And destroy all those who afflict my soul; For I am Your servant.

144 ¹ "A Psalm of David." Blessed be the LORD my Rock, Who trains my hands for war, And my fingers for battle—

² My lovingkindness and my fortress, My high tower and my deliverer, My shield and the One in whom I take refuge, Who subdues my people under me.

³ LORD, what is man, that You take knowledge of him? Or the son of man, that You are mindful of him?

⁴ Man is like a breath; His days are like a passing shadow.

⁵ Bow down Your heavens, O LORD, and come down; Touch the mountains, and they shall smoke.

⁶ Flash forth lightning and scatter them; Shoot out Your arrows and destroy them.

⁷ Stretch out Your hand from above; Rescue me and deliver me out of great waters, From the hand of foreigners,

⁸ Whose mouth speaks vain words, And whose right hand is a right hand of falsehood.

⁹ I will sing a new song to You, O God; On a harp of ten strings I will sing praises to You,

¹⁰ The One who gives salvation to kings, Who delivers David His servant From the deadly sword.

¹¹ Rescue me and deliver me from the hand of foreigners, Whose mouth speaks lying words, And whose right hand is a right hand of falsehood—

¹² That our sons may be as plants grown up in their youth; That our daughters may be as pillars, Sculptured in palace style;

¹³ That our barns may be full, Supplying all kinds of produce; That our sheep may bring forth thousands And ten thousands in our fields;

¹⁴ That our oxen may be well-laden; That there be no breaking in or going out; That there be no outcry in our streets.

¹⁵ Happy are the people who are in such a state; Happy are the people whose God is the LORD!

145 ¹ “A Praise of David.” I will extol You, my God, O King; And I will bless Your name forever and ever.

² Every day I will bless You, And I will praise Your name forever and ever.

³ Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised; And His greatness is unsearchable.

⁴ One generation shall praise Your works to another, And shall declare Your mighty acts.

⁵ I will meditate on the glorious splendor of Your majesty, And on Your wondrous works.

⁶ Men shall speak of the might of Your awesome acts, And I will declare Your greatness.

⁷ They shall utter the memory of Your great goodness, And shall sing of Your righteousness.

⁸ The LORD is gracious and full of compassion, Slow to anger and great in mercy.

⁹ The LORD is good to all, And His tender mercies are over all His works.

¹⁰ All Your works shall praise You, O LORD, And Your saints shall bless You.

¹¹ They shall speak of the glory of Your kingdom, And talk of Your power,

¹² To make known to the sons of men His mighty acts, And the glorious majesty of His kingdom.

¹³ Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, And Your dominion endures throughout all generations.

¹⁴ The LORD upholds all who fall, And raises up all who are bowed down.

¹⁵ The eyes of all look expectantly to You, And You give them their food in due season.

¹⁶ You open Your hand And satisfy the desire of every living thing.

¹⁷ The LORD is righteous in all His ways, Gracious in all His works.

¹⁸ The LORD is near to all who call upon Him, To all who call upon Him in truth.

¹⁹ He will fulfill the desire of those who fear Him; He also will hear their cry and save them.

²⁰ The LORD preserves all who love Him, But all the wicked He will destroy.

²¹ My mouth shall speak the praise of the LORD, And all flesh shall bless His holy name Forever and ever.

146 ¹ Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD, O my soul!

² While I live I will praise the LORD; I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.

³ Do not put your trust in princes, Nor in a son of man, in whom there is no help.

⁴ His spirit departs, he returns to his earth; In that very day his plans perish.

⁵ Happy is he who has the God of Jacob for his help, Whose hope is in the LORD his God,

⁶ Who made heaven and earth, The sea, and all that is in them; Who keeps truth forever,

⁷ Who executes justice for the oppressed, Who gives food to the hungry. The LORD gives freedom to the prisoners.

⁸ The LORD opens the eyes of the blind; The LORD raises those who are bowed down; The LORD loves the righteous.

⁹ The LORD watches over the strangers; He relieves the fatherless and widow; But the way of the wicked He turns upside down.

¹⁰ The LORD shall reign forever—Your God, O Zion, to all generations. Praise the LORD!

147 ¹ Praise the LORD! For it is good to sing praises to our God; For it is pleasant, and praise is beautiful.

² The LORD builds up Jerusalem; He gathers together the outcasts of Israel.

³ He heals the brokenhearted And binds up their wounds.

⁴ He counts the number of the stars; He calls them all by name.

⁵ Great is our Lord, and mighty in power; His understanding is infinite.

⁶ The LORD lifts up the humble; He casts the wicked down to the ground.

⁷ Sing to the LORD with thanksgiving; Sing praises on the harp to our God,

⁸ Who covers the heavens with clouds, Who prepares rain for the earth, Who makes grass to grow on the mountains.

⁹ He gives to the beast its food, And to the young ravens that cry.

¹⁰ He does not delight in the strength of the horse; He takes no pleasure in the legs of a man.

¹¹ The LORD takes pleasure in those who fear Him, In those who hope in His mercy.

¹² Praise the LORD, O Jerusalem! Praise your God, O Zion!

¹³ For He has strengthened the bars of your gates; He has blessed your children within you.

¹⁴ He makes peace in your borders, And fills you with the finest wheat.

¹⁵ He sends out His command to the earth; His word runs very swiftly.

¹⁶ He gives snow like wool; He scatters the frost like ashes;

¹⁷ He casts out His hail like morsels; Who can stand before His cold?

¹⁸ He sends out His word and melts them; He causes His wind to blow, and the waters flow.

¹⁹ He declares His word to Jacob, His statutes and His judgments to Israel.

²⁰ He has not dealt thus with any nation; And as for His judgments, they have not known them. Praise the LORD!

148 ¹ Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD from the heavens; Praise Him in the heights!

² Praise Him, all His angels; Praise Him,
all His hosts!

³ Praise Him, sun and moon; Praise
Him, all you stars of light!

⁴ Praise Him, you heavens of heavens,
And you waters above the heavens!

⁵ Let them praise the name of the
LORD, For He commanded and they
were created.

⁶ He also established them forever and
ever; He made a decree which shall not
pass away.

⁷ Praise the LORD from the earth, You
great sea creatures and all the depths;

⁸ Fire and hail, snow and clouds; Stormy
wind, fulfilling His word;

⁹ Mountains and all hills; Fruitful trees
and all cedars;

¹⁰ Beasts and all cattle; Creeping things
and flying fowl;

¹¹ Kings of the earth and all peoples;
Princes and all judges of the earth;

¹² Both young men and maidens; Old men and children.

¹³ Let them praise the name of the LORD, For His name alone is exalted; His glory is above the earth and heaven.

¹⁴ And He has exalted the horn of His people, The praise of all His saints—Of the children of Israel, A people near to Him. Praise the LORD!

149 ¹ Praise the LORD! Sing to the LORD a new song, And His praise in the assembly of saints.

² Let Israel rejoice in their Maker; Let the children of Zion be joyful in their King.

³ Let them praise His name with the dance; Let them sing praises to Him with the timbrel and harp.

⁴ For the LORD takes pleasure in His people; He will beautify the humble with salvation.

⁵ Let the saints be joyful in glory; Let them sing aloud on their beds.

⁶ Let the high praises of God be in their mouth, And a two-edged sword in their hand,

⁷ To execute vengeance on the nations, And punishments on the peoples;

⁸ To bind their kings with chains, And their nobles with fetters of iron;

⁹ To execute on them the written judgment—This honor have all His saints. Praise the LORD!

150 ¹ Praise the LORD! Praise God in His sanctuary; Praise Him in His mighty firmament!

² Praise Him for His mighty acts; Praise Him according to His excellent greatness!

³ Praise Him with the sound of the trumpet; Praise Him with the lute and harp!

⁴ Praise Him with the timbrel and dance;
Praise Him with stringed instruments
and flutes!

⁵ Praise Him with loud cymbals; Praise
Him with clashing cymbals!

⁶ Let everything that has breath praise
the LORD. Praise the LORD!

Proverbs

1 ¹ The proverbs of Solomon the son of David, king of Israel:

² To know wisdom and instruction, To perceive the words of understanding,

³ To receive the instruction of wisdom, Justice, judgment, and equity;

⁴ To give prudence to the simple, To the young man knowledge and discretion—

⁵ A wise man will hear and increase learning, And a man of understanding will attain wise counsel,

⁶ To understand a proverb and an enigma, The words of the wise and their riddles.

⁷ The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge, But fools despise wisdom and instruction.

⁸ My son, hear the instruction of your father, And do not forsake the law of your mother;

⁹ For they will be a graceful ornament on your head, And chains about your neck.

¹⁰ My son, if sinners entice you, Do not consent.

¹¹ If they say, "Come with us, Let us lie in wait to shed blood; Let us lurk secretly for the innocent without cause;

¹² Let us swallow them alive like Sheol, And whole, like those who go down to the Pit;

¹³ We shall find all kinds of precious possessions, We shall fill our houses with spoil;

¹⁴ Cast in your lot among us, Let us all have one purse" —

¹⁵ My son, do not walk in the way with them, Keep your foot from their path;

¹⁶ For their feet run to evil, And they make haste to shed blood.

¹⁷ Surely, in vain the net is spread In the sight of any bird;

¹⁸ But they lie in wait for their own blood, They lurk secretly for their own lives.

¹⁹ So are the ways of everyone who is greedy for gain; It takes away the life of its owners.

²⁰ Wisdom calls aloud outside; She raises her voice in the open squares.

²¹ She cries out in the chief concourses, At the openings of the gates in the city She speaks her words:

²² "How long, you simple ones, will you love simplicity? For scorners delight in their scorning, And fools hate knowledge.

²³ Turn at my rebuke; Surely I will pour out my spirit on you; I will make my words known to you.

²⁴ Because I have called and you refused, I have stretched out my hand and no one regarded,

²⁵ Because you disdained all my counsel, And would have none of my rebuke,

²⁶ I also will laugh at your calamity; I will mock when your terror comes,

²⁷ When your terror comes like a storm, And your destruction comes like a whirlwind, When distress and anguish come upon you.

²⁸ "Then they will call on me, but I will not answer; They will seek me diligently, but they will not find me.

²⁹ Because they hated knowledge And did not choose the fear of the LORD,

³⁰ They would have none of my counsel And despised my every rebuke.

³¹ Therefore they shall eat the fruit of their own way, And be filled to the full with their own fancies.

³² For the turning away of the simple will slay them, And the complacency of fools will destroy them;

³³ But whoever listens to me will dwell safely, And will be secure, without fear of evil."

2 ¹ My son, if you receive my words, And treasure my commands within you,

² So that you incline your ear to wisdom, And apply your heart to understanding;

³ Yes, if you cry out for discernment, And lift up your voice for understanding,

⁴ If you seek her as silver, And search for her as for hidden treasures;

⁵ Then you will understand the fear of the LORD, And find the knowledge of God.

⁶ For the LORD gives wisdom; From His mouth come knowledge and understanding;

⁷ He stores up sound wisdom for the upright; He is a shield to those who walk uprightly;

⁸ He guards the paths of justice, And preserves the way of His saints.

⁹ Then you will understand righteousness and justice, Equity and every good path.

¹⁰ When wisdom enters your heart, And knowledge is pleasant to your soul,

¹¹ Discretion will preserve you; Understanding will keep you,

¹² To deliver you from the way of evil, From the man who speaks perverse things,

¹³ From those who leave the paths of uprightness To walk in the ways of darkness;

¹⁴ Who rejoice in doing evil, And delight in the perversity of the wicked;

¹⁵ Whose ways are crooked, And who are devious in their paths;

¹⁶ To deliver you from the immoral woman,
From the seductress who flatters with her words,

¹⁷ Who forsakes the companion of her youth,
And forgets the covenant of her God.

¹⁸ For her house leads down to death,
And her paths to the dead;

¹⁹ None who go to her return, Nor do they regain the paths of life—

²⁰ So you may walk in the way of goodness,
And keep to the paths of righteousness.

²¹ For the upright will dwell in the land,
And the blameless will remain in it;

²² But the wicked will be cut off from the earth,
And the unfaithful will be uprooted from it.

3 ¹ My son, do not forget my law, But let your heart keep my commands;

² For length of days and long life And peace they will add to you.

³ Let not mercy and truth forsake you;
Bind them around your neck, Write them
on the tablet of your heart,

⁴ And so find favor and high esteem In
the sight of God and man.

⁵ Trust in the LORD with all your
heart, And lean not on your own
understanding;

⁶ In all your ways acknowledge Him,
And He shall direct your paths.

⁷ Do not be wise in your own eyes; Fear
the LORD and depart from evil.

⁸ It will be health to your flesh, And
strength to your bones.

⁹ Honor the LORD with your
possessions, And with the firstfruits of
all your increase;

¹⁰ So your barns will be filled with
plenty, And your vats will overflow with
new wine.

¹¹ My son, do not despise the chastening of the LORD, Nor detest His correction;

¹² For whom the LORD loves He corrects, Just as a father the son in whom he delights.

¹³ Happy is the man who finds wisdom, And the man who gains understanding;

¹⁴ For her proceeds are better than the profits of silver, And her gain than fine gold.

¹⁵ She is more precious than rubies, And all the things you may desire cannot compare with her.

¹⁶ Length of days is in her right hand, In her left hand riches and honor.

¹⁷ Her ways are ways of pleasantness, And all her paths are peace.

¹⁸ She is a tree of life to those who take hold of her, And happy are all who retain her.

¹⁹ The LORD by wisdom founded the earth; By understanding He established the heavens;

²⁰ By His knowledge the depths were broken up, And clouds drop down the dew.

²¹ My son, let them not depart from your eyes—Keep sound wisdom and discretion;

²² So they will be life to your soul And grace to your neck.

²³ Then you will walk safely in your way, And your foot will not stumble.

²⁴ When you lie down, you will not be afraid; Yes, you will lie down and your sleep will be sweet.

²⁵ Do not be afraid of sudden terror, Nor of trouble from the wicked when it comes;

²⁶ For the LORD will be your confidence, And will keep your foot from being caught.

²⁷ Do not withhold good from those to whom it is due, When it is in the power of your hand to do so.

²⁸ Do not say to your neighbor, "Go, and come back, And tomorrow I will give it," When you have it with you.

²⁹ Do not devise evil against your neighbor, For he dwells by you for safety's sake.

³⁰ Do not strive with a man without cause, If he has done you no harm.

³¹ Do not envy the oppressor, And choose none of his ways;

³² For the perverse person is an abomination to the LORD, But His secret counsel is with the upright.

³³ The curse of the LORD is on the house of the wicked, But He blesses the home of the just.

³⁴ Surely He scorns the scornful, But gives grace to the humble.

³⁵ The wise shall inherit glory, But shame shall be the legacy of fools.

4 ¹ Hear, my children, the instruction of a father, And give attention to know understanding;

² For I give you good doctrine: Do not forsake my law.

³ When I was my father's son, Tender and the only one in the sight of my mother,

⁴ He also taught me, and said to me: "Let your heart retain my words; Keep my commands, and live.

⁵ Get wisdom! Get understanding! Do not forget, nor turn away from the words of my mouth.

⁶ Do not forsake her, and she will preserve you; Love her, and she will keep you.

⁷ Wisdom is the principal thing; Therefore get wisdom. And in all your getting, get understanding.

⁸ Exalt her, and she will promote you;
She will bring you honor, when you
embrace her.

⁹ She will place on your head an
ornament of grace; A crown of glory she
will deliver to you."

¹⁰ Hear, my son, and receive my sayings,
And the years of your life will be many.

¹¹ I have taught you in the way of
wisdom; I have led you in right paths.

¹² When you walk, your steps will not
be hindered, And when you run, you will
not stumble.

¹³ Take firm hold of instruction, do not
let go; Keep her, for she is your life.

¹⁴ Do not enter the path of the wicked,
And do not walk in the way of evil.

¹⁵ Avoid it, do not travel on it; Turn
away from it and pass on.

¹⁶ For they do not sleep unless they
have done evil; And their sleep is taken
away unless they make someone fall.

¹⁷ For they eat the bread of wickedness,
And drink the wine of violence.

¹⁸ But the path of the just is like the
shining sun, That shines ever brighter
unto the perfect day.

¹⁹ The way of the wicked is like
darkness; They do not know what makes
them stumble.

²⁰ My son, give attention to my words;
Incline your ear to my sayings.

²¹ Do not let them depart from your
eyes; Keep them in the midst of your
heart;

²² For they are life to those who find
them, And health to all their flesh.

²³ Keep your heart with all diligence,
For out of it spring the issues of life.

²⁴ Put away from you a deceitful mouth,
And put perverse lips far from you.

²⁵ Let your eyes look straight ahead,
And your eyelids look right before you.

²⁶ Ponder the path of your feet, And let all your ways be established.

²⁷ Do not turn to the right or the left; Remove your foot from evil.

5 ¹ My son, pay attention to my wisdom; Lend your ear to my understanding,

² That you may preserve discretion, And your lips may keep knowledge.

³ For the lips of an immoral woman drip honey, And her mouth is smoother than oil;

⁴ But in the end she is bitter as wormwood, Sharp as a two-edged sword.

⁵ Her feet go down to death, Her steps lay hold of hell.

⁶ Lest you ponder her path of life—Her ways are unstable; You do not know them.

⁷ Therefore hear me now, my children,
And do not depart from the words of my
mouth.

⁸ Remove your way far from her, And
do not go near the door of her house,

⁹ Lest you give your honor to others,
And your years to the cruel one;

¹⁰ Lest aliens be filled with your wealth,
And your labors go to the house of a
foreigner;

¹¹ And you mourn at last, When your
flesh and your body are consumed,

¹² And say: "How I have hated
instruction, And my heart despised
correction!

¹³ I have not obeyed the voice of my
teachers, Nor inclined my ear to those
who instructed me!

¹⁴ I was on the verge of total ruin,
In the midst of the assembly and
congregation."

¹⁵ Drink water from your own cistern,
And running water from your own well.

¹⁶ Should your fountains be dispersed
abroad, Streams of water in the streets?

¹⁷ Let them be only your own, And not
for strangers with you.

¹⁸ Let your fountain be blessed, And
rejoice with the wife of your youth.

¹⁹ As a loving deer and a graceful doe,
Let her breasts satisfy you at all times;
And always be enraptured with her love.

²⁰ For why should you, my son, be
enraptured by an immoral woman,
And be embraced in the arms of a
seductress?

²¹ For the ways of man are before the
eyes of the LORD, And He ponders all his
paths.

²² His own iniquities entrap the wicked
man, And he is caught in the cords of his
sin.

²³ He shall die for lack of instruction,
And in the greatness of his folly he shall
go astray.

6 ¹ My son, if you become surety for
your friend, If you have shaken hands
in pledge for a stranger,

² You are snared by the words of your
mouth; You are taken by the words of
your mouth.

³ So do this, my son, and deliver
yourself; For you have come into the
hand of your friend: Go and humble
yourself; Plead with your friend.

⁴ Give no sleep to your eyes, Nor
slumber to your eyelids.

⁵ Deliver yourself like a gazelle from the
hand of the hunter, And like a bird from
the hand of the fowler.

⁶ Go to the ant, you sluggard! Consider
her ways and be wise,

⁷ Which, having no captain, Overseer or
ruler,

⁸ Provides her supplies in the summer,
And gathers her food in the harvest.

⁹ How long will you slumber, O
 sluggard? When will you rise from your
 sleep?

¹⁰ A little sleep, a little slumber, A little
 folding of the hands to sleep—

¹¹ So shall your poverty come on you
 like a prowler, And your need like an
 armed man.

¹² A worthless person, a wicked man,
 Walks with a perverse mouth;

¹³ He winks with his eyes, He shuffles
 his feet, He points with his fingers;

¹⁴ Perversity is in his heart, He devises
 evil continually, He sows discord.

¹⁵ Therefore his calamity shall come
 suddenly; Suddenly he shall be broken
 without remedy.

¹⁶ These six things the LORD hates, Yes,
 seven are an abomination to Him:

¹⁷ A proud look, A lying tongue, Hands
that shed innocent blood,

¹⁸ A heart that devises wicked plans,
Feet that are swift in running to evil,

¹⁹ A false witness who speaks lies, And
one who sows discord among brethren.

²⁰ My son, keep your father's command,
And do not forsake the law of your
mother.

²¹ Bind them continually upon your
heart; Tie them around your neck.

²² When you roam, they will lead you;
When you sleep, they will keep you; And
when you awake, they will speak with
you.

²³ For the commandment is a lamp, And
the law a light; Reproofs of instruction
are the way of life,

²⁴ To keep you from the evil woman,
From the flattering tongue of a
seductress.

²⁵ Do not lust after her beauty in your heart, Nor let her allure you with her eyelids.

²⁶ For by means of a harlot A man is reduced to a crust of bread; And an adulteress will prey upon his precious life.

²⁷ Can a man take fire to his bosom, And his clothes not be burned?

²⁸ Can one walk on hot coals, And his feet not be seared?

²⁹ So is he who goes in to his neighbor's wife; Whoever touches her shall not be innocent.

³⁰ People do not despise a thief If he steals to satisfy himself when he is starving.

³¹ Yet when he is found, he must restore sevenfold; He may have to give up all the substance of his house.

³² Whoever commits adultery with a woman lacks understanding; He who does so destroys his own soul.

³³ Wounds and dishonor he will get, And his reproach will not be wiped away.

³⁴ For jealousy is a husband's fury; Therefore he will not spare in the day of vengeance.

³⁵ He will accept no recompense, Nor will he be appeased though you give many gifts.

7 ¹ My son, keep my words, And treasure my commands within you.

² Keep my commands and live, And my law as the apple of your eye.

³ Bind them on your fingers; Write them on the tablet of your heart.

⁴ Say to wisdom, "You are my sister," And call understanding your nearest kin,

⁵ That they may keep you from the immoral woman, From the seductress who flatters with her words.

⁶ For at the window of my house I
looked through my lattice,

⁷ And saw among the simple, I
perceived among the youths, A young
man devoid of understanding,

⁸ Passing along the street near her
corner; And he took the path to her
house

⁹ In the twilight, in the evening, In the
black and dark night.

¹⁰ And there a woman met him, With
the attire of a harlot, and a crafty heart.

¹¹ She was loud and rebellious, Her feet
would not stay at home.

¹² At times she was outside, at times in
the open square, Lurking at every corner.

¹³ So she caught him and kissed him;
With an impudent face she said to him:

¹⁴ "I have peace offerings with me;
Today I have paid my vows.

¹⁵ So I came out to meet you, Diligently
to seek your face, And I have found you.

¹⁶ I have spread my bed with tapestry,
Colored coverings of Egyptian linen.

¹⁷ I have perfumed my bed
With myrrh,
aloes, and cinnamon.

¹⁸ Come, let us take our fill of love until
morning; Let us delight ourselves with
love.

¹⁹ For my husband is not at home; He
has gone on a long journey;

²⁰ He has taken a bag of money with
him, And will come home on the
appointed day."

²¹ With her enticing speech she caused
him to yield, With her flattering lips she
seduced him.

²² Immediately he went after her, as an
ox goes to the slaughter, Or as a fool to
the correction of the stocks,

²³ Till an arrow struck his liver. As a bird
hastens to the snare, He did not know it
would cost his life.

²⁴ Now therefore, listen to me, my children; Pay attention to the words of my mouth:

²⁵ Do not let your heart turn aside to her ways, Do not stray into her paths;

²⁶ For she has cast down many wounded, And all who were slain by her were strong men.

²⁷ Her house is the way to hell, Descending to the chambers of death.

8 ¹ Does not wisdom cry out, And understanding lift up her voice?

² She takes her stand on the top of the high hill, Beside the way, where the paths meet.

³ She cries out by the gates, at the entry of the city, At the entrance of the doors:

⁴ "To you, O men, I call, And my voice is to the sons of men.

⁵ O you simple ones, understand prudence, And you fools, be of an understanding heart.

⁶ Listen, for I will speak of excellent things, And from the opening of my lips will come right things;

⁷ For my mouth will speak truth; Wickedness is an abomination to my lips.

⁸ All the words of my mouth are with righteousness; Nothing crooked or perverse is in them.

⁹ They are all plain to him who understands, And right to those who find knowledge.

¹⁰ Receive my instruction, and not silver, And knowledge rather than choice gold;

¹¹ For wisdom is better than rubies, And all the things one may desire cannot be compared with her.

¹² "I, wisdom, dwell with prudence, And find out knowledge and discretion.

¹³ The fear of the LORD is to hate evil; Pride and arrogance and the evil way And the perverse mouth I hate.

¹⁴ Counsel is mine, and sound wisdom;
I am understanding, I have strength.

¹⁵ By me kings reign, And rulers decree
justice.

¹⁶ By me princes rule, and nobles, All
the judges of the earth.

¹⁷ I love those who love me, And those
who seek me diligently will find me.

¹⁸ Riches and honor are with me,
Enduring riches and righteousness.

¹⁹ My fruit is better than gold, yes, than
fine gold, And my revenue than choice
silver.

²⁰ I traverse the way of righteousness,
In the midst of the paths of justice,

²¹ That I may cause those who love me
to inherit wealth, That I may fill their
treasuries.

²² "The LORD possessed me at the
beginning of His way, Before His works
of old.

²³ I have been established from everlasting, From the beginning, before there was ever an earth.

²⁴ When there were no depths I was brought forth, When there were no fountains abounding with water.

²⁵ Before the mountains were settled, Before the hills, I was brought forth;

²⁶ While as yet He had not made the earth or the fields, Or the primeval dust of the world.

²⁷ When He prepared the heavens, I was there, When He drew a circle on the face of the deep,

²⁸ When He established the clouds above, When He strengthened the fountains of the deep,

²⁹ When He assigned to the sea its limit, So that the waters would not transgress His command, When He marked out the foundations of the earth,

³⁰ Then I was beside Him as a master craftsman; And I was daily His delight, Rejoicing always before Him,

³¹ Rejoicing in His inhabited world, And my delight was with the sons of men.

³² "Now therefore, listen to me, my children, For blessed are those who keep my ways.

³³ Hear instruction and be wise, And do not disdain it.

³⁴ Blessed is the man who listens to me, Watching daily at my gates, Waiting at the posts of my doors.

³⁵ For whoever finds me finds life, And obtains favor from the LORD;

³⁶ But he who sins against me wrongs his own soul; All those who hate me love death."

9 ¹ Wisdom has built her house, She has hewn out her seven pillars;

² She has slaughtered her meat, She has mixed her wine, She has also furnished her table.

³ She has sent out her maidens, She cries out from the highest places of the city,

⁴ "Whoever is simple, let him turn in here!" As for him who lacks understanding, she says to him,

⁵ "Come, eat of my bread And drink of the wine I have mixed.

⁶ Forsake foolishness and live, And go in the way of understanding.

⁷ "He who corrects a scoffer gets shame for himself, And he who rebukes a wicked man only harms himself.

⁸ Do not correct a scoffer, lest he hate you; Rebuke a wise man, and he will love you.

⁹ Give instruction to a wise man, and he will be still wiser; Teach a just man, and he will increase in learning.

¹⁰ "The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom, And the knowledge of the Holy One is understanding.

¹¹ For by me your days will be multiplied, And years of life will be added to you.

¹² If you are wise, you are wise for yourself, And if you scoff, you will bear it alone."

¹³ A foolish woman is clamorous; She is simple, and knows nothing.

¹⁴ For she sits at the door of her house, On a seat by the highest places of the city,

¹⁵ To call to those who pass by, Who go straight on their way:

¹⁶ "Whoever is simple, let him turn in here"; And as for him who lacks understanding, she says to him,

¹⁷ "Stolen water is sweet, And bread eaten in secret is pleasant."

¹⁸ But he does not know that the dead are there, That her guests are in the depths of hell.

10 ¹ The Proverbs of Solomon: A wise son makes a glad father, But a foolish son is the grief of his mother.

² Treasures of wickedness profit nothing, But righteousness delivers from death.

³ The LORD will not allow the righteous soul to famish, But He casts away the desire of the wicked.

⁴ He who has a slack hand becomes poor, But the hand of the diligent makes rich.

⁵ He who gathers in summer is a wise son; He who sleeps in harvest is a son who causes shame.

⁶ Blessings are on the head of the righteous, But violence covers the mouth of the wicked.

⁷ The memory of the righteous is blessed, But the name of the wicked will rot.

⁸ The wise in heart will receive commands, But a prating fool will fall.

⁹ He who walks with integrity walks securely, But he who perverts his ways will become known.

¹⁰ He who winks with the eye causes trouble, But a prating fool will fall.

¹¹ The mouth of the righteous is a well of life, But violence covers the mouth of the wicked.

¹² Hatred stirs up strife, But love covers all sins.

¹³ Wisdom is found on the lips of him who has understanding, But a rod is for the back of him who is devoid of understanding.

¹⁴ Wise people store up knowledge, But the mouth of the foolish is near destruction.

¹⁵ The rich man's wealth is his strong city; The destruction of the poor is their poverty.

¹⁶ The labor of the righteous leads to life, The wages of the wicked to sin.

¹⁷ He who keeps instruction is in the way of life, But he who refuses correction goes astray.

¹⁸ Whoever hides hatred has lying lips, And whoever spreads slander is a fool.

¹⁹ In the multitude of words sin is not lacking, But he who restrains his lips is wise.

²⁰ The tongue of the righteous is choice silver; The heart of the wicked is worth little.

²¹ The lips of the righteous feed many, But fools die for lack of wisdom.

²² The blessing of the LORD makes one rich, And He adds no sorrow with it.

²³ To do evil is like sport to a fool, But a man of understanding has wisdom.

²⁴ The fear of the wicked will come upon him, And the desire of the righteous will be granted.

²⁵ When the whirlwind passes by, the wicked is no more, But the righteous has an everlasting foundation.

²⁶ As vinegar to the teeth and smoke to the eyes, So is the lazy man to those who send him.

²⁷ The fear of the LORD prolongs days, But the years of the wicked will be shortened.

²⁸ The hope of the righteous will be gladness, But the expectation of the wicked will perish.

²⁹ The way of the LORD is strength for the upright, But destruction will come to the workers of iniquity.

³⁰ The righteous will never be removed, But the wicked will not inhabit the earth.

³¹ The mouth of the righteous brings forth wisdom, But the perverse tongue will be cut out.

³² The lips of the righteous know what is acceptable, But the mouth of the wicked what is perverse.

11 ¹ Dishonest scales are an abomination to the LORD, But a just weight is His delight.

² When pride comes, then comes shame; But with the humble is wisdom.

³ The integrity of the upright will guide them, But the perversity of the unfaithful will destroy them.

⁴ Riches do not profit in the day of wrath, But righteousness delivers from death.

⁵ The righteousness of the blameless will direct his way aright, But the wicked will fall by his own wickedness.

⁶ The righteousness of the upright will deliver them, But the unfaithful will be caught by their lust.

⁷ When a wicked man dies, his expectation will perish, And the hope of the unjust perishes.

⁸ The righteous is delivered from trouble, And it comes to the wicked instead.

⁹ The hypocrite with his mouth destroys his neighbor, But through knowledge the righteous will be delivered.

¹⁰ When it goes well with the righteous, the city rejoices; And when the wicked perish, there is jubilation.

¹¹ By the blessing of the upright the city is exalted, But it is overthrown by the mouth of the wicked.

¹² He who is devoid of wisdom despises his neighbor, But a man of understanding holds his peace.

¹³ A talebearer reveals secrets, But he who is of a faithful spirit conceals a matter.

¹⁴ Where there is no counsel, the people fall; But in the multitude of counselors there is safety.

¹⁵ He who is surety for a stranger will suffer, But one who hates being surety is secure.

¹⁶ A gracious woman retains honor, But ruthless men retain riches.

¹⁷ The merciful man does good for his own soul, But he who is cruel troubles his own flesh.

¹⁸ The wicked man does deceptive work, But he who sows righteousness will have a sure reward.

¹⁹ As righteousness leads to life, So he who pursues evil pursues it to his own death.

²⁰ Those who are of a perverse heart are an abomination to the LORD, But the blameless in their ways are His delight.

²¹ Though they join forces, the wicked will not go unpunished; But the posterity of the righteous will be delivered.

²² As a ring of gold in a swine's snout, So is a lovely woman who lacks discretion.

²³ The desire of the righteous is only good, But the expectation of the wicked is wrath.

²⁴ There is one who scatters, yet increases more; And there is one who withholds more than is right, But it leads to poverty.

²⁵ The generous soul will be made rich, And he who waters will also be watered himself.

²⁶ The people will curse him who withholds grain, But blessing will be on the head of him who sells it.

²⁷ He who earnestly seeks good finds favor, But trouble will come to him who seeks evil.

²⁸ He who trusts in his riches will fall, But the righteous will flourish like foliage.

²⁹ He who troubles his own house will inherit the wind, And the fool will be servant to the wise of heart.

³⁰ The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life, And he who wins souls is wise.

³¹ If the righteous will be recompensed on the earth, How much more the ungodly and the sinner.

12 ¹ Whoever loves instruction loves knowledge, But he who hates correction is stupid.

² A good man obtains favor from the LORD, But a man of wicked intentions He will condemn.

³ A man is not established by wickedness, But the root of the righteous cannot be moved.

⁴ An excellent wife is the crown of her husband, But she who causes shame is like rottenness in his bones.

⁵ The thoughts of the righteous are right, But the counsels of the wicked are deceitful.

⁶ The words of the wicked are, "Lie in wait for blood," But the mouth of the upright will deliver them.

⁷ The wicked are overthrown and are no more, But the house of the righteous will stand.

⁸ A man will be commended according to his wisdom, But he who is of a perverse heart will be despised.

⁹ Better is the one who is slighted but has a servant, Than he who honors himself but lacks bread.

¹⁰ A righteous man regards the life of his animal, But the tender mercies of the wicked are cruel.

¹¹ He who tills his land will be satisfied with bread, But he who follows frivolity is devoid of understanding.

¹² The wicked covet the catch of evil men, But the root of the righteous yields fruit.

¹³ The wicked is ensnared by the transgression of his lips, But the righteous will come through trouble.

¹⁴ A man will be satisfied with good by the fruit of his mouth, And the recompense of a man's hands will be rendered to him.

¹⁵ The way of a fool is right in his own eyes, But he who heeds counsel is wise.

¹⁶ A fool's wrath is known at once, But a prudent man covers shame.

¹⁷ He who speaks truth declares righteousness, But a false witness, deceit.

¹⁸ There is one who speaks like the piercings of a sword, But the tongue of the wise promotes health.

¹⁹ The truthful lip shall be established forever, But a lying tongue is but for a moment.

²⁰ Deceit is in the heart of those who devise evil, But counselors of peace have joy.

²¹ No grave trouble will overtake the righteous, But the wicked shall be filled with evil.

²² Lying lips are an abomination to the LORD, But those who deal truthfully are His delight.

²³ A prudent man conceals knowledge, But the heart of fools proclaims foolishness.

²⁴ The hand of the diligent will rule, But the lazy man will be put to forced labor.

²⁵ Anxiety in the heart of man causes depression, But a good word makes it glad.

²⁶ The righteous should choose his friends carefully, For the way of the wicked leads them astray.

²⁷ The lazy man does not roast what he took in hunting, But diligence is man's precious possession.

²⁸ In the way of righteousness is life, And in its pathway there is no death.

13 ¹ A wise son heeds his father's instruction, But a scoffer does not listen to rebuke.

² A man shall eat well by the fruit of his mouth, But the soul of the unfaithful feeds on violence.

³ He who guards his mouth preserves his life, But he who opens wide his lips shall have destruction.

⁴ The soul of a lazy man desires, and has nothing; But the soul of the diligent shall be made rich.

⁵ A righteous man hates lying, But a wicked man is loathsome and comes to shame.

⁶ Righteousness guards him whose way is blameless, But wickedness overthrows the sinner.

⁷ There is one who makes himself rich, yet has nothing; And one who makes himself poor, yet has great riches.

⁸ The ransom of a man's life is his riches, But the poor does not hear rebuke.

⁹ The light of the righteous rejoices, But the lamp of the wicked will be put out.

¹⁰ By pride comes nothing but strife, But with the well-advised is wisdom.

¹¹ Wealth gained by dishonesty will be diminished, But he who gathers by labor will increase.

¹² Hope deferred makes the heart sick,
But when the desire comes, it is a tree of
life.

¹³ He who despises the word will
be destroyed, But he who fears the
commandment will be rewarded.

¹⁴ The law of the wise is a fountain of
life, To turn one away from the snares of
death.

¹⁵ Good understanding gains favor, But
the way of the unfaithful is hard.

¹⁶ Every prudent man acts with
knowledge, But a fool lays open his folly.

¹⁷ A wicked messenger falls into
trouble, But a faithful ambassador brings
health.

¹⁸ Poverty and shame will come to him
who disdains correction, But he who
regards a rebuke will be honored.

¹⁹ A desire accomplished is sweet to the
soul, But it is an abomination to fools to
depart from evil.

²⁰ He who walks with wise men will be wise, But the companion of fools will be destroyed.

²¹ Evil pursues sinners, But to the righteous, good shall be repaid.

²² A good man leaves an inheritance to his children's children, But the wealth of the sinner is stored up for the righteous.

²³ Much food is in the fallow ground of the poor, And for lack of justice there is waste.

²⁴ He who spares his rod hates his son, But he who loves him disciplines him promptly.

²⁵ The righteous eats to the satisfying of his soul, But the stomach of the wicked shall be in want.

14 ¹ The wise woman builds her house, But the foolish pulls it down with her hands.

² He who walks in his uprightness fears the LORD, But he who is perverse in his ways despises Him.

³ In the mouth of a fool is a rod of pride, But the lips of the wise will preserve them.

⁴ Where no oxen are, the trough is clean; But much increase comes by the strength of an ox.

⁵ A faithful witness does not lie, But a false witness will utter lies.

⁶ A scoffer seeks wisdom and does not find it, But knowledge is easy to him who understands.

⁷ Go from the presence of a foolish man, When you do not perceive in him the lips of knowledge.

⁸ The wisdom of the prudent is to understand his way, But the folly of fools is deceit.

⁹ Fools mock at sin, But among the upright there is favor.

¹⁰ The heart knows its own bitterness,
And a stranger does not share its joy.

¹¹ The house of the wicked will be
overthrown, But the tent of the upright
will flourish.

¹² There is a way that seems right to a
man, But its end is the way of death.

¹³ Even in laughter the heart may
sorrow, And the end of mirth may be
grief.

¹⁴ The backslider in heart will be filled
with his own ways, But a good man will
be satisfied from above.

¹⁵ The simple believes every word, But
the prudent considers well his steps.

¹⁶ A wise man fears and departs
from evil, But a fool rages and is
self-confident.

¹⁷ A quick-tempered man acts foolishly,
And a man of wicked intentions is hated.

¹⁸ The simple inherit folly, But the
prudent are crowned with knowledge.

¹⁹ The evil will bow before the good,
And the wicked at the gates of the
righteous.

²⁰ The poor man is hated even by his
own neighbor, But the rich has many
friends.

²¹ He who despises his neighbor sins;
But he who has mercy on the poor,
happy is he.

²² Do they not go astray who devise
evil? But mercy and truth belong to
those who devise good.

²³ In all labor there is profit, But idle
chatter leads only to poverty.

²⁴ The crown of the wise is their riches,
But the foolishness of fools is folly.

²⁵ A true witness delivers souls, But a
deceitful witness speaks lies.

²⁶ In the fear of the LORD there is strong
confidence, And His children will have a
place of refuge.

²⁷ The fear of the LORD is a fountain of life, To turn one away from the snares of death.

²⁸ In a multitude of people is a king's honor, But in the lack of people is the downfall of a prince.

²⁹ He who is slow to wrath has great understanding, But he who is impulsive exalts folly.

³⁰ A sound heart is life to the body, But envy is rottenness to the bones.

³¹ He who oppresses the poor reproaches his Maker, But he who honors Him has mercy on the needy.

³² The wicked is banished in his wickedness, But the righteous has a refuge in his death.

³³ Wisdom rests in the heart of him who has understanding, But what is in the heart of fools is made known.

³⁴ Righteousness exalts a nation, But sin is a reproach to any people.

³⁵ The king's favor is toward a wise servant, But his wrath is against him who causes shame.

15 ¹ A soft answer turns away wrath, But a harsh word stirs up anger.

² The tongue of the wise uses knowledge rightly, But the mouth of fools pours forth foolishness.

³ The eyes of the LORD are in every place, Keeping watch on the evil and the good.

⁴ A wholesome tongue is a tree of life, But perverseness in it breaks the spirit.

⁵ A fool despises his father's instruction, But he who receives correction is prudent.

⁶ In the house of the righteous there is much treasure, But in the revenue of the wicked is trouble.

⁷ The lips of the wise disperse knowledge, But the heart of the fool does not do so.

⁸ The sacrifice of the wicked is an abomination to the LORD, But the prayer of the upright is His delight.

⁹ The way of the wicked is an abomination to the LORD, But He loves him who follows righteousness.

¹⁰ Harsh discipline is for him who forsakes the way, And he who hates correction will die.

¹¹ Hell and Destruction are before the LORD; So how much more the hearts of the sons of men.

¹² A scoffer does not love one who corrects him, Nor will he go to the wise.

¹³ A merry heart makes a cheerful countenance, But by sorrow of the heart the spirit is broken.

¹⁴ The heart of him who has understanding seeks knowledge, But the mouth of fools feeds on foolishness.

¹⁵ All the days of the afflicted are evil,
But he who is of a merry heart has a
continual feast.

¹⁶ Better is a little with the fear of the
LORD, Than great treasure with trouble.

¹⁷ Better is a dinner of herbs where love
is, Than a fatted calf with hatred.

¹⁸ A wrathful man stirs up strife, But he
who is slow to anger allays contention.

¹⁹ The way of the lazy man is like a
hedge of thorns, But the way of the
upright is a highway.

²⁰ A wise son makes a father glad, But a
foolish man despises his mother.

²¹ Folly is joy to him who is destitute
of discernment, But a man of
understanding walks uprightly.

²² Without counsel, plans go awry, But
in the multitude of counselors they are
established.

²³ A man has joy by the answer of his mouth, And a word spoken in due season, how good it is!

²⁴ The way of life winds upward for the wise, That he may turn away from hell below.

²⁵ The LORD will destroy the house of the proud, But He will establish the boundary of the widow.

²⁶ The thoughts of the wicked are an abomination to the LORD, But the words of the pure are pleasant.

²⁷ He who is greedy for gain troubles his own house, But he who hates bribes will live.

²⁸ The heart of the righteous studies how to answer, But the mouth of the wicked pours forth evil.

²⁹ The LORD is far from the wicked, But He hears the prayer of the righteous.

³⁰ The light of the eyes rejoices the heart, And a good report makes the bones healthy.

³¹ The ear that hears the rebukes of life Will abide among the wise.

³² He who disdains instruction despises his own soul, But he who heeds rebuke gets understanding.

³³ The fear of the LORD is the instruction of wisdom, And before honor is humility.

16 ¹ The preparations of the heart belong to man, But the answer of the tongue is from the LORD.

² All the ways of a man are pure in his own eyes, But the LORD weighs the spirits.

³ Commit your works to the LORD, And your thoughts will be established.

⁴ The LORD has made all for Himself, Yes, even the wicked for the day of doom.

⁵ Everyone proud in heart is an abomination to the LORD; Though they join forces, none will go unpunished.

⁶ In mercy and truth Atonement is provided for iniquity; And by the fear of the LORD one departs from evil.

⁷ When a man's ways please the LORD, He makes even his enemies to be at peace with him.

⁸ Better is a little with righteousness, Than vast revenues without justice.

⁹ A man's heart plans his way, But the LORD directs his steps.

¹⁰ Divination is on the lips of the king; His mouth must not transgress in judgment.

¹¹ Honest weights and scales are the LORD'S; All the weights in the bag are His work.

¹² It is an abomination for kings to commit wickedness, For a throne is established by righteousness.

¹³ Righteous lips are the delight of kings, And they love him who speaks what is right.

¹⁴ As messengers of death is the king's wrath, But a wise man will appease it.

¹⁵ In the light of the king's face is life, And his favor is like a cloud of the latter rain.

¹⁶ How much better to get wisdom than gold! And to get understanding is to be chosen rather than silver.

¹⁷ The highway of the upright is to depart from evil; He who keeps his way preserves his soul.

¹⁸ Pride goes before destruction, And a haughty spirit before a fall.

¹⁹ Better to be of a humble spirit with the lowly, Than to divide the spoil with the proud.

²⁰ He who heeds the word wisely will find good, And whoever trusts in the LORD, happy is he.

²¹ The wise in heart will be called prudent, And sweetness of the lips increases learning.

²² Understanding is a wellspring of life to him who has it. But the correction of fools is folly.

²³ The heart of the wise teaches his mouth, And adds learning to his lips.

²⁴ Pleasant words are like a honeycomb, Sweetness to the soul and health to the bones.

²⁵ There is a way that seems right to a man, But its end is the way of death.

²⁶ The person who labors, labors for himself, For his hungry mouth drives him on.

²⁷ An ungodly man digs up evil, And it is on his lips like a burning fire.

²⁸ A perverse man sows strife, And a whisperer separates the best of friends.

²⁹ A violent man entices his neighbor, And leads him in a way that is not good.

³⁰ He winks his eye to devise perverse things; He purses his lips and brings about evil.

³¹ The silver-haired head is a crown of glory, If it is found in the way of righteousness.

³² He who is slow to anger is better than the mighty, And he who rules his spirit than he who takes a city.

³³ The lot is cast into the lap, But its every decision is from the LORD.

17 ¹ Better is a dry morsel with quietness, Than a house full of feasting with strife.

² A wise servant will rule over a son who causes shame, And will share an inheritance among the brothers.

³ The refining pot is for silver and the furnace for gold, But the LORD tests the hearts.

⁴ An evildoer gives heed to false lips; A liar listens eagerly to a spiteful tongue.

⁵ He who mocks the poor reproaches his Maker; He who is glad at calamity will not go unpunished.

⁶ Children's children are the crown of old men, And the glory of children is their father.

⁷ Excellent speech is not becoming to a fool, Much less lying lips to a prince.

⁸ A present is a precious stone in the eyes of its possessor; Wherever he turns, he prospers.

⁹ He who covers a transgression seeks love, But he who repeats a matter separates friends.

¹⁰ Rebuke is more effective for a wise man Than a hundred blows on a fool.

¹¹ An evil man seeks only rebellion; Therefore a cruel messenger will be sent against him.

¹² Let a man meet a bear robbed of her cubs, Rather than a fool in his folly.

¹³ Whoever rewards evil for good, Evil will not depart from his house.

¹⁴ The beginning of strife is like releasing water; Therefore stop contention before a quarrel starts.

¹⁵ He who justifies the wicked, and he who condemns the just, Both of them alike are an abomination to the LORD.

¹⁶ Why is there in the hand of a fool the purchase price of wisdom, Since he has no heart for it?

¹⁷ A friend loves at all times, And a brother is born for adversity.

¹⁸ A man devoid of understanding shakes hands in a pledge, And becomes surety for his friend.

¹⁹ He who loves transgression loves strife, And he who exalts his gate seeks destruction.

²⁰ He who has a deceitful heart finds no good, And he who has a perverse tongue falls into evil.

²¹ He who begets a scoffer does so to his sorrow, And the father of a fool has no joy.

²² A merry heart does good, like medicine, But a broken spirit dries the bones.

²³ A wicked man accepts a bribe behind the back To pervert the ways of justice.

²⁴ Wisdom is in the sight of him who has understanding, But the eyes of a fool are on the ends of the earth.

²⁵ A foolish son is a grief to his father, And bitterness to her who bore him.

²⁶ Also, to punish the righteous is not good, Nor to strike princes for their uprightness.

²⁷ He who has knowledge spares his words, And a man of understanding is of a calm spirit.

²⁸ Even a fool is counted wise when he holds his peace; When he shuts his lips, he is considered perceptive.

18 ¹ A man who isolates himself seeks his own desire; He rages against all wise judgment.

² A fool has no delight in understanding, But in expressing his own heart.

³ When the wicked comes, contempt comes also; And with dishonor comes reproach.

⁴ The words of a man's mouth are deep waters; The wellspring of wisdom is a flowing brook.

⁵ It is not good to show partiality to the wicked, Or to overthrow the righteous in judgment.

⁶ A fool's lips enter into contention, And his mouth calls for blows.

⁷ A fool's mouth is his destruction, And his lips are the snare of his soul.

⁸ The words of a talebearer are like tasty trifles, And they go down into the inmost body.

⁹ He who is slothful in his work Is a brother to him who is a great destroyer.

¹⁰ The name of the LORD is a strong tower; The righteous run to it and are safe.

¹¹ The rich man's wealth is his strong city, And like a high wall in his own esteem.

¹² Before destruction the heart of a man is haughty, And before honor is humility.

¹³ He who answers a matter before he hears it, It is folly and shame to him.

¹⁴ The spirit of a man will sustain him in sickness, But who can bear a broken spirit?

¹⁵ The heart of the prudent acquires knowledge, And the ear of the wise seeks knowledge.

¹⁶ A man's gift makes room for him, And brings him before great men.

¹⁷ The first one to plead his cause seems right, Until his neighbor comes and examines him.

¹⁸ Casting lots causes contentions to cease, And keeps the mighty apart.

¹⁹ A brother offended is harder to win than a strong city, And contentions are like the bars of a castle.

²⁰ A man's stomach shall be satisfied from the fruit of his mouth, From the produce of his lips he shall be filled.

²¹ Death and life are in the power of the tongue, And those who love it will eat its fruit.

²² He who finds a wife finds a good thing, And obtains favor from the LORD.

²³ The poor man uses entreaties, But the rich answers roughly.

²⁴ A man who has friends must himself be friendly, But there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother.

19 ¹ Better is the poor who walks
in his integrity Than one who is
perverse in his lips, and is a fool.

² Also it is not good for a soul to be
without knowledge, And he sins who
hastens with his feet.

³ The foolishness of a man twists his
way, And his heart frets against the
LORD.

⁴ Wealth makes many friends, But the
poor is separated from his friend.

⁵ A false witness will not go unpunished,
And he who speaks lies will not escape.

⁶ Many entreat the favor of the nobility,
And every man is a friend to one who
gives gifts.

⁷ All the brothers of the poor hate him;
How much more do his friends go far
from him! He may pursue them with
words, yet they abandon him.

⁸ He who gets wisdom loves his own soul; He who keeps understanding will find good.

⁹ A false witness will not go unpunished, And he who speaks lies shall perish.

¹⁰ Luxury is not fitting for a fool, Much less for a servant to rule over princes.

¹¹ The discretion of a man makes him slow to anger, And his glory is to overlook a transgression.

¹² The king's wrath is like the roaring of a lion, But his favor is like dew on the grass.

¹³ A foolish son is the ruin of his father, And the contentions of a wife are a continual dripping.

¹⁴ Houses and riches are an inheritance from fathers, But a prudent wife is from the LORD.

¹⁵ Laziness casts one into a deep sleep, And an idle person will suffer hunger.

¹⁶ He who keeps the commandment keeps his soul, But he who is careless of his ways will die.

¹⁷ He who has pity on the poor lends to the LORD, And He will pay back what he has given.

¹⁸ Chasten your son while there is hope, And do not set your heart on his destruction.

¹⁹ A man of great wrath will suffer punishment; For if you rescue him, you will have to do it again.

²⁰ Listen to counsel and receive instruction, That you may be wise in your latter days.

²¹ There are many plans in a man's heart, Nevertheless the LORD'S counsel—that will stand.

²² What is desired in a man is kindness, And a poor man is better than a liar.

²³ The fear of the LORD leads to life, And he who has it will abide in satisfaction; He will not be visited with evil.

²⁴ A lazy man buries his hand in the bowl, And will not so much as bring it to his mouth again.

²⁵ Strike a scoffer, and the simple will become wary; Rebuke one who has understanding, and he will discern knowledge.

²⁶ He who mistreats his father and chases away his mother Is a son who causes shame and brings reproach.

²⁷ Cease listening to instruction, my son, And you will stray from the words of knowledge.

²⁸ A disreputable witness scorns justice, And the mouth of the wicked devours iniquity.

²⁹ Judgments are prepared for scoffers, And beatings for the backs of fools.

20 ¹ Wine is a mocker, Strong drink is a brawler, And whoever is led astray by it is not wise.

² The wrath of a king is like the roaring of a lion; Whoever provokes him to anger sins against his own life.

³ It is honorable for a man to stop striving, Since any fool can start a quarrel.

⁴ The lazy man will not plow because of winter; He will beg during harvest and have nothing.

⁵ Counsel in the heart of man is like deep water, But a man of understanding will draw it out.

⁶ Most men will proclaim each his own goodness, But who can find a faithful man?

⁷ The righteous man walks in his integrity; His children are blessed after him.

⁸ A king who sits on the throne of judgment Scatters all evil with his eyes.

⁹ Who can say, "I have made my heart clean, I am pure from my sin"?

¹⁰ Diverse weights and diverse measures, They are both alike, an abomination to the LORD.

¹¹ Even a child is known by his deeds, Whether what he does is pure and right.

¹² The hearing ear and the seeing eye, The LORD has made them both.

¹³ Do not love sleep, lest you come to poverty; Open your eyes, and you will be satisfied with bread.

¹⁴ "It is good for nothing," cries the buyer; But when he has gone his way, then he boasts.

¹⁵ There is gold and a multitude of rubies, But the lips of knowledge are a precious jewel.

¹⁶ Take the garment of one who is surety for a stranger, And hold it as a pledge when it is for a seductress.

¹⁷ Bread gained by deceit is sweet to a man, But afterward his mouth will be filled with gravel.

¹⁸ Plans are established by counsel; By wise counsel wage war.

¹⁹ He who goes about as a talebearer reveals secrets; Therefore do not associate with one who flatters with his lips.

²⁰ Whoever curses his father or his mother, His lamp will be put out in deep darkness.

²¹ An inheritance gained hastily at the beginning Will not be blessed at the end.

²² Do not say, "I will recompense evil"; Wait for the LORD, and He will save you.

²³ Diverse weights are an abomination to the LORD, And dishonest scales are not good.

²⁴ A man's steps are of the LORD; How then can a man understand his own way?

²⁵ It is a snare for a man to devote rashly something as holy, And afterward to reconsider his vows.

²⁶ A wise king sifts out the wicked, And brings the threshing wheel over them.

²⁷ The spirit of a man is the lamp of the LORD, Searching all the inner depths of his heart.

²⁸ Mercy and truth preserve the king, And by lovingkindness he upholds his throne.

²⁹ The glory of young men is their strength, And the splendor of old men is their gray head.

³⁰ Blows that hurt cleanse away evil, As do stripes the inner depths of the heart.

21 ¹ The king's heart is in the hand of the LORD, Like the rivers of water; He turns it wherever He wishes.

² Every way of a man is right in his own eyes, But the LORD weighs the hearts.

³ To do righteousness and justice Is more acceptable to the LORD than sacrifice.

⁴ A haughty look, a proud heart, And the plowing of the wicked are sin.

⁵ The plans of the diligent lead surely to plenty, But those of everyone who is hasty, surely to poverty.

⁶ Getting treasures by a lying tongue Is the fleeting fantasy of those who seek death.

⁷ The violence of the wicked will destroy them, Because they refuse to do justice.

⁸ The way of a guilty man is perverse; But as for the pure, his work is right.

⁹ Better to dwell in a corner of a housetop, Than in a house shared with a contentious woman.

¹⁰ The soul of the wicked desires evil; His neighbor finds no favor in his eyes.

¹¹ When the scoffer is punished, the simple is made wise; But when the wise is instructed, he receives knowledge.

¹² The righteous God wisely considers the house of the wicked, Overthrowing the wicked for their wickedness.

¹³ Whoever shuts his ears to the cry of the poor Will also cry himself and not be heard.

¹⁴ A gift in secret pacifies anger, And a bribe behind the back, strong wrath.

¹⁵ It is a joy for the just to do justice, But destruction will come to the workers of iniquity.

¹⁶ A man who wanders from the way of understanding Will rest in the assembly of the dead.

¹⁷ He who loves pleasure will be a poor man; He who loves wine and oil will not be rich.

¹⁸ The wicked shall be a ransom for the righteous, And the unfaithful for the upright.

¹⁹ Better to dwell in the wilderness, Than with a contentious and angry woman.

²⁰ There is desirable treasure, And oil in the dwelling of the wise, But a foolish man squanders it.

²¹ He who follows righteousness and mercy Finds life, righteousness, and honor.

²² A wise man scales the city of the mighty, And brings down the trusted stronghold.

²³ Whoever guards his mouth and tongue Keeps his soul from troubles.

²⁴ A proud and haughty man — "Scoffer" is his name; He acts with arrogant pride.

²⁵ The desire of the lazy man kills him, For his hands refuse to labor.

²⁶ He covets greedily all day long, But the righteous gives and does not spare.

²⁷ The sacrifice of the wicked is an abomination; How much more when he brings it with wicked intent!

²⁸ A false witness shall perish, But the man who hears him will speak endlessly.

²⁹ A wicked man hardens his face, But as for the upright, he establishes his way.

³⁰ There is no wisdom or understanding Or counsel against the LORD.

³¹ The horse is prepared for the day of battle, But deliverance is of the LORD.

22 ¹ A good name is to be chosen rather than great riches, Loving favor rather than silver and gold.

² The rich and the poor have this in common, The LORD is the maker of them all.

³ A prudent man foresees evil and hides himself, But the simple pass on and are punished.

⁴ By humility and the fear of the LORD
Are riches and honor and life.

⁵ Thorns and snares are in the way of
the perverse; He who guards his soul will
be far from them.

⁶ Train up a child in the way he should
go, And when he is old he will not depart
from it.

⁷ The rich rules over the poor, And the
borrower is servant to the lender.

⁸ He who sows iniquity will reap sorrow,
And the rod of his anger will fail.

⁹ He who has a generous eye will be
blessed, For he gives of his bread to the
poor.

¹⁰ Cast out the scoffer, and contention
will leave; Yes, strife and reproach will
cease.

¹¹ He who loves purity of heart And
has grace on his lips, The king will be his
friend.

¹² The eyes of the LORD preserve knowledge, But He overthrows the words of the faithless.

¹³ The lazy man says, "There is a lion outside! I shall be slain in the streets!"

¹⁴ The mouth of an immoral woman is a deep pit; He who is abhorred by the LORD will fall there.

¹⁵ Foolishness is bound up in the heart of a child; The rod of correction will drive it far from him.

¹⁶ He who oppresses the poor to increase his riches, And he who gives to the rich, will surely come to poverty.

¹⁷ Incline your ear and hear the words of the wise, And apply your heart to my knowledge;

¹⁸ For it is a pleasant thing if you keep them within you; Let them all be fixed upon your lips,

¹⁹ So that your trust may be in the LORD; I have instructed you today, even you.

²⁰ Have I not written to you excellent things Of counsels and knowledge,

²¹ That I may make you know the certainty of the words of truth, That you may answer words of truth To those who send to you?

²² Do not rob the poor because he is poor, Nor oppress the afflicted at the gate;

²³ For the LORD will plead their cause, And plunder the soul of those who plunder them.

²⁴ Make no friendship with an angry man, And with a furious man do not go,

²⁵ Lest you learn his ways And set a snare for your soul.

²⁶ Do not be one of those who shakes hands in a pledge, One of those who is surety for debts;

²⁷ If you have nothing with which to pay, Why should he take away your bed from under you?

²⁸ Do not remove the ancient landmark Which your fathers have set.

²⁹ Do you see a man who excels in his work? He will stand before kings; He will not stand before unknown men.

23 ¹ When you sit down to eat with a ruler, Consider carefully what is before you;

² And put a knife to your throat If you are a man given to appetite.

³ Do not desire his delicacies, For they are deceptive food.

⁴ Do not overwork to be rich; Because of your own understanding, cease!

⁵ Will you set your eyes on that which is not? For riches certainly make themselves wings; They fly away like an eagle toward heaven.

⁶ Do not eat the bread of a miser, Nor desire his delicacies;

⁷ For as he thinks in his heart, so is he. "Eat and drink!" he says to you, But his heart is not with you.

⁸ The morsel you have eaten, you will vomit up, And waste your pleasant words.

⁹ Do not speak in the hearing of a fool, For he will despise the wisdom of your words.

¹⁰ Do not remove the ancient landmark, Nor enter the fields of the fatherless;

¹¹ For their Redeemer is mighty; He will plead their cause against you.

¹² Apply your heart to instruction, And your ears to words of knowledge.

¹³ Do not withhold correction from a child, For if you beat him with a rod, he will not die.

¹⁴ You shall beat him with a rod, And deliver his soul from hell.

¹⁵ My son, if your heart is wise, My heart will rejoice—indeed, I myself;

¹⁶ Yes, my inmost being will rejoice When your lips speak right things.

¹⁷ Do not let your heart envy sinners, But be zealous for the fear of the LORD all the day;

¹⁸ For surely there is a hereafter, And your hope will not be cut off.

¹⁹ Hear, my son, and be wise; And guide your heart in the way.

²⁰ Do not mix with winebibbers, Or with gluttonous eaters of meat;

²¹ For the drunkard and the glutton will come to poverty, And drowsiness will clothe a man with rags.

²² Listen to your father who begot you, And do not despise your mother when she is old.

²³ Buy the truth, and do not sell it, Also wisdom and instruction and understanding.

²⁴ The father of the righteous will greatly rejoice, And he who begets a wise child will delight in him.

²⁵ Let your father and your mother be glad, And let her who bore you rejoice.

²⁶ My son, give me your heart, And let your eyes observe my ways.

²⁷ For a harlot is a deep pit, And a seductress is a narrow well.

²⁸ She also lies in wait as for a victim, And increases the unfaithful among men.

²⁹ Who has woe? Who has sorrow? Who has contentions? Who has complaints? Who has wounds without cause? Who has redness of eyes?

³⁰ Those who linger long at the wine, Those who go in search of mixed wine.

³¹ Do not look on the wine when it is red, When it sparkles in the cup, When it swirls around smoothly;

³² At the last it bites like a serpent, And stings like a viper.

³³ Your eyes will see strange things, And your heart will utter perverse things.

³⁴ Yes, you will be like one who lies down in the midst of the sea, Or like one who lies at the top of the mast, saying:

³⁵ "They have struck me, but I was not hurt; They have beaten me, but I did not feel it. When shall I awake, that I may seek another drink?"

24 ¹ Do not be envious of evil men, Nor desire to be with them;

² For their heart devises violence, And their lips talk of troublemaking.

³ Through wisdom a house is built, And by understanding it is established;

⁴ By knowledge the rooms are filled With all precious and pleasant riches.

⁵ A wise man is strong, Yes, a man of knowledge increases strength;

⁶ For by wise counsel you will wage your own war, And in a multitude of counselors there is safety.

⁷ Wisdom is too lofty for a fool; He does not open his mouth in the gate.

⁸ He who plots to do evil Will be called a schemer.

⁹ The devising of foolishness is sin, And the scoffer is an abomination to men.

¹⁰ If you faint in the day of adversity, Your strength is small.

¹¹ Deliver those who are drawn toward death, And hold back those stumbling to the slaughter.

¹² If you say, "Surely we did not know this," Does not He who weighs the hearts consider it? He who keeps your soul, does He not know it? And will He not render to each man according to his deeds?

¹³ My son, eat honey because it is good,
And the honeycomb which is sweet to
your taste;

¹⁴ So shall the knowledge of wisdom be
to your soul; If you have found it, there
is a prospect, And your hope will not be
cut off.

¹⁵ Do not lie in wait, O wicked man,
against the dwelling of the righteous; Do
not plunder his resting place;

¹⁶ For a righteous man may fall seven
times And rise again, But the wicked
shall fall by calamity.

¹⁷ Do not rejoice when your enemy
falls, And do not let your heart be glad
when he stumbles;

¹⁸ Lest the LORD see it, and it displease
Him, And He turn away His wrath from
him.

¹⁹ Do not fret because of evildoers, Nor
be envious of the wicked;

²⁰ For there will be no prospect for the evil man; The lamp of the wicked will be put out.

²¹ My son, fear the LORD and the king; Do not associate with those given to change;

²² For their calamity will rise suddenly, And who knows the ruin those two can bring?

²³ These things also belong to the wise: It is not good to show partiality in judgment.

²⁴ He who says to the wicked, "You are righteous," Him the people will curse; Nations will abhor him.

²⁵ But those who rebuke the wicked will have delight, And a good blessing will come upon them.

²⁶ He who gives a right answer kisses the lips.

²⁷ Prepare your outside work, Make it fit for yourself in the field; And afterward build your house.

²⁸ Do not be a witness against your neighbor without cause, For would you deceive with your lips?

²⁹ Do not say, "I will do to him just as he has done to me; I will render to the man according to his work."

³⁰ I went by the field of the lazy man, And by the vineyard of the man devoid of understanding;

³¹ And there it was, all overgrown with thorns; Its surface was covered with nettles; Its stone wall was broken down.

³² When I saw it, I considered it well; I looked on it and received instruction:

³³ A little sleep, a little slumber, A little folding of the hands to rest;

³⁴ So shall your poverty come like a prowler, And your need like an armed man.

25 ¹ These also are proverbs of Solomon which the men of Hezekiah king of Judah copied:

² It is the glory of God to conceal a matter, But the glory of kings is to search out a matter.

³ As the heavens for height and the earth for depth, So the heart of kings is unsearchable.

⁴ Take away the dross from silver, And it will go to the silversmith for jewelry.

⁵ Take away the wicked from before the king, And his throne will be established in righteousness.

⁶ Do not exalt yourself in the presence of the king, And do not stand in the place of the great;

⁷ For it is better that he say to you, "Come up here," Than that you should be put lower in the presence of the prince, Whom your eyes have seen.

⁸ Do not go hastily to court; For what will you do in the end, When your neighbor has put you to shame?

⁹ Debate your case with your neighbor, And do not disclose the secret to another;

¹⁰ Lest he who hears it expose your shame, And your reputation be ruined.

¹¹ A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold In settings of silver.

¹² Like an earring of gold and an ornament of fine gold Is a wise rebuker to an obedient ear.

¹³ Like the cold of snow in time of harvest Is a faithful messenger to those who send him, For he refreshes the soul of his masters.

¹⁴ Whoever falsely boasts of giving Is like clouds and wind without rain.

¹⁵ By long forbearance a ruler is persuaded, And a gentle tongue breaks a bone.

¹⁶ Have you found honey? Eat only as much as you need, Lest you be filled with it and vomit.

¹⁷ Seldom set foot in your neighbor's house, Lest he become weary of you and hate you.

¹⁸ A man who bears false witness against his neighbor Is like a club, a sword, and a sharp arrow.

¹⁹ Confidence in an unfaithful man in time of trouble Is like a bad tooth and a foot out of joint.

²⁰ Like one who takes away a garment in cold weather, And like vinegar on soda, Is one who sings songs to a heavy heart.

²¹ If your enemy is hungry, give him bread to eat; And if he is thirsty, give him water to drink;

²² For so you will heap coals of fire on his head, And the LORD will reward you.

²³ The north wind brings forth rain,
And a backbiting tongue an angry
countenance.

²⁴ It is better to dwell in a corner of a
housetop, Than in a house shared with a
contentious woman.

²⁵ As cold water to a weary soul, So is
good news from a far country.

²⁶ A righteous man who falters before
the wicked Is like a murky spring and a
polluted well.

²⁷ It is not good to eat much honey; So
to seek one's own glory is not glory.

²⁸ Whoever has no rule over his own
spirit Is like a city broken down, without
walls.

26 ¹ As snow in summer and rain in
harvest, So honor is not fitting for
a fool.

² Like a flitting sparrow, like a flying
swallow, So a curse without cause shall
not alight.

³ A whip for the horse, A bridle for the donkey, And a rod for the fool's back.

⁴ Do not answer a fool according to his folly, Lest you also be like him.

⁵ Answer a fool according to his folly, Lest he be wise in his own eyes.

⁶ He who sends a message by the hand of a fool Cuts off his own feet and drinks violence.

⁷ Like the legs of the lame that hang limp Is a proverb in the mouth of fools.

⁸ Like one who binds a stone in a sling Is he who gives honor to a fool.

⁹ Like a thorn that goes into the hand of a drunkard Is a proverb in the mouth of fools.

¹⁰ The great God who formed everything Gives the fool his hire and the transgressor his wages.

¹¹ As a dog returns to his own vomit, So a fool repeats his folly.

¹² Do you see a man wise in his own eyes? There is more hope for a fool than for him.

¹³ The lazy man says, "There is a lion in the road! A fierce lion is in the streets!"

¹⁴ As a door turns on its hinges, So does the lazy man on his bed.

¹⁵ The lazy man buries his hand in the bowl; It wearies him to bring it back to his mouth.

¹⁶ The lazy man is wiser in his own eyes Than seven men who can answer sensibly.

¹⁷ He who passes by and meddles in a quarrel not his own Is like one who takes a dog by the ears.

¹⁸ Like a madman who throws firebrands, arrows, and death,

¹⁹ Is the man who deceives his neighbor, And says, "I was only joking!"

²⁰ Where there is no wood, the fire goes out; And where there is no talebearer, strife ceases.

²¹ As charcoal is to burning coals, and wood to fire, So is a contentious man to kindle strife.

²² The words of a talebearer are like tasty trifles, And they go down into the inmost body.

²³ Fervent lips with a wicked heart Are like earthenware covered with silver dross.

²⁴ He who hates, disguises it with his lips, And lays up deceit within himself;

²⁵ When he speaks kindly, do not believe him, For there are seven abominations in his heart;

²⁶ Though his hatred is covered by deceit, His wickedness will be revealed before the assembly.

²⁷ Whoever digs a pit will fall into it,
And he who rolls a stone will have it roll
back on him.

²⁸ A lying tongue hates those who are
crushed by it, And a flattering mouth
works ruin.

27 ¹ Do not boast about tomorrow,
For you do not know what a day
may bring forth.

² Let another man praise you, and not
your own mouth; A stranger, and not
your own lips.

³ A stone is heavy and sand is weighty,
But a fool's wrath is heavier than both of
them.

⁴ Wrath is cruel and anger a torrent, But
who is able to stand before jealousy?

⁵ Open rebuke is better Than love
carefully concealed.

⁶ Faithful are the wounds of a friend,
But the kisses of an enemy are deceitful.

⁷ A satisfied soul loathes the honeycomb, But to a hungry soul every bitter thing is sweet.

⁸ Like a bird that wanders from its nest Is a man who wanders from his place.

⁹ Ointment and perfume delight the heart, And the sweetness of a man's friend gives delight by hearty counsel.

¹⁰ Do not forsake your own friend or your father's friend, Nor go to your brother's house in the day of your calamity; Better is a neighbor nearby than a brother far away.

¹¹ My son, be wise, and make my heart glad, That I may answer him who reproaches me.

¹² A prudent man foresees evil and hides himself; The simple pass on and are punished.

¹³ Take the garment of him who is surety for a stranger, And hold it in pledge when he is surety for a seductress.

¹⁴ He who blesses his friend with a loud voice, rising early in the morning, It will be counted a curse to him.

¹⁵ A continual dripping on a very rainy day And a contentious woman are alike;

¹⁶ Whoever restrains her restrains the wind, And grasps oil with his right hand.

¹⁷ As iron sharpens iron, So a man sharpens the countenance of his friend.

¹⁸ Whoever keeps the fig tree will eat its fruit; So he who waits on his master will be honored.

¹⁹ As in water face reflects face, So a man's heart reveals the man.

²⁰ Hell and Destruction are never full; So the eyes of man are never satisfied.

²¹ The refining pot is for silver and the furnace for gold, And a man is valued by what others say of him.

²² Though you grind a fool in a mortar with a pestle along with crushed grain,

Yet his foolishness will not depart from him.

²³ Be diligent to know the state of your flocks, And attend to your herds;

²⁴ For riches are not forever, Nor does a crown endure to all generations.

²⁵ When the hay is removed, and the tender grass shows itself, And the herbs of the mountains are gathered in,

²⁶ The lambs will provide your clothing, And the goats the price of a field;

²⁷ You shall have enough goats' milk for your food, For the food of your household, And the nourishment of your maidservants.

28 ¹ The wicked flee when no one pursues, But the righteous are bold as a lion.

² Because of the transgression of a land, many are its princes; But by a man of understanding and knowledge Right will be prolonged.

³ A poor man who oppresses the poor is like a driving rain which leaves no food.

⁴ Those who forsake the law praise the wicked, But such as keep the law contend with them.

⁵ Evil men do not understand justice, But those who seek the LORD understand all.

⁶ Better is the poor who walks in his integrity Than one perverse in his ways, though he be rich.

⁷ Whoever keeps the law is a discerning son, But a companion of gluttons shames his father.

⁸ One who increases his possessions by usury and extortion Gathers it for him who will pity the poor.

⁹ One who turns away his ear from hearing the law, Even his prayer is an abomination.

¹⁰ Whoever causes the upright to go astray in an evil way, He himself will fall

into his own pit; But the blameless will inherit good.

¹¹ The rich man is wise in his own eyes, But the poor who has understanding searches him out.

¹² When the righteous rejoice, there is great glory; But when the wicked arise, men hide themselves.

¹³ He who covers his sins will not prosper, But whoever confesses and forsakes them will have mercy.

¹⁴ Happy is the man who is always reverent, But he who hardens his heart will fall into calamity.

¹⁵ Like a roaring lion and a charging bear Is a wicked ruler over poor people.

¹⁶ A ruler who lacks understanding is a great oppressor, But he who hates covetousness will prolong his days.

¹⁷ A man burdened with bloodshed will flee into a pit; Let no one help him.

¹⁸ Whoever walks blamelessly will be saved, But he who is perverse in his ways will suddenly fall.

¹⁹ He who tills his land will have plenty of bread, But he who follows frivolity will have poverty enough!

²⁰ A faithful man will abound with blessings, But he who hastens to be rich will not go unpunished.

²¹ To show partiality is not good, Because for a piece of bread a man will transgress.

²² A man with an evil eye hastens after riches, And does not consider that poverty will come upon him.

²³ He who rebukes a man will find more favor afterward Than he who flatters with the tongue.

²⁴ Whoever robs his father or his mother, And says, "It is no transgression," The same is companion to a destroyer.

²⁵ He who is of a proud heart stirs up strife, But he who trusts in the LORD will be prospered.

²⁶ He who trusts in his own heart is a fool, But whoever walks wisely will be delivered.

²⁷ He who gives to the poor will not lack, But he who hides his eyes will have many curses.

²⁸ When the wicked arise, men hide themselves; But when they perish, the righteous increase.

29 ¹ He who is often rebuked, and hardens his neck, Will suddenly be destroyed, and that without remedy.

² When the righteous are in authority, the people rejoice; But when a wicked man rules, the people groan.

³ Whoever loves wisdom makes his father rejoice, But a companion of harlots wastes his wealth.

⁴ The king establishes the land by justice, But he who receives bribes overthrows it.

⁵ A man who flatters his neighbor Spreads a net for his feet.

⁶ By transgression an evil man is snared, But the righteous sings and rejoices.

⁷ The righteous considers the cause of the poor, But the wicked does not understand such knowledge.

⁸ Scoffers set a city aflame, But wise men turn away wrath.

⁹ If a wise man contends with a foolish man, Whether the fool rages or laughs, there is no peace.

¹⁰ The bloodthirsty hate the blameless, But the upright seek his well-being.

¹¹ A fool vents all his feelings, But a wise man holds them back.

¹² If a ruler pays attention to lies, All his servants become wicked.

¹³ The poor man and the oppressor have this in common: The LORD gives light to the eyes of both.

¹⁴ The king who judges the poor with truth, His throne will be established forever.

¹⁵ The rod and rebuke give wisdom, But a child left to himself brings shame to his mother.

¹⁶ When the wicked are multiplied, transgression increases; But the righteous will see their fall.

¹⁷ Correct your son, and he will give you rest; Yes, he will give delight to your soul.

¹⁸ Where there is no revelation, the people cast off restraint; But happy is he who keeps the law.

¹⁹ A servant will not be corrected by mere words; For though he understands, he will not respond.

²⁰ Do you see a man hasty in his words?
There is more hope for a fool than for
him.

²¹ He who pampers his servant from
childhood Will have him as a son in the
end.

²² An angry man stirs up strife, And a
furious man abounds in transgression.

²³ A man's pride will bring him low, But
the humble in spirit will retain honor.

²⁴ Whoever is a partner with a thief
hates his own life; He swears to tell the
truth, but reveals nothing.

²⁵ The fear of man brings a snare, But
whoever trusts in the LORD shall be safe.

²⁶ Many seek the ruler's favor, But
justice for man comes from the LORD.

²⁷ An unjust man is an abomination to
the righteous, And he who is upright in
the way is an abomination to the wicked.

30 ¹ The words of Agur the son of Jakeh, his utterance. This man declared to Ithiel—to Ithiel and Ucal:

² Surely I am more stupid than any man,
And do not have the understanding of a man.

³ I neither learned wisdom Nor have knowledge of the Holy One.

⁴ Who has ascended into heaven, or descended? Who has gathered the wind in His fists? Who has bound the waters in a garment? Who has established all the ends of the earth? What is His name, and what is His Son's name, If you know?

⁵ Every word of God is pure; He is a shield to those who put their trust in Him.

⁶ Do not add to His words, Lest He rebuke you, and you be found a liar.

⁷ Two things I request of You (Deprive me not before I die):

⁸ Remove falsehood and lies far from me; Give me neither poverty nor riches—Feed me with the food allotted to me;

⁹ Lest I be full and deny You, And say, "Who is the LORD?" Or lest I be poor and steal, And profane the name of my God.

¹⁰ Do not malign a servant to his master, Lest he curse you, and you be found guilty.

¹¹ There is a generation that curses its father, And does not bless its mother.

¹² There is a generation that is pure in its own eyes, Yet is not washed from its filthiness.

¹³ There is a generation—oh, how lofty are their eyes! And their eyelids are lifted up.

¹⁴ There is a generation whose teeth are like swords, And whose fangs are like knives, To devour the poor from off the earth, And the needy from among men.

¹⁵ The leech has two daughters—Give and Give! There are three things that are never satisfied, Four never say, "Enough!":

¹⁶ The grave, The barren womb, The earth that is not satisfied with water—And the fire never says, "Enough!"

¹⁷ The eye that mocks his father, And scorns obedience to his mother, The ravens of the valley will pick it out, And the young eagles will eat it.

¹⁸ There are three things which are too wonderful for me, Yes, four which I do not understand:

¹⁹ The way of an eagle in the air, The way of a serpent on a rock, The way of a ship in the midst of the sea, And the way of a man with a virgin.

²⁰ This is the way of an adulterous woman: She eats and wipes her mouth, And says, "I have done no wickedness."

²¹ For three things the earth is
perturbed, Yes, for four it cannot bear
up:

²² For a servant when he reigns, A fool
when he is filled with food,

²³ A hateful woman when she is
married, And a maidservant who
succeeds her mistress.

²⁴ There are four things which are little
on the earth, But they are exceedingly
wise:

²⁵ The ants are a people not strong, Yet
they prepare their food in the summer;

²⁶ The rock badgers are a feeble folk,
Yet they make their homes in the crags;

²⁷ The locusts have no king, Yet they all
advance in ranks;

²⁸ The spider skillfully grasps with its
hands, And it is in kings' palaces.

²⁹ There are three things which are
majestic in pace, Yes, four which are
stately in walk:

³⁰ A lion, which is mighty among beasts
And does not turn away from any;

³¹ A greyhound, A male goat also, And a
king whose troops are with him.

³² If you have been foolish in exalting
yourself, Or if you have devised evil, put
your hand on your mouth.

³³ For as the churning of milk produces
butter, And wringing the nose produces
blood, So the forcing of wrath produces
strife.

31 ¹ The words of King Lemuel,
the utterance which his mother
taught him:

² What, my son? And what, son of my
womb? And what, son of my vows?

³ Do not give your strength to women,
Nor your ways to that which destroys
kings.

⁴ It is not for kings, O Lemuel, It is not
for kings to drink wine, Nor for princes
intoxicating drink;

⁵ Lest they drink and forget the law, And pervert the justice of all the afflicted.

⁶ Give strong drink to him who is perishing, And wine to those who are bitter of heart.

⁷ Let him drink and forget his poverty, And remember his misery no more.

⁸ Open your mouth for the speechless, In the cause of all who are appointed to die.

⁹ Open your mouth, judge righteously, And plead the cause of the poor and needy.

¹⁰ Who can find a virtuous wife? For her worth is far above rubies.

¹¹ The heart of her husband safely trusts her; So he will have no lack of gain.

¹² She does him good and not evil All the days of her life.

¹³ She seeks wool and flax, And willingly works with her hands.

¹⁴ She is like the merchant ships, She brings her food from afar.

¹⁵ She also rises while it is yet night, And provides food for her household, And a portion for her maidservants.

¹⁶ She considers a field and buys it; From her profits she plants a vineyard.

¹⁷ She girds herself with strength, And strengthens her arms.

¹⁸ She perceives that her merchandise is good, And her lamp does not go out by night.

¹⁹ She stretches out her hands to the distaff, And her hand holds the spindle.

²⁰ She extends her hand to the poor, Yes, she reaches out her hands to the needy.

²¹ She is not afraid of snow for her household, For all her household is clothed with scarlet.

²² She makes tapestry for herself; Her clothing is fine linen and purple.

²³ Her husband is known in the gates,
When he sits among the elders of the
land.

²⁴ She makes linen garments and sells
them, And supplies sashes for the
merchants.

²⁵ Strength and honor are her clothing;
She shall rejoice in time to come.

²⁶ She opens her mouth with wisdom,
And on her tongue is the law of kindness.

²⁷ She watches over the ways of her
household, And does not eat the bread
of idleness.

²⁸ Her children rise up and call her
blessed; Her husband also, and he
praises her:

²⁹ "Many daughters have done well, But
you excel them all."

³⁰ Charm is deceitful and beauty is
passing, But a woman who fears the
LORD, she shall be praised.

³¹ Give her of the fruit of her hands,
And let her own works praise her in the
gates.

Ecclesiastes

1 ¹ The words of the Preacher, the son of David, king in Jerusalem.

² "Vanity of vanities," says the Preacher; "Vanity of vanities, all is vanity."

³ What profit has a man from all his labor In which he toils under the sun?

⁴ One generation passes away, and another generation comes; But the earth abides forever.

⁵ The sun also rises, and the sun goes down, And hastens to the place where it arose.

⁶ The wind goes toward the south, And turns around to the north; The wind whirls about continually, And comes again on its circuit.

⁷ All the rivers run into the sea, Yet the sea is not full; To the place from which the rivers come, There they return again.

⁸ All things are full of labor; Man cannot express it. The eye is not satisfied with seeing, Nor the ear filled with hearing.

⁹ That which has been is what will be, That which is done is what will be done, And there is nothing new under the sun.

¹⁰ Is there anything of which it may be said, "See, this is new"? It has already been in ancient times before us.

¹¹ There is no remembrance of former things, Nor will there be any remembrance of things that are to come By those who will come after.

¹² I, the Preacher, was king over Israel in Jerusalem.

¹³ And I set my heart to seek and search out by wisdom concerning all that is done under heaven; this burdensome

task God has given to the sons of man, by which they may be exercised.

¹⁴ I have seen all the works that are done under the sun; and indeed, all is vanity and grasping for the wind.

¹⁵ What is crooked cannot be made straight, And what is lacking cannot be numbered.

¹⁶ I communed with my heart, saying, "Look, I have attained greatness, and have gained more wisdom than all who were before me in Jerusalem. My heart has understood great wisdom and knowledge."

¹⁷ And I set my heart to know wisdom and to know madness and folly. I perceived that this also is grasping for the wind.

¹⁸ For in much wisdom is much grief, And he who increases knowledge increases sorrow.

2¹ I said in my heart, "Come now, I will test you with mirth; therefore enjoy pleasure"; but surely, this also was vanity.

² I said of laughter—"Madness!"; and of mirth, "What does it accomplish?"

³ I searched in my heart how to gratify my flesh with wine, while guiding my heart with wisdom, and how to lay hold on folly, till I might see what was good for the sons of men to do under heaven all the days of their lives.

⁴ I made my works great, I built myself houses, and planted myself vineyards.

⁵ I made myself gardens and orchards, and I planted all kinds of fruit trees in them.

⁶ I made myself water pools from which to water the growing trees of the grove.

⁷ I acquired male and female servants, and had servants born in my house. Yes, I had greater possessions of herds and

flocks than all who were in Jerusalem before me.

⁸ I also gathered for myself silver and gold and the special treasures of kings and of the provinces. I acquired male and female singers, the delights of the sons of men, and musical instruments of all kinds.

⁹ So I became great and excelled more than all who were before me in Jerusalem. Also my wisdom remained with me.

¹⁰ Whatever my eyes desired I did not keep from them. I did not withhold my heart from any pleasure, For my heart rejoiced in all my labor; And this was my reward from all my labor.

¹¹ Then I looked on all the works that my hands had done And on the labor in which I had toiled; And indeed all was vanity and grasping for the wind. There was no profit under the sun.

¹² Then I turned myself to consider wisdom and madness and folly; For what can the man do who succeeds the king? —Only what he has already done.

¹³ Then I saw that wisdom excels folly
As light excels darkness.

¹⁴ The wise man's eyes are in his head,
But the fool walks in darkness. Yet I
myself perceived That the same event
happens to them all.

¹⁵ So I said in my heart, "As it happens
to the fool, It also happens to me, And
why was I then more wise?" Then I said
in my heart, "This also is vanity."

¹⁶ For there is no more remembrance of
the wise than of the fool forever, Since
all that now is will be forgotten in the
days to come. And how does a wise man
die? As the fool!

¹⁷ Therefore I hated life because the
work that was done under the sun was

distressing to me, for all is vanity and grasping for the wind.

¹⁸ Then I hated all my labor in which I had toiled under the sun, because I must leave it to the man who will come after me.

¹⁹ And who knows whether he will be wise or a fool? Yet he will rule over all my labor in which I toiled and in which I have shown myself wise under the sun. This also is vanity.

²⁰ Therefore I turned my heart and despaired of all the labor in which I had toiled under the sun.

²¹ For there is a man whose labor is with wisdom, knowledge, and skill; yet he must leave his heritage to a man who has not labored for it. This also is vanity and a great evil.

²² For what has man for all his labor, and for the striving of his heart with which he has toiled under the sun?

²³ For all his days are sorrowful, and his work burdensome; even in the night his heart takes no rest. This also is vanity.

²⁴ Nothing is better for a man than that he should eat and drink, and that his soul should enjoy good in his labor. This also, I saw, was from the hand of God.

²⁵ For who can eat, or who can have enjoyment, more than I?

²⁶ For God gives wisdom and knowledge and joy to a man who is good in His sight; but to the sinner He gives the work of gathering and collecting, that he may give to him who is good before God. This also is vanity and grasping for the wind.

3 ¹ To everything there is a season,
A time for every purpose under
heaven:

² A time to be born, And a time to die; A
time to plant, And a time to pluck what
is planted;

³ A time to kill, And a time to heal; A time to break down, And a time to build up;

⁴ A time to weep, And a time to laugh; A time to mourn, And a time to dance;

⁵ A time to cast away stones, And a time to gather stones; A time to embrace, And a time to refrain from embracing;

⁶ A time to gain, And a time to lose; A time to keep, And a time to throw away;

⁷ A time to tear, And a time to sew; A time to keep silence, And a time to speak;

⁸ A time to love, And a time to hate; A time of war, And a time of peace.

⁹ What profit has the worker from that in which he labors?

¹⁰ I have seen the God-given task with which the sons of men are to be occupied.

¹¹ He has made everything beautiful in its time. Also He has put eternity in their

hearts, except that no one can find out the work that God does from beginning to end.

¹² I know that nothing is better for them than to rejoice, and to do good in their lives,

¹³ and also that every man should eat and drink and enjoy the good of all his labor—it is the gift of God.

¹⁴ I know that whatever God does, It shall be forever. Nothing can be added to it, And nothing taken from it. God does it, that men should fear before Him.

¹⁵ That which is has already been, And what is to be has already been; And God requires an account of what is past.

¹⁶ Moreover I saw under the sun: In the place of judgment, Wickedness was there; And in the place of righteousness, Iniquity was there.

¹⁷ I said in my heart, "God shall judge the righteous and the wicked, For there

is a time there for every purpose and for every work."

¹⁸ I said in my heart, "Concerning the condition of the sons of men, God tests them, that they may see that they themselves are like animals."

¹⁹ For what happens to the sons of men also happens to animals; one thing befalls them: as one dies, so dies the other. Surely, they all have one breath; man has no advantage over animals, for all is vanity.

²⁰ All go to one place: all are from the dust, and all return to dust.

²¹ Who knows the spirit of the sons of men, which goes upward, and the spirit of the animal, which goes down to the earth?

²² So I perceived that nothing is better than that a man should rejoice in his own works, for that is his heritage. For who

can bring him to see what will happen after him?

4¹ Then I returned and considered all the oppression that is done under the sun: And look! The tears of the oppressed, But they have no comforter—
—On the side of their oppressors there is power, But they have no comforter.

² Therefore I praised the dead who were already dead, More than the living who are still alive.

³ Yet, better than both is he who has never existed, Who has not seen the evil work that is done under the sun.

⁴ Again, I saw that for all toil and every skillful work a man is envied by his neighbor. This also is vanity and grasping for the wind.

⁵ The fool folds his hands And consumes his own flesh.

⁶ Better a handful with quietness Than both hands full, together with toil and grasping for the wind.

⁷ Then I returned, and I saw vanity under the sun:

⁸ There is one alone, without companion: He has neither son nor brother. Yet there is no end to all his labors, Nor is his eye satisfied with riches. But he never asks, "For whom do I toil and deprive myself of good?" This also is vanity and a grave misfortune.

⁹ Two are better than one, Because they have a good reward for their labor.

¹⁰ For if they fall, one will lift up his companion. But woe to him who is alone when he falls, For he has no one to help him up.

¹¹ Again, if two lie down together, they will keep warm; But how can one be warm alone?

¹² Though one may be overpowered by another, two can withstand him. And a threefold cord is not quickly broken.

¹³ Better a poor and wise youth Than an old and foolish king who will be admonished no more.

¹⁴ For he comes out of prison to be king, Although he was born poor in his kingdom.

¹⁵ I saw all the living who walk under the sun; They were with the second youth who stands in his place.

¹⁶ There was no end of all the people over whom he was made king; Yet those who come afterward will not rejoice in him. Surely this also is vanity and grasping for the wind.

5 ¹ Walk prudently when you go to the house of God; and draw near to hear rather than to give the sacrifice of fools, for they do not know that they do evil.

² Do not be rash with your mouth, And let not your heart utter anything hastily before God. For God is in heaven, and you on earth; Therefore let your words be few.

³ For a dream comes through much activity, And a fool's voice is known by his many words.

⁴ When you make a vow to God, do not delay to pay it; For He has no pleasure in fools. Pay what you have vowed—

⁵ Better not to vow than to vow and not pay.

⁶ Do not let your mouth cause your flesh to sin, nor say before the messenger of God that it was an error. Why should God be angry at your excuse and destroy the work of your hands?

⁷ For in the multitude of dreams and many words there is also vanity. But fear God.

⁸ If you see the oppression of the poor, and the violent perversion of justice and righteousness in a province, do not marvel at the matter; for high official watches over high official, and higher officials are over them.

⁹ Moreover the profit of the land is for all; even the king is served from the field.

¹⁰ He who loves silver will not be satisfied with silver; Nor he who loves abundance, with increase. This also is vanity.

¹¹ When goods increase, They increase who eat them; So what profit have the owners Except to see them with their eyes?

¹² The sleep of a laboring man is sweet, Whether he eats little or much; But the abundance of the rich will not permit him to sleep.

¹³ There is a severe evil which I have seen under the sun: Riches kept for their owner to his hurt.

¹⁴ But those riches perish through misfortune; When he begets a son, there is nothing in his hand.

¹⁵ As he came from his mother's womb, naked shall he return, To go as he came; And he shall take nothing from his labor Which he may carry away in his hand.

¹⁶ And this also is a severe evil—Just exactly as he came, so shall he go. And what profit has he who has labored for the wind?

¹⁷ All his days he also eats in darkness, And he has much sorrow and sickness and anger.

¹⁸ Here is what I have seen: It is good and fitting for one to eat and drink, and to enjoy the good of all his labor in which he toils under the sun all the days of

his life which God gives him; for it is his heritage.

¹⁹ As for every man to whom God has given riches and wealth, and given him power to eat of it, to receive his heritage and rejoice in his labor—this is the gift of God.

²⁰ For he will not dwell unduly on the days of his life, because God keeps him busy with the joy of his heart.

6 ¹ There is an evil which I have seen under the sun, and it is common among men:

² A man to whom God has given riches and wealth and honor, so that he lacks nothing for himself of all he desires; yet God does not give him power to eat of it, but a foreigner consumes it. This is vanity, and it is an evil affliction.

³ If a man begets a hundred children and lives many years, so that the days of his years are many, but his soul is not

satisfied with goodness, or indeed he has no burial, I say that a stillborn child is better than he—

⁴ for it comes in vanity and departs in darkness, and its name is covered with darkness.

⁵ Though it has not seen the sun or known anything, this has more rest than that man,

⁶ even if he lives a thousand years twice—but has not seen goodness. Do not all go to one place?

⁷ All the labor of man is for his mouth, And yet the soul is not satisfied.

⁸ For what more has the wise man than the fool? What does the poor man have, Who knows how to walk before the living?

⁹ Better is the sight of the eyes than the wandering of desire. This also is vanity and grasping for the wind.

¹⁰ Whatever one is, he has been named already, For it is known that he is man; And he cannot contend with Him who is mightier than he.

¹¹ Since there are many things that increase vanity, How is man the better?

¹² For who knows what is good for man in life, all the days of his vain life which he passes like a shadow? Who can tell a man what will happen after him under the sun?

7 ¹ A good name is better than precious ointment, And the day of death than the day of one's birth;

² Better to go to the house of mourning Than to go to the house of feasting, For that is the end of all men; And the living will take it to heart.

³ Sorrow is better than laughter, For by a sad countenance the heart is made better.

⁴ The heart of the wise is in the house of mourning, But the heart of fools is in the house of mirth.

⁵ It is better to hear the rebuke of the wise Than for a man to hear the song of fools.

⁶ For like the crackling of thorns under a pot, So is the laughter of the fool. This also is vanity.

⁷ Surely oppression destroys a wise man's reason, And a bribe debases the heart.

⁸ The end of a thing is better than its beginning; The patient in spirit is better than the proud in spirit.

⁹ Do not hasten in your spirit to be angry, For anger rests in the bosom of fools.

¹⁰ Do not say, "Why were the former days better than these?" For you do not inquire wisely concerning this.

¹¹ Wisdom is good with an inheritance,
And profitable to those who see the sun.

¹² For wisdom is a defense as money
is a defense, But the excellence of
knowledge is that wisdom gives life to
those who have it.

¹³ Consider the work of God; For who
can make straight what He has made
crooked?

¹⁴ In the day of prosperity be joyful, But
in the day of adversity consider: Surely
God has appointed the one as well as the
other, So that man can find out nothing
that will come after him.

¹⁵ I have seen everything in my days of
vanity: There is a just man who perishes
in his righteousness, And there is a
wicked man who prolongs life in his
wickedness.

¹⁶ Do not be overly righteous, Nor be
overly wise: Why should you destroy
yourself?

¹⁷ Do not be overly wicked, Nor be foolish: Why should you die before your time?

¹⁸ It is good that you grasp this, And also not remove your hand from the other; For he who fears God will escape them all.

¹⁹ Wisdom strengthens the wise More than ten rulers of the city.

²⁰ For there is not a just man on earth who does good And does not sin.

²¹ Also do not take to heart everything people say, Lest you hear your servant cursing you.

²² For many times, also, your own heart has known That even you have cursed others.

²³ All this I have proved by wisdom. I said, "I will be wise"; But it was far from me.

²⁴ As for that which is far off and exceedingly deep, Who can find it out?

²⁵ I applied my heart to know, To search
and seek out wisdom and the reason of
things, To know the wickedness of folly,
Even of foolishness and madness.

²⁶ And I find more bitter than death
The woman whose heart is snares and
nets, Whose hands are fetters. He who
pleases God shall escape from her, But
the sinner shall be trapped by her.

²⁷ "Here is what I have found," says the
Preacher, "Adding one thing to the other
to find out the reason,

²⁸ Which my soul still seeks but I cannot
find: One man among a thousand I have
found, But a woman among all these I
have not found.

²⁹ Truly, this only I have found: That
God made man upright, But they have
sought out many schemes."

8 ¹ Who is like a wise man? And who
knows the interpretation of a thing?

A man's wisdom makes his face shine,
And the sternness of his face is changed.

² I say, "Keep the king's commandment
for the sake of your oath to God.

³ "Do not be hasty to go from his
presence. Do not take your stand for an
evil thing, for he does whatever pleases
him."

⁴ Where the word of a king is, there is
power; And who may say to him, "What
are you doing?"

⁵ He who keeps his command will
experience nothing harmful; And a wise
man's heart discerns both time and
judgment,

⁶ Because for every matter there is a
time and judgment, Though the misery
of man increases greatly.

⁷ For he does not know what will
happen; So who can tell him when it will
occur?

⁸ No one has power over the spirit to retain the spirit, And no one has power in the day of death. There is no release from that war, And wickedness will not deliver those who are given to it.

⁹ All this I have seen, and applied my heart to every work that is done under the sun: There is a time in which one man rules over another to his own hurt.

¹⁰ Then I saw the wicked buried, who had come and gone from the place of holiness, and they were forgotten in the city where they had so done. This also is vanity.

¹¹ Because the sentence against an evil work is not executed speedily, therefore the heart of the sons of men is fully set in them to do evil.

¹² Though a sinner does evil a hundred times, and his days are prolonged, yet I surely know that it will be well with

those who fear God, who fear before Him.

¹³ But it will not be well with the wicked; nor will he prolong his days, which are as a shadow, because he does not fear before God.

¹⁴ There is a vanity which occurs on earth, that there are just men to whom it happens according to the work of the wicked; again, there are wicked men to whom it happens according to the work of the righteous. I said that this also is vanity.

¹⁵ So I commended enjoyment, because a man has nothing better under the sun than to eat, drink, and be merry; for this will remain with him in his labor all the days of his life which God gives him under the sun.

¹⁶ When I applied my heart to know wisdom and to see the business that is

done on earth, even though one sees no sleep day or night,

¹⁷ then I saw all the work of God, that a man cannot find out the work that is done under the sun. For though a man labors to discover it, yet he will not find it; moreover, though a wise man attempts to know it, he will not be able to find it.

9 ¹ For I considered all this in my heart, so that I could declare it all: that the righteous and the wise and their works are in the hand of God. People know neither love nor hatred by anything they see before them.

² All things come alike to all: One event happens to the righteous and the wicked; To the good, the clean, and the unclean; To him who sacrifices and him who does not sacrifice. As is the good, so is the sinner; He who takes an oath as he who fears an oath.

³ This is an evil in all that is done under the sun: that one thing happens to all. Truly the hearts of the sons of men are full of evil; madness is in their hearts while they live, and after that they go to the dead.

⁴ But for him who is joined to all the living there is hope, for a living dog is better than a dead lion.

⁵ For the living know that they will die; But the dead know nothing, And they have no more reward, For the memory of them is forgotten.

⁶ Also their love, their hatred, and their envy have now perished; Nevermore will they have a share In anything done under the sun.

⁷ Go, eat your bread with joy, And drink your wine with a merry heart; For God has already accepted your works.

⁸ Let your garments always be white, And let your head lack no oil.

⁹ Live joyfully with the wife whom you love all the days of your vain life which He has given you under the sun, all your days of vanity; for that is your portion in life, and in the labor which you perform under the sun.

¹⁰ Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with your might; for there is no work or device or knowledge or wisdom in the grave where you are going.

¹¹ I returned and saw under the sun that—The race is not to the swift, Nor the battle to the strong, Nor bread to the wise, Nor riches to men of understanding, Nor favor to men of skill; But time and chance happen to them all.

¹² For man also does not know his time: Like fish taken in a cruel net, Like birds caught in a snare, So the sons of men are snared in an evil time, When it falls suddenly upon them.

¹³ This wisdom I have also seen under the sun, and it seemed great to me:

¹⁴ There was a little city with few men in it; and a great king came against it, besieged it, and built great snares around it.

¹⁵ Now there was found in it a poor wise man, and he by his wisdom delivered the city. Yet no one remembered that same poor man.

¹⁶ Then I said: "Wisdom is better than strength. Nevertheless the poor man's wisdom is despised, And his words are not heard.

¹⁷ Words of the wise, spoken quietly, should be heard Rather than the shout of a ruler of fools.

¹⁸ Wisdom is better than weapons of war; But one sinner destroys much good."

10 ¹ Dead flies putrefy the perfumer's ointment, And cause

it to give off a foul odor; So does a little folly to one respected for wisdom and honor.

² A wise man's heart is at his right hand,
But a fool's heart at his left.

³ Even when a fool walks along the way,
He lacks wisdom, And he shows everyone that he is a fool.

⁴ If the spirit of the ruler rises against you,
Do not leave your post; For conciliation pacifies great offenses.

⁵ There is an evil I have seen under the sun,
As an error proceeding from the ruler:

⁶ Folly is set in great dignity, While the rich sit in a lowly place.

⁷ I have seen servants on horses, While princes walk on the ground like servants.

⁸ He who digs a pit will fall into it, And whoever breaks through a wall will be bitten by a serpent.

⁹ He who quarries stones may be hurt by them, And he who splits wood may be endangered by it.

¹⁰ If the ax is dull, And one does not sharpen the edge, Then he must use more strength; But wisdom brings success.

¹¹ A serpent may bite when it is not charmed; The babbler is no different.

¹² The words of a wise man's mouth are gracious, But the lips of a fool shall swallow him up;

¹³ The words of his mouth begin with foolishness, And the end of his talk is raving madness.

¹⁴ A fool also multiplies words. No man knows what is to be; Who can tell him what will be after him?

¹⁵ The labor of fools wearies them, For they do not even know how to go to the city!

¹⁶ Woe to you, O land, when your king is a child, And your princes feast in the morning!

¹⁷ Blessed are you, O land, when your king is the son of nobles, And your princes feast at the proper time—For strength and not for drunkenness!

¹⁸ Because of laziness the building decays, And through idleness of hands the house leaks.

¹⁹ A feast is made for laughter, And wine makes merry; But money answers everything.

²⁰ Do not curse the king, even in your thought; Do not curse the rich, even in your bedroom; For a bird of the air may carry your voice, And a bird in flight may tell the matter.

11 ¹ Cast your bread upon the waters, For you will find it after many days.

² Give a serving to seven, and also to eight, For you do not know what evil will be on the earth.

³ If the clouds are full of rain, They empty themselves upon the earth; And if a tree falls to the south or the north, In the place where the tree falls, there it shall lie.

⁴ He who observes the wind will not sow, And he who regards the clouds will not reap.

⁵ As you do not know what is the way of the wind, Or how the bones grow in the womb of her who is with child, So you do not know the works of God who makes everything.

⁶ In the morning sow your seed, And in the evening do not withhold your hand; For you do not know which will prosper, Either this or that, Or whether both alike will be good.

⁷ Truly the light is sweet, And it is pleasant for the eyes to behold the sun;

⁸ But if a man lives many years And rejoices in them all, Yet let him remember the days of darkness, For they will be many. All that is coming is vanity.

⁹ Rejoice, O young man, in your youth, And let your heart cheer you in the days of your youth; Walk in the ways of your heart, And in the sight of your eyes; But know that for all these God will bring you into judgment.

¹⁰ Therefore remove sorrow from your heart, And put away evil from your flesh, For childhood and youth are vanity.

12 ¹ Remember now your Creator in the days of your youth, Before the difficult days come, And the years draw near when you say, "I have no pleasure in them":

² While the sun and the light, The moon and the stars, Are not darkened, And the clouds do not return after the rain;

³ In the day when the keepers of the house tremble, And the strong men bow down; When the grinders cease because they are few, And those that look through the windows grow dim;

⁴ When the doors are shut in the streets, And the sound of grinding is low; When one rises up at the sound of a bird, And all the daughters of music are brought low;

⁵ Also they are afraid of height, And of terrors in the way; When the almond tree blossoms, The grasshopper is a burden, And desire fails. For man goes to his eternal home, And the mourners go about the streets.

⁶ Remember your Creator before the silver cord is loosed, Or the golden bowl is broken, Or the pitcher shattered at

the fountain, Or the wheel broken at the well.

⁷ Then the dust will return to the earth as it was, And the spirit will return to God who gave it.

⁸ "Vanity of vanities," says the Preacher, "All is vanity."

⁹ And moreover, because the Preacher was wise, he still taught the people knowledge; yes, he pondered and sought out and set in order many proverbs.

¹⁰ The Preacher sought to find acceptable words; and what was written was upright—words of truth.

¹¹ The words of the wise are like goads, and the words of scholars are like well-driven nails, given by one Shepherd.

¹² And further, my son, be admonished by these. Of making many books there is no end, and much study is wearisome to the flesh.

¹³ Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God and keep His commandments, For this is man's all.

¹⁴ For God will bring every work into judgment, Including every secret thing, Whether good or evil.

Song of Solomon

1 ¹ The song of songs, which is Solomon's.

² THE SHULAMITE Let him kiss me with the kisses of his mouth—For your love is better than wine.

³ Because of the fragrance of your good ointments, Your name is ointment poured forth; Therefore the virgins love you.

⁴ Draw me away! THE DAUGHTERS OF JERUSALEM We will run after you. THE SHULAMITE The king has brought me into his chambers. THE DAUGHTERS OF JERUSALEM We will be glad and rejoice in you. We will remember your love more than wine. THE SHULAMITE Rightly do they love you.

⁵ I am dark, but lovely, O daughters of Jerusalem, Like the tents of Kedar, Like the curtains of Solomon.

⁶ Do not look upon me, because I am dark, Because the sun has tanned me. My mother's sons were angry with me; They made me the keeper of the vineyards, But my own vineyard I have not kept.

⁷ (TO HER BELOVED) Tell me, O you whom I love, Where you feed your flock, Where you make it rest at noon. For why should I be as one who veils herself By the flocks of your companions?

⁸ THE BELOVED If you do not know, O fairest among women, Follow in the footsteps of the flock, And feed your little goats Beside the shepherds' tents.

⁹ I have compared you, my love, To my filly among Pharaoh's chariots.

¹⁰ Your cheeks are lovely with ornaments, Your neck with chains of gold.

¹¹ THE DAUGHTERS OF JERUSALEM We will make you ornaments of gold With studs of silver.

¹² THE SHULAMITE While the king is at his table, My spikenard sends forth its fragrance.

¹³ A bundle of myrrh is my beloved to me, That lies all night between my breasts.

¹⁴ My beloved is to me a cluster of henna blooms In the vineyards of En Gedi.

¹⁵ THE BELOVED Behold, you are fair, my love! Behold, you are fair! You have dove's eyes.

¹⁶ THE SHULAMITE Behold, you are handsome, my beloved! Yes, pleasant! Also our bed is green.

¹⁷ The beams of our houses are cedar,
And our rafters of fir.

2 ¹ I am the rose of Sharon, And the lily
of the valleys.

² THE BELOVED Like a lily among thorns,
So is my love among the daughters.

³ THE SHULAMITE Like an apple tree
among the trees of the woods, So is my
beloved among the sons. I sat down in
his shade with great delight, And his fruit
was sweet to my taste.

⁴ THE SHULAMITE TO THE DAUGHTERS
OF JERUSALEM He brought me to the
banqueting house, And his banner over
me was love.

⁵ Sustain me with cakes of raisins,
Refresh me with apples, For I am
lovesick.

⁶ His left hand is under my head, And
his right hand embraces me.

⁷ I charge you, O daughters of
Jerusalem, By the gazelles or by the does

of the field, Do not stir up nor awaken
love Until it pleases.

⁸ THE SHULAMITE The voice of my
beloved! Behold, he comes Leaping
upon the mountains, Skipping upon the
hills.

⁹ My beloved is like a gazelle or a young
stag. Behold, he stands behind our wall;
He is looking through the windows,
Gazing through the lattice.

¹⁰ My beloved spoke, and said to me:
"Rise up, my love, my fair one, And come
away.

¹¹ For lo, the winter is past, The rain is
over and gone.

¹² The flowers appear on the earth; The
time of singing has come, And the voice
of the turtledove Is heard in our land.

¹³ The fig tree puts forth her green figs,
And the vines with the tender grapes
Give a good smell. Rise up, my love, my
fair one, And come away!

¹⁴ "O my dove, in the clefts of the rock,
In the secret places of the cliff, Let me
see your face, Let me hear your voice;
For your voice is sweet, And your face is
lovely."

¹⁵ HER BROTHERS Catch us the foxes,
The little foxes that spoil the vines, For
our vines have tender grapes.

¹⁶ THE SHULAMITE My beloved is mine,
and I am his. He feeds his flock among
the lilies.

¹⁷ (TO HER BELOVED) Until the day
breaks And the shadows flee away, Turn,
my beloved, And be like a gazelle Or
a young stag Upon the mountains of
Bethel.

3 ¹ THE SHULAMITE By night on my
bed I sought the one I love; I sought
him, but I did not find him.

² "I will rise now," I said, "And go about
the city; In the streets and in the squares

I will seek the one I love." I sought him,
but I did not find him.

³ The watchmen who go about the city
found me; I said, "Have you seen the one
I love?"

⁴ Scarcely had I passed by them, When
I found the one I love. I held him and
would not let him go, Until I had brought
him to the house of my mother, And into
the chamber of her who conceived me.

⁵ I charge you, O daughters of
Jerusalem, By the gazelles or by the does
of the field, Do not stir up nor awaken
love Until it pleases.

⁶ THE SHULAMITE Who is this coming
out of the wilderness Like pillars of
smoke, Perfumed with myrrh and
frankincense, With all the merchant's
fragrant powders?

⁷ Behold, it is Solomon's couch, With
sixty valiant men around it, Of the valiant
of Israel.

⁸ They all hold swords, Being expert
in war. Every man has his sword on his
thigh Because of fear in the night.

⁹ Of the wood of Lebanon Solomon the
King Made himself a palanquin:

¹⁰ He made its pillars of silver, Its
support of gold, Its seat of purple, Its
interior paved with love By the daughters
of Jerusalem.

¹¹ Go forth, O daughters of Zion, And
see King Solomon with the crown With
which his mother crowned him On
the day of his wedding, The day of the
gladness of his heart.

4 ¹ THE BELOVED Behold, you are fair,
my love! Behold, you are fair! You
have dove's eyes behind your veil. Your
hair is like a flock of goats, Going down
from Mount Gilead.

² Your teeth are like a flock of shorn
sheep Which have come up from the

washing, Every one of which bears twins,
And none is barren among them.

³ Your lips are like a strand of scarlet,
And your mouth is lovely. Your temples
behind your veil Are like a piece of
pomegranate.

⁴ Your neck is like the tower of David,
Built for an armory, On which hang a
thousand bucklers, All shields of mighty
men.

⁵ Your two breasts are like two fawns,
Twins of a gazelle, Which feed among
the lilies.

⁶ Until the day breaks And the shadows
flee away, I will go my way to the
mountain of myrrh And to the hill of
frankincense.

⁷ You are all fair, my love, And there is
no spot in you.

⁸ Come with me from Lebanon, my
spouse, With me from Lebanon. Look
from the top of Amana, From the top of

Senir and Hermon, From the lions' dens,
From the mountains of the leopards.

⁹ You have ravished my heart, My sister,
my spouse; You have ravished my heart
With one look of your eyes, With one
link of your necklace.

¹⁰ How fair is your love, My sister, my
spouse! How much better than wine
is your love, And the scent of your
perfumes Than all spices!

¹¹ Your lips, O my spouse, Drip as the
honeycomb; Honey and milk are under
your tongue; And the fragrance of
your garments Is like the fragrance of
Lebanon.

¹² A garden enclosed Is my sister, my
spouse, A spring shut up, A fountain
sealed.

¹³ Your plants are an orchard of
pomegranates With pleasant fruits,
Fragrant henna with spikenard,

¹⁴ Spikenard and saffron, Calamus and cinnamon, With all trees of frankincense, Myrrh and aloes, With all the chief spices—

¹⁵ A fountain of gardens, A well of living waters, And streams from Lebanon.

¹⁶ THE SHULAMITE Awake, O north wind, And come, O south! Blow upon my garden, That its spices may flow out. Let my beloved come to his garden And eat its pleasant fruits.

5 ¹ THE BELOVED I have come to my garden, my sister, my spouse; I have gathered my myrrh with my spice; I have eaten my honeycomb with my honey; I have drunk my wine with my milk. (TO HIS FRIENDS) Eat, O friends! Drink, yes, drink deeply, O beloved ones!

² THE SHULAMITE I sleep, but my heart is awake; It is the voice of my beloved! He knocks, saying, "Open for me, my sister, my love, My dove, my perfect one;

For my head is covered with dew, My
locks with the drops of the night."

³ I have taken off my robe; How can I
put it on again? I have washed my feet;
How can I defile them?

⁴ My beloved put his hand By the latch
of the door, And my heart yearned for
him.

⁵ I arose to open for my beloved, And
my hands dripped with myrrh, My
fingers with liquid myrrh, On the handles
of the lock.

⁶ I opened for my beloved, But my
beloved had turned away and was gone.
My heart leaped up when he spoke. I
sought him, but I could not find him; I
called him, but he gave me no answer.

⁷ The watchmen who went about the
city found me. They struck me, they
wounded me; The keepers of the walls
Took my veil away from me.

⁸ I charge you, O daughters of Jerusalem, If you find my beloved, That you tell him I am lovesick!

⁹ THE DAUGHTERS OF JERUSALEM
What is your beloved More than another beloved, O fairest among women? What is your beloved More than another beloved, That you so charge us?

¹⁰ THE SHULAMITE My beloved is white and ruddy, Chief among ten thousand.

¹¹ His head is like the finest gold; His locks are wavy, And black as a raven.

¹² His eyes are like doves By the rivers of waters, Washed with milk, And fitly set.

¹³ His cheeks are like a bed of spices, Banks of scented herbs. His lips are lilies, Dripping liquid myrrh.

¹⁴ His hands are rods of gold Set with beryl. His body is carved ivory Inlaid with sapphires.

¹⁵ His legs are pillars of marble Set on bases of fine gold. His countenance is like Lebanon, Excellent as the cedars.

¹⁶ His mouth is most sweet, Yes, he is altogether lovely. This is my beloved, And this is my friend, O daughters of Jerusalem!

6 ¹ THE DAUGHTERS OF JERUSALEM Where has your beloved gone, O fairest among women? Where has your beloved turned aside, That we may seek him with you?

² THE SHULAMITE My beloved has gone to his garden, To the beds of spices, To feed his flock in the gardens, And to gather lilies.

³ I am my beloved's, And my beloved is mine. He feeds his flock among the lilies.

⁴ THE BELOVED O my love, you are as beautiful as Tirzah, Lovely as Jerusalem, Awesome as an army with banners!

⁵ Turn your eyes away from me, For they have overcome me. Your hair is like a flock of goats Going down from Gilead.

⁶ Your teeth are like a flock of sheep Which have come up from the washing; Every one bears twins, And none is barren among them.

⁷ Like a piece of pomegranate Are your temples behind your veil.

⁸ There are sixty queens And eighty concubines, And virgins without number.

⁹ My dove, my perfect one, Is the only one, The only one of her mother, The favorite of the one who bore her. The daughters saw her And called her blessed, The queens and the concubines, And they praised her.

¹⁰ Who is she who looks forth as the morning, Fair as the moon, Clear as the sun, Awesome as an army with banners?

¹¹ THE SHULAMITE I went down to the garden of nuts To see the verdure

of the valley, To see whether the vine
had budded And the pomegranates had
bloomed.

¹² Before I was even aware, My soul had
made me As the chariots of my noble
people.

¹³ THE BELOVED AND HIS FRIENDS
Return, return, O Shulamite; Return,
return, that we may look upon you! THE
SHULAMITE What would you see in the
Shulamite—As it were, the dance of the
two camps?

7 ¹ THE BELOVED How beautiful are
your feet in sandals, O prince's
daughter! The curves of your thighs are
like jewels, The work of the hands of a
skillful workman.

² Your navel is a rounded goblet; It lacks
no blended beverage. Your waist is a
heap of wheat Set about with lilies.

³ Your two breasts are like two fawns,
Twins of a gazelle.

⁴ Your neck is like an ivory tower, Your eyes like the pools in Heshbon By the gate of Bath Rabbim. Your nose is like the tower of Lebanon Which looks toward Damascus.

⁵ Your head crowns you like Mount Carmel, And the hair of your head is like purple; A king is held captive by your tresses.

⁶ How fair and how pleasant you are, O love, with your delights!

⁷ This stature of yours is like a palm tree, And your breasts like its clusters.

⁸ I said, "I will go up to the palm tree, I will take hold of its branches." Let now your breasts be like clusters of the vine, The fragrance of your breath like apples,

⁹ And the roof of your mouth like the best wine. THE SHULAMITE The wine goes down smoothly for my beloved, Moving gently the lips of sleepers.

¹⁰ I am my beloved's, And his desire is toward me.

¹¹ Come, my beloved, Let us go forth to the field; Let us lodge in the villages.

¹² Let us get up early to the vineyards; Let us see if the vine has budded, Whether the grape blossoms are open, And the pomegranates are in bloom. There I will give you my love.

¹³ The mandrakes give off a fragrance, And at our gates are pleasant fruits, All manner, new and old, Which I have laid up for you, my beloved.

8 ¹ Oh, that you were like my brother, Who nursed at my mother's breasts! If I should find you outside, I would kiss you; I would not be despised.

² I would lead you and bring you Into the house of my mother, She who used to instruct me. I would cause you to drink of spiced wine, Of the juice of my pomegranate.

³ (TO THE DAUGHTERS OF JERUSALEM)

His left hand is under my head, And his right hand embraces me.

⁴ I charge you, O daughters of Jerusalem, Do not stir up nor awaken love Until it pleases.

⁵ A RELATIVE Who is this coming up from the wilderness, Leaning upon her beloved? I awakened you under the apple tree. There your mother brought you forth; There she who bore you brought you forth.

⁶ THE SHULAMITE TO HER BELOVED Set me as a seal upon your heart, As a seal upon your arm; For love is as strong as death, Jealousy as cruel as the grave; Its flames are flames of fire, A most vehement flame.

⁷ Many waters cannot quench love, Nor can the floods drown it. If a man would give for love All the wealth of his house, It would be utterly despised.

⁸ THE SHULAMITE'S BROTHERS We have a little sister, And she has no breasts. What shall we do for our sister In the day when she is spoken for?

⁹ If she is a wall, We will build upon her A battlement of silver; And if she is a door, We will enclose her With boards of cedar.

¹⁰ THE SHULAMITE I am a wall, And my breasts like towers; Then I became in his eyes As one who found peace.

¹¹ Solomon had a vineyard at Baal Hamon; He leased the vineyard to keepers; Everyone was to bring for its fruit A thousand silver coins.

¹² (TO SOLOMON) My own vineyard is before me. You, O Solomon, may have a thousand, And those who tend its fruit two hundred.

¹³ THE BELOVED You who dwell in the gardens, The companions listen for your voice—Let me hear it!

¹⁴ THE SHULAMITE Make haste, my
beloved, And be like a gazelle Or a young
stag On the mountains of spices.

Isaiah

1 ¹ The vision of Isaiah the son of Amoz, which he saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem in the days of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, kings of Judah.

² Hear, O heavens, and give ear, O earth! For the LORD has spoken: "I have nourished and brought up children, And they have rebelled against Me;

³ The ox knows its owner And the donkey its master's crib; But Israel does not know, My people do not consider."

⁴ Alas, sinful nation, A people laden with iniquity, A brood of evildoers, Children who are corrupters! They have forsaken the LORD, They have provoked to anger The Holy One of Israel, They have turned away backward.

⁵ Why should you be stricken again?
You will revolt more and more. The
whole head is sick, And the whole heart
faints.

⁶ From the sole of the foot even to
the head, There is no soundness in it,
But wounds and bruises and putrefying
sores; They have not been closed or
bound up, Or soothed with ointment.

⁷ Your country is desolate, Your cities
are burned with fire; Strangers devour
your land in your presence; And it is
desolate, as overthrown by strangers.

⁸ So the daughter of Zion is left as a
booth in a vineyard, As a hut in a garden
of cucumbers, As a besieged city.

⁹ Unless the LORD of hosts Had left to
us a very small remnant, We would have
become like Sodom, We would have
been made like Gomorrah.

¹⁰ Hear the word of the LORD, You rulers of Sodom; Give ear to the law of our God, You people of Gomorrah:

¹¹ "To what purpose is the multitude of your sacrifices to Me?" Says the LORD. "I have had enough of burnt offerings of rams And the fat of fed cattle. I do not delight in the blood of bulls, Or of lambs or goats.

¹² "When you come to appear before Me, Who has required this from your hand, To trample My courts?

¹³ Bring no more futile sacrifices; Incense is an abomination to Me. The New Moons, the Sabbaths, and the calling of assemblies—I cannot endure iniquity and the sacred meeting.

¹⁴ Your New Moons and your appointed feasts My soul hates; They are a trouble to Me, I am weary of bearing them.

¹⁵ When you spread out your hands, I will hide My eyes from you; Even though

you make many prayers, I will not hear.
Your hands are full of blood.

¹⁶ "Wash yourselves, make yourselves clean; Put away the evil of your doings from before My eyes. Cease to do evil,

¹⁷ Learn to do good; Seek justice, Rebuke the oppressor; Defend the fatherless, Plead for the widow.

¹⁸ "Come now, and let us reason together," Says the LORD, "Though your sins are like scarlet, They shall be as white as snow; Though they are red like crimson, They shall be as wool.

¹⁹ If you are willing and obedient, You shall eat the good of the land;

²⁰ But if you refuse and rebel, You shall be devoured by the sword"; For the mouth of the LORD has spoken.

²¹ How the faithful city has become a harlot! It was full of justice; Righteousness lodged in it, But now murderers.

²² Your silver has become dross, Your wine mixed with water.

²³ Your princes are rebellious, And companions of thieves; Everyone loves bribes, And follows after rewards. They do not defend the fatherless, Nor does the cause of the widow come before them.

²⁴ Therefore the Lord says, The LORD of hosts, the Mighty One of Israel, "Ah, I will rid Myself of My adversaries, And take vengeance on My enemies.

²⁵ I will turn My hand against you, And thoroughly purge away your dross, And take away all your alloy.

²⁶ I will restore your judges as at the first, And your counselors as at the beginning. Afterward you shall be called the city of righteousness, the faithful city."

²⁷ Zion shall be redeemed with justice, And her penitents with righteousness.

²⁸ The destruction of transgressors and of sinners shall be together, And those who forsake the LORD shall be consumed.

²⁹ For they shall be ashamed of the terebinth trees Which you have desired; And you shall be embarrassed because of the gardens Which you have chosen.

³⁰ For you shall be as a terebinth whose leaf fades, And as a garden that has no water.

³¹ The strong shall be as tinder, And the work of it as a spark; Both will burn together, And no one shall quench them.

2¹ The word that Isaiah the son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

² Now it shall come to pass in the latter days That the mountain of the LORD'S house Shall be established on the top of the mountains, And shall be exalted

above the hills; And all nations shall flow to it.

³ Many people shall come and say, "Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, To the house of the God of Jacob; He will teach us His ways, And we shall walk in His paths." For out of Zion shall go forth the law, And the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

⁴ He shall judge between the nations, And rebuke many people; They shall beat their swords into plowshares, And their spears into pruning hooks; Nation shall not lift up sword against nation, Neither shall they learn war anymore.

⁵ O house of Jacob, come and let us walk In the light of the LORD.

⁶ For You have forsaken Your people, the house of Jacob, Because they are filled with eastern ways; They are soothsayers like the Philistines, And they are pleased with the children of foreigners.

⁷ Their land is also full of silver and gold,
And there is no end to their treasures;
Their land is also full of horses, And
there is no end to their chariots.

⁸ Their land is also full of idols; They
worship the work of their own hands,
That which their own fingers have made.

⁹ People bow down, And each man
humbles himself; Therefore do not
forgive them.

¹⁰ Enter into the rock, and hide in the
dust, From the terror of the LORD And
the glory of His majesty.

¹¹ The lofty looks of man shall be
humbled, The haughtiness of men shall
be bowed down, And the LORD alone
shall be exalted in that day.

¹² For the day of the LORD of hosts Shall
come upon everything proud and lofty,
Upon everything lifted up—And it shall
be brought low—

¹³ Upon all the cedars of Lebanon that are high and lifted up, And upon all the oaks of Bashan;

¹⁴ Upon all the high mountains, And upon all the hills that are lifted up;

¹⁵ Upon every high tower, And upon every fortified wall;

¹⁶ Upon all the ships of Tarshish, And upon all the beautiful sloops.

¹⁷ The loftiness of man shall be bowed down, And the haughtiness of men shall be brought low; The LORD alone will be exalted in that day,

¹⁸ But the idols He shall utterly abolish.

¹⁹ They shall go into the holes of the rocks, And into the caves of the earth, From the terror of the LORD And the glory of His majesty, When He arises to shake the earth mightily.

²⁰ In that day a man will cast away his idols of silver And his idols of gold,

Which they made, each for himself to
worship, To the moles and bats,

²¹ To go into the clefts of the rocks, And
into the crags of the rugged rocks, From
the terror of the LORD And the glory of
His majesty, When He arises to shake the
earth mightily.

²² Sever yourselves from such a man,
Whose breath is in his nostrils; For of
what account is he?

3 ¹ For behold, the Lord, the LORD of
hosts, Takes away from Jerusalem
and from Judah The stock and the store,
The whole supply of bread and the
whole supply of water;

² The mighty man and the man of war,
The judge and the prophet, And the
diviner and the elder;

³ The captain of fifty and the honorable
man, The counselor and the skillful
artisan, And the expert enchanter.

⁴ "I will give children to be their princes,
And babes shall rule over them.

⁵ The people will be oppressed, Every
one by another and every one by his
neighbor; The child will be insolent
toward the elder, And the base toward
the honorable."

⁶ When a man takes hold of his brother
In the house of his father, saying, "You
have clothing; You be our ruler, And let
these ruins be under your power,"

⁷ In that day he will protest, saying, "I
cannot cure your ills, For in my house is
neither food nor clothing; Do not make
me a ruler of the people."

⁸ For Jerusalem stumbled, And Judah
is fallen, Because their tongue and their
doings Are against the LORD, To provoke
the eyes of His glory.

⁹ The look on their countenance
witnesses against them, And they
declare their sin as Sodom; They do not

hide it. Woe to their soul! For they have brought evil upon themselves.

¹⁰ "Say to the righteous that it shall be well with them, For they shall eat the fruit of their doings.

¹¹ Woe to the wicked! It shall be ill with him, For the reward of his hands shall be given him.

¹² As for My people, children are their oppressors, And women rule over them. O My people! Those who lead you cause you to err, And destroy the way of your paths."

¹³ The LORD stands up to plead, And stands to judge the people.

¹⁴ The LORD will enter into judgment With the elders of His people And His princes: "For you have eaten up the vineyard; The plunder of the poor is in your houses.

¹⁵ What do you mean by crushing My people And grinding the faces of the poor?" Says the Lord GOD of hosts.

¹⁶ Moreover the LORD says: "Because the daughters of Zion are haughty, And walk with outstretched necks And wanton eyes, Walking and mincing as they go, Making a jingling with their feet,

¹⁷ Therefore the Lord will strike with a scab The crown of the head of the daughters of Zion, And the LORD will uncover their secret parts."

¹⁸ In that day the Lord will take away the finery: The jingling anklets, the scarves, and the crescents;

¹⁹ The pendants, the bracelets, and the veils;

²⁰ The headdresses, the leg ornaments, and the headbands; The perfume boxes, the charms,

²¹ and the rings; The nose jewels,

²² the festal apparel, and the mantles;
The outer garments, the purses,
²³ and the mirrors; The fine linen, the
turbans, and the robes.

²⁴ And so it shall be: Instead of a sweet
smell there will be a stench; Instead of
a sash, a rope; Instead of well-set hair,
baldness; Instead of a rich robe, a girding
of sackcloth; And branding instead of
beauty.

²⁵ Your men shall fall by the sword, And
your mighty in the war.

²⁶ Her gates shall lament and mourn,
And she being desolate shall sit on the
ground.

4 ¹ And in that day seven women shall
take hold of one man, saying, "We
will eat our own food and wear our own
apparel; Only let us be called by your
name, To take away our reproach."

² In that day the Branch of the LORD
shall be beautiful and glorious; And the

fruit of the earth shall be excellent and appealing For those of Israel who have escaped.

³ And it shall come to pass that he who is left in Zion and remains in Jerusalem will be called holy—everyone who is recorded among the living in Jerusalem.

⁴ When the Lord has washed away the filth of the daughters of Zion, and purged the blood of Jerusalem from her midst, by the spirit of judgment and by the spirit of burning,

⁵ then the LORD will create above every dwelling place of Mount Zion, and above her assemblies, a cloud and smoke by day and the shining of a flaming fire by night. For over all the glory there will be a covering.

⁶ And there will be a tabernacle for shade in the daytime from the heat, for a place of refuge, and for a shelter from storm and rain.

5 ¹ Now let me sing to my Well–
beloved A song of my Beloved
regarding His vineyard: My Well–beloved
has a vineyard On a very fruitful hill.

² He dug it up and cleared out its stones,
And planted it with the choicest vine. He
built a tower in its midst, And also made
a winepress in it; So He expected it to
bring forth good grapes, But it brought
forth wild grapes.

³ "And now, O inhabitants of Jerusalem
and men of Judah, Judge, please,
between Me and My vineyard.

⁴ What more could have been done to
My vineyard That I have not done in it?
Why then, when I expected it to bring
forth good grapes, Did it bring forth wild
grapes?

⁵ And now, please let Me tell you what I
will do to My vineyard: I will take away
its hedge, and it shall be burned; And

break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down.

⁶ I will lay it waste; It shall not be pruned or dug, But there shall come up briars and thorns. I will also command the clouds That they rain no rain on it."

⁷ For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts is the house of Israel, And the men of Judah are His pleasant plant. He looked for justice, but behold, oppression; For righteousness, but behold, a cry for help.

⁸ Woe to those who join house to house; They add field to field, Till there is no place Where they may dwell alone in the midst of the land!

⁹ In my hearing the LORD of hosts said, "Truly, many houses shall be desolate, Great and beautiful ones, without inhabitant.

¹⁰ For ten acres of vineyard shall yield one bath, And a homer of seed shall yield one ephah."

¹¹ Woe to those who rise early in the morning, That they may follow intoxicating drink; Who continue until night, till wine inflames them!

¹² The harp and the strings, The tambourine and flute, And wine are in their feasts; But they do not regard the work of the LORD, Nor consider the operation of His hands.

¹³ Therefore my people have gone into captivity, Because they have no knowledge; Their honorable men are famished, And their multitude dried up with thirst.

¹⁴ Therefore Sheol has enlarged itself And opened its mouth beyond measure; Their glory and their multitude and their pomp, And he who is jubilant, shall descend into it.

¹⁵ People shall be brought down, Each man shall be humbled, And the eyes of the lofty shall be humbled.

¹⁶ But the LORD of hosts shall be exalted in judgment, And God who is holy shall be hallowed in righteousness.

¹⁷ Then the lambs shall feed in their pasture, And in the waste places of the fat ones strangers shall eat.

¹⁸ Woe to those who draw iniquity with cords of vanity, And sin as if with a cart rope;

¹⁹ That say, "Let Him make speed and hasten His work, That we may see it; And let the counsel of the Holy One of Israel draw near and come, That we may know it."

²⁰ Woe to those who call evil good, and good evil; Who put darkness for light, and light for darkness; Who put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!

²¹ Woe to those who are wise in their own eyes, And prudent in their own sight!

²² Woe to men mighty at drinking wine, Woe to men valiant for mixing intoxicating drink,

²³ Who justify the wicked for a bribe, And take away justice from the righteous man!

²⁴ Therefore, as the fire devours the stubble, And the flame consumes the chaff, So their root will be as rottenness, And their blossom will ascend like dust; Because they have rejected the law of the LORD of hosts, And despised the word of the Holy One of Israel.

²⁵ Therefore the anger of the LORD is aroused against His people; He has stretched out His hand against them And stricken them, And the hills trembled. Their carcasses were as refuse in the midst of the streets. For all this His anger is not turned away, But His hand is stretched out still.

²⁶ He will lift up a banner to the nations from afar, And will whistle to them from the end of the earth; Surely they shall come with speed, swiftly.

²⁷ No one will be weary or stumble among them, No one will slumber or sleep; Nor will the belt on their loins be loosed, Nor the strap of their sandals be broken;

²⁸ Whose arrows are sharp, And all their bows bent; Their horses' hooves will seem like flint, And their wheels like a whirlwind.

²⁹ Their roaring will be like a lion, They will roar like young lions; Yes, they will roar And lay hold of the prey; They will carry it away safely, And no one will deliver.

³⁰ In that day they will roar against them Like the roaring of the sea. And if one looks to the land, Behold, darkness

and sorrow; And the light is darkened by the clouds.

6¹ In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lifted up, and the train of His robe filled the temple.

² Above it stood seraphim; each one had six wings: with two he covered his face, with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew.

³ And one cried to another and said: "Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; The whole earth is full of His glory!"

⁴ And the posts of the door were shaken by the voice of him who cried out, and the house was filled with smoke.

⁵ So I said: "Woe is me, for I am undone! Because I am a man of unclean lips, And I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; For my eyes have seen the King, The LORD of hosts."

⁶ Then one of the seraphim flew to me, having in his hand a live coal which he had taken with the tongs from the altar.

⁷ And he touched my mouth with it, and said: "Behold, this has touched your lips; Your iniquity is taken away, And your sin purged."

⁸ Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying: "Whom shall I send, And who will go for Us?" Then I said, "Here am I! Send me."

⁹ And He said, "Go, and tell this people: 'Keep on hearing, but do not understand; Keep on seeing, but do not perceive.'

¹⁰ "Make the heart of this people dull, And their ears heavy, And shut their eyes; Lest they see with their eyes, And hear with their ears, And understand with their heart, And return and be healed."

¹¹ Then I said, "Lord, how long?" And He answered: "Until the cities are laid waste

and without inhabitant, The houses
are without a man, The land is utterly
desolate,

¹² The LORD has removed men far
away, And the forsaken places are many
in the midst of the land.

¹³ But yet a tenth will be in it, And
will return and be for consuming, As
a terebinth tree or as an oak, Whose
stump remains when it is cut down. So
the holy seed shall be its stump."

7 ¹ Now it came to pass in the days of
Ahaz the son of Jotham, the son of
Uzziah, king of Judah, that Rezin king of
Syria and Pekah the son of Remaliah,
king of Israel, went up to Jerusalem
to make war against it, but could not
prevail against it.

² And it was told to the house of David,
saying, "Syria's forces are deployed in
Ephraim." So his heart and the heart of

his people were moved as the trees of the woods are moved with the wind.

³ Then the LORD said to Isaiah, "Go out now to meet Ahaz, you and Shear-Jashub your son, at the end of the aqueduct from the upper pool, on the highway to the Fuller's Field,

⁴ "and say to him: 'Take heed, and be quiet; do not fear or be fainthearted for these two stubs of smoking firebrands, for the fierce anger of Rezin and Syria, and the son of Remaliah.

⁵ 'Because Syria, Ephraim, and the son of Remaliah have plotted evil against you, saying,

⁶ "Let us go up against Judah and trouble it, and let us make a gap in its wall for ourselves, and set a king over them, the son of Tabel" —

⁷ 'thus says the Lord GOD: "It shall not stand, Nor shall it come to pass.

⁸ For the head of Syria is Damascus, And the head of Damascus is Rezin. Within sixty–five years Ephraim will be broken, So that it will not be a people.

⁹ The head of Ephraim is Samaria, And the head of Samaria is Remaliah's son. If you will not believe, Surely you shall not be established."'"

¹⁰ Moreover the LORD spoke again to Ahaz, saying,

¹¹ "Ask a sign for yourself from the LORD your God; ask it either in the depth or in the height above."

¹² But Ahaz said, "I will not ask, nor will I test the LORD!"

¹³ Then he said, "Hear now, O house of David! Is it a small thing for you to weary men, but will you weary my God also?"

¹⁴ "Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel.

¹⁵ "Curds and honey He shall eat, that He may know to refuse the evil and choose the good.

¹⁶ "For before the Child shall know to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land that you dread will be forsaken by both her kings.

¹⁷ "The LORD will bring the king of Assyria upon you and your people and your father's house—days that have not come since the day that Ephraim departed from Judah."

¹⁸ And it shall come to pass in that day That the LORD will whistle for the fly That is in the farthest part of the rivers of Egypt, And for the bee that is in the land of Assyria.

¹⁹ They will come, and all of them will rest In the desolate valleys and in the clefts of the rocks, And on all thorns and in all pastures.

²⁰ In the same day the Lord will shave with a hired razor, With those from beyond the River, with the king of Assyria, The head and the hair of the legs, And will also remove the beard.

²¹ It shall be in that day That a man will keep alive a young cow and two sheep;

²² So it shall be, from the abundance of milk they give, That he will eat curds; For curds and honey everyone will eat who is left in the land.

²³ It shall happen in that day, That wherever there could be a thousand vines Worth a thousand shekels of silver, It will be for briers and thorns.

²⁴ With arrows and bows men will come there, Because all the land will become briers and thorns.

²⁵ And to any hill which could be dug with the hoe, You will not go there for fear of briers and thorns; But it will

become a range for oxen And a place for sheep to roam.

8¹ Moreover the LORD said to me, "Take a large scroll, and write on it with a man's pen concerning Maher-Shalal-Hash-Baz.

² "And I will take for Myself faithful witnesses to record, Uriah the priest and Zechariah the son of Jeberechiah."

³ Then I went to the prophetess, and she conceived and bore a son. Then the LORD said to me, "Call his name Maher-Shalal-Hash-Baz;

⁴ "for before the child shall have knowledge to cry 'My father' and 'My mother,' the riches of Damascus and the spoil of Samaria will be taken away before the king of Assyria."

⁵ The LORD also spoke to me again, saying:

⁶ "Inasmuch as these people refused The waters of Shiloah that flow softly,

And rejoice in Rezin and in Remaliah's son;

⁷ Now therefore, behold, the Lord brings up over them The waters of the River, strong and mighty—The king of Assyria and all his glory; He will go up over all his channels And go over all his banks.

⁸ He will pass through Judah, He will overflow and pass over, He will reach up to the neck; And the stretching out of his wings Will fill the breadth of Your land, O Immanuel.

⁹ "Be shattered, O you peoples, and be broken in pieces! Give ear, all you from far countries. Gird yourselves, but be broken in pieces; Gird yourselves, but be broken in pieces.

¹⁰ Take counsel together, but it will come to nothing; Speak the word, but it will not stand, For God is with us."

¹¹ For the LORD spoke thus to me with a strong hand, and instructed me that I should not walk in the way of this people, saying:

¹² "Do not say, 'A conspiracy,' Concerning all that this people call a conspiracy, Nor be afraid of their threats, nor be troubled.

¹³ The LORD of hosts, Him you shall hallow; Let Him be your fear, And let Him be your dread.

¹⁴ He will be as a sanctuary, But a stone of stumbling and a rock of offense To both the houses of Israel, As a trap and a snare to the inhabitants of Jerusalem.

¹⁵ And many among them shall stumble; They shall fall and be broken, Be snared and taken."

¹⁶ Bind up the testimony, Seal the law among my disciples.

¹⁷ And I will wait on the LORD, Who hides His face from the house of Jacob; And I will hope in Him.

¹⁸ Here am I and the children whom the LORD has given me! We are for signs and wonders in Israel From the LORD of hosts, Who dwells in Mount Zion.

¹⁹ And when they say to you, "Seek those who are mediums and wizards, who whisper and mutter," should not a people seek their God? Should they seek the dead on behalf of the living?

²⁰ To the law and to the testimony! If they do not speak according to this word, it is because there is no light in them.

²¹ They will pass through it hard pressed and hungry; and it shall happen, when they are hungry, that they will be enraged and curse their king and their God, and look upward.

²² Then they will look to the earth,
and see trouble and darkness, gloom
of anguish; and they will be driven into
darkness.

9 ¹ Nevertheless the gloom will not
be upon her who is distressed, As
when at first He lightly esteemed The
land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali,
And afterward more heavily oppressed
her, By the way of the sea, beyond the
Jordan, In Galilee of the Gentiles.

² The people who walked in darkness
Have seen a great light; Those who dwelt
in the land of the shadow of death, Upon
them a light has shined.

³ You have multiplied the nation And
increased its joy; They rejoice before You
According to the joy of harvest, As men
rejoice when they divide the spoil.

⁴ For You have broken the yoke of his
burden And the staff of his shoulder, The

rod of his oppressor, As in the day of Midian.

⁵ For every warrior's sandal from the noisy battle, And garments rolled in blood, Will be used for burning and fuel of fire.

⁶ For unto us a Child is born, Unto us a Son is given; And the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

⁷ Of the increase of His government and peace There will be no end, Upon the throne of David and over His kingdom, To order it and establish it with judgment and justice From that time forward, even forever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this.

⁸ The Lord sent a word against Jacob, And it has fallen on Israel.

⁹ All the people will know—Ephraim and the inhabitant of Samaria—Who say in pride and arrogance of heart:

¹⁰ "The bricks have fallen down, But we will rebuild with hewn stones; The sycamores are cut down, But we will replace them with cedars."

¹¹ Therefore the LORD shall set up The adversaries of Rezin against him, And spur his enemies on,

¹² The Syrians before and the Philistines behind; And they shall devour Israel with an open mouth. For all this His anger is not turned away, But His hand is stretched out still.

¹³ For the people do not turn to Him who strikes them, Nor do they seek the LORD of hosts.

¹⁴ Therefore the LORD will cut off head and tail from Israel, Palm branch and bulrush in one day.

¹⁵ The elder and honorable, he is the head; The prophet who teaches lies, he is the tail.

¹⁶ For the leaders of this people cause them to err, And those who are led by them are destroyed.

¹⁷ Therefore the Lord will have no joy in their young men, Nor have mercy on their fatherless and widows; For everyone is a hypocrite and an evildoer, And every mouth speaks folly. For all this His anger is not turned away, But His hand is stretched out still.

¹⁸ For wickedness burns as the fire; It shall devour the briars and thorns, And kindle in the thickets of the forest; They shall mount up like rising smoke.

¹⁹ Through the wrath of the LORD of hosts The land is burned up, And the people shall be as fuel for the fire; No man shall spare his brother.

²⁰ And he shall snatch on the right hand
And be hungry; He shall devour on the
left hand And not be satisfied; Every man
shall eat the flesh of his own arm.

²¹ Manasseh shall devour Ephraim,
and Ephraim Manasseh; Together they
shall be against Judah. For all this His
anger is not turned away, But His hand is
stretched out still.

10 ¹ "Woe to those who decree
unrighteous decrees, Who write
misfortune, Which they have prescribed

² To rob the needy of justice, And to
take what is right from the poor of My
people, That widows may be their prey,
And that they may rob the fatherless.

³ What will you do in the day of
punishment, And in the desolation
which will come from afar? To whom will
you flee for help? And where will you
leave your glory?

⁴ Without Me they shall bow down among the prisoners, And they shall fall among the slain." For all this His anger is not turned away, But His hand is stretched out still.

⁵ "Woe to Assyria, the rod of My anger And the staff in whose hand is My indignation.

⁶ I will send him against an ungodly nation, And against the people of My wrath I will give him charge, To seize the spoil, to take the prey, And to tread them down like the mire of the streets.

⁷ Yet he does not mean so, Nor does his heart think so; But it is in his heart to destroy, And cut off not a few nations.

⁸ For he says, 'Are not my princes altogether kings?

⁹ Is not Calno like Carchemish? Is not Hamath like Arpad? Is not Samaria like Damascus?

¹⁰ As my hand has found the kingdoms of the idols, Whose carved images excelled those of Jerusalem and Samaria,

¹¹ As I have done to Samaria and her idols, Shall I not do also to Jerusalem and her idols?"

¹² Therefore it shall come to pass, when the Lord has performed all His work on Mount Zion and on Jerusalem, that He will say, "I will punish the fruit of the arrogant heart of the king of Assyria, and the glory of his haughty looks."

¹³ For he says: "By the strength of my hand I have done it, And by my wisdom, for I am prudent; Also I have removed the boundaries of the people, And have robbed their treasuries; So I have put down the inhabitants like a valiant man.

¹⁴ My hand has found like a nest the riches of the people, And as one gathers eggs that are left, I have gathered all the

earth; And there was no one who moved his wing, Nor opened his mouth with even a peep."

¹⁵ Shall the ax boast itself against him who chops with it? Or shall the saw exalt itself against him who saws with it? As if a rod could wield itself against those who lift it up, Or as if a staff could lift up, as if it were not wood!

¹⁶ Therefore the Lord, the Lord of hosts, Will send leanness among his fat ones; And under his glory He will kindle a burning Like the burning of a fire.

¹⁷ So the Light of Israel will be for a fire, And his Holy One for a flame; It will burn and devour His thorns and his briers in one day.

¹⁸ And it will consume the glory of his forest and of his fruitful field, Both soul and body; And they will be as when a sick man wastes away.

¹⁹ Then the rest of the trees of his forest
Will be so few in number That a child
may write them.

²⁰ And it shall come to pass in that day
That the remnant of Israel, And such
as have escaped of the house of Jacob,
Will never again depend on him who
defeated them, But will depend on the
LORD, the Holy One of Israel, in truth.

²¹ The remnant will return, the remnant
of Jacob, To the Mighty God.

²² For though your people, O Israel, be
as the sand of the sea, A remnant of them
will return; The destruction decreed
shall overflow with righteousness.

²³ For the Lord GOD of hosts Will make
a determined end In the midst of all the
land.

²⁴ Therefore thus says the Lord GOD of
hosts: "O My people, who dwell in Zion,
do not be afraid of the Assyrian. He shall

strike you with a rod and lift up his staff against you, in the manner of Egypt.

²⁵ "For yet a very little while and the indignation will cease, as will My anger in their destruction."

²⁶ And the LORD of hosts will stir up a scourge for him like the slaughter of Midian at the rock of Oreb; as His rod was on the sea, so will He lift it up in the manner of Egypt.

²⁷ It shall come to pass in that day That his burden will be taken away from your shoulder, And his yoke from your neck, And the yoke will be destroyed because of the anointing oil.

²⁸ He has come to Aiath, He has passed Migron; At Michmash he has attended to his equipment.

²⁹ They have gone along the ridge, They have taken up lodging at Geba. Ramah is afraid, Gibeah of Saul has fled.

³⁰ Lift up your voice, O daughter of Gallim! Cause it to be heard as far as Laish—O poor Anathoth!

³¹ Madmenah has fled, The inhabitants of Gebim seek refuge.

³² As yet he will remain at Nob that day; He will shake his fist at the mount of the daughter of Zion, The hill of Jerusalem.

³³ Behold, the Lord, The LORD of hosts, Will lop off the bough with terror; Those of high stature will be hewn down, And the haughty will be humbled.

³⁴ He will cut down the thickets of the forest with iron, And Lebanon will fall by the Mighty One.

11 ¹ There shall come forth a Rod from the stem of Jesse, And a Branch shall grow out of his roots.

² The Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon Him, The Spirit of wisdom and understanding, The Spirit of counsel and

might, The Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD.

³ His delight is in the fear of the LORD, And He shall not judge by the sight of His eyes, Nor decide by the hearing of His ears;

⁴ But with righteousness He shall judge the poor, And decide with equity for the meek of the earth; He shall strike the earth with the rod of His mouth, And with the breath of His lips He shall slay the wicked.

⁵ Righteousness shall be the belt of His loins, And faithfulness the belt of His waist.

⁶ "The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, The leopard shall lie down with the young goat, The calf and the young lion and the fatling together; And a little child shall lead them.

⁷ The cow and the bear shall graze;
Their young ones shall lie down together;
And the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

⁸ The nursing child shall play by the
cobra's hole, And the weaned child shall
put his hand in the viper's den.

⁹ They shall not hurt nor destroy in all
My holy mountain, For the earth shall be
full of the knowledge of the LORD As the
waters cover the sea.

¹⁰ "And in that day there shall be a Root
of Jesse, Who shall stand as a banner
to the people; For the Gentiles shall
seek Him, And His resting place shall be
glorious."

¹¹ It shall come to pass in that day That
the Lord shall set His hand again the
second time To recover the remnant of
His people who are left, From Assyria
and Egypt, From Pathros and Cush, From
Elam and Shinar, From Hamath and the
islands of the sea.

¹² He will set up a banner for the nations, And will assemble the outcasts of Israel, And gather together the dispersed of Judah From the four corners of the earth.

¹³ Also the envy of Ephraim shall depart, And the adversaries of Judah shall be cut off; Ephraim shall not envy Judah, And Judah shall not harass Ephraim.

¹⁴ But they shall fly down upon the shoulder of the Philistines toward the west; Together they shall plunder the people of the East; They shall lay their hand on Edom and Moab; And the people of Ammon shall obey them.

¹⁵ The LORD will utterly destroy the tongue of the Sea of Egypt; With His mighty wind He will shake His fist over the River, And strike it in the seven streams, And make men cross over dry-shod.

¹⁶ There will be a highway for the remnant of His people Who will be left from Assyria, As it was for Israel In the day that he came up from the land of Egypt.

12 ¹ And in that day you will say: "O LORD, I will praise You; Though You were angry with me, Your anger is turned away, and You comfort me.

² Behold, God is my salvation, I will trust and not be afraid; 'For YAH, the LORD, is my strength and song; He also has become my salvation.'"

³ Therefore with joy you will draw water From the wells of salvation.

⁴ And in that day you will say: "Praise the LORD, call upon His name; Declare His deeds among the peoples, Make mention that His name is exalted.

⁵ Sing to the LORD, For He has done excellent things; This is known in all the earth.

⁶ Cry out and shout, O inhabitant of Zion, For great is the Holy One of Israel in your midst!"

13 ¹ The burden against Babylon which Isaiah the son of Amoz saw.

² "Lift up a banner on the high mountain, Raise your voice to them; Wave your hand, that they may enter the gates of the nobles.

³ I have commanded My sanctified ones; I have also called My mighty ones for My anger—Those who rejoice in My exaltation."

⁴ The noise of a multitude in the mountains, Like that of many people! A tumultuous noise of the kingdoms of nations gathered together! The LORD of hosts musters The army for battle.

⁵ They come from a far country, From the end of heaven—The LORD and His weapons of indignation, To destroy the whole land.

⁶ Wail, for the day of the LORD is at hand! It will come as destruction from the Almighty.

⁷ Therefore all hands will be limp, Every man's heart will melt,

⁸ And they will be afraid. Pangs and sorrows will take hold of them; They will be in pain as a woman in childbirth; They will be amazed at one another; Their faces will be like flames.

⁹ Behold, the day of the LORD comes, Cruel, with both wrath and fierce anger, To lay the land desolate; And He will destroy its sinners from it.

¹⁰ For the stars of heaven and their constellations Will not give their light; The sun will be darkened in its going forth, And the moon will not cause its light to shine.

¹¹ "I will punish the world for its evil, And the wicked for their iniquity; I will

halt the arrogance of the proud, And will lay low the haughtiness of the terrible.

¹² I will make a mortal more rare than fine gold, A man more than the golden wedge of Ophir.

¹³ Therefore I will shake the heavens, And the earth will move out of her place, In the wrath of the LORD of hosts And in the day of His fierce anger.

¹⁴ It shall be as the hunted gazelle, And as a sheep that no man takes up; Every man will turn to his own people, And everyone will flee to his own land.

¹⁵ Everyone who is found will be thrust through, And everyone who is captured will fall by the sword.

¹⁶ Their children also will be dashed to pieces before their eyes; Their houses will be plundered And their wives ravished.

¹⁷ "Behold, I will stir up the Medes against them, Who will not regard silver; And as for gold, they will not delight in it.

¹⁸ Also their bows will dash the young men to pieces, And they will have no pity on the fruit of the womb; Their eye will not spare children.

¹⁹ And Babylon, the glory of kingdoms, The beauty of the Chaldeans' pride, Will be as when God overthrew Sodom and Gomorrah.

²⁰ It will never be inhabited, Nor will it be settled from generation to generation; Nor will the Arabian pitch tents there, Nor will the shepherds make their sheepfolds there.

²¹ But wild beasts of the desert will lie there, And their houses will be full of owls; Ostriches will dwell there, And wild goats will caper there.

²² The hyenas will howl in their citadels, And jackals in their pleasant palaces. Her

time is near to come, And her days will not be prolonged."

14 ¹ For the LORD will have mercy on Jacob, and will still choose Israel, and settle them in their own land. The strangers will be joined with them, and they will cling to the house of Jacob.

² Then people will take them and bring them to their place, and the house of Israel will possess them for servants and maids in the land of the LORD; they will take them captive whose captives they were, and rule over their oppressors.

³ It shall come to pass in the day the LORD gives you rest from your sorrow, and from your fear and the hard bondage in which you were made to serve,

⁴ that you will take up this proverb against the king of Babylon, and say: "How the oppressor has ceased, The golden city ceased!

⁵ The LORD has broken the staff of the wicked, The scepter of the rulers;

⁶ He who struck the people in wrath with a continual stroke, He who ruled the nations in anger, Is persecuted and no one hinders.

⁷ The whole earth is at rest and quiet; They break forth into singing.

⁸ Indeed the cypress trees rejoice over you, And the cedars of Lebanon, Saying, 'Since you were cut down, No woodsman has come up against us.'

⁹ "Hell from beneath is excited about you, To meet you at your coming; It stirs up the dead for you, All the chief ones of the earth; It has raised up from their thrones All the kings of the nations.

¹⁰ They all shall speak and say to you: 'Have you also become as weak as we? Have you become like us?

¹¹ Your pomp is brought down to Sheol, And the sound of your stringed

instruments; The maggot is spread under you, And worms cover you.'

¹² "How you are fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! How you are cut down to the ground, You who weakened the nations!

¹³ For you have said in your heart: 'I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God; I will also sit on the mount of the congregation On the farthest sides of the north;

¹⁴ I will ascend above the heights of the clouds, I will be like the Most High.'

¹⁵ Yet you shall be brought down to Sheol, To the lowest depths of the Pit.

¹⁶ "Those who see you will gaze at you, And consider you, saying: 'Is this the man who made the earth tremble, Who shook kingdoms,

¹⁷ Who made the world as a wilderness And destroyed its cities, Who did not open the house of his prisoners?'

¹⁸ "All the kings of the nations, All of them, sleep in glory, Everyone in his own house;

¹⁹ But you are cast out of your grave Like an abominable branch, Like the garment of those who are slain, Thrust through with a sword, Who go down to the stones of the pit, Like a corpse trodden underfoot.

²⁰ You will not be joined with them in burial, Because you have destroyed your land And slain your people. The brood of evildoers shall never be named.

²¹ Prepare slaughter for his children Because of the iniquity of their fathers, Lest they rise up and possess the land, And fill the face of the world with cities."

²² "For I will rise up against them," says the LORD of hosts, "And cut off from Babylon the name and remnant, And offspring and posterity," says the LORD.

²³ "I will also make it a possession for the porcupine, And marshes of muddy water; I will sweep it with the broom of destruction," says the LORD of hosts.

²⁴ The LORD of hosts has sworn, saying, "Surely, as I have thought, so it shall come to pass, And as I have purposed, so it shall stand:

²⁵ That I will break the Assyrian in My land, And on My mountains tread him underfoot. Then his yoke shall be removed from them, And his burden removed from their shoulders.

²⁶ This is the purpose that is purposed against the whole earth, And this is the hand that is stretched out over all the nations.

²⁷ For the LORD of hosts has purposed, And who will annul it? His hand is stretched out, And who will turn it back?"

²⁸ This is the burden which came in the year that King Ahaz died.

²⁹ "Do not rejoice, all you of Philistia, Because the rod that struck you is broken; For out of the serpent's roots will come forth a viper, And its offspring will be a fiery flying serpent.

³⁰ The firstborn of the poor will feed, And the needy will lie down in safety; I will kill your roots with famine, And it will slay your remnant.

³¹ Wail, O gate! Cry, O city! All you of Philistia are dissolved; For smoke will come from the north, And no one will be alone in his appointed times."

³² What will they answer the messengers of the nation? That the LORD has founded Zion, And the poor of His people shall take refuge in it.

15 ¹ The burden against Moab. Because in the night Ar of Moab is laid waste And destroyed, Because in

the night Kir of Moab is laid waste And destroyed,

² He has gone up to the temple and Dibon, To the high places to weep. Moab will wail over Nebo and over Medeba; On all their heads will be baldness, And every beard cut off.

³ In their streets they will clothe themselves with sackcloth; On the tops of their houses And in their streets Everyone will wail, weeping bitterly.

⁴ Heshbon and Elealeh will cry out, Their voice shall be heard as far as Jahaz; Therefore the armed soldiers of Moab will cry out; His life will be burdensome to him.

⁵ "My heart will cry out for Moab; His fugitives shall flee to Zoar, Like a three-year-old heifer. For by the Ascent of Luhith They will go up with weeping; For in the way of Horonaim They will raise up a cry of destruction,

⁶ For the waters of Nimrim will be desolate, For the green grass has withered away; The grass fails, there is nothing green.

⁷ Therefore the abundance they have gained, And what they have laid up, They will carry away to the Brook of the Willows.

⁸ For the cry has gone all around the borders of Moab, Its wailing to Eglaim And its wailing to Beer Elim.

⁹ For the waters of Dimon will be full of blood; Because I will bring more upon Dimon, Lions upon him who escapes from Moab, And on the remnant of the land."

16 ¹ Send the lamb to the ruler of the land, From Sela to the wilderness, To the mount of the daughter of Zion.

² For it shall be as a wandering bird thrown out of the nest; So shall be the

daughters of Moab at the fords of the Arnon.

³ "Take counsel, execute judgment; Make your shadow like the night in the middle of the day; Hide the outcasts, Do not betray him who escapes.

⁴ Let My outcasts dwell with you, O Moab; Be a shelter to them from the face of the spoiler. For the extortioner is at an end, Devastation ceases, The oppressors are consumed out of the land.

⁵ In mercy the throne will be established; And One will sit on it in truth, in the tabernacle of David, Judging and seeking justice and hastening righteousness."

⁶ We have heard of the pride of Moab—He is very proud—Of his haughtiness and his pride and his wrath; But his lies shall not be so.

⁷ Therefore Moab shall wail for Moab;
Everyone shall wail. For the foundations
of Kir Hareseth you shall mourn; Surely
they are stricken.

⁸ For the fields of Heshbon languish,
And the vine of Sibmah; The lords of
the nations have broken down its choice
plants, Which have reached to Jazer And
wandered through the wilderness. Her
branches are stretched out, They are
gone over the sea.

⁹ Therefore I will bewail the vine of
Sibmah, With the weeping of Jazer; I will
drench you with my tears, O Heshbon
and Elealeh; For battle cries have fallen
Over your summer fruits and your
harvest.

¹⁰ Gladness is taken away, And joy
from the plentiful field; In the vineyards
there will be no singing, Nor will there
be shouting; No treaders will tread out

wine in the presses; I have made their shouting cease.

¹¹ Therefore my heart shall resound like a harp for Moab, And my inner being for Kir Heres.

¹² And it shall come to pass, When it is seen that Moab is weary on the high place, That he will come to his sanctuary to pray; But he will not prevail.

¹³ This is the word which the LORD has spoken concerning Moab since that time.

¹⁴ But now the LORD has spoken, saying, "Within three years, as the years of a hired man, the glory of Moab will be despised with all that great multitude, and the remnant will be very small and feeble."

17 ¹ The burden against Damascus. "Behold, Damascus will cease from being a city, And it will be a ruinous heap.

² The cities of Aroer are forsaken; They will be for flocks Which lie down, and no one will make them afraid.

³ The fortress also will cease from Ephraim, The kingdom from Damascus, And the remnant of Syria; They will be as the glory of the children of Israel," Says the LORD of hosts.

⁴ "In that day it shall come to pass That the glory of Jacob will wane, And the fatness of his flesh grow lean.

⁵ It shall be as when the harvester gathers the grain, And reaps the heads with his arm; It shall be as he who gathers heads of grain In the Valley of Rephaim.

⁶ Yet gleaning grapes will be left in it, Like the shaking of an olive tree, Two or three olives at the top of the uppermost bough, Four or five in its most fruitful branches," Says the LORD God of Israel.

⁷ In that day a man will look to his Maker, And his eyes will have respect for the Holy One of Israel.

⁸ He will not look to the altars, The work of his hands; He will not respect what his fingers have made, Nor the wooden images nor the incense altars.

⁹ In that day his strong cities will be as a forsaken bough And an uppermost branch, Which they left because of the children of Israel; And there will be desolation.

¹⁰ Because you have forgotten the God of your salvation, And have not been mindful of the Rock of your stronghold, Therefore you will plant pleasant plants And set out foreign seedlings;

¹¹ In the day you will make your plant to grow, And in the morning you will make your seed to flourish; But the harvest will be a heap of ruins In the day of grief and desperate sorrow.

¹² Woe to the multitude of many people
Who make a noise like the roar of the
seas, And to the rushing of nations That
make a rushing like the rushing of mighty
waters!

¹³ The nations will rush like the rushing
of many waters; But God will rebuke
them and they will flee far away, And be
chased like the chaff of the mountains
before the wind, Like a rolling thing
before the whirlwind.

¹⁴ Then behold, at eventide, trouble!
And before the morning, he is no more.
This is the portion of those who plunder
us, And the lot of those who rob us.

18 ¹ Woe to the land shadowed with
buzzing wings, Which is beyond
the rivers of Ethiopia,

² Which sends ambassadors by sea,
Even in vessels of reed on the waters,
saying, "Go, swift messengers, to a
nation tall and smooth of skin, To a

people terrible from their beginning
onward, A nation powerful and treading
down, Whose land the rivers divide."

³ All inhabitants of the world and
dwellers on the earth: When he lifts up
a banner on the mountains, you see it;
And when he blows a trumpet, you hear
it.

⁴ For so the LORD said to me, "I will take
My rest, And I will look from My dwelling
place Like clear heat in sunshine, Like a
cloud of dew in the heat of harvest."

⁵ For before the harvest, when the bud
is perfect And the sour grape is ripening
in the flower, He will both cut off the
sprigs with pruning hooks And take away
and cut down the branches.

⁶ They will be left together for the
mountain birds of prey And for the
beasts of the earth; The birds of prey will
summer on them, And all the beasts of
the earth will winter on them.

⁷ In that time a present will be brought to the LORD of hosts From a people tall and smooth of skin, And from a people terrible from their beginning onward, A nation powerful and treading down, Whose land the rivers divide—To the place of the name of the LORD of hosts, To Mount Zion.

19 ¹ The burden against Egypt. Behold, the LORD rides on a swift cloud, And will come into Egypt; The idols of Egypt will totter at His presence, And the heart of Egypt will melt in its midst.

² "I will set Egyptians against Egyptians; Everyone will fight against his brother, And everyone against his neighbor, City against city, kingdom against kingdom.

³ The spirit of Egypt will fail in its midst; I will destroy their counsel, And they will consult the idols and the charmers, The mediums and the sorcerers.

⁴ And the Egyptians I will give Into the hand of a cruel master, And a fierce king will rule over them," Says the Lord, the LORD of hosts.

⁵ The waters will fail from the sea, And the river will be wasted and dried up.

⁶ The rivers will turn foul; The brooks of defense will be emptied and dried up; The reeds and rushes will wither.

⁷ The papyrus reeds by the River, by the mouth of the River, And everything sown by the River, Will wither, be driven away, and be no more.

⁸ The fishermen also will mourn; All those will lament who cast hooks into the River, And they will languish who spread nets on the waters.

⁹ Moreover those who work in fine flax And those who weave fine fabric will be ashamed;

¹⁰ And its foundations will be broken.
All who make wages will be troubled of
soul.

¹¹ Surely the princes of Zoan are fools;
Pharaoh's wise counselors give foolish
counsel. How do you say to Pharaoh,
"I am the son of the wise, The son of
ancient kings?"

¹² Where are they? Where are your
wise men? Let them tell you now, And
let them know what the LORD of hosts
has purposed against Egypt.

¹³ The princes of Zoan have become
fools; The princes of Noph are deceived;
They have also deluded Egypt, Those
who are the mainstay of its tribes.

¹⁴ The LORD has mingled a perverse
spirit in her midst; And they have caused
Egypt to err in all her work, As a drunken
man staggers in his vomit.

¹⁵ Neither will there be any work for Egypt, Which the head or tail, Palm branch or bulrush, may do.

¹⁶ In that day Egypt will be like women, and will be afraid and fear because of the waving of the hand of the LORD of hosts, which He waves over it.

¹⁷ And the land of Judah will be a terror to Egypt; everyone who makes mention of it will be afraid in himself, because of the counsel of the LORD of hosts which He has determined against it.

¹⁸ In that day five cities in the land of Egypt will speak the language of Canaan and swear by the LORD of hosts; one will be called the City of Destruction.

¹⁹ In that day there will be an altar to the LORD in the midst of the land of Egypt, and a pillar to the LORD at its border.

²⁰ And it will be for a sign and for a witness to the LORD of hosts in the land

of Egypt; for they will cry to the LORD because of the oppressors, and He will send them a Savior and a Mighty One, and He will deliver them.

²¹ Then the LORD will be known to Egypt, and the Egyptians will know the LORD in that day, and will make sacrifice and offering; yes, they will make a vow to the LORD and perform it.

²² And the LORD will strike Egypt, He will strike and heal it; they will return to the LORD, and He will be entreated by them and heal them.

²³ In that day there will be a highway from Egypt to Assyria, and the Assyrian will come into Egypt and the Egyptian into Assyria, and the Egyptians will serve with the Assyrians.

²⁴ In that day Israel will be one of three with Egypt and Assyria—a blessing in the midst of the land,

²⁵ whom the LORD of hosts shall bless, saying, "Blessed is Egypt My people, and Assyria the work of My hands, and Israel My inheritance."

20 ¹ In the year that Tartan came to Ashdod, when Sargon the king of Assyria sent him, and he fought against Ashdod and took it,

² at the same time the LORD spoke by Isaiah the son of Amoz, saying, "Go, and remove the sackcloth from your body, and take your sandals off your feet." And he did so, walking naked and barefoot.

³ Then the LORD said, "Just as My servant Isaiah has walked naked and barefoot three years for a sign and a wonder against Egypt and Ethiopia,

⁴ "so shall the king of Assyria lead away the Egyptians as prisoners and the Ethiopians as captives, young and old, naked and barefoot, with their buttocks uncovered, to the shame of Egypt.

⁵ "Then they shall be afraid and ashamed of Ethiopia their expectation and Egypt their glory.

⁶ "And the inhabitant of this territory will say in that day, 'Surely such is our expectation, wherever we flee for help to be delivered from the king of Assyria; and how shall we escape?'"

21 ¹ The burden against the Wilderness of the Sea. As whirlwinds in the South pass through, So it comes from the desert, from a terrible land.

² A distressing vision is declared to me; The treacherous dealer deals treacherously, And the plunderer plunders. Go up, O Elam! Besiege, O Media! All its sighing I have made to cease.

³ Therefore my loins are filled with pain; Pangs have taken hold of me, like the pangs of a woman in labor. I

was distressed when I heard it; I was dismayed when I saw it.

⁴ My heart wavered, fearfulness frightened me; The night for which I longed He turned into fear for me.

⁵ Prepare the table, Set a watchman in the tower, Eat and drink. Arise, you princes, Anoint the shield!

⁶ For thus has the Lord said to me: "Go, set a watchman, Let him declare what he sees."

⁷ And he saw a chariot with a pair of horsemen, A chariot of donkeys, and a chariot of camels, And he listened earnestly with great care.

⁸ Then he cried, "A lion, my Lord! I stand continually on the watchtower in the daytime; I have sat at my post every night.

⁹ And look, here comes a chariot of men with a pair of horsemen!" Then he answered and said, "Babylon is fallen, is

fallen! And all the carved images of her gods He has broken to the ground."

¹⁰ Oh, my threshing and the grain of my floor! That which I have heard from the LORD of hosts, The God of Israel, I have declared to you.

¹¹ The burden against Dumah. He calls to me out of Seir, "Watchman, what of the night? Watchman, what of the night?"

¹² The watchman said, "The morning comes, and also the night. If you will inquire, inquire; Return! Come back!"

¹³ The burden against Arabia. In the forest in Arabia you will lodge, O you traveling companies of Dedanites.

¹⁴ O inhabitants of the land of Tema, Bring water to him who is thirsty; With their bread they met him who fled.

¹⁵ For they fled from the swords, from the drawn sword, From the bent bow, and from the distress of war.

¹⁶ For thus the Lord has said to me:

"Within a year, according to the year of a hired man, all the glory of Kedar will fail;

¹⁷ "and the remainder of the number of archers, the mighty men of the people of Kedar, will be diminished; for the LORD God of Israel has spoken it."

22 ¹ The burden against the Valley of Vision. What ails you now, that you have all gone up to the housetops,

² You who are full of noise, A tumultuous city, a joyous city? Your slain men are not slain with the sword, Nor dead in battle.

³ All your rulers have fled together; They are captured by the archers. All who are found in you are bound together; They have fled from afar.

⁴ Therefore I said, "Look away from me, I will weep bitterly; Do not labor to comfort me Because of the plundering of the daughter of my people."

⁵ For it is a day of trouble and treading down and perplexity By the Lord GOD of hosts In the Valley of Vision—Breaking down the walls And of crying to the mountain.

⁶ Elam bore the quiver With chariots of men and horsemen, And Kir uncovered the shield.

⁷ It shall come to pass that your choicest valleys Shall be full of chariots, And the horsemen shall set themselves in array at the gate.

⁸ He removed the protection of Judah. You looked in that day to the armor of the House of the Forest;

⁹ You also saw the damage to the city of David, That it was great; And you gathered together the waters of the lower pool.

¹⁰ You numbered the houses of Jerusalem, And the houses you broke down To fortify the wall.

¹¹ You also made a reservoir between the two walls For the water of the old pool. But you did not look to its Maker, Nor did you have respect for Him who fashioned it long ago.

¹² And in that day the Lord GOD of hosts Called for weeping and for mourning, For baldness and for girding with sackcloth.

¹³ But instead, joy and gladness, Slaying oxen and killing sheep, Eating meat and drinking wine: "Let us eat and drink, for tomorrow we die!"

¹⁴ Then it was revealed in my hearing by the LORD of hosts, "Surely for this iniquity there will be no atonement for you, Even to your death," says the Lord GOD of hosts.

¹⁵ Thus says the Lord GOD of hosts: "Go, proceed to this steward, To Shebna, who is over the house, and say:

¹⁶ 'What have you here, and whom have you here, That you have hewn a

sepulcher here, As he who hews himself
a sepulcher on high, Who carves a tomb
for himself in a rock?

¹⁷ Indeed, the LORD will throw you
away violently, O mighty man, And will
surely seize you.

¹⁸ He will surely turn violently and toss
you like a ball Into a large country; There
you shall die, and there your glorious
chariots Shall be the shame of your
master's house.

¹⁹ So I will drive you out of your office,
And from your position he will pull you
down.

²⁰ 'Then it shall be in that day, That I
will call My servant Eliakim the son of
Hilkiah;

²¹ I will clothe him with your robe And
strengthen him with your belt; I will
commit your responsibility into his hand.
He shall be a father to the inhabitants of
Jerusalem And to the house of Judah.

²² The key of the house of David I will lay on his shoulder; So he shall open, and no one shall shut; And he shall shut, and no one shall open.

²³ I will fasten him as a peg in a secure place, And he will become a glorious throne to his father's house.

²⁴ 'They will hang on him all the glory of his father's house, the offspring and the posterity, all vessels of small quantity, from the cups to all the pitchers.

²⁵ 'In that day,' says the LORD of hosts, 'the peg that is fastened in the secure place will be removed and be cut down and fall, and the burden that was on it will be cut off; for the LORD has spoken.'"

23 ¹ The burden against Tyre. Wail, you ships of Tarshish! For it is laid waste, So that there is no house, no harbor; From the land of Cyprus it is revealed to them.

² Be still, you inhabitants of the coastland, You merchants of Sidon, Whom those who cross the sea have filled.

³ And on great waters the grain of Shihor, The harvest of the River, is her revenue; And she is a marketplace for the nations.

⁴ Be ashamed, O Sidon; For the sea has spoken, The strength of the sea, saying, "I do not labor, nor bring forth children; Neither do I rear young men, Nor bring up virgins."

⁵ When the report reaches Egypt, They also will be in agony at the report of Tyre.

⁶ Cross over to Tarshish; Wail, you inhabitants of the coastland!

⁷ Is this your joyous city, Whose antiquity is from ancient days, Whose feet carried her far off to dwell?

⁸ Who has taken this counsel against Tyre, the crowning city, Whose merchants are princes, Whose traders are the honorable of the earth?

⁹ The LORD of hosts has purposed it, To bring to dishonor the pride of all glory, To bring into contempt all the honorable of the earth.

¹⁰ Overflow through your land like the River, O daughter of Tarshish; There is no more strength.

¹¹ He stretched out His hand over the sea, He shook the kingdoms; The LORD has given a commandment against Canaan To destroy its strongholds.

¹² And He said, "You will rejoice no more, O you oppressed virgin daughter of Sidon. Arise, cross over to Cyprus; There also you will have no rest."

¹³ Behold, the land of the Chaldeans, This people which was not; Assyria founded it for wild beasts of the desert.

They set up its towers, They raised up its palaces, And brought it to ruin.

¹⁴ Wail, you ships of Tarshish! For your strength is laid waste.

¹⁵ Now it shall come to pass in that day that Tyre will be forgotten seventy years, according to the days of one king. At the end of seventy years it will happen to Tyre as in the song of the harlot:

¹⁶ "Take a harp, go about the city, You forgotten harlot; Make sweet melody, sing many songs, That you may be remembered."

¹⁷ And it shall be, at the end of seventy years, that the LORD will visit Tyre. She will return to her hire, and commit fornication with all the kingdoms of the world on the face of the earth.

¹⁸ Her gain and her pay will be set apart for the LORD; it will not be treasured nor laid up, for her gain will be for

those who dwell before the LORD, to eat sufficiently, and for fine clothing.

24 ¹ Behold, the LORD makes the earth empty and makes it waste, Distorts its surface And scatters abroad its inhabitants.

² And it shall be: As with the people, so with the priest; As with the servant, so with his master; As with the maid, so with her mistress; As with the buyer, so with the seller; As with the lender, so with the borrower; As with the creditor, so with the debtor.

³ The land shall be entirely emptied and utterly plundered, For the LORD has spoken this word.

⁴ The earth mourns and fades away, The world languishes and fades away; The haughty people of the earth languish.

⁵ The earth is also defiled under its inhabitants, Because they have transgressed the laws, Changed the

ordinance, Broken the everlasting covenant.

⁶ Therefore the curse has devoured the earth, And those who dwell in it are desolate. Therefore the inhabitants of the earth are burned, And few men are left.

⁷ The new wine fails, the vine languishes, All the merry–hearted sigh.

⁸ The mirth of the tambourine ceases, The noise of the jubilant ends, The joy of the harp ceases.

⁹ They shall not drink wine with a song; Strong drink is bitter to those who drink it.

¹⁰ The city of confusion is broken down; Every house is shut up, so that none may go in.

¹¹ There is a cry for wine in the streets, All joy is darkened, The mirth of the land is gone.

¹² In the city desolation is left, And the gate is stricken with destruction.

¹³ When it shall be thus in the midst of the land among the people, It shall be like the shaking of an olive tree, Like the gleaning of grapes when the vintage is done.

¹⁴ They shall lift up their voice, they shall sing; For the majesty of the LORD They shall cry aloud from the sea.

¹⁵ Therefore glorify the LORD in the dawning light, The name of the LORD God of Israel in the coastlands of the sea.

¹⁶ From the ends of the earth we have heard songs: "Glory to the righteous!" But I said, "I am ruined, ruined! Woe to me! The treacherous dealers have dealt treacherously, Indeed, the treacherous dealers have dealt very treacherously."

¹⁷ Fear and the pit and the snare Are upon you, O inhabitant of the earth.

¹⁸ And it shall be That he who flees from the noise of the fear Shall fall into the pit, And he who comes up from the midst of the pit Shall be caught in the snare; For the windows from on high are open, And the foundations of the earth are shaken.

¹⁹ The earth is violently broken, The earth is split open, The earth is shaken exceedingly.

²⁰ The earth shall reel to and fro like a drunkard, And shall totter like a hut; Its transgression shall be heavy upon it, And it will fall, and not rise again.

²¹ It shall come to pass in that day That the LORD will punish on high the host of exalted ones, And on the earth the kings of the earth.

²² They will be gathered together, As prisoners are gathered in the pit, And will be shut up in the prison; After many days they will be punished.

²³ Then the moon will be disgraced
And the sun ashamed; For the LORD
of hosts will reign On Mount Zion and
in Jerusalem And before His elders,
gloriously.

25 ¹ O LORD, You are my God. I will
exalt You, I will praise Your name,
For You have done wonderful things;
Your counsels of old are faithfulness and
truth.

² For You have made a city a ruin, A
fortified city a ruin, A palace of foreigners
to be a city no more; It will never be
rebuilt.

³ Therefore the strong people will
glorify You; The city of the terrible
nations will fear You.

⁴ For You have been a strength to the
poor, A strength to the needy in his
distress, A refuge from the storm, A
shade from the heat; For the blast of the

terrible ones is as a storm against the wall.

⁵ You will reduce the noise of aliens,
As heat in a dry place; As heat in the
shadow of a cloud, The song of the
terrible ones will be diminished.

⁶ And in this mountain The LORD of
hosts will make for all people A feast
of choice pieces, A feast of wines on
the lees, Of fat things full of marrow, Of
well-refined wines on the lees.

⁷ And He will destroy on this mountain
The surface of the covering cast over all
people, And the veil that is spread over
all nations.

⁸ He will swallow up death forever, And
the Lord GOD will wipe away tears from
all faces; The rebuke of His people He
will take away from all the earth; For the
LORD has spoken.

⁹ And it will be said in that day: "Behold,
this is our God; We have waited for Him,

and He will save us. This is the LORD; We have waited for Him; We will be glad and rejoice in His salvation."

¹⁰ For on this mountain the hand of the LORD will rest, And Moab shall be trampled down under Him, As straw is trampled down for the refuse heap.

¹¹ And He will spread out His hands in their midst As a swimmer reaches out to swim, And He will bring down their pride Together with the trickery of their hands.

¹² The fortress of the high fort of your walls He will bring down, lay low, And bring to the ground, down to the dust.

26 ¹ In that day this song will be sung in the land of Judah: "We have a strong city; God will appoint salvation for walls and bulwarks.

² Open the gates, That the righteous nation which keeps the truth may enter in.

³ You will keep him in perfect peace,
Whose mind is stayed on You, Because
he trusts in You.

⁴ Trust in the LORD forever, For in YAH,
the LORD, is everlasting strength.

⁵ For He brings down those who dwell
on high, The lofty city; He lays it low, He
lays it low to the ground, He brings it
down to the dust.

⁶ The foot shall tread it down—The feet
of the poor And the steps of the needy."

⁷ The way of the just is uprightness; O
Most Upright, You weigh the path of the
just.

⁸ Yes, in the way of Your judgments,
O LORD, we have waited for You; The
desire of our soul is for Your name And
for the remembrance of You.

⁹ With my soul I have desired You in the
night, Yes, by my spirit within me I will
seek You early; For when Your judgments

are in the earth, The inhabitants of the world will learn righteousness.

¹⁰ Let grace be shown to the wicked, Yet he will not learn righteousness; In the land of uprightness he will deal unjustly, And will not behold the majesty of the LORD.

¹¹ LORD, when Your hand is lifted up, they will not see. But they will see and be ashamed For their envy of people; Yes, the fire of Your enemies shall devour them.

¹² LORD, You will establish peace for us, For You have also done all our works in us.

¹³ O LORD our God, masters besides You Have had dominion over us; But by You only we make mention of Your name.

¹⁴ They are dead, they will not live; They are deceased, they will not rise. Therefore You have punished and

destroyed them, And made all their memory to perish.

¹⁵ You have increased the nation, O LORD, You have increased the nation; You are glorified; You have expanded all the borders of the land.

¹⁶ LORD, in trouble they have visited You, They poured out a prayer when Your chastening was upon them.

¹⁷ As a woman with child Is in pain and cries out in her pangs, When she draws near the time of her delivery, So have we been in Your sight, O LORD.

¹⁸ We have been with child, we have been in pain; We have, as it were, brought forth wind; We have not accomplished any deliverance in the earth, Nor have the inhabitants of the world fallen.

¹⁹ Your dead shall live; Together with my dead body they shall arise. Awake and sing, you who dwell in dust; For your

dew is like the dew of herbs, And the earth shall cast out the dead.

²⁰ Come, my people, enter your chambers, And shut your doors behind you; Hide yourself, as it were, for a little moment, Until the indignation is past.

²¹ For behold, the LORD comes out of His place To punish the inhabitants of the earth for their iniquity; The earth will also disclose her blood, And will no more cover her slain.

27 ¹ In that day the LORD with His severe sword, great and strong, Will punish Leviathan the fleeing serpent, Leviathan that twisted serpent; And He will slay the reptile that is in the sea.

² In that day sing to her, "A vineyard of red wine!

³ I, the LORD, keep it, I water it every moment; Lest any hurt it, I keep it night and day.

⁴ Fury is not in Me. Who would set briers and thorns Against Me in battle? I would go through them, I would burn them together.

⁵ Or let him take hold of My strength, That he may make peace with Me; And he shall make peace with Me."

⁶ Those who come He shall cause to take root in Jacob; Israel shall blossom and bud, And fill the face of the world with fruit.

⁷ Has He struck Israel as He struck those who struck him? Or has He been slain according to the slaughter of those who were slain by Him?

⁸ In measure, by sending it away, You contended with it. He removes it by His rough wind In the day of the east wind.

⁹ Therefore by this the iniquity of Jacob will be covered; And this is all the fruit of taking away his sin: When he makes all the stones of the altar Like chalkstones

that are beaten to dust, Wooden images and incense altars shall not stand.

¹⁰ Yet the fortified city will be desolate,
The habitation forsaken and left like a
wilderness; There the calf will feed, and
there it will lie down And consume its
branches.

¹¹ When its boughs are withered, they
will be broken off; The women come and
set them on fire. For it is a people of no
understanding; Therefore He who made
them will not have mercy on them, And
He who formed them will show them no
favor.

¹² And it shall come to pass in that day
That the LORD will thresh, From the
channel of the River to the Brook of
Egypt; And you will be gathered one by
one, O you children of Israel.

¹³ So it shall be in that day: The great
trumpet will be blown; They will come,
who are about to perish in the land of

Assyria, And they who are outcasts in the land of Egypt, And shall worship the LORD in the holy mount at Jerusalem.

28 ¹ Woe to the crown of pride, to the drunkards of Ephraim, Whose glorious beauty is a fading flower Which is at the head of the verdant valleys, To those who are overcome with wine!

² Behold, the Lord has a mighty and strong one, Like a tempest of hail and a destroying storm, Like a flood of mighty waters overflowing, Who will bring them down to the earth with His hand.

³ The crown of pride, the drunkards of Ephraim, Will be trampled underfoot;

⁴ And the glorious beauty is a fading flower Which is at the head of the verdant valley, Like the first fruit before the summer, Which an observer sees; He eats it up while it is still in his hand.

⁵ In that day the LORD of hosts will be
For a crown of glory and a diadem of
beauty To the remnant of His people,

⁶ For a spirit of justice to him who sits
in judgment, And for strength to those
who turn back the battle at the gate.

⁷ But they also have erred through wine,
And through intoxicating drink are out
of the way; The priest and the prophet
have erred through intoxicating drink,
They are swallowed up by wine, They
are out of the way through intoxicating
drink; They err in vision, they stumble in
judgment.

⁸ For all tables are full of vomit and filth;
No place is clean.

⁹ "Whom will he teach knowledge? And
whom will he make to understand the
message? Those just weaned from milk?
Those just drawn from the breasts?

¹⁰ For precept must be upon precept,
precept upon precept, Line upon line,

line upon line, Here a little, there a little."

¹¹ For with stammering lips and another tongue He will speak to this people,

¹² To whom He said, "This is the rest with which You may cause the weary to rest," And, "This is the refreshing"; Yet they would not hear.

¹³ But the word of the LORD was to them, "Precept upon precept, precept upon precept, Line upon line, line upon line, Here a little, there a little," That they might go and fall backward, and be broken And snared and caught.

¹⁴ Therefore hear the word of the LORD, you scornful men, Who rule this people who are in Jerusalem,

¹⁵ Because you have said, "We have made a covenant with death, And with Sheol we are in agreement. When the overflowing scourge passes through, It will not come to us, For we have made

lies our refuge, And under falsehood we have hidden ourselves."

¹⁶ Therefore thus says the Lord GOD: "Behold, I lay in Zion a stone for a foundation, A tried stone, a precious cornerstone, a sure foundation; Whoever believes will not act hastily.

¹⁷ Also I will make justice the measuring line, And righteousness the plummet; The hail will sweep away the refuge of lies, And the waters will overflow the hiding place.

¹⁸ Your covenant with death will be annulled, And your agreement with Sheol will not stand; When the overflowing scourge passes through, Then you will be trampled down by it.

¹⁹ As often as it goes out it will take you; For morning by morning it will pass over, And by day and by night; It will be a terror just to understand the report."

²⁰ For the bed is too short to stretch out on, And the covering so narrow that one cannot wrap himself in it.

²¹ For the LORD will rise up as at Mount Perazim, He will be angry as in the Valley of Gibeon—That He may do His work, His awesome work, And bring to pass His act, His unusual act.

²² Now therefore, do not be mockers, Lest your bonds be made strong; For I have heard from the Lord GOD of hosts, A destruction determined even upon the whole earth.

²³ Give ear and hear my voice, Listen and hear my speech.

²⁴ Does the plowman keep plowing all day to sow? Does he keep turning his soil and breaking the clods?

²⁵ When he has leveled its surface, Does he not sow the black cummin And scatter the cummin, Plant the wheat in

rows, The barley in the appointed place,
And the spelt in its place?

²⁶ For He instructs him in right
judgment, His God teaches him.

²⁷ For the black cummin is not threshed
with a threshing sledge, Nor is a
cartwheel rolled over the cummin; But
the black cummin is beaten out with a
stick, And the cummin with a rod.

²⁸ Bread flour must be ground;
Therefore he does not thresh it forever,
Break it with his cartwheel, Or crush it
with his horsemen.

²⁹ This also comes from the LORD of
hosts, Who is wonderful in counsel and
excellent in guidance.

29 ¹ "Woe to Ariel, to Ariel, the city
where David dwelt! Add year to
year; Let feasts come around.

² Yet I will distress Ariel; There shall be
heaviness and sorrow, And it shall be to
Me as Ariel.

³ I will encamp against you all around, I will lay siege against you with a mound, And I will raise siegeworks against you.

⁴ You shall be brought down, You shall speak out of the ground; Your speech shall be low, out of the dust; Your voice shall be like a medium's, out of the ground; And your speech shall whisper out of the dust.

⁵ "Moreover the multitude of your foes Shall be like fine dust, And the multitude of the terrible ones Like chaff that passes away; Yes, it shall be in an instant, suddenly.

⁶ You will be punished by the LORD of hosts With thunder and earthquake and great noise, With storm and tempest And the flame of devouring fire.

⁷ The multitude of all the nations who fight against Ariel, Even all who fight against her and her fortress, And distress her, Shall be as a dream of a night vision.

⁸ It shall even be as when a hungry man dreams, And look—he eats; But he awakes, and his soul is still empty; Or as when a thirsty man dreams, And look—he drinks; But he awakes, and indeed he is faint, And his soul still craves: So the multitude of all the nations shall be, Who fight against Mount Zion."

⁹ Pause and wonder! Blind yourselves and be blind! They are drunk, but not with wine; They stagger, but not with intoxicating drink.

¹⁰ For the LORD has poured out on you The spirit of deep sleep, And has closed your eyes, namely, the prophets; And He has covered your heads, namely, the seers.

¹¹ The whole vision has become to you like the words of a book that is sealed, which men deliver to one who is literate,

saying, "Read this, please." And he says, "I cannot, for it is sealed."

¹² Then the book is delivered to one who is illiterate, saying, "Read this, please." And he says, "I am not literate."

¹³ Therefore the Lord said: "Inasmuch as these people draw near with their mouths And honor Me with their lips, But have removed their hearts far from Me, And their fear toward Me is taught by the commandment of men,

¹⁴ Therefore, behold, I will again do a marvelous work Among this people, A marvelous work and a wonder; For the wisdom of their wise men shall perish, And the understanding of their prudent men shall be hidden."

¹⁵ Woe to those who seek deep to hide their counsel far from the LORD, And their works are in the dark; They say, "Who sees us?" and, "Who knows us?"

¹⁶ Surely you have things turned around! Shall the potter be esteemed as the clay; For shall the thing made say of him who made it, "He did not make me"? Or shall the thing formed say of him who formed it, "He has no understanding"?

¹⁷ Is it not yet a very little while Till Lebanon shall be turned into a fruitful field, And the fruitful field be esteemed as a forest?

¹⁸ In that day the deaf shall hear the words of the book, And the eyes of the blind shall see out of obscurity and out of darkness.

¹⁹ The humble also shall increase their joy in the LORD, And the poor among men shall rejoice In the Holy One of Israel.

²⁰ For the terrible one is brought to nothing, The scornful one is consumed,

And all who watch for iniquity are cut off—

²¹ Who make a man an offender by a word, And lay a snare for him who reproves in the gate, And turn aside the just by empty words.

²² Therefore thus says the LORD, who redeemed Abraham, concerning the house of Jacob: "Jacob shall not now be ashamed, Nor shall his face now grow pale;

²³ But when he sees his children, The work of My hands, in his midst, They will hallow My name, And hallow the Holy One of Jacob, And fear the God of Israel.

²⁴ These also who erred in spirit will come to understanding, And those who complained will learn doctrine."

30 ¹ "Woe to the rebellious children," says the LORD, "Who take counsel, but not of Me, And who

devise plans, but not of My Spirit, That they may add sin to sin;

² Who walk to go down to Egypt, And have not asked My advice, To strengthen themselves in the strength of Pharaoh, And to trust in the shadow of Egypt!

³ Therefore the strength of Pharaoh Shall be your shame, And trust in the shadow of Egypt Shall be your humiliation.

⁴ For his princes were at Zoan, And his ambassadors came to Hanes.

⁵ They were all ashamed of a people who could not benefit them, Or be help or benefit, But a shame and also a reproach."

⁶ The burden against the beasts of the South. Through a land of trouble and anguish, From which came the lioness and lion, The viper and fiery flying serpent, They will carry their riches on the backs of young donkeys, And their

treasures on the humps of camels, To a people who shall not profit;

⁷ For the Egyptians shall help in vain and to no purpose. Therefore I have called her Rahab–Hem–Shebeth.

⁸ Now go, write it before them on a tablet, And note it on a scroll, That it may be for time to come, Forever and ever:

⁹ That this is a rebellious people, Lying children, Children who will not hear the law of the LORD;

¹⁰ Who say to the seers, "Do not see," And to the prophets, "Do not prophesy to us right things; Speak to us smooth things, prophesy deceits.

¹¹ Get out of the way, Turn aside from the path, Cause the Holy One of Israel To cease from before us."

¹² Therefore thus says the Holy One of Israel: "Because you despise this word, And trust in oppression and perversity, And rely on them,

¹³ Therefore this iniquity shall be to you Like a breach ready to fall, A bulge in a high wall, Whose breaking comes suddenly, in an instant.

¹⁴ And He shall break it like the breaking of the potter's vessel, Which is broken in pieces; He shall not spare. So there shall not be found among its fragments A shard to take fire from the hearth, Or to take water from the cistern."

¹⁵ For thus says the Lord GOD, the Holy One of Israel: "In returning and rest you shall be saved; In quietness and confidence shall be your strength." But you would not,

¹⁶ And you said, "No, for we will flee on horses" —Therefore you shall flee! And, "We will ride on swift horses" —Therefore those who pursue you shall be swift!

¹⁷ One thousand shall flee at the threat of one, At the threat of five you shall

flee, Till you are left as a pole on top of a mountain And as a banner on a hill.

¹⁸ Therefore the LORD will wait, that He may be gracious to you; And therefore He will be exalted, that He may have mercy on you. For the LORD is a God of justice; Blessed are all those who wait for Him.

¹⁹ For the people shall dwell in Zion at Jerusalem; You shall weep no more. He will be very gracious to you at the sound of your cry; When He hears it, He will answer you.

²⁰ And though the Lord gives you The bread of adversity and the water of affliction, Yet your teachers will not be moved into a corner anymore, But your eyes shall see your teachers.

²¹ Your ears shall hear a word behind you, saying, "This is the way, walk in it," Whenever you turn to the right hand Or whenever you turn to the left.

²² You will also defile the covering of your graven images of silver, And the ornament of your molded images of gold. You will throw them away as an unclean thing; You will say to them, "Get away!"

²³ Then He will give the rain for your seed With which you sow the ground, And bread of the increase of the earth; It will be fat and plentiful. In that day your cattle will feed In large pastures.

²⁴ Likewise the oxen and the young donkeys that work the ground Will eat cured fodder, Which has been winnowed with the shovel and fan.

²⁵ There will be on every high mountain And on every high hill Rivers and streams of waters, In the day of the great slaughter, When the towers fall.

²⁶ Moreover the light of the moon will be as the light of the sun, And the light of the sun will be sevenfold, As the light

of seven days, In the day that the LORD binds up the bruise of His people And heals the stroke of their wound.

²⁷ Behold, the name of the LORD comes from afar, Burning with His anger, And His burden is heavy; His lips are full of indignation, And His tongue like a devouring fire.

²⁸ His breath is like an overflowing stream, Which reaches up to the neck, To sift the nations with the sieve of futility; And there shall be a bridle in the jaws of the people, Causing them to err.

²⁹ You shall have a song As in the night when a holy festival is kept, And gladness of heart as when one goes with a flute, To come into the mountain of the LORD, To the Mighty One of Israel.

³⁰ The LORD will cause His glorious voice to be heard, And show the descent of His arm, With the indignation of His

anger And the flame of a devouring fire,
With scattering, tempest, and hailstones.

³¹ For through the voice of the LORD
Assyria will be beaten down, As He
strikes with the rod.

³² And in every place where the staff
of punishment passes, Which the LORD
lays on him, It will be with tambourines
and harps; And in battles of brandishing
He will fight with it.

³³ For Tophet was established of old,
Yes, for the king it is prepared. He has
made it deep and large; Its pyre is fire
with much wood; The breath of the
LORD, like a stream of brimstone, Kindles
it.

31 ¹ Woe to those who go down
to Egypt for help, And rely on
horses, Who trust in chariots because
they are many, And in horsemen because
they are very strong, But who do not

look to the Holy One of Israel, Nor seek the LORD!

² Yet He also is wise and will bring disaster, And will not call back His words, But will arise against the house of evildoers, And against the help of those who work iniquity.

³ Now the Egyptians are men, and not God; And their horses are flesh, and not spirit. When the LORD stretches out His hand, Both he who helps will fall, And he who is helped will fall down; They all will perish together.

⁴ For thus the LORD has spoken to me: "As a lion roars, And a young lion over his prey (When a multitude of shepherds is summoned against him, He will not be afraid of their voice Nor be disturbed by their noise), So the LORD of hosts will come down To fight for Mount Zion and for its hill.

⁵ Like birds flying about, So will the LORD of hosts defend Jerusalem. Defending, He will also deliver it; Passing over, He will preserve it."

⁶ Return to Him against whom the children of Israel have deeply revolted.

⁷ For in that day every man shall throw away his idols of silver and his idols of gold—sin, which your own hands have made for yourselves.

⁸ "Then Assyria shall fall by a sword not of man, And a sword not of mankind shall devour him. But he shall flee from the sword, And his young men shall become forced labor.

⁹ He shall cross over to his stronghold for fear, And his princes shall be afraid of the banner," Says the LORD, Whose fire is in Zion And whose furnace is in Jerusalem.

32 ¹ Behold, a king will reign in righteousness, And princes will rule with justice.

² A man will be as a hiding place from the wind, And a cover from the tempest, As rivers of water in a dry place, As the shadow of a great rock in a weary land.

³ The eyes of those who see will not be dim, And the ears of those who hear will listen.

⁴ Also the heart of the rash will understand knowledge, And the tongue of the stammerers will be ready to speak plainly.

⁵ The foolish person will no longer be called generous, Nor the miser said to be bountiful;

⁶ For the foolish person will speak foolishness, And his heart will work iniquity: To practice ungodliness, To utter error against the LORD, To keep the

hungry unsatisfied, And he will cause the
drink of the thirsty to fail.

⁷ Also the schemes of the schemer are
evil; He devises wicked plans To destroy
the poor with lying words, Even when
the needy speaks justice.

⁸ But a generous man devises generous
things, And by generosity he shall stand.

⁹ Rise up, you women who are at
ease, Hear my voice; You complacent
daughters, Give ear to my speech.

¹⁰ In a year and some days You will be
troubled, you complacent women; For
the vintage will fail, The gathering will
not come.

¹¹ Tremble, you women who are at
ease; Be troubled, you complacent ones;
Strip yourselves, make yourselves bare,
And gird sackcloth on your waists.

¹² People shall mourn upon their
breasts For the pleasant fields, for the
fruitful vine.

¹³ On the land of my people will come up thorns and briers, Yes, on all the happy homes in the joyous city;

¹⁴ Because the palaces will be forsaken, The bustling city will be deserted. The forts and towers will become lairs forever, A joy of wild donkeys, a pasture of flocks—

¹⁵ Until the Spirit is poured upon us from on high, And the wilderness becomes a fruitful field, And the fruitful field is counted as a forest.

¹⁶ Then justice will dwell in the wilderness, And righteousness remain in the fruitful field.

¹⁷ The work of righteousness will be peace, And the effect of righteousness, quietness and assurance forever.

¹⁸ My people will dwell in a peaceful habitation, In secure dwellings, and in quiet resting places,

¹⁹ Though hail comes down on the forest, And the city is brought low in humiliation.

²⁰ Blessed are you who sow beside all waters, Who send out freely the feet of the ox and the donkey.

33 ¹ Woe to you who plunder, though you have not been plundered; And you who deal treacherously, though they have not dealt treacherously with you! When you cease plundering, You will be plundered; When you make an end of dealing treacherously, They will deal treacherously with you.

² O LORD, be gracious to us; We have waited for You. Be their arm every morning, Our salvation also in the time of trouble.

³ At the noise of the tumult the people shall flee; When You lift Yourself up, the nations shall be scattered;

⁴ And Your plunder shall be gathered
Like the gathering of the caterpillar; As
the running to and fro of locusts, He
shall run upon them.

⁵ The LORD is exalted, for He dwells on
high; He has filled Zion with justice and
righteousness.

⁶ Wisdom and knowledge will be the
stability of your times, And the strength
of salvation; The fear of the LORD is His
treasure.

⁷ Surely their valiant ones shall cry
outside, The ambassadors of peace shall
weep bitterly.

⁸ The highways lie waste, The traveling
man ceases. He has broken the covenant,
He has despised the cities, He regards no
man.

⁹ The earth mourns and languishes,
Lebanon is shamed and shriveled;
Sharon is like a wilderness, And Bashan
and Carmel shake off their fruits.

¹⁰ "Now I will rise," says the LORD;
"Now I will be exalted, Now I will lift
Myself up.

¹¹ You shall conceive chaff, You shall
bring forth stubble; Your breath, as fire,
shall devour you.

¹² And the people shall be like the
burnings of lime; Like thorns cut up they
shall be burned in the fire.

¹³ Hear, you who are afar off, what
I have done; And you who are near,
acknowledge My might."

¹⁴ The sinners in Zion are afraid;
Fearfulness has seized the hypocrites:
"Who among us shall dwell with the
devouring fire? Who among us shall
dwell with everlasting burnings?"

¹⁵ He who walks righteously and speaks
uprightly, He who despises the gain
of oppressions, Who gestures with his
hands, refusing bribes, Who stops his

ears from hearing of bloodshed, And
shuts his eyes from seeing evil:

¹⁶ He will dwell on high; His place of
defense will be the fortress of rocks;
Bread will be given him, His water will be
sure.

¹⁷ Your eyes will see the King in His
beauty; They will see the land that is
very far off.

¹⁸ Your heart will meditate on terror:
"Where is the scribe? Where is he who
weighs? Where is he who counts the
towers?"

¹⁹ You will not see a fierce people,
A people of obscure speech, beyond
perception, Of a stammering tongue
that you cannot understand.

²⁰ Look upon Zion, the city of our
appointed feasts; Your eyes will see
Jerusalem, a quiet home, A tabernacle
that will not be taken down; Not one of

its stakes will ever be removed, Nor will any of its cords be broken.

²¹ But there the majestic LORD will be for us A place of broad rivers and streams, In which no galley with oars will sail, Nor majestic ships pass by

²² (For the LORD is our Judge, The LORD is our Lawgiver, The LORD is our King; He will save us);

²³ Your tackle is loosed, They could not strengthen their mast, They could not spread the sail. Then the prey of great plunder is divided; The lame take the prey.

²⁴ And the inhabitant will not say, "I am sick"; The people who dwell in it will be forgiven their iniquity.

34 ¹ Come near, you nations, to hear; And heed, you people! Let the earth hear, and all that is in it, The world and all things that come forth from it.

² For the indignation of the LORD is against all nations, And His fury against all their armies; He has utterly destroyed them, He has given them over to the slaughter.

³ Also their slain shall be thrown out; Their stench shall rise from their corpses, And the mountains shall be melted with their blood.

⁴ All the host of heaven shall be dissolved, And the heavens shall be rolled up like a scroll; All their host shall fall down As the leaf falls from the vine, And as fruit falling from a fig tree.

⁵ "For My sword shall be bathed in heaven; Indeed it shall come down on Edom, And on the people of My curse, for judgment.

⁶ The sword of the LORD is filled with blood, It is made overflowing with fatness, With the blood of lambs and goats, With the fat of the kidneys of

rams. For the LORD has a sacrifice in Bozrah, And a great slaughter in the land of Edom.

⁷ The wild oxen shall come down with them, And the young bulls with the mighty bulls; Their land shall be soaked with blood, And their dust saturated with fatness."

⁸ For it is the day of the LORD'S vengeance, The year of recompense for the cause of Zion.

⁹ Its streams shall be turned into pitch, And its dust into brimstone; Its land shall become burning pitch.

¹⁰ It shall not be quenched night or day; Its smoke shall ascend forever. From generation to generation it shall lie waste; No one shall pass through it forever and ever.

¹¹ But the pelican and the porcupine shall possess it, Also the owl and the raven shall dwell in it. And He shall

stretch out over it The line of confusion
and the stones of emptiness.

¹² They shall call its nobles to the
kingdom, But none shall be there, and
all its princes shall be nothing.

¹³ And thorns shall come up in its
palaces, Nettles and brambles in its
fortresses; It shall be a habitation of
jackals, A courtyard for ostriches.

¹⁴ The wild beasts of the desert shall
also meet with the jackals, And the wild
goat shall bleat to its companion; Also
the night creature shall rest there, And
find for herself a place of rest.

¹⁵ There the arrow snake shall make her
nest and lay eggs And hatch, and gather
them under her shadow; There also shall
the hawks be gathered, Every one with
her mate.

¹⁶ "Search from the book of the LORD,
and read: Not one of these shall fail; Not
one shall lack her mate. For My mouth

has commanded it, and His Spirit has gathered them.

¹⁷ He has cast the lot for them, And His hand has divided it among them with a measuring line. They shall possess it forever; From generation to generation they shall dwell in it."

35 ¹ The wilderness and the wasteland shall be glad for them, And the desert shall rejoice and blossom as the rose;

² It shall blossom abundantly and rejoice, Even with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, The excellence of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the LORD, The excellency of our God.

³ Strengthen the weak hands, And make firm the feeble knees.

⁴ Say to those who are fearful–hearted, "Be strong, do not fear! Behold, your God will come with vengeance, With the

recompense of God; He will come and save you."

⁵ Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, And the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped.

⁶ Then the lame shall leap like a deer, And the tongue of the dumb sing. For waters shall burst forth in the wilderness, And streams in the desert.

⁷ The parched ground shall become a pool, And the thirsty land springs of water; In the habitation of jackals, where each lay, There shall be grass with reeds and rushes.

⁸ A highway shall be there, and a road, And it shall be called the Highway of Holiness. The unclean shall not pass over it, But it shall be for others. Whoever walks the road, although a fool, Shall not go astray.

⁹ No lion shall be there, Nor shall any ravenous beast go up on it; It shall not

be found there. But the redeemed shall walk there,

¹⁰ And the ransomed of the LORD shall return, And come to Zion with singing, With everlasting joy on their heads. They shall obtain joy and gladness, And sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

36 ¹ Now it came to pass in the fourteenth year of King Hezekiah that Sennacherib king of Assyria came up against all the fortified cities of Judah and took them.

² Then the king of Assyria sent the Rabshakeh with a great army from Lachish to King Hezekiah at Jerusalem. And he stood by the aqueduct from the upper pool, on the highway to the Fuller's Field.

³ And Eliakim the son of Hilkiah, who was over the household, Shebna the scribe, and Joah the son of Asaph, the recorder, came out to him.

⁴ Then the Rabshakeh said to them, "Say now to Hezekiah, 'Thus says the great king, the king of Assyria: "What confidence is this in which you trust?"

⁵ "I say you speak of having plans and power for war; but they are mere words. Now in whom do you trust, that you rebel against me?"

⁶ "Look! You are trusting in the staff of this broken reed, Egypt, on which if a man leans, it will go into his hand and pierce it. So is Pharaoh king of Egypt to all who trust in him.

⁷ "But if you say to me, 'We trust in the LORD our God,' is it not He whose high places and whose altars Hezekiah has taken away, and said to Judah and Jerusalem, 'You shall worship before this altar'?"

⁸ "Now therefore, I urge you, give a pledge to my master the king of Assyria, and I will give you two thousand

horses—if you are able on your part to put riders on them!

⁹ "How then will you repel one captain of the least of my master's servants, and put your trust in Egypt for chariots and horsemen?"

¹⁰ "Have I now come up without the LORD against this land to destroy it? The LORD said to me, 'Go up against this land, and destroy it.'"

¹¹ Then Eliakim, Shebna, and Joah said to the Rabshakeh, "Please speak to your servants in the Aramaic language, for we understand it; and do not speak to us in Hebrew in the hearing of the people who are on the wall."

¹² But the Rabshakeh said, "Has my master sent me to your master and to you to speak these words, and not to the men who sit on the wall, who will eat and drink their own waste with you?"

¹³ Then the Rabshakeh stood and called out with a loud voice in Hebrew, and said, "Hear the words of the great king, the king of Assyria!

¹⁴ "Thus says the king: 'Do not let Hezekiah deceive you, for he will not be able to deliver you;

¹⁵ 'nor let Hezekiah make you trust in the LORD, saying, "The LORD will surely deliver us; this city will not be given into the hand of the king of Assyria.'"

¹⁶ "Do not listen to Hezekiah; for thus says the king of Assyria: 'Make peace with me by a present and come out to me; and every one of you eat from his own vine and every one from his own fig tree, and every one of you drink the waters of his own cistern;

¹⁷ 'until I come and take you away to a land like your own land, a land of grain and new wine, a land of bread and vineyards.

¹⁸ 'Beware lest Hezekiah persuade you, saying, "The LORD will deliver us." Has any one of the gods of the nations delivered its land from the hand of the king of Assyria?

¹⁹ 'Where are the gods of Hamath and Arpad? Where are the gods of Sepharvaim? Indeed, have they delivered Samaria from my hand?

²⁰ 'Who among all the gods of these lands have delivered their countries from my hand, that the LORD should deliver Jerusalem from my hand?'"

²¹ But they held their peace and answered him not a word; for the king's commandment was, "Do not answer him."

²² Then Eliakim the son of Hilkiah, who was over the household, Shebna the scribe, and Joah the son of Asaph, the recorder, came to Hezekiah with their

clothes torn, and told him the words of the Rabshakeh.

37 ¹ And so it was, when King Hezekiah heard it, that he tore his clothes, covered himself with sackcloth, and went into the house of the LORD.

² Then he sent Eliakim, who was over the household, Shebna the scribe, and the elders of the priests, covered with sackcloth, to Isaiah the prophet, the son of Amoz.

³ And they said to him, "Thus says Hezekiah: 'This day is a day of trouble and rebuke and blasphemy; for the children have come to birth, but there is no strength to bring them forth.

⁴ 'It may be that the LORD your God will hear the words of the Rabshakeh, whom his master the king of Assyria has sent to reproach the living God, and will rebuke the words which the LORD your God has

heard. Therefore lift up your prayer for the remnant that is left.'"

⁵ So the servants of King Hezekiah came to Isaiah.

⁶ And Isaiah said to them, "Thus shall you say to your master, 'Thus says the LORD: "Do not be afraid of the words which you have heard, with which the servants of the king of Assyria have blasphemed Me.

⁷ "Surely I will send a spirit upon him, and he shall hear a rumor and return to his own land; and I will cause him to fall by the sword in his own land.'"

⁸ Then the Rabshakeh returned, and found the king of Assyria warring against Libnah, for he heard that he had departed from Lachish.

⁹ And the king heard concerning Tirhakah king of Ethiopia, "He has come out to make war with you." So when

he heard it, he sent messengers to Hezekiah, saying,

¹⁰ "Thus you shall speak to Hezekiah king of Judah, saying: 'Do not let your God in whom you trust deceive you, saying, "Jerusalem shall not be given into the hand of the king of Assyria."

¹¹ 'Look! You have heard what the kings of Assyria have done to all lands by utterly destroying them; and shall you be delivered?

¹² 'Have the gods of the nations delivered those whom my fathers have destroyed, Gozan and Haran and Rezeph, and the people of Eden who were in Telassar?

¹³ 'Where is the king of Hamath, the king of Arpad, and the king of the city of Sepharvaim, Hena, and Ivah?'"

¹⁴ And Hezekiah received the letter from the hand of the messengers, and read it; and Hezekiah went up to the

house of the LORD, and spread it before the LORD.

¹⁵ Then Hezekiah prayed to the LORD, saying:

¹⁶ "O LORD of hosts, God of Israel, the One who dwells between the cherubim, You are God, You alone, of all the kingdoms of the earth. You have made heaven and earth.

¹⁷ "Incline Your ear, O LORD, and hear; open Your eyes, O LORD, and see; and hear all the words of Sennacherib, which he has sent to reproach the living God.

¹⁸ "Truly, LORD, the kings of Assyria have laid waste all the nations and their lands,

¹⁹ "and have cast their gods into the fire; for they were not gods, but the work of men's hands—wood and stone. Therefore they have destroyed them.

²⁰ "Now therefore, O LORD our God, save us from his hand, that all the

kingdoms of the earth may know that You are the LORD, You alone."

²¹ Then Isaiah the son of Amoz sent to Hezekiah, saying, "Thus says the LORD God of Israel, 'Because you have prayed to Me against Sennacherib king of Assyria,

²² 'this is the word which the LORD has spoken concerning him: "The virgin, the daughter of Zion, Has despised you, laughed you to scorn; The daughter of Jerusalem Has shaken her head behind your back!

²³ "Whom have you reproached and blasphemed? Against whom have you raised your voice, And lifted up your eyes on high? Against the Holy One of Israel.

²⁴ By your servants you have reproached the Lord, And said, 'By the multitude of my chariots I have come up to the height of the mountains, To the limits of Lebanon; I will cut down its tall cedars

And its choice cypress trees; I will enter
its farthest height, To its fruitful forest.

²⁵ I have dug and drunk water, And with
the soles of my feet I have dried up All
the brooks of defense.'

²⁶ "Did you not hear long ago How
I made it, From ancient times that I
formed it? Now I have brought it to pass,
That you should be For crushing fortified
cities into heaps of ruins.

²⁷ Therefore their inhabitants had
little power; They were dismayed and
confounded; They were as the grass
of the field And the green herb, As
the grass on the housetops And grain
blighted before it is grown.

²⁸ "But I know your dwelling place, Your
going out and your coming in, And your
rage against Me.

²⁹ Because your rage against Me and
your tumult Have come up to My ears,
Therefore I will put My hook in your nose

And My bridle in your lips, And I will turn you back By the way which you came."

³⁰ "This shall be a sign to you: You shall eat this year such as grows of itself, And the second year what springs from the same; Also in the third year sow and reap, Plant vineyards and eat the fruit of them.

³¹ And the remnant who have escaped of the house of Judah Shall again take root downward, And bear fruit upward.

³² For out of Jerusalem shall go a remnant, And those who escape from Mount Zion. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

³³ "Therefore thus says the LORD concerning the king of Assyria: 'He shall not come into this city, Nor shoot an arrow there, Nor come before it with shield, Nor build a siege mound against it.

³⁴ By the way that he came, By the same shall he return; And he shall not come into this city,' Says the LORD.

³⁵ 'For I will defend this city, to save it For My own sake and for My servant David's sake.'

³⁶ Then the angel of the LORD went out, and killed in the camp of the Assyrians one hundred and eighty-five thousand; and when people arose early in the morning, there were the corpses—all dead.

³⁷ So Sennacherib king of Assyria departed and went away, returned home, and remained at Nineveh.

³⁸ Now it came to pass, as he was worshiping in the house of Nisroch his god, that his sons Adrammelech and Sharezer struck him down with the sword; and they escaped into the land of Ararat. Then Esarhaddon his son reigned in his place.

38 ¹ In those days Hezekiah was sick and near death. And Isaiah the prophet, the son of Amoz, went to him and said to him, "Thus says the LORD: 'Set your house in order, for you shall die and not live.'"

² Then Hezekiah turned his face toward the wall, and prayed to the LORD,

³ and said, "Remember now, O LORD, I pray, how I have walked before You in truth and with a loyal heart, and have done what is good in Your sight." And Hezekiah wept bitterly.

⁴ And the word of the LORD came to Isaiah, saying,

⁵ "Go and tell Hezekiah, 'Thus says the LORD, the God of David your father: "I have heard your prayer, I have seen your tears; surely I will add to your days fifteen years."

⁶ "I will deliver you and this city from the hand of the king of Assyria, and I will defend this city."

⁷ "And this is the sign to you from the LORD, that the LORD will do this thing which He has spoken:

⁸ "Behold, I will bring the shadow on the sundial, which has gone down with the sun on the sundial of Ahaz, ten degrees backward." So the sun returned ten degrees on the dial by which it had gone down.

⁹ This is the writing of Hezekiah king of Judah, when he had been sick and had recovered from his sickness:

¹⁰ I said, "In the prime of my life I shall go to the gates of Sheol; I am deprived of the remainder of my years."

¹¹ I said, "I shall not see YAH, The LORD in the land of the living; I shall observe man no more among the inhabitants of the world.

¹² My life span is gone, Taken from me like a shepherd's tent; I have cut off my life like a weaver. He cuts me off from the loom; From day until night You make an end of me.

¹³ I have considered until morning— Like a lion, So He breaks all my bones; From day until night You make an end of me.

¹⁴ Like a crane or a swallow, so I chattered; I mourned like a dove; My eyes fail from looking upward. O LORD, I am oppressed; Undertake for me!

¹⁵ "What shall I say? He has both spoken to me, And He Himself has done it. I shall walk carefully all my years In the bitterness of my soul.

¹⁶ O Lord, by these things men live; And in all these things is the life of my spirit; So You will restore me and make me live.

¹⁷ Indeed it was for my own peace That I had great bitterness; But You have

lovingly delivered my soul from the pit of corruption, For You have cast all my sins behind Your back.

¹⁸ For Sheol cannot thank You, Death cannot praise You; Those who go down to the pit cannot hope for Your truth.

¹⁹ The living, the living man, he shall praise You, As I do this day; The father shall make known Your truth to the children.

²⁰ "The LORD was ready to save me; Therefore we will sing my songs with stringed instruments All the days of our life, in the house of the LORD."

²¹ Now Isaiah had said, "Let them take a lump of figs, and apply it as a poultice on the boil, and he shall recover."

²² And Hezekiah had said, "What is the sign that I shall go up to the house of the LORD?"

39 ¹ At that time Merodach–Baladan the son of Baladan, king of

Babylon, sent letters and a present to Hezekiah, for he heard that he had been sick and had recovered.

² And Hezekiah was pleased with them, and showed them the house of his treasures—the silver and gold, the spices and precious ointment, and all his armory—all that was found among his treasures. There was nothing in his house or in all his dominion that Hezekiah did not show them.

³ Then Isaiah the prophet went to King Hezekiah, and said to him, "What did these men say, and from where did they come to you?" So Hezekiah said, "They came to me from a far country, from Babylon."

⁴ And he said, "What have they seen in your house?" So Hezekiah answered, "They have seen all that is in my house; there is nothing among my treasures that I have not shown them."

⁵ Then Isaiah said to Hezekiah, "Hear the word of the LORD of hosts:

⁶ 'Behold, the days are coming when all that is in your house, and what your fathers have accumulated until this day, shall be carried to Babylon; nothing shall be left,' says the LORD.

⁷ 'And they shall take away some of your sons who will descend from you, whom you will beget; and they shall be eunuchs in the palace of the king of Babylon.'"

⁸ So Hezekiah said to Isaiah, "The word of the LORD which you have spoken is good!" For he said, "At least there will be peace and truth in my days."

40 ¹ "Comfort, yes, comfort My people!" Says your God.

² "Speak comfort to Jerusalem, and cry out to her, That her warfare is ended, That her iniquity is pardoned; For she

has received from the LORD'S hand
Double for all her sins."

³ The voice of one crying in the
wilderness: "Prepare the way of the
LORD; Make straight in the desert A
highway for our God.

⁴ Every valley shall be exalted And every
mountain and hill brought low; The
crooked places shall be made straight
And the rough places smooth;

⁵ The glory of the LORD shall be
revealed, And all flesh shall see it
together; For the mouth of the LORD has
spoken."

⁶ The voice said, "Cry out!" And he said,
"What shall I cry?" "All flesh is grass, And
all its loveliness is like the flower of the
field.

⁷ The grass withers, the flower fades,
Because the breath of the LORD blows
upon it; Surely the people are grass.

⁸ The grass withers, the flower fades,
But the word of our God stands forever."

⁹ O Zion, You who bring good tidings,
Get up into the high mountain; O
Jerusalem, You who bring good tidings,
Lift up your voice with strength, Lift it up,
be not afraid; Say to the cities of Judah,
"Behold your God!"

¹⁰ Behold, the Lord GOD shall come
with a strong hand, And His arm shall
rule for Him; Behold, His reward is with
Him, And His work before Him.

¹¹ He will feed His flock like a shepherd;
He will gather the lambs with His arm,
And carry them in His bosom, And gently
lead those who are with young.

¹² Who has measured the waters in the
hollow of His hand, Measured heaven
with a span And calculated the dust of
the earth in a measure? Weighed the
mountains in scales And the hills in a
balance?

¹³ Who has directed the Spirit of the LORD, Or as His counselor has taught Him?

¹⁴ With whom did He take counsel, and who instructed Him, And taught Him in the path of justice? Who taught Him knowledge, And showed Him the way of understanding?

¹⁵ Behold, the nations are as a drop in a bucket, And are counted as the small dust on the scales; Look, He lifts up the isles as a very little thing.

¹⁶ And Lebanon is not sufficient to burn, Nor its beasts sufficient for a burnt offering.

¹⁷ All nations before Him are as nothing, And they are counted by Him less than nothing and worthless.

¹⁸ To whom then will you liken God? Or what likeness will you compare to Him?

¹⁹ The workman molds an image, The goldsmith overspreads it with gold, And the silversmith casts silver chains.

²⁰ Whoever is too impoverished for such a contribution Chooses a tree that will not rot; He seeks for himself a skillful workman To prepare a carved image that will not totter.

²¹ Have you not known? Have you not heard? Has it not been told you from the beginning? Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth?

²² It is He who sits above the circle of the earth, And its inhabitants are like grasshoppers, Who stretches out the heavens like a curtain, And spreads them out like a tent to dwell in.

²³ He brings the princes to nothing; He makes the judges of the earth useless.

²⁴ Scarcely shall they be planted, Scarcely shall they be sown, Scarcely shall their stock take root in the earth,

When He will also blow on them, And they will wither, And the whirlwind will take them away like stubble.

²⁵ "To whom then will you liken Me, Or to whom shall I be equal?" says the Holy One.

²⁶ Lift up your eyes on high, And see who has created these things, Who brings out their host by number; He calls them all by name, By the greatness of His might And the strength of His power; Not one is missing.

²⁷ Why do you say, O Jacob, And speak, O Israel: "My way is hidden from the LORD, And my just claim is passed over by my God"?

²⁸ Have you not known? Have you not heard? The everlasting God, the LORD, The Creator of the ends of the earth, Neither faints nor is weary. His understanding is unsearchable.

²⁹ He gives power to the weak, And to those who have no might He increases strength.

³⁰ Even the youths shall faint and be weary, And the young men shall utterly fall,

³¹ But those who wait on the LORD Shall renew their strength; They shall mount up with wings like eagles, They shall run and not be weary, They shall walk and not faint.

41 ¹ "Keep silence before Me, O coastlands, And let the people renew their strength! Let them come near, then let them speak; Let us come near together for judgment.

² "Who raised up one from the east? Who in righteousness called him to His feet? Who gave the nations before him, And made him rule over kings? Who gave them as the dust to his sword, As driven stubble to his bow?

³ Who pursued them, and passed safely
By the way that he had not gone with his
feet?

⁴ Who has performed and done
it, Calling the generations from the
beginning? 'I, the LORD, am the first;
And with the last I am He.'

⁵ The coastlands saw it and feared, The
ends of the earth were afraid; They drew
near and came.

⁶ Everyone helped his neighbor, And
said to his brother, "Be of good courage!"

⁷ So the craftsman encouraged the
goldsmith; He who smooths with the
hammer inspired him who strikes
the anvil, Saying, "It is ready for the
soldering"; Then he fastened it with
pegs, That it might not totter.

⁸ "But you, Israel, are My servant, Jacob
whom I have chosen, The descendants
of Abraham My friend.

⁹ You whom I have taken from the ends of the earth, And called from its farthest regions, And said to you, ‘You are My servant, I have chosen you and have not cast you away:

¹⁰ Fear not, for I am with you; Be not dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, Yes, I will help you, I will uphold you with My righteous right hand.’

¹¹ "Behold, all those who were incensed against you Shall be ashamed and disgraced; They shall be as nothing, And those who strive with you shall perish.

¹² You shall seek them and not find them—Those who contended with you. Those who war against you Shall be as nothing, As a nonexistent thing.

¹³ For I, the LORD your God, will hold your right hand, Saying to you, ‘Fear not, I will help you.’

¹⁴ "Fear not, you worm Jacob, You men of Israel! I will help you," says the LORD And your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel.

¹⁵ "Behold, I will make you into a new threshing sledge with sharp teeth; You shall thresh the mountains and beat them small, And make the hills like chaff.

¹⁶ You shall winnow them, the wind shall carry them away, And the whirlwind shall scatter them; You shall rejoice in the LORD, And glory in the Holy One of Israel.

¹⁷ "The poor and needy seek water, but there is none, Their tongues fail for thirst. I, the LORD, will hear them; I, the God of Israel, will not forsake them.

¹⁸ I will open rivers in desolate heights, And fountains in the midst of the valleys; I will make the wilderness a pool of water, And the dry land springs of water.

¹⁹ I will plant in the wilderness the cedar and the acacia tree, The myrtle and the oil tree; I will set in the desert the cypress tree and the pine And the box tree together,

²⁰ That they may see and know, And consider and understand together, That the hand of the LORD has done this, And the Holy One of Israel has created it.

²¹ "Present your case," says the LORD. "Bring forth your strong reasons," says the King of Jacob.

²² "Let them bring forth and show us what will happen; Let them show the former things, what they were, That we may consider them, And know the latter end of them; Or declare to us things to come.

²³ Show the things that are to come hereafter, That we may know that you are gods; Yes, do good or do evil, That we may be dismayed and see it together.

²⁴ Indeed you are nothing, And your work is nothing; He who chooses you is an abomination.

²⁵ "I have raised up one from the north, And he shall come; From the rising of the sun he shall call on My name; And he shall come against princes as though mortar, As the potter treads clay.

²⁶ Who has declared from the beginning, that we may know? And former times, that we may say, 'He is righteous'? Surely there is no one who shows, Surely there is no one who declares, Surely there is no one who hears your words.

²⁷ The first time I said to Zion, 'Look, there they are!' And I will give to Jerusalem one who brings good tidings.

²⁸ For I looked, and there was no man; I looked among them, but there was no counselor, Who, when I asked of them, could answer a word.

²⁹ Indeed they are all worthless; Their works are nothing; Their molded images are wind and confusion.

42 ¹ "Behold! My Servant whom I uphold, My Elect One in whom My soul delights! I have put My Spirit upon Him; He will bring forth justice to the Gentiles.

² He will not cry out, nor raise His voice, Nor cause His voice to be heard in the street.

³ A bruised reed He will not break, And smoking flax He will not quench; He will bring forth justice for truth.

⁴ He will not fail nor be discouraged, Till He has established justice in the earth; And the coastlands shall wait for His law."

⁵ Thus says God the LORD, Who created the heavens and stretched them out, Who spread forth the earth and that which comes from it, Who gives breath

to the people on it, And spirit to those who walk on it:

⁶ "I, the LORD, have called You in righteousness, And will hold Your hand; I will keep You and give You as a covenant to the people, As a light to the Gentiles,

⁷ To open blind eyes, To bring out prisoners from the prison, Those who sit in darkness from the prison house.

⁸ I am the LORD, that is My name; And My glory I will not give to another, Nor My praise to carved images.

⁹ Behold, the former things have come to pass, And new things I declare; Before they spring forth I tell you of them."

¹⁰ Sing to the LORD a new song, And His praise from the ends of the earth, You who go down to the sea, and all that is in it, You coastlands and you inhabitants of them!

¹¹ Let the wilderness and its cities lift up their voice, The villages that Kedar

inhabits. Let the inhabitants of Sela sing,
Let them shout from the top of the
mountains.

¹² Let them give glory to the LORD, And
declare His praise in the coastlands.

¹³ The LORD shall go forth like a mighty
man; He shall stir up His zeal like a man
of war. He shall cry out, yes, shout aloud;
He shall prevail against His enemies.

¹⁴ "I have held My peace a long time,
I have been still and restrained Myself.
Now I will cry like a woman in labor, I will
pant and gasp at once.

¹⁵ I will lay waste the mountains and
hills, And dry up all their vegetation; I
will make the rivers coastlands, And I will
dry up the pools.

¹⁶ I will bring the blind by a way they did
not know; I will lead them in paths they
have not known. I will make darkness
light before them, And crooked places

straight. These things I will do for them,
And not forsake them.

¹⁷ They shall be turned back, They shall
be greatly ashamed, Who trust in carved
images, Who say to the molded images,
'You are our gods.'

¹⁸ "Hear, you deaf; And look, you blind,
that you may see.

¹⁹ Who is blind but My servant, Or deaf
as My messenger whom I send? Who is
blind as he who is perfect, And blind as
the LORD'S servant?

²⁰ Seeing many things, but you do not
observe; Opening the ears, but he does
not hear."

²¹ The LORD is well pleased for His
righteousness' sake; He will exalt the law
and make it honorable.

²² But this is a people robbed and
plundered; All of them are snared in
holes, And they are hidden in prison
houses; They are for prey, and no one

delivers; For plunder, and no one says,
"Restore!"

²³ Who among you will give ear to this?
Who will listen and hear for the time to
come?

²⁴ Who gave Jacob for plunder, and
Israel to the robbers? Was it not the
LORD, He against whom we have sinned?
For they would not walk in His ways, Nor
were they obedient to His law.

²⁵ Therefore He has poured on him the
fury of His anger And the strength of
battle; It has set him on fire all around,
Yet he did not know; And it burned him,
Yet he did not take it to heart.

43 ¹ But now, thus says the LORD,
who created you, O Jacob, And
He who formed you, O Israel: "Fear not,
for I have redeemed you; I have called
you by your name; You are Mine.

² When you pass through the waters, I
will be with you; And through the rivers,

they shall not overflow you. When you walk through the fire, you shall not be burned, Nor shall the flame scorch you.

³ For I am the LORD your God, The Holy One of Israel, your Savior; I gave Egypt for your ransom, Ethiopia and Seba in your place.

⁴ Since you were precious in My sight, You have been honored, And I have loved you; Therefore I will give men for you, And people for your life.

⁵ Fear not, for I am with you; I will bring your descendants from the east, And gather you from the west;

⁶ I will say to the north, 'Give them up!' And to the south, 'Do not keep them back!' Bring My sons from afar, And My daughters from the ends of the earth—

⁷ Everyone who is called by My name, Whom I have created for My glory; I have formed him, yes, I have made him."

⁸ Bring out the blind people who have eyes, And the deaf who have ears.

⁹ Let all the nations be gathered together, And let the people be assembled. Who among them can declare this, And show us former things? Let them bring out their witnesses, that they may be justified; Or let them hear and say, "It is truth."

¹⁰ "You are My witnesses," says the LORD, "And My servant whom I have chosen, That you may know and believe Me, And understand that I am He. Before Me there was no God formed, Nor shall there be after Me.

¹¹ I, even I, am the LORD, And besides Me there is no savior.

¹² I have declared and saved, I have proclaimed, And there was no foreign god among you; Therefore you are My witnesses," Says the LORD, "that I am God.

¹³ Indeed before the day was, I am He;
And there is no one who can deliver out
of My hand; I work, and who will reverse
it?"

¹⁴ Thus says the LORD, your Redeemer,
The Holy One of Israel: "For your sake I
will send to Babylon, And bring them all
down as fugitives—The Chaldeans, who
rejoice in their ships.

¹⁵ I am the LORD, your Holy One, The
Creator of Israel, your King."

¹⁶ Thus says the LORD, who makes a
way in the sea And a path through the
mighty waters,

¹⁷ Who brings forth the chariot and
horse, The army and the power (They
shall lie down together, they shall not
rise; They are extinguished, they are
quenched like a wick):

¹⁸ "Do not remember the former things,
Nor consider the things of old.

¹⁹ Behold, I will do a new thing, Now it shall spring forth; Shall you not know it? I will even make a road in the wilderness And rivers in the desert.

²⁰ The beast of the field will honor Me, The jackals and the ostriches, Because I give waters in the wilderness And rivers in the desert, To give drink to My people, My chosen.

²¹ This people I have formed for Myself; They shall declare My praise.

²² "But you have not called upon Me, O Jacob; And you have been weary of Me, O Israel.

²³ You have not brought Me the sheep for your burnt offerings, Nor have you honored Me with your sacrifices. I have not caused you to serve with grain offerings, Nor wearied you with incense.

²⁴ You have bought Me no sweet cane with money, Nor have you satisfied Me with the fat of your sacrifices; But you

have burdened Me with your sins, You have wearied Me with your iniquities.

²⁵ "I, even I, am He who blots out your transgressions for My own sake; And I will not remember your sins.

²⁶ Put Me in remembrance; Let us contend together; State your case, that you may be acquitted.

²⁷ Your first father sinned, And your mediators have transgressed against Me.

²⁸ Therefore I will profane the princes of the sanctuary; I will give Jacob to the curse, And Israel to reproaches.

44 ¹ "Yet hear now, O Jacob My servant, And Israel whom I have chosen.

² Thus says the LORD who made you And formed you from the womb, who will help you: 'Fear not, O Jacob My servant; And you, Jeshurun, whom I have chosen.

³ For I will pour water on him who is thirsty, And floods on the dry ground; I will pour My Spirit on your descendants, And My blessing on your offspring;

⁴ They will spring up among the grass Like willows by the watercourses.'

⁵ One will say, 'I am the LORD'S'; Another will call himself by the name of Jacob; Another will write with his hand, 'The LORD'S,' And name himself by the name of Israel.

⁶ "Thus says the LORD, the King of Israel, And his Redeemer, the LORD of hosts: 'I am the First and I am the Last; Besides Me there is no God.

⁷ And who can proclaim as I do? Then let him declare it and set it in order for Me, Since I appointed the ancient people. And the things that are coming and shall come, Let them show these to them.

⁸ Do not fear, nor be afraid; Have I not told you from that time, and declared it? You are My witnesses. Is there a God besides Me? Indeed there is no other Rock; I know not one.'"

⁹ Those who make an image, all of them are useless, And their precious things shall not profit; They are their own witnesses; They neither see nor know, that they may be ashamed.

¹⁰ Who would form a god or mold an image That profits him nothing?

¹¹ Surely all his companions would be ashamed; And the workmen, they are mere men. Let them all be gathered together, Let them stand up; Yet they shall fear, They shall be ashamed together.

¹² The blacksmith with the tongs works one in the coals, Fashions it with hammers, And works it with the strength of his arms. Even so, he is hungry, and

his strength fails; He drinks no water and is faint.

¹³ The craftsman stretches out his rule, He marks one out with chalk; He fashions it with a plane, He marks it out with the compass, And makes it like the figure of a man, According to the beauty of a man, that it may remain in the house.

¹⁴ He cuts down cedars for himself, And takes the cypress and the oak; He secures it for himself among the trees of the forest. He plants a pine, and the rain nourishes it.

¹⁵ Then it shall be for a man to burn, For he will take some of it and warm himself; Yes, he kindles it and bakes bread; Indeed he makes a god and worships it; He makes it a carved image, and falls down to it.

¹⁶ He burns half of it in the fire; With this half he eats meat; He roasts a roast, and is satisfied. He even warms himself

and says, "Ah! I am warm, I have seen the fire."

¹⁷ And the rest of it he makes into a god, His carved image. He falls down before it and worships it, Prays to it and says, "Deliver me, for you are my god!"

¹⁸ They do not know nor understand; For He has shut their eyes, so that they cannot see, And their hearts, so that they cannot understand.

¹⁹ And no one considers in his heart, Nor is there knowledge nor understanding to say, "I have burned half of it in the fire, Yes, I have also baked bread on its coals; I have roasted meat and eaten it; And shall I make the rest of it an abomination? Shall I fall down before a block of wood?"

²⁰ He feeds on ashes; A deceived heart has turned him aside; And he cannot deliver his soul, Nor say, "Is there not a lie in my right hand?"

²¹ "Remember these, O Jacob, And Israel, for you are My servant; I have formed you, you are My servant; O Israel, you will not be forgotten by Me!

²² I have blotted out, like a thick cloud, your transgressions, And like a cloud, your sins. Return to Me, for I have redeemed you."

²³ Sing, O heavens, for the LORD has done it! Shout, you lower parts of the earth; Break forth into singing, you mountains, O forest, and every tree in it! For the LORD has redeemed Jacob, And glorified Himself in Israel.

²⁴ Thus says the LORD, your Redeemer, And He who formed you from the womb: "I am the LORD, who makes all things, Who stretches out the heavens all alone, Who spreads abroad the earth by Myself;

²⁵ Who frustrates the signs of the babblers, And drives diviners mad; Who

turns wise men backward, And makes their knowledge foolishness;

²⁶ Who confirms the word of His servant, And performs the counsel of His messengers; Who says to Jerusalem, 'You shall be inhabited,' To the cities of Judah, 'You shall be built,' And I will raise up her waste places;

²⁷ Who says to the deep, 'Be dry! And I will dry up your rivers';

²⁸ Who says of Cyrus, 'He is My shepherd, And he shall perform all My pleasure, Saying to Jerusalem, "You shall be built," And to the temple, "Your foundation shall be laid."' "

45 ¹ "Thus says the LORD to His anointed, To Cyrus, whose right hand I have held—To subdue nations before him And loose the armor of kings, To open before him the double doors, So that the gates will not be shut:

² 'I will go before you And make the crooked places straight; I will break in pieces the gates of bronze And cut the bars of iron.

³ I will give you the treasures of darkness And hidden riches of secret places, That you may know that I, the LORD, Who call you by your name, Am the God of Israel.

⁴ For Jacob My servant's sake, And Israel My elect, I have even called you by your name; I have named you, though you have not known Me.

⁵ I am the LORD, and there is no other; There is no God besides Me. I will gird you, though you have not known Me,

⁶ That they may know from the rising of the sun to its setting That there is none besides Me. I am the LORD, and there is no other;

⁷ I form the light and create darkness, I make peace and create calamity; I, the LORD, do all these things.'

⁸ "Rain down, you heavens, from above, And let the skies pour down righteousness; Let the earth open, let them bring forth salvation, And let righteousness spring up together. I, the LORD, have created it.

⁹ "Woe to him who strives with his Maker! Let the potsherd strive with the potsherds of the earth! Shall the clay say to him who forms it, 'What are you making?' Or shall your handiwork say, 'He has no hands'?

¹⁰ Woe to him who says to his father, 'What are you begetting?' Or to the woman, 'What have you brought forth?'"

¹¹ Thus says the LORD, The Holy One of Israel, and his Maker: "Ask Me of things to come concerning My sons; And

concerning the work of My hands, you command Me.

¹² I have made the earth, And created man on it. I—My hands—stretched out the heavens, And all their host I have commanded.

¹³ I have raised him up in righteousness, And I will direct all his ways; He shall build My city And let My exiles go free, Not for price nor reward," Says the LORD of hosts.

¹⁴ Thus says the LORD: "The labor of Egypt and merchandise of Cush And of the Sabeans, men of stature, Shall come over to you, and they shall be yours; They shall walk behind you, They shall come over in chains; And they shall bow down to you. They will make supplication to you, saying, 'Surely God is in you, And there is no other; There is no other God.'" "

¹⁵ Truly You are God, who hide Yourself,
O God of Israel, the Savior!

¹⁶ They shall be ashamed And also
disgraced, all of them; They shall go in
confusion together, Who are makers of
idols.

¹⁷ But Israel shall be saved by the LORD
With an everlasting salvation; You shall
not be ashamed or disgraced Forever
and ever.

¹⁸ For thus says the LORD, Who
created the heavens, Who is God, Who
formed the earth and made it, Who has
established it, Who did not create it in
vain, Who formed it to be inhabited: "I
am the LORD, and there is no other.

¹⁹ I have not spoken in secret, In a dark
place of the earth; I did not say to the
seed of Jacob, 'Seek Me in vain'; I, the
LORD, speak righteousness, I declare
things that are right.

²⁰ "Assemble yourselves and come;
Draw near together, You who have
escaped from the nations. They have no
knowledge, Who carry the wood of their
carved image, And pray to a god that
cannot save.

²¹ Tell and bring forth your case; Yes, let
them take counsel together. Who has
declared this from ancient time? Who
has told it from that time? Have not I,
the LORD? And there is no other God
besides Me, A just God and a Savior;
There is none besides Me.

²² "Look to Me, and be saved, All you
ends of the earth! For I am God, and
there is no other.

²³ I have sworn by Myself; The word has
gone out of My mouth in righteousness,
And shall not return, That to Me every
knee shall bow, Every tongue shall take
an oath.

²⁴ He shall say, 'Surely in the LORD I have righteousness and strength. To Him men shall come, And all shall be ashamed Who are incensed against Him.

²⁵ In the LORD all the descendants of Israel Shall be justified, and shall glory.'"

46 ¹ Bel bows down, Nebo stoops; Their idols were on the beasts and on the cattle. Your carriages were heavily loaded, A burden to the weary beast.

² They stoop, they bow down together; They could not deliver the burden, But have themselves gone into captivity.

³ "Listen to Me, O house of Jacob, And all the remnant of the house of Israel, Who have been upheld by Me from birth, Who have been carried from the womb:

⁴ Even to your old age, I am He, And even to gray hairs I will carry you! I have

made, and I will bear; Even I will carry,
and will deliver you.

⁵ "To whom will you liken Me, and make
Me equal And compare Me, that we
should be alike?

⁶ They lavish gold out of the bag, And
weigh silver on the scales; They hire a
goldsmith, and he makes it a god; They
prostrate themselves, yes, they worship.

⁷ They bear it on the shoulder, they
carry it And set it in its place, and it
stands; From its place it shall not move.
Though one cries out to it, yet it cannot
answer Nor save him out of his trouble.

⁸ "Remember this, and show yourselves
men; Recall to mind, O you transgressors.

⁹ Remember the former things of old,
For I am God, and there is no other; I am
God, and there is none like Me,

¹⁰ Declaring the end from the
beginning, And from ancient times
things that are not yet done, Saying, 'My

counsel shall stand, And I will do all My pleasure;'

¹¹ Calling a bird of prey from the east, The man who executes My counsel, from a far country. Indeed I have spoken it; I will also bring it to pass. I have purposed it; I will also do it.

¹² "Listen to Me, you stubborn–hearted, Who are far from righteousness:

¹³ I bring My righteousness near, it shall not be far off; My salvation shall not linger. And I will place salvation in Zion, For Israel My glory.

47 ¹ "Come down and sit in the dust, O virgin daughter of Babylon; Sit on the ground without a throne, O daughter of the Chaldeans! For you shall no more be called Tender and delicate.

² Take the millstones and grind meal. Remove your veil, Take off the skirt, Uncover the thigh, Pass through the rivers.

³ Your nakedness shall be uncovered,
Yes, your shame will be seen; I will take
vengeance, And I will not arbitrate with
a man."

⁴ As for our Redeemer, the LORD of
hosts is His name, The Holy One of Israel.

⁵ "Sit in silence, and go into darkness,
O daughter of the Chaldeans; For you
shall no longer be called The Lady of
Kingdoms.

⁶ I was angry with My people; I have
profaned My inheritance, And given
them into your hand. You showed them
no mercy; On the elderly you laid your
yoke very heavily.

⁷ And you said, 'I shall be a lady forever,'
So that you did not take these things to
heart, Nor remember the latter end of
them.

⁸ "Therefore hear this now, you who are
given to pleasures, Who dwell securely,
Who say in your heart, 'I am, and there

is no one else besides me; I shall not sit as a widow, Nor shall I know the loss of children’;

⁹ But these two things shall come to you In a moment, in one day: The loss of children, and widowhood. They shall come upon you in their fullness Because of the multitude of your sorceries, For the great abundance of your enchantments.

¹⁰ "For you have trusted in your wickedness; You have said, ‘No one sees me’; Your wisdom and your knowledge have warped you; And you have said in your heart, ‘I am, and there is no one else besides me.’

¹¹ Therefore evil shall come upon you; You shall not know from where it arises. And trouble shall fall upon you; You will not be able to put it off. And desolation shall come upon you suddenly, Which you shall not know.

¹² "Stand now with your enchantments
And the multitude of your sorceries,
In which you have labored from your
youth—Perhaps you will be able to
profit, Perhaps you will prevail.

¹³ You are wearied in the multitude of
your counsels; Let now the astrologers,
the stargazers, And the monthly
prognosticators Stand up and save you
From what shall come upon you.

¹⁴ Behold, they shall be as stubble,
The fire shall burn them; They shall not
deliver themselves From the power of
the flame; It shall not be a coal to be
warmed by, Nor a fire to sit before!

¹⁵ Thus shall they be to you With whom
you have labored, Your merchants from
your youth; They shall wander each one
to his quarter. No one shall save you.

48 ¹ "Hear this, O house of Jacob,
Who are called by the name of
Israel, And have come forth from the

wellsprings of Judah; Who swear by the name of the LORD, And make mention of the God of Israel, But not in truth or in righteousness;

² For they call themselves after the holy city, And lean on the God of Israel; The LORD of hosts is His name:

³ "I have declared the former things from the beginning; They went forth from My mouth, and I caused them to hear it. Suddenly I did them, and they came to pass.

⁴ Because I knew that you were obstinate, And your neck was an iron sinew, And your brow bronze,

⁵ Even from the beginning I have declared it to you; Before it came to pass I proclaimed it to you, Lest you should say, 'My idol has done them, And my carved image and my molded image Have commanded them.'

⁶ "You have heard; See all this. And will you not declare it? I have made you hear new things from this time, Even hidden things, and you did not know them.

⁷ They are created now and not from the beginning; And before this day you have not heard them, Lest you should say, 'Of course I knew them.'

⁸ Surely you did not hear, Surely you did not know; Surely from long ago your ear was not opened. For I knew that you would deal very treacherously, And were called a transgressor from the womb.

⁹ "For My name's sake I will defer My anger, And for My praise I will restrain it from you, So that I do not cut you off.

¹⁰ Behold, I have refined you, but not as silver; I have tested you in the furnace of affliction.

¹¹ For My own sake, for My own sake, I will do it; For how should My name be

profaned? And I will not give My glory to another.

¹² "Listen to Me, O Jacob, And Israel, My called: I am He, I am the First, I am also the Last.

¹³ Indeed My hand has laid the foundation of the earth, And My right hand has stretched out the heavens; When I call to them, They stand up together.

¹⁴ "All of you, assemble yourselves, and hear! Who among them has declared these things? The LORD loves him; He shall do His pleasure on Babylon, And His arm shall be against the Chaldeans.

¹⁵ I, even I, have spoken; Yes, I have called him, I have brought him, and his way will prosper.

¹⁶ "Come near to Me, hear this: I have not spoken in secret from the beginning; From the time that it was, I was there.

And now the Lord GOD and His Spirit
Have sent Me."

¹⁷ Thus says the LORD, your Redeemer,
The Holy One of Israel: "I am the LORD
your God, Who teaches you to profit,
Who leads you by the way you should
go.

¹⁸ Oh, that you had heeded My
commandments! Then your peace
would have been like a river, And your
righteousness like the waves of the sea.

¹⁹ Your descendants also would have
been like the sand, And the offspring of
your body like the grains of sand; His
name would not have been cut off Nor
destroyed from before Me."

²⁰ Go forth from Babylon! Flee from
the Chaldeans! With a voice of singing,
Declare, proclaim this, Utter it to the
end of the earth; Say, "The LORD has
redeemed His servant Jacob!"

²¹ And they did not thirst When He led them through the deserts; He caused the waters to flow from the rock for them; He also split the rock, and the waters gushed out.

²² "There is no peace," says the LORD, "for the wicked."

49 ¹ "Listen, O coastlands, to Me, And take heed, you peoples from afar! The LORD has called Me from the womb; From the matrix of My mother He has made mention of My name.

² And He has made My mouth like a sharp sword; In the shadow of His hand He has hidden Me, And made Me a polished shaft; In His quiver He has hidden Me."

³ "And He said to me, 'You are My servant, O Israel, In whom I will be glorified.'

⁴ Then I said, 'I have labored in vain, I have spent my strength for nothing and

in vain; Yet surely my just reward is with the LORD, And my work with my God.'"

⁵ "And now the LORD says, Who formed Me from the womb to be His Servant, To bring Jacob back to Him, So that Israel is gathered to Him (For I shall be glorious in the eyes of the LORD, And My God shall be My strength),

⁶ Indeed He says, 'It is too small a thing that You should be My Servant To raise up the tribes of Jacob, And to restore the preserved ones of Israel; I will also give You as a light to the Gentiles, That You should be My salvation to the ends of the earth.'"

⁷ Thus says the LORD, The Redeemer of Israel, their Holy One, To Him whom man despises, To Him whom the nation abhors, To the Servant of rulers: "Kings shall see and arise, Princes also shall worship, Because of the LORD who is

faithful, The Holy One of Israel; And He has chosen You."

⁸ Thus says the LORD: "In an acceptable time I have heard You, And in the day of salvation I have helped You; I will preserve You and give You As a covenant to the people, To restore the earth, To cause them to inherit the desolate heritages;

⁹ That You may say to the prisoners, 'Go forth,' To those who are in darkness, 'Show yourselves.' "They shall feed along the roads, And their pastures shall be on all desolate heights.

¹⁰ They shall neither hunger nor thirst, Neither heat nor sun shall strike them; For He who has mercy on them will lead them, Even by the springs of water He will guide them.

¹¹ I will make each of My mountains a road, And My highways shall be elevated.

¹² Surely these shall come from afar;
Look! Those from the north and the
west, And these from the land of Sinim."

¹³ Sing, O heavens! Be joyful, O earth!
And break out in singing, O mountains!
For the LORD has comforted His people,
And will have mercy on His afflicted.

¹⁴ But Zion said, "The LORD has forsaken
me, And my Lord has forgotten me."

¹⁵ "Can a woman forget her nursing
child, And not have compassion on
the son of her womb? Surely they may
forget, Yet I will not forget you.

¹⁶ See, I have inscribed you on the
palms of My hands; Your walls are
continually before Me.

¹⁷ Your sons shall make haste; Your
destroyers and those who laid you waste
Shall go away from you.

¹⁸ Lift up your eyes, look around and
see; All these gather together and come
to you. As I live," says the LORD, "You

shall surely clothe yourselves with them
all as an ornament, And bind them on
you as a bride does.

¹⁹ "For your waste and desolate places,
And the land of your destruction,
Will even now be too small for the
inhabitants; And those who swallowed
you up will be far away.

²⁰ The children you will have, After you
have lost the others, Will say again in
your ears, 'The place is too small for me;
Give me a place where I may dwell.'

²¹ Then you will say in your heart, 'Who
has begotten these for me, Since I have
lost my children and am desolate, A
captive, and wandering to and fro? And
who has brought these up? There I was,
left alone; But these, where were they?'"

²² Thus says the Lord GOD: "Behold,
I will lift My hand in an oath to the
nations, And set up My standard for the
peoples; They shall bring your sons in

their arms, And your daughters shall be carried on their shoulders;

²³ Kings shall be your foster fathers, And their queens your nursing mothers; They shall bow down to you with their faces to the earth, And lick up the dust of your feet. Then you will know that I am the LORD, For they shall not be ashamed who wait for Me."

²⁴ Shall the prey be taken from the mighty, Or the captives of the righteous be delivered?

²⁵ But thus says the LORD: "Even the captives of the mighty shall be taken away, And the prey of the terrible be delivered; For I will contend with him who contends with you, And I will save your children.

²⁶ I will feed those who oppress you with their own flesh, And they shall be drunk with their own blood as with sweet wine. All flesh shall know That

I, the LORD, am your Savior, And your Redeemer, the Mighty One of Jacob."

50 ¹ Thus says the LORD: "Where is the certificate of your mother's divorce, Whom I have put away? Or which of My creditors is it to whom I have sold you? For your iniquities you have sold yourselves, And for your transgressions your mother has been put away.

² Why, when I came, was there no man? Why, when I called, was there none to answer? Is My hand shortened at all that it cannot redeem? Or have I no power to deliver? Indeed with My rebuke I dry up the sea, I make the rivers a wilderness; Their fish stink because there is no water, And die of thirst.

³ I clothe the heavens with blackness, And I make sackcloth their covering."

⁴ "The Lord GOD has given Me The tongue of the learned, That I should

know how to speak A word in season
to him who is weary. He awakens Me
morning by morning, He awakens My
ear To hear as the learned.

⁵ The Lord GOD has opened My ear;
And I was not rebellious, Nor did I turn
away.

⁶ I gave My back to those who struck
Me, And My cheeks to those who
plucked out the beard; I did not hide My
face from shame and spitting.

⁷ "For the Lord GOD will help Me;
Therefore I will not be disgraced;
Therefore I have set My face like a flint,
And I know that I will not be ashamed.

⁸ He is near who justifies Me; Who will
contend with Me? Let us stand together.
Who is My adversary? Let him come
near Me.

⁹ Surely the Lord GOD will help Me;
Who is he who will condemn Me? Indeed

they will all grow old like a garment; The moth will eat them up.

¹⁰ "Who among you fears the LORD?
Who obeys the voice of His Servant?
Who walks in darkness And has no light?
Let him trust in the name of the LORD
And rely upon his God.

¹¹ Look, all you who kindle a fire, Who encircle yourselves with sparks: Walk in the light of your fire and in the sparks you have kindled—This you shall have from My hand: You shall lie down in torment.

51 ¹ "Listen to Me, you who follow after righteousness, You who seek the LORD: Look to the rock from which you were hewn, And to the hole of the pit from which you were dug.

² Look to Abraham your father, And to Sarah who bore you; For I called him alone, And blessed him and increased him."

³ For the LORD will comfort Zion, He will comfort all her waste places; He will make her wilderness like Eden, And her desert like the garden of the LORD; Joy and gladness will be found in it, Thanksgiving and the voice of melody.

⁴ "Listen to Me, My people; And give ear to Me, O My nation: For law will proceed from Me, And I will make My justice rest As a light of the peoples.

⁵ My righteousness is near, My salvation has gone forth, And My arms will judge the peoples; The coastlands will wait upon Me, And on My arm they will trust.

⁶ Lift up your eyes to the heavens, And look on the earth beneath. For the heavens will vanish away like smoke, The earth will grow old like a garment, And those who dwell in it will die in like manner; But My salvation will be forever, And My righteousness will not be abolished.

⁷ "Listen to Me, you who know righteousness, You people in whose heart is My law: Do not fear the reproach of men, Nor be afraid of their insults.

⁸ For the moth will eat them up like a garment, And the worm will eat them like wool; But My righteousness will be forever, And My salvation from generation to generation."

⁹ Awake, awake, put on strength, O arm of the LORD! Awake as in the ancient days, In the generations of old. Are You not the arm that cut Rahab apart, And wounded the serpent?

¹⁰ Are You not the One who dried up the sea, The waters of the great deep; That made the depths of the sea a road For the redeemed to cross over?

¹¹ So the ransomed of the LORD shall return, And come to Zion with singing, With everlasting joy on their heads. They

shall obtain joy and gladness; Sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

¹² "I, even I, am He who comforts you. Who are you that you should be afraid Of a man who will die, And of the son of a man who will be made like grass?

¹³ And you forget the LORD your Maker, Who stretched out the heavens And laid the foundations of the earth; You have feared continually every day Because of the fury of the oppressor, When he has prepared to destroy. And where is the fury of the oppressor?

¹⁴ The captive exile hastens, that he may be loosed, That he should not die in the pit, And that his bread should not fail.

¹⁵ But I am the LORD your God, Who divided the sea whose waves roared—The LORD of hosts is His name.

¹⁶ And I have put My words in your mouth; I have covered you with the

shadow of My hand, That I may plant the heavens, Lay the foundations of the earth, And say to Zion, 'You are My people.'

¹⁷ Awake, awake! Stand up, O Jerusalem, You who have drunk at the hand of the LORD The cup of His fury; You have drunk the dregs of the cup of trembling, And drained it out.

¹⁸ There is no one to guide her Among all the sons she has brought forth; Nor is there any who takes her by the hand Among all the sons she has brought up.

¹⁹ These two things have come to you; Who will be sorry for you? —Desolation and destruction, famine and sword—By whom will I comfort you?

²⁰ Your sons have fainted, They lie at the head of all the streets, Like an antelope in a net; They are full of the fury of the LORD, The rebuke of your God.

²¹ Therefore please hear this, you afflicted, And drunk but not with wine.

²² Thus says your Lord, The LORD and your God, Who pleads the cause of His people: "See, I have taken out of your hand The cup of trembling, The dregs of the cup of My fury; You shall no longer drink it.

²³ But I will put it into the hand of those who afflict you, Who have said to you, 'Lie down, that we may walk over you.' And you have laid your body like the ground, And as the street, for those who walk over."

52 ¹ Awake, awake! Put on your strength, O Zion; Put on your beautiful garments, O Jerusalem, the holy city! For the uncircumcised and the unclean Shall no longer come to you.

² Shake yourself from the dust, arise; Sit down, O Jerusalem! Loose yourself

from the bonds of your neck, O captive daughter of Zion!

³ For thus says the LORD: "You have sold yourselves for nothing, And you shall be redeemed without money."

⁴ For thus says the Lord GOD: "My people went down at first Into Egypt to dwell there; Then the Assyrian oppressed them without cause.

⁵ Now therefore, what have I here," says the LORD, "That My people are taken away for nothing? Those who rule over them Make them wail," says the LORD, "And My name is blasphemed continually every day.

⁶ Therefore My people shall know My name; Therefore they shall know in that day That I am He who speaks: 'Behold, it is I.'"

⁷ How beautiful upon the mountains Are the feet of him who brings good news, Who proclaims peace, Who

brings glad tidings of good things, Who proclaims salvation, Who says to Zion, "Your God reigns!"

⁸ Your watchmen shall lift up their voices, With their voices they shall sing together; For they shall see eye to eye When the LORD brings back Zion.

⁹ Break forth into joy, sing together, You waste places of Jerusalem! For the LORD has comforted His people, He has redeemed Jerusalem.

¹⁰ The LORD has made bare His holy arm In the eyes of all the nations; And all the ends of the earth shall see The salvation of our God.

¹¹ Depart! Depart! Go out from there, Touch no unclean thing; Go out from the midst of her, Be clean, You who bear the vessels of the LORD.

¹² For you shall not go out with haste, Nor go by flight; For the LORD will go

before you, And the God of Israel will be your rear guard.

¹³ Behold, My Servant shall deal prudently; He shall be exalted and extolled and be very high.

¹⁴ Just as many were astonished at you, So His visage was marred more than any man, And His form more than the sons of men;

¹⁵ So shall He sprinkle many nations. Kings shall shut their mouths at Him; For what had not been told them they shall see, And what they had not heard they shall consider.

53 ¹ Who has believed our report? And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed?

² For He shall grow up before Him as a tender plant, And as a root out of dry ground. He has no form or comeliness; And when we see Him, There is no beauty that we should desire Him.

³ He is despised and rejected by men,
A Man of sorrows and acquainted with
grief. And we hid, as it were, our faces
from Him; He was despised, and we did
not esteem Him.

⁴ Surely He has borne our griefs And
carried our sorrows; Yet we esteemed
Him stricken, Smitten by God, and
afflicted.

⁵ But He was wounded for our
transgressions, He was bruised for our
iniquities; The chastisement for our
peace was upon Him, And by His stripes
we are healed.

⁶ All we like sheep have gone astray;
We have turned, every one, to his own
way; And the LORD has laid on Him the
iniquity of us all.

⁷ He was oppressed and He was
afflicted, Yet He opened not His mouth;
He was led as a lamb to the slaughter,

And as a sheep before its shearers is silent, So He opened not His mouth.

⁸ He was taken from prison and from judgment, And who will declare His generation? For He was cut off from the land of the living; For the transgressions of My people He was stricken.

⁹ And they made His grave with the wicked—But with the rich at His death, Because He had done no violence, Nor was any deceit in His mouth.

¹⁰ Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise Him; He has put Him to grief. When You make His soul an offering for sin, He shall see His seed, He shall prolong His days, And the pleasure of the LORD shall prosper in His hand.

¹¹ He shall see the labor of His soul, and be satisfied. By His knowledge My righteous Servant shall justify many, For He shall bear their iniquities.

¹² Therefore I will divide Him a portion with the great, And He shall divide the spoil with the strong, Because He poured out His soul unto death, And He was numbered with the transgressors, And He bore the sin of many, And made intercession for the transgressors.

54 ¹ "Sing, O barren, You who have not borne! Break forth into singing, and cry aloud, You who have not labored with child! For more are the children of the desolate Than the children of the married woman," says the LORD.

² "Enlarge the place of your tent, And let them stretch out the curtains of your dwellings; Do not spare; Lengthen your cords, And strengthen your stakes.

³ For you shall expand to the right and to the left, And your descendants will inherit the nations, And make the desolate cities inhabited.

⁴ "Do not fear, for you will not be ashamed; Neither be disgraced, for you will not be put to shame; For you will forget the shame of your youth, And will not remember the reproach of your widowhood anymore.

⁵ For your Maker is your husband, The LORD of hosts is His name; And your Redeemer is the Holy One of Israel; He is called the God of the whole earth.

⁶ For the LORD has called you Like a woman forsaken and grieved in spirit, Like a youthful wife when you were refused," Says your God.

⁷ "For a mere moment I have forsaken you, But with great mercies I will gather you.

⁸ With a little wrath I hid My face from you for a moment; But with everlasting kindness I will have mercy on you," Says the LORD, your Redeemer.

⁹ "For this is like the waters of Noah to Me; For as I have sworn That the waters of Noah would no longer cover the earth, So have I sworn That I would not be angry with you, nor rebuke you.

¹⁰ For the mountains shall depart And the hills be removed, But My kindness shall not depart from you, Nor shall My covenant of peace be removed," Says the LORD, who has mercy on you.

¹¹ "O you afflicted one, Tossed with tempest, and not comforted, Behold, I will lay your stones with colorful gems, And lay your foundations with sapphires.

¹² I will make your pinnacles of rubies, Your gates of crystal, And all your walls of precious stones.

¹³ All your children shall be taught by the LORD, And great shall be the peace of your children.

¹⁴ In righteousness you shall be established; You shall be far from

oppression, for you shall not fear; And from terror, for it shall not come near you.

¹⁵ Indeed they shall surely assemble, but not because of Me. Whoever assembles against you shall fall for your sake.

¹⁶ "Behold, I have created the blacksmith Who blows the coals in the fire, Who brings forth an instrument for his work; And I have created the spoiler to destroy.

¹⁷ No weapon formed against you shall prosper, And every tongue which rises against you in judgment You shall condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the LORD, And their righteousness is from Me," Says the LORD.

55 ¹ "Ho! Everyone who thirsts, Come to the waters; And you who have no money, Come, buy and eat.

Yes, come, buy wine and milk
Without money and without price.

² Why do you spend money for what
is not bread, And your wages for what
does not satisfy? Listen carefully to Me,
and eat what is good, And let your soul
delight itself in abundance.

³ Incline your ear, and come to Me.
Hear, and your soul shall live; And I
will make an everlasting covenant with
you—The sure mercies of David.

⁴ Indeed I have given him as a witness
to the people, A leader and commander
for the people.

⁵ Surely you shall call a nation you do
not know, And nations who do not know
you shall run to you, Because of the
LORD your God, And the Holy One of
Israel; For He has glorified you."

⁶ Seek the LORD while He may be
found, Call upon Him while He is near.

⁷ Let the wicked forsake his way, And the unrighteous man his thoughts; Let him return to the LORD, And He will have mercy on him; And to our God, For He will abundantly pardon.

⁸ "For My thoughts are not your thoughts, Nor are your ways My ways," says the LORD.

⁹ "For as the heavens are higher than the earth, So are My ways higher than your ways, And My thoughts than your thoughts.

¹⁰ "For as the rain comes down, and the snow from heaven, And do not return there, But water the earth, And make it bring forth and bud, That it may give seed to the sower And bread to the eater,

¹¹ So shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; It shall not return to Me void, But it shall accomplish what I

please, And it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it.

¹² "For you shall go out with joy, And be led out with peace; The mountains and the hills Shall break forth into singing before you, And all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.

¹³ Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress tree, And instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle tree; And it shall be to the LORD for a name, For an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off."

56 ¹ Thus says the LORD: "Keep justice, and do righteousness, For My salvation is about to come, And My righteousness to be revealed.

² Blessed is the man who does this, And the son of man who lays hold on it; Who keeps from defiling the Sabbath, And keeps his hand from doing any evil."

³ Do not let the son of the foreigner Who has joined himself to the LORD

Speak, saying, "The LORD has utterly separated me from His people"; Nor let the eunuch say, "Here I am, a dry tree."

⁴ For thus says the LORD: "To the eunuchs who keep My Sabbaths, And choose what pleases Me, And hold fast My covenant,

⁵ Even to them I will give in My house And within My walls a place and a name Better than that of sons and daughters; I will give them an everlasting name That shall not be cut off.

⁶ "Also the sons of the foreigner Who join themselves to the LORD, to serve Him, And to love the name of the LORD, to be His servants—Everyone who keeps from defiling the Sabbath, And holds fast My covenant—

⁷ Even them I will bring to My holy mountain, And make them joyful in My house of prayer. Their burnt offerings and their sacrifices Will be accepted on

My altar; For My house shall be called a house of prayer for all nations."

⁸ The Lord GOD, who gathers the outcasts of Israel, says, "Yet I will gather to him Others besides those who are gathered to him."

⁹ All you beasts of the field, come to devour, All you beasts in the forest.

¹⁰ His watchmen are blind, They are all ignorant; They are all dumb dogs, They cannot bark; Sleeping, lying down, loving to slumber.

¹¹ Yes, they are greedy dogs Which never have enough. And they are shepherds Who cannot understand; They all look to their own way, Every one for his own gain, From his own territory.

¹² "Come," one says, "I will bring wine, And we will fill ourselves with intoxicating drink; Tomorrow will be as today, And much more abundant."

57 ¹ The righteous perishes, And no man takes it to heart; Merciful men are taken away, While no one considers That the righteous is taken away from evil.

² He shall enter into peace; They shall rest in their beds, Each one walking in his uprightness.

³ "But come here, You sons of the sorceress, You offspring of the adulterer and the harlot!

⁴ Whom do you ridicule? Against whom do you make a wide mouth And stick out the tongue? Are you not children of transgression, Offspring of falsehood,

⁵ Inflaming yourselves with gods under every green tree, Slaying the children in the valleys, Under the clefts of the rocks?

⁶ Among the smooth stones of the stream Is your portion; They, they, are your lot! Even to them you have poured

a drink offering, You have offered a grain offering. Should I receive comfort in these?

⁷ "On a lofty and high mountain You have set your bed; Even there you went up To offer sacrifice.

⁸ Also behind the doors and their posts You have set up your remembrance; For you have uncovered yourself to those other than Me, And have gone up to them; You have enlarged your bed And made a covenant with them; You have loved their bed, Where you saw their nudity.

⁹ You went to the king with ointment, And increased your perfumes; You sent your messengers far off, And even descended to Sheol.

¹⁰ You are wearied in the length of your way; Yet you did not say, 'There is no hope.' You have found the life of your hand; Therefore you were not grieved.

¹¹ "And of whom have you been afraid, or feared, That you have lied And not remembered Me, Nor taken it to your heart? Is it not because I have held My peace from of old That you do not fear Me?

¹² I will declare your righteousness And your works, For they will not profit you.

¹³ When you cry out, Let your collection of idols deliver you. But the wind will carry them all away, A breath will take them. But he who puts his trust in Me shall possess the land, And shall inherit My holy mountain."

¹⁴ And one shall say, "Heap it up! Heap it up! Prepare the way, Take the stumbling block out of the way of My people."

¹⁵ For thus says the High and Lofty One Who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy: "I dwell in the high and holy place, With him who has a contrite and humble

spirit, To revive the spirit of the humble,
And to revive the heart of the contrite
ones.

¹⁶ For I will not contend forever, Nor will
I always be angry; For the spirit would
fail before Me, And the souls which I
have made.

¹⁷ For the iniquity of his covetousness I
was angry and struck him; I hid and was
angry, And he went on backsliding in the
way of his heart.

¹⁸ I have seen his ways, and will heal
him; I will also lead him, And restore
comforts to him And to his mourners.

¹⁹ "I create the fruit of the lips: Peace,
peace to him who is far off and to him
who is near," Says the LORD, "And I will
heal him."

²⁰ But the wicked are like the troubled
sea, When it cannot rest, Whose waters
cast up mire and dirt.

²¹ "There is no peace," Says my God,
"for the wicked."

58 ¹ "Cry aloud, spare not; Lift up
your voice like a trumpet; Tell
My people their transgression, And the
house of Jacob their sins.

² Yet they seek Me daily, And delight
to know My ways, As a nation that did
righteousness, And did not forsake the
ordinance of their God. They ask of Me
the ordinances of justice; They take
delight in approaching God.

³ 'Why have we fasted,' they say,
'and You have not seen? Why have we
afflicted our souls, and You take no
notice?' "In fact, in the day of your fast
you find pleasure, And exploit all your
laborers.

⁴ Indeed you fast for strife and debate,
And to strike with the fist of wickedness.
You will not fast as you do this day, To
make your voice heard on high.

⁵ Is it a fast that I have chosen, A day for a man to afflict his soul? Is it to bow down his head like a bulrush, And to spread out sackcloth and ashes? Would you call this a fast, And an acceptable day to the LORD?

⁶ "Is this not the fast that I have chosen: To loose the bonds of wickedness, To undo the heavy burdens, To let the oppressed go free, And that you break every yoke?

⁷ Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, And that you bring to your house the poor who are cast out; When you see the naked, that you cover him, And not hide yourself from your own flesh?

⁸ Then your light shall break forth like the morning, Your healing shall spring forth speedily, And your righteousness shall go before you; The glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard.

⁹ Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer; You shall cry, and He will say, 'Here I am.' "If you take away the yoke from your midst, The pointing of the finger, and speaking wickedness,

¹⁰ If you extend your soul to the hungry And satisfy the afflicted soul, Then your light shall dawn in the darkness, And your darkness shall be as the noonday.

¹¹ The LORD will guide you continually, And satisfy your soul in drought, And strengthen your bones; You shall be like a watered garden, And like a spring of water, whose waters do not fail.

¹² Those from among you Shall build the old waste places; You shall raise up the foundations of many generations; And you shall be called the Repairer of the Breach, The Restorer of Streets to Dwell In.

¹³ "If you turn away your foot from the Sabbath, From doing your pleasure

on My holy day, And call the Sabbath a delight, The holy day of the LORD honorable, And shall honor Him, not doing your own ways, Nor finding your own pleasure, Nor speaking your own words,

¹⁴ Then you shall delight yourself in the LORD; And I will cause you to ride on the high hills of the earth, And feed you with the heritage of Jacob your father. The mouth of the LORD has spoken."

59 ¹ Behold, the LORD'S hand is not shortened, That it cannot save; Nor His ear heavy, That it cannot hear.

² But your iniquities have separated you from your God; And your sins have hidden His face from you, So that He will not hear.

³ For your hands are defiled with blood, And your fingers with iniquity; Your lips have spoken lies, Your tongue has muttered perversity.

⁴ No one calls for justice, Nor does any plead for truth. They trust in empty words and speak lies; They conceive evil and bring forth iniquity.

⁵ They hatch vipers' eggs and weave the spider's web; He who eats of their eggs dies, And from that which is crushed a viper breaks out.

⁶ Their webs will not become garments, Nor will they cover themselves with their works; Their works are works of iniquity, And the act of violence is in their hands.

⁷ Their feet run to evil, And they make haste to shed innocent blood; Their thoughts are thoughts of iniquity; Wasting and destruction are in their paths.

⁸ The way of peace they have not known, And there is no justice in their ways; They have made themselves crooked paths; Whoever takes that way shall not know peace.

⁹ Therefore justice is far from us, Nor does righteousness overtake us; We look for light, but there is darkness! For brightness, but we walk in blackness!

¹⁰ We grope for the wall like the blind, And we grope as if we had no eyes; We stumble at noonday as at twilight; We are as dead men in desolate places.

¹¹ We all growl like bears, And moan sadly like doves; We look for justice, but there is none; For salvation, but it is far from us.

¹² For our transgressions are multiplied before You, And our sins testify against us; For our transgressions are with us, And as for our iniquities, we know them:

¹³ In transgressing and lying against the LORD, And departing from our God, Speaking oppression and revolt, Conceiving and uttering from the heart words of falsehood.

¹⁴ Justice is turned back, And righteousness stands afar off; For truth is fallen in the street, And equity cannot enter.

¹⁵ So truth fails, And he who departs from evil makes himself a prey. Then the LORD saw it, and it displeased Him That there was no justice.

¹⁶ He saw that there was no man, And wondered that there was no intercessor; Therefore His own arm brought salvation for Him; And His own righteousness, it sustained Him.

¹⁷ For He put on righteousness as a breastplate, And a helmet of salvation on His head; He put on the garments of vengeance for clothing, And was clad with zeal as a cloak.

¹⁸ According to their deeds, accordingly He will repay, Fury to His adversaries, Recompense to His enemies; The coastlands He will fully repay.

¹⁹ So shall they fear The name of the LORD from the west, And His glory from the rising of the sun; When the enemy comes in like a flood, The Spirit of the LORD will lift up a standard against him.

²⁰ "The Redeemer will come to Zion, And to those who turn from transgression in Jacob," Says the LORD.

²¹ "As for Me," says the LORD, "this is My covenant with them: My Spirit who is upon you, and My words which I have put in your mouth, shall not depart from your mouth, nor from the mouth of your descendants, nor from the mouth of your descendants' descendants," says the LORD, "from this time and forevermore."

60 ¹ Arise, shine; For your light has come! And the glory of the LORD is risen upon you.

² For behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, And deep darkness the

people; But the LORD will arise over you,
And His glory will be seen upon you.

³ The Gentiles shall come to your light,
And kings to the brightness of your
rising.

⁴ "Lift up your eyes all around, and see:
They all gather together, they come to
you; Your sons shall come from afar, And
your daughters shall be nursed at your
side.

⁵ Then you shall see and become
radiant, And your heart shall swell with
joy; Because the abundance of the sea
shall be turned to you, The wealth of the
Gentiles shall come to you.

⁶ The multitude of camels shall cover
your land, The dromedaries of Midian
and Ephah; All those from Sheba shall
come; They shall bring gold and incense,
And they shall proclaim the praises of
the LORD.

⁷ All the flocks of Kedar shall be gathered together to you, The rams of Nebaioth shall minister to you; They shall ascend with acceptance on My altar, And I will glorify the house of My glory.

⁸ "Who are these who fly like a cloud, And like doves to their roosts?

⁹ Surely the coastlands shall wait for Me; And the ships of Tarshish will come first, To bring your sons from afar, Their silver and their gold with them, To the name of the LORD your God, And to the Holy One of Israel, Because He has glorified you.

¹⁰ "The sons of foreigners shall build up your walls, And their kings shall minister to you; For in My wrath I struck you, But in My favor I have had mercy on you.

¹¹ Therefore your gates shall be open continually; They shall not be shut day or night, That men may bring to you the

wealth of the Gentiles, And their kings in procession.

¹² For the nation and kingdom which will not serve you shall perish, And those nations shall be utterly ruined.

¹³ "The glory of Lebanon shall come to you, The cypress, the pine, and the box tree together, To beautify the place of My sanctuary; And I will make the place of My feet glorious.

¹⁴ Also the sons of those who afflicted you Shall come bowing to you, And all those who despised you shall fall prostrate at the soles of your feet; And they shall call you The City of the LORD, Zion of the Holy One of Israel.

¹⁵ "Whereas you have been forsaken and hated, So that no one went through you, I will make you an eternal excellence, A joy of many generations.

¹⁶ You shall drink the milk of the Gentiles, And milk the breast of kings;

You shall know that I, the LORD, am your Savior And your Redeemer, the Mighty One of Jacob.

¹⁷ "Instead of bronze I will bring gold, Instead of iron I will bring silver, Instead of wood, bronze, And instead of stones, iron. I will also make your officers peace, And your magistrates righteousness.

¹⁸ Violence shall no longer be heard in your land, Neither wasting nor destruction within your borders; But you shall call your walls Salvation, And your gates Praise.

¹⁹ "The sun shall no longer be your light by day, Nor for brightness shall the moon give light to you; But the LORD will be to you an everlasting light, And your God your glory.

²⁰ Your sun shall no longer go down, Nor shall your moon withdraw itself; For the LORD will be your everlasting light,

And the days of your mourning shall be ended.

²¹ Also your people shall all be righteous; They shall inherit the land forever, The branch of My planting, The work of My hands, That I may be glorified.

²² A little one shall become a thousand, And a small one a strong nation. I, the LORD, will hasten it in its time."

61 ¹ "The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon Me, Because the LORD has anointed Me To preach good tidings to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, To proclaim liberty to the captives, And the opening of the prison to those who are bound;

² To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD, And the day of vengeance of our God; To comfort all who mourn,

³ To console those who mourn in Zion, To give them beauty for ashes, The oil of

joy for mourning, The garment of praise
for the spirit of heaviness; That they may
be called trees of righteousness, The
planting of the LORD, that He may be
glorified."

⁴ And they shall rebuild the old
ruins, They shall raise up the former
desolations, And they shall repair the
ruined cities, The desolations of many
generations.

⁵ Strangers shall stand and feed your
flocks, And the sons of the foreigner Shall
be your plowmen and your vinedressers.

⁶ But you shall be named the priests
of the LORD, They shall call you the
servants of our God. You shall eat the
riches of the Gentiles, And in their glory
you shall boast.

⁷ Instead of your shame you shall have
double honor, And instead of confusion
they shall rejoice in their portion.

Therefore in their land they shall possess double; Everlasting joy shall be theirs.

⁸ "For I, the LORD, love justice; I hate robbery for burnt offering; I will direct their work in truth, And will make with them an everlasting covenant.

⁹ Their descendants shall be known among the Gentiles, And their offspring among the people. All who see them shall acknowledge them, That they are the posterity whom the LORD has blessed."

¹⁰ I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, My soul shall be joyful in my God; For He has clothed me with the garments of salvation, He has covered me with the robe of righteousness, As a bridegroom decks himself with ornaments, And as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

¹¹ For as the earth brings forth its bud, As the garden causes the things that are sown in it to spring forth, So the Lord

GOD will cause righteousness and praise to spring forth before all the nations.

62 ¹ For Zion's sake I will not hold My peace, And for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, Until her righteousness goes forth as brightness, And her salvation as a lamp that burns.

² The Gentiles shall see your righteousness, And all kings your glory. You shall be called by a new name, Which the mouth of the LORD will name.

³ You shall also be a crown of glory In the hand of the LORD, And a royal diadem In the hand of your God.

⁴ You shall no longer be termed Forsaken, Nor shall your land any more be termed Desolate; But you shall be called Hephzibah, and your land Beulah; For the LORD delights in you, And your land shall be married.

⁵ For as a young man marries a virgin, So shall your sons marry you; And as the

bridegroom rejoices over the bride, So shall your God rejoice over you.

⁶ I have set watchmen on your walls, O Jerusalem; They shall never hold their peace day or night. You who make mention of the LORD, do not keep silent,

⁷ And give Him no rest till He establishes And till He makes Jerusalem a praise in the earth.

⁸ The LORD has sworn by His right hand And by the arm of His strength: "Surely I will no longer give your grain As food for your enemies; And the sons of the foreigner shall not drink your new wine, For which you have labored.

⁹ But those who have gathered it shall eat it, And praise the LORD; Those who have brought it together shall drink it in My holy courts."

¹⁰ Go through, Go through the gates! Prepare the way for the people; Build

up, Build up the highway! Take out the stones, Lift up a banner for the peoples!

¹¹ Indeed the LORD has proclaimed To the end of the world: "Say to the daughter of Zion, 'Surely your salvation is coming; Behold, His reward is with Him, And His work before Him.'"

¹² And they shall call them The Holy People, The Redeemed of the LORD; And you shall be called Sought Out, A City Not Forsaken.

63 ¹ Who is this who comes from Edom, With dyed garments from Bozrah, This One who is glorious in His apparel, Traveling in the greatness of His strength? —"I who speak in righteousness, mighty to save."

² Why is Your apparel red, And Your garments like one who treads in the winepress?

³ "I have trodden the winepress alone, And from the peoples no one was

with Me. For I have trodden them in My anger, And trampled them in My fury; Their blood is sprinkled upon My garments, And I have stained all My robes.

⁴ For the day of vengeance is in My heart, And the year of My redeemed has come.

⁵ I looked, but there was no one to help, And I wondered That there was no one to uphold; Therefore My own arm brought salvation for Me; And My own fury, it sustained Me.

⁶ I have trodden down the peoples in My anger, Made them drunk in My fury, And brought down their strength to the earth."

⁷ I will mention the lovingkindnesses of the LORD And the praises of the LORD, According to all that the LORD has bestowed on us, And the great goodness toward the house of Israel, Which He

has bestowed on them according to His mercies, According to the multitude of His lovingkindnesses.

⁸ For He said, "Surely they are My people, Children who will not lie." So He became their Savior.

⁹ In all their affliction He was afflicted, And the Angel of His Presence saved them; In His love and in His pity He redeemed them; And He bore them and carried them All the days of old.

¹⁰ But they rebelled and grieved His Holy Spirit; So He turned Himself against them as an enemy, And He fought against them.

¹¹ Then he remembered the days of old, Moses and his people, saying: "Where is He who brought them up out of the sea With the shepherd of His flock? Where is He who put His Holy Spirit within them,

¹² Who led them by the right hand of Moses, With His glorious arm, Dividing

the water before them To make for
Himself an everlasting name,

¹³ Who led them through the deep, As a
horse in the wilderness, That they might
not stumble?"

¹⁴ As a beast goes down into the valley,
And the Spirit of the LORD causes him to
rest, So You lead Your people, To make
Yourself a glorious name.

¹⁵ Look down from heaven, And
see from Your habitation, holy and
glorious. Where are Your zeal and Your
strength, The yearning of Your heart
and Your mercies toward me? Are they
restrained?

¹⁶ Doubtless You are our Father, Though
Abraham was ignorant of us, And Israel
does not acknowledge us. You, O LORD,
are our Father; Our Redeemer from
Everlasting is Your name.

¹⁷ O LORD, why have You made us stray
from Your ways, And hardened our heart

from Your fear? Return for Your servants' sake, The tribes of Your inheritance.

¹⁸ Your holy people have possessed it but a little while; Our adversaries have trodden down Your sanctuary.

¹⁹ We have become like those of old, over whom You never ruled, Those who were never called by Your name.

64 ¹ Oh, that You would rend the heavens! That You would come down! That the mountains might shake at Your presence—

² As fire burns brushwood, As fire causes water to boil—To make Your name known to Your adversaries, That the nations may tremble at Your presence!

³ When You did awesome things for which we did not look, You came down, The mountains shook at Your presence.

⁴ For since the beginning of the world Men have not heard nor perceived by

the ear, Nor has the eye seen any God besides You, Who acts for the one who waits for Him.

⁵ You meet him who rejoices and does righteousness, Who remembers You in Your ways. You are indeed angry, for we have sinned—In these ways we continue; And we need to be saved.

⁶ But we are all like an unclean thing, And all our righteousnesses are like filthy rags; We all fade as a leaf, And our iniquities, like the wind, Have taken us away.

⁷ And there is no one who calls on Your name, Who stirs himself up to take hold of You; For You have hidden Your face from us, And have consumed us because of our iniquities.

⁸ But now, O LORD, You are our Father; We are the clay, and You our potter; And all we are the work of Your hand.

⁹ Do not be furious, O LORD, Nor remember iniquity forever; Indeed, please look—we all are Your people!

¹⁰ Your holy cities are a wilderness, Zion is a wilderness, Jerusalem a desolation.

¹¹ Our holy and beautiful temple, Where our fathers praised You, Is burned up with fire; And all our pleasant things are laid waste.

¹² Will You restrain Yourself because of these things, O LORD? Will You hold Your peace, and afflict us very severely?

65 ¹ "I was sought by those who did not ask for Me; I was found by those who did not seek Me. I said, 'Here I am, here I am,' To a nation that was not called by My name.

² I have stretched out My hands all day long to a rebellious people, Who walk in a way that is not good, According to their own thoughts;

³ A people who provoke Me to anger continually to My face; Who sacrifice in gardens, And burn incense on altars of brick;

⁴ Who sit among the graves, And spend the night in the tombs; Who eat swine's flesh, And the broth of abominable things is in their vessels;

⁵ Who say, 'Keep to yourself, Do not come near me, For I am holier than you!' These are smoke in My nostrils, A fire that burns all the day.

⁶ "Behold, it is written before Me: I will not keep silence, but will repay—Even repay into their bosom—

⁷ Your iniquities and the iniquities of your fathers together," Says the LORD, "Who have burned incense on the mountains And blasphemed Me on the hills; Therefore I will measure their former work into their bosom."

⁸ Thus says the LORD: "As the new wine is found in the cluster, And one says, 'Do not destroy it, For a blessing is in it,' So will I do for My servants' sake, That I may not destroy them all.

⁹ I will bring forth descendants from Jacob, And from Judah an heir of My mountains; My elect shall inherit it, And My servants shall dwell there.

¹⁰ Sharon shall be a fold of flocks, And the Valley of Achor a place for herds to lie down, For My people who have sought Me.

¹¹ "But you are those who forsake the LORD, Who forget My holy mountain, Who prepare a table for Gad, And who furnish a drink offering for Meni.

¹² Therefore I will number you for the sword, And you shall all bow down to the slaughter; Because, when I called, you did not answer; When I spoke, you did not hear, But did evil before My

eyes, And chose that in which I do not delight."

¹³ Therefore thus says the Lord GOD:
"Behold, My servants shall eat, But you shall be hungry; Behold, My servants shall drink, But you shall be thirsty; Behold, My servants shall rejoice, But you shall be ashamed;

¹⁴ Behold, My servants shall sing for joy of heart, But you shall cry for sorrow of heart, And wail for grief of spirit.

¹⁵ You shall leave your name as a curse to My chosen; For the Lord GOD will slay you, And call His servants by another name;

¹⁶ So that he who blesses himself in the earth Shall bless himself in the God of truth; And he who swears in the earth Shall swear by the God of truth; Because the former troubles are forgotten, And because they are hidden from My eyes.

¹⁷ "For behold, I create new heavens and a new earth; And the former shall not be remembered or come to mind.

¹⁸ But be glad and rejoice forever in what I create; For behold, I create Jerusalem as a rejoicing, And her people a joy.

¹⁹ I will rejoice in Jerusalem, And joy in My people; The voice of weeping shall no longer be heard in her, Nor the voice of crying.

²⁰ "No more shall an infant from there live but a few days, Nor an old man who has not fulfilled his days; For the child shall die one hundred years old, But the sinner being one hundred years old shall be accursed.

²¹ They shall build houses and inhabit them; They shall plant vineyards and eat their fruit.

²² They shall not build and another inhabit; They shall not plant and another

eat; For as the days of a tree, so shall be the days of My people, And My elect shall long enjoy the work of their hands.

²³ They shall not labor in vain, Nor bring forth children for trouble; For they shall be the descendants of the blessed of the LORD, And their offspring with them.

²⁴ "It shall come to pass That before they call, I will answer; And while they are still speaking, I will hear.

²⁵ The wolf and the lamb shall feed together, The lion shall eat straw like the ox, And dust shall be the serpent's food. They shall not hurt nor destroy in all My holy mountain," Says the LORD.

66 ¹ Thus says the LORD: "Heaven is My throne, And earth is My footstool. Where is the house that you will build Me? And where is the place of My rest?

² For all those things My hand has made, And all those things exist," Says

the LORD. "But on this one will I look: On him who is poor and of a contrite spirit, And who trembles at My word.

³ "He who kills a bull is as if he slays a man; He who sacrifices a lamb, as if he breaks a dog's neck; He who offers a grain offering, as if he offers swine's blood; He who burns incense, as if he blesses an idol. Just as they have chosen their own ways, And their soul delights in their abominations,

⁴ So will I choose their delusions, And bring their fears on them; Because, when I called, no one answered, When I spoke they did not hear; But they did evil before My eyes, And chose that in which I do not delight."

⁵ Hear the word of the LORD, You who tremble at His word: "Your brethren who hated you, Who cast you out for My name's sake, said, 'Let the LORD be

glorified, That we may see your joy.' But they shall be ashamed."

⁶ The sound of noise from the city! A voice from the temple! The voice of the LORD, Who fully repays His enemies!

⁷ "Before she was in labor, she gave birth; Before her pain came, She delivered a male child.

⁸ Who has heard such a thing? Who has seen such things? Shall the earth be made to give birth in one day? Or shall a nation be born at once? For as soon as Zion was in labor, She gave birth to her children.

⁹ Shall I bring to the time of birth, and not cause delivery?" says the LORD. "Shall I who cause delivery shut up the womb?" says your God.

¹⁰ "Rejoice with Jerusalem, And be glad with her, all you who love her; Rejoice for joy with her, all you who mourn for her;

¹¹ That you may feed and be satisfied
With the consolation of her bosom, That
you may drink deeply and be delighted
With the abundance of her glory."

¹² For thus says the LORD: "Behold, I
will extend peace to her like a river, And
the glory of the Gentiles like a flowing
stream. Then you shall feed; On her sides
shall you be carried, And be dandled on
her knees.

¹³ As one whom his mother comforts,
So I will comfort you; And you shall be
comforted in Jerusalem."

¹⁴ When you see this, your heart shall
rejoice, And your bones shall flourish
like grass; The hand of the LORD shall
be known to His servants, And His
indignation to His enemies.

¹⁵ For behold, the LORD will come
with fire And with His chariots, like a
whirlwind, To render His anger with fury,
And His rebuke with flames of fire.

¹⁶ For by fire and by His sword The LORD will judge all flesh; And the slain of the LORD shall be many.

¹⁷ "Those who sanctify themselves and purify themselves, To go to the gardens After an idol in the midst, Eating swine's flesh and the abomination and the mouse, Shall be consumed together," says the LORD.

¹⁸ "For I know their works and their thoughts. It shall be that I will gather all nations and tongues; and they shall come and see My glory.

¹⁹ "I will set a sign among them; and those among them who escape I will send to the nations: to Tarshish and Pul and Lud, who draw the bow, and Tubal and Javan, to the coastlands afar off who have not heard My fame nor seen My glory. And they shall declare My glory among the Gentiles.

²⁰ "Then they shall bring all your brethren for an offering to the LORD out of all nations, on horses and in chariots and in litters, on mules and on camels, to My holy mountain Jerusalem," says the LORD, "as the children of Israel bring an offering in a clean vessel into the house of the LORD.

²¹ "And I will also take some of them for priests and Levites," says the LORD.

²² "For as the new heavens and the new earth Which I will make shall remain before Me," says the LORD, "So shall your descendants and your name remain.

²³ And it shall come to pass That from one New Moon to another, And from one Sabbath to another, All flesh shall come to worship before Me," says the LORD.

²⁴ "And they shall go forth and look Upon the corpses of the men Who

have transgressed against Me. For their worm does not die, And their fire is not quenched. They shall be an abhorrence to all flesh."

Jeremiah

1 ¹ The words of Jeremiah the son of Hilkiah, of the priests who were in Anathoth in the land of Benjamin,

² 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 reign.

³ It came also in the days of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah, king of Judah, until the end of the eleventh year of Zedekiah the son of Josiah, king of Judah, until the carrying away of Jerusalem captive in the fifth month.

⁴ Then the word of the LORD came to me, saying:

⁵ "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you; Before you were born I

sanctified you; I ordained you a prophet to the nations."

⁶ Then said I: "Ah, Lord GOD! Behold, I cannot speak, for I am a youth."

⁷ But the LORD said to me: "Do not say, 'I am a youth,' For you shall go to all to whom I send you, And whatever I command you, you shall speak.

⁸ Do not be afraid of their faces, For I am with you to deliver you," says the LORD.

⁹ Then the LORD put forth His hand and touched my mouth, and the LORD said to me: "Behold, I have put My words in your mouth.

¹⁰ See, I have this day set you over the nations and over the kingdoms, To root out and to pull down, To destroy and to throw down, To build and to plant."

¹¹ Moreover 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."

¹² Then the LORD said to me, "You have seen well, for I am ready to perform My word."

¹³ And the word of the LORD came to me the second time, saying, "What do you see?" And I said, "I see a boiling pot, and it is facing away from the north."

¹⁴ Then the LORD said to me: "Out of the north calamity shall break forth On all the inhabitants of the land.

¹⁵ For behold, I am calling All the families of the kingdoms of the north," says the LORD; "They shall come and each one set his throne At the entrance of the gates of Jerusalem, Against all its walls all around, And against all the cities of Judah.

¹⁶ I will utter My judgments Against them concerning all their wickedness, Because they have forsaken Me, Burned

incense to other gods, And worshiped the works of their own hands.

¹⁷ "Therefore prepare yourself and arise, And speak to them all that I command you. Do not be dismayed before their faces, Lest I dismay you before them.

¹⁸ For behold, I have made you this day A fortified city and an iron pillar, And bronze walls against the whole land—Against the kings of Judah, Against its princes, Against its priests, And against the people of the land.

¹⁹ They will fight against you, But they shall not prevail against you. For I am with you," says the LORD, "to deliver you."

2¹ Moreover the word of the LORD came to me, saying,

² "Go and cry in the hearing of Jerusalem, saying, 'Thus says the LORD: "I remember you, The kindness of your

youth, The love of your betrothal, When you went after Me in the wilderness, In a land not sown.

³ Israel was holiness to the LORD, The firstfruits of His increase. All that devour him will offend; Disaster will come upon them," says the LORD."

⁴ Hear the word of the LORD, O house of Jacob and all the families of the house of Israel.

⁵ Thus says the LORD: "What injustice have your fathers found in Me, That they have gone far from Me, Have followed idols, And have become idolaters?

⁶ Neither did they say, 'Where is the LORD, Who brought us up out of the land of Egypt, Who led us through the wilderness, Through a land of deserts and pits, Through a land of drought and the shadow of death, Through a land that no one crossed And where no one dwelt?'

⁷ I brought you into a bountiful country,
To eat its fruit and its goodness. But
when you entered, you defiled My land
And made My heritage an abomination.

⁸ The priests did not say, 'Where is
the LORD?' And those who handle the
law did not know Me; The rulers also
transgressed against Me; The prophets
prophesied by Baal, And walked after
things that do not profit.

⁹ "Therefore I will yet bring charges
against you," says the LORD, "And
against your children's children I will
bring charges.

¹⁰ For pass beyond the coasts of Cyprus
and see, Send to Kedar and consider
diligently, And see if there has been such
a thing.

¹¹ Has a nation changed its gods, Which
are not gods? But My people have
changed their Glory For what does not
profit.

¹² Be astonished, O heavens, at this,
And be horribly afraid; Be very desolate,"
says the LORD.

¹³ "For My people have committed
two evils: They have forsaken Me, the
fountain of living waters, And hewn
themselves cisterns—broken cisterns
that can hold no water.

¹⁴ "Is Israel a servant? Is he a homeborn
slave? Why is he plundered?

¹⁵ The young lions roared at him, and
growled; They made his land waste; His
cities are burned, without inhabitant.

¹⁶ Also the people of Noph and
Tahpanhes Have broken the crown of
your head.

¹⁷ Have you not brought this on
yourself, In that you have forsaken the
LORD your God When He led you in the
way?

¹⁸ And now why take the road to Egypt,
To drink the waters of Sihor? Or why take

the road to Assyria, To drink the waters of the River?

¹⁹ Your own wickedness will correct you, And your backslidings will rebuke you. Know therefore and see that it is an evil and bitter thing That you have forsaken the LORD your God, And the fear of Me is not in you," Says the Lord GOD of hosts.

²⁰ "For of old I have broken your yoke and burst your bonds; And you said, 'I will not transgress,' When on every high hill and under every green tree You lay down, playing the harlot.

²¹ Yet I had planted you a noble vine, a seed of highest quality. How then have you turned before Me Into the degenerate plant of an alien vine?

²² For though you wash yourself with lye, and use much soap, Yet your iniquity is marked before Me," says the Lord GOD.

²³ "How can you say, 'I am not polluted, I have not gone after the Baals'? See your way in the valley; Know what you have done: You are a swift dromedary breaking loose in her ways,

²⁴ A wild donkey used to the wilderness, That sniffs at the wind in her desire; In her time of mating, who can turn her away? All those who seek her will not weary themselves; In her month they will find her.

²⁵ Withhold your foot from being unshod, and your throat from thirst. But you said, 'There is no hope. No! For I have loved aliens, and after them I will go.'

²⁶ "As the thief is ashamed when he is found out, So is the house of Israel ashamed; They and their kings and their princes, and their priests and their prophets,

²⁷ Saying to a tree, 'You are my father,'
And to a stone, 'You gave birth to me.'
For they have turned their back to Me,
and not their face. But in the time of
their trouble They will say, 'Arise and
save us.'

²⁸ But where are your gods that you
have made for yourselves? Let them
arise, If they can save you in the time
of your trouble; For according to the
number of your cities Are your gods, O
Judah.

²⁹ "Why will you plead with Me? You all
have transgressed against Me," says the
LORD.

³⁰ "In vain I have chastened your
children; They received no correction.
Your sword has devoured your prophets
Like a destroying lion.

³¹ "O generation, see the word of the
LORD! Have I been a wilderness to Israel,
Or a land of darkness? Why do My

people say, 'We are lords; We will come no more to You'?

³² Can a virgin forget her ornaments, Or a bride her attire? Yet My people have forgotten Me days without number.

³³ "Why do you beautify your way to seek love? Therefore you have also taught The wicked women your ways.

³⁴ Also on your skirts is found The blood of the lives of the poor innocents. I have not found it by secret search, But plainly on all these things.

³⁵ Yet you say, 'Because I am innocent, Surely His anger shall turn from me.' Behold, I will plead My case against you, Because you say, 'I have not sinned.'

³⁶ Why do you gad about so much to change your way? Also you shall be ashamed of Egypt as you were ashamed of Assyria.

³⁷ Indeed you will go forth from him With your hands on your head; For the

LORD has rejected your trusted allies,
And you will not prosper by them.

3¹ "They say, 'If a man divorces his wife, And she goes from him And becomes another man's, May he return to her again?' Would not that land be greatly polluted? But you have played the harlot with many lovers; Yet return to Me," says the LORD.

² "Lift up your eyes to the desolate heights and see: Where have you not lain with men? By the road you have sat for them Like an Arabian in the wilderness; And you have polluted the land With your harlotries and your wickedness.

³ Therefore the showers have been withheld, And there has been no latter rain. You have had a harlot's forehead; You refuse to be ashamed.

⁴ Will you not from this time cry to Me, 'My father, You are the guide of my youth?

⁵ Will He remain angry forever? Will He keep it to the end?' Behold, you have spoken and done evil things, As you were able."

⁶ The LORD said also to me in the days of Josiah the king: "Have you seen what backsliding Israel has done? She has gone up on every high mountain and under every green tree, and there played the harlot.

⁷ "And I said, after she had done all these things, 'Return to Me.' But she did not return. And her treacherous sister Judah saw it.

⁸ "Then I saw that for all the causes for which backsliding Israel had committed adultery, I had put her away and given her a certificate of divorce; yet her treacherous sister Judah did not fear, but went and played the harlot also.

⁹ "So it came to pass, through her casual harlotry, that she defiled the land

and committed adultery with stones and trees.

¹⁰ "And yet for all this her treacherous sister Judah has not turned to Me with her whole heart, but in pretense," says the LORD.

¹¹ Then the LORD said to me, "Backsliding Israel has shown herself more righteous than treacherous Judah.

¹² "Go and proclaim these words toward the north, and say: 'Return, backsliding Israel,' says the LORD; 'I will not cause My anger to fall on you. For I am merciful,' says the LORD; 'I will not remain angry forever.

¹³ Only acknowledge your iniquity, That you have transgressed against the LORD your God, And have scattered your charms To alien deities under every green tree, And you have not obeyed My voice,' says the LORD.

¹⁴ "Return, O backsliding children," says the LORD; "for I am married to you. I will take you, one from a city and two from a family, and I will bring you to Zion.

¹⁵ "And I will give you shepherds according to My heart, who will feed you with knowledge and understanding.

¹⁶ "Then it shall come to pass, when you are multiplied and increased in the land in those days," says the LORD, "that they will say no more, 'The ark of the covenant of the LORD.' It shall not come to mind, nor shall they remember it, nor shall they visit it, nor shall it be made anymore.

¹⁷ "At that time Jerusalem shall be called The Throne of the LORD, and all the nations shall be gathered to it, to the name of the LORD, to Jerusalem. No more shall they follow the dictates of their evil hearts.

¹⁸ "In those days the house of Judah shall walk with the house of Israel, and they shall come together out of the land of the north to the land that I have given as an inheritance to your fathers.

¹⁹ "But I said: 'How can I put you among the children And give you a pleasant land, A beautiful heritage of the hosts of nations?' "And I said: 'You shall call Me, "My Father," And not turn away from Me.'

²⁰ Surely, as a wife treacherously departs from her husband, So have you dealt treacherously with Me, O house of Israel," says the LORD.

²¹ A voice was heard on the desolate heights, Weeping and supplications of the children of Israel. For they have perverted their way; They have forgotten the LORD their God.

²² "Return, you backsliding children, And I will heal your backslidings."

"Indeed we do come to You, For You are the LORD our God.

²³ Truly, in vain is salvation hoped for from the hills, And from the multitude of mountains; Truly, in the LORD our God Is the salvation of Israel.

²⁴ For shame has devoured The labor of our fathers from our youth—Their flocks and their herds, Their sons and their daughters.

²⁵ We lie down in our shame, And our reproach covers us. For we have sinned against the LORD our God, We and our fathers, From our youth even to this day, And have not obeyed the voice of the LORD our God."

4 ¹ "If you will return, O Israel," says the LORD, "Return to Me; And if you will put away your abominations out of My sight, Then you shall not be moved.

² And you shall swear, 'The LORD lives,' In truth, in judgment, and in

righteousness; The nations shall bless themselves in Him, And in Him they shall glory."

³ For thus says the LORD to the men of Judah and Jerusalem: "Break up your fallow ground, And do not sow among thorns.

⁴ Circumcise yourselves to the LORD, And take away the foreskins of your hearts, You men of Judah and inhabitants of Jerusalem, Lest My fury come forth like fire, And burn so that no one can quench it, Because of the evil of your doings."

⁵ Declare in Judah and proclaim in Jerusalem, and say: "Blow the trumpet in the land; Cry, 'Gather together,' And say, 'Assemble yourselves, And let us go into the fortified cities.'

⁶ Set up the standard toward Zion. Take refuge! Do not delay! For I will

bring disaster from the north, And great destruction."

⁷ The lion has come up from his thicket, And the destroyer of nations is on his way. He has gone forth from his place To make your land desolate. Your cities will be laid waste, Without inhabitant.

⁸ For this, clothe yourself with sackcloth, Lament and wail. For the fierce anger of the LORD Has not turned back from us.

⁹ "And it shall come to pass in that day," says the LORD, "That the heart of the king shall perish, And the heart of the princes; The priests shall be astonished, And the prophets shall wonder."

¹⁰ Then I said, "Ah, Lord GOD! Surely You have greatly deceived this people and Jerusalem, Saying, 'You shall have peace,' Whereas the sword reaches to the heart."

¹¹ At that time it will be said To this people and to Jerusalem, "A dry wind

of the desolate heights blows in the wilderness
Toward the daughter of My people—Not to fan or to cleanse—

¹² A wind too strong for these will come for Me; Now I will also speak judgment against them."

¹³ "Behold, he shall come up like clouds, And his chariots like a whirlwind. His horses are swifter than eagles. Woe to us, for we are plundered!"

¹⁴ O Jerusalem, wash your heart from wickedness, That you may be saved. How long shall your evil thoughts lodge within you?

¹⁵ For a voice declares from Dan And proclaims affliction from Mount Ephraim:

¹⁶ "Make mention to the nations, Yes, proclaim against Jerusalem, That watchers come from a far country And raise their voice against the cities of Judah.

¹⁷ Like keepers of a field they are against her all around, Because she has been rebellious against Me," says the LORD.

¹⁸ "Your ways and your doings Have procured these things for you. This is your wickedness, Because it is bitter, Because it reaches to your heart."

¹⁹ O my soul, my soul! I am pained in my very heart! My heart makes a noise in me; I cannot hold my peace, Because you have heard, O my soul, The sound of the trumpet, The alarm of war.

²⁰ Destruction upon destruction is cried, For the whole land is plundered. Suddenly my tents are plundered, And my curtains in a moment.

²¹ How long will I see the standard, And hear the sound of the trumpet?

²² "For My people are foolish, They have not known Me. They are silly children, And they have no understanding. They

are wise to do evil, But to do good they have no knowledge."

²³ I beheld the earth, and indeed it was without form, and void; And the heavens, they had no light.

²⁴ I beheld the mountains, and indeed they trembled, And all the hills moved back and forth.

²⁵ I beheld, and indeed there was no man, And all the birds of the heavens had fled.

²⁶ I beheld, and indeed the fruitful land was a wilderness, And all its cities were broken down At the presence of the LORD, By His fierce anger.

²⁷ For thus says the LORD: "The whole land shall be desolate; Yet I will not make a full end.

²⁸ For this shall the earth mourn, And the heavens above be black, Because I have spoken. I have purposed and will not relent, Nor will I turn back from it.

²⁹ The whole city shall flee from the noise of the horsemen and bowmen. They shall go into thickets and climb up on the rocks. Every city shall be forsaken, And not a man shall dwell in it.

³⁰ "And when you are plundered, What will you do? Though you clothe yourself with crimson, Though you adorn yourself with ornaments of gold, Though you enlarge your eyes with paint, In vain you will make yourself fair; Your lovers will despise you; They will seek your life.

³¹ "For I have heard a voice as of a woman in labor, The anguish as of her who brings forth her first child, The voice of the daughter of Zion bewailing herself; She spreads her hands, saying, 'Woe is me now, for my soul is weary Because of murderers!'

5 ¹ "Run to and fro through the streets of Jerusalem; See now and know; And seek in her open places If you

can find a man, If there is anyone who executes judgment, Who seeks the truth, And I will pardon her.

² Though they say, 'As the LORD lives,' Surely they swear falsely."

³ O LORD, are not Your eyes on the truth? You have stricken them, But they have not grieved; You have consumed them, But they have refused to receive correction. They have made their faces harder than rock; They have refused to return.

⁴ Therefore I said, "Surely these are poor. They are foolish; For they do not know the way of the LORD, The judgment of their God.

⁵ I will go to the great men and speak to them, For they have known the way of the LORD, The judgment of their God." But these have altogether broken the yoke And burst the bonds.

⁶ Therefore a lion from the forest shall slay them, A wolf of the deserts shall destroy them; A leopard will watch over their cities. Everyone who goes out from there shall be torn in pieces, Because their transgressions are many; Their backslidings have increased.

⁷ "How shall I pardon you for this? Your children have forsaken Me And sworn by those that are not gods. When I had fed them to the full, Then they committed adultery And assembled themselves by troops in the harlots' houses.

⁸ They were like well-fed lusty stallions; Every one neighed after his neighbor's wife.

⁹ Shall I not punish them for these things?" says the LORD. "And shall I not avenge Myself on such a nation as this?

¹⁰ "Go up on her walls and destroy,
But do not make a complete end. Take

away her branches, For they are not the LORD'S.

¹¹ For the house of Israel and the house of Judah Have dealt very treacherously with Me," says the LORD.

¹² They have lied about the LORD, And said, "It is not He. Neither will evil come upon us, Nor shall we see sword or famine.

¹³ And the prophets become wind, For the word is not in them. Thus shall it be done to them."

¹⁴ Therefore thus says the LORD God of hosts: "Because you speak this word, Behold, I will make My words in your mouth fire, And this people wood, And it shall devour them.

¹⁵ Behold, I will bring a nation against you from afar, O house of Israel," says the LORD. "It is a mighty nation, It is an ancient nation, A nation whose

language you do not know, Nor can you understand what they say.

¹⁶ Their quiver is like an open tomb; They are all mighty men.

¹⁷ And they shall eat up your harvest and your bread, Which your sons and daughters should eat. They shall eat up your flocks and your herds; They shall eat up your vines and your fig trees; They shall destroy your fortified cities, In which you trust, with the sword.

¹⁸ "Nevertheless in those days," says the LORD, "I will not make a complete end of you.

¹⁹ "And it will be when you say, 'Why does the LORD our God do all these things to us?' then you shall answer them, 'Just as you have forsaken Me and served foreign gods in your land, so you shall serve aliens in a land that is not yours.'

²⁰ "Declare this in the house of Jacob
And proclaim it in Judah, saying,

²¹ 'Hear this now, O foolish people,
Without understanding, Who have eyes
and see not, And who have ears and
hear not:

²² Do you not fear Me?' says the LORD.
'Will you not tremble at My presence,
Who have placed the sand as the bound
of the sea, By a perpetual decree, that it
cannot pass beyond it? And though its
waves toss to and fro, Yet they cannot
prevail; Though they roar, yet they
cannot pass over it.

²³ But this people has a defiant and
rebellious heart; They have revolted and
departed.

²⁴ They do not say in their heart, "Let us
now fear the LORD our God, Who gives
rain, both the former and the latter, in its
season. He reserves for us the appointed
weeks of the harvest."

²⁵ Your iniquities have turned these things away, And your sins have withheld good from you.

²⁶ 'For among My people are found wicked men; They lie in wait as one who sets snares; They set a trap; They catch men.

²⁷ As a cage is full of birds, So their houses are full of deceit. Therefore they have become great and grown rich.

²⁸ They have grown fat, they are sleek; Yes, they surpass the deeds of the wicked; They do not plead the cause, The cause of the fatherless; Yet they prosper, And the right of the needy they do not defend.

²⁹ Shall I not punish them for these things?' says the LORD. 'Shall I not avenge Myself on such a nation as this?'

³⁰ "An astonishing and horrible thing Has been committed in the land:

³¹ The prophets prophesy falsely, And the priests rule by their own power; And My people love to have it so. But what will you do in the end?

6 ¹ "O you children of Benjamin, Gather yourselves to flee from the midst of Jerusalem! Blow the trumpet in Tekoa, And set up a signal–fire in Beth Haccerem; For disaster appears out of the north, And great destruction.

² I have likened the daughter of Zion To a lovely and delicate woman.

³ The shepherds with their flocks shall come to her. They shall pitch their tents against her all around. Each one shall pasture in his own place."

⁴ "Prepare war against her; Arise, and let us go up at noon. Woe to us, for the day goes away, For the shadows of the evening are lengthening.

⁵ Arise, and let us go by night, And let us destroy her palaces."

⁶ For thus has the LORD of hosts said:
"Cut down trees, And build a mound
against Jerusalem. This is the city to be
punished. She is full of oppression in her
midst.

⁷ As a fountain wells up with water,
So she wells up with her wickedness.
Violence and plundering are heard in
her. Before Me continually are grief and
wounds.

⁸ Be instructed, O Jerusalem, Lest My
soul depart from you; Lest I make you
desolate, A land not inhabited."

⁹ Thus says the LORD of hosts: "They
shall thoroughly glean as a vine the
remnant of Israel; As a grape-gatherer,
put your hand back into the branches."

¹⁰ To whom shall I speak and give
warning, That they may hear? Indeed
their ear is uncircumcised, And they
cannot give heed. Behold, the word of

the LORD is a reproach to them; They have no delight in it.

¹¹ Therefore I am full of the fury of the LORD. I am weary of holding it in. "I will pour it out on the children outside, And on the assembly of young men together; For even the husband shall be taken with the wife, The aged with him who is full of days.

¹² And their houses shall be turned over to others, Fields and wives together; For I will stretch out My hand Against the inhabitants of the land," says the LORD.

¹³ "Because from the least of them even to the greatest of them, Everyone is given to covetousness; And from the prophet even to the priest, Everyone deals falsely.

¹⁴ They have also healed the hurt of My people slightly, Saying, 'Peace, peace!' When there is no peace.

¹⁵ Were they ashamed when they had committed abomination? No! They were not at all ashamed; Nor did they know how to blush. Therefore they shall fall among those who fall; At the time I punish them, They shall be cast down," says the LORD.

¹⁶ Thus says the LORD: "Stand in the ways and see, And ask for the old paths, where the good way is, And walk in it; Then you will find rest for your souls. But they said, 'We will not walk in it.'

¹⁷ Also, I set watchmen over you, saying, 'Listen to the sound of the trumpet!' But they said, 'We will not listen.'

¹⁸ Therefore hear, you nations, And know, O congregation, what is among them.

¹⁹ Hear, O earth! Behold, I will certainly bring calamity on this people—The fruit of their thoughts, Because they have

not heeded My words, Nor My law, but rejected it.

²⁰ For what purpose to Me Comes frankincense from Sheba, And sweet cane from a far country? Your burnt offerings are not acceptable, Nor your sacrifices sweet to Me."

²¹ Therefore thus says the LORD: "Behold, I will lay stumbling blocks before this people, And the fathers and the sons together shall fall on them. The neighbor and his friend shall perish."

²² Thus says the LORD: "Behold, a people comes from the north country, And a great nation will be raised from the farthest parts of the earth.

²³ They will lay hold on bow and spear; They are cruel and have no mercy; Their voice roars like the sea; And they ride on horses, As men of war set in array against you, O daughter of Zion."

²⁴ We have heard the report of it; Our hands grow feeble. Anguish has taken hold of us, Pain as of a woman in labor.

²⁵ Do not go out into the field, Nor walk by the way. Because of the sword of the enemy, Fear is on every side.

²⁶ O daughter of my people, Dress in sackcloth And roll about in ashes! Make mourning as for an only son, most bitter lamentation; For the plunderer will suddenly come upon us.

²⁷ "I have set you as an assayer and a fortress among My people, That you may know and test their way.

²⁸ They are all stubborn rebels, walking as slanderers. They are bronze and iron, They are all corrupters;

²⁹ The bellows blow fiercely, The lead is consumed by the fire; The smelter refines in vain, For the wicked are not drawn off.

³⁰ People will call them rejected silver,
Because the LORD has rejected them."

7 ¹ The word that came to Jeremiah
from the LORD, saying,

² "Stand in the gate of the LORD'S
house, and proclaim there this word,
and say, 'Hear the word of the LORD, all
you of Judah who enter in at these gates
to worship the LORD!'"

³ Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God
of Israel: "Amend your ways and your
doings, and I will cause you to dwell in
this place.

⁴ "Do not trust in these lying words,
saying, 'The temple of the LORD, the
temple of the LORD, the temple of the
LORD are these.'

⁵ "For if you thoroughly amend your
ways and your doings, if you thoroughly
execute judgment between a man and
his neighbor,

⁶ "if you do not oppress the stranger, the fatherless, and the widow, and do not shed innocent blood in this place, or walk after other gods to your hurt,

⁷ "then I will cause you to dwell in this place, in the land that I gave to your fathers forever and ever.

⁸ "Behold, you trust in lying words that cannot profit.

⁹ "Will you steal, murder, commit adultery, swear falsely, burn incense to Baal, and walk after other gods whom you do not know,

¹⁰ "and then come and stand before Me in this house which is called by My name, and say, 'We are delivered to do all these abominations'?

¹¹ "Has this house, which is called by My name, become a den of thieves in your eyes? Behold, I, even I, have seen it," says the LORD.

¹² "But go now to My place which was in Shiloh, where I set My name at the first, and see what I did to it because of the wickedness of My people Israel.

¹³ "And now, because you have done all these works," says the LORD, "and I spoke to you, rising up early and speaking, but you did not hear, and I called you, but you did not answer,

¹⁴ "therefore I will do to the house which is called by My name, in which you trust, and to this place which I gave to you and your fathers, as I have done to Shiloh.

¹⁵ "And I will cast you out of My sight, as I have cast out all your brethren—the whole posterity of Ephraim.

¹⁶ "Therefore do not pray for this people, nor lift up a cry or prayer for them, nor make intercession to Me; for I will not hear you.

¹⁷ "Do you not see what they do in the cities of Judah and in the streets of Jerusalem?"

¹⁸ "The children gather wood, the fathers kindle the fire, and the women knead dough, to make cakes for the queen of heaven; and they pour out drink offerings to other gods, that they may provoke Me to anger.

¹⁹ "Do they provoke Me to anger?" says the LORD. "Do they not provoke themselves, to the shame of their own faces?"

²⁰ Therefore thus says the Lord GOD: "Behold, My anger and My fury will be poured out on this place—on man and on beast, on the trees of the field and on the fruit of the ground. And it will burn and not be quenched."

²¹ Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: "Add your burnt offerings to your sacrifices and eat meat.

²² "For I did not speak to your fathers, or command them in the day that I brought them out of the land of Egypt, concerning burnt offerings or sacrifices.

²³ "But this is what I commanded them, saying, 'Obey My voice, and I will be your God, and you shall be My people. And walk in all the ways that I have commanded you, that it may be well with you.'

²⁴ "Yet they did not obey or incline their ear, but followed the counsels and the dictates of their evil hearts, and went backward and not forward.

²⁵ "Since the day that your fathers came out of the land of Egypt until this day, I have even sent to you all My servants the prophets, daily rising up early and sending them.

²⁶ "Yet they did not obey Me or incline their ear, but stiffened their neck. They did worse than their fathers.

²⁷ "Therefore you shall speak all these words to them, but they will not obey you. You shall also call to them, but they will not answer you.

²⁸ "So you shall say to them, 'This is a nation that does not obey the voice of the LORD their God nor receive correction. Truth has perished and has been cut off from their mouth.

²⁹ 'Cut off your hair and cast it away, and take up a lamentation on the desolate heights; for the LORD has rejected and forsaken the generation of His wrath.'

³⁰ "For the children of Judah have done evil in My sight," says the LORD. "They have set their abominations in the house which is called by My name, to pollute it.

³¹ "And they have built the high places of Tophet, which is in the Valley of the Son of Hinnom, to burn their sons and their daughters in the fire, which I did

not command, nor did it come into My heart.

³² "Therefore behold, the days are coming," says the LORD, "when it will no more be called Tophet, or the Valley of the Son of Hinnom, but the Valley of Slaughter; for they will bury in Tophet until there is no room.

³³ "The corpses of this people will be food for the birds of the heaven and for the beasts of the earth. And no one will frighten them away.

³⁴ "Then I will cause to cease from the cities of Judah and from the streets of Jerusalem the voice of mirth and the voice of gladness, the voice of the bridegroom and the voice of the bride. For the land shall be desolate.

8 ¹ "At that time," says the LORD, "they shall bring out the bones of the kings of Judah, and the bones of its princes, and the bones of the priests, and the

bones of the prophets, and the bones of the inhabitants of Jerusalem, out of their graves.

² "They shall spread them before the sun and the moon and all the host of heaven, which they have loved and which they have served and after which they have walked, which they have sought and which they have worshiped. They shall not be gathered nor buried; they shall be like refuse on the face of the earth.

³ "Then death shall be chosen rather than life by all the residue of those who remain of this evil family, who remain in all the places where I have driven them," says the LORD of hosts.

⁴ "Moreover you shall say to them, 'Thus says the LORD: "Will they fall and not rise? Will one turn away and not return?"

⁵ Why has this people slidden back, Jerusalem, in a perpetual backsliding? They hold fast to deceit, They refuse to return.

⁶ I listened and heard, But they do not speak aright. No man repented of his wickedness, Saying, 'What have I done?' Everyone turned to his own course, As the horse rushes into the battle.

⁷ "Even the stork in the heavens Knows her appointed times; And the turtledove, the swift, and the swallow Observe the time of their coming. But My people do not know the judgment of the LORD.

⁸ "How can you say, 'We are wise, And the law of the LORD is with us'? Look, the false pen of the scribe certainly works falsehood.

⁹ The wise men are ashamed, They are dismayed and taken. Behold, they have rejected the word of the LORD; So what wisdom do they have?

¹⁰ Therefore I will give their wives to others, And their fields to those who will inherit them; Because from the least even to the greatest Everyone is given to covetousness; From the prophet even to the priest Everyone deals falsely.

¹¹ For they have healed the hurt of the daughter of My people slightly, Saying, 'Peace, peace!' When there is no peace.

¹² Were they ashamed when they had committed abomination? No! They were not at all ashamed, Nor did they know how to blush. Therefore they shall fall among those who fall; In the time of their punishment They shall be cast down," says the LORD.

¹³ "I will surely consume them," says the LORD. "No grapes shall be on the vine, Nor figs on the fig tree, And the leaf shall fade; And the things I have given them shall pass away from them.""

¹⁴ "Why do we sit still? Assemble yourselves, And let us enter the fortified cities, And let us be silent there. For the LORD our God has put us to silence And given us water of gall to drink, Because we have sinned against the LORD.

¹⁵ "We looked for peace, but no good came; And for a time of health, and there was trouble!

¹⁶ The snorting of His horses was heard from Dan. The whole land trembled at the sound of the neighing of His strong ones; For they have come and devoured the land and all that is in it, The city and those who dwell in it."

¹⁷ "For behold, I will send serpents among you, Vipers which cannot be charmed, And they shall bite you," says the LORD.

¹⁸ I would comfort myself in sorrow; My heart is faint in me.

¹⁹ Listen! The voice, The cry of the daughter of my people From a far country: "Is not the LORD in Zion? Is not her King in her?" "Why have they provoked Me to anger With their carved images—With foreign idols?"

²⁰ "The harvest is past, The summer is ended, And we are not saved!"

²¹ For the hurt of the daughter of my people I am hurt. I am mourning; Astonishment has taken hold of me.

²² Is there no balm in Gilead, Is there no physician there? Why then is there no recovery For the health of the daughter of my people?

9¹ Oh, that my head were waters, And my eyes a fountain of tears, That I might weep day and night For the slain of the daughter of my people!

² Oh, that I had in the wilderness A lodging place for travelers; That I might leave my people, And go from them! For

they are all adulterers, An assembly of treacherous men.

³ "And like their bow they have bent their tongues for lies. They are not valiant for the truth on the earth. For they proceed from evil to evil, And they do not know Me," says the LORD.

⁴ "Everyone take heed to his neighbor, And do not trust any brother; For every brother will utterly supplant, And every neighbor will walk with slanderers.

⁵ Everyone will deceive his neighbor, And will not speak the truth; They have taught their tongue to speak lies; They weary themselves to commit iniquity.

⁶ Your dwelling place is in the midst of deceit; Through deceit they refuse to know Me," says the LORD.

⁷ Therefore thus says the LORD of hosts: "Behold, I will refine them and try them; For how shall I deal with the daughter of My people?"

⁸ Their tongue is an arrow shot out; It speaks deceit; One speaks peaceably to his neighbor with his mouth, But in his heart he lies in wait.

⁹ Shall I not punish them for these things?" says the LORD. "Shall I not avenge Myself on such a nation as this?"

¹⁰ I will take up a weeping and wailing for the mountains, And for the dwelling places of the wilderness a lamentation, Because they are burned up, So that no one can pass through; Nor can men hear the voice of the cattle. Both the birds of the heavens and the beasts have fled; They are gone.

¹¹ "I will make Jerusalem a heap of ruins, a den of jackals. I will make the cities of Judah desolate, without an inhabitant."

¹² Who is the wise man who may understand this? And who is he to whom the mouth of the LORD has spoken, that

he may declare it? Why does the land perish and burn up like a wilderness, so that no one can pass through?

¹³ And the LORD said, "Because they have forsaken My law which I set before them, and have not obeyed My voice, nor walked according to it,

¹⁴ "but they have walked according to the dictates of their own hearts and after the Baals, which their fathers taught them,"

¹⁵ therefore thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: "Behold, I will feed them, this people, with wormwood, and give them water of gall to drink.

¹⁶ "I will scatter them also among the Gentiles, whom neither they nor their fathers have known. And I will send a sword after them until I have consumed them."

¹⁷ Thus says the LORD of hosts: "Consider and call for the mourning

women, That they may come; And send for skillful wailing women, That they may come.

¹⁸ Let them make haste And take up a wailing for us, That our eyes may run with tears, And our eyelids gush with water.

¹⁹ For a voice of wailing is heard from Zion: 'How we are plundered! We are greatly ashamed, Because we have forsaken the land, Because we have been cast out of our dwellings.'

²⁰ Yet hear the word of the LORD, O women, And let your ear receive the word of His mouth; Teach your daughters wailing, And everyone her neighbor a lamentation.

²¹ For death has come through our windows, Has entered our palaces, To kill off the children—no longer to be outside! And the young men—no longer on the streets!

²² Speak, "Thus says the LORD: 'Even the carcasses of men shall fall as refuse on the open field, Like cuttings after the harvester, And no one shall gather them.'"

²³ Thus says the LORD: "Let not the wise man glory in his wisdom, Let not the mighty man glory in his might, Nor let the rich man glory in his riches;

²⁴ But let him who glories glory in this, That he understands and knows Me, That I am the LORD, exercising lovingkindness, judgment, and righteousness in the earth. For in these I delight," says the LORD.

²⁵ "Behold, the days are coming," says the LORD, "that I will punish all who are circumcised with the uncircumcised—

²⁶ "Egypt, Judah, Edom, the people of Ammon, Moab, and all who are in the farthest corners, who dwell in the wilderness. For all these nations are

uncircumcised, and all the house of Israel are uncircumcised in the heart."

10¹ Hear the word which the LORD speaks to you, O house of Israel.

² Thus says the LORD: "Do not learn the way of the Gentiles; Do not be dismayed at the signs of heaven, For the Gentiles are dismayed at them.

³ For the customs of the peoples are futile; For one cuts a tree from the forest, The work of the hands of the workman, with the ax.

⁴ They decorate it with silver and gold; They fasten it with nails and hammers So that it will not topple.

⁵ They are upright, like a palm tree, And they cannot speak; They must be carried, Because they cannot go by themselves. Do not be afraid of them, For they cannot do evil, Nor can they do any good."

⁶ Inasmuch as there is none like You, O LORD (You are great, and Your name is great in might),

⁷ Who would not fear You, O King of the nations? For this is Your rightful due. For among all the wise men of the nations, And in all their kingdoms, There is none like You.

⁸ But they are altogether dull–hearted and foolish; A wooden idol is a worthless doctrine.

⁹ Silver is beaten into plates; It is brought from Tarshish, And gold from Uphaz, The work of the craftsman And of the hands of the metalsmith; Blue and purple are their clothing; They are all the work of skillful men.

¹⁰ But the LORD is the true God; He is the living God and the everlasting King. At His wrath the earth will tremble, And the nations will not be able to endure His indignation.

¹¹ Thus you shall say to them: "The gods that have not made the heavens and the earth shall perish from the earth and from under these heavens."

¹² He has made the earth by His power, He has established the world by His wisdom, And has stretched out the heavens at His discretion.

¹³ When He utters His voice, There is a multitude of waters in the heavens: "And He causes the vapors to ascend from the ends of the earth. He makes lightning for the rain, He brings the wind out of His treasuries."

¹⁴ Everyone is dull-hearted, without knowledge; Every metalsmith is put to shame by an image; For his molded image is falsehood, And there is no breath in them.

¹⁵ They are futile, a work of errors; In the time of their punishment they shall perish.

¹⁶ The Portion of Jacob is not like them,
For He is the Maker of all things, And
Israel is the tribe of His inheritance; The
LORD of hosts is His name.

¹⁷ Gather up your wares from the land,
O inhabitant of the fortress!

¹⁸ For thus says the LORD: "Behold, I will
throw out at this time The inhabitants
of the land, And will distress them, That
they may find it so."

¹⁹ Woe is me for my hurt! My wound
is severe. But I say, "Truly this is an
infirmity, And I must bear it."

²⁰ My tent is plundered, And all my
cords are broken; My children have gone
from me, And they are no more. There is
no one to pitch my tent anymore, Or set
up my curtains.

²¹ For the shepherds have become
dull-hearted, And have not sought the
LORD; Therefore they shall not prosper,
And all their flocks shall be scattered.

²² Behold, the noise of the report has come, And a great commotion out of the north country, To make the cities of Judah desolate, a den of jackals.

²³ O LORD, I know the way of man is not in himself; It is not in man who walks to direct his own steps.

²⁴ O LORD, correct me, but with justice; Not in Your anger, lest You bring me to nothing.

²⁵ Pour out Your fury on the Gentiles, who do not know You, And on the families who do not call on Your name; For they have eaten up Jacob, Devoured him and consumed him, And made his dwelling place desolate.

11 ¹ The word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD, saying,

² "Hear the words of this covenant, and speak to the men of Judah and to the inhabitants of Jerusalem;

³ "and say to them, 'Thus says the LORD God of Israel: "Cursed is the man who does not obey the words of this covenant

⁴ "which I commanded your fathers in the day I brought them out of the land of Egypt, from the iron furnace, saying, 'Obey My voice, and do according to all that I command you; so shall you be My people, and I will be your God,'

⁵ "that I may establish the oath which I have sworn to your fathers, to give them 'a land flowing with milk and honey,' as it is this day.'" And I answered and said, "So be it, LORD."

⁶ Then the LORD said to me, "Proclaim all these words in the cities of Judah and in the streets of Jerusalem, saying: 'Hear the words of this covenant and do them.

⁷ 'For I earnestly exhorted your fathers in the day I brought them up out of the

land of Egypt, until this day, rising early and exhorting, saying, "Obey My voice."

⁸ 'Yet they did not obey or incline their ear, but everyone followed the dictates of his evil heart; therefore I will bring upon them all the words of this covenant, which I commanded them to do, but which they have not done.'

⁹ And the LORD said to me, "A conspiracy has been found among the men of Judah and among the inhabitants of Jerusalem.

¹⁰ "They have turned back to the iniquities of their forefathers who refused to hear My words, and they have gone after other gods to serve them; the house of Israel and the house of Judah have broken My covenant which I made with their fathers."

¹¹ Therefore thus says the LORD: "Behold, I will surely bring calamity on them which they will not be able to

escape; and though they cry out to Me, I will not listen to them.

¹² "Then the cities of Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem will go and cry out to the gods to whom they offer incense, but they will not save them at all in the time of their trouble.

¹³ "For according to the number of your cities were your gods, O Judah; and according to the number of the streets of Jerusalem you have set up altars to that shameful thing, altars to burn incense to Baal.

¹⁴ "So do not pray for this people, or lift up a cry or prayer for them; for I will not hear them in the time that they cry out to Me because of their trouble.

¹⁵ "What has My beloved to do in My house, Having done lewd deeds with many? And the holy flesh has passed from you. When you do evil, then you rejoice.

¹⁶ The LORD called your name, Green Olive Tree, Lovely and of Good Fruit. With the noise of a great tumult He has kindled fire on it, And its branches are broken.

¹⁷ "For the LORD of hosts, who planted you, has pronounced doom against you for the evil of the house of Israel and of the house of Judah, which they have done against themselves to provoke Me to anger in offering incense to Baal."

¹⁸ Now the LORD gave me knowledge of it, and I know it; for You showed me their doings.

¹⁹ But I was like a docile lamb brought to the slaughter; and I did not know that they had devised schemes against me, saying, "Let us destroy the tree with its fruit, and let us cut him off from the land of the living, that his name may be remembered no more."

²⁰ But, O LORD of hosts, You who judge righteously, Testing the mind and the heart, Let me see Your vengeance on them, For to You I have revealed my cause.

²¹ "Therefore thus says the LORD concerning the men of Anathoth who seek your life, saying, 'Do not prophesy in the name of the LORD, lest you die by our hand' —

²² "therefore thus says the LORD of hosts: 'Behold, I will punish them. The young men shall die by the sword, their sons and their daughters shall die by famine;

²³ 'and there shall be no remnant of them, for I will bring catastrophe on the men of Anathoth, even the year of their punishment.'"

12 ¹ Righteous are You, O LORD, when I plead with You; Yet let me talk with You about Your judgments. Why

does the way of the wicked prosper?
Why are those happy who deal so
treacherously?

² You have planted them, yes, they have
taken root; They grow, yes, they bear
fruit. You are near in their mouth But far
from their mind.

³ But You, O LORD, know me; You have
seen me, And You have tested my heart
toward You. Pull them out like sheep for
the slaughter, And prepare them for the
day of slaughter.

⁴ How long will the land mourn, And
the herbs of every field wither? The
beasts and birds are consumed, For the
wickedness of those who dwell there,
Because they said, "He will not see our
final end."

⁵ "If you have run with the footmen,
and they have wearied you, Then how
can you contend with horses? And if in
the land of peace, In which you trusted,

they wearied you, Then how will you do in the floodplain of the Jordan?

⁶ For even your brothers, the house of your father, Even they have dealt treacherously with you; Yes, they have called a multitude after you. Do not believe them, Even though they speak smooth words to you.

⁷ "I have forsaken My house, I have left My heritage; I have given the dearly beloved of My soul into the hand of her enemies.

⁸ My heritage is to Me like a lion in the forest; It cries out against Me; Therefore I have hated it.

⁹ My heritage is to Me like a speckled vulture; The vultures all around are against her. Come, assemble all the beasts of the field, Bring them to devour!

¹⁰ "Many rulers have destroyed My vineyard, They have trodden My portion

underfoot; They have made My pleasant portion a desolate wilderness.

¹¹ They have made it desolate; Desolate, it mourns to Me; The whole land is made desolate, Because no one takes it to heart.

¹² The plunderers have come On all the desolate heights in the wilderness, For the sword of the LORD shall devour From one end of the land to the other end of the land; No flesh shall have peace.

¹³ They have sown wheat but reaped thorns; They have put themselves to pain but do not profit. But be ashamed of your harvest Because of the fierce anger of the LORD."

¹⁴ Thus says the LORD: "Against all My evil neighbors who touch the inheritance which I have caused My people Israel to inherit—behold, I will pluck them out of their land and pluck out the house of Judah from among them.

¹⁵ "Then it shall be, after I have plucked them out, that I will return and have compassion on them and bring them back, everyone to his heritage and everyone to his land.

¹⁶ "And it shall be, if they will learn carefully the ways of My people, to swear by My name, 'As the LORD lives,' as they taught My people to swear by Baal, then they shall be established in the midst of My people.

¹⁷ "But if they do not obey, I will utterly pluck up and destroy that nation," says the LORD.

13 ¹ Thus the LORD said to me: "Go and get yourself a linen sash, and put it around your waist, but do not put it in water."

² So I got a sash according to the word of the LORD, and put it around my waist.

³ And the word of the LORD came to me the second time, saying,

⁴ "Take the sash that you acquired, which is around your waist, and arise, go to the Euphrates, and hide it there in a hole in the rock."

⁵ So I went and hid it by the Euphrates, as the LORD commanded me.

⁶ Now it came to pass after many days that the LORD said to me, "Arise, go to the Euphrates, and take from there the sash which I commanded you to hide there."

⁷ Then I went to the Euphrates and dug, and I took the sash from the place where I had hidden it; and there was the sash, ruined. It was profitable for nothing.

⁸ Then the word of the LORD came to me, saying,

⁹ "Thus says the LORD: 'In this manner I will ruin the pride of Judah and the great pride of Jerusalem.

¹⁰ 'This evil people, who refuse to hear My words, who follow the dictates of

their hearts, and walk after other gods to serve them and worship them, shall be just like this sash which is profitable for nothing.

¹¹ 'For as the sash clings to the waist of a man, so I have caused the whole house of Israel and the whole house of Judah to cling to Me,' says the LORD, 'that they may become My people, for renown, for praise, and for glory; but they would not hear.'

¹² "Therefore you shall speak to them this word: 'Thus says the LORD God of Israel: "Every bottle shall be filled with wine.'" And they will say to you, 'Do we not certainly know that every bottle will be filled with wine?'

¹³ "Then you shall say to them, 'Thus says the LORD: "Behold, I will fill all the inhabitants of this land—even the kings who sit on David's throne, the priests,

the prophets, and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem—with drunkenness!

¹⁴ "And I will dash them one against another, even the fathers and the sons together," says the LORD. "I will not pity nor spare nor have mercy, but will destroy them.""

¹⁵ Hear and give ear: Do not be proud, For the LORD has spoken.

¹⁶ Give glory to the LORD your God Before He causes darkness, And before your feet stumble On the dark mountains, And while you are looking for light, He turns it into the shadow of death And makes it dense darkness.

¹⁷ But if you will not hear it, My soul will weep in secret for your pride; My eyes will weep bitterly And run down with tears, Because the LORD'S flock has been taken captive.

¹⁸ Say to the king and to the queen mother, "Humble yourselves; Sit down,

For your rule shall collapse, the crown of your glory."

¹⁹ The cities of the South shall be shut up, And no one shall open them; Judah shall be carried away captive, all of it; It shall be wholly carried away captive.

²⁰ Lift up your eyes and see Those who come from the north. Where is the flock that was given to you, Your beautiful sheep?

²¹ What will you say when He punishes you? For you have taught them To be chieftains, to be head over you. Will not pangs seize you, Like a woman in labor?

²² And if you say in your heart, "Why have these things come upon me?" For the greatness of your iniquity Your skirts have been uncovered, Your heels made bare.

²³ Can the Ethiopian change his skin or the leopard its spots? Then may you also do good who are accustomed to do evil.

²⁴ "Therefore I will scatter them like stubble That passes away by the wind of the wilderness.

²⁵ This is your lot, The portion of your measures from Me," says the LORD, "Because you have forgotten Me And trusted in falsehood.

²⁶ Therefore I will uncover your skirts over your face, That your shame may appear.

²⁷ I have seen your adulteries And your lustful neighings, The lewdness of your harlotry, Your abominations on the hills in the fields. Woe to you, O Jerusalem! Will you still not be made clean?"

14 ¹ The word of the LORD that came to Jeremiah concerning the droughts.

² "Judah mourns, And her gates languish; They mourn for the land, And the cry of Jerusalem has gone up.

³ Their nobles have sent their lads for water; They went to the cisterns and found no water. They returned with their vessels empty; They were ashamed and confounded And covered their heads.

⁴ Because the ground is parched, For there was no rain in the land, The plowmen were ashamed; They covered their heads.

⁵ Yes, the deer also gave birth in the field, But left because there was no grass.

⁶ And the wild donkeys stood in the desolate heights; They sniffed at the wind like jackals; Their eyes failed because there was no grass."

⁷ O LORD, though our iniquities testify against us, Do it for Your name's sake; For our backslidings are many, We have sinned against You.

⁸ O the Hope of Israel, his Savior in time of trouble, Why should You be like a

stranger in the land, And like a traveler who turns aside to tarry for a night?

⁹ Why should You be like a man astonished, Like a mighty one who cannot save? Yet You, O LORD, are in our midst, And we are called by Your name; Do not leave us!

¹⁰ Thus says the LORD to this people: "Thus they have loved to wander; They have not restrained their feet. Therefore the LORD does not accept them; He will remember their iniquity now, And punish their sins."

¹¹ Then the LORD said to me, "Do not pray for this people, for their good.

¹² "When they fast, I will not hear their cry; and when they offer burnt offering and grain offering, I will not accept them. But I will consume them by the sword, by the famine, and by the pestilence."

¹³ Then I said, "Ah, Lord GOD! Behold, the prophets say to them, 'You shall

not see the sword, nor shall you have famine, but I will give you assured peace in this place.'"

¹⁴ And the LORD said to me, "The prophets prophesy lies in My name. I have not sent them, commanded them, nor spoken to them; they prophesy to you a false vision, divination, a worthless thing, and the deceit of their heart.

¹⁵ "Therefore thus says the LORD concerning the prophets who prophesy in My name, whom I did not send, and who say, 'Sword and famine shall not be in this land' —'By sword and famine those prophets shall be consumed!

¹⁶ 'And the people to whom they prophesy shall be cast out in the streets of Jerusalem because of the famine and the sword; they will have no one to bury them—they nor their wives, their sons nor their daughters—for I will pour their wickedness on them.'

¹⁷ "Therefore you shall say this word to them: 'Let my eyes flow with tears night and day, And let them not cease; For the virgin daughter of my people Has been broken with a mighty stroke, with a very severe blow.

¹⁸ If I go out to the field, Then behold, those slain with the sword! And if I enter the city, Then behold, those sick from famine! Yes, both prophet and priest go about in a land they do not know.'"

¹⁹ Have You utterly rejected Judah? Has Your soul loathed Zion? Why have You stricken us so that there is no healing for us? We looked for peace, but there was no good; And for the time of healing, and there was trouble.

²⁰ We acknowledge, O LORD, our wickedness And the iniquity of our fathers, For we have sinned against You.

²¹ Do not abhor us, for Your name's sake; Do not disgrace the throne of Your

glory. Remember, do not break Your covenant with us.

²² Are there any among the idols of the nations that can cause rain? Or can the heavens give showers? Are You not He, O LORD our God? Therefore we will wait for You, Since You have made all these.

15 ¹ Then the LORD said to me, "Even if Moses and Samuel stood before Me, My mind would not be favorable toward this people. Cast them out of My sight, and let them go forth.

² "And it shall be, if they say to you, 'Where should we go?' then you shall tell them, 'Thus says the LORD: "Such as are for death, to death; And such as are for the sword, to the sword; And such as are for the famine, to the famine; And such as are for the captivity, to the captivity."'"

³ "And I will appoint over them four forms of destruction," says the LORD:

"the sword to slay, the dogs to drag, the birds of the heavens and the beasts of the earth to devour and destroy.

⁴ "I will hand them over to trouble, to all kingdoms of the earth, because of Manasseh the son of Hezekiah, king of Judah, for what he did in Jerusalem.

⁵ "For who will have pity on you, O Jerusalem? Or who will bemoan you? Or who will turn aside to ask how you are doing?

⁶ "You have forsaken Me," says the LORD, "You have gone backward. Therefore I will stretch out My hand against you and destroy you; I am weary of relenting!

⁷ And I will winnow them with a winnowing fan in the gates of the land; I will bereave them of children; I will destroy My people, Since they do not return from their ways.

⁸ Their widows will be increased to Me more than the sand of the seas;

I will bring against them, Against the mother of the young men, A plunderer at noonday; I will cause anguish and terror to fall on them suddenly.

⁹ "She languishes who has borne seven; She has breathed her last; Her sun has gone down While it was yet day; She has been ashamed and confounded. And the remnant of them I will deliver to the sword Before their enemies," says the LORD.

¹⁰ Woe is me, my mother, That you have borne me, A man of strife and a man of contention to the whole earth! I have neither lent for interest, Nor have men lent to me for interest. Every one of them curses me.

¹¹ The LORD said: "Surely it will be well with your remnant; Surely I will cause the enemy to intercede with you In the time of adversity and in the time of affliction.

¹² Can anyone break iron, The northern iron and the bronze?

¹³ Your wealth and your treasures I will give as plunder without price, Because of all your sins, Throughout your territories.

¹⁴ And I will make you cross over with your enemies Into a land which you do not know; For a fire is kindled in My anger, Which shall burn upon you."

¹⁵ O LORD, You know; Remember me and visit me, And take vengeance for me on my persecutors. In Your enduring patience, do not take me away. Know that for Your sake I have suffered rebuke.

¹⁶ Your words were found, and I ate them, And Your word was to me the joy and rejoicing of my heart; For I am called by Your name, O LORD God of hosts.

¹⁷ I did not sit in the assembly of the mockers, Nor did I rejoice; I sat alone because of Your hand, For You have filled me with indignation.

¹⁸ Why is my pain perpetual And my wound incurable, Which refuses to be healed? Will You surely be to me like an unreliable stream, As waters that fail?

¹⁹ Therefore thus says the LORD: "If you return, Then I will bring you back; You shall stand before Me; If you take out the precious from the vile, You shall be as My mouth. Let them return to you, But you must not return to them.

²⁰ And I will make you to this people a fortified bronze wall; And they will fight against you, But they shall not prevail against you; For I am with you to save you And deliver you," says the LORD.

²¹ "I will deliver you from the hand of the wicked, And I will redeem you from the grip of the terrible."

16 ¹ The word of the LORD also came to me, saying,

² "You shall not take a wife, nor shall you have sons or daughters in this place."

³ For thus says the LORD concerning the sons and daughters who are born in this place, and concerning their mothers who bore them and their fathers who begot them in this land:

⁴ "They shall die gruesome deaths; they shall not be lamented nor shall they be buried, but they shall be like refuse on the face of the earth. They shall be consumed by the sword and by famine, and their corpses shall be meat for the birds of heaven and for the beasts of the earth."

⁵ For thus says the LORD: "Do not enter the house of mourning, nor go to lament or bemoan them; for I have taken away My peace from this people," says the LORD, "lovingkindness and mercies.

⁶ "Both the great and the small shall die in this land. They shall not be buried; neither shall men lament for them, cut themselves, nor make themselves bald for them.

⁷ "Nor shall men break bread in mourning for them, to comfort them for the dead; nor shall men give them the cup of consolation to drink for their father or their mother.

⁸ "Also you shall not go into the house of feasting to sit with them, to eat and drink."

⁹ For thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: "Behold, I will cause to cease from this place, before your eyes and in your days, the voice of mirth and the voice of gladness, the voice of the bridegroom and the voice of the bride.

¹⁰ "And it shall be, when you show this people all these words, and they say to you, 'Why has the LORD pronounced all

this great disaster against us? Or what is our iniquity? Or what is our sin that we have committed against the LORD our God?’

¹¹ "then you shall say to them, ‘Because your fathers have forsaken Me,’ says the LORD; ‘they have walked after other gods and have served them and worshiped them, and have forsaken Me and not kept My law.

¹² ‘And you have done worse than your fathers, for behold, each one follows the dictates of his own evil heart, so that no one listens to Me.

¹³ ‘Therefore I will cast you out of this land into a land that you do not know, neither you nor your fathers; and there you shall serve other gods day and night, where I will not show you favor.’

¹⁴ "Therefore behold, the days are coming," says the LORD, "that it shall no more be said, ‘The LORD lives who

brought up the children of Israel from the land of Egypt;'

¹⁵ "but, 'The LORD lives who brought up the children of Israel from the land of the north and from all the lands where He had driven them.' For I will bring them back into their land which I gave to their fathers.

¹⁶ "Behold, I will send for many fishermen," says the LORD, "and they shall fish them; and afterward I will send for many hunters, and they shall hunt them from every mountain and every hill, and out of the holes of the rocks.

¹⁷ "For My eyes are on all their ways; they are not hidden from My face, nor is their iniquity hidden from My eyes.

¹⁸ "And first I will repay double for their iniquity and their sin, because they have defiled My land; they have filled My inheritance with the carcasses of their detestable and abominable idols."

¹⁹ O LORD, my strength and my fortress,
My refuge in the day of affliction, The
Gentiles shall come to You From the ends
of the earth and say, "Surely our fathers
have inherited lies, Worthlessness and
unprofitable things."

²⁰ Will a man make gods for himself,
Which are not gods?

²¹ "Therefore behold, I will this once
cause them to know, I will cause them to
know My hand and My might; And they
shall know that My name is the LORD.

17 ¹ "The sin of Judah is written with
a pen of iron; With the point of
a diamond it is engraved On the tablet
of their heart, And on the horns of your
altars,

² While their children remember Their
altars and their wooden images By the
green trees on the high hills.

³ O My mountain in the field, I will
give as plunder your wealth, all your

treasures, And your high places of sin within all your borders.

⁴ And you, even yourself, Shall let go of your heritage which I gave you; And I will cause you to serve your enemies In the land which you do not know; For you have kindled a fire in My anger which shall burn forever."

⁵ Thus says the LORD: "Cursed is the man who trusts in man And makes flesh his strength, Whose heart departs from the LORD.

⁶ For he shall be like a shrub in the desert, And shall not see when good comes, But shall inhabit the parched places in the wilderness, In a salt land which is not inhabited.

⁷ "Blessed is the man who trusts in the LORD, And whose hope is the LORD.

⁸ For he shall be like a tree planted by the waters, Which spreads out its roots by the river, And will not fear when heat

comes; But its leaf will be green, And will not be anxious in the year of drought, Nor will cease from yielding fruit.

⁹ "The heart is deceitful above all things, And desperately wicked; Who can know it?

¹⁰ I, the LORD, search the heart, I test the mind, Even to give every man according to his ways, According to the fruit of his doings.

¹¹ "As a partridge that broods but does not hatch, So is he who gets riches, but not by right; It will leave him in the midst of his days, And at his end he will be a fool."

¹² A glorious high throne from the beginning Is the place of our sanctuary.

¹³ O LORD, the hope of Israel, All who forsake You shall be ashamed. "Those who depart from Me Shall be written in the earth, Because they have forsaken the LORD, The fountain of living waters."

¹⁴ Heal me, O LORD, and I shall be healed; Save me, and I shall be saved, For You are my praise.

¹⁵ Indeed they say to me, "Where is the word of the LORD? Let it come now!"

¹⁶ As for me, I have not hurried away from being a shepherd who follows You, Nor have I desired the woeful day; You know what came out of my lips; It was right there before You.

¹⁷ Do not be a terror to me; You are my hope in the day of doom.

¹⁸ Let them be ashamed who persecute me, But do not let me be put to shame; Let them be dismayed, But do not let me be dismayed. Bring on them the day of doom, And destroy them with double destruction!

¹⁹ Thus the LORD said to me: "Go and stand in the gate of the children of the people, by which the kings of Judah

come in and by which they go out, and in all the gates of Jerusalem;

²⁰ "and say to them, 'Hear the word of the LORD, you kings of Judah, and all Judah, and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem, who enter by these gates.

²¹ 'Thus says the LORD: "Take heed to yourselves, and bear no burden on the Sabbath day, nor bring it in by the gates of Jerusalem;

²² "nor carry a burden out of your houses on the Sabbath day, nor do any work, but hallow the Sabbath day, as I commanded your fathers.

²³ "But they did not obey nor incline their ear, but made their neck stiff, that they might not hear nor receive instruction.

²⁴ "And it shall be, if you heed Me carefully," says the LORD, "to bring no burden through the gates of this city on

the Sabbath day, but hallow the Sabbath day, to do no work in it,

²⁵ "then shall enter the gates of this city kings and princes sitting on the throne of David, riding in chariots and on horses, they and their princes, accompanied by the men of Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem; and this city shall remain forever.

²⁶ "And they shall come from the cities of Judah and from the places around Jerusalem, from the land of Benjamin and from the lowland, from the mountains and from the South, bringing burnt offerings and sacrifices, grain offerings and incense, bringing sacrifices of praise to the house of the LORD.

²⁷ "But if you will not heed Me to hallow the Sabbath day, such as not carrying a burden when entering the gates of Jerusalem on the Sabbath day, then I

will kindle a fire in its gates, and it shall devour the palaces of Jerusalem, and it shall not be quenched."'"

18 ¹The word which came to Jeremiah from the LORD, saying:

²"Arise and go down to the potter's house, and there I will cause you to hear My words."

³Then I went down to the potter's house, and there he was, making something at the wheel.

⁴And the vessel that he made of clay was marred in the hand of the potter; so he made it again into another vessel, as it seemed good to the potter to make.

⁵Then the word of the LORD came to me, saying:

⁶"O house of Israel, can I not do with you as this potter?" says the LORD.

"Look, as the clay is in the potter's hand, so are you in My hand, O house of Israel!

⁷ "The instant I speak concerning a nation and concerning a kingdom, to pluck up, to pull down, and to destroy it, ⁸ "if that nation against whom I have spoken turns from its evil, I will relent of the disaster that I thought to bring upon it.

⁹ "And the instant I speak concerning a nation and concerning a kingdom, to build and to plant it,

¹⁰ "if it does evil in My sight so that it does not obey My voice, then I will relent concerning the good with which I said I would benefit it.

¹¹ "Now therefore, speak to the men of Judah and to the inhabitants of Jerusalem, saying, 'Thus says the LORD: "Behold, I am fashioning a disaster and devising a plan against you. Return now every one from his evil way, and make your ways and your doings good.'"

¹² And they said, "That is hopeless! So we will walk according to our own plans, and we will every one obey the dictates of his evil heart."

¹³ Therefore thus says the LORD: "Ask now among the Gentiles, Who has heard such things? The virgin of Israel has done a very horrible thing.

¹⁴ Will a man leave the snow water of Lebanon, Which comes from the rock of the field? Will the cold flowing waters be forsaken for strange waters?

¹⁵ "Because My people have forgotten Me, They have burned incense to worthless idols. And they have caused themselves to stumble in their ways, From the ancient paths, To walk in pathways and not on a highway,

¹⁶ To make their land desolate and a perpetual hissing; Everyone who passes by it will be astonished And shake his head.

¹⁷ I will scatter them as with an east wind before the enemy; I will show them the back and not the face In the day of their calamity."

¹⁸ Then they said, "Come and let us devise plans against Jeremiah; for the law shall not perish from the priest, nor counsel from the wise, nor the word from the prophet. Come and let us attack him with the tongue, and let us not give heed to any of his words."

¹⁹ Give heed to me, O LORD, And listen to the voice of those who contend with me!

²⁰ Shall evil be repaid for good? For they have dug a pit for my life. Remember that I stood before You To speak good for them, To turn away Your wrath from them.

²¹ Therefore deliver up their children to the famine, And pour out their blood By the force of the sword; Let their wives

become widows And bereaved of their children. Let their men be put to death, Their young men be slain By the sword in battle.

²² Let a cry be heard from their houses, When You bring a troop suddenly upon them; For they have dug a pit to take me, And hidden snares for my feet.

²³ Yet, LORD, You know all their counsel Which is against me, to slay me. Provide no atonement for their iniquity, Nor blot out their sin from Your sight; But let them be overthrown before You. Deal thus with them In the time of Your anger.

19 ¹ Thus says the LORD: "Go and get a potter's earthen flask, and take some of the elders of the people and some of the elders of the priests.

² "And go out to the Valley of the Son of Hinnom, which is by the entry of the Potsherd Gate; and proclaim there the words that I will tell you,

³ "and say, 'Hear the word of the LORD, O kings of Judah and inhabitants of Jerusalem. Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: "Behold, I will bring such a catastrophe on this place, that whoever hears of it, his ears will tingle.

⁴ "Because they have forsaken Me and made this an alien place, because they have burned incense in it to other gods whom neither they, their fathers, nor the kings of Judah have known, and have filled this place with the blood of the innocents

⁵ "(they have also built the high places of Baal, to burn their sons with fire for burnt offerings to Baal, which I did not command or speak, nor did it come into My mind),

⁶ "therefore behold, the days are coming," says the LORD, "that this place shall no more be called Tophet or the

Valley of the Son of Hinnom, but the Valley of Slaughter.

⁷ "And I will make void the counsel of Judah and Jerusalem in this place, and I will cause them to fall by the sword before their enemies and by the hands of those who seek their lives; their corpses I will give as meat for the birds of the heaven and for the beasts of the earth.

⁸ "I will make this city desolate and a hissing; everyone who passes by it will be astonished and hiss because of all its plagues.

⁹ "And I will cause them to eat the flesh of their sons and the flesh of their daughters, and everyone shall eat the flesh of his friend in the siege and in the desperation with which their enemies and those who seek their lives shall drive them to despair."

¹⁰ "Then you shall break the flask in the sight of the men who go with you,

¹¹ "and say to them, 'Thus says the LORD of hosts: "Even so I will break this people and this city, as one breaks a potter's vessel, which cannot be made whole again; and they shall bury them in Tophet till there is no place to bury.

¹² "Thus I will do to this place," says the LORD, "and to its inhabitants, and make this city like Tophet.

¹³ "And the houses of Jerusalem and the houses of the kings of Judah shall be defiled like the place of Tophet, because of all the houses on whose roofs they have burned incense to all the host of heaven, and poured out drink offerings to other gods."'"

¹⁴ Then Jeremiah came from Tophet, where the LORD had sent him to prophesy; and he stood in the court

of the Lord's house and said to all the people,

¹⁵ "Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: 'Behold, I will bring on this city and on all her towns all the doom that I have pronounced against it, because they have stiffened their necks that they might not hear My words.'"

20 ¹ Now Pashhur the son of Immer, the priest who was also chief governor in the house of the LORD, heard that Jeremiah prophesied these things.

² Then Pashhur struck Jeremiah the prophet, and put him in the stocks that were in the high gate of Benjamin, which was by the house of the LORD.

³ And it happened on the next day that Pashhur brought Jeremiah out of the stocks. Then Jeremiah said to him, "The LORD has not called your name Pashhur, but Magor–Missabib.

⁴ "For thus says the LORD: 'Behold, I will make you a terror to yourself and to all your friends; and they shall fall by the sword of their enemies, and your eyes shall see it. I will give all Judah into the hand of the king of Babylon, and he shall carry them captive to Babylon and slay them with the sword.

⁵ 'Moreover I will deliver all the wealth of this city, all its produce, and all its precious things; all the treasures of the kings of Judah I will give into the hand of their enemies, who will plunder them, seize them, and carry them to Babylon.

⁶ 'And you, Pashhur, and all who dwell in your house, shall go into captivity. You shall go to Babylon, and there you shall die, and be buried there, you and all your friends, to whom you have prophesied lies.'"

⁷ O LORD, You induced me, and I was persuaded; You are stronger than I, and

have prevailed. I am in derision daily;
Everyone mocks me.

⁸ For when I spoke, I cried out; I
shouted, "Violence and plunder!"
Because the word of the LORD was made
to me A reproach and a derision daily.

⁹ Then I said, "I will not make mention
of Him, Nor speak anymore in His name."
But His word was in my heart like a
burning fire Shut up in my bones; I was
weary of holding it back, And I could not.

¹⁰ For I heard many mocking: "Fear on
every side!" "Report," they say, "and
we will report it!" All my acquaintances
watched for my stumbling, saying,
"Perhaps he can be induced; Then we
will prevail against him, And we will take
our revenge on him."

¹¹ But the LORD is with me as a
mighty, awesome One. Therefore my
persecutors will stumble, and will not
prevail. They will be greatly ashamed, for

they will not prosper. Their everlasting confusion will never be forgotten.

¹² But, O LORD of hosts, You who test the righteous, And see the mind and heart, Let me see Your vengeance on them; For I have pleaded my cause before You.

¹³ Sing to the LORD! Praise the LORD! For He has delivered the life of the poor From the hand of evildoers.

¹⁴ Cursed be the day in which I was born! Let the day not be blessed in which my mother bore me!

¹⁵ Let the man be cursed Who brought news to my father, saying, "A male child has been born to you!" Making him very glad.

¹⁶ And let that man be like the cities Which the LORD overthrew, and did not relent; Let him hear the cry in the morning And the shouting at noon,

¹⁷ Because he did not kill me from the womb, That my mother might have been my grave, And her womb always enlarged with me.

¹⁸ Why did I come forth from the womb to see labor and sorrow, That my days should be consumed with shame?

21 ¹ The word which came to Jeremiah from the LORD when King Zedekiah sent to him Pashhur the son of Melchiah, and Zephaniah the son of Maaseiah, the priest, saying,

² "Please inquire of the LORD for us, for Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon makes war against us. Perhaps the LORD will deal with us according to all His wonderful works, that the king may go away from us."

³ Then Jeremiah said to them, "Thus you shall say to Zedekiah,

⁴ 'Thus says the LORD God of Israel: "Behold, I will turn back the weapons of

war that are in your hands, with which you fight against the king of Babylon and the Chaldeans who besiege you outside the walls; and I will assemble them in the midst of this city.

⁵ "I Myself will fight against you with an outstretched hand and with a strong arm, even in anger and fury and great wrath.

⁶ "I will strike the inhabitants of this city, both man and beast; they shall die of a great pestilence.

⁷ "And afterward," says the LORD, "I will deliver Zedekiah king of Judah, his servants and the people, and such as are left in this city from the pestilence and the sword and the famine, into the hand of Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon, into the hand of their enemies, and into the hand of those who seek their life; and he shall strike them with the edge of the

sword. He shall not spare them, or have pity or mercy."

⁸ "Now you shall say to this people, 'Thus says the LORD: "Behold, I set before you the way of life and the way of death.

⁹ "He who remains in this city shall die by the sword, by famine, and by pestilence; but he who goes out and defects to the Chaldeans who besiege you, he shall live, and his life shall be as a prize to him.

¹⁰ "For I have set My face against this city for adversity and not for good," says the LORD. "It shall be given into the hand of the king of Babylon, and he shall burn it with fire."

¹¹ "And concerning the house of the king of Judah, say, 'Hear the word of the LORD,

¹² 'O house of David! Thus says the LORD: "Execute judgment in the

morning; And deliver him who is
plundered Out of the hand of the
oppressor, Lest My fury go forth like fire
And burn so that no one can quench it,
Because of the evil of your doings.

¹³ "Behold, I am against you, O
inhabitant of the valley, And rock of the
plain," says the LORD, "Who say, 'Who
shall come down against us? Or who
shall enter our dwellings?'

¹⁴ But I will punish you according to the
fruit of your doings," says the LORD; "I
will kindle a fire in its forest, And it shall
devour all things around it.'"

22 ¹ Thus says the LORD: "Go down
to the house of the king of Judah,
and there speak this word,

² "and say, 'Hear the word of the LORD,
O king of Judah, you who sit on the
throne of David, you and your servants
and your people who enter these gates!

³ 'Thus says the LORD: "Execute judgment and righteousness, and deliver the plundered out of the hand of the oppressor. Do no wrong and do no violence to the stranger, the fatherless, or the widow, nor shed innocent blood in this place.

⁴ "For if you indeed do this thing, then shall enter the gates of this house, riding on horses and in chariots, accompanied by servants and people, kings who sit on the throne of David.

⁵ "But if you will not hear these words, I swear by Myself," says the LORD, "that this house shall become a desolation.""

⁶ For thus says the LORD to the house of the king of Judah: "You are Gilead to Me, The head of Lebanon; Yet I surely will make you a wilderness, Cities which are not inhabited.

⁷ I will prepare destroyers against you, Everyone with his weapons; They shall

cut down your choice cedars And cast them into the fire.

⁸ "And many nations will pass by this city; and everyone will say to his neighbor, 'Why has the LORD done so to this great city?'

⁹ "Then they will answer, 'Because they have forsaken the covenant of the LORD their God, and worshiped other gods and served them.'"

¹⁰ Weep not for the dead, nor bemoan him; Weep bitterly for him who goes away, For he shall return no more, Nor see his native country.

¹¹ For thus says the LORD concerning Shallum the son of Josiah, king of Judah, who reigned instead of Josiah his father, who went from this place: "He shall not return here anymore,

¹² "but he shall die in the place where they have led him captive, and shall see this land no more.

¹³ "Woe to him who builds his house by unrighteousness And his chambers by injustice, Who uses his neighbor's service without wages And gives him nothing for his work,

¹⁴ Who says, 'I will build myself a wide house with spacious chambers, And cut out windows for it, Paneling it with cedar And painting it with vermilion.'

¹⁵ "Shall you reign because you enclose yourself in cedar? Did not your father eat and drink, And do justice and righteousness? Then it was well with him.

¹⁶ He judged the cause of the poor and needy; Then it was well. Was not this knowing Me?" says the LORD.

¹⁷ "Yet your eyes and your heart are for nothing but your covetousness, For shedding innocent blood, And practicing oppression and violence."

¹⁸ Therefore thus says the LORD concerning Jehoiakim the son of Josiah, king of Judah: "They shall not lament for him, Saying, 'Alas, my brother!' or 'Alas, my sister!' They shall not lament for him, Saying, 'Alas, master!' or 'Alas, his glory!'

¹⁹ He shall be buried with the burial of a donkey, Dragged and cast out beyond the gates of Jerusalem.

²⁰ "Go up to Lebanon, and cry out, And lift up your voice in Bashan; Cry from Abarim, For all your lovers are destroyed.

²¹ I spoke to you in your prosperity, But you said, 'I will not hear.' This has been your manner from your youth, That you did not obey My voice.

²² The wind shall eat up all your rulers, And your lovers shall go into captivity; Surely then you will be ashamed and humiliated For all your wickedness.

²³ O inhabitant of Lebanon, Making your nest in the cedars, How gracious

will you be when pangs come upon you,
Like the pain of a woman in labor?

²⁴ "As I live," says the LORD, "though
Coniah the son of Jehoiakim, king of
Judah, were the signet on My right hand,
yet I would pluck you off;

²⁵ "and I will give you into the hand of
those who seek your life, and into the
hand of those whose face you fear—the
hand of Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon
and the hand of the Chaldeans.

²⁶ "So I will cast you out, and your
mother who bore you, into another
country where you were not born; and
there you shall die.

²⁷ "But to the land to which they desire
to return, there they shall not return.

²⁸ "Is this man Coniah a despised,
broken idol—A vessel in which is no
pleasure? Why are they cast out, he and
his descendants, And cast into a land
which they do not know?

²⁹ O earth, earth, earth, Hear the word of the LORD!

³⁰ Thus says the LORD: 'Write this man down as childless, A man who shall not prosper in his days; For none of his descendants shall prosper, Sitting on the throne of David, And ruling anymore in Judah.'

23 ¹ "Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of My pasture!" says the LORD.

² Therefore thus says the LORD God of Israel against the shepherds who feed My people: "You have scattered My flock, driven them away, and not attended to them. Behold, I will attend to you for the evil of your doings," says the LORD.

³ "But I will gather the remnant of My flock out of all countries where I have driven them, and bring them back to

their folds; and they shall be fruitful and increase.

⁴ "I will set up shepherds over them who will feed them; and they shall fear no more, nor be dismayed, nor shall they be lacking," says the LORD.

⁵ "Behold, the days are coming," says the LORD, "That I will raise to David a Branch of righteousness; A King shall reign and prosper, And execute judgment and righteousness in the earth.

⁶ In His days Judah will be saved, And Israel will dwell safely; Now this is His name by which He will be called: THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS.

⁷ "Therefore, behold, the days are coming," says the LORD, "that they shall no longer say, 'As the LORD lives who brought up the children of Israel from the land of Egypt,'

⁸ "but, 'As the LORD lives who brought up and led the descendants of the house

of Israel from the north country and from all the countries where I had driven them.' And they shall dwell in their own land."

⁹ My heart within me is broken Because of the prophets; All my bones shake. I am like a drunken man, And like a man whom wine has overcome, Because of the LORD, And because of His holy words.

¹⁰ For the land is full of adulterers; For because of a curse the land mourns. The pleasant places of the wilderness are dried up. Their course of life is evil, And their might is not right.

¹¹ "For both prophet and priest are profane; Yes, in My house I have found their wickedness," says the LORD.

¹² "Therefore their way shall be to them Like slippery ways; In the darkness they shall be driven on And fall in them; For I

will bring disaster on them, The year of their punishment," says the LORD.

¹³ "And I have seen folly in the prophets of Samaria: They prophesied by Baal And caused My people Israel to err.

¹⁴ Also I have seen a horrible thing in the prophets of Jerusalem: They commit adultery and walk in lies; They also strengthen the hands of evildoers, So that no one turns back from his wickedness. All of them are like Sodom to Me, And her inhabitants like Gomorrah.

¹⁵ "Therefore thus says the LORD of hosts concerning the prophets: 'Behold, I will feed them with wormwood, And make them drink the water of gall; For from the prophets of Jerusalem Profaneness has gone out into all the land.'"

¹⁶ Thus says the LORD of hosts: "Do not listen to the words of the prophets

who prophesy to you. They make you worthless; They speak a vision of their own heart, Not from the mouth of the LORD.

¹⁷ They continually say to those who despise Me, 'The LORD has said, "You shall have peace"'; And to everyone who walks according to the dictates of his own heart, they say, 'No evil shall come upon you.'

¹⁸ For who has stood in the counsel of the LORD, And has perceived and heard His word? Who has marked His word and heard it?

¹⁹ Behold, a whirlwind of the LORD has gone forth in fury—A violent whirlwind! It will fall violently on the head of the wicked.

²⁰ The anger of the LORD will not turn back Until He has executed and performed the thoughts of His heart.

In the latter days you will understand it perfectly.

²¹ "I have not sent these prophets, yet they ran. I have not spoken to them, yet they prophesied.

²² But if they had stood in My counsel, And had caused My people to hear My words, Then they would have turned them from their evil way And from the evil of their doings.

²³ "Am I a God near at hand," says the LORD, "And not a God afar off?"

²⁴ Can anyone hide himself in secret places, So I shall not see him?" says the LORD; "Do I not fill heaven and earth?" says the LORD.

²⁵ "I have heard what the prophets have said who prophesy lies in My name, saying, 'I have dreamed, I have dreamed!'

²⁶ "How long will this be in the heart of the prophets who prophesy lies? Indeed

they are prophets of the deceit of their own heart,

²⁷ "who try to make My people forget My name by their dreams which everyone tells his neighbor, as their fathers forgot My name for Baal.

²⁸ "The prophet who has a dream, let him tell a dream; And he who has My word, let him speak My word faithfully. What is the chaff to the wheat?" says the LORD.

²⁹ "Is not My word like a fire?" says the LORD, "And like a hammer that breaks the rock in pieces?"

³⁰ "Therefore behold, I am against the prophets," says the LORD, "who steal My words every one from his neighbor.

³¹ "Behold, I am against the prophets," says the LORD, "who use their tongues and say, 'He says.'

³² "Behold, I am against those who prophesy false dreams," says the LORD,

"and tell them, and cause My people to err by their lies and by their recklessness. Yet I did not send them or command them; therefore they shall not profit this people at all," says the LORD.

³³ "So when these people or the prophet or the priest ask you, saying, 'What is the oracle of the LORD?' you shall then say to them, 'What oracle?' I will even forsake you," says the LORD.

³⁴ "And as for the prophet and the priest and the people who say, 'The oracle of the LORD!' I will even punish that man and his house.

³⁵ "Thus every one of you shall say to his neighbor, and every one to his brother, 'What has the LORD answered?' and, 'What has the LORD spoken?'

³⁶ "And the oracle of the LORD you shall mention no more. For every man's word will be his oracle, for you have perverted

the words of the living God, the LORD of hosts, our God.

³⁷ "Thus you shall say to the prophet, 'What has the LORD answered you?' and, 'What has the LORD spoken?'

³⁸ "But since you say, 'The oracle of the LORD!' therefore thus says the LORD: 'Because you say this word, "The oracle of the LORD!" and I have sent to you, saying, "Do not say, 'The oracle of the LORD!'"

³⁹ 'therefore behold, I, even I, will utterly forget you and forsake you, and the city that I gave you and your fathers, and will cast you out of My presence.

⁴⁰ 'And I will bring an everlasting reproach upon you, and a perpetual shame, which shall not be forgotten.'"

24 ¹ The LORD showed me, and there were two baskets of figs set before the temple of the LORD, after Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon had

carried away captive Jeconiah the son of Jehoiakim, king of Judah, and the princes of Judah with the craftsmen and smiths, from Jerusalem, and had brought them to Babylon.

² One basket had very good figs, like the figs that are first ripe; and the other basket had very bad figs which could not be eaten, they were so bad.

³ Then the LORD said to me, "What do you see, Jeremiah?" And I said, "Figs, the good figs, very good; and the bad, very bad, which cannot be eaten, they are so bad."

⁴ Again the word of the LORD came to me, saying,

⁵ "Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel: 'Like these good figs, so will I acknowledge those who are carried away captive from Judah, whom I have sent out of this place for their own good, into the land of the Chaldeans.

⁶ ‘For I will set My eyes on them for good, and I will bring them back to this land; I will build them and not pull them down, and I will plant them and not pluck them up.

⁷ ‘Then I will give them a heart to know Me, that I am the LORD; and they shall be My people, and I will be their God, for they shall return to Me with their whole heart.

⁸ ‘And as the bad figs which cannot be eaten, they are so bad’ —surely thus says the LORD—‘so will I give up Zedekiah the king of Judah, his princes, the residue of Jerusalem who remain in this land, and those who dwell in the land of Egypt.

⁹ ‘I will deliver them to trouble into all the kingdoms of the earth, for their harm, to be a reproach and a byword, a taunt and a curse, in all places where I shall drive them.

¹⁰ 'And I will send the sword, the famine, and the pestilence among them, till they are consumed from the land that I gave to them and their fathers.'"

25 ¹ The word that came to Jeremiah concerning all the people of Judah, in the fourth year of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah, king of Judah (which was the first year of Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon),

² which Jeremiah the prophet spoke to all the people of Judah and to all the inhabitants of Jerusalem, saying:

³ "From the thirteenth year of Josiah the son of Amon, king of Judah, even to this day, this is the twenty–third year in which the word of the LORD has come to me; and I have spoken to you, rising early and speaking, but you have not listened.

⁴ "And the LORD has sent to you all His servants the prophets, rising early and

sending them, but you have not listened nor inclined your ear to hear.

⁵ "They said, 'Repent now everyone of his evil way and his evil doings, and dwell in the land that the LORD has given to you and your fathers forever and ever.

⁶ 'Do not go after other gods to serve them and worship them, and do not provoke Me to anger with the works of your hands; and I will not harm you.'

⁷ "Yet you have not listened to Me," says the LORD, "that you might provoke Me to anger with the works of your hands to your own hurt.

⁸ "Therefore thus says the LORD of hosts: 'Because you have not heard My words,

⁹ 'behold, I will send and take all the families of the north,' says the LORD, 'and Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon, My servant, and will bring them against this land, against its inhabitants,

and against these nations all around, and will utterly destroy them, and make them an astonishment, a hissing, and perpetual desolations.

¹⁰ 'Moreover I will take from them the voice of mirth and the voice of gladness, the voice of the bridegroom and the voice of the bride, the sound of the millstones and the light of the lamp.

¹¹ 'And this whole land shall be a desolation and an astonishment, and these nations shall serve the king of Babylon seventy years.

¹² 'Then it will come to pass, when seventy years are completed, that I will punish the king of Babylon and that nation, the land of the Chaldeans, for their iniquity,' says the LORD; 'and I will make it a perpetual desolation.

¹³ 'So I will bring on that land all My words which I have pronounced against it, all that is written in this book, which

Jeremiah has prophesied concerning all the nations.

¹⁴ '(For many nations and great kings shall be served by them also; and I will repay them according to their deeds and according to the works of their own hands.)''

¹⁵ For thus says the LORD God of Israel to me: "Take this wine cup of fury from My hand, and cause all the nations, to whom I send you, to drink it.

¹⁶ "And they will drink and stagger and go mad because of the sword that I will send among them."

¹⁷ Then I took the cup from the LORD'S hand, and made all the nations drink, to whom the LORD had sent me:

¹⁸ Jerusalem and the cities of Judah, its kings and its princes, to make them a desolation, an astonishment, a hissing, and a curse, as it is this day;

¹⁹ Pharaoh king of Egypt, his servants, his princes, and all his people;

²⁰ all the mixed multitude, all the kings of the land of Uz, all the kings of the land of the Philistines (namely, Ashkelon, Gaza, Ekron, and the remnant of Ashdod);

²¹ Edom, Moab, and the people of Ammon;

²² all the kings of Tyre, all the kings of Sidon, and the kings of the coastlands which are across the sea;

²³ Dedan, Tema, Buz, and all who are in the farthest corners;

²⁴ all the kings of Arabia and all the kings of the mixed multitude who dwell in the desert;

²⁵ all the kings of Zimri, all the kings of Elam, and all the kings of the Medes;

²⁶ all the kings of the north, far and near, one with another; and all the kingdoms of the world which are on

the face of the earth. Also the king of Sheshach shall drink after them.

²⁷ "Therefore you shall say to them, 'Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: "Drink, be drunk, and vomit! Fall and rise no more, because of the sword which I will send among you.'"

²⁸ "And it shall be, if they refuse to take the cup from your hand to drink, then you shall say to them, 'Thus says the LORD of hosts: "You shall certainly drink!

²⁹ "For behold, I begin to bring calamity on the city which is called by My name, and should you be utterly unpunished? You shall not be unpunished, for I will call for a sword on all the inhabitants of the earth," says the LORD of hosts.'

³⁰ "Therefore prophesy against them all these words, and say to them: 'The LORD will roar from on high, And utter His voice from His holy habitation; He will roar mightily against His fold. He

will give a shout, as those who tread the grapes, Against all the inhabitants of the earth.

³¹ A noise will come to the ends of the earth—For the LORD has a controversy with the nations; He will plead His case with all flesh. He will give those who are wicked to the sword,' says the LORD."

³² Thus says the LORD of hosts: "Behold, disaster shall go forth From nation to nation, And a great whirlwind shall be raised up From the farthest parts of the earth.

³³ "And at that day the slain of the LORD shall be from one end of the earth even to the other end of the earth. They shall not be lamented, or gathered, or buried; they shall become refuse on the ground.

³⁴ "Wail, shepherds, and cry! Roll about in the ashes, You leaders of the flock! For the days of your slaughter and your

dispersions are fulfilled; You shall fall like a precious vessel.

³⁵ And the shepherds will have no way to flee, Nor the leaders of the flock to escape.

³⁶ A voice of the cry of the shepherds, And a wailing of the leaders to the flock will be heard. For the LORD has plundered their pasture,

³⁷ And the peaceful dwellings are cut down Because of the fierce anger of the LORD.

³⁸ He has left His lair like the lion; For their land is desolate Because of the fierceness of the Oppressor, And because of His fierce anger."

26 ¹ In the beginning of the reign of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah, king of Judah, this word came from the LORD, saying,

² "Thus says the LORD: 'Stand in the court of the LORD'S house, and speak

to all the cities of Judah, which come to worship in the LORD'S house, all the words that I command you to speak to them. Do not diminish a word.

³ 'Perhaps everyone will listen and turn from his evil way, that I may relent concerning the calamity which I purpose to bring on them because of the evil of their doings.'

⁴ "And you shall say to them, 'Thus says the LORD: "If you will not listen to Me, to walk in My law which I have set before you,

⁵ "to heed the words of My servants the prophets whom I sent to you, both rising up early and sending them (but you have not heeded),

⁶ "then I will make this house like Shiloh, and will make this city a curse to all the nations of the earth.'"

⁷ So the priests and the prophets and all the people heard Jeremiah speaking these words in the house of the LORD.

⁸ Now it happened, when Jeremiah had made an end of speaking all that the LORD had commanded him to speak to all the people, that the priests and the prophets and all the people seized him, saying, "You will surely die!

⁹ "Why have you prophesied in the name of the LORD, saying, 'This house shall be like Shiloh, and this city shall be desolate, without an inhabitant'?" And all the people were gathered against Jeremiah in the house of the LORD.

¹⁰ When the princes of Judah heard these things, they came up from the king's house to the house of the LORD and sat down in the entry of the New Gate of the LORD'S house.

¹¹ And the priests and the prophets spoke to the princes and all the people,

saying, "This man deserves to die! For he has prophesied against this city, as you have heard with your ears."

¹² Then Jeremiah spoke to all the princes and all the people, saying: "The LORD sent me to prophesy against this house and against this city with all the words that you have heard.

¹³ "Now therefore, amend your ways and your doings, and obey the voice of the LORD your God; then the LORD will relent concerning the doom that He has pronounced against you.

¹⁴ "As for me, here I am, in your hand; do with me as seems good and proper to you.

¹⁵ "But know for certain that if you put me to death, you will surely bring innocent blood on yourselves, on this city, and on its inhabitants; for truly the LORD has sent me to you to speak all these words in your hearing."

¹⁶ So the princes and all the people said to the priests and the prophets, "This man does not deserve to die. For he has spoken to us in the name of the LORD our God."

¹⁷ Then certain of the elders of the land rose up and spoke to all the assembly of the people, saying:

¹⁸ "Micah of Moresheth prophesied in the days of Hezekiah king of Judah, and spoke to all the people of Judah, saying, 'Thus says the LORD of hosts: "Zion shall be plowed like a field, Jerusalem shall become heaps of ruins, And the mountain of the temple Like the bare hills of the forest.'"

¹⁹ "Did Hezekiah king of Judah and all Judah ever put him to death? Did he not fear the LORD and seek the LORD'S favor? And the LORD relented concerning the doom which He had

pronounced against them. But we are doing great evil against ourselves."

²⁰ Now there was also a man who prophesied in the name of the LORD, Urijah the son of Shemaiah of Kirjath Jearim, who prophesied against this city and against this land according to all the words of Jeremiah.

²¹ And when Jehoiakim the king, with all his mighty men and all the princes, heard his words, the king sought to put him to death; but when Urijah heard it, he was afraid and fled, and went to Egypt.

²² Then Jehoiakim the king sent men to Egypt: Elnathan the son of Achbor, and other men who went with him to Egypt.

²³ And they brought Urijah from Egypt and brought him to Jehoiakim the king, who killed him with the sword and cast his dead body into the graves of the common people.

²⁴ Nevertheless the hand of Ahikam the son of Shaphan was with Jeremiah, so that they should not give him into the hand of the people to put him to death.

27 ¹ In the beginning of the reign of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah, king of Judah, this word came to Jeremiah from the LORD, saying,

² "Thus says the LORD to me: 'Make for yourselves bonds and yokes, and put them on your neck,

³ 'and send them to the king of Edom, the king of Moab, the king of the Ammonites, the king of Tyre, and the king of Sidon, by the hand of the messengers who come to Jerusalem to Zedekiah king of Judah.

⁴ 'And command them to say to their masters, "Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel—thus you shall say to your masters:

⁵ 'I have made the earth, the man and the beast that are on the ground, by My great power and by My outstretched arm, and have given it to whom it seemed proper to Me.

⁶ 'And now I have given all these lands into the hand of Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon, My servant; and the beasts of the field I have also given him to serve him.

⁷ 'So all nations shall serve him and his son and his son's son, until the time of his land comes; and then many nations and great kings shall make him serve them.

⁸ 'And it shall be, that the nation and kingdom which will not serve Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon, and which will not put its neck under the yoke of the king of Babylon, that nation I will punish,' says the LORD, 'with the

sword, the famine, and the pestilence, until I have consumed them by his hand.

⁹ 'Therefore do not listen to your prophets, your diviners, your dreamers, your soothsayers, or your sorcerers, who speak to you, saying, "You shall not serve the king of Babylon."

¹⁰ 'For they prophesy a lie to you, to remove you far from your land; and I will drive you out, and you will perish.

¹¹ 'But the nations that bring their necks under the yoke of the king of Babylon and serve him, I will let them remain in their own land,' says the LORD, 'and they shall till it and dwell in it.'""

¹² I also spoke to Zedekiah king of Judah according to all these words, saying, "Bring your necks under the yoke of the king of Babylon, and serve him and his people, and live!

¹³ "Why will you die, you and your people, by the sword, by the famine,

and by the pestilence, as the LORD has spoken against the nation that will not serve the king of Babylon?

¹⁴ "Therefore do not listen to the words of the prophets who speak to you, saying, 'You shall not serve the king of Babylon,' for they prophesy a lie to you;

¹⁵ "for I have not sent them," says the LORD, "yet they prophesy a lie in My name, that I may drive you out, and that you may perish, you and the prophets who prophesy to you."

¹⁶ Also I spoke to the priests and to all this people, saying, "Thus says the LORD: 'Do not listen to the words of your prophets who prophesy to you, saying, "Behold, the vessels of the LORD'S house will now shortly be brought back from Babylon"; for they prophesy a lie to you.

¹⁷ 'Do not listen to them; serve the king of Babylon, and live! Why should this city be laid waste?

¹⁸ 'But if they are prophets, and if the word of the LORD is with them, let them now make intercession to the LORD of hosts, that the vessels which are left in the house of the LORD, in the house of the king of Judah, and at Jerusalem, do not go to Babylon.'

¹⁹ "For thus says the LORD of hosts concerning the pillars, concerning the Sea, concerning the carts, and concerning the remainder of the vessels that remain in this city,

²⁰ "which Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon did not take, when he carried away captive Jeconiah the son of Jehoiakim, king of Judah, from Jerusalem to Babylon, and all the nobles of Judah and Jerusalem—

²¹ "yes, thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, concerning the vessels that remain in the house of the LORD,

and in the house of the king of Judah and of Jerusalem:

²² ‘They shall be carried to Babylon, and there they shall be until the day that I visit them,’ says the LORD. ‘Then I will bring them up and restore them to this place.’”

28 ¹ And it happened in the same year, at the beginning of the reign of Zedekiah king of Judah, in the fourth year and in the fifth month, that Hananiah the son of Azur the prophet, who was from Gibeon, spoke to me in the house of the LORD in the presence of the priests and of all the people, saying,

² “Thus speaks the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, saying: ‘I have broken the yoke of the king of Babylon.

³ ‘Within two full years I will bring back to this place all the vessels of the LORD’S house, that Nebuchadnezzar king of

Babylon took away from this place and carried to Babylon.

⁴ 'And I will bring back to this place Jeconiah the son of Jehoiakim, king of Judah, with all the captives of Judah who went to Babylon,' says the LORD, 'for I will break the yoke of the king of Babylon.'"

⁵ Then the prophet Jeremiah spoke to the prophet Hananiah in the presence of the priests and in the presence of all the people who stood in the house of the LORD,

⁶ and the prophet Jeremiah said, "Amen! The LORD do so; the LORD perform your words which you have prophesied, to bring back the vessels of the LORD'S house and all who were carried away captive, from Babylon to this place.

⁷ "Nevertheless hear now this word that I speak in your hearing and in the hearing of all the people:

⁸ "The prophets who have been before me and before you of old prophesied against many countries and great kingdoms—of war and disaster and pestilence.

⁹ "As for the prophet who prophesies of peace, when the word of the prophet comes to pass, the prophet will be known as one whom the LORD has truly sent."

¹⁰ Then Hananiah the prophet took the yoke off the prophet Jeremiah's neck and broke it.

¹¹ And Hananiah spoke in the presence of all the people, saying, "Thus says the LORD: 'Even so I will break the yoke of Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon from the neck of all nations within the space

of two full years.'" And the prophet Jeremiah went his way.

¹² Now the word of the LORD came to Jeremiah, after Hananiah the prophet had broken the yoke from the neck of the prophet Jeremiah, saying,

¹³ "Go and tell Hananiah, saying, 'Thus says the LORD: "You have broken the yokes of wood, but you have made in their place yokes of iron."

¹⁴ 'For thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: "I have put a yoke of iron on the neck of all these nations, that they may serve Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon; and they shall serve him. I have given him the beasts of the field also.'"

¹⁵ Then the prophet Jeremiah said to Hananiah the prophet, "Hear now, Hananiah, the LORD has not sent you, but you make this people trust in a lie.

¹⁶ "Therefore thus says the LORD: 'Behold, I will cast you from the face

of the earth. This year you shall die, because you have taught rebellion against the LORD.'"

¹⁷ So Hananiah the prophet died the same year in the seventh month.

29 ¹ Now these are the words of the letter that Jeremiah the prophet sent from Jerusalem to the remainder of the elders who were carried away captive—to the priests, the prophets, and all the people whom Nebuchadnezzar had carried away captive from Jerusalem to Babylon.

² (This happened after Jeconiah the king, the queen mother, the eunuchs, the princes of Judah and Jerusalem, the craftsmen, and the smiths had departed from Jerusalem.)

³ The letter was sent 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,

⁴ Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, to all who were carried away captive, whom I have caused to be carried away from Jerusalem to Babylon:

⁵ Build houses and dwell in them; plant gardens and eat their fruit.

⁶ Take wives and beget sons and daughters; and take wives for your sons and give your daughters to husbands, so that they may bear sons and daughters— that you may be increased there, and not diminished.

⁷ And seek the peace of the city where I have caused you to be carried away captive, and pray to the LORD for it; for in its peace you will have peace.

⁸ For thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: Do not let your prophets and your diviners who are in your midst

deceive you, nor listen to your dreams which you cause to be dreamed.

⁹ For they prophesy falsely to you in My name; I have not sent them, says the LORD.

¹⁰ For thus says the LORD: After seventy years are completed at Babylon, I will visit you and perform My good word toward you, and cause you to return to this place.

¹¹ For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the LORD, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope.

¹² Then you will call upon Me and go and pray to Me, and I will listen to you.

¹³ And you will seek Me and find Me, when you search for Me with all your heart.

¹⁴ I will be found by you, says the LORD, and I will bring you back from your captivity; I will gather you from all the

nations and from all the places where I have driven you, says the LORD, and I will bring you to the place from which I cause you to be carried away captive.

¹⁵ Because you have said, "The LORD has raised up prophets for us in Babylon"

¹⁶ therefore thus says the LORD concerning the king who sits on the throne of David, concerning all the people who dwell in this city, and concerning your brethren who have not gone out with you into captivity—

¹⁷ thus says the LORD of hosts: Behold, I will send on them the sword, the famine, and the pestilence, and will make them like rotten figs that cannot be eaten, they are so bad.

¹⁸ And I will pursue them with the sword, with famine, and with pestilence; and I will deliver them to trouble among all the kingdoms of the earth—to be a

curse, an astonishment, a hissing, and a reproach among all the nations where I have driven them,

¹⁹ because they have not heeded My words, says the LORD, which I sent to them by My servants the prophets, rising up early and sending them; neither would you heed, says the LORD.

²⁰ Therefore hear the word of the LORD, all you of the captivity, whom I have sent from Jerusalem to Babylon.

²¹ Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, concerning Ahab the son of Kolaiah, and Zedekiah the son of Maaseiah, who prophesy a lie to you in My name: Behold, I will deliver them into the hand of Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon, and he shall slay them before your eyes.

²² And because of them a curse shall be taken up by all the captivity of Judah who are in Babylon, saying, "The LORD

make you like Zedekiah and Ahab, whom the king of Babylon roasted in the fire";

²³ because they have done disgraceful things in Israel, have committed adultery with their neighbors' wives, and have spoken lying words in My name, which I have not commanded them. Indeed I know, and am a witness, says the LORD.

²⁴ You shall also speak to Shemaiah the Nehelamite, saying,

²⁵ Thus speaks the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, saying: You have sent letters in your name to all the people who are at Jerusalem, to Zephaniah the son of Maaseiah the priest, and to all the priests, saying,

²⁶ "The LORD has made you priest instead of Jehoiada the priest, so that there should be officers in the house of the LORD over every man who is demented and considers himself a

prophet, that you should put him in prison and in the stocks.

²⁷ Now therefore, why have you not reproved Jeremiah of Anathoth who makes himself a prophet to you?

²⁸ For he has sent to us in Babylon, saying, 'This captivity is long; build houses and dwell in them, and plant gardens and eat their fruit.'

²⁹ Now Zephaniah the priest read this letter in the hearing of Jeremiah the prophet.

³⁰ Then the word of the LORD came to Jeremiah, saying:

³¹ Send to all those in captivity, saying, Thus says the LORD concerning Shemaiah the Nehelamite: Because Shemaiah has prophesied to you, and I have not sent him, and he has caused you to trust in a lie—

³² therefore thus says the LORD: Behold, I will punish Shemaiah the

Nehelamite and his family: he shall not have anyone to dwell among this people, nor shall he see the good that I will do for My people, says the LORD, because he has taught rebellion against the LORD.

30 ¹ The word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD, saying,

² "Thus speaks the LORD God of Israel, saying: 'Write in a book for yourself all the words that I have spoken to you.

³ 'For behold, the days are coming,' says the LORD, 'that I will bring back from captivity My people Israel and Judah,' says the LORD. 'And I will cause them to return to the land that I gave to their fathers, and they shall possess it.'"

⁴ Now these are the words that the LORD spoke concerning Israel and Judah.

⁵ "For thus says the LORD: 'We have heard a voice of trembling, Of fear, and not of peace.

⁶ Ask now, and see, Whether a man is ever in labor with child? So why do I see every man with his hands on his loins Like a woman in labor, And all faces turned pale?

⁷ Alas! For that day is great, So that none is like it; And it is the time of Jacob's trouble, But he shall be saved out of it.

⁸ 'For it shall come to pass in that day,' Says the LORD of hosts, 'That I will break his yoke from your neck, And will burst your bonds; Foreigners shall no more enslave them.

⁹ But they shall serve the LORD their God, And David their king, Whom I will raise up for them.

¹⁰ 'Therefore do not fear, O My servant Jacob,' says the LORD, 'Nor be dismayed, O Israel; For behold, I will save you from afar, And your seed from the land of their captivity. Jacob shall return, have

rest and be quiet, And no one shall make him afraid.

¹¹ For I am with you,' says the LORD, 'to save you; Though I make a full end of all nations where I have scattered you, Yet I will not make a complete end of you. But I will correct you in justice, And will not let you go altogether unpunished.'

¹² "For thus says the LORD: 'Your affliction is incurable, Your wound is severe.

¹³ There is no one to plead your cause, That you may be bound up; You have no healing medicines.

¹⁴ All your lovers have forgotten you; They do not seek you; For I have wounded you with the wound of an enemy, With the chastisement of a cruel one, For the multitude of your iniquities, Because your sins have increased.

¹⁵ Why do you cry about your affliction? Your sorrow is incurable. Because of the

multitude of your iniquities, Because your sins have increased, I have done these things to you.

¹⁶ 'Therefore all those who devour you shall be devoured; And all your adversaries, every one of them, shall go into captivity; Those who plunder you shall become plunder, And all who prey upon you I will make a prey.

¹⁷ For I will restore health to you And heal you of your wounds,' says the LORD, 'Because they called you an outcast saying: "This is Zion; No one seeks her."'

¹⁸ "Thus says the LORD: 'Behold, I will bring back the captivity of Jacob's tents, And have mercy on his dwelling places; The city shall be built upon its own mound, And the palace shall remain according to its own plan.

¹⁹ Then out of them shall proceed thanksgiving And the voice of those who make merry; I will multiply them, and

they shall not diminish; I will also glorify them, and they shall not be small.

²⁰ Their children also shall be as before, And their congregation shall be established before Me; And I will punish all who oppress them.

²¹ Their nobles shall be from among them, And their governor shall come from their midst; Then I will cause him to draw near, And he shall approach Me; For who is this who pledged his heart to approach Me?' says the LORD.

²² 'You shall be My people, And I will be your God.'"

²³ Behold, the whirlwind of the LORD Goes forth with fury, A continuing whirlwind; It will fall violently on the head of the wicked.

²⁴ The fierce anger of the LORD will not return until He has done it, And until He has performed the intents of His heart. In the latter days you will consider it.

31 ¹ "At the same time," says the LORD, "I will be the God of all the families of Israel, and they shall be My people."

² Thus says the LORD: "The people who survived the sword Found grace in the wilderness—Israel, when I went to give him rest."

³ The LORD has appeared of old to me, saying: "Yes, I have loved you with an everlasting love; Therefore with lovingkindness I have drawn you."

⁴ Again I will build you, and you shall be rebuilt, O virgin of Israel! You shall again be adorned with your tambourines, And shall go forth in the dances of those who rejoice.

⁵ You shall yet plant vines on the mountains of Samaria; The planters shall plant and eat them as ordinary food.

⁶ For there shall be a day When the watchmen will cry on Mount Ephraim,

'Arise, and let us go up to Zion, To the LORD our God.'

⁷ For thus says the LORD: "Sing with gladness for Jacob, And shout among the chief of the nations; Proclaim, give praise, and say, 'O LORD, save Your people, The remnant of Israel!'

⁸ Behold, I will bring them from the north country, And gather them from the ends of the earth, Among them the blind and the lame, The woman with child And the one who labors with child, together; A great throng shall return there.

⁹ They shall come with weeping, And with supplications I will lead them. I will cause them to walk by the rivers of waters, In a straight way in which they shall not stumble; For I am a Father to Israel, And Ephraim is My firstborn.

¹⁰ "Hear the word of the LORD, O nations, And declare it in the isles afar

off, and say, 'He who scattered Israel will gather him, And keep him as a shepherd does his flock.'

¹¹ For the LORD has redeemed Jacob, And ransomed him from the hand of one stronger than he.

¹² Therefore they shall come and sing in the height of Zion, Streaming to the goodness of the LORD—For wheat and new wine and oil, For the young of the flock and the herd; Their souls shall be like a well-watered garden, And they shall sorrow no more at all.

¹³ "Then shall the virgin rejoice in the dance, And the young men and the old, together; For I will turn their mourning to joy, Will comfort them, And make them rejoice rather than sorrow.

¹⁴ I will satiate the soul of the priests with abundance, And My people shall be satisfied with My goodness, says the LORD."

¹⁵ Thus says the LORD: "A voice was heard in Ramah, Lamentation and bitter weeping, Rachel weeping for her children, Refusing to be comforted for her children, Because they are no more."

¹⁶ Thus says the LORD: "Refrain your voice from weeping, And your eyes from tears; For your work shall be rewarded, says the LORD, And they shall come back from the land of the enemy.

¹⁷ There is hope in your future, says the LORD, That your children shall come back to their own border.

¹⁸ "I have surely heard Ephraim bemoaning himself: 'You have chastised me, and I was chastised, Like an untrained bull; Restore me, and I will return, For You are the LORD my God.

¹⁹ Surely, after my turning, I repented; And after I was instructed, I struck myself on the thigh; I was ashamed, yes, even

humiliated, Because I bore the reproach of my youth.'

²⁰ Is Ephraim My dear son? Is he a pleasant child? For though I spoke against him, I earnestly remember him still; Therefore My heart yearns for him; I will surely have mercy on him, says the LORD.

²¹ "Set up signposts, Make landmarks; Set your heart toward the highway, The way in which you went. Turn back, O virgin of Israel, Turn back to these your cities.

²² How long will you gad about, O you backsliding daughter? For the LORD has created a new thing in the earth—A woman shall encompass a man."

²³ Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: "They shall again use this speech in the land of Judah and in its cities, when I bring back their captivity:

‘The LORD bless you, O home of justice, and mountain of holiness!’

²⁴ "And there shall dwell in Judah itself, and in all its cities together, farmers and those going out with flocks.

²⁵ "For I have satiated the weary soul, and I have replenished every sorrowful soul."

²⁶ After this I awoke and looked around, and my sleep was sweet to me.

²⁷ "Behold, the days are coming, says the LORD, that I will sow the house of Israel and the house of Judah with the seed of man and the seed of beast.

²⁸ "And it shall come to pass, that as I have watched over them to pluck up, to break down, to throw down, to destroy, and to afflict, so I will watch over them to build and to plant, says the LORD.

²⁹ "In those days they shall say no more: ‘The fathers have eaten sour grapes, And the children’s teeth are set on edge.’

³⁰ "But every one shall die for his own iniquity; every man who eats the sour grapes, his teeth shall be set on edge.

³¹ "Behold, the days are coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah—

³² "not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day that I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt, My covenant which they broke, though I was a husband to them, says the LORD.

³³ "But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put My law in their minds, and write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people.

³⁴ "No more shall every man teach his neighbor, and every man his brother, saying, 'Know the LORD,' for they all shall

know Me, from the least of them to the greatest of them, says the LORD. For I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin I will remember no more."

³⁵ Thus says the LORD, Who gives the sun for a light by day, The ordinances of the moon and the stars for a light by night, Who disturbs the sea, And its waves roar (The LORD of hosts is His name):

³⁶ "If those ordinances depart From before Me, says the LORD, Then the seed of Israel shall also cease From being a nation before Me forever."

³⁷ Thus says the LORD: "If heaven above can be measured, And the foundations of the earth searched out beneath, I will also cast off all the seed of Israel For all that they have done, says the LORD.

³⁸ "Behold, the days are coming, says the LORD, that the city shall be built for

the LORD from the Tower of Hananel to the Corner Gate.

³⁹ "The surveyor's line shall again extend straight forward over the hill Gareb; then it shall turn toward Goath.

⁴⁰ "And the whole valley of the dead bodies and of the ashes, and all the fields as far as the Brook Kidron, to the corner of the Horse Gate toward the east, shall be holy to the LORD. It shall not be plucked up or thrown down anymore forever."

32 ¹ The word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD in the tenth year of Zedekiah king of Judah, which was the eighteenth year of Nebuchadnezzar.

² For then the king of Babylon's army besieged Jerusalem, and Jeremiah the prophet was shut up in the court of the prison, which was in the king of Judah's house.

³ For Zedekiah king of Judah had shut him up, saying, "Why do you prophesy and say, 'Thus says the LORD: "Behold, I will give this city into the hand of the king of Babylon, and he shall take it;

⁴ "and Zedekiah king of Judah shall not escape from the hand of the Chaldeans, but shall surely be delivered into the hand of the king of Babylon, and shall speak with him face to face, and see him eye to eye;

⁵ "then he shall lead Zedekiah to Babylon, and there he shall be until I visit him," says the LORD; "though you fight with the Chaldeans, you shall not succeed"?"

⁶ And Jeremiah said, "The word of the LORD came to me, saying,

⁷ 'Behold, Hanamel the son of Shallum your uncle will come to you, saying, "Buy my field which is in Anathoth, for the right of redemption is yours to buy it."

⁸ "Then Hanamel my uncle's son came to me in the court of the prison according to the word of the LORD, and said to me, 'Please buy my field that is in Anathoth, which is in the country of Benjamin; for the right of inheritance is yours, and the redemption yours; buy it for yourself.' Then I knew that this was the word of the LORD.

⁹ "So I bought the field from Hanamel, the son of my uncle who was in Anathoth, and weighed out to him the money—seventeen shekels of silver.

¹⁰ "And I signed the deed and sealed it, took witnesses, and weighed the money on the scales.

¹¹ "So I took the purchase deed, both that which was sealed according to the law and custom, and that which was open;

¹² "and I gave the purchase deed to Baruch the son of Neriah, son of

Mahseiah, in the presence of Hanamel my uncle's son, and in the presence of the witnesses who signed the purchase deed, before all the Jews who sat in the court of the prison.

¹³ "Then I charged Baruch before them, saying,

¹⁴ 'Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: "Take these deeds, both this purchase deed which is sealed and this deed which is open, and put them in an earthen vessel, that they may last many days."

¹⁵ 'For thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: "Houses and fields and vineyards shall be possessed again in this land."

¹⁶ "Now when I had delivered the purchase deed to Baruch the son of Neriah, I prayed to the LORD, saying:

¹⁷ 'Ah, Lord GOD! Behold, You have made the heavens and the earth by

Your great power and outstretched arm.
There is nothing too hard for You.

¹⁸ 'You show lovingkindness to thousands, and repay the iniquity of the fathers into the bosom of their children after them—the Great, the Mighty God, whose name is the LORD of hosts.

¹⁹ 'You are great in counsel and mighty in work, for Your eyes are open to all the ways of the sons of men, to give everyone according to his ways and according to the fruit of his doings.

²⁰ 'You have set signs and wonders in the land of Egypt, to this day, and in Israel and among other men; and You have made Yourself a name, as it is this day.

²¹ 'You have brought Your people Israel out of the land of Egypt with signs and wonders, with a strong hand and an outstretched arm, and with great terror;

²² 'You have given them this land, of which You swore to their fathers to give them—"a land flowing with milk and honey."

²³ 'And they came in and took possession of it, but they have not obeyed Your voice or walked in Your law. They have done nothing of all that You commanded them to do; therefore You have caused all this calamity to come upon them.

²⁴ 'Look, the siege mounds! They have come to the city to take it; and the city has been given into the hand of the Chaldeans who fight against it, because of the sword and famine and pestilence. What You have spoken has happened; there You see it!

²⁵ 'And You have said to me, O Lord GOD, "Buy the field for money, and take witnesses"! —yet the city has been given into the hand of the Chaldeans.'"

²⁶ Then the word of the LORD came to Jeremiah, saying,

²⁷ "Behold, I am the LORD, the God of all flesh. Is there anything too hard for Me?

²⁸ "Therefore thus says the LORD: 'Behold, I will give this city into the hand of the Chaldeans, into the hand of Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon, and he shall take it.

²⁹ 'And the Chaldeans who fight against this city shall come and set fire to this city and burn it, with the houses on whose roofs they have offered incense to Baal and poured out drink offerings to other gods, to provoke Me to anger;

³⁰ 'because the children of Israel and the children of Judah have done only evil before Me from their youth. For the children of Israel have provoked Me only to anger with the work of their hands," says the LORD.

³¹ 'For this city has been to Me a provocation of My anger and My fury from the day that they built it, even to this day; so I will remove it from before My face

³² 'because of all the evil of the children of Israel and the children of Judah, which they have done to provoke Me to anger—they, their kings, their princes, their priests, their prophets, the men of Judah, and the inhabitants of Jerusalem.

³³ 'And they have turned to Me the back, and not the face; though I taught them, rising up early and teaching them, yet they have not listened to receive instruction.

³⁴ 'But they set their abominations in the house which is called by My name, to defile it.

³⁵ 'And they built the high places of Baal which are in the Valley of the Son of Hinnom, to cause their sons and their

daughters to pass through the fire to Molech, which I did not command them, nor did it come into My mind that they should do this abomination, to cause Judah to sin.'

³⁶ "Now therefore, thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, concerning this city of which you say, 'It shall be delivered into the hand of the king of Babylon by the sword, by the famine, and by the pestilence':

³⁷ 'Behold, I will gather them out of all countries where I have driven them in My anger, in My fury, and in great wrath; I will bring them back to this place, and I will cause them to dwell safely.

³⁸ 'They shall be My people, and I will be their God;

³⁹ 'then I will give them one heart and one way, that they may fear Me forever, for the good of them and their children after them.

⁴⁰ 'And I will make an everlasting covenant with them, that I will not turn away from doing them good; but I will put My fear in their hearts so that they will not depart from Me.

⁴¹ 'Yes, I will rejoice over them to do them good, and I will assuredly plant them in this land, with all My heart and with all My soul.'

⁴² "For thus says the LORD: 'Just as I have brought all this great calamity on this people, so I will bring on them all the good that I have promised them.

⁴³ 'And fields will be bought in this land of which you say, "It is desolate, without man or beast; it has been given into the hand of the Chaldeans."

⁴⁴ 'Men will buy fields for money, sign deeds and seal them, and take witnesses, in the land of Benjamin, in the places around Jerusalem, in the cities of Judah, in the cities of the mountains,

in the cities of the lowland, and in the cities of the South; for I will cause their captives to return,' says the LORD."

33 ¹ Moreover the word of the LORD came to Jeremiah a second time, while he was still shut up in the court of the prison, saying,

² "Thus says the LORD who made it, the LORD who formed it to establish it (the LORD is His name):

³ 'Call to Me, and I will answer you, and show you great and mighty things, which you do not know.'

⁴ "For thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, concerning the houses of this city and the houses of the kings of Judah, which have been pulled down to fortify against the siege mounds and the sword:

⁵ 'They come to fight with the Chaldeans, but only to fill their places with the dead bodies of men whom I will slay in My anger and My fury, all

for whose wickedness I have hidden My face from this city.

⁶ ‘Behold, I will bring it health and healing; I will heal them and reveal to them the abundance of peace and truth.

⁷ ‘And I will cause the captives of Judah and the captives of Israel to return, and will rebuild those places as at the first.

⁸ ‘I will cleanse them from all their iniquity by which they have sinned against Me, and I will pardon all their iniquities by which they have sinned and by which they have transgressed against Me.

⁹ ‘Then it shall be to Me a name of joy, a praise, and an honor before all nations of the earth, who shall hear all the good that I do to them; they shall fear and tremble for all the goodness and all the prosperity that I provide for it.’

¹⁰ “Thus says the LORD: ‘Again there shall be heard in this place—of which

you say, "It is desolate, without man and without beast" —in the cities of Judah, in the streets of Jerusalem that are desolate, without man and without inhabitant and without beast,

¹¹ 'the voice of joy and the voice of gladness, the voice of the bridegroom and the voice of the bride, the voice of those who will say: "Praise the LORD of hosts, For the LORD is good, For His mercy endures forever" —and of those who will bring the sacrifice of praise into the house of the LORD. For I will cause the captives of the land to return as at the first,' says the LORD.

¹² "Thus says the LORD of hosts: 'In this place which is desolate, without man and without beast, and in all its cities, there shall again be a dwelling place of shepherds causing their flocks to lie down.

¹³ 'In the cities of the mountains, in the cities of the lowland, in the cities of the South, in the land of Benjamin, in the places around Jerusalem, and in the cities of Judah, the flocks shall again pass under the hands of him who counts them,' says the LORD.

¹⁴ 'Behold, the days are coming,' says the LORD, 'that I will perform that good thing which I have promised to the house of Israel and to the house of Judah:

¹⁵ 'In those days and at that time I will cause to grow up to David A Branch of righteousness; He shall execute judgment and righteousness in the earth.

¹⁶ In those days Judah will be saved, And Jerusalem will dwell safely. And this is the name by which she will be called: THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS.'

¹⁷ "For thus says the LORD: 'David shall never lack a man to sit on the throne of the house of Israel;

¹⁸ 'nor shall the priests, the Levites, lack a man to offer burnt offerings before Me, to kindle grain offerings, and to sacrifice continually.'"

¹⁹ And the word of the LORD came to Jeremiah, saying,

²⁰ "Thus says the LORD: 'If you can break My covenant with the day and My covenant with the night, so that there will not be day and night in their season,

²¹ 'then My covenant may also be broken with David My servant, so that he shall not have a son to reign on his throne, and with the Levites, the priests, My ministers.

²² 'As the host of heaven cannot be numbered, nor the sand of the sea measured, so will I multiply the

descendants of David My servant and the Levites who minister to Me.'"

²³ Moreover the word of the LORD came to Jeremiah, saying,

²⁴ "Have you not considered what these people have spoken, saying, 'The two families which the LORD has chosen, He has also cast them off'? Thus they have despised My people, as if they should no more be a nation before them.

²⁵ "Thus says the LORD: 'If My covenant is not with day and night, and if I have not appointed the ordinances of heaven and earth,

²⁶ 'then I will cast away the descendants of Jacob and David My servant, so that I will not take any of his descendants to be rulers over the descendants of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. For I will cause their captives to return, and will have mercy on them.'"

34 ¹The word which came to Jeremiah from the LORD, when Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon and all his army, all the kingdoms of the earth under his dominion, and all the people, fought against Jerusalem and all its cities, saying,

²"Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel: 'Go and speak to Zedekiah king of Judah and tell him, "Thus says the LORD: 'Behold, I will give this city into the hand of the king of Babylon, and he shall burn it with fire.

³'And you shall not escape from his hand, but shall surely be taken and delivered into his hand; your eyes shall see the eyes of the king of Babylon, he shall speak with you face to face, and you shall go to Babylon.'"

⁴"Yet hear the word of the LORD, O Zedekiah king of Judah! Thus says the

LORD concerning you: 'You shall not die by the sword.

⁵ 'You shall die in peace; as in the ceremonies of your fathers, the former kings who were before you, so they shall burn incense for you and lament for you, saying, "Alas, lord!" For I have pronounced the word, says the LORD.'"

⁶ Then Jeremiah the prophet spoke all these words to Zedekiah king of Judah in Jerusalem,

⁷ when the king of Babylon's army fought against Jerusalem and all the cities of Judah that were left, against Lachish and Azekah; for only these fortified cities remained of the cities of Judah.

⁸ This is the word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD, after King Zedekiah had made a covenant with all the people who were at Jerusalem to proclaim liberty to them:

⁹ that every man should set free his male and female slave—a Hebrew man or woman—that no one should keep a Jewish brother in bondage.

¹⁰ Now when all the princes and all the people, who had entered into the covenant, heard that everyone should set free his male and female slaves, that no one should keep them in bondage anymore, they obeyed and let them go.

¹¹ But afterward they changed their minds and made the male and female slaves return, whom they had set free, and brought them into subjection as male and female slaves.

¹² Therefore the word of the LORD came to Jeremiah from the LORD, saying,

¹³ "Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel: 'I made a covenant with your fathers in the day that I brought them out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage, saying,

¹⁴ "At the end of seven years let every man set free his Hebrew brother, who has been sold to him; and when he has served you six years, you shall let him go free from you." But your fathers did not obey Me nor incline their ear.

¹⁵ 'Then you recently turned and did what was right in My sight—every man proclaiming liberty to his neighbor; and you made a covenant before Me in the house which is called by My name.

¹⁶ 'Then you turned around and profaned My name, and every one of you brought back his male and female slaves, whom you had set at liberty, at their pleasure, and brought them back into subjection, to be your male and female slaves.'

¹⁷ "Therefore thus says the LORD: 'You have not obeyed Me in proclaiming liberty, every one to his brother and every one to his neighbor. Behold,

I proclaim liberty to you,' says the LORD—'to the sword, to pestilence, and to famine! And I will deliver you to trouble among all the kingdoms of the earth.

¹⁸ 'And I will give the men who have transgressed My covenant, who have not performed the words of the covenant which they made before Me, when they cut the calf in two and passed between the parts of it—

¹⁹ 'the princes of Judah, the princes of Jerusalem, the eunuchs, the priests, and all the people of the land who passed between the parts of the calf—

²⁰ 'I will give them into the hand of their enemies and into the hand of those who seek their life. Their dead bodies shall be for meat for the birds of the heaven and the beasts of the earth.

²¹ 'And I will give Zedekiah king of Judah and his princes into the hand of their

enemies, into the hand of those who seek their life, and into the hand of the king of Babylon's army which has gone back from you.

²² 'Behold, I will command,' says the LORD, 'and cause them to return to this city. They will fight against it and take it and burn it with fire; and I will make the cities of Judah a desolation without inhabitant.'

35 ¹ The word which came to Jeremiah from the LORD in the days of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah, king of Judah, saying,

² "Go to the house of the Rechabites, speak to them, and bring them into the house of the LORD, into one of the chambers, and give them wine to drink."

³ Then I took Jaazaniah the son of Jeremiah, the son of Habazziniah, his brothers and all his sons, and the whole house of the Rechabites,

⁴ and I brought them into the house of the LORD, into the chamber of the sons of Hanan the son of Igdaliah, a man of God, which was by the chamber of the princes, above the chamber of Maaseiah the son of Shallum, the keeper of the door.

⁵ Then I set before the sons of the house of the Rechabites bowls full of wine, and cups; and I said to them, "Drink wine."

⁶ But they said, "We will drink no wine, for Jonadab the son of Rechab, our father, commanded us, saying, 'You shall drink no wine, you nor your sons, forever.

⁷ 'You shall not build a house, sow seed, plant a vineyard, nor have any of these; but all your days you shall dwell in tents, that you may live many days in the land where you are sojourners.'

⁸ "Thus we have obeyed the voice of Jonadab the son of Rechab, our father, in all that he charged us, to drink no wine all our days, we, our wives, our sons, or our daughters,

⁹ "nor to build ourselves houses to dwell in; nor do we have vineyard, field, or seed.

¹⁰ "But we have dwelt in tents, and have obeyed and done according to all that Jonadab our father commanded us.

¹¹ "But it came to pass, when Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came up into the land, that we said, 'Come, let us go to Jerusalem for fear of the army of the Chaldeans and for fear of the army of the Syrians.' So we dwell at Jerusalem."

¹² Then came the word of the LORD to Jeremiah, saying,

¹³ "Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: 'Go and tell the men of

Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem, "Will you not receive instruction to obey My words?" says the LORD.

¹⁴ "The words of Jonadab the son of Rechab, which he commanded his sons, not to drink wine, are performed; for to this day they drink none, and obey their father's commandment. But although I have spoken to you, rising early and speaking, you did not obey Me.

¹⁵ "I have also sent to you all My servants the prophets, rising up early and sending them, saying, 'Turn now everyone from his evil way, amend your doings, and do not go after other gods to serve them; then you will dwell in the land which I have given you and your fathers.' But you have not inclined your ear, nor obeyed Me.

¹⁶ "Surely the sons of Jonadab the son of Rechab have performed the commandment of their father, which he

commanded them, but this people has not obeyed Me."

¹⁷ "Therefore thus says the LORD God of hosts, the God of Israel: 'Behold, I will bring on Judah and on all the inhabitants of Jerusalem all the doom that I have pronounced against them; because I have spoken to them but they have not heard, and I have called to them but they have not answered.'"

¹⁸ And Jeremiah said to the house of the Rechabites, "Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: 'Because you have obeyed the commandment of Jonadab your father, and kept all his precepts and done according to all that he commanded you,

¹⁹ 'therefore thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: "Jonadab the son of Rechab shall not lack a man to stand before Me forever.'"

36 ¹ Now it came to pass in the fourth year of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah, king of Judah, that this word came to Jeremiah from the LORD, saying:

² "Take a scroll of a book and write on it all the words that I have spoken to you against Israel, against Judah, and against all the nations, from the day I spoke to you, from the days of Josiah even to this day.

³ "It may be that the house of Judah will hear all the adversities which I purpose to bring upon them, that everyone may turn from his evil way, that I may forgive their iniquity and their sin."

⁴ Then Jeremiah called Baruch the son of Neriah; and Baruch wrote on a scroll of a book, at the instruction of Jeremiah, all the words of the LORD which He had spoken to him.

⁵ And Jeremiah commanded Baruch, saying, "I am confined, I cannot go into the house of the LORD.

⁶ "You go, therefore, and read from the scroll which you have written at my instruction, the words of the LORD, in the hearing of the people in the LORD'S house on the day of fasting. And you shall also read them in the hearing of all Judah who come from their cities.

⁷ "It may be that they will present their supplication before the LORD, and everyone will turn from his evil way. For great is the anger and the fury that the LORD has pronounced against this people."

⁸ And Baruch the son of Neriah did according to all that Jeremiah the prophet commanded him, reading from the book the words of the LORD in the LORD'S house.

⁹ Now it came to pass in the fifth year of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah, king of Judah, in the ninth month, that they proclaimed a fast before the LORD to all the people in Jerusalem, and to all the people who came from the cities of Judah to Jerusalem.

¹⁰ Then Baruch read from the book the words of Jeremiah in the house of the LORD, in the chamber of Gemariah the son of Shaphan the scribe, in the upper court at the entry of the New Gate of the LORD'S house, in the hearing of all the people.

¹¹ When Michaiah the son of Gemariah, the son of Shaphan, heard all the words of the LORD from the book,

¹² he then went down to the king's house, into the scribe's chamber; and there all the princes were sitting—Elishama the scribe, Delaiah the son of Shemaiah, Elnathan the son of Achbor,

Gemariah the son of Shaphan, Zedekiah the son of Hananiah, and all the princes.

¹³ Then Michaiah declared to them all the words that he had heard when Baruch read the book in the hearing of the people.

¹⁴ Therefore all the princes sent Jehudi the son of Nethaniah, the son of Shelemiah, the son of Cush, to Baruch, saying, "Take in your hand the scroll from which you have read in the hearing of the people, and come." So Baruch the son of Neriah took the scroll in his hand and came to them.

¹⁵ And they said to him, "Sit down now, and read it in our hearing." So Baruch read it in their hearing.

¹⁶ Now it happened, when they had heard all the words, that they looked in fear from one to another, and said to Baruch, "We will surely tell the king of all these words."

¹⁷ And they asked Baruch, saying, "Tell us now, how did you write all these words—at his instruction?"

¹⁸ So Baruch answered them, "He proclaimed with his mouth all these words to me, and I wrote them with ink in the book."

¹⁹ Then the princes said to Baruch, "Go and hide, you and Jeremiah; and let no one know where you are."

²⁰ And they went to the king, into the court; but they stored the scroll in the chamber of Elishama the scribe, and told all the words in the hearing of the king.

²¹ So the king sent Jehudi to bring the scroll, and he took it from Elishama the scribe's chamber. And Jehudi read it in the hearing of the king and in the hearing of all the princes who stood beside the king.

²² Now the king was sitting in the winter house in the ninth month, with a fire burning on the hearth before him.

²³ And it happened, when Jehudi had read three or four columns, that the king cut it with the scribe's knife and cast it into the fire that was on the hearth, until all the scroll was consumed in the fire that was on the hearth.

²⁴ Yet they were not afraid, nor did they tear their garments, the king nor any of his servants who heard all these words.

²⁵ Nevertheless Elnathan, Delaiah, and Gemariah implored the king not to burn the scroll; but he would not listen to them.

²⁶ And the king commanded Jerahmeel the king's son, Seraiah the son of Azriel, and Shelemiah the son of Abdeel, to seize Baruch the scribe and Jeremiah the prophet, but the LORD hid them.

²⁷ Now after the king had burned the scroll with the words which Baruch had written at the instruction of Jeremiah, the word of the LORD came to Jeremiah, saying:

²⁸ "Take yet another scroll, and write on it all the former words that were in the first scroll which Jehoiakim the king of Judah has burned.

²⁹ "And you shall say to Jehoiakim king of Judah, 'Thus says the LORD: "You have burned this scroll, saying, 'Why have you written in it that the king of Babylon will certainly come and destroy this land, and cause man and beast to cease from here?'"

³⁰ 'Therefore thus says the LORD concerning Jehoiakim king of Judah: "He shall have no one to sit on the throne of David, and his dead body shall be cast out to the heat of the day and the frost of the night.

³¹ "I will punish him, his family, and his servants for their iniquity; and I will bring on them, on the inhabitants of Jerusalem, and on the men of Judah all the doom that I have pronounced against them; but they did not heed."'"

³² Then Jeremiah took another scroll and gave it to Baruch the scribe, the son of Neriah, who wrote on it at the instruction of Jeremiah all the words of the book which Jehoiakim king of Judah had burned in the fire. And besides, there were added to them many similar words.

37 ¹ Now King Zedekiah the son of Josiah reigned instead of Coniah the son of Jehoiakim, whom Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon made king in the land of Judah.

² But neither he nor his servants nor the people of the land gave heed to the

words of the LORD which He spoke by the prophet Jeremiah.

³ And Zedekiah the king sent Jehucal the son of Shelemiah, and Zephaniah the son of Maaseiah, the priest, to the prophet Jeremiah, saying, "Pray now to the LORD our God for us."

⁴ Now Jeremiah was coming and going among the people, for they had not yet put him in prison.

⁵ Then Pharaoh's army came up from Egypt; and when the Chaldeans who were besieging Jerusalem heard news of them, they departed from Jerusalem.

⁶ Then the word of the LORD came to the prophet Jeremiah, saying,

⁷ "Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, 'Thus you shall say to the king of Judah, who sent you to Me to inquire of Me: "Behold, Pharaoh's army which has come up to help you will return to Egypt, to their own land."

⁸ "And the Chaldeans shall come back and fight against this city, and take it and burn it with fire."

⁹ "Thus says the LORD: 'Do not deceive yourselves, saying, "The Chaldeans will surely depart from us," for they will not depart.

¹⁰ 'For though you had defeated the whole army of the Chaldeans who fight against you, and there remained only wounded men among them, they would rise up, every man in his tent, and burn the city with fire.'

¹¹ And it happened, when the army of the Chaldeans left the siege of Jerusalem for fear of Pharaoh's army,

¹² that Jeremiah went out of Jerusalem to go into the land of Benjamin to claim his property there among the people.

¹³ And when he was in the Gate of Benjamin, a captain of the guard was there whose name was Irijah the son of

Shelemiah, the son of Hananiah; and he seized Jeremiah the prophet, saying, "You are defecting to the Chaldeans!"

¹⁴ Then Jeremiah said, "False! I am not defecting to the Chaldeans." But he did not listen to him. So Irijah seized Jeremiah and brought him to the princes.

¹⁵ Therefore the princes were angry with Jeremiah, and they struck him and put him in prison in the house of Jonathan the scribe. For they had made that the prison.

¹⁶ When Jeremiah entered the dungeon and the cells, and Jeremiah had remained there many days,

¹⁷ then Zedekiah the king sent and took him out. The king asked him secretly in his house, and said, "Is there any word from the LORD?" And Jeremiah said, "There is." Then he said, "You shall be delivered into the hand of the king of Babylon!"

¹⁸ Moreover Jeremiah said to King Zedekiah, "What offense have I committed against you, against your servants, or against this people, that you have put me in prison?"

¹⁹ "Where now are your prophets who prophesied to you, saying, 'The king of Babylon will not come against you or against this land'?"

²⁰ "Therefore please hear now, O my lord the king. Please, let my petition be accepted before you, and do not make me return to the house of Jonathan the scribe, lest I die there."

²¹ Then Zedekiah the king commanded that they should commit Jeremiah to the court of the prison, and that they should give him daily a piece of bread from the bakers' street, until all the bread in the city was gone. Thus Jeremiah remained in the court of the prison.

38 ¹ Now Shephatiah the son of Mattan, Gedaliah the son of Pashhur, Jucal the son of Shelemiah, and Pashhur the son of Malchiah heard the words that Jeremiah had spoken to all the people, saying,

² "Thus says the LORD: 'He who remains in this city shall die by the sword, by famine, and by pestilence; but he who goes over to the Chaldeans shall live; his life shall be as a prize to him, and he shall live.'

³ "Thus says the LORD: 'This city shall surely be given into the hand of the king of Babylon's army, which shall take it.'"

⁴ Therefore the princes said to the king, "Please, let this man be put to death, for thus he weakens the hands of the men of war who remain in this city, and the hands of all the people, by speaking such words to them. For this man does

not seek the welfare of this people, but their harm."

⁵ Then Zedekiah the king said, "Look, he is in your hand. For the king can do nothing against you."

⁶ So they took Jeremiah and cast him into the dungeon of Malchiah the king's son, which was in the court of the prison, and they let Jeremiah down with ropes. And in the dungeon there was no water, but mire. So Jeremiah sank in the mire.

⁷ Now Ebed–Melech the Ethiopian, one of the eunuchs, who was in the king's house, heard that they had put Jeremiah in the dungeon. When the king was sitting at the Gate of Benjamin,

⁸ Ebed–Melech went out of the king's house and spoke to the king, saying:

⁹ "My lord the king, these men have done evil in all that they have done to Jeremiah the prophet, whom they have cast into the dungeon, and he is likely to

die from hunger in the place where he is. For there is no more bread in the city."

¹⁰ Then the king commanded Ebed–Melech the Ethiopian, saying, "Take from here thirty men with you, and lift Jeremiah the prophet out of the dungeon before he dies."

¹¹ So Ebed–Melech took the men with him and went into the house of the king under the treasury, and took from there old clothes and old rags, and let them down by ropes into the dungeon to Jeremiah.

¹² Then Ebed–Melech the Ethiopian said to Jeremiah, "Please put these old clothes and rags under your armpits, under the ropes." And Jeremiah did so.

¹³ So they pulled Jeremiah up with ropes and lifted him out of the dungeon. And Jeremiah remained in the court of the prison.

¹⁴ Then Zedekiah the king sent and had Jeremiah the prophet brought to him at the third entrance of the house of the LORD. And the king said to Jeremiah, "I will ask you something. Hide nothing from me."

¹⁵ Jeremiah said to Zedekiah, "If I declare it to you, will you not surely put me to death? And if I give you advice, you will not listen to me."

¹⁶ So Zedekiah the king swore secretly to Jeremiah, saying, "As the LORD lives, who made our very souls, I will not put you to death, nor will I give you into the hand of these men who seek your life."

¹⁷ Then Jeremiah said to Zedekiah, "Thus says the LORD, the God of hosts, the God of Israel: 'If you surely surrender to the king of Babylon's princes, then your soul shall live; this city shall not be burned with fire, and you and your house shall live.'

18 'But if you do not surrender to the king of Babylon's princes, then this city shall be given into the hand of the Chaldeans; they shall burn it with fire, and you shall not escape from their hand.'

19 And Zedekiah the king said to Jeremiah, "I am afraid of the Jews who have defected to the Chaldeans, lest they deliver me into their hand, and they abuse me."

20 But Jeremiah said, "They shall not deliver you. Please, obey the voice of the LORD which I speak to you. So it shall be well with you, and your soul shall live.

21 "But if you refuse to surrender, this is the word that the LORD has shown me:

22 'Now behold, all the women who are left in the king of Judah's house shall be surrendered to the king of Babylon's princes, and those women shall say: "Your close friends have set upon you

And prevailed against you; Your feet have sunk in the mire, And they have turned away again."

²³ 'So they shall surrender all your wives and children to the Chaldeans. You shall not escape from their hand, but shall be taken by the hand of the king of Babylon. And you shall cause this city to be burned with fire.'"

²⁴ Then Zedekiah said to Jeremiah, "Let no one know of these words, and you shall not die.

²⁵ "But if the princes hear that I have talked with you, and they come to you and say to you, 'Declare to us now what you have said to the king, and also what the king said to you; do not hide it from us, and we will not put you to death,'

²⁶ "then you shall say to them, 'I presented my request before the king, that he would not make me return to Jonathan's house to die there.'"

²⁷ Then all the princes came to Jeremiah and asked him. And he told them according to all these words that the king had commanded. So they stopped speaking with him, for the conversation had not been heard.

²⁸ Now Jeremiah remained in the court of the prison until the day that Jerusalem was taken. And he was there when Jerusalem was taken.

39 ¹ In the ninth year of Zedekiah king of Judah, in the tenth month, Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon and all his army came against Jerusalem, and besieged it.

² In the eleventh year of Zedekiah, in the fourth month, on the ninth day of the month, the city was penetrated.

³ Then all the princes of the king of Babylon came in and sat in the Middle Gate: Nergal–Sharezer, Samgar–Nebo, Sarsechim, Rabsaris, Nergal–Sarezer,

Rabmag, with the rest of the princes of the king of Babylon.

⁴ So it was, when Zedekiah the king of Judah and all the men of war saw them, that they fled and went out of the city by night, by way of the king's garden, by the gate between the two walls. And he went out by way of the plain.

⁵ But the Chaldean army pursued them and overtook Zedekiah in the plains of Jericho. And when they had captured him, they brought him up to Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon, to Riblah in the land of Hamath, where he pronounced judgment on him.

⁶ Then the king of Babylon killed the sons of Zedekiah before his eyes in Riblah; the king of Babylon also killed all the nobles of Judah.

⁷ Moreover he put out Zedekiah's eyes, and bound him with bronze fetters to carry him off to Babylon.

⁸ And the Chaldeans burned the king's house and the houses of the people with fire, and broke down the walls of Jerusalem.

⁹ Then Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard carried away captive to Babylon the remnant of the people who remained in the city and those who defected to him, with the rest of the people who remained.

¹⁰ But Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard left in the land of Judah the poor people, who had nothing, and gave them vineyards and fields at the same time.

¹¹ Now Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon gave charge concerning Jeremiah to Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard, saying,

¹² "Take him and look after him, and do him no harm; but do to him just as he says to you."

¹³ So Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard sent Nebushasban, Rabsaris, Nergal–Sharezer, Rabmag, and all the king of Babylon's chief officers;

¹⁴ then they sent someone to take Jeremiah from the court of the prison, and committed him to Gedaliah the son of Ahikam, the son of Shaphan, that he should take him home. So he dwelt among the people.

¹⁵ Meanwhile the word of the LORD had come to Jeremiah while he was shut up in the court of the prison, saying,

¹⁶ "Go and speak to Ebed–Melech the Ethiopian, saying, 'Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: "Behold, I will bring My words upon this city for adversity and not for good, and they shall be performed in that day before you.

¹⁷ "But I will deliver you in that day," says the LORD, "and you shall not be

given into the hand of the men of whom you are afraid.

¹⁸ "For I will surely deliver you, and you shall not fall by the sword; but your life shall be as a prize to you, because you have put your trust in Me," says the LORD.'"

40 ¹ The word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD after Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard had let him go from Ramah, when he had taken him bound in chains among all who were carried away captive from Jerusalem and Judah, who were carried away captive to Babylon.

² And the captain of the guard took Jeremiah and said to him: "The LORD your God has pronounced this doom on this place.

³ "Now the LORD has brought it, and has done just as He said. Because you people have sinned against the LORD,

and not obeyed His voice, therefore this thing has come upon you.

⁴ "And now look, I free you this day from the chains that were on your hand. If it seems good to you to come with me to Babylon, come, and I will look after you. But if it seems wrong for you to come with me to Babylon, remain here. See, all the land is before you; wherever it seems good and convenient for you to go, go there."

⁵ Now while Jeremiah had not yet gone back, Nebuzaradan said, "Go back to Gedaliah the son of Ahikam, the son of Shaphan, whom the king of Babylon has made governor over the cities of Judah, and dwell with him among the people. Or go wherever it seems convenient for you to go." So the captain of the guard gave him rations and a gift and let him go.

⁶ Then Jeremiah went to Gedaliah the son of Ahikam, to Mizpah, and dwelt with him among the people who were left in the land.

⁷ And when all the captains of the armies who were in the fields, they and their men, heard that the king of Babylon had made Gedaliah the son of Ahikam governor in the land, and had committed to him men, women, children, and the poorest of the land who had not been carried away captive to Babylon,

⁸ then they came to Gedaliah at Mizpah—Ishmael the son of Nethaniah, Johanan and Jonathan the sons of Kareah, Seraiah the son of Tanhumeth, the sons of Ephai the Netophathite, and Jezaniah the son of a Maachathite, they and their men.

⁹ And Gedaliah the son of Ahikam, the son of Shaphan, took an oath before them and their men, saying, "Do not be

afraid to serve the Chaldeans. Dwell in the land and serve the king of Babylon, and it shall be well with you.

¹⁰ "As for me, I will indeed dwell at Mizpah and serve the Chaldeans who come to us. But you, gather wine and summer fruit and oil, put them in your vessels, and dwell in your cities that you have taken."

¹¹ Likewise, when all the Jews who were in Moab, among the Ammonites, in Edom, and who were in all the countries, heard that the king of Babylon had left a remnant of Judah, and that he had set over them Gedaliah the son of Ahikam, the son of Shaphan,

¹² then all the Jews returned out of all places where they had been driven, and came to the land of Judah, to Gedaliah at Mizpah, and gathered wine and summer fruit in abundance.

¹³ Moreover Johanan the son of Kareah and all the captains of the forces that were in the fields came to Gedaliah at Mizpah,

¹⁴ and said to him, "Do you certainly know that Baalis the king of the Ammonites has sent Ishmael the son of Nethaniah to murder you?" But Gedaliah the son of Ahikam did not believe them.

¹⁵ Then Johanan the son of Kareah spoke secretly to Gedaliah in Mizpah, saying, "Let me go, please, and I will kill Ishmael the son of Nethaniah, and no one will know it. Why should he murder you, so that all the Jews who are gathered to you would be scattered, and the remnant in Judah perish?"

¹⁶ But Gedaliah the son of Ahikam said to Johanan the son of Kareah, "You shall not do this thing, for you speak falsely concerning Ishmael."

41 ¹ Now it came to pass in the seventh month that Ishmael the son of Nethaniah, the son of Elishama, of the royal family and of the officers of the king, came with ten men to Gedaliah the son of Ahikam, at Mizpah. And there they ate bread together in Mizpah.

² Then Ishmael the son of Nethaniah, and the ten men who were with him, arose and struck Gedaliah the son of Ahikam, the son of Shaphan, with the sword, and killed him whom the king of Babylon had made governor over the land.

³ Ishmael also struck down all the Jews who were with him, that is, with Gedaliah at Mizpah, and the Chaldeans who were found there, the men of war.

⁴ And it happened, on the second day after he had killed Gedaliah, when as yet no one knew it,

⁵ that certain men came from Shechem, from Shiloh, and from Samaria, eighty men with their beards shaved and their clothes torn, having cut themselves, with offerings and incense in their hand, to bring them to the house of the LORD.

⁶ Now Ishmael the son of Nethaniah went out from Mizpah to meet them, weeping as he went along; and it happened as he met them that he said to them, "Come to Gedaliah the son of Ahikam!"

⁷ So it was, when they came into the midst of the city, that Ishmael the son of Nethaniah killed them and cast them into the midst of a pit, he and the men who were with him.

⁸ But ten men were found among them who said to Ishmael, "Do not kill us, for we have treasures of wheat, barley, oil, and honey in the field." So he desisted

and did not kill them among their brethren.

⁹ Now the pit into which Ishmael had cast all the dead bodies of the men whom he had slain, because of Gedaliah, was the same one Asa the king had made for fear of Baasha king of Israel. Ishmael the son of Nethaniah filled it with the slain.

¹⁰ Then Ishmael carried away captive all the rest of the people who were in Mizpah, the king's daughters and all the people who remained in Mizpah, whom Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard had committed to Gedaliah the son of Ahikam. And Ishmael the son of Nethaniah carried them away captive and departed to go over to the Ammonites.

¹¹ But when Johanan the son of Kareah and all the captains of the forces that

were with him heard of all the evil that Ishmael the son of Nethaniah had done,
¹² they took all the men and went to fight with Ishmael the son of Nethaniah; and they found him by the great pool that is in Gibeon.

¹³ So it was, when all the people who were with Ishmael saw Johanan the son of Kareah, and all the captains of the forces who were with him, that they were glad.

¹⁴ Then all the people whom Ishmael had carried away captive from Mizpah turned around and came back, and went to Johanan the son of Kareah.

¹⁵ But Ishmael the son of Nethaniah escaped from Johanan with eight men and went to the Ammonites.

¹⁶ Then Johanan the son of Kareah, and all the captains of the forces that were with him, took from Mizpah all the rest of the people whom he had recovered

from Ishmael the son of Nethaniah after he had murdered Gedaliah the son of Ahikam—the mighty men of war and the women and the children and the eunuchs, whom he had brought back from Gibeon.

¹⁷ And they departed and dwelt in the habitation of Chimham, which is near Bethlehem, as they went on their way to Egypt,

¹⁸ because of the Chaldeans; for they were afraid of them, because Ishmael the son of Nethaniah had murdered Gedaliah the son of Ahikam, whom the king of Babylon had made governor in the land.

42 ¹ Now all the captains of the forces, Johanan the son of Kareah, Jezaniah the son of Hoshaiah, and all the people, from the least to the greatest, came near

² and said to Jeremiah the prophet, "Please, let our petition be acceptable to you, and pray for us to the LORD your God, for all this remnant (since we are left but a few of many, as you can see),
³ "that the LORD your God may show us the way in which we should walk and the thing we should do."

⁴ Then Jeremiah the prophet said to them, "I have heard. Indeed, I will pray to the LORD your God according to your words, and it shall be, that whatever the LORD answers you, I will declare it to you. I will keep nothing back from you."

⁵ So they said to Jeremiah, "Let the LORD be a true and faithful witness between us, if we do not do according to everything which the LORD your God sends us by you.

⁶ "Whether it is pleasing or displeasing, we will obey the voice of the LORD our God to whom we send you, that it may

be well with us when we obey the voice of the LORD our God."

⁷ And it happened after ten days that the word of the LORD came to Jeremiah.

⁸ Then he called Johanan the son of Kareah, all the captains of the forces which were with him, and all the people from the least even to the greatest,

⁹ and said to them, "Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, to whom you sent me to present your petition before Him:

¹⁰ 'If you will still remain in this land, then I will build you and not pull you down, and I will plant you and not pluck you up. For I relent concerning the disaster that I have brought upon you.

¹¹ 'Do not be afraid of the king of Babylon, of whom you are afraid; do not be afraid of him,' says the LORD, 'for I am with you, to save you and deliver you from his hand.

¹² 'And I will show you mercy, that he may have mercy on you and cause you to return to your own land.'

¹³ "But if you say, 'We will not dwell in this land,' disobeying the voice of the LORD your God,

¹⁴ "saying, 'No, but we will go to the land of Egypt where we shall see no war, nor hear the sound of the trumpet, nor be hungry for bread, and there we will dwell' —

¹⁵ "Then hear now the word of the LORD, O remnant of Judah! Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: 'If you wholly set your faces to enter Egypt, and go to dwell there,

¹⁶ 'then it shall be that the sword which you feared shall overtake you there in the land of Egypt; the famine of which you were afraid shall follow close after you there in Egypt; and there you shall die.

¹⁷ 'So shall it be with all the men who set their faces to go to Egypt to dwell there. They shall die by the sword, by famine, and by pestilence. And none of them shall remain or escape from the disaster that I will bring upon them.'

¹⁸ "For thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: 'As My anger and My fury have been poured out on the inhabitants of Jerusalem, so will My fury be poured out on you when you enter Egypt. And you shall be an oath, an astonishment, a curse, and a reproach; and you shall see this place no more.'

¹⁹ "The LORD has said concerning you, O remnant of Judah, 'Do not go to Egypt!' Know certainly that I have admonished you this day.

²⁰ "For you were hypocrites in your hearts when you sent me to the LORD your God, saying, 'Pray for us to the LORD our God, and according to all that

the LORD your God says, so declare to us and we will do it.'

²¹ "And I have this day declared it to you, but you have not obeyed the voice of the LORD your God, or anything which He has sent you by me.

²² "Now therefore, know certainly that you shall die by the sword, by famine, and by pestilence in the place where you desire to go to dwell."

43 ¹ Now it happened, when Jeremiah had stopped speaking to all the people all the words of the LORD their God, for which the LORD their God had sent him to them, all these words,

² that Azariah the son of Hoshaiiah, Johanan the son of Kareah, and all the proud men spoke, saying to Jeremiah, "You speak falsely! The LORD our God has not sent you to say, 'Do not go to Egypt to dwell there.'

³ "But Baruch the son of Neriah has set you against us, to deliver us into the hand of the Chaldeans, that they may put us to death or carry us away captive to Babylon."

⁴ So Johanan the son of Kareah, all the captains of the forces, and all the people would not obey the voice of the LORD, to remain in the land of Judah.

⁵ But Johanan the son of Kareah and all the captains of the forces took all the remnant of Judah who had returned to dwell in the land of Judah, from all nations where they had been driven—

⁶ men, women, children, the king's daughters, and every person whom Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard had left with Gedaliah the son of Ahikam, the son of Shaphan, and Jeremiah the prophet and Baruch the son of Neriah.

⁷ So they went to the land of Egypt, for they did not obey the voice of the LORD. And they went as far as Tahpanhes.

⁸ Then the word of the LORD came to Jeremiah in Tahpanhes, saying,

⁹ "Take large stones in your hand, and hide them in the sight of the men of Judah, in the clay in the brick courtyard which is at the entrance to Pharaoh's house in Tahpanhes;

¹⁰ "and say to them, 'Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: "Behold, I will send and bring Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon, My servant, and will set his throne above these stones that I have hidden. And he will spread his royal pavilion over them.

¹¹ "When he comes, he shall strike the land of Egypt and deliver to death those appointed for death, and to captivity those appointed for captivity, and to the sword those appointed for the sword.

¹² "I will kindle a fire in the houses of the gods of Egypt, and he shall burn them and carry them away captive. And he shall array himself with the land of Egypt, as a shepherd puts on his garment, and he shall go out from there in peace.

¹³ "He shall also break the sacred pillars of Beth Shemesh that are in the land of Egypt; and the houses of the gods of the Egyptians he shall burn with fire."'"

44 ¹ The word that came to Jeremiah concerning all the Jews who dwell in the land of Egypt, who dwell at Migdol, at Tahpanhes, at Noph, and in the country of Pathros, saying,

² "Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: 'You have seen all the calamity that I have brought on Jerusalem and on all the cities of Judah; and behold, this day they are a desolation, and no one dwells in them,

³ 'because of their wickedness which they have committed to provoke Me to anger, in that they went to burn incense and to serve other gods whom they did not know, they nor you nor your fathers.

⁴ 'However I have sent to you all My servants the prophets, rising early and sending them, saying, "Oh, do not do this abominable thing that I hate!"

⁵ 'But they did not listen or incline their ear to turn from their wickedness, to burn no incense to other gods.

⁶ 'So My fury and My anger were poured out and kindled in the cities of Judah and in the streets of Jerusalem; and they are wasted and desolate, as it is this day.'

⁷ "Now therefore, thus says the LORD, the God of hosts, the God of Israel: 'Why do you commit this great evil against yourselves, to cut off from you man and

woman, child and infant, out of Judah, leaving none to remain,

⁸ 'in that you provoke Me to wrath with the works of your hands, burning incense to other gods in the land of Egypt where you have gone to dwell, that you may cut yourselves off and be a curse and a reproach among all the nations of the earth?

⁹ 'Have you forgotten the wickedness of your fathers, the wickedness of the kings of Judah, the wickedness of their wives, your own wickedness, and the wickedness of your wives, which they committed in the land of Judah and in the streets of Jerusalem?

¹⁰ 'They have not been humbled, to this day, nor have they feared; they have not walked in My law or in My statutes that I set before you and your fathers.'

¹¹ "Therefore thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: 'Behold, I will

set My face against you for catastrophe and for cutting off all Judah.

¹² 'And I will take the remnant of Judah who have set their faces to go into the land of Egypt to dwell there, and they shall all be consumed and fall in the land of Egypt. They shall be consumed by the sword and by famine. They shall die, from the least to the greatest, by the sword and by famine; and they shall be an oath, an astonishment, a curse and a reproach!

¹³ 'For I will punish those who dwell in the land of Egypt, as I have punished Jerusalem, by the sword, by famine, and by pestilence,

¹⁴ 'so that none of the remnant of Judah who have gone into the land of Egypt to dwell there shall escape or survive, lest they return to the land of Judah, to which they desire to return and dwell.

For none shall return except those who escape.’”

¹⁵ Then all the men who knew that their wives had burned incense to other gods, with all the women who stood by, a great multitude, and all the people who dwelt in the land of Egypt, in Pathros, answered Jeremiah, saying:

¹⁶ "As for the word that you have spoken to us in the name of the LORD, we will not listen to you!

¹⁷ "But we will certainly do whatever has gone out of our own mouth, to burn incense to the queen of heaven and pour out drink offerings to her, as we have done, we and our fathers, our kings and our princes, in the cities of Judah and in the streets of Jerusalem. For then we had plenty of food, were well-off, and saw no trouble.

¹⁸ "But since we stopped burning incense to the queen of heaven and

pouring out drink offerings to her, we have lacked everything and have been consumed by the sword and by famine."

¹⁹ The women also said, "And when we burned incense to the queen of heaven and poured out drink offerings to her, did we make cakes for her, to worship her, and pour out drink offerings to her without our husbands' permission?"

²⁰ Then Jeremiah spoke to all the people—the men, the women, and all the people who had given him that answer—saying:

²¹ "The incense that you burned in the cities of Judah and in the streets of Jerusalem, you and your fathers, your kings and your princes, and the people of the land, did not the LORD remember them, and did it not come into His mind?"

²² "So the LORD could no longer bear it, because of the evil of your doings and because of the abominations which

you committed. Therefore your land is a desolation, an astonishment, a curse, and without an inhabitant, as it is this day.

²³ "Because you have burned incense and because you have sinned against the LORD, and have not obeyed the voice of the LORD or walked in His law, in His statutes or in His testimonies, therefore this calamity has happened to you, as at this day."

²⁴ Moreover Jeremiah said to all the people and to all the women, "Hear the word of the LORD, all Judah who are in the land of Egypt!

²⁵ "Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, saying: 'You and your wives have spoken with your mouths and fulfilled with your hands, saying, "We will surely keep our vows that we have made, to burn incense to the queen of heaven and pour out drink offerings to

her." You will surely keep your vows and perform your vows!

²⁶ "Therefore hear the word of the LORD, all Judah who dwell in the land of Egypt: 'Behold, I have sworn by My great name,' says the LORD, 'that My name shall no more be named in the mouth of any man of Judah in all the land of Egypt, saying, "The Lord GOD lives."

²⁷ 'Behold, I will watch over them for adversity and not for good. And all the men of Judah who are in the land of Egypt shall be consumed by the sword and by famine, until there is an end to them.

²⁸ 'Yet a small number who escape the sword shall return from the land of Egypt to the land of Judah; and all the remnant of Judah, who have gone to the land of Egypt to dwell there, shall know whose words will stand, Mine or theirs.

²⁹ ‘And this shall be a sign to you,’ says the LORD, ‘that I will punish you in this place, that you may know that My words will surely stand against you for adversity.’

³⁰ "Thus says the LORD: ‘Behold, I will give Pharaoh Hophra king of Egypt into the hand of his enemies and into the hand of those who seek his life, as I gave Zedekiah king of Judah into the hand of Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon, his enemy who sought his life.’"

45 ¹ The word that Jeremiah the prophet spoke to Baruch the son of Neriah, when he had written these words in a book at the instruction of Jeremiah, in the fourth year of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah, king of Judah, saying,

² "Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, to you, O Baruch:

³ ‘You said, "Woe is me now! For the LORD has added grief to my sorrow. I fainted in my sighing, and I find no rest."'

⁴ "Thus you shall say to him, 'Thus says the LORD: "Behold, what I have built I will break down, and what I have planted I will pluck up, that is, this whole land.

⁵ "And do you seek great things for yourself? Do not seek them; for behold, I will bring adversity on all flesh," says the LORD. "But I will give your life to you as a prize in all places, wherever you go."'"

46 ¹ The word of the LORD which came to Jeremiah the prophet against the nations.

² Against Egypt. Concerning the army of Pharaoh Necho, king of Egypt, which was by the River Euphrates in Carchemish, and which Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon defeated in the fourth year of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah, king of Judah:

³ "Order the buckler and shield, And draw near to battle!

⁴ Harness the horses, And mount up, you horsemen! Stand forth with your helmets, Polish the spears, Put on the armor!

⁵ Why have I seen them dismayed and turned back? Their mighty ones are beaten down; They have speedily fled, And did not look back, For fear was all around," says the LORD.

⁶ "Do not let the swift flee away, Nor the mighty man escape; They will stumble and fall Toward the north, by the River Euphrates.

⁷ "Who is this coming up like a flood, Whose waters move like the rivers?

⁸ Egypt rises up like a flood, And its waters move like the rivers; And he says, 'I will go up and cover the earth, I will destroy the city and its inhabitants.'

⁹ Come up, O horses, and rage, O chariots! And let the mighty men come forth: The Ethiopians and the Libyans who handle the shield, And the Lydians who handle and bend the bow.

¹⁰ For this is the day of the Lord GOD of hosts, A day of vengeance, That He may avenge Himself on His adversaries. The sword shall devour; It shall be satiated and made drunk with their blood; For the Lord GOD of hosts has a sacrifice In the north country by the River Euphrates.

¹¹ "Go up to Gilead and take balm, O virgin, the daughter of Egypt; In vain you will use many medicines; You shall not be cured.

¹² The nations have heard of your shame, And your cry has filled the land; For the mighty man has stumbled against the mighty; They both have fallen together."

¹³ The word that the LORD spoke to Jeremiah the prophet, how Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon would come and strike the land of Egypt.

¹⁴ "Declare in Egypt, and proclaim in Migdol; Proclaim in Noph and in Tahpanhes; Say, 'Stand fast and prepare yourselves, For the sword devours all around you.'

¹⁵ Why are your valiant men swept away? They did not stand Because the LORD drove them away.

¹⁶ He made many fall; Yes, one fell upon another. And they said, 'Arise! Let us go back to our own people And to the land of our nativity From the oppressing sword.'

¹⁷ They cried there, 'Pharaoh, king of Egypt, is but a noise. He has passed by the appointed time!'

¹⁸ "As I live," says the King, Whose name is the LORD of hosts, "Surely as

Tabor is among the mountains And as Carmel by the sea, so he shall come.

¹⁹ O you daughter dwelling in Egypt, Prepare yourself to go into captivity! For Noph shall be waste and desolate, without inhabitant.

²⁰ "Egypt is a very pretty heifer, But destruction comes, it comes from the north.

²¹ Also her mercenaries are in her midst like fat bulls, For they also are turned back, They have fled away together. They did not stand, For the day of their calamity had come upon them, The time of their punishment.

²² Her noise shall go like a serpent, For they shall march with an army And come against her with axes, Like those who chop wood.

²³ "They shall cut down her forest," says the LORD, "Though it cannot be

searched, Because they are innumerable,
And more numerous than grasshoppers.

²⁴ The daughter of Egypt shall be
ashamed; She shall be delivered into the
hand Of the people of the north."

²⁵ The LORD of hosts, the God of Israel,
says: "Behold, I will bring punishment
on Amon of No, and Pharaoh and Egypt,
with their gods and their kings—Pharaoh
and those who trust in him.

²⁶ "And I will deliver them into the hand
of those who seek their lives, into the
hand of Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon
and the hand of his servants. Afterward
it shall be inhabited as in the days of
old," says the LORD.

²⁷ "But do not fear, O My servant Jacob,
And do not be dismayed, O Israel! For
behold, I will save you from afar, And
your offspring from the land of their
captivity; Jacob shall return, have rest

and be at ease; No one shall make him afraid.

²⁸ Do not fear, O Jacob My servant," says the LORD, "For I am with you; For I will make a complete end of all the nations To which I have driven you, But I will not make a complete end of you. I will rightly correct you, For I will not leave you wholly unpunished."

47 ¹ The word of the LORD that came to Jeremiah the prophet against the Philistines, before Pharaoh attacked Gaza.

² Thus says the LORD: "Behold, waters rise out of the north, And shall be an overflowing flood; They shall overflow the land and all that is in it, The city and those who dwell within; Then the men shall cry, And all the inhabitants of the land shall wail.

³ At the noise of the stamping hooves of his strong horses, At the rushing of his

chariots, At the rumbling of his wheels,
The fathers will not look back for their
children, Lacking courage,

⁴ Because of the day that comes to
plunder all the Philistines, To cut off
from Tyre and Sidon every helper who
remains; For the LORD shall plunder the
Philistines, The remnant of the country
of Caphtor.

⁵ Baldness has come upon Gaza,
Ashkelon is cut off With the remnant
of their valley. How long will you cut
yourself?

⁶ "O you sword of the LORD, How long
until you are quiet? Put yourself up into
your scabbard, Rest and be still!

⁷ How can it be quiet, Seeing the LORD
has given it a charge Against Ashkelon
and against the seashore? There He has
appointed it."

48 ¹ Against Moab. Thus says the
LORD of hosts, the God of Israel:

"Woe to Nebo! For it is plundered,
Kirjathaim is shamed and taken; The high
stronghold is shamed and dismayed—

² No more praise of Moab. In Heshbon
they have devised evil against her:
'Come, and let us cut her off as a nation.'
You also shall be cut down, O Madmen!
The sword shall pursue you;

³ A voice of crying shall be from
Horonaim: 'Plundering and great
destruction!'

⁴ "Moab is destroyed; Her little ones
have caused a cry to be heard;

⁵ For in the Ascent of Luhith they
ascend with continual weeping; For in
the descent of Horonaim the enemies
have heard a cry of destruction.

⁶ "Flee, save your lives! And be like the
juniper in the wilderness.

⁷ For because you have trusted in your
works and your treasures, You also shall
be taken. And Chemosh shall go forth

into captivity, His priests and his princes together.

⁸ And the plunderer shall come against every city; No one shall escape. The valley also shall perish, And the plain shall be destroyed, As the LORD has spoken.

⁹ "Give wings to Moab, That she may flee and get away; For her cities shall be desolate, Without any to dwell in them.

¹⁰ Cursed is he who does the work of the LORD deceitfully, And cursed is he who keeps back his sword from blood.

¹¹ "Moab has been at ease from his youth; He has settled on his dregs, And has not been emptied from vessel to vessel, Nor has he gone into captivity. Therefore his taste remained in him, And his scent has not changed.

¹² "Therefore behold, the days are coming," says the LORD, "That I shall send him wine-workers Who will tip him

over And empty his vessels And break
the bottles.

¹³ Moab shall be ashamed of Chemosh,
As the house of Israel was ashamed of
Bethel, their confidence.

¹⁴ "How can you say, 'We are mighty
And strong men for the war'?

¹⁵ Moab is plundered and gone up from
her cities; Her chosen young men have
gone down to the slaughter," says the
King, Whose name is the LORD of hosts.

¹⁶ "The calamity of Moab is near at
hand, And his affliction comes quickly.

¹⁷ Bemoan him, all you who are around
him; And all you who know his name,
Say, 'How the strong staff is broken, The
beautiful rod!'

¹⁸ "O daughter inhabiting Dibon, Come
down from your glory, And sit in thirst;
For the plunderer of Moab has come
against you, He has destroyed your
strongholds.

¹⁹ O inhabitant of Aroer, Stand by the way and watch; Ask him who flees And her who escapes; Say, 'What has happened?'

²⁰ Moab is shamed, for he is broken down. Wail and cry! Tell it in Arnon, that Moab is plundered.

²¹ "And judgment has come on the plain country: On Holon and Jahzah and Mephaath,

²² On Dibon and Nebo and Beth Diblathaim,

²³ On Kirjathaim and Beth Gamul and Beth Meon,

²⁴ On Kerioth and Bozrah, On all the cities of the land of Moab, Far or near.

²⁵ The horn of Moab is cut off, And his arm is broken," says the LORD.

²⁶ "Make him drunk, Because he exalted himself against the LORD. Moab shall wallow in his vomit, And he shall also be in derision.

²⁷ For was not Israel a derision to you? Was he found among thieves? For whenever you speak of him, You shake your head in scorn.

²⁸ You who dwell in Moab, Leave the cities and dwell in the rock, And be like the dove which makes her nest In the sides of the cave's mouth.

²⁹ "We have heard the pride of Moab (He is exceedingly proud), Of his loftiness and arrogance and pride, And of the haughtiness of his heart."

³⁰ "I know his wrath," says the LORD, "But it is not right; His lies have made nothing right.

³¹ Therefore I will wail for Moab, And I will cry out for all Moab; I will mourn for the men of Kir Heres.

³² O vine of Sibmah! I will weep for you with the weeping of Jazer. Your plants have gone over the sea, They reach to

the sea of Jazer. The plunderer has fallen on your summer fruit and your vintage.

³³ Joy and gladness are taken From the plentiful field And from the land of Moab; I have caused wine to fail from the winepresses; No one will tread with joyous shouting—Not joyous shouting!

³⁴ "From the cry of Heshbon to Elealeh and to Jahaz They have uttered their voice, From Zoar to Horonaim, Like a three-year-old heifer; For the waters of Nimrim also shall be desolate.

³⁵ "Moreover," says the LORD, "I will cause to cease in Moab The one who offers sacrifices in the high places And burns incense to his gods.

³⁶ Therefore My heart shall wail like flutes for Moab, And like flutes My heart shall wail For the men of Kir Heres. Therefore the riches they have acquired have perished.

³⁷ "For every head shall be bald,
and every beard clipped; On all the
hands shall be cuts, and on the loins
sackcloth—

³⁸ A general lamentation On all the
housetops of Moab, And in its streets;
For I have broken Moab like a vessel in
which is no pleasure," says the LORD.

³⁹ "They shall wail: 'How she is broken
down! How Moab has turned her back
with shame!' So Moab shall be a derision
And a dismay to all those about her."

⁴⁰ For thus says the LORD: "Behold, one
shall fly like an eagle, And spread his
wings over Moab.

⁴¹ Kerioth is taken, And the strongholds
are surprised; The mighty men's hearts
in Moab on that day shall be Like the
heart of a woman in birth pangs.

⁴² And Moab shall be destroyed as
a people, Because he exalted himself
against the LORD.

⁴³ Fear and the pit and the snare shall be upon you, O inhabitant of Moab," says the LORD.

⁴⁴ "He who flees from the fear shall fall into the pit, And he who gets out of the pit shall be caught in the snare. For upon Moab, upon it I will bring The year of their punishment," says the LORD.

⁴⁵ "Those who fled stood under the shadow of Heshbon Because of exhaustion. But a fire shall come out of Heshbon, A flame from the midst of Sihon, And shall devour the brow of Moab, The crown of the head of the sons of tumult.

⁴⁶ Woe to you, O Moab! The people of Chemosh perish; For your sons have been taken captive, And your daughters captive.

⁴⁷ "Yet I will bring back the captives of Moab In the latter days," says the LORD. Thus far is the judgment of Moab.

49 ¹ Against the Ammonites. Thus says the LORD: "Has Israel no sons? Has he no heir? Why then does Milcom inherit Gad, And his people dwell in its cities?"

² Therefore behold, the days are coming," says the LORD, "That I will cause to be heard an alarm of war In Rabbah of the Ammonites; It shall be a desolate mound, And her villages shall be burned with fire. Then Israel shall take possession of his inheritance," says the LORD.

³ "Wail, O Heshbon, for Ai is plundered! Cry, you daughters of Rabbah, Gird yourselves with sackcloth! Lament and run to and fro by the walls; For Milcom shall go into captivity With his priests and his princes together.

⁴ Why do you boast in the valleys, Your flowing valley, O backsliding daughter?

Who trusted in her treasures, saying,
'Who will come against me?'

⁵ Behold, I will bring fear upon you,"
Says the Lord GOD of hosts, "From all
those who are around you; You shall be
driven out, everyone headlong, And no
one will gather those who wander off.

⁶ But afterward I will bring back The
captives of the people of Ammon," says
the LORD.

⁷ Against Edom. Thus says the LORD of
hosts: "Is wisdom no more in Teman?
Has counsel perished from the prudent?
Has their wisdom vanished?

⁸ Flee, turn back, dwell in the depths,
O inhabitants of Dedan! For I will bring
the calamity of Esau upon him, The time
that I will punish him.

⁹ If grape-gatherers came to you,
Would they not leave some gleaning
grapes? If thieves by night, Would they
not destroy until they have enough?

¹⁰ But I have made Esau bare; I have uncovered his secret places, And he shall not be able to hide himself. His descendants are plundered, His brethren and his neighbors, And he is no more.

¹¹ Leave your fatherless children, I will preserve them alive; And let your widows trust in Me."

¹² For thus says the LORD: "Behold, those whose judgment was not to drink of the cup have assuredly drunk. And are you the one who will altogether go unpunished? You shall not go unpunished, but you shall surely drink of it.

¹³ "For I have sworn by Myself," says the LORD, "that Bozrah shall become a desolation, a reproach, a waste, and a curse. And all its cities shall be perpetual wastes."

¹⁴ I have heard a message from the LORD, And an ambassador has been sent

to the nations: "Gather together, come against her, And rise up to battle!

¹⁵ "For indeed, I will make you small among nations, Despised among men.

¹⁶ Your fierceness has deceived you, The pride of your heart, O you who dwell in the clefts of the rock, Who hold the height of the hill! Though you make your nest as high as the eagle, I will bring you down from there," says the LORD.

¹⁷ "Edom also shall be an astonishment; Everyone who goes by it will be astonished And will hiss at all its plagues.

¹⁸ As in the overthrow of Sodom and Gomorrah And their neighbors," says the LORD, "No one shall remain there, Nor shall a son of man dwell in it.

¹⁹ "Behold, he shall come up like a lion from the floodplain of the Jordan Against the dwelling place of the strong; But I will suddenly make him run away from her. And who is a chosen man that I may

appoint over her? For who is like Me?
Who will arraign Me? And who is that
shepherd Who will withstand Me?"

²⁰ Therefore hear the counsel of the
LORD that He has taken against Edom,
And His purposes that He has proposed
against the inhabitants of Teman: Surely
the least of the flock shall draw them
out; Surely He shall make their dwelling
places desolate with them.

²¹ The earth shakes at the noise of their
fall; At the cry its noise is heard at the
Red Sea.

²² Behold, He shall come up and fly like
the eagle, And spread His wings over
Bozrah; The heart of the mighty men of
Edom in that day shall be Like the heart
of a woman in birth pangs.

²³ Against Damascus. "Hamath and
Arpad are shamed, For they have heard
bad news. They are fainthearted; There
is trouble on the sea; It cannot be quiet.

²⁴ Damascus has grown feeble; She turns to flee, And fear has seized her. Anguish and sorrows have taken her like a woman in labor.

²⁵ Why is the city of praise not deserted, the city of My joy?

²⁶ Therefore her young men shall fall in her streets, And all the men of war shall be cut off in that day," says the LORD of hosts.

²⁷ "I will kindle a fire in the wall of Damascus, And it shall consume the palaces of Ben-Hadad."

²⁸ Against Kedar and against the kingdoms of Hazor, which Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon shall strike. Thus says the LORD: "Arise, go up to Kedar, And devastate the men of the East!

²⁹ Their tents and their flocks they shall take away. They shall take for themselves their curtains, All their vessels and their

camels; And they shall cry out to them,
'Fear is on every side!'

³⁰ "Flee, get far away! Dwell in the depths, O inhabitants of Hazor!" says the LORD. "For Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon has taken counsel against you, And has conceived a plan against you.

³¹ "Arise, go up to the wealthy nation that dwells securely," says the LORD, "Which has neither gates nor bars, Dwelling alone.

³² Their camels shall be for booty, And the multitude of their cattle for plunder. I will scatter to all winds those in the farthest corners, And I will bring their calamity from all its sides," says the LORD.

³³ "Hazor shall be a dwelling for jackals, a desolation forever; No one shall reside there, Nor son of man dwell in it."

³⁴ The word of the LORD that came to Jeremiah the prophet against Elam, in

the beginning of the reign of Zedekiah king of Judah, saying,

³⁵ "Thus says the LORD of hosts:

'Behold, I will break the bow of Elam,
The foremost of their might.

³⁶ Against Elam I will bring the four winds
From the four quarters of heaven,
And scatter them toward all those winds;
There shall be no nations where the
outcasts of Elam will not go.

³⁷ For I will cause Elam to be dismayed
before their enemies And before those
who seek their life. I will bring disaster
upon them, My fierce anger,' says the
LORD; 'And I will send the sword after
them Until I have consumed them.

³⁸ I will set My throne in Elam, And
will destroy from there the king and the
princes,' says the LORD.

³⁹ 'But it shall come to pass in the latter
days: I will bring back the captives of
Elam,' says the LORD."

50 ¹ The word that the LORD spoke against Babylon and against the land of the Chaldeans by Jeremiah the prophet.

² "Declare among the nations, Proclaim, and set up a standard; Proclaim—do not conceal it —Say, 'Babylon is taken, Bel is shamed. Merodach is broken in pieces; Her idols are humiliated, Her images are broken in pieces.'

³ For out of the north a nation comes up against her, Which shall make her land desolate, And no one shall dwell therein. They shall move, they shall depart, Both man and beast.

⁴ "In those days and in that time," says the LORD, "The children of Israel shall come, They and the children of Judah together; With continual weeping they shall come, And seek the LORD their God.

⁵ They shall ask the way to Zion, With their faces toward it, saying, 'Come and let us join ourselves to the LORD In a perpetual covenant That will not be forgotten.'

⁶ "My people have been lost sheep. Their shepherds have led them astray; They have turned them away on the mountains. They have gone from mountain to hill; They have forgotten their resting place.

⁷ All who found them have devoured them; And their adversaries said, 'We have not offended, Because they have sinned against the LORD, the habitation of justice, The LORD, the hope of their fathers.'

⁸ "Move from the midst of Babylon, Go out of the land of the Chaldeans; And be like the rams before the flocks.

⁹ For behold, I will raise and cause to come up against Babylon An assembly

of great nations from the north country,
And they shall array themselves against
her; From there she shall be captured.
Their arrows shall be like those of an
expert warrior; None shall return in vain.

¹⁰ And Chaldea shall become plunder;
All who plunder her shall be satisfied,"
says the LORD.

¹¹ "Because you were glad, because you
rejoiced, You destroyers of My heritage,
Because you have grown fat like a heifer
threshing grain, And you bellow like
bulls,

¹² Your mother shall be deeply
ashamed; She who bore you shall be
ashamed. Behold, the least of the
nations shall be a wilderness, A dry land
and a desert.

¹³ Because of the wrath of the LORD
She shall not be inhabited, But she shall
be wholly desolate. Everyone who goes

by Babylon shall be horrified And hiss at all her plagues.

¹⁴ "Put yourselves in array against Babylon all around, All you who bend the bow; Shoot at her, spare no arrows, For she has sinned against the LORD.

¹⁵ Shout against her all around; She has given her hand, Her foundations have fallen, Her walls are thrown down; For it is the vengeance of the LORD. Take vengeance on her. As she has done, so do to her.

¹⁶ Cut off the sower from Babylon, And him who handles the sickle at harvest time. For fear of the oppressing sword Everyone shall turn to his own people, And everyone shall flee to his own land.

¹⁷ "Israel is like scattered sheep; The lions have driven him away. First the king of Assyria devoured him; Now at last this Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon has broken his bones."

¹⁸ Therefore thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: "Behold, I will punish the king of Babylon and his land, As I have punished the king of Assyria.

¹⁹ But I will bring back Israel to his home, And he shall feed on Carmel and Bashan; His soul shall be satisfied on Mount Ephraim and Gilead.

²⁰ In those days and in that time," says the LORD, "The iniquity of Israel shall be sought, but there shall be none; And the sins of Judah, but they shall not be found; For I will pardon those whom I preserve.

²¹ "Go up against the land of Merathaim, against it, And against the inhabitants of Pekod. Waste and utterly destroy them," says the LORD, "And do according to all that I have commanded you.

²² A sound of battle is in the land, And of great destruction.

²³ How the hammer of the whole earth has been cut apart and broken! How Babylon has become a desolation among the nations!

²⁴ I have laid a snare for you; You have indeed been trapped, O Babylon, And you were not aware; You have been found and also caught, Because you have contended against the LORD.

²⁵ The LORD has opened His armory, And has brought out the weapons of His indignation; For this is the work of the Lord GOD of hosts In the land of the Chaldeans.

²⁶ Come against her from the farthest border; Open her storehouses; Cast her up as heaps of ruins, And destroy her utterly; Let nothing of her be left.

²⁷ Slay all her bulls, Let them go down to the slaughter. Woe to them! For their day has come, the time of their punishment.

²⁸ The voice of those who flee and escape from the land of Babylon Declares in Zion the vengeance of the LORD our God, The vengeance of His temple.

²⁹ "Call together the archers against Babylon. All you who bend the bow, encamp against it all around; Let none of them escape. Repay her according to her work; According to all she has done, do to her; For she has been proud against the LORD, Against the Holy One of Israel.

³⁰ Therefore her young men shall fall in the streets, And all her men of war shall be cut off in that day," says the LORD.

³¹ "Behold, I am against you, O most haughty one!" says the Lord GOD of hosts; "For your day has come, The time that I will punish you.

³² The most proud shall stumble and fall, And no one will raise him up; I will

kindle a fire in his cities, And it will devour all around him."

³³ Thus says the LORD of hosts: "The children of Israel were oppressed, Along with the children of Judah; All who took them captive have held them fast; They have refused to let them go.

³⁴ Their Redeemer is strong; The LORD of hosts is His name. He will thoroughly plead their case, That He may give rest to the land, And disquiet the inhabitants of Babylon.

³⁵ "A sword is against the Chaldeans," says the LORD, "Against the inhabitants of Babylon, And against her princes and her wise men.

³⁶ A sword is against the soothsayers, and they will be fools. A sword is against her mighty men, and they will be dismayed.

³⁷ A sword is against their horses, Against their chariots, And against all the

mixed peoples who are in her midst; And they will become like women. A sword is against her treasures, and they will be robbed.

³⁸ A drought is against her waters, and they will be dried up. For it is the land of carved images, And they are insane with their idols.

³⁹ "Therefore the wild desert beasts shall dwell there with the jackals, And the ostriches shall dwell in it. It shall be inhabited no more forever, Nor shall it be dwelt in from generation to generation.

⁴⁰ As God overthrew Sodom and Gomorrah And their neighbors," says the LORD, "So no one shall reside there, Nor son of man dwell in it.

⁴¹ "Behold, a people shall come from the north, And a great nation and many kings Shall be raised up from the ends of the earth.

⁴² They shall hold the bow and the lance; They are cruel and shall not show mercy. Their voice shall roar like the sea; They shall ride on horses, Set in array, like a man for the battle, Against you, O daughter of Babylon.

⁴³ "The king of Babylon has heard the report about them, And his hands grow feeble; Anguish has taken hold of him, Pangs as of a woman in childbirth.

⁴⁴ "Behold, he shall come up like a lion from the floodplain of the Jordan Against the dwelling place of the strong; But I will make them suddenly run away from her. And who is a chosen man that I may appoint over her? For who is like Me? Who will arraign Me? And who is that shepherd Who will withstand Me?"

⁴⁵ Therefore hear the counsel of the LORD that He has taken against Babylon, And His purposes that He has proposed against the land of the Chaldeans: Surely

the least of the flock shall draw them out; Surely He will make their dwelling place desolate with them.

⁴⁶ At the noise of the taking of Babylon
The earth trembles, And the cry is heard
among the nations.

51 ¹ Thus says the LORD: "Behold,
I will raise up against Babylon,
Against those who dwell in Leb Kamai, A
destroying wind.

² And I will send winnowers to Babylon,
Who shall winnow her and empty her
land. For in the day of doom They shall
be against her all around.

³ Against her let the archer bend his
bow, And lift himself up against her in
his armor. Do not spare her young men;
Utterly destroy all her army.

⁴ Thus the slain shall fall in the land of
the Chaldeans, And those thrust through
in her streets.

⁵ For Israel is not forsaken, nor Judah,
By his God, the LORD of hosts, Though
their land was filled with sin against the
Holy One of Israel."

⁶ Flee from the midst of Babylon, And
every one save his life! Do not be cut off
in her iniquity, For this is the time of the
LORD'S vengeance; He shall recompense
her.

⁷ Babylon was a golden cup in the
LORD'S hand, That made all the earth
drunk. The nations drank her wine;
Therefore the nations are deranged.

⁸ Babylon has suddenly fallen and been
destroyed. Wail for her! Take balm for
her pain; Perhaps she may be healed.

⁹ We would have healed Babylon, But
she is not healed. Forsake her, and let us
go everyone to his own country; For her
judgment reaches to heaven and is lifted
up to the skies.

¹⁰ The LORD has revealed our righteousness. Come and let us declare in Zion the work of the LORD our God.

¹¹ Make the arrows bright! Gather the shields! The LORD has raised up the spirit of the kings of the Medes. For His plan is against Babylon to destroy it, Because it is the vengeance of the LORD, The vengeance for His temple.

¹² Set up the standard on the walls of Babylon; Make the guard strong, Set up the watchmen, Prepare the ambushes. For the LORD has both devised and done What He spoke against the inhabitants of Babylon.

¹³ O you who dwell by many waters, Abundant in treasures, Your end has come, The measure of your covetousness.

¹⁴ The LORD of hosts has sworn by Himself: "Surely I will fill you with men,

as with locusts, And they shall lift up a shout against you."

¹⁵ He has made the earth by His power; He has established the world by His wisdom, And stretched out the heaven by His understanding.

¹⁶ When He utters His voice—There is a multitude of waters in the heavens: "He causes the vapors to ascend from the ends of the earth; He makes lightnings for the rain; He brings the wind out of His treasures."

¹⁷ Everyone is dull-hearted, without knowledge; Every metalsmith is put to shame by the carved image; For his molded image is falsehood, And there is no breath in them.

¹⁸ They are futile, a work of errors; In the time of their punishment they shall perish.

¹⁹ The Portion of Jacob is not like them, For He is the Maker of all things; And

Israel is the tribe of His inheritance. The LORD of hosts is His name.

²⁰ "You are My battle-ax and weapons of war: For with you I will break the nation in pieces; With you I will destroy kingdoms;

²¹ With you I will break in pieces the horse and its rider; With you I will break in pieces the chariot and its rider;

²² With you also I will break in pieces man and woman; With you I will break in pieces old and young; With you I will break in pieces the young man and the maiden;

²³ With you also I will break in pieces the shepherd and his flock; With you I will break in pieces the farmer and his yoke of oxen; And with you I will break in pieces governors and rulers.

²⁴ "And I will repay Babylon And all the inhabitants of Chaldea For all the evil

they have done In Zion in your sight," says the LORD.

²⁵ "Behold, I am against you, O destroying mountain, Who destroys all the earth," says the LORD. "And I will stretch out My hand against you, Roll you down from the rocks, And make you a burnt mountain.

²⁶ They shall not take from you a stone for a corner Nor a stone for a foundation, But you shall be desolate forever," says the LORD.

²⁷ Set up a banner in the land, Blow the trumpet among the nations! Prepare the nations against her, Call the kingdoms together against her: Ararat, Minni, and Ashkenaz. Appoint a general against her; Cause the horses to come up like the bristling locusts.

²⁸ Prepare against her the nations, With the kings of the Medes, Its governors

and all its rulers, All the land of his dominion.

²⁹ And the land will tremble and sorrow; For every purpose of the LORD shall be performed against Babylon, To make the land of Babylon a desolation without inhabitant.

³⁰ The mighty men of Babylon have ceased fighting, They have remained in their strongholds; Their might has failed, They became like women; They have burned her dwelling places, The bars of her gate are broken.

³¹ One runner will run to meet another, And one messenger to meet another, To show the king of Babylon that his city is taken on all sides;

³² The passages are blocked, The reeds they have burned with fire, And the men of war are terrified.

³³ For thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: "The daughter of Babylon

is like a threshing floor When it is time to thresh her; Yet a little while And the time of her harvest will come."

³⁴ "Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon Has devoured me, he has crushed me; He has made me an empty vessel, He has swallowed me up like a monster; He has filled his stomach with my delicacies, He has spit me out.

³⁵ Let the violence done to me and my flesh be upon Babylon," The inhabitant of Zion will say; "And my blood be upon the inhabitants of Chaldea!" Jerusalem will say.

³⁶ Therefore thus says the LORD: "Behold, I will plead your case and take vengeance for you. I will dry up her sea and make her springs dry.

³⁷ Babylon shall become a heap, A dwelling place for jackals, An astonishment and a hissing, Without an inhabitant.

³⁸ They shall roar together like lions,
They shall growl like lions' whelps.

³⁹ In their excitement I will prepare
their feasts; I will make them drunk, That
they may rejoice, And sleep a perpetual
sleep And not awake," says the LORD.

⁴⁰ "I will bring them down Like lambs to
the slaughter, Like rams with male goats.

⁴¹ "Oh, how Sheshach is taken! Oh, how
the praise of the whole earth is seized!
How Babylon has become desolate
among the nations!

⁴² The sea has come up over Babylon;
She is covered with the multitude of its
waves.

⁴³ Her cities are a desolation, A dry land
and a wilderness, A land where no one
dwells, Through which no son of man
passes.

⁴⁴ I will punish Bel in Babylon, And I
will bring out of his mouth what he has
swallowed; And the nations shall not

stream to him anymore. Yes, the wall of Babylon shall fall.

⁴⁵ "My people, go out of the midst of her! And let everyone deliver himself from the fierce anger of the LORD.

⁴⁶ And lest your heart faint, And you fear for the rumor that will be heard in the land (A rumor will come one year, And after that, in another year A rumor will come, And violence in the land, Ruler against ruler),

⁴⁷ Therefore behold, the days are coming That I will bring judgment on the carved images of Babylon; Her whole land shall be ashamed, And all her slain shall fall in her midst.

⁴⁸ Then the heavens and the earth and all that is in them Shall sing joyously over Babylon; For the plunderers shall come to her from the north," says the LORD.

⁴⁹ As Babylon has caused the slain of Israel to fall, So at Babylon the slain of all the earth shall fall.

⁵⁰ You who have escaped the sword, Get away! Do not stand still! Remember the LORD afar off, And let Jerusalem come to your mind.

⁵¹ We are ashamed because we have heard reproach. Shame has covered our faces, For strangers have come into the sanctuaries of the LORD'S house.

⁵² "Therefore behold, the days are coming," says the LORD, "That I will bring judgment on her carved images, And throughout all her land the wounded shall groan.

⁵³ Though Babylon were to mount up to heaven, And though she were to fortify the height of her strength, Yet from Me plunderers would come to her," says the LORD.

⁵⁴ The sound of a cry comes from
Babylon, And great destruction from the
land of the Chaldeans,

⁵⁵ Because the LORD is plundering
Babylon And silencing her loud voice,
Though her waves roar like great waters,
And the noise of their voice is uttered,

⁵⁶ Because the plunderer comes against
her, against Babylon, And her mighty
men are taken. Every one of their bows
is broken; For the LORD is the God of
recompense, He will surely repay.

⁵⁷ "And I will make drunk Her princes
and wise men, Her governors, her
deputies, and her mighty men. And they
shall sleep a perpetual sleep And not
awake," says the King, Whose name is
the LORD of hosts.

⁵⁸ Thus says the LORD of hosts: "The
broad walls of Babylon shall be utterly
broken, And her high gates shall be
burned with fire; The people will labor

in vain, And the nations, because of the fire; And they shall be weary."

⁵⁹ The word which Jeremiah the prophet commanded 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 reign. And Seraiah was the quartermaster.

⁶⁰ So Jeremiah wrote in a book all the evil that would come upon Babylon, all these words that are written against Babylon.

⁶¹ And Jeremiah said to Seraiah, "When you arrive in Babylon and see it, and read all these words,

⁶² "then you shall say, 'O LORD, You have spoken against this place to cut it off, so that none shall remain in it, neither man nor beast, but it shall be desolate forever.'

⁶³ "Now it shall be, when you have finished reading this book, that you shall

tie a stone to it and throw it out into the Euphrates.

⁶⁴ "Then you shall say, 'Thus Babylon shall sink and not rise from the catastrophe that I will bring upon her. And they shall be weary.'" Thus far are the words of Jeremiah.

52 ¹ Zedekiah was twenty–one years old when he became king, and he reigned eleven years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Hamutal the daughter of Jeremiah of Libnah.

² He also did evil in the sight of the LORD, according to all that Jehoiakim had done.

³ For because of the anger of the LORD this happened in Jerusalem and Judah, till He finally cast them out from His presence. Then Zedekiah rebelled against the king of Babylon.

⁴ Now it came to pass in the ninth year of his reign, in the tenth month,

on the tenth day of the month, that Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon and all his army came against Jerusalem and encamped against it; and they built a siege wall against it all around.

⁵ So the city was besieged until the eleventh year of King Zedekiah.

⁶ By the fourth month, on the ninth day of the month, the famine had become so severe in the city that there was no food for the people of the land.

⁷ Then the city wall was broken through, and all the men of war fled and went out of the city at night by way of the gate between the two walls, which was by the king's garden, even though the Chaldeans were near the city all around. And they went by way of the plain.

⁸ But the army of the Chaldeans pursued the king, and they overtook Zedekiah in the plains of Jericho. All his army was scattered from him.

⁹ So they took the king and brought him up to the king of Babylon at Riblah in the land of Hamath, and he pronounced judgment on him.

¹⁰ Then the king of Babylon killed the sons of Zedekiah before his eyes. And he killed all the princes of Judah in Riblah.

¹¹ He also put out the eyes of Zedekiah; and the king of Babylon bound him in bronze fetters, took him to Babylon, and put him in prison till the day of his death.

¹² Now in the fifth month, on the tenth day of the month (which was the nineteenth year of King Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon), Nebuzaradan, the captain of the guard, who served the king of Babylon, came to Jerusalem.

¹³ He burned the house of the LORD and the king's house; all the houses of Jerusalem, that is, all the houses of the great, he burned with fire.

¹⁴ And all the army of the Chaldeans who were with the captain of the guard broke down all the walls of Jerusalem all around.

¹⁵ Then Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard carried away captive some of the poor people, the rest of the people who remained in the city, the defectors who had deserted to the king of Babylon, and the rest of the craftsmen.

¹⁶ But Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard left some of the poor of the land as vinedressers and farmers.

¹⁷ The bronze pillars that were in the house of the LORD, and the carts and the bronze Sea that were in the house of the LORD, the Chaldeans broke in pieces, and carried all their bronze to Babylon.

¹⁸ They also took away the pots, the shovels, the trimmers, the bowls, the spoons, and all the bronze utensils with which the priests ministered.

¹⁹ The basins, the firepans, the bowls, the pots, the lampstands, the spoons, and the cups, whatever was solid gold and whatever was solid silver, the captain of the guard took away.

²⁰ The two pillars, one Sea, the twelve bronze bulls which were under it, and the carts, which King Solomon had made for the house of the LORD—the bronze of all these articles was beyond measure.

²¹ Now concerning the pillars: the height of one pillar was eighteen cubits, a measuring line of twelve cubits could measure its circumference, and its thickness was four fingers; it was hollow.

²² A capital of bronze was on it; and the height of one capital was five cubits, with a network and pomegranates all around the capital, all of bronze. The second pillar, with pomegranates was the same.

²³ There were ninety–six pomegranates on the sides; all the pomegranates, all around on the network, were one hundred.

²⁴ The captain of the guard took Seraiah the chief priest, Zephaniah the second priest, and the three doorkeepers.

²⁵ He also took out of the city an officer who had charge of the men of war, seven men of the king's close associates who were found in the city, the principal scribe of the army who mustered the people of the land, and sixty men of the people of the land who were found in the midst of the city.

²⁶ And Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard took these and brought them to the king of Babylon at Riblah.

²⁷ Then the king of Babylon struck them and put them to death at Riblah in the land of Hamath. Thus Judah was carried away captive from its own land.

²⁸ These are the people whom Nebuchadnezzar carried away captive: in the seventh year, three thousand and twenty–three Jews;

²⁹ in the eighteenth year of Nebuchadnezzar he carried away captive from Jerusalem eight hundred and thirty–two persons;

³⁰ in the twenty–third year of Nebuchadnezzar, Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard carried away captive of the Jews seven hundred and forty–five persons. All the persons were four thousand six hundred.

³¹ Now it came to pass in the thirty–seventh year of the captivity of Jehoiachin king of Judah, in the twelfth month, on the twenty–fifth day of the month, that Evil–Merodach king of Babylon, in the first year of his reign, lifted up the head of Jehoiachin king of Judah and brought him out of prison.

³² And he spoke kindly to him and gave him a more prominent seat than those of the kings who were with him in Babylon.

³³ So Jehoiachin changed from his prison garments, and he ate bread regularly before the king all the days of his life.

³⁴ And as for his provisions, there was a regular ration given him by the king of Babylon, a portion for each day until the day of his death, all the days of his life.

Lamentations

1 ¹ How lonely sits the city That was full of people! How like a widow is she, Who was great among the nations! The princess among the provinces Has become a slave!

² She weeps bitterly in the night, Her tears are on her cheeks; Among all her lovers She has none to comfort her. All her friends have dealt treacherously with her; They have become her enemies.

³ Judah has gone into captivity, Under affliction and hard servitude; She dwells among the nations, She finds no rest; All her persecutors overtake her in dire straits.

⁴ The roads to Zion mourn Because no one comes to the set feasts. All her gates

are desolate; Her priests sigh, Her virgins are afflicted, And she is in bitterness.

⁵ Her adversaries have become the master, Her enemies prosper; For the LORD has afflicted her Because of the multitude of her transgressions. Her children have gone into captivity before the enemy.

⁶ And from the daughter of Zion All her splendor has departed. Her princes have become like deer That find no pasture, That flee without strength Before the pursuer.

⁷ In the days of her affliction and roaming, Jerusalem remembers all her pleasant things That she had in the days of old. When her people fell into the hand of the enemy, With no one to help her, The adversaries saw her And mocked at her downfall.

⁸ Jerusalem has sinned gravely, Therefore she has become vile. All who

honored her despise her Because they have seen her nakedness; Yes, she sighs and turns away.

⁹ Her uncleanness is in her skirts; She did not consider her destiny; Therefore her collapse was awesome; She had no comforter. "O LORD, behold my affliction, For the enemy is exalted!"

¹⁰ The adversary has spread his hand Over all her pleasant things; For she has seen the nations enter her sanctuary, Those whom You commanded Not to enter Your assembly.

¹¹ All her people sigh, They seek bread; They have given their valuables for food to restore life. "See, O LORD, and consider, For I am scorned."

¹² "Is it nothing to you, all you who pass by? Behold and see If there is any sorrow like my sorrow, Which has been brought on me, Which the LORD has inflicted In the day of His fierce anger.

¹³ "From above He has sent fire into my bones, And it overpowered them; He has spread a net for my feet And turned me back; He has made me desolate And faint all the day.

¹⁴ "The yoke of my transgressions was bound; They were woven together by His hands, And thrust upon my neck. He made my strength fail; The Lord delivered me into the hands of those whom I am not able to withstand.

¹⁵ "The Lord has trampled underfoot all my mighty men in my midst; He has called an assembly against me To crush my young men; The Lord trampled as in a winepress The virgin daughter of Judah.

¹⁶ "For these things I weep; My eye, my eye overflows with water; Because the comforter, who should restore my life, Is far from me. My children are desolate Because the enemy prevailed."

¹⁷ Zion spreads out her hands, But no one comforts her; The LORD has commanded concerning Jacob That those around him become his adversaries; Jerusalem has become an unclean thing among them.

¹⁸ "The LORD is righteous, For I rebelled against His commandment. Hear now, all peoples, And behold my sorrow; My virgins and my young men Have gone into captivity.

¹⁹ "I called for my lovers, But they deceived me; My priests and my elders Breathed their last in the city, While they sought food To restore their life.

²⁰ "See, O LORD, that I am in distress; My soul is troubled; My heart is overturned within me, For I have been very rebellious. Outside the sword bereaves, At home it is like death.

²¹ "They have heard that I sigh, But no one comforts me. All my enemies have

heard of my trouble; They are glad that You have done it. Bring on the day You have announced, That they may become like me.

²² "Let all their wickedness come before You, And do to them as You have done to me For all my transgressions; For my sighs are many, And my heart is faint."

2¹ How the Lord has covered the daughter of Zion With a cloud in His anger! He cast down from heaven to the earth The beauty of Israel, And did not remember His footstool In the day of His anger.

² The Lord has swallowed up and has not pitied All the dwelling places of Jacob. He has thrown down in His wrath The strongholds of the daughter of Judah; He has brought them down to the ground; He has profaned the kingdom and its princes.

³ He has cut off in fierce anger Every horn of Israel; He has drawn back His right hand From before the enemy. He has blazed against Jacob like a flaming fire Devouring all around.

⁴ Standing like an enemy, He has bent His bow; With His right hand, like an adversary, He has slain all who were pleasing to His eye; On the tent of the daughter of Zion, He has poured out His fury like fire.

⁵ The Lord was like an enemy. He has swallowed up Israel, He has swallowed up all her palaces; He has destroyed her strongholds, And has increased mourning and lamentation In the daughter of Judah.

⁶ He has done violence to His tabernacle, As if it were a garden; He has destroyed His place of assembly; The LORD has caused The appointed feasts and Sabbaths to be forgotten in Zion. In

His burning indignation He has spurned
the king and the priest.

⁷ The Lord has spurned His altar, He has
abandoned His sanctuary; He has given
up the walls of her palaces Into the hand
of the enemy. They have made a noise in
the house of the LORD As on the day of
a set feast.

⁸ The LORD has purposed to destroy
The wall of the daughter of Zion. He
has stretched out a line; He has not
withdrawn His hand from destroying;
Therefore He has caused the rampart
and wall to lament; They languished
together.

⁹ Her gates have sunk into the ground;
He has destroyed and broken her bars.
Her king and her princes are among the
nations; The Law is no more, And her
prophets find no vision from the LORD.

¹⁰ The elders of the daughter of Zion
Sit on the ground and keep silence;

They throw dust on their heads And gird themselves with sackcloth. The virgins of Jerusalem Bow their heads to the ground.

¹¹ My eyes fail with tears, My heart is troubled; My bile is poured on the ground Because of the destruction of the daughter of my people, Because the children and the infants Faint in the streets of the city.

¹² They say to their mothers, "Where is grain and wine?" As they swoon like the wounded In the streets of the city, As their life is poured out In their mothers' bosom.

¹³ How shall I console you? To what shall I liken you, O daughter of Jerusalem? What shall I compare with you, that I may comfort you, O virgin daughter of Zion? For your ruin is spread wide as the sea; Who can heal you?

¹⁴ Your prophets have seen for you
False and deceptive visions; They have
not uncovered your iniquity, To bring
back your captives, But have envisioned
for you false prophecies and delusions.

¹⁵ All who pass by clap their hands at
you; They hiss and shake their heads
At the daughter of Jerusalem: "Is this
the city that is called 'The perfection of
beauty, The joy of the whole earth'?"

¹⁶ All your enemies have opened
their mouth against you; They hiss and
gnash their teeth. They say, "We have
swallowed her up! Surely this is the day
we have waited for; We have found it,
we have seen it!"

¹⁷ The LORD has done what He
purposed; He has fulfilled His word
Which He commanded in days of old.
He has thrown down and has not pitied,
And He has caused an enemy to rejoice

over you; He has exalted the horn of your adversaries.

¹⁸ Their heart cried out to the Lord, "O wall of the daughter of Zion, Let tears run down like a river day and night; Give yourself no relief; Give your eyes no rest.

¹⁹ "Arise, cry out in the night, At the beginning of the watches; Pour out your heart like water before the face of the Lord. Lift your hands toward Him For the life of your young children, Who faint from hunger at the head of every street."

²⁰ "See, O LORD, and consider! To whom have You done this? Should the women eat their offspring, The children they have cuddled? Should the priest and prophet be slain In the sanctuary of the Lord?

²¹ "Young and old lie On the ground in the streets; My virgins and my young men Have fallen by the sword; You have

slain them in the day of Your anger, You have slaughtered and not pitied.

²² "You have invited as to a feast day The terrors that surround me. In the day of the LORD'S anger There was no refugee or survivor. Those whom I have borne and brought up My enemies have destroyed."

3 ¹ I am the man who has seen affliction by the rod of His wrath.

² He has led me and made me walk In darkness and not in light.

³ Surely He has turned His hand against me Time and time again throughout the day.

⁴ He has aged my flesh and my skin, And broken my bones.

⁵ He has besieged me And surrounded me with bitterness and woe.

⁶ He has set me in dark places Like the dead of long ago.

⁷ He has hedged me in so that I cannot get out; He has made my chain heavy.

⁸ Even when I cry and shout, He shuts out my prayer.

⁹ He has blocked my ways with hewn stone; He has made my paths crooked.

¹⁰ He has been to me a bear lying in wait, Like a lion in ambush.

¹¹ He has turned aside my ways and torn me in pieces; He has made me desolate.

¹² He has bent His bow And set me up as a target for the arrow.

¹³ He has caused the arrows of His quiver To pierce my loins.

¹⁴ I have become the ridicule of all my people—Their taunting song all the day.

¹⁵ He has filled me with bitterness, He has made me drink wormwood.

¹⁶ He has also broken my teeth with gravel, And covered me with ashes.

17 You have moved my soul far from peace; I have forgotten prosperity.

18 And I said, "My strength and my hope Have perished from the LORD."

19 Remember my affliction and roaming, The wormwood and the gall.

20 My soul still remembers And sinks within me.

21 This I recall to my mind, Therefore I have hope.

22 Through the LORD'S mercies we are not consumed, Because His compassions fail not.

23 They are new every morning; Great is Your faithfulness.

24 "The LORD is my portion," says my soul, "Therefore I hope in Him!"

25 The LORD is good to those who wait for Him, To the soul who seeks Him.

26 It is good that one should hope and wait quietly For the salvation of the LORD.

²⁷ It is good for a man to bear The yoke
in his youth.

²⁸ Let him sit alone and keep silent,
Because God has laid it on him;

²⁹ Let him put his mouth in the
dust—There may yet be hope.

³⁰ Let him give his cheek to the one
who strikes him, And be full of reproach.

³¹ For the Lord will not cast off forever.

³² Though He causes grief, Yet He will
show compassion According to the
multitude of His mercies.

³³ For He does not afflict willingly, Nor
grieve the children of men.

³⁴ To crush under one's feet All the
prisoners of the earth,

³⁵ To turn aside the justice due a man
Before the face of the Most High,

³⁶ Or subvert a man in his cause—The
Lord does not approve.

³⁷ Who is he who speaks and it comes to pass, When the Lord has not commanded it?

³⁸ Is it not from the mouth of the Most High That woe and well-being proceed?

³⁹ Why should a living man complain, A man for the punishment of his sins?

⁴⁰ Let us search out and examine our ways, And turn back to the LORD;

⁴¹ Let us lift our hearts and hands To God in heaven.

⁴² We have transgressed and rebelled; You have not pardoned.

⁴³ You have covered Yourself with anger And pursued us; You have slain and not pitied.

⁴⁴ You have covered Yourself with a cloud, That prayer should not pass through.

⁴⁵ You have made us an offscouring and refuse In the midst of the peoples.

⁴⁶ All our enemies Have opened their mouths against us.

⁴⁷ Fear and a snare have come upon us, Desolation and destruction.

⁴⁸ My eyes overflow with rivers of water For the destruction of the daughter of my people.

⁴⁹ My eyes flow and do not cease, Without interruption,

⁵⁰ Till the LORD from heaven Looks down and sees.

⁵¹ My eyes bring suffering to my soul Because of all the daughters of my city.

⁵² My enemies without cause Hunted me down like a bird.

⁵³ They silenced my life in the pit And threw stones at me.

⁵⁴ The waters flowed over my head; I said, "I am cut off!"

⁵⁵ I called on Your name, O LORD, From the lowest pit.

⁵⁶ You have heard my voice: "Do not hide Your ear From my sighing, from my cry for help."

⁵⁷ You drew near on the day I called on You, And said, "Do not fear!"

⁵⁸ O Lord, You have pleaded the case for my soul; You have redeemed my life.

⁵⁹ O LORD, You have seen how I am wronged; Judge my case.

⁶⁰ You have seen all their vengeance, All their schemes against me.

⁶¹ You have heard their reproach, O LORD, All their schemes against me,

⁶² The lips of my enemies And their whispering against me all the day.

⁶³ Look at their sitting down and their rising up; I am their taunting song.

⁶⁴ Repay them, O LORD, According to the work of their hands.

⁶⁵ Give them a veiled heart; Your curse be upon them!

⁶⁶ In Your anger, Pursue and destroy them From under the heavens of the LORD.

4 ¹ How the gold has become dim! How changed the fine gold! The stones of the sanctuary are scattered At the head of every street.

² The precious sons of Zion, Valuable as fine gold, How they are regarded as clay pots, The work of the hands of the potter!

³ Even the jackals present their breasts To nurse their young; But the daughter of my people is cruel, Like ostriches in the wilderness.

⁴ The tongue of the infant clings To the roof of its mouth for thirst; The young children ask for bread, But no one breaks it for them.

⁵ Those who ate delicacies Are desolate in the streets; Those who were brought up in scarlet Embrace ash heaps.

⁶ The punishment of the iniquity of the daughter of my people Is greater than the punishment of the sin of Sodom, Which was overthrown in a moment, With no hand to help her!

⁷ Her Nazirites were brighter than snow And whiter than milk; They were more ruddy in body than rubies, Like sapphire in their appearance.

⁸ Now their appearance is blacker than soot; They go unrecognized in the streets; Their skin clings to their bones, It has become as dry as wood.

⁹ Those slain by the sword are better off Than those who die of hunger; For these pine away, Stricken for lack of the fruits of the field.

¹⁰ The hands of the compassionate women Have cooked their own children; They became food for them In the destruction of the daughter of my people.

¹¹ The LORD has fulfilled His fury, He has poured out His fierce anger. He kindled a fire in Zion, And it has devoured its foundations.

¹² The kings of the earth, And all inhabitants of the world, Would not have believed That the adversary and the enemy Could enter the gates of Jerusalem—

¹³ Because of the sins of her prophets And the iniquities of her priests, Who shed in her midst The blood of the just.

¹⁴ They wandered blind in the streets; They have defiled themselves with blood, So that no one would touch their garments.

¹⁵ They cried out to them, "Go away, unclean! Go away, go away, Do not touch us!" When they fled and wandered, Those among the nations said, "They shall no longer dwell here."

¹⁶ The face of the LORD scattered them;
He no longer regards them. The people
do not respect the priests Nor show
favor to the elders.

¹⁷ Still our eyes failed us, Watching
vainly for our help; In our watching we
watched For a nation that could not save
us.

¹⁸ They tracked our steps So that we
could not walk in our streets. Our end
was near; Our days were over, For our
end had come.

¹⁹ Our pursuers were swifter Than the
eagles of the heavens. They pursued us
on the mountains And lay in wait for us
in the wilderness.

²⁰ The breath of our nostrils, the
anointed of the LORD, Was caught in
their pits, Of whom we said, "Under
his shadow We shall live among the
nations."

²¹ Rejoice and be glad, O daughter of Edom, You who dwell in the land of Uz! The cup shall also pass over to you And you shall become drunk and make yourself naked.

²² The punishment of your iniquity is accomplished, O daughter of Zion; He will no longer send you into captivity. He will punish your iniquity, O daughter of Edom; He will uncover your sins!

5 ¹ Remember, O LORD, what has come upon us; Look, and behold our reproach!

² Our inheritance has been turned over to aliens, And our houses to foreigners.

³ We have become orphans and waifs, Our mothers are like widows.

⁴ We pay for the water we drink, And our wood comes at a price.

⁵ They pursue at our heels; We labor and have no rest.

⁶ We have given our hand to the Egyptians
And the Assyrians, to be satisfied with bread.

⁷ Our fathers sinned and are no more,
But we bear their iniquities.

⁸ Servants rule over us; There is none to deliver us from their hand.

⁹ We get our bread at the risk of our lives,
Because of the sword in the wilderness.

¹⁰ Our skin is hot as an oven, Because of the fever of famine.

¹¹ They ravished the women in Zion,
The maidens in the cities of Judah.

¹² Princes were hung up by their hands,
And elders were not respected.

¹³ Young men ground at the millstones;
Boys staggered under loads of wood.

¹⁴ The elders have ceased gathering at the gate,
And the young men from their music.

¹⁵ The joy of our heart has ceased; Our dance has turned into mourning.

¹⁶ The crown has fallen from our head. Woe to us, for we have sinned!

¹⁷ Because of this our heart is faint; Because of these things our eyes grow dim;

¹⁸ Because of Mount Zion which is desolate, With foxes walking about on it.

¹⁹ You, O LORD, remain forever; Your throne from generation to generation.

²⁰ Why do You forget us forever, And forsake us for so long a time?

²¹ Turn us back to You, O LORD, and we will be restored; Renew our days as of old,

²² Unless You have utterly rejected us, And are very angry with us!

Ezekiel

1 ¹ Now it came to pass in the thirtieth year, in the fourth month, on the fifth day of the month, as I was among the captives by the River Chebar, that the heavens were opened and I saw visions of God.

² On the fifth day of the month, which was in the fifth year of King Jehoiachin's captivity,

³ the word of the LORD came expressly to Ezekiel the priest, the son of Buzi, in the land of the Chaldeans by the River Chebar; and the hand of the LORD was upon him there.

⁴ Then I looked, and behold, a whirlwind was coming out of the north, a great cloud with raging fire engulfing itself; and brightness was all around it and

radiating out of its midst like the color of amber, out of the midst of the fire.

⁵ Also from within it came the likeness of four living creatures. And this was their appearance: they had the likeness of a man.

⁶ Each one had four faces, and each one had four wings.

⁷ Their legs were straight, and the soles of their feet were like the soles of calves' feet. They sparkled like the color of burnished bronze.

⁸ The hands of a man were under their wings on their four sides; and each of the four had faces and wings.

⁹ Their wings touched one another. The creatures did not turn when they went, but each one went straight forward.

¹⁰ As for the likeness of their faces, each had the face of a man; each of the four had the face of a lion on the right side, each of the four had the face of an ox on

the left side, and each of the four had the face of an eagle.

¹¹ Thus were their faces. Their wings stretched upward; two wings of each one touched one another, and two covered their bodies.

¹² And each one went straight forward; they went wherever the spirit wanted to go, and they did not turn when they went.

¹³ As for the likeness of the living creatures, their appearance was like burning coals of fire, like the appearance of torches going back and forth among the living creatures. The fire was bright, and out of the fire went lightning.

¹⁴ And the living creatures ran back and forth, in appearance like a flash of lightning.

¹⁵ Now as I looked at the living creatures, behold, a wheel was on the

earth beside each living creature with its four faces.

¹⁶ The appearance of the wheels and their workings was like the color of beryl, and all four had the same likeness. The appearance of their workings was, as it were, a wheel in the middle of a wheel.

¹⁷ When they moved, they went toward any one of four directions; they did not turn aside when they went.

¹⁸ As for their rims, they were so high they were awesome; and their rims were full of eyes, all around the four of them.

¹⁹ When the living creatures went, the wheels went beside them; and when the living creatures were lifted up from the earth, the wheels were lifted up.

²⁰ Wherever the spirit wanted to go, they went, because there the spirit went; and the wheels were lifted together with them, for the spirit of the living creatures was in the wheels.

²¹ When those went, these went; when those stood, these stood; and when those were lifted up from the earth, the wheels were lifted up together with them, for the spirit of the living creatures was in the wheels.

²² The likeness of the firmament above the heads of the living creatures was like the color of an awesome crystal, stretched out over their heads.

²³ And under the firmament their wings spread out straight, one toward another. Each one had two which covered one side, and each one had two which covered the other side of the body.

²⁴ When they went, I heard the noise of their wings, like the noise of many waters, like the voice of the Almighty, a tumult like the noise of an army; and when they stood still, they let down their wings.

²⁵ A voice came from above the firmament that was over their heads; whenever they stood, they let down their wings.

²⁶ And above the firmament over their heads was the likeness of a throne, in appearance like a sapphire stone; on the likeness of the throne was a likeness with the appearance of a man high above it.

²⁷ Also from the appearance of His waist and upward I saw, as it were, the color of amber with the appearance of fire all around within it; and from the appearance of His waist and downward I saw, as it were, the appearance of fire with brightness all around.

²⁸ Like the appearance of a rainbow in a cloud on a rainy day, so was the appearance of the brightness all around it. This was the appearance of the likeness of the glory of the LORD. So

when I saw it, I fell on my face, and I heard a voice of One speaking.

2¹ And He said to me, "Son of man, stand on your feet, and I will speak to you."

² Then the Spirit entered me when He spoke to me, and set me on my feet; and I heard Him who spoke to me.

³ And He said to me: "Son of man, I am sending you to the children of Israel, to a rebellious nation that has rebelled against Me; they and their fathers have transgressed against Me to this very day.

⁴ "For they are impudent and stubborn children. I am sending you to them, and you shall say to them, 'Thus says the Lord GOD.'

⁵ "As for them, whether they hear or whether they refuse—for they are a rebellious house—yet they will know that a prophet has been among them.

⁶ "And you, son of man, do not be afraid of them nor be afraid of their words, though briers and thorns are with you and you dwell among scorpions; do not be afraid of their words or dismayed by their looks, though they are a rebellious house.

⁷ "You shall speak My words to them, whether they hear or whether they refuse, for they are rebellious.

⁸ "But you, son of man, hear what I say to you. Do not be rebellious like that rebellious house; open your mouth and eat what I give you."

⁹ Now when I looked, there was a hand stretched out to me; and behold, a scroll of a book was in it.

¹⁰ Then He spread it before me; and there was writing on the inside and on the outside, and written on it were lamentations and mourning and woe.

3¹ Moreover He said to me, "Son of man, eat what you find; eat this scroll, and go, speak to the house of Israel."

² So I opened my mouth, and He caused me to eat that scroll.

³ And He said to me, "Son of man, feed your belly, and fill your stomach with this scroll that I give you." So I ate, and it was in my mouth like honey in sweetness.

⁴ Then He said to me: "Son of man, go to the house of Israel and speak with My words to them.

⁵ "For you are not sent to a people of unfamiliar speech and of hard language, but to the house of Israel,

⁶ "not to many people of unfamiliar speech and of hard language, whose words you cannot understand. Surely, had I sent you to them, they would have listened to you.

⁷ "But the house of Israel will not listen to you, because they will not listen to Me; for all the house of Israel are impudent and hard-hearted.

⁸ "Behold, I have made your face strong against their faces, and your forehead strong against their foreheads.

⁹ "Like adamant stone, harder than flint, I have made your forehead; do not be afraid of them, nor be dismayed at their looks, though they are a rebellious house."

¹⁰ Moreover He said to me: "Son of man, receive into your heart all My words that I speak to you, and hear with your ears.

¹¹ "And go, get to the captives, to the children of your people, and speak to them and tell them, 'Thus says the Lord GOD,' whether they hear, or whether they refuse."

¹² Then the Spirit lifted me up, and I heard behind me a great thunderous voice: "Blessed is the glory of the LORD from His place!"

¹³ I also heard the noise of the wings of the living creatures that touched one another, and the noise of the wheels beside them, and a great thunderous noise.

¹⁴ So the Spirit lifted me up and took me away, and I went in bitterness, in the heat of my spirit; but the hand of the LORD was strong upon me.

¹⁵ Then I came to the captives at Tel Abib, who dwelt by the River Chebar; and I sat where they sat, and remained there astonished among them seven days.

¹⁶ Now it came to pass at the end of seven days that the word of the LORD came to me, saying,

¹⁷ "Son of man, I have made you a watchman for the house of Israel; therefore hear a word from My mouth, and give them warning from Me:

¹⁸ "When I say to the wicked, 'You shall surely die,' and you give him no warning, nor speak to warn the wicked from his wicked way, to save his life, that same wicked man shall die in his iniquity; but his blood I will require at your hand.

¹⁹ "Yet, if you warn the wicked, and he does not turn from his wickedness, nor from his wicked way, he shall die in his iniquity; but you have delivered your soul.

²⁰ "Again, when a righteous man turns from his righteousness and commits iniquity, and I lay a stumbling block before him, he shall die; because you did not give him warning, he shall die in his sin, and his righteousness which he has

done shall not be remembered; but his blood I will require at your hand.

²¹ "Nevertheless if you warn the righteous man that the righteous should not sin, and he does not sin, he shall surely live because he took warning; also you will have delivered your soul."

²² Then the hand of the LORD was upon me there, and He said to me, "Arise, go out into the plain, and there I shall talk with you."

²³ So I arose and went out into the plain, and behold, the glory of the LORD stood there, like the glory which I saw by the River Chebar; and I fell on my face.

²⁴ Then the Spirit entered me and set me on my feet, and spoke with me and said to me: "Go, shut yourself inside your house.

²⁵ "And you, O son of man, surely they will put ropes on you and bind you with

them, so that you cannot go out among them.

²⁶ "I will make your tongue cling to the roof of your mouth, so that you shall be mute and not be one to rebuke them, for they are a rebellious house.

²⁷ "But when I speak with you, I will open your mouth, and you shall say to them, 'Thus says the Lord GOD.' He who hears, let him hear; and he who refuses, let him refuse; for they are a rebellious house.

4 ¹ "You also, son of man, take a clay tablet and lay it before you, and portray on it a city, Jerusalem.

² "Lay siege against it, build a siege wall against it, and heap up a mound against it; set camps against it also, and place battering rams against it all around.

³ "Moreover take for yourself an iron plate, and set it as an iron wall between you and the city. Set your face against it,

and it shall be besieged, and you shall lay siege against it. This will be a sign to the house of Israel.

⁴ "Lie also on your left side, and lay the iniquity of the house of Israel upon it. According to the number of the days that you lie on it, you shall bear their iniquity.

⁵ "For I have laid on you the years of their iniquity, according to the number of the days, three hundred and ninety days; so you shall bear the iniquity of the house of Israel.

⁶ "And when you have completed them, lie again on your right side; then you shall bear the iniquity of the house of Judah forty days. I have laid on you a day for each year.

⁷ "Therefore you shall set your face toward the siege of Jerusalem; your arm shall be uncovered, and you shall prophesy against it.

⁸ "And surely I will restrain you so that you cannot turn from one side to another till you have ended the days of your siege.

⁹ "Also take for yourself wheat, barley, beans, lentils, millet, and spelt; put them into one vessel, and make bread of them for yourself. During the number of days that you lie on your side, three hundred and ninety days, you shall eat it.

¹⁰ "And your food which you eat shall be by weight, twenty shekels a day; from time to time you shall eat it.

¹¹ "You shall also drink water by measure, one—sixth of a hin; from time to time you shall drink.

¹² "And you shall eat it as barley cakes; and bake it using fuel of human waste in their sight."

¹³ Then the LORD said, "So shall the children of Israel eat their defiled bread

among the Gentiles, where I will drive them."

¹⁴ So I said, "Ah, Lord GOD! Indeed I have never defiled myself from my youth till now; I have never eaten what died of itself or was torn by beasts, nor has abominable flesh ever come into my mouth."

¹⁵ Then He said to me, "See, I am giving you cow dung instead of human waste, and you shall prepare your bread over it."

¹⁶ Moreover He said to me, "Son of man, surely I will cut off the supply of bread in Jerusalem; they shall eat bread by weight and with anxiety, and shall drink water by measure and with dread,

¹⁷ "that they may lack bread and water, and be dismayed with one another, and waste away because of their iniquity.

5 ¹ "And you, son of man, take a sharp sword, take it as a barber's razor, and

pass it over your head and your beard; then take scales to weigh and divide the hair.

² "You shall burn with fire one-third in the midst of the city, when the days of the siege are finished; then you shall take one-third and strike around it with the sword, and one-third you shall scatter in the wind: I will draw out a sword after them.

³ "You shall also take a small number of them and bind them in the edge of your garment.

⁴ "Then take some of them again and throw them into the midst of the fire, and burn them in the fire. From there a fire will go out into all the house of Israel.

⁵ "Thus says the Lord GOD: 'This is Jerusalem; I have set her in the midst of the nations and the countries all around her.

⁶ 'She has rebelled against My judgments by doing wickedness more than the nations, and against My statutes more than the countries that are all around her; for they have refused My judgments, and they have not walked in My statutes.'

⁷ "Therefore thus says the Lord GOD: 'Because you have multiplied disobedience more than the nations that are all around you, have not walked in My statutes nor kept My judgments, nor even done according to the judgments of the nations that are all around you' —

⁸ "therefore thus says the Lord GOD: 'Indeed I, even I, am against you and will execute judgments in your midst in the sight of the nations.

⁹ 'And I will do among you what I have never done, and the like of which I will never do again, because of all your abominations.

¹⁰ 'Therefore fathers shall eat their sons in your midst, and sons shall eat their fathers; and I will execute judgments among you, and all of you who remain I will scatter to all the winds.

¹¹ 'Therefore, as I live,' says the Lord GOD, 'surely, because you have defiled My sanctuary with all your detestable things and with all your abominations, therefore I will also diminish you; My eye will not spare, nor will I have any pity.

¹² 'One-third of you shall die of the pestilence, and be consumed with famine in your midst; and one-third shall fall by the sword all around you; and I will scatter another third to all the winds, and I will draw out a sword after them.

¹³ 'Thus shall My anger be spent, and I will cause My fury to rest upon them, and I will be avenged; and they shall know that I, the LORD, have spoken it

in My zeal, when I have spent My fury upon them.

¹⁴ ‘Moreover I will make you a waste and a reproach among the nations that are all around you, in the sight of all who pass by.

¹⁵ ‘So it shall be a reproach, a taunt, a lesson, and an astonishment to the nations that are all around you, when I execute judgments among you in anger and in fury and in furious rebukes. I, the LORD, have spoken.

¹⁶ ‘When I send against them the terrible arrows of famine which shall be for destruction, which I will send to destroy you, I will increase the famine upon you and cut off your supply of bread.

¹⁷ ‘So I will send against you famine and wild beasts, and they will bereave you. Pestilence and blood shall pass through

you, and I will bring the sword against you. I, the LORD, have spoken.”

6¹ Now the word of the LORD came to me, saying:

² "Son of man, set your face toward the mountains of Israel, and prophesy against them,

³ "and say, ‘O mountains of Israel, hear the word of the Lord GOD!’ Thus says the Lord GOD to the mountains, to the hills, to the ravines, and to the valleys: "Indeed I, even I, will bring a sword against you, and I will destroy your high places.

⁴ "Then your altars shall be desolate, your incense altars shall be broken, and I will cast down your slain men before your idols.

⁵ "And I will lay the corpses of the children of Israel before their idols, and I will scatter your bones all around your altars.

⁶ "In all your dwelling places the cities shall be laid waste, and the high places shall be desolate, so that your altars may be laid waste and made desolate, your idols may be broken and made to cease, your incense altars may be cut down, and your works may be abolished.

⁷ "The slain shall fall in your midst, and you shall know that I am the LORD.

⁸ "Yet I will leave a remnant, so that you may have some who escape the sword among the nations, when you are scattered through the countries.

⁹ "Then those of you who escape will remember Me among the nations where they are carried captive, because I was crushed by their adulterous heart which has departed from Me, and by their eyes which play the harlot after their idols; they will loathe themselves for the evils which they committed in all their abominations.

¹⁰ "And they shall know that I am the LORD; I have not said in vain that I would bring this calamity upon them."

¹¹ 'Thus says the Lord GOD: "Pound your fists and stamp your feet, and say, 'Alas, for all the evil abominations of the house of Israel! For they shall fall by the sword, by famine, and by pestilence.

¹² 'He who is far off shall die by the pestilence, he who is near shall fall by the sword, and he who remains and is besieged shall die by the famine. Thus will I spend My fury upon them.

¹³ 'Then you shall know that I am the LORD, when their slain are among their idols all around their altars, on every high hill, on all the mountaintops, under every green tree, and under every thick oak, wherever they offered sweet incense to all their idols.

¹⁴ 'So I will stretch out My hand against them and make the land desolate, yes,

more desolate than the wilderness toward Diblah, in all their dwelling places. Then they shall know that I am the LORD.'""

7 ¹ Moreover the word of the LORD came to me, saying,

² "And you, son of man, thus says the Lord GOD to the land of Israel: 'An end! The end has come upon the four corners of the land.

³ Now the end has come upon you, And I will send My anger against you; I will judge you according to your ways, And I will repay you for all your abominations.

⁴ My eye will not spare you, Nor will I have pity; But I will repay your ways, And your abominations will be in your midst; Then you shall know that I am the LORD!'

⁵ "Thus says the Lord GOD: 'A disaster, a singular disaster; Behold, it has come!

⁶ An end has come, The end has come;
It has dawned for you; Behold, it has
come!

⁷ Doom has come to you, you who dwell
in the land; The time has come, A day of
trouble is near, And not of rejoicing in
the mountains.

⁸ Now upon you I will soon pour out
My fury, And spend My anger upon
you; I will judge you according to your
ways, And I will repay you for all your
abominations.

⁹ 'My eye will not spare, Nor will I have
pity; I will repay you according to your
ways, And your abominations will be in
your midst. Then you shall know that I
am the LORD who strikes.

¹⁰ 'Behold, the day! Behold, it has
come! Doom has gone out; The rod has
blossomed, Pride has budded.

¹¹ Violence has risen up into a rod of
wickedness; None of them shall remain,

None of their multitude, None of them;
Nor shall there be wailing for them.

¹² The time has come, The day draws near. 'Let not the buyer rejoice, Nor the seller mourn, For wrath is on their whole multitude.

¹³ For the seller shall not return to what has been sold, Though he may still be alive; For the vision concerns the whole multitude, And it shall not turn back; No one will strengthen himself Who lives in iniquity.

¹⁴ 'They have blown the trumpet and made everyone ready, But no one goes to battle; For My wrath is on all their multitude.

¹⁵ The sword is outside, And the pestilence and famine within. Whoever is in the field Will die by the sword; And whoever is in the city, Famine and pestilence will devour him.

¹⁶ 'Those who survive will escape and be on the mountains Like doves of the valleys, All of them mourning, Each for his iniquity.

¹⁷ Every hand will be feeble, And every knee will be as weak as water.

¹⁸ They will also be girded with sackcloth; Horror will cover them; Shame will be on every face, Baldness on all their heads.

¹⁹ 'They will throw their silver into the streets, And their gold will be like refuse; Their silver and their gold will not be able to deliver them In the day of the wrath of the LORD; They will not satisfy their souls, Nor fill their stomachs, Because it became their stumbling block of iniquity.

²⁰ 'As for the beauty of his ornaments, He set it in majesty; But they made from it The images of their abominations— Their detestable things; Therefore I have made it Like refuse to them.

²¹ I will give it as plunder Into the hands of strangers, And to the wicked of the earth as spoil; And they shall defile it.

²² I will turn My face from them, And they will defile My secret place; For robbers shall enter it and defile it.

²³ 'Make a chain, For the land is filled with crimes of blood, And the city is full of violence.

²⁴ Therefore I will bring the worst of the Gentiles, And they will possess their houses; I will cause the pomp of the strong to cease, And their holy places shall be defiled.

²⁵ Destruction comes; They will seek peace, but there shall be none.

²⁶ Disaster will come upon disaster, And rumor will be upon rumor. Then they will seek a vision from a prophet; But the law will perish from the priest, And counsel from the elders.

²⁷ ‘The king will mourn, The prince will be clothed with desolation, And the hands of the common people will tremble. I will do to them according to their way, And according to what they deserve I will judge them; Then they shall know that I am the LORD!’”

8 ¹ And it came to pass in the sixth year, in the sixth month, on the fifth day of the month, as I sat in my house with the elders of Judah sitting before me, that the hand of the Lord GOD fell upon me there.

² Then I looked, and there was a likeness, like the appearance of fire—from the appearance of His waist and downward, fire; and from His waist and upward, like the appearance of brightness, like the color of amber.

³ He stretched out the form of a hand, and took me by a lock of my hair; and the Spirit lifted me up between earth

and heaven, and brought me in visions of God to Jerusalem, to the door of the north gate of the inner court, where the seat of the image of jealousy was, which provokes to jealousy.

⁴ And behold, the glory of the God of Israel was there, like the vision that I saw in the plain.

⁵ Then He said to me, "Son of man, lift your eyes now toward the north." So I lifted my eyes toward the north, and there, north of the altar gate, was this image of jealousy in the entrance.

⁶ Furthermore He said to me, "Son of man, do you see what they are doing, the great abominations that the house of Israel commits here, to make Me go far away from My sanctuary? Now turn again, you will see greater abominations."

⁷ So He brought me to the door of the court; and when I looked, there was a hole in the wall.

⁸ Then He said to me, "Son of man, dig into the wall"; and when I dug into the wall, there was a door.

⁹ And He said to me, "Go in, and see the wicked abominations which they are doing there."

¹⁰ So I went in and saw, and there— every sort of creeping thing, abominable beasts, and all the idols of the house of Israel, portrayed all around on the walls.

¹¹ And there stood before them seventy men of the elders of the house of Israel, and in their midst stood Jaazaniah the son of Shaphan. Each man had a censer in his hand, and a thick cloud of incense went up.

¹² Then He said to me, "Son of man, have you seen what the elders of the house of Israel do in the dark, every man

in the room of his idols? For they say, 'The LORD does not see us, the LORD has forsaken the land.'

¹³ And He said to me, "Turn again, and you will see greater abominations that they are doing."

¹⁴ So He brought me to the door of the north gate of the LORD'S house; and to my dismay, women were sitting there weeping for Tammuz.

¹⁵ Then He said to me, "Have you seen this, O son of man? Turn again, you will see greater abominations than these."

¹⁶ So He brought me into the inner court of the LORD'S house; and there, at the door of the temple of the LORD, between the porch and the altar, were about twenty-five men with their backs toward the temple of the LORD and their faces toward the east, and they were worshiping the sun toward the east.

¹⁷ And He said to me, "Have you seen this, O son of man? Is it a trivial thing to the house of Judah to commit the abominations which they commit here? For they have filled the land with violence; then they have returned to provoke Me to anger. Indeed they put the branch to their nose.

¹⁸ "Therefore I also will act in fury. My eye will not spare nor will I have pity; and though they cry in My ears with a loud voice, I will not hear them."

9 ¹ Then He called out in my hearing with a loud voice, saying, "Let those who have charge over the city draw near, each with a deadly weapon in his hand."

² And suddenly six men came from the direction of the upper gate, which faces north, each with his battle-ax in his hand. One man among them was clothed with linen and had a writer's

inkhorn at his side. They went in and stood beside the bronze altar.

³ Now the glory of the God of Israel had gone up from the cherub, where it had been, to the threshold of the temple. And He called to the man clothed with linen, who had the writer's inkhorn at his side;

⁴ and the LORD said to him, "Go through the midst of the city, through the midst of Jerusalem, and put a mark on the foreheads of the men who sigh and cry over all the abominations that are done within it."

⁵ To the others He said in my hearing, "Go after him through the city and kill; do not let your eye spare, nor have any pity.

⁶ "Utterly slay old and young men, maidens and little children and women; but do not come near anyone on whom is the mark; and begin at My sanctuary."

So they began with the elders who were before the temple.

⁷ Then He said to them, "Defile the temple, and fill the courts with the slain. Go out!" And they went out and killed in the city.

⁸ So it was, that while they were killing them, I was left alone; and I fell on my face and cried out, and said, "Ah, Lord GOD! Will You destroy all the remnant of Israel in pouring out Your fury on Jerusalem?"

⁹ Then He said to me, "The iniquity of the house of Israel and Judah is exceedingly great, and the land is full of bloodshed, and the city full of perversity; for they say, 'The LORD has forsaken the land, and the LORD does not see!'

¹⁰ "And as for Me also, My eye will neither spare, nor will I have pity, but I will recompense their deeds on their own head."

¹¹ Just then, the man clothed with linen, who had the inkhorn at his side, reported back and said, "I have done as You commanded me."

10 ¹ And I looked, and there in the firmament that was above the head of the cherubim, there appeared something like a sapphire stone, having the appearance of the likeness of a throne.

² Then He spoke to the man clothed with linen, and said, "Go in among the wheels, under the cherub, fill your hands with coals of fire from among the cherubim, and scatter them over the city." And he went in as I watched.

³ Now the cherubim were standing on the south side of the temple when the man went in, and the cloud filled the inner court.

⁴ Then the glory of the LORD went up from the cherub, and paused over the

threshold of the temple; and the house was filled with the cloud, and the court was full of the brightness of the LORD'S glory.

⁵ And the sound of the wings of the cherubim was heard even in the outer court, like the voice of Almighty God when He speaks.

⁶ Then it happened, when He commanded the man clothed in linen, saying, "Take fire from among the wheels, from among the cherubim," that he went in and stood beside the wheels.

⁷ And the cherub stretched out his hand from among the cherubim to the fire that was among the cherubim, and took some of it and put it into the hands of the man clothed with linen, who took it and went out.

⁸ The cherubim appeared to have the form of a man's hand under their wings.

⁹ And when I looked, there were four wheels by the cherubim, one wheel by one cherub and another wheel by each other cherub; the wheels appeared to have the color of a beryl stone.

¹⁰ As for their appearance, all four looked alike—as it were, a wheel in the middle of a wheel.

¹¹ When they went, they went toward any of their four directions; they did not turn aside when they went, but followed in the direction the head was facing. They did not turn aside when they went.

¹² And their whole body, with their back, their hands, their wings, and the wheels that the four had, were full of eyes all around.

¹³ As for the wheels, they were called in my hearing, "Wheel."

¹⁴ Each one had four faces: the first face was the face of a cherub, the second face the face of a man, the third the face

of a lion, and the fourth the face of an eagle.

¹⁵ And the cherubim were lifted up. This was the living creature I saw by the River Chebar.

¹⁶ When the cherubim went, the wheels went beside them; and when the cherubim lifted their wings to mount up from the earth, the same wheels also did not turn from beside them.

¹⁷ When the cherubim stood still, the wheels stood still, and when one was lifted up, the other lifted itself up, for the spirit of the living creature was in them.

¹⁸ Then the glory of the LORD departed from the threshold of the temple and stood over the cherubim.

¹⁹ And the cherubim lifted their wings and mounted up from the earth in my sight. When they went out, the wheels were beside them; and they stood at the door of the east gate of the LORD'S

house, and the glory of the God of Israel was above them.

²⁰ This is the living creature I saw under the God of Israel by the River Chebar, and I knew they were cherubim.

²¹ Each one had four faces and each one four wings, and the likeness of the hands of a man was under their wings.

²² And the likeness of their faces was the same as the faces which I had seen by the River Chebar, their appearance and their persons. They each went straight forward.

11 ¹ Then the Spirit lifted me up and brought me to the East Gate of the LORD'S house, which faces eastward; and there at the door of the gate were twenty-five men, among whom I saw Jaazaniah the son of Azzur, and Pelatiah the son of Benaiah, princes of the people.

² And He said to me: "Son of man, these are the men who devise iniquity and give wicked counsel in this city,

³ "who say, 'The time is not near to build houses; this city is the caldron, and we are the meat.'

⁴ "Therefore prophesy against them, prophesy, O son of man!"

⁵ Then the Spirit of the LORD fell upon me, and said to me, "Speak! 'Thus says the LORD: "Thus you have said, O house of Israel; for I know the things that come into your mind.

⁶ "You have multiplied your slain in this city, and you have filled its streets with the slain."

⁷ 'Therefore thus says the Lord GOD: "Your slain whom you have laid in its midst, they are the meat, and this city is the caldron; but I shall bring you out of the midst of it.

⁸ "You have feared the sword; and I will bring a sword upon you," says the Lord GOD.

⁹ "And I will bring you out of its midst, and deliver you into the hands of strangers, and execute judgments on you.

¹⁰ "You shall fall by the sword. I will judge you at the border of Israel. Then you shall know that I am the LORD.

¹¹ "This city shall not be your caldron, nor shall you be the meat in its midst. I will judge you at the border of Israel.

¹² "And you shall know that I am the LORD; for you have not walked in My statutes nor executed My judgments, but have done according to the customs of the Gentiles which are all around you.""

¹³ Now it happened, while I was prophesying, that Pelatiah the son of Benaiah died. Then I fell on my face and

cried with a loud voice, and said, "Ah, Lord GOD! Will You make a complete end of the remnant of Israel?"

¹⁴ Again the word of the LORD came to me, saying,

¹⁵ "Son of man, your brethren, your relatives, your countrymen, and all the house of Israel in its entirety, are those about whom the inhabitants of Jerusalem have said, 'Get far away from the LORD; this land has been given to us as a possession.'

¹⁶ "Therefore say, 'Thus says the Lord GOD: "Although I have cast them far off among the Gentiles, and although I have scattered them among the countries, yet I shall be a little sanctuary for them in the countries where they have gone."'

¹⁷ "Therefore say, 'Thus says the Lord GOD: "I will gather you from the peoples, assemble you from the countries where

you have been scattered, and I will give you the land of Israel."

¹⁸ "And they will go there, and they will take away all its detestable things and all its abominations from there.

¹⁹ "Then I will give them one heart, and I will put a new spirit within them, and take the stony heart out of their flesh, and give them a heart of flesh,

²⁰ "that they may walk in My statutes and keep My judgments and do them; and they shall be My people, and I will be their God.

²¹ "But as for those whose hearts follow the desire for their detestable things and their abominations, I will recompense their deeds on their own heads," says the Lord GOD.

²² So the cherubim lifted up their wings, with the wheels beside them, and the glory of the God of Israel was high above them.

²³ And the glory of the LORD went up from the midst of the city and stood on the mountain, which is on the east side of the city.

²⁴ Then the Spirit took me up and brought me in a vision by the Spirit of God into Chaldea, to those in captivity. And the vision that I had seen went up from me.

²⁵ So I spoke to those in captivity of all the things the LORD had shown me.

12 ¹ Now the word of the LORD came to me, saying:

² "Son of man, you dwell in the midst of a rebellious house, which has eyes to see but does not see, and ears to hear but does not hear; for they are a rebellious house.

³ "Therefore, son of man, prepare your belongings for captivity, and go into captivity by day in their sight. You shall go from your place into captivity to

another place in their sight. It may be that they will consider, though they are a rebellious house.

⁴ "By day you shall bring out your belongings in their sight, as though going into captivity; and at evening you shall go in their sight, like those who go into captivity.

⁵ "Dig through the wall in their sight, and carry your belongings out through it.

⁶ "In their sight you shall bear them on your shoulders and carry them out at twilight; you shall cover your face, so that you cannot see the ground, for I have made you a sign to the house of Israel."

⁷ So I did as I was commanded. I brought out my belongings by day, as though going into captivity, and at evening I dug through the wall with my hand. I brought them out at twilight, and I bore them on my shoulder in their sight.

⁸ And in the morning the word of the LORD came to me, saying,

⁹ "Son of man, has not the house of Israel, the rebellious house, said to you, 'What are you doing?'

¹⁰ "Say to them, 'Thus says the Lord GOD: "This burden concerns the prince in Jerusalem and all the house of Israel who are among them."'

¹¹ "Say, 'I am a sign to you. As I have done, so shall it be done to them; they shall be carried away into captivity.'

¹² "And the prince who is among them shall bear his belongings on his shoulder at twilight and go out. They shall dig through the wall to carry them out through it. He shall cover his face, so that he cannot see the ground with his eyes.

¹³ "I will also spread My net over him, and he shall be caught in My snare. I will bring him to Babylon, to the land of

the Chaldeans; yet he shall not see it, though he shall die there.

¹⁴ "I will scatter to every wind all who are around him to help him, and all his troops; and I will draw out the sword after them.

¹⁵ "Then they shall know that I am the LORD, when I scatter them among the nations and disperse them throughout the countries.

¹⁶ "But I will spare a few of their men from the sword, from famine, and from pestilence, that they may declare all their abominations among the Gentiles wherever they go. Then they shall know that I am the LORD."

¹⁷ Moreover the word of the LORD came to me, saying,

¹⁸ "Son of man, eat your bread with quaking, and drink your water with trembling and anxiety.

¹⁹ "And say to the people of the land, 'Thus says the Lord GOD to the inhabitants of Jerusalem and to the land of Israel: "They shall eat their bread with anxiety, and drink their water with dread, so that her land may be emptied of all who are in it, because of the violence of all those who dwell in it.

²⁰ "Then the cities that are inhabited shall be laid waste, and the land shall become desolate; and you shall know that I am the LORD."'"

²¹ And the word of the LORD came to me, saying,

²² "Son of man, what is this proverb that you people have about the land of Israel, which says, 'The days are prolonged, and every vision fails'?

²³ "Tell them therefore, 'Thus says the Lord GOD: "I will lay this proverb to rest, and they shall no more use it as a proverb in Israel." But say to them, "The

days are at hand, and the fulfillment of every vision.

²⁴ "For no more shall there be any false vision or flattering divination within the house of Israel.

²⁵ "For I am the LORD. I speak, and the word which I speak will come to pass; it will no more be postponed; for in your days, O rebellious house, I will say the word and perform it," says the Lord GOD.'"

²⁶ Again the word of the LORD came to me, saying,

²⁷ "Son of man, look, the house of Israel is saying, 'The vision that he sees is for many days from now, and he prophesies of times far off.'

²⁸ "Therefore say to them, 'Thus says the Lord GOD: "None of My words will be postponed any more, but the word which I speak will be done," says the Lord GOD.'"

13 ¹ And the word of the LORD came to me, saying,

² "Son of man, prophesy against the prophets of Israel who prophesy, and say to those who prophesy out of their own heart, 'Hear the word of the LORD!'"

³ Thus says the Lord GOD: "Woe to the foolish prophets, who follow their own spirit and have seen nothing!"

⁴ "O Israel, your prophets are like foxes in the deserts.

⁵ "You have not gone up into the gaps to build a wall for the house of Israel to stand in battle on the day of the LORD.

⁶ "They have envisioned futility and false divination, saying, 'Thus says the LORD!' But the LORD has not sent them; yet they hope that the word may be confirmed.

⁷ "Have you not seen a futile vision, and have you not spoken false divination?"

You say, 'The LORD says,' but I have not spoken."

⁸ Therefore thus says the Lord GOD: "Because you have spoken nonsense and envisioned lies, therefore I am indeed against you," says the Lord GOD.

⁹ "My hand will be against the prophets who envision futility and who divine lies; they shall not be in the assembly of My people, nor be written in the record of the house of Israel, nor shall they enter into the land of Israel. Then you shall know that I am the Lord GOD.

¹⁰ "Because, indeed, because they have seduced My people, saying, 'Peace!' when there is no peace—and one builds a wall, and they plaster it with untempered mortar —

¹¹ "say to those who plaster it with untempered mortar, that it will fall. There will be flooding rain, and you, O

great hailstones, shall fall; and a stormy wind shall tear it down.

¹² "Surely, when the wall has fallen, will it not be said to you, 'Where is the mortar with which you plastered it?'"

¹³ Therefore thus says the Lord GOD: "I will cause a stormy wind to break forth in My fury; and there shall be a flooding rain in My anger, and great hailstones in fury to consume it.

¹⁴ "So I will break down the wall you have plastered with untempered mortar, and bring it down to the ground, so that its foundation will be uncovered; it will fall, and you shall be consumed in the midst of it. Then you shall know that I am the LORD.

¹⁵ "Thus will I accomplish My wrath on the wall and on those who have plastered it with untempered mortar; and I will say to you, 'The wall is no more, nor those who plastered it,

¹⁶ 'that is, the prophets of Israel who prophesy concerning Jerusalem, and who see visions of peace for her when there is no peace,'" says the Lord GOD.

¹⁷ "Likewise, son of man, set your face against the daughters of your people, who prophesy out of their own heart; prophesy against them,

¹⁸ "and say, 'Thus says the Lord GOD: "Woe to the women who sew magic charms on their sleeves and make veils for the heads of people of every height to hunt souls! Will you hunt the souls of My people, and keep yourselves alive?"

¹⁹ "And will you profane Me among My people for handfuls of barley and for pieces of bread, killing people who should not die, and keeping people alive who should not live, by your lying to My people who listen to lies?"

²⁰ 'Therefore thus says the Lord GOD: "Behold, I am against your magic charms

by which you hunt souls there like birds. I will tear them from your arms, and let the souls go, the souls you hunt like birds.

²¹ "I will also tear off your veils and deliver My people out of your hand, and they shall no longer be as prey in your hand. Then you shall know that I am the LORD.

²² "Because with lies you have made the heart of the righteous sad, whom I have not made sad; and you have strengthened the hands of the wicked, so that he does not turn from his wicked way to save his life.

²³ "Therefore you shall no longer envision futility nor practice divination; for I will deliver My people out of your hand, and you shall know that I am the LORD.""

14 ¹ Now some of the elders of Israel came to me and sat before me.

² And the word of the LORD came to me, saying,

³ "Son of man, these men have set up their idols in their hearts, and put before them that which causes them to stumble into iniquity. Should I let Myself be inquired of at all by them?

⁴ "Therefore speak to them, and say to them, 'Thus says the Lord GOD: "Everyone of the house of Israel who sets up his idols in his heart, and puts before him what causes him to stumble into iniquity, and then comes to the prophet, I the LORD will answer him who comes, according to the multitude of his idols,

⁵ "that I may seize the house of Israel by their heart, because they are all estranged from Me by their idols."'

⁶ "Therefore say to the house of Israel, 'Thus says the Lord GOD: "Repent, turn

away from your idols, and turn your faces away from all your abominations.

⁷ "For anyone of the house of Israel, or of the strangers who dwell in Israel, who separates himself from Me and sets up his idols in his heart and puts before him what causes him to stumble into iniquity, then comes to a prophet to inquire of him concerning Me, I the LORD will answer him by Myself.

⁸ "I will set My face against that man and make him a sign and a proverb, and I will cut him off from the midst of My people. Then you shall know that I am the LORD.

⁹ "And if the prophet is induced to speak anything, I the LORD have induced that prophet, and I will stretch out My hand against him and destroy him from among My people Israel.

¹⁰ "And they shall bear their iniquity; the punishment of the prophet shall be

the same as the punishment of the one who inquired,

¹¹ "that the house of Israel may no longer stray from Me, nor be profaned anymore with all their transgressions, but that they may be My people and I may be their God," says the Lord GOD."

¹² The word of the LORD came again to me, saying:

¹³ "Son of man, when a land sins against Me by persistent unfaithfulness, I will stretch out My hand against it; I will cut off its supply of bread, send famine on it, and cut off man and beast from it.

¹⁴ "Even if these three men, Noah, Daniel, and Job, were in it, they would deliver only themselves by their righteousness," says the Lord GOD.

¹⁵ "If I cause wild beasts to pass through the land, and they empty it, and make it so desolate that no man may pass through because of the beasts,

16 "even though these three men were in it, as I live," says the Lord GOD, "they would deliver neither sons nor daughters; only they would be delivered, and the land would be desolate.

17 "Or if I bring a sword on that land, and say, 'Sword, go through the land,' and I cut off man and beast from it,

18 "even though these three men were in it, as I live," says the Lord GOD, "they would deliver neither sons nor daughters, but only they themselves would be delivered.

19 "Or if I send a pestilence into that land and pour out My fury on it in blood, and cut off from it man and beast,

20 "even though Noah, Daniel, and Job were in it, as I live," says the Lord GOD, "they would deliver neither son nor daughter; they would deliver only themselves by their righteousness."

²¹ For thus says the Lord GOD: "How much more it shall be when I send My four severe judgments on Jerusalem—the sword and famine and wild beasts and pestilence—to cut off man and beast from it?"

²² "Yet behold, there shall be left in it a remnant who will be brought out, both sons and daughters; surely they will come out to you, and you will see their ways and their doings. Then you will be comforted concerning the disaster that I have brought upon Jerusalem, all that I have brought upon it.

²³ "And they will comfort you, when you see their ways and their doings; and you shall know that I have done nothing without cause that I have done in it," says the Lord GOD.

15 ¹ Then the word of the LORD came to me, saying:

² "Son of man, how is the wood of the vine better than any other wood, the vine branch which is among the trees of the forest?

³ "Is wood taken from it to make any object? Or can men make a peg from it to hang any vessel on?

⁴ "Instead, it is thrown into the fire for fuel; the fire devours both ends of it, and its middle is burned. Is it useful for any work?

⁵ "Indeed, when it was whole, no object could be made from it. How much less will it be useful for any work when the fire has devoured it, and it is burned?

⁶ "Therefore thus says the Lord GOD: 'Like the wood of the vine among the trees of the forest, which I have given to the fire for fuel, so I will give up the inhabitants of Jerusalem;

⁷ 'and I will set My face against them. They will go out from one fire, but

another fire shall devour them. Then you shall know that I am the LORD, when I set My face against them.

⁸ 'Thus I will make the land desolate, because they have persisted in unfaithfulness,' says the Lord GOD."

16 ¹ Again the word of the LORD came to me, saying,

² "Son of man, cause Jerusalem to know her abominations,

³ "and say, 'Thus says the Lord GOD to Jerusalem: "Your birth and your nativity are from the land of Canaan; your father was an Amorite and your mother a Hittite.

⁴ "As for your nativity, on the day you were born your navel cord was not cut, nor were you washed in water to cleanse you; you were not rubbed with salt nor wrapped in swaddling cloths.

⁵ "No eye pitied you, to do any of these things for you, to have compassion on

you; but you were thrown out into the open field, when you yourself were loathed on the day you were born.

⁶ "And when I passed by you and saw you struggling in your own blood, I said to you in your blood, 'Live!' Yes, I said to you in your blood, 'Live!'

⁷ "I made you thrive like a plant in the field; and you grew, matured, and became very beautiful. Your breasts were formed, your hair grew, but you were naked and bare.

⁸ "When I passed by you again and looked upon you, indeed your time was the time of love; so I spread My wing over you and covered your nakedness. Yes, I swore an oath to you and entered into a covenant with you, and you became Mine," says the Lord GOD.

⁹ "Then I washed you in water; yes, I thoroughly washed off your blood, and I anointed you with oil.

¹⁰ "I clothed you in embroidered cloth and gave you sandals of badger skin; I clothed you with fine linen and covered you with silk.

¹¹ "I adorned you with ornaments, put bracelets on your wrists, and a chain on your neck.

¹² "And I put a jewel in your nose, earrings in your ears, and a beautiful crown on your head.

¹³ "Thus you were adorned with gold and silver, and your clothing was of fine linen, silk, and embroidered cloth. You ate pastry of fine flour, honey, and oil. You were exceedingly beautiful, and succeeded to royalty.

¹⁴ "Your fame went out among the nations because of your beauty, for it was perfect through My splendor which I had bestowed on you," says the Lord GOD.

¹⁵ "But you trusted in your own beauty, played the harlot because of your fame, and poured out your harlotry on everyone passing by who would have it.

¹⁶ "You took some of your garments and adorned multicolored high places for yourself, and played the harlot on them. Such things should not happen, nor be.

¹⁷ "You have also taken your beautiful jewelry from My gold and My silver, which I had given you, and made for yourself male images and played the harlot with them.

¹⁸ "You took your embroidered garments and covered them, and you set My oil and My incense before them.

¹⁹ "Also My food which I gave you—the pastry of fine flour, oil, and honey which I fed you—you set it before them as sweet incense; and so it was," says the Lord GOD.

²⁰ "Moreover you took your sons and your daughters, whom you bore to Me, and these you sacrificed to them to be devoured. Were your acts of harlotry a small matter,

²¹ "that you have slain My children and offered them up to them by causing them to pass through the fire?

²² "And in all your abominations and acts of harlotry you did not remember the days of your youth, when you were naked and bare, struggling in your blood.

²³ "Then it was so, after all your wickedness—'Woe, woe to you!' says the Lord GOD—

²⁴ "that you also built for yourself a shrine, and made a high place for yourself in every street.

²⁵ "You built your high places at the head of every road, and made your beauty to be abhorred. You offered

yourself to everyone who passed by, and multiplied your acts of harlotry.

²⁶ "You also committed harlotry with the Egyptians, your very fleshly neighbors, and increased your acts of harlotry to provoke Me to anger.

²⁷ "Behold, therefore, I stretched out My hand against you, diminished your allotment, and gave you up to the will of those who hate you, the daughters of the Philistines, who were ashamed of your lewd behavior.

²⁸ "You also played the harlot with the Assyrians, because you were insatiable; indeed you played the harlot with them and still were not satisfied.

²⁹ "Moreover you multiplied your acts of harlotry as far as the land of the trader, Chaldea; and even then you were not satisfied.

³⁰ "How degenerate is your heart!" says the Lord GOD, "seeing you do all these things, the deeds of a brazen harlot.

³¹ "You erected your shrine at the head of every road, and built your high place in every street. Yet you were not like a harlot, because you scorned payment.

³² "You are an adulterous wife, who takes strangers instead of her husband.

³³ "Men make payment to all harlots, but you made your payments to all your lovers, and hired them to come to you from all around for your harlotry.

³⁴ "You are the opposite of other women in your harlotry, because no one solicited you to be a harlot. In that you gave payment but no payment was given you, therefore you are the opposite."

³⁵ 'Now then, O harlot, hear the word of the LORD!

³⁶ 'Thus says the Lord GOD: "Because your filthiness was poured out and your

nakedness uncovered in your harlotry with your lovers, and with all your abominable idols, and because of the blood of your children which you gave to them,

³⁷ "surely, therefore, I will gather all your lovers with whom you took pleasure, all those you loved, and all those you hated; I will gather them from all around against you and will uncover your nakedness to them, that they may see all your nakedness.

³⁸ "And I will judge you as women who break wedlock or shed blood are judged; I will bring blood upon you in fury and jealousy.

³⁹ "I will also give you into their hand, and they shall throw down your shrines and break down your high places. They shall also strip you of your clothes, take your beautiful jewelry, and leave you naked and bare.

⁴⁰ "They shall also bring up an assembly against you, and they shall stone you with stones and thrust you through with their swords.

⁴¹ "They shall burn your houses with fire, and execute judgments on you in the sight of many women; and I will make you cease playing the harlot, and you shall no longer hire lovers.

⁴² "So I will lay to rest My fury toward you, and My jealousy shall depart from you. I will be quiet, and be angry no more.

⁴³ "Because you did not remember the days of your youth, but agitated Me with all these things, surely I will also recompense your deeds on your own head," says the Lord GOD. "And you shall not commit lewdness in addition to all your abominations.

⁴⁴ "Indeed everyone who quotes proverbs will use this proverb against you: 'Like mother, like daughter!'

⁴⁵ "You are your mother's daughter, loathing husband and children; and you are the sister of your sisters, who loathed their husbands and children; your mother was a Hittite and your father an Amorite.

⁴⁶ "Your elder sister is Samaria, who dwells with her daughters to the north of you; and your younger sister, who dwells to the south of you, is Sodom and her daughters.

⁴⁷ "You did not walk in their ways nor act according to their abominations; but, as if that were too little, you became more corrupt than they in all your ways.

⁴⁸ "As I live," says the Lord GOD, "neither your sister Sodom nor her daughters have done as you and your daughters have done.

⁴⁹ "Look, this was the iniquity of your sister Sodom: She and her daughter had pride, fullness of food, and abundance of idleness; neither did she strengthen the hand of the poor and needy.

⁵⁰ "And they were haughty and committed abomination before Me; therefore I took them away as I saw fit.

⁵¹ "Samaria did not commit half of your sins; but you have multiplied your abominations more than they, and have justified your sisters by all the abominations which you have done.

⁵² "You who judged your sisters, bear your own shame also, because the sins which you committed were more abominable than theirs; they are more righteous than you. Yes, be disgraced also, and bear your own shame, because you justified your sisters.

⁵³ "When I bring back their captives, the captives of Sodom and her daughters,

and the captives of Samaria and her daughters, then I will also bring back the captives of your captivity among them,

⁵⁴ "that you may bear your own shame and be disgraced by all that you did when you comforted them.

⁵⁵ "When your sisters, Sodom and her daughters, return to their former state, and Samaria and her daughters return to their former state, then you and your daughters will return to your former state.

⁵⁶ "For your sister Sodom was not a byword in your mouth in the days of your pride,

⁵⁷ "before your wickedness was uncovered. It was like the time of the reproach of the daughters of Syria and all those around her, and of the daughters of the Philistines, who despise you everywhere.

⁵⁸ "You have paid for your lewdness and your abominations," says the LORD.

⁵⁹ 'For thus says the Lord GOD: "I will deal with you as you have done, who despised the oath by breaking the covenant.

⁶⁰ "Nevertheless I will remember My covenant with you in the days of your youth, and I will establish an everlasting covenant with you.

⁶¹ "Then you will remember your ways and be ashamed, when you receive your older and your younger sisters; for I will give them to you for daughters, but not because of My covenant with you.

⁶² "And I will establish My covenant with you. Then you shall know that I am the LORD,

⁶³ "that you may remember and be ashamed, and never open your mouth anymore because of your shame, when

I provide you an atonement for all you have done," says the Lord GOD."

17 ¹ And the word of the LORD came to me, saying,

² "Son of man, pose a riddle, and speak a parable to the house of Israel,

³ "and say, 'Thus says the Lord GOD: "A great eagle with large wings and long pinions, Full of feathers of various colors, Came to Lebanon And took from the cedar the highest branch.

⁴ He cropped off its topmost young twig And carried it to a land of trade; He set it in a city of merchants.

⁵ Then he took some of the seed of the land And planted it in a fertile field; He placed it by abundant waters And set it like a willow tree.

⁶ And it grew and became a spreading vine of low stature; Its branches turned toward him, But its roots were under

it. So it became a vine, Brought forth branches, And put forth shoots.

⁷ "But there was another great eagle with large wings and many feathers; And behold, this vine bent its roots toward him, And stretched its branches toward him, From the garden terrace where it had been planted, That he might water it.

⁸ It was planted in good soil by many waters, To bring forth branches, bear fruit, And become a majestic vine."

⁹ "Say, 'Thus says the Lord GOD: "Will it thrive? Will he not pull up its roots, Cut off its fruit, And leave it to wither? All of its spring leaves will wither, And no great power or many people Will be needed to pluck it up by its roots.

¹⁰ Behold, it is planted, Will it thrive? Will it not utterly wither when the east wind touches it? It will wither in the garden terrace where it grew.'"

¹¹ Moreover the word of the LORD came to me, saying,

¹² "Say now to the rebellious house: 'Do you not know what these things mean?' Tell them, 'Indeed the king of Babylon went to Jerusalem and took its king and princes, and led them with him to Babylon.

¹³ 'And he took the king's offspring, made a covenant with him, and put him under oath. He also took away the mighty of the land,

¹⁴ 'that the kingdom might be brought low and not lift itself up, but that by keeping his covenant it might stand.

¹⁵ 'But he rebelled against him by sending his ambassadors to Egypt, that they might give him horses and many people. Will he prosper? Will he who does such things escape? Can he break a covenant and still be delivered?

¹⁶ 'As I live,' says the Lord GOD, 'surely in the place where the king dwells who made him king, whose oath he despised and whose covenant he broke—with him in the midst of Babylon he shall die.

¹⁷ 'Nor will Pharaoh with his mighty army and great company do anything in the war, when they heap up a siege mound and build a wall to cut off many persons.

¹⁸ 'Since he despised the oath by breaking the covenant, and in fact gave his hand and still did all these things, he shall not escape.'"

¹⁹ Therefore thus says the Lord GOD: "As I live, surely My oath which he despised, and My covenant which he broke, I will recompense on his own head.

²⁰ "I will spread My net over him, and he shall be taken in My snare. I will bring

him to Babylon and try him there for the treason which he committed against Me.

²¹ "All his fugitives with all his troops shall fall by the sword, and those who remain shall be scattered to every wind; and you shall know that I, the LORD, have spoken."

²² Thus says the Lord GOD: "I will take also one of the highest branches of the high cedar and set it out. I will crop off from the topmost of its young twigs a tender one, and will plant it on a high and prominent mountain.

²³ "On the mountain height of Israel I will plant it; and it will bring forth boughs, and bear fruit, and be a majestic cedar. Under it will dwell birds of every sort; in the shadow of its branches they will dwell.

²⁴ "And all the trees of the field shall know that I, the LORD, have brought down the high tree and exalted the low

tree, dried up the green tree and made the dry tree flourish; I, the LORD, have spoken and have done it."

18 ¹The word of the LORD came to me again, saying,

²"What do you mean when you use this proverb concerning the land of Israel, saying: 'The fathers have eaten sour grapes, And the children's teeth are set on edge'?"

³"As I live," says the Lord GOD, "you shall no longer use this proverb in Israel.

⁴"Behold, all souls are Mine; The soul of the father As well as the soul of the son is Mine; The soul who sins shall die.

⁵But if a man is just And does what is lawful and right;

⁶If he has not eaten on the mountains, Nor lifted up his eyes to the idols of the house of Israel, Nor defiled his neighbor's wife, Nor approached a woman during her impurity;

⁷ If he has not oppressed anyone, But has restored to the debtor his pledge; Has robbed no one by violence, But has given his bread to the hungry And covered the naked with clothing;

⁸ If he has not exacted usury Nor taken any increase, But has withdrawn his hand from iniquity And executed true judgment between man and man;

⁹ If he has walked in My statutes And kept My judgments faithfully—He is just; He shall surely live!" Says the Lord GOD.

¹⁰ "If he begets a son who is a robber Or a shedder of blood, Who does any of these things

¹¹ And does none of those duties, But has eaten on the mountains Or defiled his neighbor's wife;

¹² If he has oppressed the poor and needy, Robbed by violence, Not restored the pledge, Lifted his eyes to the idols, Or committed abomination;

¹³ If he has exacted usury Or taken increase—Shall he then live? He shall not live! If he has done any of these abominations, He shall surely die; His blood shall be upon him.

¹⁴ "If, however, he begets a son Who sees all the sins which his father has done, And considers but does not do likewise;

¹⁵ Who has not eaten on the mountains, Nor lifted his eyes to the idols of the house of Israel, Nor defiled his neighbor's wife;

¹⁶ Has not oppressed anyone, Nor withheld a pledge, Nor robbed by violence, But has given his bread to the hungry And covered the naked with clothing;

¹⁷ Who has withdrawn his hand from the poor And not received usury or increase, But has executed My judgments And walked in My statutes—

–He shall not die for the iniquity of his father; He shall surely live!

¹⁸ "As for his father, Because he cruelly oppressed, Robbed his brother by violence, And did what is not good among his people, Behold, he shall die for his iniquity.

¹⁹ "Yet you say, 'Why should the son not bear the guilt of the father?' Because the son has done what is lawful and right, and has kept all My statutes and observed them, he shall surely live.

²⁰ "The soul who sins shall die. The son shall not bear the guilt of the father, nor the father bear the guilt of the son. The righteousness of the righteous shall be upon himself, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon himself.

²¹ "But if a wicked man turns from all his sins which he has committed, keeps all My statutes, and does what is lawful

and right, he shall surely live; he shall not die.

²² "None of the transgressions which he has committed shall be remembered against him; because of the righteousness which he has done, he shall live.

²³ "Do I have any pleasure at all that the wicked should die?" says the Lord GOD, "and not that he should turn from his ways and live?"

²⁴ "But when a righteous man turns away from his righteousness and commits iniquity, and does according to all the abominations that the wicked man does, shall he live? All the righteousness which he has done shall not be remembered; because of the unfaithfulness of which he is guilty and the sin which he has committed, because of them he shall die.

²⁵ "Yet you say, 'The way of the Lord is not fair.' Hear now, O house of Israel, is it not My way which is fair, and your ways which are not fair?

²⁶ "When a righteous man turns away from his righteousness, commits iniquity, and dies in it, it is because of the iniquity which he has done that he dies.

²⁷ "Again, when a wicked man turns away from the wickedness which he committed, and does what is lawful and right, he preserves himself alive.

²⁸ "Because he considers and turns away from all the transgressions which he committed, he shall surely live; he shall not die.

²⁹ "Yet the house of Israel says, 'The way of the Lord is not fair.' O house of Israel, is it not My ways which are fair, and your ways which are not fair?

³⁰ "Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his

ways," says the Lord GOD. "Repent, and turn from all your transgressions, so that iniquity will not be your ruin.

³¹ "Cast away from you all the transgressions which you have committed, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit. For why should you die, O house of Israel?

³² "For I have no pleasure in the death of one who dies," says the Lord GOD. "Therefore turn and live!"

19 ¹ "Moreover take up a lamentation for the princes of Israel,

² "and say: 'What is your mother? A lioness: She lay down among the lions; Among the young lions she nourished her cubs.

³ She brought up one of her cubs, And he became a young lion; He learned to catch prey, And he devoured men.

⁴ The nations also heard of him; He was trapped in their pit, And they brought him with chains to the land of Egypt.

⁵ 'When she saw that she waited, that her hope was lost, She took another of her cubs and made him a young lion.

⁶ He roved among the lions, And became a young lion; He learned to catch prey; He devoured men.

⁷ He knew their desolate places, And laid waste their cities; The land with its fullness was desolated By the noise of his roaring.

⁸ Then the nations set against him from the provinces on every side, And spread their net over him; He was trapped in their pit.

⁹ They put him in a cage with chains, And brought him to the king of Babylon; They brought him in nets, That his voice should no longer be heard on the mountains of Israel.

¹⁰ 'Your mother was like a vine in your
bloodline, Planted by the waters, Fruitful
and full of branches Because of many
waters.

¹¹ She had strong branches for scepters
of rulers. She towered in stature above
the thick branches, And was seen in her
height amid the dense foliage.

¹² But she was plucked up in fury, She
was cast down to the ground, And the
east wind dried her fruit. Her strong
branches were broken and withered;
The fire consumed them.

¹³ And now she is planted in the
wilderness, In a dry and thirsty land.

¹⁴ Fire has come out from a rod of her
branches And devoured her fruit, So that
she has no strong branch—a scepter for
ruling.'" This is a lamentation, and has
become a lamentation.

20 ¹ It came to pass in the seventh
year, in the fifth month, on the

tenth day of the month, that certain of the elders of Israel came to inquire of the LORD, and sat before me.

² Then the word of the LORD came to me, saying,

³ "Son of man, speak to the elders of Israel, and say to them, 'Thus says the Lord GOD: "Have you come to inquire of Me? As I live," says the Lord GOD, "I will not be inquired of by you."'"

⁴ "Will you judge them, son of man, will you judge them? Then make known to them the abominations of their fathers.

⁵ "Say to them, 'Thus says the Lord GOD: "On the day when I chose Israel and raised My hand in an oath to the descendants of the house of Jacob, and made Myself known to them in the land of Egypt, I raised My hand in an oath to them, saying, 'I am the LORD your God.'

⁶ "On that day I raised My hand in an oath to them, to bring them out of

the land of Egypt into a land that I had searched out for them, 'flowing with milk and honey,' the glory of all lands.

⁷ "Then I said to them, 'Each of you, throw away the abominations which are before his eyes, and do not defile yourselves with the idols of Egypt. I am the LORD your God.'

⁸ "But they rebelled against Me and would not obey Me. They did not all cast away the abominations which were before their eyes, nor did they forsake the idols of Egypt. Then I said, 'I will pour out My fury on them and fulfill My anger against them in the midst of the land of Egypt.'

⁹ "But I acted for My name's sake, that it should not be profaned before the Gentiles among whom they were, in whose sight I had made Myself known to them, to bring them out of the land of Egypt.

¹⁰ "Therefore I made them go out of the land of Egypt and brought them into the wilderness.

¹¹ "And I gave them My statutes and showed them My judgments, 'which, if a man does, he shall live by them.'

¹² "Moreover I also gave them My Sabbaths, to be a sign between them and Me, that they might know that I am the LORD who sanctifies them.

¹³ "Yet the house of Israel rebelled against Me in the wilderness; they did not walk in My statutes; they despised My judgments, 'which, if a man does, he shall live by them'; and they greatly defiled My Sabbaths. Then I said I would pour out My fury on them in the wilderness, to consume them.

¹⁴ "But I acted for My name's sake, that it should not be profaned before the Gentiles, in whose sight I had brought them out.

¹⁵ "So I also raised My hand in an oath to them in the wilderness, that I would not bring them into the land which I had given them, 'flowing with milk and honey,' the glory of all lands,

¹⁶ "because they despised My judgments and did not walk in My statutes, but profaned My Sabbaths; for their heart went after their idols.

¹⁷ "Nevertheless My eye spared them from destruction. I did not make an end of them in the wilderness.

¹⁸ "But I said to their children in the wilderness, 'Do not walk in the statutes of your fathers, nor observe their judgments, nor defile yourselves with their idols.

¹⁹ 'I am the LORD your God: Walk in My statutes, keep My judgments, and do them;

²⁰ 'hallow My Sabbaths, and they will be a sign between Me and you, that you may know that I am the LORD your God.'

²¹ "Notwithstanding, the children rebelled against Me; they did not walk in My statutes, and were not careful to observe My judgments, 'which, if a man does, he shall live by them'; but they profaned My Sabbaths. Then I said I would pour out My fury on them and fulfill My anger against them in the wilderness.

²² "Nevertheless I withdrew My hand and acted for My name's sake, that it should not be profaned in the sight of the Gentiles, in whose sight I had brought them out.

²³ "Also I raised My hand in an oath to those in the wilderness, that I would scatter them among the Gentiles and disperse them throughout the countries,

²⁴ "because they had not executed My judgments, but had despised My statutes, profaned My Sabbaths, and their eyes were fixed on their fathers' idols.

²⁵ "Therefore I also gave them up to statutes that were not good, and judgments by which they could not live;

²⁶ "and I pronounced them unclean because of their ritual gifts, in that they caused all their firstborn to pass through the fire, that I might make them desolate and that they might know that I am the LORD."

²⁷ "Therefore, son of man, speak to the house of Israel, and say to them, 'Thus says the Lord GOD: "In this too your fathers have blasphemed Me, by being unfaithful to Me.

²⁸ "When I brought them into the land concerning which I had raised My hand in an oath to give them, and they saw

all the high hills and all the thick trees, there they offered their sacrifices and provoked Me with their offerings. There they also sent up their sweet aroma and poured out their drink offerings.

²⁹ "Then I said to them, 'What is this high place to which you go?' So its name is called Bamah to this day."

³⁰ "Therefore say to the house of Israel, 'Thus says the Lord GOD: "Are you defiling yourselves in the manner of your fathers, and committing harlotry according to their abominations?"

³¹ "For when you offer your gifts and make your sons pass through the fire, you defile yourselves with all your idols, even to this day. So shall I be inquired of by you, O house of Israel? As I live," says the Lord GOD, "I will not be inquired of by you.

³² "What you have in your mind shall never be, when you say, 'We will be like

the Gentiles, like the families in other countries, serving wood and stone.'

³³ "As I live," says the Lord GOD, "surely with a mighty hand, with an outstretched arm, and with fury poured out, I will rule over you.

³⁴ "I will bring you out from the peoples and gather you out of the countries where you are scattered, with a mighty hand, with an outstretched arm, and with fury poured out.

³⁵ "And I will bring you into the wilderness of the peoples, and there I will plead My case with you face to face.

³⁶ "Just as I pleaded My case with your fathers in the wilderness of the land of Egypt, so I will plead My case with you," says the Lord GOD.

³⁷ "I will make you pass under the rod, and I will bring you into the bond of the covenant;

³⁸ "I will purge the rebels from among you, and those who transgress against Me; I will bring them out of the country where they dwell, but they shall not enter the land of Israel. Then you will know that I am the LORD.

³⁹ "As for you, O house of Israel," thus says the Lord GOD: "Go, serve every one of you his idols—and hereafter—if you will not obey me; but profane My holy name no more with your gifts and your idols.

⁴⁰ "For on My holy mountain, on the mountain height of Israel," says the Lord GOD, "there all the house of Israel, all of them in the land, shall serve Me; there I will accept them, and there I will require your offerings and the firstfruits of your sacrifices, together with all your holy things.

⁴¹ "I will accept you as a sweet aroma when I bring you out from the peoples

and gather you out of the countries where you have been scattered; and I will be hallowed in you before the Gentiles.

⁴² "Then you shall know that I am the LORD, when I bring you into the land of Israel, into the country for which I raised My hand in an oath to give to your fathers.

⁴³ "And there you shall remember your ways and all your doings with which you were defiled; and you shall loathe yourselves in your own sight because of all the evils that you have committed.

⁴⁴ "Then you shall know that I am the LORD, when I have dealt with you for My name's sake, not according to your wicked ways nor according to your corrupt doings, O house of Israel," says the Lord GOD."

⁴⁵ Furthermore the word of the LORD came to me, saying,

⁴⁶ "Son of man, set your face toward the south; preach against the south and prophesy against the forest land, the South,

⁴⁷ "and say to the forest of the South, 'Hear the word of the LORD! Thus says the Lord GOD: "Behold, I will kindle a fire in you, and it shall devour every green tree and every dry tree in you; the blazing flame shall not be quenched, and all faces from the south to the north shall be scorched by it.

⁴⁸ "All flesh shall see that I, the LORD, have kindled it; it shall not be quenched.'"

⁴⁹ Then I said, "Ah, Lord GOD! They say of me, 'Does he not speak parables?'"

21 ¹ And the word of the LORD came to me, saying,

² "Son of man, set your face toward Jerusalem, preach against the holy

places, and prophesy against the land of Israel;

³ "and say to the land of Israel, 'Thus says the LORD: "Behold, I am against you, and I will draw My sword out of its sheath and cut off both righteous and wicked from you.

⁴ "Because I will cut off both righteous and wicked from you, therefore My sword shall go out of its sheath against all flesh from south to north,

⁵ "that all flesh may know that I, the LORD, have drawn My sword out of its sheath; it shall not return anymore."

⁶ "Sigh therefore, son of man, with a breaking heart, and sigh with bitterness before their eyes.

⁷ "And it shall be when they say to you, 'Why are you sighing?' that you shall answer, 'Because of the news; when it comes, every heart will melt, all hands will be feeble, every spirit will faint, and

all knees will be weak as water. Behold, it is coming and shall be brought to pass,' says the Lord GOD."

⁸ Again the word of the LORD came to me, saying,

⁹ "Son of man, prophesy and say, 'Thus says the LORD!' Say: 'A sword, a sword is sharpened And also polished!

¹⁰ Sharpened to make a dreadful slaughter, Polished to flash like lightning! Should we then make mirth? It despises the scepter of My Son, As it does all wood.

¹¹ And He has given it to be polished, That it may be handled; This sword is sharpened, and it is polished To be given into the hand of the slayer.'

¹² "Cry and wail, son of man; For it will be against My people, Against all the princes of Israel. Terrors including the sword will be against My people; Therefore strike your thigh.

¹³ "Because it is a testing, And what if the sword despises even the scepter? The scepter shall be no more," says the Lord GOD.

¹⁴ "You therefore, son of man, prophesy, And strike your hands together. The third time let the sword do double damage. It is the sword that slays, The sword that slays the great men, That enters their private chambers.

¹⁵ I have set the point of the sword against all their gates, That the heart may melt and many may stumble. Ah! It is made bright; It is grasped for slaughter:

¹⁶ "Swords at the ready! Thrust right! Set your blade! Thrust left—Wherever your edge is ordered!

¹⁷ "I also will beat My fists together, And I will cause My fury to rest; I, the LORD, have spoken."

¹⁸ The word of the LORD came to me again, saying:

¹⁹ "And son of man, appoint for yourself two ways for the sword of the king of Babylon to go; both of them shall go from the same land. Make a sign; put it at the head of the road to the city.

²⁰ "Appoint a road for the sword to go to Rabbah of the Ammonites, and to Judah, into fortified Jerusalem.

²¹ "For the king of Babylon stands at the parting of the road, at the fork of the two roads, to use divination: he shakes the arrows, he consults the images, he looks at the liver.

²² "In his right hand is the divination for Jerusalem: to set up battering rams, to call for a slaughter, to lift the voice with shouting, to set battering rams against the gates, to heap up a siege mound, and to build a wall.

²³ "And it will be to them like a false divination in the eyes of those who have sworn oaths with them; but he will bring their iniquity to remembrance, that they may be taken.

²⁴ "Therefore thus says the Lord GOD: 'Because you have made your iniquity to be remembered, in that your transgressions are uncovered, so that in all your doings your sins appear—because you have come to remembrance, you shall be taken in hand.

²⁵ 'Now to you, O profane, wicked prince of Israel, whose day has come, whose iniquity shall end,

²⁶ 'thus says the Lord GOD: "Remove the turban, and take off the crown; Nothing shall remain the same. Exalt the humble, and humble the exalted.

²⁷ Overthrown, overthrown, I will make it overthrown! It shall be no longer, Until

He comes whose right it is, And I will give it to Him."

²⁸ "And you, son of man, prophesy and say, 'Thus says the Lord GOD concerning the Ammonites and concerning their reproach,' and say: 'A sword, a sword is drawn, Polished for slaughter, For consuming, for flashing—

²⁹ While they see false visions for you, While they divine a lie to you, To bring you on the necks of the wicked, the slain Whose day has come, Whose iniquity shall end.

³⁰ 'Return it to its sheath. I will judge you In the place where you were created, In the land of your nativity.

³¹ I will pour out My indignation on you; I will blow against you with the fire of My wrath, And deliver you into the hands of brutal men who are skillful to destroy.

³² You shall be fuel for the fire; Your blood shall be in the midst of the land.

You shall not be remembered, For I the LORD have spoken.'"

22 ¹ Moreover the word of the LORD came to me, saying,

² "Now, son of man, will you judge, will you judge the bloody city? Yes, show her all her abominations!

³ "Then say, 'Thus says the Lord GOD: "The city sheds blood in her own midst, that her time may come; and she makes idols within herself to defile herself.

⁴ "You have become guilty by the blood which you have shed, and have defiled yourself with the idols which you have made. You have caused your days to draw near, and have come to the end of your years; therefore I have made you a reproach to the nations, and a mockery to all countries.

⁵ "Those near and those far from you will mock you as infamous and full of tumult.

⁶ "Look, the princes of Israel: each one has used his power to shed blood in you.

⁷ "In you they have made light of father and mother; in your midst they have oppressed the stranger; in you they have mistreated the fatherless and the widow.

⁸ "You have despised My holy things and profaned My Sabbaths.

⁹ "In you are men who slander to cause bloodshed; in you are those who eat on the mountains; in your midst they commit lewdness.

¹⁰ "In you men uncover their fathers' nakedness; in you they violate women who are set apart during their impurity.

¹¹ "One commits abomination with his neighbor's wife; another lewdly defiles his daughter-in-law; and another in you violates his sister, his father's daughter.

¹² "In you they take bribes to shed blood; you take usury and increase; you have made profit from your neighbors

by extortion, and have forgotten Me," says the Lord GOD.

¹³ "Behold, therefore, I beat My fists at the dishonest profit which you have made, and at the bloodshed which has been in your midst.

¹⁴ "Can your heart endure, or can your hands remain strong, in the days when I shall deal with you? I, the LORD, have spoken, and will do it.

¹⁵ "I will scatter you among the nations, disperse you throughout the countries, and remove your filthiness completely from you.

¹⁶ "You shall defile yourself in the sight of the nations; then you shall know that I am the LORD."'"

¹⁷ The word of the LORD came to me, saying,

¹⁸ "Son of man, the house of Israel has become dross to Me; they are all bronze, tin, iron, and lead, in the midst of a

furnace; they have become dross from silver.

¹⁹ "Therefore thus says the Lord GOD: 'Because you have all become dross, therefore behold, I will gather you into the midst of Jerusalem.

²⁰ 'As men gather silver, bronze, iron, lead, and tin into the midst of a furnace, to blow fire on it, to melt it; so I will gather you in My anger and in My fury, and I will leave you there and melt you.

²¹ 'Yes, I will gather you and blow on you with the fire of My wrath, and you shall be melted in its midst.

²² 'As silver is melted in the midst of a furnace, so shall you be melted in its midst; then you shall know that I, the LORD, have poured out My fury on you.'"

²³ And the word of the LORD came to me, saying,

²⁴ "Son of man, say to her: 'You are a land that is not cleansed or rained on in the day of indignation.'

²⁵ "The conspiracy of her prophets in her midst is like a roaring lion tearing the prey; they have devoured people; they have taken treasure and precious things; they have made many widows in her midst.

²⁶ "Her priests have violated My law and profaned My holy things; they have not distinguished between the holy and unholy, nor have they made known the difference between the unclean and the clean; and they have hidden their eyes from My Sabbaths, so that I am profaned among them.

²⁷ "Her princes in her midst are like wolves tearing the prey, to shed blood, to destroy people, and to get dishonest gain.

²⁸ "Her prophets plastered them with untempered mortar, seeing false visions, and divining lies for them, saying, 'Thus says the Lord GOD,' when the LORD had not spoken.

²⁹ "The people of the land have used oppressions, committed robbery, and mistreated the poor and needy; and they wrongfully oppress the stranger.

³⁰ "So I sought for a man among them who would make a wall, and stand in the gap before Me on behalf of the land, that I should not destroy it; but I found no one.

³¹ "Therefore I have poured out My indignation on them; I have consumed them with the fire of My wrath; and I have recompensed their deeds on their own heads," says the Lord GOD.

23 ¹ The word of the LORD came again to me, saying:

² "Son of man, there were two women,
The daughters of one mother.

³ They committed harlotry in Egypt,
They committed harlotry in their youth;
Their breasts were there embraced,
Their virgin bosom was there pressed.

⁴ Their names: Oholah the elder and
Oholibah her sister; They were Mine,
And they bore sons and daughters. As
for their names, Samaria is Oholah, and
Jerusalem is Oholibah.

⁵ "Oholah played the harlot even
though she was Mine; And she lusted for
her lovers, the neighboring Assyrians,

⁶ Who were clothed in purple, Captains
and rulers, All of them desirable young
men, Horsemen riding on horses.

⁷ Thus she committed her harlotry with
them, All of them choice men of Assyria;
And with all for whom she lusted, With
all their idols, she defiled herself.

⁸ She has never given up her harlotry brought from Egypt, For in her youth they had lain with her, Pressed her virgin bosom, And poured out their immorality upon her.

⁹ "Therefore I have delivered her Into the hand of her lovers, Into the hand of the Assyrians, For whom she lusted.

¹⁰ They uncovered her nakedness, Took away her sons and daughters, And slew her with the sword; She became a byword among women, For they had executed judgment on her.

¹¹ "Now although her sister Oholibah saw this, she became more corrupt in her lust than she, and in her harlotry more corrupt than her sister's harlotry.

¹² "She lusted for the neighboring Assyrians, Captains and rulers, Clothed most gorgeously, Horsemen riding on horses, All of them desirable young men.

¹³ Then I saw that she was defiled; Both took the same way.

¹⁴ But she increased her harlotry; She looked at men portrayed on the wall, Images of Chaldeans portrayed in vermilion,

¹⁵ Girded with belts around their waists, Flowing turbans on their heads, All of them looking like captains, In the manner of the Babylonians of Chaldea, The land of their nativity.

¹⁶ As soon as her eyes saw them, She lusted for them And sent messengers to them in Chaldea.

¹⁷ "Then the Babylonians came to her, into the bed of love, And they defiled her with their immorality; So she was defiled by them, and alienated herself from them.

¹⁸ She revealed her harlotry and uncovered her nakedness. Then I

alienated Myself from her, As I had alienated Myself from her sister.

¹⁹ "Yet she multiplied her harlotry In calling to remembrance the days of her youth, When she had played the harlot in the land of Egypt.

²⁰ For she lusted for her paramours, Whose flesh is like the flesh of donkeys, And whose issue is like the issue of horses.

²¹ Thus you called to remembrance the lewdness of your youth, When the Egyptians pressed your bosom Because of your youthful breasts.

²² "Therefore, Oholibah, thus says the Lord GOD: 'Behold, I will stir up your lovers against you, From whom you have alienated yourself, And I will bring them against you from every side:

²³ The Babylonians, All the Chaldeans, Pekod, Shoa, Koa, All the Assyrians with them, All of them desirable young men,

Governors and rulers, Captains and men
of renown, All of them riding on horses.

²⁴ And they shall come against you
With chariots, wagons, and war-horses,
With a horde of people. They shall array
against you Buckler, shield, and helmet
all around. 'I will delegate judgment to
them, And they shall judge you according
to their judgments.

²⁵ I will set My jealousy against you,
And they shall deal furiously with you;
They shall remove your nose and your
ears, And your remnant shall fall by the
sword; They shall take your sons and
your daughters, And your remnant shall
be devoured by fire.

²⁶ They shall also strip you of your
clothes And take away your beautiful
jewelry.

²⁷ 'Thus I will make you cease your
lewdness and your harlotry Brought
from the land of Egypt, So that you

will not lift your eyes to them, Nor remember Egypt anymore.'

²⁸ "For thus says the Lord GOD: 'Surely I will deliver you into the hand of those you hate, into the hand of those from whom you alienated yourself.

²⁹ 'They will deal hatefully with you, take away all you have worked for, and leave you naked and bare. The nakedness of your harlotry shall be uncovered, both your lewdness and your harlotry.

³⁰ 'I will do these things to you because you have gone as a harlot after the Gentiles, because you have become defiled by their idols.

³¹ 'You have walked in the way of your sister; therefore I will put her cup in your hand.'

³² "Thus says the Lord GOD: 'You shall drink of your sister's cup, The deep and

wide one; You shall be laughed to scorn
And held in derision; It contains much.

³³ You will be filled with drunkenness
and sorrow, The cup of horror and
desolation, The cup of your sister
Samaria.

³⁴ You shall drink and drain it, You shall
break its shards, And tear at your own
breasts; For I have spoken,' Says the Lord
GOD.

³⁵ "Therefore thus says the Lord GOD:
'Because you have forgotten Me and
cast Me behind your back, Therefore you
shall bear the penalty Of your lewdness
and your harlotry.'"

³⁶ The LORD also said to me: "Son
of man, will you judge Oholah and
Oholibah? Then declare to them their
abominations.

³⁷ "For they have committed adultery,
and blood is on their hands. They have
committed adultery with their idols, and

even sacrificed their sons whom they bore to Me, passing them through the fire, to devour them.

³⁸ "Moreover they have done this to Me: They have defiled My sanctuary on the same day and profaned My Sabbaths.

³⁹ "For after they had slain their children for their idols, on the same day they came into My sanctuary to profane it; and indeed thus they have done in the midst of My house.

⁴⁰ "Furthermore you sent for men to come from afar, to whom a messenger was sent; and there they came. And you washed yourself for them, painted your eyes, and adorned yourself with ornaments.

⁴¹ "You sat on a stately couch, with a table prepared before it, on which you had set My incense and My oil.

⁴² "The sound of a carefree multitude was with her, and Sabeans were brought from the wilderness with men of the common sort, who put bracelets on their wrists and beautiful crowns on their heads.

⁴³ "Then I said concerning her who had grown old in adulteries, 'Will they commit harlotry with her now, and she with them?'

⁴⁴ "Yet they went in to her, as men go in to a woman who plays the harlot; thus they went in to Oholah and Oholibah, the lewd women.

⁴⁵ "But righteous men will judge them after the manner of adulteresses, and after the manner of women who shed blood, because they are adulteresses, and blood is on their hands.

⁴⁶ "For thus says the Lord GOD: 'Bring up an assembly against them, give them up to trouble and plunder.

⁴⁷ ‘The assembly shall stone them with stones and execute them with their swords; they shall slay their sons and their daughters, and burn their houses with fire.

⁴⁸ ‘Thus I will cause lewdness to cease from the land, that all women may be taught not to practice your lewdness.

⁴⁹ ‘They shall repay you for your lewdness, and you shall pay for your idolatrous sins. Then you shall know that I am the Lord GOD.’”

24 ¹ Again, in the ninth year, in the tenth month, on the tenth day of the month, the word of the LORD came to me, saying,

² “Son of man, write down the name of the day, this very day—the king of Babylon started his siege against Jerusalem this very day.

³ “And utter a parable to the rebellious house, and say to them, ‘Thus says the

Lord GOD: "Put on a pot, set it on, And also pour water into it.

⁴ Gather pieces of meat in it, Every good piece, The thigh and the shoulder. Fill it with choice cuts;

⁵ Take the choice of the flock. Also pile fuel bones under it, Make it boil well, And let the cuts simmer in it."

⁶ 'Therefore thus says the Lord GOD: "Woe to the bloody city, To the pot whose scum is in it, And whose scum is not gone from it! Bring it out piece by piece, On which no lot has fallen.

⁷ For her blood is in her midst; She set it on top of a rock; She did not pour it on the ground, To cover it with dust.

⁸ That it may raise up fury and take vengeance, I have set her blood on top of a rock, That it may not be covered."

⁹ 'Therefore thus says the Lord GOD: "Woe to the bloody city! I too will make the pyre great.

¹⁰ Heap on the wood, Kindle the fire;
Cook the meat well, Mix in the spices,
And let the cuts be burned up.

¹¹ "Then set the pot empty on the
coals, That it may become hot and its
bronze may burn, That its filthiness may
be melted in it, That its scum may be
consumed.

¹² She has grown weary with lies, And
her great scum has not gone from her.
Let her scum be in the fire!

¹³ In your filthiness is lewdness.
Because I have cleansed you, and you
were not cleansed, You will not be
cleansed of your filthiness anymore, Till I
have caused My fury to rest upon you.

¹⁴ I, the LORD, have spoken it; It shall
come to pass, and I will do it; I will not
hold back, Nor will I spare, Nor will
I relent; According to your ways And
according to your deeds They will judge
you," Says the Lord GOD."

¹⁵ Also the word of the LORD came to me, saying,

¹⁶ "Son of man, behold, I take away from you the desire of your eyes with one stroke; yet you shall neither mourn nor weep, nor shall your tears run down.

¹⁷ "Sigh in silence, make no mourning for the dead; bind your turban on your head, and put your sandals on your feet; do not cover your lips, and do not eat man's bread of sorrow."

¹⁸ So I spoke to the people in the morning, and at evening my wife died; and the next morning I did as I was commanded.

¹⁹ And the people said to me, "Will you not tell us what these things signify to us, that you behave so?"

²⁰ Then I answered them, "The word of the LORD came to me, saying,

²¹ 'Speak to the house of Israel, "Thus says the Lord GOD: 'Behold, I will profane

My sanctuary, your arrogant boast, the desire of your eyes, the delight of your soul; and your sons and daughters whom you left behind shall fall by the sword.

²² 'And you shall do as I have done; you shall not cover your lips nor eat man's bread of sorrow.

²³ 'Your turbans shall be on your heads and your sandals on your feet; you shall neither mourn nor weep, but you shall pine away in your iniquities and mourn with one another.

²⁴ 'Thus Ezekiel is a sign to you; according to all that he has done you shall do; and when this comes, you shall know that I am the Lord GOD.'"

²⁵ 'And you, son of man—will it not be in the day when I take from them their stronghold, their joy and their glory, the desire of their eyes, and that on which they set their minds, their sons and their daughters:

²⁶ 'that on that day one who escapes will come to you to let you hear it with your ears?

²⁷ 'On that day your mouth will be opened to him who has escaped; you shall speak and no longer be mute. Thus you will be a sign to them, and they shall know that I am the LORD.'

25 ¹ The word of the LORD came to me, saying,

² "Son of man, set your face against the Ammonites, and prophesy against them.

³ "Say to the Ammonites, 'Hear the word of the Lord GOD! Thus says the Lord GOD: "Because you said, 'Aha!' against My sanctuary when it was profaned, and against the land of Israel when it was desolate, and against the house of Judah when they went into captivity,

⁴ "indeed, therefore, I will deliver you as a possession to the men of the East,

and they shall set their encampments among you and make their dwellings among you; they shall eat your fruit, and they shall drink your milk.

⁵ "And I will make Rabbah a stable for camels and Ammon a resting place for flocks. Then you shall know that I am the LORD."

⁶ 'For thus says the Lord GOD: "Because you clapped your hands, stamped your feet, and rejoiced in heart with all your disdain for the land of Israel,

⁷ "indeed, therefore, I will stretch out My hand against you, and give you as plunder to the nations; I will cut you off from the peoples, and I will cause you to perish from the countries; I will destroy you, and you shall know that I am the LORD."

⁸ 'Thus says the Lord GOD: "Because Moab and Seir say, 'Look! The house of Judah is like all the nations,'

⁹ "therefore, behold, I will clear the territory of Moab of cities, of the cities on its frontier, the glory of the country, Beth Jeshimoth, Baal Meon, and Kirjathaim.

¹⁰ "To the men of the East I will give it as a possession, together with the Ammonites, that the Ammonites may not be remembered among the nations.

¹¹ "And I will execute judgments upon Moab, and they shall know that I am the LORD."

¹² 'Thus says the Lord GOD: "Because of what Edom did against the house of Judah by taking vengeance, and has greatly offended by avenging itself on them,"

¹³ 'therefore thus says the Lord GOD: "I will also stretch out My hand against Edom, cut off man and beast from it, and make it desolate from Teman; Dedan shall fall by the sword.

¹⁴ "I will lay My vengeance on Edom by the hand of My people Israel, that they may do in Edom according to My anger and according to My fury; and they shall know My vengeance," says the Lord GOD.

¹⁵ 'Thus says the Lord GOD: "Because the Philistines dealt vengefully and took vengeance with a spiteful heart, to destroy because of the old hatred,"

¹⁶ 'therefore thus says the Lord GOD: "I will stretch out My hand against the Philistines, and I will cut off the Cherethites and destroy the remnant of the seacoast.

¹⁷ "I will execute great vengeance on them with furious rebukes; and they shall know that I am the LORD, when I lay My vengeance upon them."'"

26 ¹ And it came to pass in the eleventh year, on the first day of

the month, that the word of the LORD came to me, saying,

² "Son of man, because Tyre has said against Jerusalem, 'Aha! She is broken who was the gateway of the peoples; now she is turned over to me; I shall be filled; she is laid waste.'

³ "Therefore thus says the Lord GOD: 'Behold, I am against you, O Tyre, and will cause many nations to come up against you, as the sea causes its waves to come up.

⁴ 'And they shall destroy the walls of Tyre and break down her towers; I will also scrape her dust from her, and make her like the top of a rock.

⁵ 'It shall be a place for spreading nets in the midst of the sea, for I have spoken,' says the Lord GOD; 'it shall become plunder for the nations.

⁶ 'Also her daughter villages which are in the fields shall be slain by the sword.

Then they shall know that I am the LORD.'

⁷ "For thus says the Lord GOD: 'Behold, I will bring against Tyre from the north Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon, king of kings, with horses, with chariots, and with horsemen, and an army with many people.

⁸ 'He will slay with the sword your daughter villages in the fields; he will heap up a siege mound against you, build a wall against you, and raise a defense against you.

⁹ 'He will direct his battering rams against your walls, and with his axes he will break down your towers.

¹⁰ 'Because of the abundance of his horses, their dust will cover you; your walls will shake at the noise of the horsemen, the wagons, and the chariots, when he enters your gates, as men enter a city that has been breached.

¹¹ 'With the hooves of his horses he will trample all your streets; he will slay your people by the sword, and your strong pillars will fall to the ground.

¹² 'They will plunder your riches and pillage your merchandise; they will break down your walls and destroy your pleasant houses; they will lay your stones, your timber, and your soil in the midst of the water.

¹³ 'I will put an end to the sound of your songs, and the sound of your harps shall be heard no more.

¹⁴ 'I will make you like the top of a rock; you shall be a place for spreading nets, and you shall never be rebuilt, for I the LORD have spoken,' says the Lord GOD.

¹⁵ "Thus says the Lord GOD to Tyre: 'Will the coastlands not shake at the sound of your fall, when the wounded cry, when slaughter is made in the midst of you?

¹⁶ 'Then all the princes of the sea will come down from their thrones, lay aside their robes, and take off their embroidered garments; they will clothe themselves with trembling; they will sit on the ground, tremble every moment, and be astonished at you.

¹⁷ 'And they will take up a lamentation for you, and say to you: "How you have perished, O one inhabited by seafaring men, O renowned city, Who was strong at sea, She and her inhabitants, Who caused their terror to be on all her inhabitants!

¹⁸ Now the coastlands tremble on the day of your fall; Yes, the coastlands by the sea are troubled at your departure."

¹⁹ "For thus says the Lord GOD: 'When I make you a desolate city, like cities that are not inhabited, when I bring the deep upon you, and great waters cover you,

²⁰ 'then I will bring you down with those who descend into the Pit, to the people of old, and I will make you dwell in the lowest part of the earth, in places desolate from antiquity, with those who go down to the Pit, so that you may never be inhabited; and I shall establish glory in the land of the living.

²¹ 'I will make you a terror, and you shall be no more; though you are sought for, you will never be found again,' says the Lord GOD."

27 ¹ The word of the LORD came again to me, saying,

² "Now, son of man, take up a lamentation for Tyre,

³ "and say to Tyre, 'You who are situated at the entrance of the sea, merchant of the peoples on many coastlands, thus says the Lord GOD: "O Tyre, you have said, 'I am perfect in beauty.'

⁴ Your borders are in the midst of the seas. Your builders have perfected your beauty.

⁵ They made all your planks of fir trees from Senir; They took a cedar from Lebanon to make you a mast.

⁶ Of oaks from Bashan they made your oars; The company of Ashurites have inlaid your planks With ivory from the coasts of Cyprus.

⁷ Fine embroidered linen from Egypt was what you spread for your sail; Blue and purple from the coasts of Elishah was what covered you.

⁸ "Inhabitants of Sidon and Arvad were your oarsmen; Your wise men, O Tyre, were in you; They became your pilots.

⁹ Elders of Gebal and its wise men Were in you to caulk your seams; All the ships of the sea And their oarsmen were in you To market your merchandise.

¹⁰ "Those from Persia, Lydia, and Libya
Were in your army as men of war; They
hung shield and helmet in you; They
gave splendor to you.

¹¹ Men of Arvad with your army were
on your walls all around, And the men
of Gammad were in your towers; They
hung their shields on your walls all
around; They made your beauty perfect.

¹² "Tarshish was your merchant because
of your many luxury goods. They gave
you silver, iron, tin, and lead for your
goods.

¹³ "Javan, Tubal, and Meshech were
your traders. They bartered human
lives and vessels of bronze for your
merchandise.

¹⁴ "Those from the house of Togarmah
traded for your wares with horses,
steeds, and mules.

¹⁵ "The men of Dedan were your
traders; many isles were the market of

your hand. They brought you ivory tusks and ebony as payment.

¹⁶ "Syria was your merchant because of the abundance of goods you made. They gave you for your wares emeralds, purple, embroidery, fine linen, corals, and rubies.

¹⁷ "Judah and the land of Israel were your traders. They traded for your merchandise wheat of Minnith, millet, honey, oil, and balm.

¹⁸ "Damascus was your merchant because of the abundance of goods you made, because of your many luxury items, with the wine of Helbon and with white wool.

¹⁹ "Dan and Javan paid for your wares, traversing back and forth. Wrought iron, cassia, and cane were among your merchandise.

²⁰ "Dedan was your merchant in saddlecloths for riding.

²¹ "Arabia and all the princes of Kedar were your regular merchants. They traded with you in lambs, rams, and goats.

²² "The merchants of Sheba and Raamah were your merchants. They traded for your wares the choicest spices, all kinds of precious stones, and gold.

²³ "Haran, Canneh, Eden, the merchants of Sheba, Assyria, and Chilmad were your merchants.

²⁴ "These were your merchants in choice items—in purple clothes, in embroidered garments, in chests of multicolored apparel, in sturdy woven cords, which were in your marketplace.

²⁵ "The ships of Tarshish were carriers of your merchandise. You were filled and very glorious in the midst of the seas.

²⁶ Your oarsmen brought you into many waters, But the east wind broke you in the midst of the seas.

²⁷ "Your riches, wares, and merchandise, Your mariners and pilots, Your caulkers and merchandisers, All your men of war who are in you, And the entire company which is in your midst, Will fall into the midst of the seas on the day of your ruin.

²⁸ The common-land will shake at the sound of the cry of your pilots.

²⁹ "All who handle the oar, The mariners, All the pilots of the sea Will come down from their ships and stand on the shore.

³⁰ They will make their voice heard because of you; They will cry bitterly and cast dust on their heads; They will roll about in ashes;

³¹ They will shave themselves completely bald because of you, Gird

themselves with sackcloth, And weep for you With bitterness of heart and bitter wailing.

³² In their wailing for you They will take up a lamentation, And lament for you: 'What city is like Tyre, Destroyed in the midst of the sea?

³³ 'When your wares went out by sea, You satisfied many people; You enriched the kings of the earth With your many luxury goods and your merchandise.

³⁴ But you are broken by the seas in the depths of the waters; Your merchandise and the entire company will fall in your midst.

³⁵ All the inhabitants of the isles will be astonished at you; Their kings will be greatly afraid, And their countenance will be troubled.

³⁶ The merchants among the peoples will hiss at you; You will become a horror, and be no more forever.'""

28 ¹ The word of the LORD came to me again, saying,

² "Son of man, say to the prince of Tyre, 'Thus says the Lord GOD: "Because your heart is lifted up, And you say, 'I am a god, I sit in the seat of gods, In the midst of the seas,' Yet you are a man, and not a god, Though you set your heart as the heart of a god

³ (Behold, you are wiser than Daniel! There is no secret that can be hidden from you!

⁴ With your wisdom and your understanding You have gained riches for yourself, And gathered gold and silver into your treasuries;

⁵ By your great wisdom in trade you have increased your riches, And your heart is lifted up because of your riches),"

⁶ 'Therefore thus says the Lord GOD:
"Because you have set your heart as the
heart of a god,

⁷ Behold, therefore, I will bring
strangers against you, The most terrible
of the nations; And they shall draw
their swords against the beauty of your
wisdom, And defile your splendor.

⁸ They shall throw you down into the
Pit, And you shall die the death of the
slain In the midst of the seas.

⁹ "Will you still say before him who
slays you, 'I am a god'? But you shall be
a man, and not a god, In the hand of him
who slays you.

¹⁰ You shall die the death of the
uncircumcised By the hand of aliens; For
I have spoken," says the Lord GOD."

¹¹ Moreover the word of the LORD
came to me, saying,

¹² "Son of man, take up a lamentation
for the king of Tyre, and say to him, 'Thus

says the Lord GOD: "You were the seal of perfection, Full of wisdom and perfect in beauty.

¹³ You were in Eden, the garden of God; Every precious stone was your covering: The sardius, topaz, and diamond, Beryl, onyx, and jasper, Sapphire, turquoise, and emerald with gold. The workmanship of your timbrels and pipes Was prepared for you on the day you were created.

¹⁴ "You were the anointed cherub who covers; I established you; You were on the holy mountain of God; You walked back and forth in the midst of fiery stones.

¹⁵ You were perfect in your ways from the day you were created, Till iniquity was found in you.

¹⁶ "By the abundance of your trading You became filled with violence within, And you sinned; Therefore I cast you as

a profane thing Out of the mountain of God; And I destroyed you, O covering cherub, From the midst of the fiery stones.

¹⁷ "Your heart was lifted up because of your beauty; You corrupted your wisdom for the sake of your splendor; I cast you to the ground, I laid you before kings, That they might gaze at you.

¹⁸ "You defiled your sanctuaries By the multitude of your iniquities, By the iniquity of your trading; Therefore I brought fire from your midst; It devoured you, And I turned you to ashes upon the earth In the sight of all who saw you.

¹⁹ All who knew you among the peoples are astonished at you; You have become a horror, And shall be no more forever."'"

²⁰ Then the word of the LORD came to me, saying,

²¹ "Son of man, set your face toward Sidon, and prophesy against her,

²² "and say, 'Thus says the Lord GOD: "Behold, I am against you, O Sidon; I will be glorified in your midst; And they shall know that I am the LORD, When I execute judgments in her and am hallowed in her.

²³ For I will send pestilence upon her, And blood in her streets; The wounded shall be judged in her midst By the sword against her on every side; Then they shall know that I am the LORD.

²⁴ "And there shall no longer be a pricking brier or a painful thorn for the house of Israel from among all who are around them, who despise them. Then they shall know that I am the Lord GOD."

²⁵ 'Thus says the Lord GOD: "When I have gathered the house of Israel from the peoples among whom they are scattered, and am hallowed in them in the sight of the Gentiles, then they will

dwell in their own land which I gave to My servant Jacob.

²⁶ "And they will dwell safely there, build houses, and plant vineyards; yes, they will dwell securely, when I execute judgments on all those around them who despise them. Then they shall know that I am the LORD their God."''

29 ¹ In the tenth year, in the tenth month, on the twelfth day of the month, the word of the LORD came to me, saying,

² "Son of man, set your face against Pharaoh king of Egypt, and prophesy against him, and against all Egypt.

³ "Speak, and say, 'Thus says the Lord GOD: "Behold, I am against you, O Pharaoh king of Egypt, O great monster who lies in the midst of his rivers, Who has said, 'My River is my own; I have made it for myself.'

⁴ But I will put hooks in your jaws, And cause the fish of your rivers to stick to your scales; I will bring you up out of the midst of your rivers, And all the fish in your rivers will stick to your scales.

⁵ I will leave you in the wilderness, You and all the fish of your rivers; You shall fall on the open field; You shall not be picked up or gathered. I have given you as food To the beasts of the field And to the birds of the heavens.

⁶ "Then all the inhabitants of Egypt Shall know that I am the LORD, Because they have been a staff of reed to the house of Israel.

⁷ When they took hold of you with the hand, You broke and tore all their shoulders; When they leaned on you, You broke and made all their backs quiver."

⁸ 'Therefore thus says the Lord GOD:
"Surely I will bring a sword upon you and
cut off from you man and beast.

⁹ "And the land of Egypt shall become
desolate and waste; then they will know
that I am the LORD, because he said,
'The River is mine, and I have made it.'

¹⁰ "Indeed, therefore, I am against you
and against your rivers, and I will make
the land of Egypt utterly waste and
desolate, from Migdol to Syene, as far as
the border of Ethiopia.

¹¹ "Neither foot of man shall pass
through it nor foot of beast pass through
it, and it shall be uninhabited forty years.

¹² "I will make the land of Egypt
desolate in the midst of the countries
that are desolate; and among the
cities that are laid waste, her cities
shall be desolate forty years; and I will
scatter the Egyptians among the nations

and disperse them throughout the countries."

¹³ 'Yet, thus says the Lord GOD: "At the end of forty years I will gather the Egyptians from the peoples among whom they were scattered.

¹⁴ "I will bring back the captives of Egypt and cause them to return to the land of Pathros, to the land of their origin, and there they shall be a lowly kingdom.

¹⁵ "It shall be the lowliest of kingdoms; it shall never again exalt itself above the nations, for I will diminish them so that they will not rule over the nations anymore.

¹⁶ "No longer shall it be the confidence of the house of Israel, but will remind them of their iniquity when they turned to follow them. Then they shall know that I am the Lord GOD."'"

¹⁷ And it came to pass in the twenty-seventh year, in the first month, on the

first day of the month, that the word of the LORD came to me, saying,

¹⁸ "Son of man, Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon caused his army to labor strenuously against Tyre; every head was made bald, and every shoulder rubbed raw; yet neither he nor his army received wages from Tyre, for the labor which they expended on it.

¹⁹ "Therefore thus says the Lord GOD: 'Surely I will give the land of Egypt to Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon; he shall take away her wealth, carry off her spoil, and remove her pillage; and that will be the wages for his army.

²⁰ 'I have given him the land of Egypt for his labor, because they worked for Me,' says the Lord GOD.

²¹ 'In that day I will cause the horn of the house of Israel to spring forth, and I will open your mouth to speak in their

midst. Then they shall know that I am the LORD.'"

30 ¹ The word of the LORD came to me again, saying,

² "Son of man, prophesy and say, 'Thus says the Lord GOD: "Wail, 'Woe to the day!'

³ For the day is near, Even the day of the LORD is near; It will be a day of clouds, the time of the Gentiles.

⁴ The sword shall come upon Egypt, And great anguish shall be in Ethiopia, When the slain fall in Egypt, And they take away her wealth, And her foundations are broken down.

⁵ "Ethiopia, Libya, Lydia, all the mingled people, Chub, and the men of the lands who are allied, shall fall with them by the sword."

⁶ 'Thus says the LORD: "Those who uphold Egypt shall fall, And the pride of her power shall come down. From

Migdol to Syene Those within her shall fall by the sword," Says the Lord GOD.

⁷ "They shall be desolate in the midst of the desolate countries, And her cities shall be in the midst of the cities that are laid waste.

⁸ Then they will know that I am the LORD, When I have set a fire in Egypt And all her helpers are destroyed.

⁹ On that day messengers shall go forth from Me in ships To make the careless Ethiopians afraid, And great anguish shall come upon them, As on the day of Egypt; For indeed it is coming!"

¹⁰ 'Thus says the Lord GOD: "I will also make a multitude of Egypt to cease By the hand of Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon.

¹¹ He and his people with him, the most terrible of the nations, Shall be brought to destroy the land; They shall draw their

swords against Egypt, And fill the land with the slain.

¹² I will make the rivers dry, And sell the land into the hand of the wicked; I will make the land waste, and all that is in it, By the hand of aliens. I, the LORD, have spoken."

¹³ 'Thus says the Lord GOD: "I will also destroy the idols, And cause the images to cease from Noph; There shall no longer be princes from the land of Egypt; I will put fear in the land of Egypt.

¹⁴ I will make Pathros desolate, Set fire to Zoan, And execute judgments in No.

¹⁵ I will pour My fury on Sin, the strength of Egypt; I will cut off the multitude of No,

¹⁶ And set a fire in Egypt; Sin shall have great pain, No shall be split open, And Noph shall be in distress daily.

¹⁷ The young men of Aven and Pi Beseth shall fall by the sword, And these cities shall go into captivity.

¹⁸ At Tehaphnehes the day shall also be darkened, When I break the yokes of Egypt there. And her arrogant strength shall cease in her; As for her, a cloud shall cover her, And her daughters shall go into captivity.

¹⁹ Thus I will execute judgments on Egypt, Then they shall know that I am the LORD."'"

²⁰ And it came to pass in the eleventh year, in the first month, on the seventh day of the month, that the word of the LORD came to me, saying,

²¹ "Son of man, I have broken the arm of Pharaoh king of Egypt; and see, it has not been bandaged for healing, nor a splint put on to bind it, to make it strong enough to hold a sword.

²² "Therefore thus says the Lord GOD: 'Surely I am against Pharaoh king of Egypt, and will break his arms, both the strong one and the one that was broken; and I will make the sword fall out of his hand.

²³ 'I will scatter the Egyptians among the nations, and disperse them throughout the countries.

²⁴ 'I will strengthen the arms of the king of Babylon and put My sword in his hand; but I will break Pharaoh's arms, and he will groan before him with the groanings of a mortally wounded man.

²⁵ 'Thus I will strengthen the arms of the king of Babylon, but the arms of Pharaoh shall fall down; they shall know that I am the LORD, when I put My sword into the hand of the king of Babylon and he stretches it out against the land of Egypt.

²⁶ 'I will scatter the Egyptians among the nations and disperse them throughout the countries. Then they shall know that I am the LORD.'

31 ¹ Now it came to pass in the eleventh year, in the third month, on the first day of the month, that the word of the LORD came to me, saying,

² "Son of man, say to Pharaoh king of Egypt and to his multitude: 'Whom are you like in your greatness?'

³ Indeed Assyria was a cedar in Lebanon, With fine branches that shaded the forest, And of high stature; And its top was among the thick boughs.

⁴ The waters made it grow; Underground waters gave it height, With their rivers running around the place where it was planted, And sent out rivulets to all the trees of the field.

⁵ 'Therefore its height was exalted above all the trees of the field; Its

boughs were multiplied, And its branches became long because of the abundance of water, As it sent them out.

⁶ All the birds of the heavens made their nests in its boughs; Under its branches all the beasts of the field brought forth their young; And in its shadow all great nations made their home.

⁷ 'Thus it was beautiful in greatness and in the length of its branches, Because its roots reached to abundant waters.

⁸ The cedars in the garden of God could not hide it; The fir trees were not like its boughs, And the chestnut trees were not like its branches; No tree in the garden of God was like it in beauty.

⁹ I made it beautiful with a multitude of branches, So that all the trees of Eden envied it, That were in the garden of God.'

¹⁰ "Therefore thus says the Lord GOD: 'Because you have increased in height,

and it set its top among the thick boughs,
and its heart was lifted up in its height,

¹¹ 'therefore I will deliver it into the
hand of the mighty one of the nations,
and he shall surely deal with it; I have
driven it out for its wickedness.

¹² 'And aliens, the most terrible of the
nations, have cut it down and left it; its
branches have fallen on the mountains
and in all the valleys; its boughs lie
broken by all the rivers of the land; and
all the peoples of the earth have gone
from under its shadow and left it.

¹³ 'On its ruin will remain all the birds
of the heavens, And all the beasts of the
field will come to its branches—

¹⁴ 'So that no trees by the waters may
ever again exalt themselves for their
height, nor set their tops among the
thick boughs, that no tree which drinks
water may ever be high enough to reach
up to them. 'For they have all been

delivered to death, To the depths of the earth, Among the children of men who go down to the Pit.'

¹⁵ "Thus says the Lord GOD: 'In the day when it went down to hell, I caused mourning. I covered the deep because of it. I restrained its rivers, and the great waters were held back. I caused Lebanon to mourn for it, and all the trees of the field wilted because of it.

¹⁶ 'I made the nations shake at the sound of its fall, when I cast it down to hell together with those who descend into the Pit; and all the trees of Eden, the choice and best of Lebanon, all that drink water, were comforted in the depths of the earth.

¹⁷ 'They also went down to hell with it, with those slain by the sword; and those who were its strong arm dwelt in its shadows among the nations.

¹⁸ 'To which of the trees in Eden will you then be likened in glory and greatness? Yet you shall be brought down with the trees of Eden to the depths of the earth; you shall lie in the midst of the uncircumcised, with those slain by the sword. This is Pharaoh and all his multitude,' says the Lord GOD."

32 ¹ And it came to pass 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,

² "Son of man, take up a lamentation for Pharaoh king of Egypt, and say to him: 'You are like a young lion among the nations, And you are like a monster in the seas, Bursting forth in your rivers, Troubling the waters with your feet, And fouling their rivers.'

³ "Thus says the Lord GOD: 'I will therefore spread My net over you with a

company of many people, And they will draw you up in My net.

⁴ Then I will leave you on the land; I will cast you out on the open fields, And cause to settle on you all the birds of the heavens. And with you I will fill the beasts of the whole earth.

⁵ I will lay your flesh on the mountains, And fill the valleys with your carcass.

⁶ 'I will also water the land with the flow of your blood, Even to the mountains; And the riverbeds will be full of you.

⁷ When I put out your light, I will cover the heavens, and make its stars dark; I will cover the sun with a cloud, And the moon shall not give her light.

⁸ All the bright lights of the heavens I will make dark over you, And bring darkness upon your land,' Says the Lord GOD.

⁹ 'I will also trouble the hearts of many peoples, when I bring your destruction

among the nations, into the countries which you have not known.

¹⁰ 'Yes, I will make many peoples astonished at you, and their kings shall be horribly afraid of you when I brandish My sword before them; and they shall tremble every moment, every man for his own life, in the day of your fall.'

¹¹ "For thus says the Lord GOD: 'The sword of the king of Babylon shall come upon you.

¹² 'By the swords of the mighty warriors, all of them the most terrible of the nations, I will cause your multitude to fall. 'They shall plunder the pomp of Egypt, And all its multitude shall be destroyed.

¹³ Also I will destroy all its animals From beside its great waters; The foot of man shall muddy them no more, Nor shall the hooves of animals muddy them.

¹⁴ Then I will make their waters clear,
And make their rivers run like oil,' Says
the Lord GOD.

¹⁵ 'When I make the land of Egypt
desolate, And the country is destitute of
all that once filled it, When I strike all
who dwell in it, Then they shall know
that I am the LORD.

¹⁶ 'This is the lamentation With which
they shall lament her; The daughters of
the nations shall lament her; They shall
lament for her, for Egypt, And for all her
multitude,' Says the Lord GOD."

¹⁷ It came to pass also in the twelfth
year, on the fifteenth day of the month,
that the word of the LORD came to me,
saying:

¹⁸ "Son of man, wail over the multitude
of Egypt, And cast them down to
the depths of the earth, Her and the
daughters of the famous nations, With
those who go down to the Pit:

¹⁹ 'Whom do you surpass in beauty? Go down, be placed with the uncircumcised.'

²⁰ "They shall fall in the midst of those slain by the sword; She is delivered to the sword, Drawing her and all her multitudes.

²¹ The strong among the mighty Shall speak to him out of the midst of hell With those who help him: 'They have gone down, They lie with the uncircumcised, slain by the sword.'

²² "Assyria is there, and all her company, With their graves all around her, All of them slain, fallen by the sword.

²³ Her graves are set in the recesses of the Pit, And her company is all around her grave, All of them slain, fallen by the sword, Who caused terror in the land of the living.

²⁴ "There is Elam and all her multitude, All around her grave, All of them slain, fallen by the sword, Who have gone

down uncircumcised to the lower parts of the earth, Who caused their terror in the land of the living; Now they bear their shame with those who go down to the Pit.

²⁵ They have set her bed in the midst of the slain, With all her multitude, With her graves all around it, All of them uncircumcised, slain by the sword; Though their terror was caused In the land of the living, Yet they bear their shame With those who go down to the Pit; It was put in the midst of the slain.

²⁶ "There are Meshech and Tubal and all their multitudes, With all their graves around it, All of them uncircumcised, slain by the sword, Though they caused their terror in the land of the living.

²⁷ They do not lie with the mighty Who are fallen of the uncircumcised, Who have gone down to hell with their weapons of war; They have laid their

swords under their heads, But their iniquities will be on their bones, Because of the terror of the mighty in the land of the living.

²⁸ Yes, you shall be broken in the midst of the uncircumcised, And lie with those slain by the sword.

²⁹ "There is Edom, Her kings and all her princes, Who despite their might Are laid beside those slain by the sword; They shall lie with the uncircumcised, And with those who go down to the Pit.

³⁰ There are the princes of the north, All of them, and all the Sidonians, Who have gone down with the slain In shame at the terror which they caused by their might; They lie uncircumcised with those slain by the sword, And bear their shame with those who go down to the Pit.

³¹ "Pharaoh will see them And be comforted over all his multitude,

Pharaoh and all his army, Slain by the sword," Says the Lord GOD.

³² "For I have caused My terror in the land of the living; And he shall be placed in the midst of the uncircumcised With those slain by the sword, Pharaoh and all his multitude," Says the Lord GOD.

33 ¹ Again the word of the LORD came to me, saying,

² "Son of man, speak to the children of your people, and say to them: 'When I bring the sword upon a land, and the people of the land take a man from their territory and make him their watchman,

³ 'when he sees the sword coming upon the land, if he blows the trumpet and warns the people,

⁴ 'then whoever hears the sound of the trumpet and does not take warning, if the sword comes and takes him away, his blood shall be on his own head.

⁵ 'He heard the sound of the trumpet, but did not take warning; his blood shall be upon himself. But he who takes warning will save his life.

⁶ 'But if the watchman sees the sword coming and does not blow the trumpet, and the people are not warned, and the sword comes and takes any person from among them, he is taken away in his iniquity; but his blood I will require at the watchman's hand.'

⁷ "So you, son of man: I have made you a watchman for the house of Israel; therefore you shall hear a word from My mouth and warn them for Me.

⁸ "When I say to the wicked, 'O wicked man, you shall surely die!' and you do not speak to warn the wicked from his way, that wicked man shall die in his iniquity; but his blood I will require at your hand.

⁹ "Nevertheless if you warn the wicked to turn from his way, and he does not turn from his way, he shall die in his iniquity; but you have delivered your soul.

¹⁰ "Therefore you, O son of man, say to the house of Israel: 'Thus you say, "If our transgressions and our sins lie upon us, and we pine away in them, how can we then live?"'

¹¹ "Say to them: 'As I live,' says the Lord GOD, 'I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from his way and live. Turn, turn from your evil ways! For why should you die, O house of Israel?'

¹² "Therefore you, O son of man, say to the children of your people: 'The righteousness of the righteous man shall not deliver him in the day of his transgression; as for the wickedness of the wicked, he shall not fall because

of it in the day that he turns from his wickedness; nor shall the righteous be able to live because of his righteousness in the day that he sins.'

¹³ "When I say to the righteous that he shall surely live, but he trusts in his own righteousness and commits iniquity, none of his righteous works shall be remembered; but because of the iniquity that he has committed, he shall die.

¹⁴ "Again, when I say to the wicked, 'You shall surely die,' if he turns from his sin and does what is lawful and right,

¹⁵ "if the wicked restores the pledge, gives back what he has stolen, and walks in the statutes of life without committing iniquity, he shall surely live; he shall not die.

¹⁶ "None of his sins which he has committed shall be remembered against him; he has done what is lawful and right; he shall surely live.

17 "Yet the children of your people say, 'The way of the Lord is not fair.' But it is their way which is not fair!

18 "When the righteous turns from his righteousness and commits iniquity, he shall die because of it.

19 "But when the wicked turns from his wickedness and does what is lawful and right, he shall live because of it.

20 "Yet you say, 'The way of the Lord is not fair.' O house of Israel, I will judge every one of you according to his own ways."

21 And it came to pass in the twelfth year of our captivity, in the tenth month, on the fifth day of the month, that one who had escaped from Jerusalem came to me and said, "The city has been captured!"

22 Now the hand of the LORD had been upon me the evening before the man came who had escaped. And He had

opened my mouth; so when he came to me in the morning, my mouth was opened, and I was no longer mute.

²³ Then the word of the LORD came to me, saying:

²⁴ "Son of man, they who inhabit those ruins in the land of Israel are saying, 'Abraham was only one, and he inherited the land. But we are many; the land has been given to us as a possession.'

²⁵ "Therefore say to them, 'Thus says the Lord GOD: "You eat meat with blood, you lift up your eyes toward your idols, and shed blood. Should you then possess the land?"

²⁶ "You rely on your sword, you commit abominations, and you defile one another's wives. Should you then possess the land?"'

²⁷ "Say thus to them, 'Thus says the Lord GOD: "As I live, surely those who are in the ruins shall fall by the sword,

and the one who is in the open field I will give to the beasts to be devoured, and those who are in the strongholds and caves shall die of the pestilence.

²⁸ "For I will make the land most desolate, her arrogant strength shall cease, and the mountains of Israel shall be so desolate that no one will pass through.

²⁹ "Then they shall know that I am the LORD, when I have made the land most desolate because of all their abominations which they have committed."

³⁰ "As for you, son of man, the children of your people are talking about you beside the walls and in the doors of the houses; and they speak to one another, everyone saying to his brother, 'Please come and hear what the word is that comes from the LORD.'

³¹ "So they come to you as people do, they sit before you as My people, and they hear your words, but they do not do them; for with their mouth they show much love, but their hearts pursue their own gain.

³² "Indeed you are to them as a very lovely song of one who has a pleasant voice and can play well on an instrument; for they hear your words, but they do not do them.

³³ "And when this comes to pass—surely it will come—then they will know that a prophet has been among them."

34 ¹ And the word of the LORD came to me, saying,

² "Son of man, prophesy against the shepherds of Israel, prophesy and say to them, 'Thus says the Lord GOD to the shepherds: "Woe to the shepherds of Israel who feed themselves! Should not the shepherds feed the flocks?"

³ "You eat the fat and clothe yourselves with the wool; you slaughter the fatlings, but you do not feed the flock.

⁴ "The weak you have not strengthened, nor have you healed those who were sick, nor bound up the broken, nor brought back what was driven away, nor sought what was lost; but with force and cruelty you have ruled them.

⁵ "So they were scattered because there was no shepherd; and they became food for all the beasts of the field when they were scattered.

⁶ "My sheep wandered through all the mountains, and on every high hill; yes, My flock was scattered over the whole face of the earth, and no one was seeking or searching for them."

⁷ 'Therefore, you shepherds, hear the word of the LORD:

⁸ "as I live," says the Lord GOD, "surely because My flock became a prey, and My

flock became food for every beast of the field, because there was no shepherd, nor did My shepherds search for My flock, but the shepherds fed themselves and did not feed My flock" —

⁹ 'therefore, O shepherds, hear the word of the LORD!

¹⁰ 'Thus says the Lord GOD: "Behold, I am against the shepherds, and I will require My flock at their hand; I will cause them to cease feeding the sheep, and the shepherds shall feed themselves no more; for I will deliver My flock from their mouths, that they may no longer be food for them."

¹¹ 'For thus says the Lord GOD: "Indeed I Myself will search for My sheep and seek them out.

¹² "As a shepherd seeks out his flock on the day he is among his scattered sheep, so will I seek out My sheep and deliver

them from all the places where they were scattered on a cloudy and dark day.

¹³ "And I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them to their own land; I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, in the valleys and in all the inhabited places of the country.

¹⁴ "I will feed them in good pasture, and their fold shall be on the high mountains of Israel. There they shall lie down in a good fold and feed in rich pasture on the mountains of Israel.

¹⁵ "I will feed My flock, and I will make them lie down," says the Lord GOD.

¹⁶ "I will seek what was lost and bring back what was driven away, bind up the broken and strengthen what was sick; but I will destroy the fat and the strong, and feed them in judgment."

¹⁷ 'And as for you, O My flock, thus says the Lord GOD: "Behold, I shall judge

between sheep and sheep, between rams and goats.

¹⁸ "Is it too little for you to have eaten up the good pasture, that you must tread down with your feet the residue of your pasture—and to have drunk of the clear waters, that you must foul the residue with your feet?

¹⁹ "And as for My flock, they eat what you have trampled with your feet, and they drink what you have fouled with your feet."

²⁰ "Therefore thus says the Lord GOD to them: "Behold, I Myself will judge between the fat and the lean sheep.

²¹ "Because you have pushed with side and shoulder, butted all the weak ones with your horns, and scattered them abroad,

²² "therefore I will save My flock, and they shall no longer be a prey; and I will judge between sheep and sheep.

23 "I will establish one shepherd over them, and he shall feed them—My servant David. He shall feed them and be their shepherd.

24 "And I, the LORD, will be their God, and My servant David a prince among them; I, the LORD, have spoken.

25 "I will make a covenant of peace with them, and cause wild beasts to cease from the land; and they will dwell safely in the wilderness and sleep in the woods.

26 "I will make them and the places all around My hill a blessing; and I will cause showers to come down in their season; there shall be showers of blessing.

27 "Then the trees of the field shall yield their fruit, and the earth shall yield her increase. They shall be safe in their land; and they shall know that I am the LORD, when I have broken the bands of their

yoke and delivered them from the hand of those who enslaved them.

²⁸ "And they shall no longer be a prey for the nations, nor shall beasts of the land devour them; but they shall dwell safely, and no one shall make them afraid.

²⁹ "I will raise up for them a garden of renown, and they shall no longer be consumed with hunger in the land, nor bear the shame of the Gentiles anymore.

³⁰ "Thus they shall know that I, the LORD their God, am with them, and they, the house of Israel, are My people," says the Lord GOD."

³¹ "You are My flock, the flock of My pasture; you are men, and I am your God," says the Lord GOD.

35 ¹ Moreover the word of the LORD came to me, saying,

² "Son of man, set your face against Mount Seir and prophesy against it,

³ "and say to it, 'Thus says the Lord GOD: "Behold, O Mount Seir, I am against you; I will stretch out My hand against you, And make you most desolate;

⁴ I shall lay your cities waste, And you shall be desolate. Then you shall know that I am the LORD.

⁵ "Because you have had an ancient hatred, and have shed the blood of the children of Israel by the power of the sword at the time of their calamity, when their iniquity came to an end,

⁶ "therefore, as I live," says the Lord GOD, "I will prepare you for blood, and blood shall pursue you; since you have not hated blood, therefore blood shall pursue you.

⁷ "Thus I will make Mount Seir most desolate, and cut off from it the one who leaves and the one who returns.

⁸ "And I will fill its mountains with the slain; on your hills and in your valleys

and in all your ravines those who are slain by the sword shall fall.

⁹ "I will make you perpetually desolate, and your cities shall be uninhabited; then you shall know that I am the LORD.

¹⁰ "Because you have said, 'These two nations and these two countries shall be mine, and we will possess them,' although the LORD was there,

¹¹ "therefore, as I live," says the Lord GOD, "I will do according to your anger and according to the envy which you showed in your hatred against them; and I will make Myself known among them when I judge you.

¹² "Then you shall know that I am the LORD. I have heard all your blasphemies which you have spoken against the mountains of Israel, saying, 'They are desolate; they are given to us to consume.'

¹³ "Thus with your mouth you have boasted against Me and multiplied your words against Me; I have heard them."

¹⁴ 'Thus says the Lord GOD: "The whole earth will rejoice when I make you desolate.

¹⁵ "As you rejoiced because the inheritance of the house of Israel was desolate, so I will do to you; you shall be desolate, O Mount Seir, as well as all of Edom—all of it! Then they shall know that I am the LORD."

36 ¹ "And you, son of man, prophesy to the mountains of Israel, and say, 'O mountains of Israel, hear the word of the LORD!

² 'Thus says the Lord GOD: "Because the enemy has said of you, 'Aha! The ancient heights have become our possession,'" "

³ "therefore prophesy, and say, 'Thus says the Lord GOD: "Because they made you desolate and swallowed you up

on every side, so that you became the possession of the rest of the nations, and you are taken up by the lips of talkers and slandered by the people" —

⁴ 'therefore, O mountains of Israel, hear the word of the Lord GOD! Thus says the Lord GOD to the mountains, the hills, the rivers, the valleys, the desolate wastes, and the cities that have been forsaken, which became plunder and mockery to the rest of the nations all around—

⁵ 'therefore thus says the Lord GOD: "Surely I have spoken in My burning jealousy against the rest of the nations and against all Edom, who gave My land to themselves as a possession, with whole-hearted joy and spiteful minds, in order to plunder its open country."

⁶ "Therefore prophesy concerning the land of Israel, and say to the mountains, the hills, the rivers, and the valleys, 'Thus says the Lord GOD: "Behold, I

have spoken in My jealousy and My fury, because you have borne the shame of the nations."

⁷ 'Therefore thus says the Lord GOD: "I have raised My hand in an oath that surely the nations that are around you shall bear their own shame.

⁸ "But you, O mountains of Israel, you shall shoot forth your branches and yield your fruit to My people Israel, for they are about to come.

⁹ "For indeed I am for you, and I will turn to you, and you shall be tilled and sown.

¹⁰ "I will multiply men upon you, all the house of Israel, all of it; and the cities shall be inhabited and the ruins rebuilt.

¹¹ "I will multiply upon you man and beast; and they shall increase and bear young; I will make you inhabited as in former times, and do better for you than

at your beginnings. Then you shall know that I am the LORD.

¹² "Yes, I will cause men to walk on you, My people Israel; they shall take possession of you, and you shall be their inheritance; no more shall you bereave them of children."

¹³ 'Thus says the Lord GOD: "Because they say to you, 'You devour men and bereave your nation of children,'

¹⁴ "therefore you shall devour men no more, nor bereave your nation anymore," says the Lord GOD.

¹⁵ "Nor will I let you hear the taunts of the nations anymore, nor bear the reproach of the peoples anymore, nor shall you cause your nation to stumble anymore," says the Lord GOD.'

¹⁶ Moreover the word of the LORD came to me, saying:

¹⁷ "Son of man, when the house of Israel dwelt in their own land, they

defiled it by their own ways and deeds; to Me their way was like the uncleanness of a woman in her customary impurity.

18 "Therefore I poured out My fury on them for the blood they had shed on the land, and for their idols with which they had defiled it.

19 "So I scattered them among the nations, and they were dispersed throughout the countries; I judged them according to their ways and their deeds.

20 "When they came to the nations, wherever they went, they profaned My holy name—when they said of them, 'These are the people of the LORD, and yet they have gone out of His land.'

21 "But I had concern for My holy name, which the house of Israel had profaned among the nations wherever they went.

22 "Therefore say to the house of Israel, 'Thus says the Lord GOD: "I do not do this for your sake, O house of Israel, but

for My holy name's sake, which you have profaned among the nations wherever you went.

²³ "And I will sanctify My great name, which has been profaned among the nations, which you have profaned in their midst; and the nations shall know that I am the LORD," says the Lord GOD, "when I am hallowed in you before their eyes.

²⁴ "For I will take you from among the nations, gather you out of all countries, and bring you into your own land.

²⁵ "Then I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean; I will cleanse you from all your filthiness and from all your idols.

²⁶ "I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.

27 "I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will keep My judgments and do them.

28 "Then you shall dwell in the land that I gave to your fathers; you shall be My people, and I will be your God.

29 "I will deliver you from all your uncleannesses. I will call for the grain and multiply it, and bring no famine upon you.

30 "And I will multiply the fruit of your trees and the increase of your fields, so that you need never again bear the reproach of famine among the nations.

31 "Then you will remember your evil ways and your deeds that were not good; and you will loathe yourselves in your own sight, for your iniquities and your abominations.

32 "Not for your sake do I do this," says the Lord GOD, "let it be known to you.

Be ashamed and confounded for your own ways, O house of Israel!"

³³ 'Thus says the Lord GOD: "On the day that I cleanse you from all your iniquities, I will also enable you to dwell in the cities, and the ruins shall be rebuilt.

³⁴ "The desolate land shall be tilled instead of lying desolate in the sight of all who pass by.

³⁵ "So they will say, 'This land that was desolate has become like the garden of Eden; and the wasted, desolate, and ruined cities are now fortified and inhabited.'

³⁶ "Then the nations which are left all around you shall know that I, the LORD, have rebuilt the ruined places and planted what was desolate. I, the LORD, have spoken it, and I will do it."

³⁷ 'Thus says the Lord GOD: "I will also let the house of Israel inquire of Me to

do this for them: I will increase their men like a flock.

³⁸ "Like a flock offered as holy sacrifices, like the flock at Jerusalem on its feast days, so shall the ruined cities be filled with flocks of men. Then they shall know that I am the LORD.""

37 ¹ The hand of the LORD came upon me and brought me out in the Spirit of the LORD, and set me down in the midst of the valley; and it was full of bones.

² Then He caused me to pass by them all around, and behold, there were very many in the open valley; and indeed they were very dry.

³ And He said to me, "Son of man, can these bones live?" So I answered, "O Lord GOD, You know."

⁴ Again He said to me, "Prophecy to these bones, and say to them, 'O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD!

⁵ 'Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: "Surely I will cause breath to enter into you, and you shall live.

⁶ "I will put sinews on you and bring flesh upon you, cover you with skin and put breath in you; and you shall live. Then you shall know that I am the LORD.'" "

⁷ So I prophesied as I was commanded; and as I prophesied, there was a noise, and suddenly a rattling; and the bones came together, bone to bone.

⁸ Indeed, as I looked, the sinews and the flesh came upon them, and the skin covered them over; but there was no breath in them.

⁹ Also He said to me, "Prophecy to the breath, prophecy, son of man, and say to the breath, 'Thus says the Lord GOD: "Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe on these slain, that they may live.'" "

¹⁰ So I prophesied as He commanded me, and breath came into them, and they lived, and stood upon their feet, an exceedingly great army.

¹¹ Then He said to me, "Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They indeed say, 'Our bones are dry, our hope is lost, and we ourselves are cut off!'

¹² "Therefore prophesy and say to them, 'Thus says the Lord GOD: "Behold, O My people, I will open your graves and cause you to come up from your graves, and bring you into the land of Israel.

¹³ "Then you shall know that I am the LORD, when I have opened your graves, O My people, and brought you up from your graves.

¹⁴ "I will put My Spirit in you, and you shall live, and I will place you in your own land. Then you shall know that I,

the LORD, have spoken it and performed it," says the LORD.'"

¹⁵ Again the word of the LORD came to me, saying,

¹⁶ "As for you, son of man, take a stick for yourself and write on it: 'For Judah and for the children of Israel, his companions.' Then take another stick and write on it, 'For Joseph, the stick of Ephraim, and for all the house of Israel, his companions.'

¹⁷ "Then join them one to another for yourself into one stick, and they will become one in your hand.

¹⁸ "And when the children of your people speak to you, saying, 'Will you not show us what you mean by these?'

¹⁹ "say to them, 'Thus says the Lord GOD: "Surely I will take the stick of Joseph, which is in the hand of Ephraim, and the tribes of Israel, his companions;

and I will join them with it, with the stick of Judah, and make them one stick, and they will be one in My hand."

²⁰ "And the sticks on which you write will be in your hand before their eyes.

²¹ "Then say to them, 'Thus says the Lord GOD: "Surely I will take the children of Israel from among the nations, wherever they have gone, and will gather them from every side and bring them into their own land;

²² "and I will make them one nation in the land, on the mountains of Israel; and one king shall be king over them all; they shall no longer be two nations, nor shall they ever be divided into two kingdoms again.

²³ "They shall not defile themselves anymore with their idols, nor with their detestable things, nor with any of their transgressions; but I will deliver them from all their dwelling places in which

they have sinned, and will cleanse them. Then they shall be My people, and I will be their God.

²⁴ "David My servant shall be king over them, and they shall all have one shepherd; they shall also walk in My judgments and observe My statutes, and do them.

²⁵ "Then they shall dwell in the land that I have given to Jacob My servant, where your fathers dwelt; and they shall dwell there, they, their children, and their children's children, forever; and My servant David shall be their prince forever.

²⁶ "Moreover I will make a covenant of peace with them, and it shall be an everlasting covenant with them; I will establish them and multiply them, and I will set My sanctuary in their midst forevermore.

²⁷ "My tabernacle also shall be with them; indeed I will be their God, and they shall be My people.

²⁸ "The nations also will know that I, the LORD, sanctify Israel, when My sanctuary is in their midst forevermore.""

38 ¹ Now the word of the LORD came to me, saying,

² "Son of man, set your face against Gog, of the land of Magog, the prince of Rosh, Meshech, and Tubal, and prophesy against him,

³ "and say, 'Thus says the Lord GOD: "Behold, I am against you, O Gog, the prince of Rosh, Meshech, and Tubal.

⁴ "I will turn you around, put hooks into your jaws, and lead you out, with all your army, horses, and horsemen, all splendidly clothed, a great company with bucklers and shields, all of them handling swords.

⁵ "Persia, Ethiopia, and Libya are with them, all of them with shield and helmet;

⁶ "Gomer and all its troops; the house of Togarmah from the far north and all its troops—many people are with you.

⁷ "Prepare yourself and be ready, you and all your companies that are gathered about you; and be a guard for them.

⁸ "After many days you will be visited. In the latter years you will come into the land of those brought back from the sword and gathered from many people on the mountains of Israel, which had long been desolate; they were brought out of the nations, and now all of them dwell safely.

⁹ "You will ascend, coming like a storm, covering the land like a cloud, you and all your troops and many peoples with you."

¹⁰ 'Thus says the Lord GOD: "On that day it shall come to pass that thoughts

will arise in your mind, and you will make an evil plan:

¹¹ "You will say, 'I will go up against a land of unwalled villages; I will go to a peaceful people, who dwell safely, all of them dwelling without walls, and having neither bars nor gates' —

¹² "to take plunder and to take booty, to stretch out your hand against the waste places that are again inhabited, and against a people gathered from the nations, who have acquired livestock and goods, who dwell in the midst of the land.

¹³ "Sheba, Dedan, the merchants of Tarshish, and all their young lions will say to you, 'Have you come to take plunder? Have you gathered your army to take booty, to carry away silver and gold, to take away livestock and goods, to take great plunder?'"

¹⁴ "Therefore, son of man, prophesy and say to Gog, 'Thus says the Lord GOD: "On that day when My people Israel dwell safely, will you not know it?"

¹⁵ "Then you will come from your place out of the far north, you and many peoples with you, all of them riding on horses, a great company and a mighty army.

¹⁶ "You will come up against My people Israel like a cloud, to cover the land. It will be in the latter days that I will bring you against My land, so that the nations may know Me, when I am hallowed in you, O Gog, before their eyes."

¹⁷ 'Thus says the Lord GOD: "Are you he of whom I have spoken in former days by My servants the prophets of Israel, who prophesied for years in those days that I would bring you against them?"

¹⁸ "And it will come to pass at the same time, when Gog comes against the land

of Israel," says the Lord GOD, "that My fury will show in My face.

¹⁹ "For in My jealousy and in the fire of My wrath I have spoken: 'Surely in that day there shall be a great earthquake in the land of Israel,

²⁰ 'so that the fish of the sea, the birds of the heavens, the beasts of the field, all creeping things that creep on the earth, and all men who are on the face of the earth shall shake at My presence. The mountains shall be thrown down, the steep places shall fall, and every wall shall fall to the ground.'

²¹ "I will call for a sword against Gog throughout all My mountains," says the Lord GOD. "Every man's sword will be against his brother.

²² "And I will bring him to judgment with pestilence and bloodshed; I will rain down on him, on his troops, and on the many peoples who are with him,

flooding rain, great hailstones, fire, and brimstone.

²³ "Thus I will magnify Myself and sanctify Myself, and I will be known in the eyes of many nations. Then they shall know that I am the LORD."

39 ¹ "And you, son of man, prophesy against Gog, and say, 'Thus says the Lord GOD: "Behold, I am against you, O Gog, the prince of Rosh, Meshech, and Tubal;

² "and I will turn you around and lead you on, bringing you up from the far north, and bring you against the mountains of Israel.

³ "Then I will knock the bow out of your left hand, and cause the arrows to fall out of your right hand.

⁴ "You shall fall upon the mountains of Israel, you and all your troops and the peoples who are with you; I will give you

to birds of prey of every sort and to the beasts of the field to be devoured.

⁵ "You shall fall on the open field; for I have spoken," says the Lord GOD.

⁶ "And I will send fire on Magog and on those who live in security in the coastlands. Then they shall know that I am the LORD.

⁷ "So I will make My holy name known in the midst of My people Israel, and I will not let them profane My holy name anymore. Then the nations shall know that I am the LORD, the Holy One in Israel.

⁸ "Surely it is coming, and it shall be done," says the Lord GOD. "This is the day of which I have spoken.

⁹ "Then those who dwell in the cities of Israel will go out and set on fire and burn the weapons, both the shields and bucklers, the bows and arrows, the

javelins and spears; and they will make fires with them for seven years.

¹⁰ "They will not take wood from the field nor cut down any from the forests, because they will make fires with the weapons; and they will plunder those who plundered them, and pillage those who pillaged them," says the Lord GOD.

¹¹ "It will come to pass in that day that I will give Gog a burial place there in Israel, the valley of those who pass by east of the sea; and it will obstruct travelers, because there they will bury Gog and all his multitude. Therefore they will call it the Valley of Hamon Gog.

¹² "For seven months the house of Israel will be burying them, in order to cleanse the land.

¹³ "Indeed all the people of the land will be burying, and they will gain renown for it on the day that I am glorified," says the Lord GOD.

¹⁴ "They will set apart men regularly employed, with the help of a search party, to pass through the land and bury those bodies remaining on the ground, in order to cleanse it. At the end of seven months they will make a search.

¹⁵ "The search party will pass through the land; and when anyone sees a man's bone, he shall set up a marker by it, till the buriers have buried it in the Valley of Hamon Gog.

¹⁶ "The name of the city will also be Hamonah. Thus they shall cleanse the land."

¹⁷ "And as for you, son of man, thus says the Lord GOD, 'Speak to every sort of bird and to every beast of the field: "Assemble yourselves and come; Gather together from all sides to My sacrificial meal Which I am sacrificing for you, A great sacrificial meal on the mountains

of Israel, That you may eat flesh and drink blood.

¹⁸ You shall eat the flesh of the mighty, Drink the blood of the princes of the earth, Of rams and lambs, Of goats and bulls, All of them fatlings of Bashan.

¹⁹ You shall eat fat till you are full, And drink blood till you are drunk, At My sacrificial meal Which I am sacrificing for you.

²⁰ You shall be filled at My table With horses and riders, With mighty men And with all the men of war," says the Lord GOD.

²¹ "I will set My glory among the nations; all the nations shall see My judgment which I have executed, and My hand which I have laid on them.

²² "So the house of Israel shall know that I am the LORD their God from that day forward.

²³ "The Gentiles shall know that the house of Israel went into captivity for their iniquity; because they were unfaithful to Me, therefore I hid My face from them. I gave them into the hand of their enemies, and they all fell by the sword.

²⁴ "According to their uncleanness and according to their transgressions I have dealt with them, and hidden My face from them."

²⁵ "Therefore thus says the Lord GOD: 'Now I will bring back the captives of Jacob, and have mercy on the whole house of Israel; and I will be jealous for My holy name—

²⁶ 'after they have borne their shame, and all their unfaithfulness in which they were unfaithful to Me, when they dwelt safely in their own land and no one made them afraid.

²⁷ 'When I have brought them back from the peoples and gathered them out of their enemies' lands, and I am hallowed in them in the sight of many nations,

²⁸ 'then they shall know that I am the LORD their God, who sent them into captivity among the nations, but also brought them back to their land, and left none of them captive any longer.

²⁹ 'And I will not hide My face from them anymore; for I shall have poured out My Spirit on the house of Israel,' says the Lord GOD."

40 ¹ In the twenty–fifth year of our captivity, at the beginning of the year, on the tenth day of the month, in the fourteenth year after the city was captured, on the very same day the hand of the LORD was upon me; and He took me there.

² In the visions of God He took me into the land of Israel and set me on a very high mountain; on it toward the south was something like the structure of a city.

³ He took me there, and behold, there was a man whose appearance was like the appearance of bronze. He had a line of flax and a measuring rod in his hand, and he stood in the gateway.

⁴ And the man said to me, "Son of man, look with your eyes and hear with your ears, and fix your mind on everything I show you; for you were brought here so that I might show them to you. Declare to the house of Israel everything you see."

⁵ Now there was a wall all around the outside of the temple. In the man's hand was a measuring rod six cubits long, each being a cubit and a handbreadth; and he measured the width of the wall

structure, one rod; and the height, one rod.

⁶ Then he went to the gateway which faced east; and he went up its stairs and measured the threshold of the gateway, which was one rod wide, and the other threshold was one rod wide.

⁷ Each gate chamber was one rod long and one rod wide; between the gate chambers was a space of five cubits; and the threshold of the gateway by the vestibule of the inside gate was one rod.

⁸ He also measured the vestibule of the inside gate, one rod.

⁹ Then he measured the vestibule of the gateway, eight cubits; and the gateposts, two cubits. The vestibule of the gate was on the inside.

¹⁰ In the eastern gateway were three gate chambers on one side and three on the other; the three were all the same

size; also the gateposts were of the same size on this side and that side.

¹¹ He measured the width of the entrance to the gateway, ten cubits; and the length of the gate, thirteen cubits.

¹² There was a space in front of the gate chambers, one cubit on this side and one cubit on that side; the gate chambers were six cubits on this side and six cubits on that side.

¹³ Then he measured the gateway from the roof of one gate chamber to the roof of the other; the width was twenty-five cubits, as door faces door.

¹⁴ He measured the gateposts, sixty cubits high, and the court all around the gateway extended to the gatepost.

¹⁵ From the front of the entrance gate to the front of the vestibule of the inner gate was fifty cubits.

¹⁶ There were beveled window frames in the gate chambers and in their

intervening archways on the inside of the gateway all around, and likewise in the vestibules. There were windows all around on the inside. And on each gatepost were palm trees.

¹⁷ Then he brought me into the outer court; and there were chambers and a pavement made all around the court; thirty chambers faced the pavement.

¹⁸ The pavement was by the side of the gateways, corresponding to the length of the gateways; this was the lower pavement.

¹⁹ Then he measured the width from the front of the lower gateway to the front of the inner court exterior, one hundred cubits toward the east and the north.

²⁰ On the outer court was also a gateway facing north, and he measured its length and its width.

²¹ Its gate chambers, three on this side and three on that side, its gateposts and its archways, had the same measurements as the first gate; its length was fifty cubits and its width twenty–five cubits.

²² Its windows and those of its archways, and also its palm trees, had the same measurements as the gateway facing east; it was ascended by seven steps, and its archway was in front of it.

²³ A gate of the inner court was opposite the northern gateway, just as the eastern gateway; and he measured from gateway to gateway, one hundred cubits.

²⁴ After that he brought me toward the south, and there a gateway was facing south; and he measured its gateposts and archways according to these same measurements.

²⁵ There were windows in it and in its archways all around like those windows; its length was fifty cubits and its width twenty–five cubits.

²⁶ Seven steps led up to it, and its archway was in front of them; and it had palm trees on its gateposts, one on this side and one on that side.

²⁷ There was also a gateway on the inner court, facing south; and he measured from gateway to gateway toward the south, one hundred cubits.

²⁸ Then he brought me to the inner court through the southern gateway; he measured the southern gateway according to these same measurements.

²⁹ Also its gate chambers, its gateposts, and its archways were according to these same measurements; there were windows in it and in its archways all around; it was fifty cubits long and twenty–five cubits wide.

³⁰ There were archways all around, twenty–five cubits long and five cubits wide.

³¹ Its archways faced the outer court, palm trees were on its gateposts, and going up to it were eight steps.

³² And he brought me into the inner court facing east; he measured the gateway according to these same measurements.

³³ Also its gate chambers, its gateposts, and its archways were according to these same measurements; and there were windows in it and in its archways all around; it was fifty cubits long and twenty–five cubits wide.

³⁴ Its archways faced the outer court, and palm trees were on its gateposts on this side and on that side; and going up to it were eight steps.

³⁵ Then he brought me to the north gateway and measured it according to these same measurements—

³⁶ also its gate chambers, its gateposts, and its archways. It had windows all around; its length was fifty cubits and its width twenty-five cubits.

³⁷ Its gateposts faced the outer court, palm trees were on its gateposts on this side and on that side, and going up to it were eight steps.

³⁸ There was a chamber and its entrance by the gateposts of the gateway, where they washed the burnt offering.

³⁹ In the vestibule of the gateway were two tables on this side and two tables on that side, on which to slay the burnt offering, the sin offering, and the trespass offering.

⁴⁰ At the outer side of the vestibule, as one goes up to the entrance of the northern gateway, were two tables; and

on the other side of the vestibule of the gateway were two tables.

⁴¹ Four tables were on this side and four tables on that side, by the side of the gateway, eight tables on which they slaughtered the sacrifices.

⁴² There were also four tables of hewn stone for the burnt offering, one cubit and a half long, one cubit and a half wide, and one cubit high; on these they laid the instruments with which they slaughtered the burnt offering and the sacrifice.

⁴³ Inside were hooks, a handbreadth wide, fastened all around; and the flesh of the sacrifices was on the tables.

⁴⁴ Outside the inner gate were the chambers for the singers in the inner court, one facing south at the side of the northern gateway, and the other facing north at the side of the southern gateway.

⁴⁵ Then he said to me, "This chamber which faces south is for the priests who have charge of the temple.

⁴⁶ "The chamber which faces north is for the priests who have charge of the altar; these are the sons of Zadok, from the sons of Levi, who come near the LORD to minister to Him."

⁴⁷ And he measured the court, one hundred cubits long and one hundred cubits wide, foursquare. The altar was in front of the temple.

⁴⁸ Then he brought me to the vestibule of the temple and measured the doorposts of the vestibule, five cubits on this side and five cubits on that side; and the width of the gateway was three cubits on this side and three cubits on that side.

⁴⁹ The length of the vestibule was twenty cubits, and the width eleven cubits; and by the steps which led up to

it there were pillars by the doorposts, one on this side and another on that side.

41 ¹ Then he brought me into the sanctuary and measured the doorposts, six cubits wide on one side and six cubits wide on the other side—the width of the tabernacle.

² The width of the entryway was ten cubits, and the side walls of the entrance were five cubits on this side and five cubits on the other side; and he measured its length, forty cubits, and its width, twenty cubits.

³ Also he went inside and measured the doorposts, two cubits; and the entrance, six cubits high; and the width of the entrance, seven cubits.

⁴ He measured the length, twenty cubits; and the width, twenty cubits, beyond the sanctuary; and he said to me, "This is the Most Holy Place."

⁵ Next, he measured the wall of the temple, six cubits. The width of each side chamber all around the temple was four cubits on every side.

⁶ The side chambers were in three stories, one above the other, thirty chambers in each story; they rested on ledges which were for the side chambers all around, that they might be supported, but not fastened to the wall of the temple.

⁷ As one went up from story to story, the side chambers became wider all around, because their supporting ledges in the wall of the temple ascended like steps; therefore the width of the structure increased as one went up from the lowest story to the highest by way of the middle one.

⁸ I also saw an elevation all around the temple; it was the foundation of the side

chambers, a full rod, that is, six cubits high.

⁹ The thickness of the outer wall of the side chambers was five cubits, and so also the remaining terrace by the place of the side chambers of the temple.

¹⁰ And between it and the wall chambers was a width of twenty cubits all around the temple on every side.

¹¹ The doors of the side chambers opened on the terrace, one door toward the north and another toward the south; and the width of the terrace was five cubits all around.

¹² The building that faced the separating courtyard at its western end was seventy cubits wide; the wall of the building was five cubits thick all around, and its length ninety cubits.

¹³ So he measured the temple, one hundred cubits long; and the separating

courtyard with the building and its walls was one hundred cubits long;

¹⁴ also the width of the eastern face of the temple, including the separating courtyard, was one hundred cubits.

¹⁵ He measured the length of the building behind it, facing the separating courtyard, with its galleries on the one side and on the other side, one hundred cubits, as well as the inner temple and the porches of the court,

¹⁶ their doorposts and the beveled window frames. And the galleries all around their three stories opposite the threshold were paneled with wood from the ground to the windows—the windows were covered—

¹⁷ from the space above the door, even to the inner room, as well as outside, and on every wall all around, inside and outside, by measure.

¹⁸ And it was made with cherubim and palm trees, a palm tree between cherub and cherub. Each cherub had two faces, ¹⁹ so that the face of a man was toward a palm tree on one side, and the face of a young lion toward a palm tree on the other side; thus it was made throughout the temple all around.

²⁰ From the floor to the space above the door, and on the wall of the sanctuary, cherubim and palm trees were carved.

²¹ The doorposts of the temple were square, as was the front of the sanctuary; their appearance was similar.

²² The altar was of wood, three cubits high, and its length two cubits. Its corners, its length, and its sides were of wood; and he said to me, "This is the table that is before the LORD."

²³ The temple and the sanctuary had two doors.

²⁴ The doors had two panels apiece, two folding panels: two panels for one door and two panels for the other door.

²⁵ Cherubim and palm trees were carved on the doors of the temple just as they were carved on the walls. A wooden canopy was on the front of the vestibule outside.

²⁶ There were beveled window frames and palm trees on one side and on the other, on the sides of the vestibule—also on the side chambers of the temple and on the canopies.

42 ¹ Then he brought me out into the outer court, by the way toward the north; and he brought me into the chamber which was opposite the separating courtyard, and which was opposite the building toward the north.

² Facing the length, which was one hundred cubits (the width was fifty cubits), was the north door.

³ Opposite the inner court of twenty cubits, and opposite the pavement of the outer court, was gallery against gallery in three stories.

⁴ In front of the chambers, toward the inside, was a walk ten cubits wide, at a distance of one cubit; and their doors faced north.

⁵ Now the upper chambers were shorter, because the galleries took away space from them more than from the lower and middle stories of the building.

⁶ For they were in three stories and did not have pillars like the pillars of the courts; therefore the upper level was shortened more than the lower and middle levels from the ground up.

⁷ And a wall which was outside ran parallel to the chambers, at the front of the chambers, toward the outer court; its length was fifty cubits.

⁸ The length of the chambers toward the outer court was fifty cubits, whereas that facing the temple was one hundred cubits.

⁹ At the lower chambers was the entrance on the east side, as one goes into them from the outer court.

¹⁰ Also there were chambers in the thickness of the wall of the court toward the east, opposite the separating courtyard and opposite the building.

¹¹ There was a walk in front of them also, and their appearance was like the chambers which were toward the north; they were as long and as wide as the others, and all their exits and entrances were according to plan.

¹² And corresponding to the doors of the chambers that were facing south, as one enters them, there was a door in front of the walk, the way directly in front of the wall toward the east.

¹³ Then he said to me, "The north chambers and the south chambers, which are opposite the separating courtyard, are the holy chambers where the priests who approach the LORD shall eat the most holy offerings. There they shall lay the most holy offerings—the grain offering, the sin offering, and the trespass offering—for the place is holy.

¹⁴ "When the priests enter them, they shall not go out of the holy chamber into the outer court; but there they shall leave their garments in which they minister, for they are holy. They shall put on other garments; then they may approach that which is for the people."

¹⁵ Now when he had finished measuring the inner temple, he brought me out through the gateway that faces toward the east, and measured it all around.

¹⁶ He measured the east side with the measuring rod, five hundred rods by the measuring rod all around.

¹⁷ He measured the north side, five hundred rods by the measuring rod all around.

¹⁸ He measured the south side, five hundred rods by the measuring rod.

¹⁹ He came around to the west side and measured five hundred rods by the measuring rod.

²⁰ He measured it on the four sides; it had a wall all around, five hundred cubits long and five hundred wide, to separate the holy areas from the common.

43 ¹ Afterward he brought me to the gate, the gate that faces toward the east.

² And behold, the glory of the God of Israel came from the way of the east. His voice was like the sound of many waters; and the earth shone with His glory.

³ It was like the appearance of the vision which I saw—like the vision which I saw when I came to destroy the city. The visions were like the vision which I saw by the River Chebar; and I fell on my face.

⁴ And the glory of the LORD came into the temple by way of the gate which faces toward the east.

⁵ The Spirit lifted me up and brought me into the inner court; and behold, the glory of the LORD filled the temple.

⁶ Then I heard Him speaking to me from the temple, while a man stood beside me.

⁷ And He said to me, "Son of man, this is the place of My throne and the place of the soles of My feet, where I will dwell in the midst of the children of Israel forever. No more shall the house of Israel defile My holy name, they nor their kings, by their harlotry or with the

carcasses of their kings on their high places.

⁸ "When they set their threshold by My threshold, and their doorpost by My doorpost, with a wall between them and Me, they defiled My holy name by the abominations which they committed; therefore I have consumed them in My anger.

⁹ "Now let them put their harlotry and the carcasses of their kings far away from Me, and I will dwell in their midst forever.

¹⁰ "Son of man, describe the temple to the house of Israel, that they may be ashamed of their iniquities; and let them measure the pattern.

¹¹ "And if they are ashamed of all that they have done, make known to them the design of the temple and its arrangement, its exits and its entrances, its entire design and all its ordinances, all

its forms and all its laws. Write it down in their sight, so that they may keep its whole design and all its ordinances, and perform them.

¹² "This is the law of the temple: The whole area surrounding the mountaintop is most holy. Behold, this is the law of the temple.

¹³ "These are the measurements of the altar in cubits (the cubit is one cubit and a handbreadth): the base one cubit high and one cubit wide, with a rim all around its edge of one span. This is the height of the altar:

¹⁴ "from the base on the ground to the lower ledge, two cubits; the width of the ledge, one cubit; from the smaller ledge to the larger ledge, four cubits; and the width of the ledge, one cubit.

¹⁵ "The altar hearth is four cubits high, with four horns extending upward from the hearth.

¹⁶ "The altar hearth is twelve cubits long, twelve wide, square at its four corners;

¹⁷ "the ledge, fourteen cubits long and fourteen wide on its four sides, with a rim of half a cubit around it; its base, one cubit all around; and its steps face toward the east."

¹⁸ And He said to me, "Son of man, thus says the Lord GOD: 'These are the ordinances for the altar on the day when it is made, for sacrificing burnt offerings on it, and for sprinkling blood on it.

¹⁹ 'You shall give a young bull for a sin offering to the priests, the Levites, who are of the seed of Zadok, who approach Me to minister to Me,' says the Lord GOD.

²⁰ 'You shall take some of its blood and put it on the four horns of the altar, on the four corners of the ledge, and on the

rim around it; thus you shall cleanse it and make atonement for it.

²¹ 'Then you shall also take the bull of the sin offering, and burn it in the appointed place of the temple, outside the sanctuary.

²² 'On the second day you shall offer a kid of the goats without blemish for a sin offering; and they shall cleanse the altar, as they cleansed it with the bull.

²³ 'When you have finished cleansing it, you shall offer a young bull without blemish, and a ram from the flock without blemish.

²⁴ 'When you offer them before the LORD, the priests shall throw salt on them, and they will offer them up as a burnt offering to the LORD.

²⁵ 'Every day for seven days you shall prepare a goat for a sin offering; they shall also prepare a young bull and a ram from the flock, both without blemish.

²⁶ 'Seven days they shall make atonement for the altar and purify it, and so consecrate it.

²⁷ 'When these days are over it shall be, on the eighth day and thereafter, that the priests shall offer your burnt offerings and your peace offerings on the altar; and I will accept you,' says the Lord GOD."

44 ¹ Then He brought me back to the outer gate of the sanctuary which faces toward the east, but it was shut.

² And the LORD said to me, "This gate shall be shut; it shall not be opened, and no man shall enter by it, because the LORD God of Israel has entered by it; therefore it shall be shut.

³ "As for the prince, because he is the prince, he may sit in it to eat bread before the LORD; he shall enter by way of the vestibule of the gateway, and go out the same way."

⁴ Also He brought me by way of the north gate to the front of the temple; so I looked, and behold, the glory of the LORD filled the house of the LORD; and I fell on my face.

⁵ And the LORD said to me, "Son of man, mark well, see with your eyes and hear with your ears, all that I say to you concerning all the ordinances of the house of the LORD and all its laws. Mark well who may enter the house and all who go out from the sanctuary.

⁶ "Now say to the rebellious, to the house of Israel, 'Thus says the Lord GOD: "O house of Israel, let us have no more of all your abominations.

⁷ "When you brought in foreigners, uncircumcised in heart and uncircumcised in flesh, to be in My sanctuary to defile it—My house—
—and when you offered My food, the fat and the blood, then they broke

My covenant because of all your abominations.

⁸ "And you have not kept charge of My holy things, but you have set others to keep charge of My sanctuary for you."

⁹ 'Thus says the Lord GOD: "No foreigner, uncircumcised in heart or uncircumcised in flesh, shall enter My sanctuary, including any foreigner who is among the children of Israel.

¹⁰ "And the Levites who went far from Me, when Israel went astray, who strayed away from Me after their idols, they shall bear their iniquity.

¹¹ "Yet they shall be ministers in My sanctuary, as gatekeepers of the house and ministers of the house; they shall slay the burnt offering and the sacrifice for the people, and they shall stand before them to minister to them.

¹² "Because they ministered to them before their idols and caused the house

of Israel to fall into iniquity, therefore I have raised My hand in an oath against them," says the Lord GOD, "that they shall bear their iniquity.

¹³ "And they shall not come near Me to minister to Me as priest, nor come near any of My holy things, nor into the Most Holy Place; but they shall bear their shame and their abominations which they have committed.

¹⁴ "Nevertheless I will make them keep charge of the temple, for all its work, and for all that has to be done in it.

¹⁵ "But the priests, the Levites, the sons of Zadok, who kept charge of My sanctuary when the children of Israel went astray from Me, they shall come near Me to minister to Me; and they shall stand before Me to offer to Me the fat and the blood," says the Lord GOD.

¹⁶ "They shall enter My sanctuary, and they shall come near My table to

minister to Me, and they shall keep My charge.

¹⁷ "And it shall be, whenever they enter the gates of the inner court, that they shall put on linen garments; no wool shall come upon them while they minister within the gates of the inner court or within the house.

¹⁸ "They shall have linen turbans on their heads and linen trousers on their bodies; they shall not clothe themselves with anything that causes sweat.

¹⁹ "When they go out to the outer court, to the outer court to the people, they shall take off their garments in which they have ministered, leave them in the holy chambers, and put on other garments; and in their holy garments they shall not sanctify the people.

²⁰ "They shall neither shave their heads nor let their hair grow long; but they shall keep their hair well trimmed.

²¹ "No priest shall drink wine when he enters the inner court.

²² "They shall not take as wife a widow or a divorced woman, but take virgins of the descendants of the house of Israel, or widows of priests.

²³ "And they shall teach My people the difference between the holy and the unholy, and cause them to discern between the unclean and the clean.

²⁴ "In controversy they shall stand as judges, and judge it according to My judgments. They shall keep My laws and My statutes in all My appointed meetings, and they shall hallow My Sabbaths.

²⁵ "They shall not defile themselves by coming near a dead person. Only for father or mother, for son or daughter, for brother or unmarried sister may they defile themselves.

²⁶ "After he is cleansed, they shall count seven days for him.

²⁷ "And on the day that he goes to the sanctuary to minister in the sanctuary, he must offer his sin offering in the inner court," says the Lord GOD.

²⁸ "It shall be, in regard to their inheritance, that I am their inheritance. You shall give them no possession in Israel, for I am their possession.

²⁹ "They shall eat the grain offering, the sin offering, and the trespass offering; every dedicated thing in Israel shall be theirs.

³⁰ "The best of all firstfruits of any kind, and every sacrifice of any kind from all your sacrifices, shall be the priest's; also you shall give to the priest the first of your ground meal, to cause a blessing to rest on your house.

³¹ "The priests shall not eat anything, bird or beast, that died naturally or was torn by wild beasts.

45 ¹ "Moreover, when you divide the land by lot into inheritance, you shall set apart a district for the LORD, a holy section of the land; its length shall be twenty–five thousand cubits, and the width ten thousand. It shall be holy throughout its territory all around.

² "Of this there shall be a square plot for the sanctuary, five hundred by five hundred rods, with fifty cubits around it for an open space.

³ "So this is the district you shall measure: twenty–five thousand cubits long and ten thousand wide; in it shall be the sanctuary, the Most Holy Place.

⁴ "It shall be a holy section of the land, belonging to the priests, the ministers of the sanctuary, who come near to minister to the LORD; it shall be a place

for their houses and a holy place for the sanctuary.

⁵ "An area twenty–five thousand cubits long and ten thousand wide shall belong to the Levites, the ministers of the temple; they shall have twenty chambers as a possession.

⁶ "You shall appoint as the property of the city an area five thousand cubits wide and twenty–five thousand long, adjacent to the district of the holy section; it shall belong to the whole house of Israel.

⁷ "The prince shall have a section on one side and the other of the holy district and the city's property; and bordering on the holy district and the city's property, extending westward on the west side and eastward on the east side, the length shall be side by side with one of the tribal portions, from the west border to the east border.

⁸ "The land shall be his possession in Israel; and My princes shall no more oppress My people, but they shall give the rest of the land to the house of Israel, according to their tribes."

⁹ 'Thus says the Lord GOD: "Enough, O princes of Israel! Remove violence and plundering, execute justice and righteousness, and stop dispossessing My people," says the Lord GOD.

¹⁰ "You shall have honest scales, an honest ephah, and an honest bath.

¹¹ "The ephah and the bath shall be of the same measure, so that the bath contains one-tenth of a homer, and the ephah one-tenth of a homer; their measure shall be according to the homer.

¹² "The shekel shall be twenty gerahs; twenty shekels, twenty-five shekels, and fifteen shekels shall be your mina.

¹³ "This is the offering which you shall offer: you shall give one—sixth of an ephah from a homer of wheat, and one—sixth of an ephah from a homer of barley.

¹⁴ "The ordinance concerning oil, the bath of oil, is one—tenth of a bath from a kor. A kor is a homer or ten baths, for ten baths are a homer.

¹⁵ "And one lamb shall be given from a flock of two hundred, from the rich pastures of Israel. These shall be for grain offerings, burnt offerings, and peace offerings, to make atonement for them," says the Lord GOD.

¹⁶ "All the people of the land shall give this offering for the prince in Israel.

¹⁷ "Then it shall be the prince's part to give burnt offerings, grain offerings, and drink offerings, at the feasts, the New Moons, the Sabbaths, and at all the appointed seasons of the house of Israel.

He shall prepare the sin offering, the grain offering, the burnt offering, and the peace offerings to make atonement for the house of Israel."

¹⁸ 'Thus says the Lord GOD: "In the first month, on the first day of the month, you shall take a young bull without blemish and cleanse the sanctuary.

¹⁹ "The priest shall take some of the blood of the sin offering and put it on the doorposts of the temple, on the four corners of the ledge of the altar, and on the gateposts of the gate of the inner court.

²⁰ "And so you shall do on the seventh day of the month for everyone who has sinned unintentionally or in ignorance. Thus you shall make atonement for the temple.

²¹ "In the first month, on the fourteenth day of the month, you shall observe

the Passover, a feast of seven days; unleavened bread shall be eaten.

²² "And on that day the prince shall prepare for himself and for all the people of the land a bull for a sin offering.

²³ "On the seven days of the feast he shall prepare a burnt offering to the LORD, seven bulls and seven rams without blemish, daily for seven days, and a kid of the goats daily for a sin offering.

²⁴ "And he shall prepare a grain offering of one ephah for each bull and one ephah for each ram, together with a hin of oil for each ephah.

²⁵ "In the seventh month, on the fifteenth day of the month, at the feast, he shall do likewise for seven days, according to the sin offering, the burnt offering, the grain offering, and the oil."

46 ¹ 'Thus says the Lord GOD: "The gateway of the inner court that

faces toward the east shall be shut the six working days; but on the Sabbath it shall be opened, and on the day of the New Moon it shall be opened.

² "The prince shall enter by way of the vestibule of the gateway from the outside, and stand by the gatepost. The priests shall prepare his burnt offering and his peace offerings. He shall worship at the threshold of the gate. Then he shall go out, but the gate shall not be shut until evening.

³ "Likewise the people of the land shall worship at the entrance to this gateway before the LORD on the Sabbaths and the New Moons.

⁴ "The burnt offering that the prince offers to the LORD on the Sabbath day shall be six lambs without blemish, and a ram without blemish;

⁵ "and the grain offering shall be one ephah for a ram, and the grain offering

for the lambs, as much as he wants to give, as well as a hin of oil with every ephah.

⁶ "On the day of the New Moon it shall be a young bull without blemish, six lambs, and a ram; they shall be without blemish.

⁷ "He shall prepare a grain offering of an ephah for a bull, an ephah for a ram, as much as he wants to give for the lambs, and a hin of oil with every ephah.

⁸ "When the prince enters, he shall go in by way of the vestibule of the gateway, and go out the same way.

⁹ "But when the people of the land come before the LORD on the appointed feast days, whoever enters by way of the north gate to worship shall go out by way of the south gate; and whoever enters by way of the south gate shall go out by way of the north gate. He shall not return by way of the gate through

which he came, but shall go out through the opposite gate.

¹⁰ "The prince shall then be in their midst. When they go in, he shall go in; and when they go out, he shall go out.

¹¹ "At the festivals and the appointed feast days the grain offering shall be an ephah for a bull, an ephah for a ram, as much as he wants to give for the lambs, and a hin of oil with every ephah.

¹² "Now when the prince makes a voluntary burnt offering or voluntary peace offering to the LORD, the gate that faces toward the east shall then be opened for him; and he shall prepare his burnt offering and his peace offerings as he did on the Sabbath day. Then he shall go out, and after he goes out the gate shall be shut.

¹³ "You shall daily make a burnt offering to the LORD of a lamb of the first year

without blemish; you shall prepare it every morning.

¹⁴ "And you shall prepare a grain offering with it every morning, a sixth of an ephah, and a third of a hin of oil to moisten the fine flour. This grain offering is a perpetual ordinance, to be made regularly to the LORD.

¹⁵ "Thus they shall prepare the lamb, the grain offering, and the oil, as a regular burnt offering every morning."

¹⁶ "Thus says the Lord GOD: "If the prince gives a gift of some of his inheritance to any of his sons, it shall belong to his sons; it is their possession by inheritance.

¹⁷ "But if he gives a gift of some of his inheritance to one of his servants, it shall be his until the year of liberty, after which it shall return to the prince. But his inheritance shall belong to his sons; it shall become theirs.

¹⁸ "Moreover the prince shall not take any of the people's inheritance by evicting them from their property; he shall provide an inheritance for his sons from his own property, so that none of My people may be scattered from his property.""

¹⁹ Now he brought me through the entrance, which was at the side of the gate, into the holy chambers of the priests which face toward the north; and there a place was situated at their extreme western end.

²⁰ And he said to me, "This is the place where the priests shall boil the trespass offering and the sin offering, and where they shall bake the grain offering, so that they do not bring them out into the outer court to sanctify the people."

²¹ Then he brought me out into the outer court and caused me to pass by the four corners of the court; and in fact,

in every corner of the court there was another court.

²² In the four corners of the court were enclosed courts, forty cubits long and thirty wide; all four corners were the same size.

²³ There was a row of building stones all around in them, all around the four of them; and cooking hearths were made under the rows of stones all around.

²⁴ And he said to me, "These are the kitchens where the ministers of the temple shall boil the sacrifices of the people."

47 ¹ Then he brought me back to the door of the temple; and there was water, flowing from under the threshold of the temple toward the east, for the front of the temple faced east; the water was flowing from under the right side of the temple, south of the altar.

² He brought me out by way of the north gate, and led me around on the outside to the outer gateway that faces east; and there was water, running out on the right side.

³ And when the man went out to the east with the line in his hand, he measured one thousand cubits, and he brought me through the waters; the water came up to my ankles.

⁴ Again he measured one thousand and brought me through the waters; the water came up to my knees. Again he measured one thousand and brought me through; the water came up to my waist.

⁵ Again he measured one thousand, and it was a river that I could not cross; for the water was too deep, water in which one must swim, a river that could not be crossed.

⁶ He said to me, "Son of man, have you seen this?" Then he brought me and returned me to the bank of the river.

⁷ When I returned, there, along the bank of the river, were very many trees on one side and the other.

⁸ Then he said to me: "This water flows toward the eastern region, goes down into the valley, and enters the sea. When it reaches the sea, its waters are healed.

⁹ "And it shall be that every living thing that moves, wherever the rivers go, will live. There will be a very great multitude of fish, because these waters go there; for they will be healed, and everything will live wherever the river goes.

¹⁰ "It shall be that fishermen will stand by it from En Gedi to En Eglaim; they will be places for spreading their nets. Their fish will be of the same kinds as the fish of the Great Sea, exceedingly many.

¹¹ "But its swamps and marshes will not be healed; they will be given over to salt.

¹² "Along the bank of the river, on this side and that, will grow all kinds of trees used for food; their leaves will not wither, and their fruit will not fail. They will bear fruit every month, because their water flows from the sanctuary. Their fruit will be for food, and their leaves for medicine."

¹³ Thus says the Lord GOD: "These are the borders by which you shall divide the land as an inheritance among the twelve tribes of Israel. Joseph shall have two portions.

¹⁴ "You shall inherit it equally with one another; for I raised My hand in an oath to give it to your fathers, and this land shall fall to you as your inheritance.

¹⁵ "This shall be the border of the land on the north: from the Great Sea, by the road to Hethlon, as one goes to Zedad,

¹⁶ "Hamath, Berothah, Sibram (which is between the border of Damascus and the border of Hamath), to Hazar Hatticon (which is on the border of Hauran).

¹⁷ "Thus the boundary shall be from the Sea to Hazar Enan, the border of Damascus; and as for the north, northward, it is the border of Hamath. This is the north side.

¹⁸ "On the east side you shall mark out the border from between Hauran and Damascus, and between Gilead and the land of Israel, along the Jordan, and along the eastern side of the sea. This is the east side.

¹⁹ "The south side, toward the South, shall be from Tamar to the waters of Meribah by Kadesh, along the brook to the Great Sea. This is the south side, toward the South.

²⁰ "The west side shall be the Great Sea, from the southern boundary until one

comes to a point opposite Hamath. This is the west side.

²¹ "Thus you shall divide this land among yourselves according to the tribes of Israel.

²² "It shall be that you will divide it by lot as an inheritance for yourselves, and for the strangers who dwell among you and who bear children among you. They shall be to you as native-born among the children of Israel; they shall have an inheritance with you among the tribes of Israel.

²³ "And it shall be that in whatever tribe the stranger dwells, there you shall give him his inheritance," says the Lord GOD.

48¹ "Now these are the names of the tribes: From the northern border along the road to Hethlon at the entrance of Hamath, to Hazar Enan, the border of Damascus northward, in the direction of Hamath, there shall be one

section for Dan from its east to its west side;

² "by the border of Dan, from the east side to the west, one section for Asher;

³ "by the border of Asher, from the east side to the west, one section for Naphtali;

⁴ "by the border of Naphtali, from the east side to the west, one section for Manasseh;

⁵ "by the border of Manasseh, from the east side to the west, one section for Ephraim;

⁶ "by the border of Ephraim, from the east side to the west, one section for Reuben;

⁷ "by the border of Reuben, from the east side to the west, one section for Judah;

⁸ "by the border of Judah, from the east side to the west, shall be the district which you shall set apart, twenty–five

thousand cubits in width, and in length the same as one of the other portions, from the east side to the west, with the sanctuary in the center.

⁹ "The district that you shall set apart for the LORD shall be twenty-five thousand cubits in length and ten thousand in width.

¹⁰ "To these—to the priests—the holy district shall belong: on the north twenty-five thousand cubits in length, on the west ten thousand in width, on the east ten thousand in width, and on the south twenty-five thousand in length. The sanctuary of the LORD shall be in the center.

¹¹ "It shall be for the priests of the sons of Zadok, who are sanctified, who have kept My charge, who did not go astray when the children of Israel went astray, as the Levites went astray.

¹² "And this district of land that is set apart shall be to them a thing most holy by the border of the Levites.

¹³ "Opposite the border of the priests, the Levites shall have an area twenty-five thousand cubits in length and ten thousand in width; its entire length shall be twenty-five thousand and its width ten thousand.

¹⁴ "And they shall not sell or exchange any of it; they may not alienate this best part of the land, for it is holy to the LORD.

¹⁵ "The five thousand cubits in width that remain, along the edge of the twenty-five thousand, shall be for general use by the city, for dwellings and common-land; and the city shall be in the center.

¹⁶ "These shall be its measurements: the north side four thousand five hundred cubits, the south side four

thousand five hundred, the east side four thousand five hundred, and the west side four thousand five hundred.

¹⁷ "The common-land of the city shall be: to the north two hundred and fifty cubits, to the south two hundred and fifty, to the east two hundred and fifty, and to the west two hundred and fifty.

¹⁸ "The rest of the length, alongside the district of the holy section, shall be ten thousand cubits to the east and ten thousand to the west. It shall be adjacent to the district of the holy section, and its produce shall be food for the workers of the city.

¹⁹ "The workers of the city, from all the tribes of Israel, shall cultivate it.

²⁰ "The entire district shall be twenty-five thousand cubits by twenty-five thousand cubits, foursquare. You shall set apart the holy district with the property of the city.

²¹ "The rest shall belong to the prince, on one side and on the other of the holy district and of the city's property, next to the twenty-five thousand cubits of the holy district as far as the eastern border, and westward next to the twenty-five thousand as far as the western border, adjacent to the tribal portions; it shall belong to the prince. It shall be the holy district, and the sanctuary of the temple shall be in the center.

²² "Moreover, apart from the possession of the Levites and the possession of the city which are in the midst of what belongs to the prince, the area between the border of Judah and the border of Benjamin shall belong to the prince.

²³ "As for the rest of the tribes, from the east side to the west, Benjamin shall have one section;

²⁴ "by the border of Benjamin, from the east side to the west, Simeon shall have one section;

²⁵ "by the border of Simeon, from the east side to the west, Issachar shall have one section;

²⁶ "by the border of Issachar, from the east side to the west, Zebulun shall have one section;

²⁷ "by the border of Zebulun, from the east side to the west, Gad shall have one section;

²⁸ "by the border of Gad, on the south side, toward the South, the border shall be from Tamar to the waters of Meribah by Kadesh, along the brook to the Great Sea.

²⁹ "This is the land which you shall divide by lot as an inheritance among the tribes of Israel, and these are their portions," says the Lord GOD.

³⁰ "These are the exits of the city. On the north side, measuring four thousand five hundred cubits

³¹ '(the gates of the city shall be named after the tribes of Israel), the three gates northward: one gate for Reuben, one gate for Judah, and one gate for Levi;

³² "on the east side, four thousand five hundred cubits, three gates: one gate for Joseph, one gate for Benjamin, and one gate for Dan;

³³ "on the south side, measuring four thousand five hundred cubits, three gates: one gate for Simeon, one gate for Issachar, and one gate for Zebulun;

³⁴ "on the west side, four thousand five hundred cubits with their three gates: one gate for Gad, one gate for Asher, and one gate for Naphtali.

³⁵ "All the way around shall be eighteen thousand cubits; and the name of the

city from that day shall be: THE LORD IS
THERE."

Daniel

1 ¹ In the third year of the reign of Jehoiakim king of Judah, Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came to Jerusalem and besieged it.

² And the Lord gave Jehoiakim king of Judah into his hand, with some of the articles of the house of God, which he carried into the land of Shinar to the house of his god; and he brought the articles into the treasure house of his god.

³ Then the king instructed Ashpenaz, the master of his eunuchs, to bring some of the children of Israel and some of the king's descendants and some of the nobles,

⁴ young men in whom there was no blemish, but good-looking, gifted in

all wisdom, possessing knowledge and quick to understand, who had ability to serve in the king's palace, and whom they might teach the language and literature of the Chaldeans.

⁵ And the king appointed for them a daily provision of the king's delicacies and of the wine which he drank, and three years of training for them, so that at the end of that time they might serve before the king.

⁶ Now from among those of the sons of Judah were Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah.

⁷ To them the chief of the eunuchs gave names: he gave Daniel the name Belteshazzar; to Hananiah, Shadrach; to Mishael, Meshach; and to Azariah, Abed-Nego.

⁸ But Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself with the portion of the king's delicacies, nor with

the wine which he drank; therefore he requested of the chief of the eunuchs that he might not defile himself.

⁹ Now God had brought Daniel into the favor and goodwill of the chief of the eunuchs.

¹⁰ And the chief of the eunuchs said to Daniel, "I fear my lord the king, who has appointed your food and drink. For why should he see your faces looking worse than the young men who are your age? Then you would endanger my head before the king."

¹¹ So Daniel said to the steward whom the chief of the eunuchs had set over Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah,

¹² "Please test your servants for ten days, and let them give us vegetables to eat and water to drink.

¹³ "Then let our appearance be examined before you, and the appearance of the young men who eat

the portion of the king's delicacies; and as you see fit, so deal with your servants."

¹⁴ So he consented with them in this matter, and tested them ten days.

¹⁵ And at the end of ten days their features appeared better and fatter in flesh than all the young men who ate the portion of the king's delicacies.

¹⁶ Thus the steward took away their portion of delicacies and the wine that they were to drink, and gave them vegetables.

¹⁷ As for these four young men, God gave them knowledge and skill in all literature and wisdom; and Daniel had understanding in all visions and dreams.

¹⁸ Now at the end of the days, when the king had said that they should be brought in, the chief of the eunuchs brought them in before Nebuchadnezzar.

¹⁹ Then the king interviewed them, and among them all none was found like Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah; therefore they served before the king.

²⁰ And in all matters of wisdom and understanding about which the king examined them, he found them ten times better than all the magicians and astrologers who were in all his realm.

²¹ Thus Daniel continued until the first year of King Cyrus.

2¹ Now in the second year of Nebuchadnezzar's reign, Nebuchadnezzar had dreams; and his spirit was so troubled that his sleep left him.

² Then the king gave the command to call the magicians, the astrologers, the sorcerers, and the Chaldeans to tell the king his dreams. So they came and stood before the king.

³ And the king said to them, "I have had a dream, and my spirit is anxious to know the dream."

⁴ Then the Chaldeans spoke to the king in Aramaic, "O king, live forever! Tell your servants the dream, and we will give the interpretation."

⁵ The king answered and said to the Chaldeans, "My decision is firm: if you do not make known the dream to me, and its interpretation, you shall be cut in pieces, and your houses shall be made an ash heap.

⁶ "However, if you tell the dream and its interpretation, you shall receive from me gifts, rewards, and great honor. Therefore tell me the dream and its interpretation."

⁷ They answered again and said, "Let the king tell his servants the dream, and we will give its interpretation."

⁸ The king answered and said, "I know for certain that you would gain time, because you see that my decision is firm:

⁹ "if you do not make known the dream to me, there is only one decree for you! For you have agreed to speak lying and corrupt words before me till the time has changed. Therefore tell me the dream, and I shall know that you can give me its interpretation."

¹⁰ The Chaldeans answered the king, and said, "There is not a man on earth who can tell the king's matter; therefore no king, lord, or ruler has ever asked such things of any magician, astrologer, or Chaldean.

¹¹ "It is a difficult thing that the king requests, and there is no other who can tell it to the king except the gods, whose dwelling is not with flesh."

¹² For this reason the king was angry and very furious, and gave a command to destroy all the wise men of Babylon.

¹³ So the decree went out, and they began killing the wise men; and they sought Daniel and his companions, to kill them.

¹⁴ Then with counsel and wisdom Daniel answered Arioch, the captain of the king's guard, who had gone out to kill the wise men of Babylon;

¹⁵ he answered and said to Arioch the king's captain, "Why is the decree from the king so urgent?" Then Arioch made the decision known to Daniel.

¹⁶ So Daniel went in and asked the king to give him time, that he might tell the king the interpretation.

¹⁷ Then Daniel went to his house, and made the decision known to Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah, his companions,

¹⁸ that they might seek mercies from the God of heaven concerning this secret, so that Daniel and his companions might not perish with the rest of the wise men of Babylon.

¹⁹ Then the secret was revealed to Daniel in a night vision. So Daniel blessed the God of heaven.

²⁰ Daniel answered and said: "Blessed be the name of God forever and ever, For wisdom and might are His.

²¹ And He changes the times and the seasons; He removes kings and raises up kings; He gives wisdom to the wise And knowledge to those who have understanding.

²² He reveals deep and secret things; He knows what is in the darkness, And light dwells with Him.

²³ "I thank You and praise You, O God of my fathers; You have given me wisdom and might, And have now made known

to me what we asked of You, For You have made known to us the king's demand."

²⁴ Therefore Daniel went to Arioch, whom the king had appointed to destroy the wise men of Babylon. He went and said thus to him: "Do not destroy the wise men of Babylon; take me before the king, and I will tell the king the interpretation."

²⁵ Then Arioch quickly brought Daniel before the king, and said thus to him, "I have found a man of the captives of Judah, who will make known to the king the interpretation."

²⁶ The king answered and said to Daniel, whose name was Belteshazzar, "Are you able to make known to me the dream which I have seen, and its interpretation?"

²⁷ Daniel answered in the presence of the king, and said, "The secret which

the king has demanded, the wise men, the astrologers, the magicians, and the soothsayers cannot declare to the king.

²⁸ "But there is a God in heaven who reveals secrets, and He has made known to King Nebuchadnezzar what will be in the latter days. Your dream, and the visions of your head upon your bed, were these:

²⁹ "As for you, O king, thoughts came to your mind while on your bed, about what would come to pass after this; and He who reveals secrets has made known to you what will be.

³⁰ "But as for me, this secret has not been revealed to me because I have more wisdom than anyone living, but for our sakes who make known the interpretation to the king, and that you may know the thoughts of your heart.

³¹ "You, O king, were watching; and behold, a great image! This great image,

whose splendor was excellent, stood before you; and its form was awesome.

³² "This image's head was of fine gold, its chest and arms of silver, its belly and thighs of bronze,

³³ "its legs of iron, its feet partly of iron and partly of clay.

³⁴ "You watched while a stone was cut out without hands, which struck the image on its feet of iron and clay, and broke them in pieces.

³⁵ "Then the iron, the clay, the bronze, the silver, and the gold were crushed together, and became like chaff from the summer threshing floors; the wind carried them away so that no trace of them was found. And the stone that struck the image became a great mountain and filled the whole earth.

³⁶ "This is the dream. Now we will tell the interpretation of it before the king.

³⁷ "You, O king, are a king of kings. For the God of heaven has given you a kingdom, power, strength, and glory;

³⁸ "and wherever the children of men dwell, or the beasts of the field and the birds of the heaven, He has given them into your hand, and has made you ruler over them all—you are this head of gold.

³⁹ "But after you shall arise another kingdom inferior to yours; then another, a third kingdom of bronze, which shall rule over all the earth.

⁴⁰ "And the fourth kingdom shall be as strong as iron, inasmuch as iron breaks in pieces and shatters everything; and like iron that crushes, that kingdom will break in pieces and crush all the others.

⁴¹ "Whereas you saw the feet and toes, partly of potter's clay and partly of iron, the kingdom shall be divided; yet the strength of the iron shall be in it, just

as you saw the iron mixed with ceramic clay.

⁴² "And as the toes of the feet were partly of iron and partly of clay, so the kingdom shall be partly strong and partly fragile.

⁴³ "As you saw iron mixed with ceramic clay, they will mingle with the seed of men; but they will not adhere to one another, just as iron does not mix with clay.

⁴⁴ "And in the days of these kings the God of heaven will set up a kingdom which shall never be destroyed; and the kingdom shall not be left to other people; it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand forever.

⁴⁵ "Inasmuch as you saw that the stone was cut out of the mountain without hands, and that it broke in pieces the iron, the bronze, the clay, the silver,

and the gold—the great God has made known to the king what will come to pass after this. The dream is certain, and its interpretation is sure."

⁴⁶ Then King Nebuchadnezzar fell on his face, prostrate before Daniel, and commanded that they should present an offering and incense to him.

⁴⁷ The king answered Daniel, and said, "Truly your God is the God of gods, the Lord of kings, and a revealer of secrets, since you could reveal this secret."

⁴⁸ Then the king promoted Daniel and gave him many great gifts; and he made him ruler over the whole province of Babylon, and chief administrator over all the wise men of Babylon.

⁴⁹ Also Daniel petitioned the king, and he set Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed–Nego over the affairs of the province of Babylon; but Daniel sat in the gate of the king.

3¹ Nebuchadnezzar the king made an image of gold, whose height was sixty cubits and its width six cubits. He set it up in the plain of Dura, in the province of Babylon.

² And King Nebuchadnezzar sent word to gather together the satraps, the administrators, the governors, the counselors, the treasurers, the judges, the magistrates, and all the officials of the provinces, to come to the dedication of the image which King Nebuchadnezzar had set up.

³ So the satraps, the administrators, the governors, the counselors, the treasurers, the judges, the magistrates, and all the officials of the provinces gathered together for the dedication of the image that King Nebuchadnezzar had set up; and they stood before the image that Nebuchadnezzar had set up.

⁴ Then a herald cried aloud: "To you it is commanded, O peoples, nations, and languages,

⁵ "that at the time you hear the sound of the horn, flute, harp, lyre, and psaltery, in symphony with all kinds of music, you shall fall down and worship the gold image that King Nebuchadnezzar has set up;

⁶ "and whoever does not fall down and worship shall be cast immediately into the midst of a burning fiery furnace."

⁷ So at that time, when all the people heard the sound of the horn, flute, harp, and lyre, in symphony with all kinds of music, all the people, nations, and languages fell down and worshiped the gold image which King Nebuchadnezzar had set up.

⁸ Therefore at that time certain Chaldeans came forward and accused the Jews.

⁹ They spoke and said to King Nebuchadnezzar, "O king, live forever!

¹⁰ "You, O king, have made a decree that everyone who hears the sound of the horn, flute, harp, lyre, and psaltery, in symphony with all kinds of music, shall fall down and worship the gold image;

¹¹ "and whoever does not fall down and worship shall be cast into the midst of a burning fiery furnace.

¹² "There are certain Jews whom you have set over the affairs of the province of Babylon: Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed–Nego; these men, O king, have not paid due regard to you. They do not serve your gods or worship the gold image which you have set up."

¹³ Then Nebuchadnezzar, in rage and fury, gave the command to bring Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed–Nego. So they brought these men before the king.

¹⁴ Nebuchadnezzar spoke, saying to them, "Is it true, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed–Nego, that you do not serve my gods or worship the gold image which I have set up?"

¹⁵ "Now if you are ready at the time you hear the sound of the horn, flute, harp, lyre, and psaltery, in symphony with all kinds of music, and you fall down and worship the image which I have made, good! But if you do not worship, you shall be cast immediately into the midst of a burning fiery furnace. And who is the god who will deliver you from my hands?"

¹⁶ Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed–Nego answered and said to the king, "O Nebuchadnezzar, we have no need to answer you in this matter.

¹⁷ "If that is the case, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the

burning fiery furnace, and He will deliver us from your hand, O king.

¹⁸ "But if not, let it be known to you, O king, that we do not serve your gods, nor will we worship the gold image which you have set up."

¹⁹ Then Nebuchadnezzar was full of fury, and the expression on his face changed toward Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed–Nego. He spoke and commanded that they heat the furnace seven times more than it was usually heated.

²⁰ And he commanded certain mighty men of valor who were in his army to bind Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed–Nego, and cast them into the burning fiery furnace.

²¹ Then these men were bound in their coats, their trousers, their turbans, and their other garments, and were cast into the midst of the burning fiery furnace.

²² Therefore, because the king's command was urgent, and the furnace exceedingly hot, the flame of the fire killed those men who took up Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed–Nego.

²³ And these three men, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed–Nego, fell down bound into the midst of the burning fiery furnace.

²⁴ Then King Nebuchadnezzar was astonished; and he rose in haste and spoke, saying to his counselors, "Did we not cast three men bound into the midst of the fire?" They answered and said to the king, "True, O king."

²⁵ "Look!" he answered, "I see four men loose, walking in the midst of the fire; and they are not hurt, and the form of the fourth is like the Son of God."

²⁶ Then Nebuchadnezzar went near the mouth of the burning fiery furnace and spoke, saying, "Shadrach, Meshach, and

Abed–Nego, servants of the Most High God, come out, and come here." Then Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed–Nego came from the midst of the fire.

²⁷ And the satraps, administrators, governors, and the king's counselors gathered together, and they saw these men on whose bodies the fire had no power; the hair of their head was not singed nor were their garments affected, and the smell of fire was not on them.

²⁸ Nebuchadnezzar spoke, saying, "Blessed be the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed–Nego, who sent His Angel and delivered His servants who trusted in Him, and they have frustrated the king's word, and yielded their bodies, that they should not serve nor worship any god except their own God!

²⁹ "Therefore I make a decree that any people, nation, or language which speaks anything amiss against the God

of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed–Nego shall be cut in pieces, and their houses shall be made an ash heap; because there is no other God who can deliver like this."

³⁰ Then the king promoted Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed–Nego in the province of Babylon.

4 ¹ Nebuchadnezzar the king, To all peoples, nations, and languages that dwell in all the earth: Peace be multiplied to you.

² I thought it good to declare the signs and wonders that the Most High God has worked for me.

³ How great are His signs, And how mighty His wonders! His kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, And His dominion is from generation to generation.

⁴ I, Nebuchadnezzar, was at rest in my house, and flourishing in my palace.

⁵ I saw a dream which made me afraid, and the thoughts on my bed and the visions of my head troubled me.

⁶ Therefore I issued a decree to bring in all the wise men of Babylon before me, that they might make known to me the interpretation of the dream.

⁷ Then the magicians, the astrologers, the Chaldeans, and the soothsayers came in, and I told them the dream; but they did not make known to me its interpretation.

⁸ But at last Daniel came before me (his name is Belteshazzar, according to the name of my god; in him is the Spirit of the Holy God), and I told the dream before him, saying:

⁹ "Belteshazzar, chief of the magicians, because I know that the Spirit of the Holy God is in you, and no secret troubles you, explain to me the visions of my dream that I have seen, and its interpretation.

¹⁰ "These were the visions of my head while on my bed: "I was looking, and behold, A tree in the midst of the earth, And its height was great.

¹¹ The tree grew and became strong; Its height reached to the heavens, And it could be seen to the ends of all the earth.

¹² Its leaves were lovely, Its fruit abundant, And in it was food for all. The beasts of the field found shade under it, The birds of the heavens dwelt in its branches, And all flesh was fed from it.

¹³ "I saw in the visions of my head while on my bed, and there was a watcher, a holy one, coming down from heaven.

¹⁴ He cried aloud and said thus: 'Chop down the tree and cut off its branches, Strip off its leaves and scatter its fruit. Let the beasts get out from under it, And the birds from its branches.

¹⁵ Nevertheless leave the stump and roots in the earth, Bound with a band of iron and bronze, In the tender grass of the field. Let it be wet with the dew of heaven, And let him graze with the beasts On the grass of the earth.

¹⁶ Let his heart be changed from that of a man, Let him be given the heart of a beast, And let seven times pass over him.

¹⁷ 'This decision is by the decree of the watchers, And the sentence by the word of the holy ones, In order that the living may know That the Most High rules in the kingdom of men, Gives it to whomever He will, And sets over it the lowest of men.'

¹⁸ "This dream I, King Nebuchadnezzar, have seen. Now you, Belteshazzar, declare its interpretation, since all the wise men of my kingdom are not able to make known to me the interpretation;

but you are able, for the Spirit of the Holy God is in you."

¹⁹ Then Daniel, whose name was Belteshazzar, was astonished for a time, and his thoughts troubled him. So the king spoke, and said, "Belteshazzar, do not let the dream or its interpretation trouble you." Belteshazzar answered and said, "My lord, may the dream concern those who hate you, and its interpretation concern your enemies!

²⁰ The tree that you saw, which grew and became strong, whose height reached to the heavens and which could be seen by all the earth,

²¹ whose leaves were lovely and its fruit abundant, in which was food for all, under which the beasts of the field dwelt, and in whose branches the birds of the heaven had their home—

²² it is you, O king, who have grown and become strong; for your greatness has

grown and reaches to the heavens, and your dominion to the end of the earth.

²³ And inasmuch as the king saw a watcher, a holy one, coming down from heaven and saying, 'Chop down the tree and destroy it, but leave its stump and roots in the earth, bound with a band of iron and bronze in the tender grass of the field; let it be wet with the dew of heaven, and let him graze with the beasts of the field, till seven times pass over him';

²⁴ this is the interpretation, O king, and this is the decree of the Most High, which has come upon my lord the king:

²⁵ They shall drive you from men, your dwelling shall be with the beasts of the field, and they shall make you eat grass like oxen. They shall wet you with the dew of heaven, and seven times shall pass over you, till you know that the

Most High rules in the kingdom of men, and gives it to whomever He chooses.

²⁶ And inasmuch as they gave the command to leave the stump and roots of the tree, your kingdom shall be assured to you, after you come to know that Heaven rules.

²⁷ Therefore, O king, let my advice be acceptable to you; break off your sins by being righteous, and your iniquities by showing mercy to the poor. Perhaps there may be a lengthening of your prosperity."

²⁸ All this came upon King Nebuchadnezzar.

²⁹ At the end of the twelve months he was walking about the royal palace of Babylon.

³⁰ The king spoke, saying, "Is not this great Babylon, that I have built for a royal dwelling by my mighty power and for the honor of my majesty?"

³¹ While the word was still in the king's mouth, a voice fell from heaven: "King Nebuchadnezzar, to you it is spoken: the kingdom has departed from you!

³² And they shall drive you from men, and your dwelling shall be with the beasts of the field. They shall make you eat grass like oxen; and seven times shall pass over you, until you know that the Most High rules in the kingdom of men, and gives it to whomever He chooses."

³³ That very hour the word was fulfilled concerning Nebuchadnezzar; he was driven from men and ate grass like oxen; his body was wet with the dew of heaven till his hair had grown like eagles' feathers and his nails like birds' claws.

³⁴ And at the end of the time I, Nebuchadnezzar, lifted my eyes to heaven, and my understanding returned to me; and I blessed the Most High and praised and honored Him who

lives forever: For His dominion is an everlasting dominion, And His kingdom is from generation to generation.

³⁵ All the inhabitants of the earth are reputed as nothing; He does according to His will in the army of heaven And among the inhabitants of the earth. No one can restrain His hand Or say to Him, "What have You done?"

³⁶ At the same time my reason returned to me, and for the glory of my kingdom, my honor and splendor returned to me. My counselors and nobles resorted to me, I was restored to my kingdom, and excellent majesty was added to me.

³⁷ Now I, Nebuchadnezzar, praise and extol and honor the King of heaven, all of whose works are truth, and His ways justice. And those who walk in pride He is able to put down.

5 ¹ Belshazzar the king made a great feast for a thousand of his lords,

and drank wine in the presence of the thousand.

² While he tasted the wine, Belshazzar gave the command to bring the gold and silver vessels which his father Nebuchadnezzar had taken from the temple which had been in Jerusalem, that the king and his lords, his wives, and his concubines might drink from them.

³ Then they brought the gold vessels that had been taken from the temple of the house of God which had been in Jerusalem; and the king and his lords, his wives, and his concubines drank from them.

⁴ They drank wine, and praised the gods of gold and silver, bronze and iron, wood and stone.

⁵ In the same hour the fingers of a man's hand appeared and wrote opposite the lampstand on the plaster of the wall of

the king's palace; and the king saw the part of the hand that wrote.

⁶ Then the king's countenance changed, and his thoughts troubled him, so that the joints of his hips were loosened and his knees knocked against each other.

⁷ The king cried aloud to bring in the astrologers, the Chaldeans, and the soothsayers. The king spoke, saying to the wise men of Babylon, "Whoever reads this writing, and tells me its interpretation, shall be clothed with purple and have a chain of gold around his neck; and he shall be the third ruler in the kingdom."

⁸ Now all the king's wise men came, but they could not read the writing, or make known to the king its interpretation.

⁹ Then King Belshazzar was greatly troubled, his countenance was changed, and his lords were astonished.

¹⁰ The queen, because of the words of the king and his lords, came to the banquet hall. The queen spoke, saying, "O king, live forever! Do not let your thoughts trouble you, nor let your countenance change.

¹¹ "There is a man in your kingdom in whom is the Spirit of the Holy God. And in the days of your father, light and understanding and wisdom, like the wisdom of the gods, were found in him; and King Nebuchadnezzar your father—your father the king—made him chief of the magicians, astrologers, Chaldeans, and soothsayers.

¹² "Inasmuch as an excellent spirit, knowledge, understanding, interpreting dreams, solving riddles, and explaining enigmas were found in this Daniel, whom the king named Belteshazzar, now let Daniel be called, and he will give the interpretation."

¹³ Then Daniel was brought in before the king. The king spoke, and said to Daniel, "Are you that Daniel who is one of the captives from Judah, whom my father the king brought from Judah?"

¹⁴ "I have heard of you, that the Spirit of God is in you, and that light and understanding and excellent wisdom are found in you.

¹⁵ "Now the wise men, the astrologers, have been brought in before me, that they should read this writing and make known to me its interpretation, but they could not give the interpretation of the thing.

¹⁶ "And I have heard of you, that you can give interpretations and explain enigmas. Now if you can read the writing and make known to me its interpretation, you shall be clothed with purple and have a chain of gold around

your neck, and shall be the third ruler in the kingdom."

¹⁷ Then Daniel answered, and said before the king, "Let your gifts be for yourself, and give your rewards to another; yet I will read the writing to the king, and make known to him the interpretation.

¹⁸ "O king, the Most High God gave Nebuchadnezzar your father a kingdom and majesty, glory and honor.

¹⁹ "And because of the majesty that He gave him, all peoples, nations, and languages trembled and feared before him. Whomever he wished, he executed; whomever he wished, he kept alive; whomever he wished, he set up; and whomever he wished, he put down.

²⁰ "But when his heart was lifted up, and his spirit was hardened in pride, he was deposed from his kingly throne, and they took his glory from him.

²¹ "Then he was driven from the sons of men, his heart was made like the beasts, and his dwelling was with the wild donkeys. They fed him with grass like oxen, and his body was wet with the dew of heaven, till he knew that the Most High God rules in the kingdom of men, and appoints over it whomever He chooses.

²² "But you his son, Belshazzar, have not humbled your heart, although you knew all this.

²³ "And you have lifted yourself up against the Lord of heaven. They have brought the vessels of His house before you, and you and your lords, your wives and your concubines, have drunk wine from them. And you have praised the gods of silver and gold, bronze and iron, wood and stone, which do not see or hear or know; and the God who holds

your breath in His hand and owns all your ways, you have not glorified.

²⁴ "Then the fingers of the hand were sent from Him, and this writing was written.

²⁵ "And this is the inscription that was written: MENE, MENE, TEKEL, UPHARSIN.

²⁶ "This is the interpretation of each word. MENE: God has numbered your kingdom, and finished it;

²⁷ "TEKEL: You have been weighed in the balances, and found wanting;

²⁸ "PERES: Your kingdom has been divided, and given to the Medes and Persians."

²⁹ Then Belshazzar gave the command, and they clothed Daniel with purple and put a chain of gold around his neck, and made a proclamation concerning him that he should be the third ruler in the kingdom.

³⁰ That very night Belshazzar, king of the Chaldeans, was slain.

³¹ And Darius the Mede received the kingdom, being about sixty–two years old.

6 ¹ It pleased Darius to set over the kingdom one hundred and twenty satraps, to be over the whole kingdom; ² and over these, three governors, of whom Daniel was one, that the satraps might give account to them, so that the king would suffer no loss.

³ Then this Daniel distinguished himself above the governors and satraps, because an excellent spirit was in him; and the king gave thought to setting him over the whole realm.

⁴ So the governors and satraps sought to find some charge against Daniel concerning the kingdom; but they could find no charge or fault, because he was

faithful; nor was there any error or fault found in him.

⁵ Then these men said, "We shall not find any charge against this Daniel unless we find it against him concerning the law of his God."

⁶ So these governors and satraps thronged before the king, and said thus to him: "King Darius, live forever!

⁷ "All the governors of the kingdom, the administrators and satraps, the counselors and advisors, have consulted together to establish a royal statute and to make a firm decree, that whoever petitions any god or man for thirty days, except you, O king, shall be cast into the den of lions.

⁸ "Now, O king, establish the decree and sign the writing, so that it cannot be changed, according to the law of the Medes and Persians, which does not alter."

⁹ Therefore King Darius signed the written decree.

¹⁰ Now when Daniel knew that the writing was signed, he went home. And in his upper room, with his windows open toward Jerusalem, he knelt down on his knees three times that day, and prayed and gave thanks before his God, as was his custom since early days.

¹¹ Then these men assembled and found Daniel praying and making supplication before his God.

¹² And they went before the king, and spoke concerning the king's decree: "Have you not signed a decree that every man who petitions any god or man within thirty days, except you, O king, shall be cast into the den of lions?" The king answered and said, "The thing is true, according to the law of the Medes and Persians, which does not alter."

¹³ So they answered and said before the king, "That Daniel, who is one of the captives from Judah, does not show due regard for you, O king, or for the decree that you have signed, but makes his petition three times a day."

¹⁴ And the king, when he heard these words, was greatly displeased with himself, and set his heart on Daniel to deliver him; and he labored till the going down of the sun to deliver him.

¹⁵ Then these men approached the king, and said to the king, "Know, O king, that it is the law of the Medes and Persians that no decree or statute which the king establishes may be changed."

¹⁶ So the king gave the command, and they brought Daniel and cast him into the den of lions. But the king spoke, saying to Daniel, "Your God, whom you serve continually, He will deliver you."

¹⁷ Then a stone was brought and laid on the mouth of the den, and the king sealed it with his own signet ring and with the signets of his lords, that the purpose concerning Daniel might not be changed.

¹⁸ Now the king went to his palace and spent the night fasting; and no musicians were brought before him. Also his sleep went from him.

¹⁹ Then the king arose very early in the morning and went in haste to the den of lions.

²⁰ And when he came to the den, he cried out with a lamenting voice to Daniel. The king spoke, saying to Daniel, "Daniel, servant of the living God, has your God, whom you serve continually, been able to deliver you from the lions?"

²¹ Then Daniel said to the king, "O king, live forever!

²² "My God sent His angel and shut the lions' mouths, so that they have not hurt me, because I was found innocent before Him; and also, O king, I have done no wrong before you."

²³ Then the king was exceedingly glad for him, and commanded that they should take Daniel up out of the den. So Daniel was taken up out of the den, and no injury whatever was found on him, because he believed in his God.

²⁴ And the king gave the command, and they brought those men who had accused Daniel, and they cast them into the den of lions—they, their children, and their wives; and the lions overpowered them, and broke all their bones in pieces before they ever came to the bottom of the den.

²⁵ Then King Darius wrote: To all peoples, nations, and languages that

dwell in all the earth: Peace be multiplied to you.

²⁶ I make a decree that in every dominion of my kingdom men must tremble and fear before the God of Daniel. For He is the living God, And steadfast forever; His kingdom is the one which shall not be destroyed, And His dominion shall endure to the end.

²⁷ He delivers and rescues, And He works signs and wonders In heaven and on earth, Who has delivered Daniel from the power of the lions.

²⁸ So this Daniel prospered in the reign of Darius and in the reign of Cyrus the Persian.

7¹ In the first year of Belshazzar king of Babylon, Daniel had a dream and visions of his head while on his bed. Then he wrote down the dream, telling the main facts.

² Daniel spoke, saying, "I saw in my vision by night, and behold, the four winds of heaven were stirring up the Great Sea.

³ "And four great beasts came up from the sea, each different from the other.

⁴ "The first was like a lion, and had eagle's wings. I watched till its wings were plucked off; and it was lifted up from the earth and made to stand on two feet like a man, and a man's heart was given to it.

⁵ "And suddenly another beast, a second, like a bear. It was raised up on one side, and had three ribs in its mouth between its teeth. And they said thus to it: 'Arise, devour much flesh!'

⁶ "After this I looked, and there was another, like a leopard, which had on its back four wings of a bird. The beast also had four heads, and dominion was given to it.

⁷ "After this I saw in the night visions, and behold, a fourth beast, dreadful and terrible, exceedingly strong. It had huge iron teeth; it was devouring, breaking in pieces, and trampling the residue with its feet. It was different from all the beasts that were before it, and it had ten horns.

⁸ "I was considering the horns, and there was another horn, a little one, coming up among them, before whom three of the first horns were plucked out by the roots. And there, in this horn, were eyes like the eyes of a man, and a mouth speaking pompous words.

⁹ "I watched till thrones were put in place, And the Ancient of Days was seated; His garment was white as snow, And the hair of His head was like pure wool. His throne was a fiery flame, Its wheels a burning fire;

¹⁰ A fiery stream issued And came forth from before Him. A thousand thousands ministered to Him; Ten thousand times ten thousand stood before Him. The court was seated, And the books were opened.

¹¹ "I watched then because of the sound of the pompous words which the horn was speaking; I watched till the beast was slain, and its body destroyed and given to the burning flame.

¹² "As for the rest of the beasts, they had their dominion taken away, yet their lives were prolonged for a season and a time.

¹³ "I was watching in the night visions, And behold, One like the Son of Man, Coming with the clouds of heaven! He came to the Ancient of Days, And they brought Him near before Him.

¹⁴ Then to Him was given dominion and glory and a kingdom, That all peoples,

nations, and languages should serve Him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion, Which shall not pass away, And His kingdom the one Which shall not be destroyed.

¹⁵ "I, Daniel, was grieved in my spirit within my body, and the visions of my head troubled me.

¹⁶ "I came near to one of those who stood by, and asked him the truth of all this. So he told me and made known to me the interpretation of these things:

¹⁷ 'Those great beasts, which are four, are four kings which arise out of the earth.

¹⁸ 'But the saints of the Most High shall receive the kingdom, and possess the kingdom forever, even forever and ever.'

¹⁹ "Then I wished to know the truth about the fourth beast, which was different from all the others, exceedingly dreadful, with its teeth of iron and its

nails of bronze, which devoured, broke in pieces, and trampled the residue with its feet;

²⁰ "and the ten horns that were on its head, and the other horn which came up, before which three fell, namely, that horn which had eyes and a mouth which spoke pompous words, whose appearance was greater than his fellows.

²¹ "I was watching; and the same horn was making war against the saints, and prevailing against them,

²² "until the Ancient of Days came, and a judgment was made in favor of the saints of the Most High, and the time came for the saints to possess the kingdom.

²³ "Thus he said: 'The fourth beast shall be A fourth kingdom on earth, Which shall be different from all other kingdoms, And shall devour the whole earth, Trample it and break it in pieces.

²⁴ The ten horns are ten kings Who shall arise from this kingdom. And another shall rise after them; He shall be different from the first ones, And shall subdue three kings.

²⁵ He shall speak pompous words against the Most High, Shall persecute the saints of the Most High, And shall intend to change times and law. Then the saints shall be given into his hand For a time and times and half a time.

²⁶ 'But the court shall be seated, And they shall take away his dominion, To consume and destroy it forever.

²⁷ Then the kingdom and dominion, And the greatness of the kingdoms under the whole heaven, Shall be given to the people, the saints of the Most High. His kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, And all dominions shall serve and obey Him.'

²⁸ "This is the end of the account. As for me, Daniel, my thoughts greatly troubled me, and my countenance changed; but I kept the matter in my heart."

8 ¹ In the third year of the reign of King Belshazzar a vision appeared to me—to me, Daniel—after the one that appeared to me the first time.

² I saw in the vision, and it so happened while I was looking, that I was in Shushan, the citadel, which is in the province of Elam; and I saw in the vision that I was by the River Ulai.

³ Then I lifted my eyes and saw, and there, standing beside the river, was a ram which had two horns, and the two horns were high; but one was higher than the other, and the higher one came up last.

⁴ I saw the ram pushing westward, northward, and southward, so that no animal could withstand him; nor was

there any that could deliver from his hand, but he did according to his will and became great.

⁵ And as I was considering, suddenly a male goat came from the west, across the surface of the whole earth, without touching the ground; and the goat had a notable horn between his eyes.

⁶ Then he came to the ram that had two horns, which I had seen standing beside the river, and ran at him with furious power.

⁷ And I saw him confronting the ram; he was moved with rage against him, attacked the ram, and broke his two horns. There was no power in the ram to withstand him, but he cast him down to the ground and trampled him; and there was no one that could deliver the ram from his hand.

⁸ Therefore the male goat grew very great; but when he became strong, the

large horn was broken, and in place of it four notable ones came up toward the four winds of heaven.

⁹ And out of one of them came a little horn which grew exceedingly great toward the south, toward the east, and toward the Glorious Land.

¹⁰ And it grew up to the host of heaven; and it cast down some of the host and some of the stars to the ground, and trampled them.

¹¹ He even exalted himself as high as the Prince of the host; and by him the daily sacrifices were taken away, and the place of His sanctuary was cast down.

¹² Because of transgression, an army was given over to the horn to oppose the daily sacrifices; and he cast truth down to the ground. He did all this and prospered.

¹³ Then I heard a holy one speaking; and another holy one said to that certain one

who was speaking, "How long will the vision be, concerning the daily sacrifices and the transgression of desolation, the giving of both the sanctuary and the host to be trampled under foot?"

¹⁴ And he said to me, "For two thousand three hundred days; then the sanctuary shall be cleansed."

¹⁵ Then it happened, when I, Daniel, had seen the vision and was seeking the meaning, that suddenly there stood before me one having the appearance of a man.

¹⁶ And I heard a man's voice between the banks of the Ulai, who called, and said, "Gabriel, make this man understand the vision."

¹⁷ So he came near where I stood, and when he came I was afraid and fell on my face; but he said to me, "Understand, son of man, that the vision refers to the time of the end."

¹⁸ Now, as he was speaking with me, I was in a deep sleep with my face to the ground; but he touched me, and stood me upright.

¹⁹ And he said, "Look, I am making known to you what shall happen in the latter time of the indignation; for at the appointed time the end shall be.

²⁰ "The ram which you saw, having the two horns—they are the kings of Media and Persia.

²¹ "And the male goat is the kingdom of Greece. The large horn that is between its eyes is the first king.

²² "As for the broken horn and the four that stood up in its place, four kingdoms shall arise out of that nation, but not with its power.

²³ "And in the latter time of their kingdom, When the transgressors have reached their fullness, A king shall arise,

Having fierce features, Who understands sinister schemes.

²⁴ His power shall be mighty, but not by his own power; He shall destroy fearfully, And shall prosper and thrive; He shall destroy the mighty, and also the holy people.

²⁵ "Through his cunning He shall cause deceit to prosper under his rule; And he shall exalt himself in his heart. He shall destroy many in their prosperity. He shall even rise against the Prince of princes; But he shall be broken without human means.

²⁶ "And the vision of the evenings and mornings Which was told is true; Therefore seal up the vision, For it refers to many days in the future."

²⁷ And I, Daniel, fainted and was sick for days; afterward I arose and went about the king's business. I was astonished by the vision, but no one understood it.

9¹ In the first year of Darius the son of Ahasuerus, of the lineage of the Medes, who was made king over the realm of the Chaldeans—

² in the first year of his reign I, Daniel, understood by the books the number of the years specified by the word of the LORD through Jeremiah the prophet, that He would accomplish seventy years in the desolations of Jerusalem.

³ Then I set my face toward the Lord God to make request by prayer and supplications, with fasting, sackcloth, and ashes.

⁴ And I prayed to the LORD my God, and made confession, and said, "O Lord, great and awesome God, who keeps His covenant and mercy with those who love Him, and with those who keep His commandments,

⁵ "we have sinned and committed iniquity, we have done wickedly and

rebelled, even by departing from Your precepts and Your judgments.

⁶ "Neither have we heeded Your servants the prophets, who spoke in Your name to our kings and our princes, to our fathers and all the people of the land.

⁷ "O Lord, righteousness belongs to You, but to us shame of face, as it is this day—to the men of Judah, to the inhabitants of Jerusalem and all Israel, those near and those far off in all the countries to which You have driven them, because of the unfaithfulness which they have committed against You.

⁸ "O Lord, to us belongs shame of face, to our kings, our princes, and our fathers, because we have sinned against You.

⁹ "To the Lord our God belong mercy and forgiveness, though we have rebelled against Him.

¹⁰ "We have not obeyed the voice of the LORD our God, to walk in His laws, which He set before us by His servants the prophets.

¹¹ "Yes, all Israel has transgressed Your law, and has departed so as not to obey Your voice; therefore the curse and the oath written in the Law of Moses the servant of God have been poured out on us, because we have sinned against Him.

¹² "And He has confirmed His words, which He spoke against us and against our judges who judged us, by bringing upon us a great disaster; for under the whole heaven such has never been done as what has been done to Jerusalem.

¹³ "As it is written in the Law of Moses, all this disaster has come upon us; yet we have not made our prayer before the LORD our God, that we might turn from our iniquities and understand Your truth.

¹⁴ "Therefore the LORD has kept the disaster in mind, and brought it upon us; for the LORD our God is righteous in all the works which He does, though we have not obeyed His voice.

¹⁵ "And now, O Lord our God, who brought Your people out of the land of Egypt with a mighty hand, and made Yourself a name, as it is this day—we have sinned, we have done wickedly!

¹⁶ "O Lord, according to all Your righteousness, I pray, let Your anger and Your fury be turned away from Your city Jerusalem, Your holy mountain; because for our sins, and for the iniquities of our fathers, Jerusalem and Your people are a reproach to all those around us.

¹⁷ "Now therefore, our God, hear the prayer of Your servant, and his supplications, and for the Lord's sake cause Your face to shine on Your sanctuary, which is desolate.

¹⁸ "O my God, incline Your ear and hear; open Your eyes and see our desolations, and the city which is called by Your name; for we do not present our supplications before You because of our righteous deeds, but because of Your great mercies.

¹⁹ "O Lord, hear! O Lord, forgive! O Lord, listen and act! Do not delay for Your own sake, my God, for Your city and Your people are called by Your name."

²⁰ Now while I was speaking, praying, and confessing my sin and the sin of my people Israel, and presenting my supplication before the LORD my God for the holy mountain of my God,

²¹ yes, while I was speaking in prayer, the man Gabriel, whom I had seen in the vision at the beginning, being caused to fly swiftly, reached me about the time of the evening offering.

²² And he informed me, and talked with me, and said, "O Daniel, I have now come forth to give you skill to understand.

²³ "At the beginning of your supplications the command went out, and I have come to tell you, for you are greatly beloved; therefore consider the matter, and understand the vision:

²⁴ "Seventy weeks are determined For your people and for your holy city, To finish the transgression, To make an end of sins, To make reconciliation for iniquity, To bring in everlasting righteousness, To seal up vision and prophecy, And to anoint the Most Holy.

²⁵ "Know therefore and understand, That from the going forth of the command To restore and build Jerusalem Until Messiah the Prince, There shall be seven weeks and sixty-two weeks; The street shall be built

again, and the wall, Even in troublesome times.

²⁶ "And after the sixty-two weeks Messiah shall be cut off, but not for Himself; And the people of the prince who is to come Shall destroy the city and the sanctuary. The end of it shall be with a flood, And till the end of the war desolations are determined.

²⁷ Then he shall confirm a covenant with many for one week; But in the middle of the week He shall bring an end to sacrifice and offering. And on the wing of abominations shall be one who makes desolate, Even until the consummation, which is determined, Is poured out on the desolate."

10¹ In the third year of Cyrus king of Persia a message was revealed to Daniel, whose name was called Belteshazzar. The message was true, but the appointed time was long; and

he understood the message, and had understanding of the vision.

² In those days I, Daniel, was mourning three full weeks.

³ I ate no pleasant food, no meat or wine came into my mouth, nor did I anoint myself at all, till three whole weeks were fulfilled.

⁴ Now on the twenty-fourth day of the first month, as I was by the side of the great river, that is, the Tigris,

⁵ I lifted my eyes and looked, and behold, a certain man clothed in linen, whose waist was girded with gold of Uphaz!

⁶ His body was like beryl, his face like the appearance of lightning, his eyes like torches of fire, his arms and feet like burnished bronze in color, and the sound of his words like the voice of a multitude.

⁷ And I, Daniel, alone saw the vision, for the men who were with me did not

see the vision; but a great terror fell upon them, so that they fled to hide themselves.

⁸ Therefore I was left alone when I saw this great vision, and no strength remained in me; for my vigor was turned to frailty in me, and I retained no strength.

⁹ Yet I heard the sound of his words; and while I heard the sound of his words I was in a deep sleep on my face, with my face to the ground.

¹⁰ Suddenly, a hand touched me, which made me tremble on my knees and on the palms of my hands.

¹¹ And he said to me, "O Daniel, man greatly beloved, understand the words that I speak to you, and stand upright, for I have now been sent to you." While he was speaking this word to me, I stood trembling.

¹² Then he said to me, "Do not fear, Daniel, for from the first day that you set your heart to understand, and to humble yourself before your God, your words were heard; and I have come because of your words.

¹³ "But the prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me twenty-one days; and behold, Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me, for I had been left alone there with the kings of Persia.

¹⁴ "Now I have come to make you understand what will happen to your people in the latter days, for the vision refers to many days yet to come."

¹⁵ When he had spoken such words to me, I turned my face toward the ground and became speechless.

¹⁶ And suddenly, one having the likeness of the sons of men touched my lips; then I opened my mouth and spoke, saying to him who stood before

me, "My lord, because of the vision my sorrows have overwhelmed me, and I have retained no strength.

¹⁷ "For how can this servant of my lord talk with you, my lord? As for me, no strength remains in me now, nor is any breath left in me."

¹⁸ Then again, the one having the likeness of a man touched me and strengthened me.

¹⁹ And he said, "O man greatly beloved, fear not! Peace be to you; be strong, yes, be strong!" So when he spoke to me I was strengthened, and said, "Let my lord speak, for you have strengthened me."

²⁰ Then he said, "Do you know why I have come to you? And now I must return to fight with the prince of Persia; and when I have gone forth, indeed the prince of Greece will come.

²¹ "But I will tell you what is noted in the Scripture of Truth. (No one upholds

me against these, except Michael your prince.)

11¹ ("Also in the first year of Darius the Mede, I, even I, stood up to confirm and strengthen him.)

² "And now I will tell you the truth: Behold, three more kings will arise in Persia, and the fourth shall be far richer than them all; by his strength, through his riches, he shall stir up all against the realm of Greece.

³ "Then a mighty king shall arise, who shall rule with great dominion, and do according to his will.

⁴ "And when he has arisen, his kingdom shall be broken up and divided toward the four winds of heaven, but not among his posterity nor according to his dominion with which he ruled; for his kingdom shall be uprooted, even for others besides these.

⁵ "Also the king of the South shall become strong, as well as one of his princes; and he shall gain power over him and have dominion. His dominion shall be a great dominion.

⁶ "And at the end of some years they shall join forces, for the daughter of the king of the South shall go to the king of the North to make an agreement; but she shall not retain the power of her authority, and neither he nor his authority shall stand; but she shall be given up, with those who brought her, and with him who begot her, and with him who strengthened her in those times.

⁷ "But from a branch of her roots one shall arise in his place, who shall come with an army, enter the fortress of the king of the North, and deal with them and prevail.

⁸ "And he shall also carry their gods captive to Egypt, with their princes and their precious articles of silver and gold; and he shall continue more years than the king of the North.

⁹ "Also the king of the North shall come to the kingdom of the king of the South, but shall return to his own land.

¹⁰ "However his sons shall stir up strife, and assemble a multitude of great forces; and one shall certainly come and overwhelm and pass through; then he shall return to his fortress and stir up strife.

¹¹ "And the king of the South shall be moved with rage, and go out and fight with him, with the king of the North, who shall muster a great multitude; but the multitude shall be given into the hand of his enemy.

¹² "When he has taken away the multitude, his heart will be lifted up; and

he will cast down tens of thousands, but he will not prevail.

¹³ "For the king of the North will return and muster a multitude greater than the former, and shall certainly come at the end of some years with a great army and much equipment.

¹⁴ "Now in those times many shall rise up against the king of the South. Also, violent men of your people shall exalt themselves in fulfillment of the vision, but they shall fall.

¹⁵ "So the king of the North shall come and build a siege mound, and take a fortified city; and the forces of the South shall not withstand him. Even his choice troops shall have no strength to resist.

¹⁶ "But he who comes against him shall do according to his own will, and no one shall stand against him. He shall stand in the Glorious Land with destruction in his power.

¹⁷ "He shall also set his face to enter with the strength of his whole kingdom, and upright ones with him; thus shall he do. And he shall give him the daughter of women to destroy it; but she shall not stand with him, or be for him.

¹⁸ "After this he shall turn his face to the coastlands, and shall take many. But a ruler shall bring the reproach against them to an end; and with the reproach removed, he shall turn back on him.

¹⁹ "Then he shall turn his face toward the fortress of his own land; but he shall stumble and fall, and not be found.

²⁰ "There shall arise in his place one who imposes taxes on the glorious kingdom; but within a few days he shall be destroyed, but not in anger or in battle.

²¹ "And in his place shall arise a vile person, to whom they will not give the honor of royalty; but he shall come in

peaceably, and seize the kingdom by intrigue.

²² "With the force of a flood they shall be swept away from before him and be broken, and also the prince of the covenant.

²³ "And after the league is made with him he shall act deceitfully, for he shall come up and become strong with a small number of people.

²⁴ "He shall enter peaceably, even into the richest places of the province; and he shall do what his fathers have not done, nor his forefathers: he shall disperse among them the plunder, spoil, and riches; and he shall devise his plans against the strongholds, but only for a time.

²⁵ "He shall stir up his power and his courage against the king of the South with a great army. And the king of the South shall be stirred up to battle with a

very great and mighty army; but he shall not stand, for they shall devise plans against him.

²⁶ "Yes, those who eat of the portion of his delicacies shall destroy him; his army shall be swept away, and many shall fall down slain.

²⁷ "Both these kings' hearts shall be bent on evil, and they shall speak lies at the same table; but it shall not prosper, for the end will still be at the appointed time.

²⁸ "While returning to his land with great riches, his heart shall be moved against the holy covenant; so he shall do damage and return to his own land.

²⁹ "At the appointed time he shall return and go toward the south; but it shall not be like the former or the latter.

³⁰ "For ships from Cyprus shall come against him; therefore he shall be grieved, and return in rage against the

holy covenant, and do damage. So he shall return and show regard for those who forsake the holy covenant.

³¹ "And forces shall be mustered by him, and they shall defile the sanctuary fortress; then they shall take away the daily sacrifices, and place there the abomination of desolation.

³² "Those who do wickedly against the covenant he shall corrupt with flattery; but the people who know their God shall be strong, and carry out great exploits.

³³ "And those of the people who understand shall instruct many; yet for many days they shall fall by sword and flame, by captivity and plundering.

³⁴ "Now when they fall, they shall be aided with a little help; but many shall join with them by intrigue.

³⁵ "And some of those of understanding shall fall, to refine them, purify them, and make them white, until the time

of the end; because it is still for the appointed time.

³⁶ "Then the king shall do according to his own will: he shall exalt and magnify himself above every god, shall speak blasphemies against the God of gods, and shall prosper till the wrath has been accomplished; for what has been determined shall be done.

³⁷ "He shall regard neither the God of his fathers nor the desire of women, nor regard any god; for he shall exalt himself above them all.

³⁸ "But in their place he shall honor a god of fortresses; and a god which his fathers did not know he shall honor with gold and silver, with precious stones and pleasant things.

³⁹ "Thus he shall act against the strongest fortresses with a foreign god, which he shall acknowledge, and advance its glory; and he shall cause

them to rule over many, and divide the land for gain.

⁴⁰ "At the time of the end the king of the South shall attack him; and the king of the North shall come against him like a whirlwind, with chariots, horsemen, and with many ships; and he shall enter the countries, overwhelm them, and pass through.

⁴¹ "He shall also enter the Glorious Land, and many countries shall be overthrown; but these shall escape from his hand: Edom, Moab, and the prominent people of Ammon.

⁴² "He shall stretch out his hand against the countries, and the land of Egypt shall not escape.

⁴³ "He shall have power over the treasures of gold and silver, and over all the precious things of Egypt; also the Libyans and Ethiopians shall follow at his heels.

⁴⁴ "But news from the east and the north shall trouble him; therefore he shall go out with great fury to destroy and annihilate many.

⁴⁵ "And he shall plant the tents of his palace between the seas and the glorious holy mountain; yet he shall come to his end, and no one will help him.

12 ¹ "At that time Michael shall stand up, The great prince who stands watch over the sons of your people; And there shall be a time of trouble, Such as never was since there was a nation, Even to that time. And at that time your people shall be delivered, Every one who is found written in the book.

² And many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, Some to everlasting life, Some to shame and everlasting contempt.

³ Those who are wise shall shine Like the brightness of the firmament, And those who turn many to righteousness Like the stars forever and ever.

⁴ "But you, Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book until the time of the end; many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall increase."

⁵ Then I, Daniel, looked; and there stood two others, one on this riverbank and the other on that riverbank.

⁶ And one said to the man clothed in linen, who was above the waters of the river, "How long shall the fulfillment of these wonders be?"

⁷ Then I heard the man clothed in linen, who was above the waters of the river, when he held up his right hand and his left hand to heaven, and swore by Him who lives forever, that it shall be for a time, times, and half a time; and when the power of the holy people has been

completely shattered, all these things shall be finished.

⁸ Although I heard, I did not understand. Then I said, "My lord, what shall be the end of these things?"

⁹ And he said, "Go your way, Daniel, for the words are closed up and sealed till the time of the end.

¹⁰ "Many shall be purified, made white, and refined, but the wicked shall do wickedly; and none of the wicked shall understand, but the wise shall understand.

¹¹ "And from the time that the daily sacrifice is taken away, and the abomination of desolation is set up, there shall be one thousand two hundred and ninety days.

¹² "Blessed is he who waits, and comes to the one thousand three hundred and thirty-five days.

¹³ "But you, go your way till the end;
for you shall rest, and will arise to your
inheritance at the end of the days."

Hosea

1 ¹ The word of the LORD that came to Hosea the son of Beerī, 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.

² When the LORD began to speak by Hosea, the LORD said to Hosea: "Go, take yourself a wife of harlotry And children of harlotry, For the land has committed great harlotry By departing from the LORD."

³ So he went and took Gomer the daughter of Diblaim, and she conceived and bore him a son.

⁴ Then the LORD said to him: "Call his name Jezreel, For in a little while I will avenge the bloodshed of Jezreel on the

house of Jehu, And bring an end to the kingdom of the house of Israel.

⁵ It shall come to pass in that day That I will break the bow of Israel in the Valley of Jezreel."

⁶ And she conceived again and bore a daughter. Then God said to him: "Call her name Lo–Ruhamah, For I will no longer have mercy on the house of Israel, But I will utterly take them away.

⁷ Yet I will have mercy on the house of Judah, Will save them by the LORD their God, And will not save them by bow, Nor by sword or battle, By horses or horsemen."

⁸ Now when she had weaned Lo–Ruhamah, she conceived and bore a son.

⁹ Then God said: "Call his name Lo–Ammi, For you are not My people, And I will not be your God.

¹⁰ "Yet the number of the children of Israel Shall be as the sand of the sea, Which cannot be measured or numbered. And it shall come to pass In the place where it was said to them, 'You are not My people,' There it shall be said to them, 'You are sons of the living God.'

¹¹ Then the children of Judah and the children of Israel Shall be gathered together, And appoint for themselves one head; And they shall come up out of the land, For great will be the day of Jezreel!

2 ¹ Say to your brethren, 'My people,' And to your sisters, 'Mercy is shown.'

² "Bring charges against your mother, bring charges; For she is not My wife, nor am I her Husband! Let her put away her harlotries from her sight, And her adulteries from between her breasts;

³ Lest I strip her naked And expose her, as in the day she was born, And make

her like a wilderness, And set her like a dry land, And slay her with thirst.

⁴ "I will not have mercy on her children, For they are the children of harlotry.

⁵ For their mother has played the harlot; She who conceived them has behaved shamefully. 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 drink.'

⁶ "Therefore, behold, I will hedge up your way with thorns, And wall her in, So that she cannot find her paths.

⁷ She will chase her lovers, But not overtake them; Yes, she will seek them, but not find them. Then she will say, 'I will go and return to my first husband, For then it was better for me than now.'

⁸ For she did not know That I gave her grain, new wine, and oil, And multiplied her silver and gold—Which they prepared for Baal.

⁹ "Therefore I will return and take away
My grain in its time And My new wine
in its season, And will take back My
wool and My linen, Given to cover her
nakedness.

¹⁰ Now I will uncover her lewdness in
the sight of her lovers, And no one shall
deliver her from My hand.

¹¹ I will also cause all her mirth to cease,
Her feast days, Her New Moons, Her
Sabbaths—All her appointed feasts.

¹² "And I will destroy her vines and her
fig trees, Of which she has said, 'These
are my wages that my lovers have given
me.' So I will make them a forest, And
the beasts of the field shall eat them.

¹³ I will punish her For the days of the
Baals to which she burned incense. She
decked herself with her earrings and
jewelry, And went after her lovers; But
Me she forgot," says the LORD.

¹⁴ "Therefore, behold, I will allure her,
Will bring her into the wilderness, And
speak comfort to her.

¹⁵ I will give her her vineyards from
there, And the Valley of Achor as a door
of hope; She shall sing there, As in the
days of her youth, As in the day when
she came up from the land of Egypt.

¹⁶ "And it shall be, in that day," Says
the LORD, "That you will call Me 'My
Husband,' And no longer call Me 'My
Master,'

¹⁷ For I will take from her mouth the
names of the Baals, And they shall be
remembered by their name no more.

¹⁸ In that day I will make a covenant
for them With the beasts of the field,
With the birds of the air, And with the
creeping things of the ground. Bow and
sword of battle I will shatter from the
earth, To make them lie down safely.

¹⁹ "I will betroth you to Me forever; Yes, I will betroth you to Me In righteousness and justice, In lovingkindness and mercy;

²⁰ I will betroth you to Me in faithfulness, And you shall know the LORD.

²¹ "It shall come to pass in that day That I will answer," says the LORD; "I will answer the heavens, And they shall answer the earth.

²² The earth shall answer With grain, With new wine, And with oil; They shall answer Jezreel.

²³ Then I will sow her for Myself in the earth, And I will have mercy on her who had not obtained mercy; Then I will say to those who were not My people, 'You are My people!' And they shall say, 'You are my God!'"

3¹ Then the LORD said to me, "Go again, love a woman who is loved by a lover and is committing adultery, just

like the love of the LORD for the children of Israel, who look to other gods and love the raisin cakes of the pagans."

² So I bought her for myself for fifteen shekels of silver, and one and one-half homers of barley.

³ And I said to her, "You shall stay with me many days; you shall not play the harlot, nor shall you have a man—so, too, will I be toward you."

⁴ For the children of Israel shall abide many days without king or prince, without sacrifice or sacred pillar, without ephod or teraphim.

⁵ Afterward the children of Israel shall return and seek the LORD their God and David their king. They shall fear the LORD and His goodness in the latter days.

4¹ Hear the word of the LORD, You children of Israel, For the LORD brings a charge against the inhabitants

of the land: "There is no truth or mercy
Or knowledge of God in the land.

² By swearing and lying, Killing and
stealing and committing adultery, They
break all restraint, With bloodshed upon
bloodshed.

³ Therefore the land will mourn; And
everyone who dwells there will waste
away With the beasts of the field And
the birds of the air; Even the fish of the
sea will be taken away.

⁴ "Now let no man contend, or rebuke
another; For your people are like those
who contend with the priest.

⁵ Therefore you shall stumble in the
day; The prophet also shall stumble with
you in the night; And I will destroy your
mother.

⁶ My people are destroyed for lack of
knowledge. Because you have rejected
knowledge, I also will reject you from
being priest for Me; Because you have

forgotten the law of your God, I also will forget your children.

⁷ "The more they increased, The more they sinned against Me; I will change their glory into shame.

⁸ They eat up the sin of My people; They set their heart on their iniquity.

⁹ And it shall be: like people, like priest. So I will punish them for their ways, And reward them for their deeds.

¹⁰ For they shall eat, but not have enough; They shall commit harlotry, but not increase; Because they have ceased obeying the LORD.

¹¹ "Harlotry, wine, and new wine enslave the heart.

¹² My people ask counsel from their wooden idols, And their staff informs them. For the spirit of harlotry has caused them to stray, And they have played the harlot against their God.

¹³ They offer sacrifices on the mountaintops, And burn incense on the hills, Under oaks, poplars, and terebinths, Because their shade is good. Therefore your daughters commit harlotry, And your brides commit adultery.

¹⁴ "I will not punish your daughters when they commit harlotry, Nor your brides when they commit adultery; For the men themselves go apart with harlots, And offer sacrifices with a ritual harlot. Therefore people who do not understand will be trampled.

¹⁵ "Though you, Israel, play the harlot, Let not Judah offend. Do not come up to Gilgal, Nor go up to Beth Aven, Nor swear an oath, saying, 'As the LORD lives'

¹⁶ "For Israel is stubborn Like a stubborn calf; Now the LORD will let them forage Like a lamb in open country.

¹⁷ "Ephraim is joined to idols, Let him alone.

¹⁸ Their drink is rebellion, They commit harlotry continually. Her rulers dearly love dishonor.

¹⁹ The wind has wrapped her up in its wings, And they shall be ashamed because of their sacrifices.

5 ¹ "Hear this, O priests! Take heed, O house of Israel! Give ear, O house of the king! For yours is the judgment, Because you have been a snare to Mizpah And a net spread on Tabor.

² The revoltors are deeply involved in slaughter, Though I rebuke them all.

³ I know Ephraim, And Israel is not hidden from Me; For now, O Ephraim, you commit harlotry; Israel is defiled.

⁴ "They do not direct their deeds Toward turning to their God, For the spirit of harlotry is in their midst, And they do not know the LORD.

⁵ The pride of Israel testifies to his face; Therefore Israel and Ephraim stumble in their iniquity; Judah also stumbles with them.

⁶ "With their flocks and herds They shall go to seek the LORD, But they will not find Him; He has withdrawn Himself from them.

⁷ They have dealt treacherously with the LORD, For they have begotten pagan children. Now a New Moon shall devour them and their heritage.

⁸ "Blow the ram's horn in Gibeah, The trumpet in Ramah! Cry aloud at Beth Aven, 'Look behind you, O Benjamin!'

⁹ Ephraim shall be desolate in the day of rebuke; Among the tribes of Israel I make known what is sure.

¹⁰ "The princes of Judah are like those who remove a landmark; I will pour out My wrath on them like water.

¹¹ Ephraim is oppressed and broken in judgment, Because he willingly walked by human precept.

¹² Therefore I will be to Ephraim like a moth, And to the house of Judah like rottenness.

¹³ "When Ephraim saw his sickness, And Judah saw his wound, Then Ephraim went to Assyria And sent to King Jareb; Yet he cannot cure you, Nor heal you of your wound.

¹⁴ For I will be like a lion to Ephraim, And like a young lion to the house of Judah. I, even I, will tear them and go away; I will take them away, and no one shall rescue.

¹⁵ I will return again to My place Till they acknowledge their offense. Then they will seek My face; In their affliction they will earnestly seek Me."

6 ¹ Come, and let us return to the LORD; For He has torn, but He will

heal us; He has stricken, but He will bind us up.

² After two days He will revive us; On the third day He will raise us up, That we may live in His sight.

³ Let us know, Let us pursue the knowledge of the LORD. His going forth is established as the morning; He will come to us like the rain, Like the latter and former rain to the earth.

⁴ "O Ephraim, what shall I do to you? O Judah, what shall I do to you? For your faithfulness is like a morning cloud, And like the early dew it goes away.

⁵ Therefore I have hewn them by the prophets, I have slain them by the words of My mouth; And your judgments are like light that goes forth.

⁶ For I desire mercy and not sacrifice, And the knowledge of God more than burnt offerings.

⁷ "But like men they transgressed the covenant; There they dealt treacherously with Me.

⁸ Gilead is a city of evildoers, And defiled with blood.

⁹ As bands of robbers lie in wait for a man, So the company of priests murder on the way to Shechem; Surely they commit lewdness.

¹⁰ I have seen a horrible thing in the house of Israel: There is the harlotry of Ephraim; Israel is defiled.

¹¹ Also, O Judah, a harvest is appointed for you, When I return the captives of My people.

7 ¹ "When I would have healed Israel, Then the iniquity of Ephraim was uncovered, And the wickedness of Samaria. For they have committed fraud; A thief comes in; A band of robbers takes spoil outside.

² They do not consider in their hearts
That I remember all their wickedness;
Now their own deeds have surrounded
them; They are before My face.

³ They make a king glad with their
wickedness, And princes with their lies.

⁴ "They are all adulterers. Like an oven
heated by a baker—He ceases stirring
the fire after kneading the dough, Until
it is leavened.

⁵ In the day of our king Princes have
made him sick, inflamed with wine; He
stretched out his hand with scoffers.

⁶ They prepare their heart like an oven,
While they lie in wait; Their baker sleeps
all night; In the morning it burns like a
flaming fire.

⁷ They are all hot, like an oven, And
have devoured their judges; All their
kings have fallen. None among them
calls upon Me.

⁸ "Ephraim has mixed himself among the peoples; Ephraim is a cake unturned.

⁹ Aliens have devoured his strength, But he does not know it; Yes, gray hairs are here and there on him, Yet he does not know it.

¹⁰ And the pride of Israel testifies to his face, But they do not return to the LORD their God, Nor seek Him for all this.

¹¹ "Ephraim also is like a silly dove, without sense—They call to Egypt, They go to Assyria.

¹² Wherever they go, I will spread My net on them; I will bring them down like birds of the air; I will chastise them According to what their congregation has heard.

¹³ "Woe to them, for they have fled from Me! Destruction to them, Because they have transgressed against Me! Though I redeemed them, Yet they have spoken lies against Me.

¹⁴ They did not cry out to Me with their heart When they wailed upon their beds. "They assemble together for grain and new wine, They rebel against Me;

¹⁵ Though I disciplined and strengthened their arms, Yet they devise evil against Me;

¹⁶ They return, but not to the Most High; They are like a treacherous bow. Their princes shall fall by the sword For the cursings of their tongue. This shall be their derision in the land of Egypt.

8 ¹ "Set the trumpet to your mouth! He shall come like an eagle against the house of the LORD, Because they have transgressed My covenant And rebelled against My law.

² Israel will cry to Me, 'My God, we know You!'

³ Israel has rejected the good; The enemy will pursue him.

⁴ "They set up kings, but not by Me; They made princes, but I did not acknowledge them. From their silver and gold They made idols for themselves—That they might be cut off.

⁵ Your calf is rejected, O Samaria! My anger is aroused against them—How long until they attain to innocence?

⁶ For from Israel is even this: A workman made it, and it is not God; But the calf of Samaria shall be broken to pieces.

⁷ "They sow the wind, And reap the whirlwind. The stalk has no bud; It shall never produce meal. If it should produce, Aliens would swallow it up.

⁸ Israel is swallowed up; Now they are among the Gentiles Like a vessel in which is no pleasure.

⁹ For they have gone up to Assyria, Like a wild donkey alone by itself; Ephraim has hired lovers.

¹⁰ Yes, though they have hired among the nations, Now I will gather them; And they shall sorrow a little, Because of the burden of the king of princes.

¹¹ "Because Ephraim has made many altars for sin, They have become for him altars for sinning.

¹² I have written for him the great things of My law, But they were considered a strange thing.

¹³ For the sacrifices of My offerings they sacrifice flesh and eat it, But the LORD does not accept them. Now He will remember their iniquity and punish their sins. They shall return to Egypt.

¹⁴ "For Israel has forgotten his Maker, And has built temples; Judah also has multiplied fortified cities; But I will send fire upon his cities, And it shall devour his palaces."

9 ¹ Do not rejoice, O Israel, with joy like other peoples, For you have played

the harlot against your God. You have made love for hire on every threshing floor.

² The threshing floor and the winepress shall not feed them, And the new wine shall fail in her.

³ They shall not dwell in the LORD'S land, But Ephraim shall return to Egypt, And shall eat unclean things in Assyria.

⁴ They shall not offer wine offerings to the LORD, Nor shall their sacrifices be pleasing to Him. It shall be like bread of mourners to them; All who eat it shall be defiled. For their bread shall be for their own life; It shall not come into the house of the LORD.

⁵ What will you do in the appointed day, And in the day of the feast of the LORD?

⁶ For indeed they are gone because of destruction. Egypt shall gather them up; Memphis shall bury them. Nettles shall

possess their valuables of silver; Thorns shall be in their tents.

⁷ The days of punishment have come; The days of recompense have come. Israel knows! The prophet is a fool, The spiritual man is insane, Because of the greatness of your iniquity and great enmity.

⁸ The watchman of Ephraim is with my God; But the prophet is a fowler's snare in all his ways—Enmity in the house of his God.

⁹ They are deeply corrupted, As in the days of Gibeah. He will remember their iniquity; He will punish their sins.

¹⁰ "I found Israel Like grapes in the wilderness; I saw your fathers As the firstfruits on the fig tree in its first season. But they went to Baal Peor, And separated themselves to that shame; They became an abomination like the thing they loved.

¹¹ As for Ephraim, their glory shall fly away like a bird—No birth, no pregnancy, and no conception!

¹² Though they bring up their children, Yet I will bereave them to the last man. Yes, woe to them when I depart from them!

¹³ Just as I saw Ephraim like Tyre, planted in a pleasant place, So Ephraim will bring out his children to the murderer."

¹⁴ Give them, O LORD—What will You give? Give them a miscarrying womb And dry breasts!

¹⁵ "All their wickedness is in Gilgal, For there I hated them. Because of the evil of their deeds I will drive them from My house; I will love them no more. All their princes are rebellious.

¹⁶ Ephraim is stricken, Their root is dried up; They shall bear no fruit. Yes,

were they to bear children, I would kill the darlings of their womb."

¹⁷ My God will cast them away, Because they did not obey Him; And they shall be wanderers among the nations.

10 ¹ Israel empties his vine; He brings forth fruit for himself. According to the multitude of his fruit He has increased the altars; According to the bounty of his land They have embellished his sacred pillars.

² Their heart is divided; Now they are held guilty. He will break down their altars; He will ruin their sacred pillars.

³ For now they say, "We have no king, Because we did not fear the LORD. And as for a king, what would he do for us?"

⁴ They have spoken words, Swearing falsely in making a covenant. Thus judgment springs up like hemlock in the furrows of the field.

⁵ The inhabitants of Samaria fear
Because of the calf of Beth Aven. For
its people mourn for it, And its priests
shriek for it—Because its glory has
departed from it.

⁶ The idol also shall be carried to Assyria
As a present for King Jareb. Ephraim
shall receive shame, And Israel shall be
ashamed of his own counsel.

⁷ As for Samaria, her king is cut off
Like a twig on the water.

⁸ Also the high places of Aven, the sin of
Israel, Shall be destroyed. The thorn and
thistle shall grow on their altars; They
shall say to the mountains, "Cover us!"
And to the hills, "Fall on us!"

⁹ "O Israel, you have sinned from the
days of Gibeah; There they stood. The
battle in Gibeah against the children of
iniquity Did not overtake them.

¹⁰ When it is My desire, I will chasten
them. Peoples shall be gathered against

them When I bind them for their two transgressions.

¹¹ Ephraim is a trained heifer That loves to thresh grain; But I harnessed her fair neck, I will make Ephraim pull a plow. Judah shall plow; Jacob shall break his clods."

¹² Sow for yourselves righteousness; Reap in mercy; Break up your fallow ground, For it is time to seek the LORD, Till He comes and rains righteousness on you.

¹³ You have plowed wickedness; You have reaped iniquity. You have eaten the fruit of lies, Because you trusted in your own way, In the multitude of your mighty men.

¹⁴ Therefore tumult shall arise among your people, And all your fortresses shall be plundered As Shalman plundered Beth Arbel in the day of battle—A

mother dashed in pieces upon her children.

¹⁵ Thus it shall be done to you, O Bethel, Because of your great wickedness. At dawn the king of Israel Shall be cut off utterly.

11 ¹ "When Israel was a child, I loved him, And out of Egypt I called My son.

² As they called them, So they went from them; They sacrificed to the Baals, And burned incense to carved images.

³ "I taught Ephraim to walk, Taking them by their arms; But they did not know that I healed them.

⁴ I drew them with gentle cords, With bands of love, And I was to them as those who take the yoke from their neck. I stooped and fed them.

⁵ "He shall not return to the land of Egypt; But the Assyrian shall be his king, Because they refused to repent.

⁶ And the sword shall slash in his cities,
Devour his districts, And consume them,
Because of their own counsels.

⁷ My people are bent on backsliding
from Me. Though they call to the Most
High, None at all exalt Him.

⁸ "How can I give you up, Ephraim? How
can I hand you over, Israel? How can I
make you like Admah? How can I set you
like Zeboiim? My heart churns within
Me; My sympathy is stirred.

⁹ I will not execute the fierceness of My
anger; I will not again destroy Ephraim.
For I am God, and not man, The Holy
One in your midst; And I will not come
with terror.

¹⁰ "They shall walk after the LORD. He
will roar like a lion. When He roars, Then
His sons shall come trembling from the
west;

¹¹ They shall come trembling like a bird
from Egypt, Like a dove from the land of

Assyria. And I will let them dwell in their houses," Says the LORD.

¹² "Ephraim has encircled Me with lies, And the house of Israel with deceit; But Judah still walks with God, Even with the Holy One who is faithful.

12 ¹ "Ephraim feeds on the wind, And pursues the east wind; He daily increases lies and desolation.

Also they make a covenant with the Assyrians, And oil is carried to Egypt.

² "The LORD also brings a charge against Judah, And will punish Jacob according to his ways; According to his deeds He will recompense him.

³ He took his brother by the heel in the womb, And in his strength he struggled with God.

⁴ Yes, he struggled with the Angel and prevailed; He wept, and sought favor from Him. He found Him in Bethel, And there He spoke to us—

⁵ That is, the LORD God of hosts. The LORD is His memorable name.

⁶ So you, by the help of your God, return; Observe mercy and justice, And wait on your God continually.

⁷ "A cunning Canaanite! Deceitful scales are in his hand; He loves to oppress.

⁸ And Ephraim said, 'Surely I have become rich, I have found wealth for myself; In all my labors They shall find in me no iniquity that is sin.'

⁹ "But I am the LORD your God, Ever since the land of Egypt; I will again make you dwell in tents, As in the days of the appointed feast.

¹⁰ I have also spoken by the prophets, And have multiplied visions; I have given symbols through the witness of the prophets."

¹¹ Though Gilead has idols—Surely they are vanity—Though they sacrifice bulls

in Gilgal, Indeed their altars shall be
heaps in the furrows of the field.

¹² Jacob fled to the country of Syria;
Israel served for a spouse, And for a wife
he tended sheep.

¹³ By a prophet the LORD brought Israel
out of Egypt, And by a prophet he was
preserved.

¹⁴ Ephraim provoked Him to anger most
bitterly; Therefore his Lord will leave the
guilt of his bloodshed upon him, And
return his reproach upon him.

13 ¹ When Ephraim spoke, trembling,
He exalted himself in Israel; But
when he offended through Baal worship,
he died.

² Now they sin more and more, And
have made for themselves molded
images, Idols of their silver, according
to their skill; All of it is the work of
craftsmen. They say of them, "Let the
men who sacrifice kiss the calves!"

³ Therefore they shall be like the morning cloud And like the early dew that passes away, Like chaff blown off from a threshing floor And like smoke from a chimney.

⁴ "Yet I am the LORD your God Ever since the land of Egypt, And you shall know no God but Me; For there is no Savior besides Me.

⁵ I knew you in the wilderness, In the land of great drought.

⁶ When they had pasture, they were filled; They were filled and their heart was exalted; Therefore they forgot Me.

⁷ "So I will be to them like a lion; Like a leopard by the road I will lurk;

⁸ I will meet them like a bear deprived of her cubs; I will tear open their rib cage, And there I will devour them like a lion. The wild beast shall tear them.

⁹ "O Israel, you are destroyed, But your help is from Me.

¹⁰ I will be your King; Where is any other, That he may save you in all your cities? And your judges to whom you said, 'Give me a king and princes'?

¹¹ I gave you a king in My anger, And took him away in My wrath.

¹² "The iniquity of Ephraim is bound up; His sin is stored up.

¹³ The sorrows of a woman in childbirth shall come upon him. He is an unwise son, For he should not stay long where children are born.

¹⁴ "I will ransom them from the power of the grave; I will redeem them from death. O Death, I will be your plagues! O Grave, I will be your destruction! Pity is hidden from My eyes.

¹⁵ Though he is fruitful among his brethren, An east wind shall come; The wind of the LORD shall come up from the wilderness. Then his spring shall become dry, And his fountain shall be dried up.

He shall plunder the treasury of every desirable prize.

¹⁶ Samaria is held guilty, For she has rebelled against her God. They shall fall by the sword, Their infants shall be dashed in pieces, And their women with child ripped open.

14 ¹ O Israel, return to the LORD your God, For you have stumbled because of your iniquity;

² Take words with you, And return to the LORD. Say to Him, "Take away all iniquity; Receive us graciously, For we will offer the sacrifices of our lips.

³ Assyria shall not save us, We will not ride on horses, Nor will we say anymore to the work of our hands, 'You are our gods.' For in You the fatherless finds mercy."

⁴ "I will heal their backsliding, I will love them freely, For My anger has turned away from him.

⁵ I will be like the dew to Israel; He shall grow like the lily, And lengthen his roots like Lebanon.

⁶ His branches shall spread; His beauty shall be like an olive tree, And his fragrance like Lebanon.

⁷ Those who dwell under his shadow shall return; They shall be revived like grain, And grow like a vine. Their scent shall be like the wine of Lebanon.

⁸ "Ephraim shall say, 'What have I to do anymore with idols?' I have heard and observed him. I am like a green cypress tree; Your fruit is found in Me."

⁹ Who is wise? Let him understand these things. Who is prudent? Let him know them. For the ways of the LORD are right; The righteous walk in them, But transgressors stumble in them.

Joel

1 ¹ The word of the LORD that came to Joel the son of Pethuel.

² Hear this, you elders, And give ear, all you inhabitants of the land! Has anything like this happened in your days, Or even in the days of your fathers?

³ Tell your children about it, Let your children tell their children, And their children another generation.

⁴ What the chewing locust left, the swarming locust has eaten; What the swarming locust left, the crawling locust has eaten; And what the crawling locust left, the consuming locust has eaten.

⁵ Awake, you drunkards, and weep; And wail, all you drinkers of wine, Because of the new wine, For it has been cut off from your mouth.

⁶ For a nation has come up against My land, Strong, and without number; His teeth are the teeth of a lion, And he has the fangs of a fierce lion.

⁷ He has laid waste My vine, And ruined My fig tree; He has stripped it bare and thrown it away; Its branches are made white.

⁸ Lament like a virgin girded with sackcloth For the husband of her youth.

⁹ The grain offering and the drink offering Have been cut off from the house of the LORD; The priests mourn, who minister to the LORD.

¹⁰ The field is wasted, The land mourns; For the grain is ruined, The new wine is dried up, The oil fails.

¹¹ Be ashamed, you farmers, Wail, you vinedressers, For the wheat and the barley; Because the harvest of the field has perished.

¹² The vine has dried up, And the fig tree has withered; The pomegranate tree, The palm tree also, And the apple tree—All the trees of the field are withered; Surely joy has withered away from the sons of men.

¹³ Gird yourselves and lament, you priests; Wail, you who minister before the altar; Come, lie all night in sackcloth, You who minister to my God; For the grain offering and the drink offering Are withheld from the house of your God.

¹⁴ Consecrate a fast, Call a sacred assembly; Gather the elders And all the inhabitants of the land Into the house of the LORD your God, And cry out to the LORD.

¹⁵ Alas for the day! For the day of the LORD is at hand; It shall come as destruction from the Almighty.

¹⁶ Is not the food cut off before our eyes, Joy and gladness from the house of our God?

¹⁷ The seed shrivels under the clods, Storehouses are in shambles; Barns are broken down, For the grain has withered.

¹⁸ How the animals groan! The herds of cattle are restless, Because they have no pasture; Even the flocks of sheep suffer punishment.

¹⁹ O LORD, to You I cry out; For fire has devoured the open pastures, And a flame has burned all the trees of the field.

²⁰ The beasts of the field also cry out to You, For the water brooks are dried up, And fire has devoured the open pastures.

2¹ Blow the trumpet in Zion, And sound an alarm in My holy mountain! Let all the inhabitants of the

land tremble; For the day of the LORD is coming, For it is at hand:

² A day of darkness and gloominess,
A day of clouds and thick darkness,
Like the morning clouds spread over
the mountains. A people come, great
and strong, The like of whom has never
been; Nor will there ever be any such
after them, Even for many successive
generations.

³ A fire devours before them, And
behind them a flame burns; The land is
like the Garden of Eden before them,
And behind them a desolate wilderness;
Surely nothing shall escape them.

⁴ Their appearance is like the
appearance of horses; And like swift
steeds, so they run.

⁵ With a noise like chariots Over
mountaintops they leap, Like the noise
of a flaming fire that devours the

stubble, Like a strong people set in battle array.

⁶ Before them the people writhe in pain; All faces are drained of color.

⁷ They run like mighty men, They climb the wall like men of war; Every one marches in formation, And they do not break ranks.

⁸ They do not push one another; Every one marches in his own column. Though they lunge between the weapons, They are not cut down.

⁹ They run to and fro in the city, They run on the wall; They climb into the houses, They enter at the windows like a thief.

¹⁰ The earth quakes before them, The heavens tremble; The sun and moon grow dark, And the stars diminish their brightness.

¹¹ The LORD gives voice before His army, For His camp is very great; For

strong is the One who executes His word. For the day of the LORD is great and very terrible; Who can endure it?

¹² "Now, therefore," says the LORD, "Turn to Me with all your heart, With fasting, with weeping, and with mourning."

¹³ So rend your heart, and not your garments; Return to the LORD your God, For He is gracious and merciful, Slow to anger, and of great kindness; And He relents from doing harm.

¹⁴ Who knows if He will turn and relent, And leave a blessing behind Him—A grain offering and a drink offering For the LORD your God?

¹⁵ Blow the trumpet in Zion, Consecrate a fast, Call a sacred assembly;

¹⁶ Gather the people, Sanctify the congregation, Assemble the elders, Gather the children and nursing babes; Let the bridegroom go out from his

chamber, And the bride from her dressing room.

¹⁷ Let the priests, who minister to the LORD, Weep between the porch and the altar; Let them say, "Spare Your people, O LORD, And do not give Your heritage to reproach, That the nations should rule over them. Why should they say among the peoples, 'Where is their God?'"

¹⁸ Then the LORD will be zealous for His land, And pity His people.

¹⁹ The LORD will answer and say to His people, "Behold, I will send you grain and new wine and oil, And you will be satisfied by them; I will no longer make you a reproach among the nations.

²⁰ "But I will remove far from you the northern army, And will drive him away into a barren and desolate land, With his face toward the eastern sea And his back toward the western sea; His stench

will come up, And his foul odor will rise,
Because he has done monstrous things."

²¹ Fear not, O land; Be glad and rejoice,
For the LORD has done marvelous
things!

²² Do not be afraid, you beasts of the
field; For the open pastures are springing
up, And the tree bears its fruit; The fig
tree and the vine yield their strength.

²³ Be glad then, you children of Zion,
And rejoice in the LORD your God; For He
has given you the former rain faithfully,
And He will cause the rain to come down
for you—The former rain, And the latter
rain in the first month.

²⁴ The threshing floors shall be full of
wheat, And the vats shall overflow with
new wine and oil.

²⁵ "So I will restore to you the years
that the swarming locust has eaten, The
crawling locust, The consuming locust,

And the chewing locust, My great army which I sent among you.

²⁶ You shall eat in plenty and be satisfied, And praise the name of the LORD your God, Who has dealt wondrously with you; And My people shall never be put to shame.

²⁷ Then you shall know that I am in the midst of Israel: I am the LORD your God And there is no other. My people shall never be put to shame.

²⁸ "And it shall come to pass afterward That I will pour out My Spirit on all flesh; Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, Your old men shall dream dreams, Your young men shall see visions.

²⁹ And also on My menservants and on My maidservants I will pour out My Spirit in those days.

³⁰ "And I will show wonders in the heavens and in the earth: Blood and fire and pillars of smoke.

³¹ The sun shall be turned into darkness, And the moon into blood, Before the coming of the great and awesome day of the LORD.

³² And it shall come to pass That whoever calls on the name of the LORD Shall be saved. For in Mount Zion and in Jerusalem there shall be deliverance, As the LORD has said, Among the remnant whom the LORD calls.

3 ¹ "For behold, in those days and at that time, When I bring back the captives of Judah and Jerusalem,

² I will also gather all nations, And bring them down to the Valley of Jehoshaphat; And I will enter into judgment with them there On account of My people, My heritage Israel, Whom they have

scattered among the nations; They have also divided up My land.

³ They have cast lots for My people, Have given a boy as payment for a harlot, And sold a girl for wine, that they may drink.

⁴ "Indeed, what have you to do with Me, O Tyre and Sidon, and all the coasts of Philistia? Will you retaliate against Me? But if you retaliate against Me, Swiftly and speedily I will return your retaliation upon your own head;

⁵ Because you have taken My silver and My gold, And have carried into your temples My prized possessions.

⁶ Also the people of Judah and the people of Jerusalem You have sold to the Greeks, That you may remove them far from their borders.

⁷ "Behold, I will raise them Out of the place to which you have sold them, And

will return your retaliation upon your own head.

⁸ I will sell your sons and your daughters
Into the hand of the people of Judah,
And they will sell them to the Sabeans,
To a people far off; For the LORD has
spoken."

⁹ Proclaim this among the nations:
"Prepare for war! Wake up the mighty
men, Let all the men of war draw near,
Let them come up.

¹⁰ Beat your plowshares into swords
And your pruning hooks into spears; Let
the weak say, 'I am strong.'"

¹¹ Assemble and come, all you nations,
And gather together all around. Cause
Your mighty ones to go down there, O
LORD.

¹² "Let the nations be wakened, and
come up to the Valley of Jehoshaphat;
For there I will sit to judge all the
surrounding nations.

¹³ Put in the sickle, for the harvest is ripe. Come, go down; For the winepress is full, The vats overflow—For their wickedness is great."

¹⁴ Multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision! For the day of the LORD is near in the valley of decision.

¹⁵ The sun and moon will grow dark, And the stars will diminish their brightness.

¹⁶ The LORD also will roar from Zion, And utter His voice from Jerusalem; The heavens and earth will shake; But the LORD will be a shelter for His people, And the strength of the children of Israel.

¹⁷ "So you shall know that I am the LORD your God, Dwelling in Zion My holy mountain. Then Jerusalem shall be holy, And no aliens shall ever pass through her again."

¹⁸ And it will come to pass in that day That the mountains shall drip with new

wine, The hills shall flow with milk, And all the brooks of Judah shall be flooded with water; A fountain shall flow from the house of the LORD And water the Valley of Acacias.

¹⁹ "Egypt shall be a desolation, And Edom a desolate wilderness, Because of violence against the people of Judah, For they have shed innocent blood in their land.

²⁰ But Judah shall abide forever, And Jerusalem from generation to generation.

²¹ "For I will acquit them of the guilt of bloodshed, whom I had not acquitted; For the LORD dwells in Zion."

Amos

1 ¹ The words of Amos, who was among the sheepbreeders of Tekoa, which he saw concerning 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 earthquake.

² And he said: "The LORD roars from Zion, And utters His voice from Jerusalem; The pastures of the shepherds mourn, And the top of Carmel withers."

³ Thus says the LORD: "For three transgressions of Damascus, and for four, I will not turn away its punishment, Because they have threshed Gilead with implements of iron.

⁴ But I will send a fire into the house of Hazael, Which shall devour the palaces of Ben–Hadad.

⁵ I will also break the gate bar of Damascus, And cut off the inhabitant from the Valley of Aven, And the one who holds the scepter from Beth Eden. The people of Syria shall go captive to Kir," Says the LORD.

⁶ Thus says the LORD: "For three transgressions of Gaza, and for four, I will not turn away its punishment, Because they took captive the whole captivity To deliver them up to Edom.

⁷ But I will send a fire upon the wall of Gaza, Which shall devour its palaces.

⁸ I will cut off the inhabitant from Ashdod, And the one who holds the scepter from Ashkelon; I will turn My hand against Ekron, And the remnant of the Philistines shall perish," Says the Lord GOD.

⁹ Thus says the LORD: "For three transgressions of Tyre, and for four, I will not turn away its punishment, Because they delivered up the whole captivity to Edom, And did not remember the covenant of brotherhood.

¹⁰ But I will send a fire upon the wall of Tyre, Which shall devour its palaces."

¹¹ Thus says the LORD: "For three transgressions of Edom, and for four, I will not turn away its punishment, Because he pursued his brother with the sword, And cast off all pity; His anger tore perpetually, And he kept his wrath forever.

¹² But I will send a fire upon Teman, Which shall devour the palaces of Bozrah."

¹³ Thus says the LORD: "For three transgressions of the people of Ammon, and for four, I will not turn away its punishment, Because they ripped open

the women with child in Gilead, That they might enlarge their territory.

¹⁴ But I will kindle a fire in the wall of Rabbah, And it shall devour its palaces, Amid shouting in the day of battle, And a tempest in the day of the whirlwind.

¹⁵ Their king shall go into captivity, He and his princes together," Says the LORD.

2 ¹ Thus says the LORD: "For three transgressions of Moab, and for four, I will not turn away its punishment, Because he burned the bones of the king of Edom to lime.

² But I will send a fire upon Moab, And it shall devour the palaces of Kerioth; Moab shall die with tumult, With shouting and trumpet sound.

³ And I will cut off the judge from its midst, And slay all its princes with him," Says the LORD.

⁴ Thus says the LORD: "For three transgressions of Judah, and for four,

I will not turn away its punishment,
Because they have despised the law
of the LORD, And have not kept His
commandments. Their lies lead them
astray, Lies which their fathers followed.

⁵ But I will send a fire upon Judah, And
it shall devour the palaces of Jerusalem."

⁶ Thus says the LORD: "For three
transgressions of Israel, and for four,
I will not turn away its punishment,
Because they sell the righteous for silver,
And the poor for a pair of sandals.

⁷ They pant after the dust of the earth
which is on the head of the poor, And
pervert the way of the humble. A man
and his father go in to the same girl, To
defile My holy name.

⁸ They lie down by every altar on
clothes taken in pledge, And drink the
wine of the condemned in the house of
their god.

⁹ "Yet it was I who destroyed the Amorite before them, Whose height was like the height of the cedars, And he was as strong as the oaks; Yet I destroyed his fruit above And his roots beneath.

¹⁰ Also it was I who brought you up from the land of Egypt, And led you forty years through the wilderness, To possess the land of the Amorite.

¹¹ I raised up some of your sons as prophets, And some of your young men as Nazirites. Is it not so, O you children of Israel?" Says the LORD.

¹² "But you gave the Nazirites wine to drink, And commanded the prophets saying, 'Do not prophesy!'

¹³ "Behold, I am weighed down by you, As a cart full of sheaves is weighed down.

¹⁴ Therefore flight shall perish from the swift, The strong shall not strengthen

his power, Nor shall the mighty deliver himself;

¹⁵ He shall not stand who handles the bow, The swift of foot shall not escape, Nor shall he who rides a horse deliver himself.

¹⁶ The most courageous men of might Shall flee naked in that day," Says the LORD.

3 ¹ Hear this word that the LORD has spoken against you, O children of Israel, against the whole family which I brought up from the land of Egypt, saying:

² "You only have I known of all the families of the earth; Therefore I will punish you for all your iniquities."

³ Can two walk together, unless they are agreed?

⁴ Will a lion roar in the forest, when he has no prey? Will a young lion cry out of his den, if he has caught nothing?

⁵ Will a bird fall into a snare on the earth, where there is no trap for it? Will a snare spring up from the earth, if it has caught nothing at all?

⁶ If a trumpet is blown in a city, will not the people be afraid? If there is calamity in a city, will not the LORD have done it?

⁷ Surely the Lord GOD does nothing, Unless He reveals His secret to His servants the prophets.

⁸ A lion has roared! Who will not fear? The Lord GOD has spoken! Who can but prophesy?

⁹ "Proclaim in the palaces at Ashdod, And in the palaces in the land of Egypt, and say: 'Assemble on the mountains of Samaria; See great tumults in her midst, And the oppressed within her.

¹⁰ For they do not know to do right,' Says the LORD, 'Who store up violence and robbery in their palaces.'"

¹¹ Therefore thus says the Lord GOD:
"An adversary shall be all around
the land; He shall sap your strength
from you, And your palaces shall be
plundered."

¹² Thus says the LORD: "As a shepherd
takes from the mouth of a lion Two legs
or a piece of an ear, So shall the children
of Israel be taken out Who dwell in
Samaria—In the corner of a bed and on
the edge of a couch!

¹³ Hear and testify against the house of
Jacob," Says the Lord GOD, the God of
hosts,

¹⁴ "That in the day I punish Israel for
their transgressions, I will also visit
destruction on the altars of Bethel; And
the horns of the altar shall be cut off And
fall to the ground.

¹⁵ I will destroy the winter house along
with the summer house; The houses of

ivory shall perish, And the great houses shall have an end," Says the LORD.

4¹ Hear this word, you cows of Bashan, who are on the mountain of Samaria, Who oppress the poor, Who crush the needy, Who say to your husbands, "Bring wine, let us drink!"

² The Lord GOD has sworn by His holiness: "Behold, the days shall come upon you When He will take you away with fishhooks, And your posterity with fishhooks.

³ You will go out through broken walls, Each one straight ahead of her, And you will be cast into Harmon," Says the LORD.

⁴ "Come to Bethel and transgress, At Gilgal multiply transgression; Bring your sacrifices every morning, Your tithes every three days.

⁵ Offer a sacrifice of thanksgiving with leaven, Proclaim and announce the

freewill offerings; For this you love, You children of Israel!" Says the Lord GOD.

⁶ "Also I gave you cleanness of teeth in all your cities. And lack of bread in all your places; Yet you have not returned to Me," Says the LORD.

⁷ "I also withheld rain from you, When there were still three months to the harvest. I made it rain on one city, I withheld rain from another city. One part was rained upon, And where it did not rain the part withered.

⁸ So two or three cities wandered to another city to drink water, But they were not satisfied; Yet you have not returned to Me," Says the LORD.

⁹ "I blasted you with blight and mildew. When your gardens increased, Your vineyards, Your fig trees, And your olive trees, The locust devoured them; Yet you have not returned to Me," Says the LORD.

¹⁰ "I sent among you a plague after the manner of Egypt; Your young men I killed with a sword, Along with your captive horses; I made the stench of your camps come up into your nostrils; Yet you have not returned to Me," Says the LORD.

¹¹ "I overthrew some of you, As God overthrew Sodom and Gomorrah, And you were like a firebrand plucked from the burning; Yet you have not returned to Me," Says the LORD.

¹² "Therefore thus will I do to you, O Israel; Because I will do this to you, Prepare to meet your God, O Israel!"

¹³ For behold, He who forms mountains, And creates the wind, Who declares to man what his thought is, And makes the morning darkness, Who treads the high places of the earth—The LORD God of hosts is His name.

5 ¹ Hear this word which I take up against you, a lamentation, O house of Israel:

² The virgin of Israel has fallen; She will rise no more. She lies forsaken on her land; There is no one to raise her up.

³ For thus says the Lord GOD: "The city that goes out by a thousand Shall have a hundred left, And that which goes out by a hundred Shall have ten left to the house of Israel."

⁴ For thus says the LORD to the house of Israel: "Seek Me and live;

⁵ But do not seek Bethel, Nor enter Gilgal, Nor pass over to Beersheba; For Gilgal shall surely go into captivity, And Bethel shall come to nothing.

⁶ Seek the LORD and live, Lest He break out like fire in the house of Joseph, And devour it, With no one to quench it in Bethel—

⁷ You who turn justice to wormwood,
And lay righteousness to rest in the
earth!"

⁸ He made the Pleiades and Orion; He
turns the shadow of death into morning
And makes the day dark as night; He
calls for the waters of the sea And pours
them out on the face of the earth; The
LORD is His name.

⁹ He rains ruin upon the strong, So that
fury comes upon the fortress.

¹⁰ They hate the one who rebukes in
the gate, And they abhor the one who
speaks uprightly.

¹¹ Therefore, because you tread down
the poor And take grain taxes from him,
Though you have built houses of hewn
stone, Yet you shall not dwell in them;
You have planted pleasant vineyards,
But you shall not drink wine from them.

¹² For I know your manifold
transgressions And your mighty

sins: Afflicting the just and taking bribes;
Diverting the poor from justice at the
gate.

¹³ Therefore the prudent keep silent at
that time, For it is an evil time.

¹⁴ Seek good and not evil, That you may
live; So the LORD God of hosts will be
with you, As you have spoken.

¹⁵ Hate evil, love good; Establish justice
in the gate. It may be that the LORD God
of hosts Will be gracious to the remnant
of Joseph.

¹⁶ Therefore the LORD God of hosts, the
Lord, says this: "There shall be wailing
in all streets, And they shall say in all
the highways, 'Alas! Alas!' They shall
call the farmer to mourning, And skillful
lamenters to wailing.

¹⁷ In all vineyards there shall be wailing,
For I will pass through you," Says the
LORD.

¹⁸ Woe to you who desire the day of the LORD! For what good is the day of the LORD to you? It will be darkness, and not light.

¹⁹ It will be as though a man fled from a lion, And a bear met him! Or as though he went into the house, Leaned his hand on the wall, And a serpent bit him!

²⁰ Is not the day of the LORD darkness, and not light? Is it not very dark, with no brightness in it?

²¹ "I hate, I despise your feast days, And I do not savor your sacred assemblies.

²² Though you offer Me burnt offerings and your grain offerings, I will not accept them, Nor will I regard your fattened peace offerings.

²³ Take away from Me the noise of your songs, For I will not hear the melody of your stringed instruments.

²⁴ But let justice run down like water, And righteousness like a mighty stream.

²⁵ "Did you offer Me sacrifices and offerings In the wilderness forty years, O house of Israel?

²⁶ You also carried Sikkuth your king And Chiun, your idols, The star of your gods, Which you made for yourselves.

²⁷ Therefore I will send you into captivity beyond Damascus," Says the LORD, whose name is the God of hosts.

6 ¹ Woe to you who are at ease in Zion, And trust in Mount Samaria, Notable persons in the chief nation, To whom the house of Israel comes!

² Go over 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 their territory greater than your territory?

³ Woe to you who put far off the day of doom, Who cause the seat of violence to come near;

⁴ Who lie on beds of ivory, Stretch out on your couches, Eat lambs from the flock And calves from the midst of the stall;

⁵ Who sing idly to the sound of stringed instruments, And invent for yourselves musical instruments like David;

⁶ Who drink wine from bowls, And anoint yourselves with the best ointments, But are not grieved for the affliction of Joseph.

⁷ Therefore they shall now go captive as the first of the captives, And those who recline at banquets shall be removed.

⁸ The Lord GOD has sworn by Himself, The LORD God of hosts says: "I abhor the pride of Jacob, And hate his palaces; Therefore I will deliver up the city And all that is in it."

⁹ Then it shall come to pass, that if ten men remain in one house, they shall die.

¹⁰ And when a relative of the dead, with one who will burn the bodies, picks up the bodies to take them out of the house, he will say to one inside the house, "Are there any more with you?" Then someone will say, "None." And he will say, "Hold your tongue! For we dare not mention the name of the LORD."

¹¹ For behold, the LORD gives a command: He will break the great house into bits, And the little house into pieces.

¹² Do horses run on rocks? Does one plow there with oxen? Yet you have turned justice into gall, And the fruit of righteousness into wormwood,

¹³ You who rejoice over Lo Debar, Who say, "Have we not taken Karnaim for ourselves By our own strength?"

¹⁴ "But, behold, I will raise up a nation against you, O house of Israel," Says the LORD God of hosts; "And they will afflict

you from the entrance of Hamath To the Valley of the Arabah."

7¹ Thus the Lord GOD showed me: Behold, He formed locust swarms at the beginning of the late crop; indeed it was the late crop after the king's mowings.

² And so it was, when they had finished eating the grass of the land, that I said: "O Lord GOD, forgive, I pray! Oh, that Jacob may stand, For he is small!"

³ So the LORD relented concerning this. "It shall not be," said the LORD.

⁴ Thus the Lord GOD showed me: Behold, the Lord GOD called for conflict by fire, and it consumed the great deep and devoured the territory.

⁵ Then I said: "O Lord GOD, cease, I pray! Oh, that Jacob may stand, For he is small!"

⁶ So the LORD relented concerning this. "This also shall not be," said the Lord GOD.

⁷ Thus He showed me: Behold, the Lord stood on a wall made with a plumb line, with a plumb line in His hand.

⁸ And the LORD said to me, "Amos, what do you see?" And I said, "A plumb line." Then the Lord said: "Behold, I am setting a plumb line In the midst of My people Israel; I will not pass by them anymore.

⁹ The high places of Isaac shall be desolate, And the sanctuaries of Israel shall be laid waste. I will rise with the sword against the house of Jeroboam."

¹⁰ Then Amaziah the priest of Bethel sent to Jeroboam king of Israel, saying, "Amos has conspired against you in the midst of the house of Israel. The land is not able to bear all his words.

¹¹ "For thus Amos has said: 'Jeroboam shall die by the sword, And Israel shall surely be led away captive From their own land.'"

¹² Then Amaziah said to Amos: "Go, you seer! Flee to the land of Judah. There eat bread, And there prophesy.

¹³ But never again prophesy at Bethel, For it is the king's sanctuary, And it is the royal residence."

¹⁴ Then Amos answered, and said to Amaziah: "I was no prophet, Nor was I a son of a prophet, But I was a sheepbreeder And a tender of sycamore fruit.

¹⁵ Then the LORD took me as I followed the flock, And the LORD said to me, 'Go, prophesy to My people Israel.'

¹⁶ Now therefore, hear the word of the LORD: You say, 'Do not prophesy against Israel, And do not spout against the house of Isaac.'

¹⁷ "Therefore thus says the LORD: 'Your wife shall be a harlot in the city; Your sons and daughters shall fall by the sword; Your land shall be divided by survey line; You shall die in a defiled land; And Israel shall surely be led away captive From his own land.'"

8 ¹ Thus the Lord GOD showed me:
Behold, a basket of summer fruit.

² And He said, "Amos, what do you see?" So I said, "A basket of summer fruit." Then the LORD said to me: "The end has come upon My people Israel; I will not pass by them anymore.

³ And the songs of the temple Shall be wailing in that day," Says the Lord GOD—"Many dead bodies everywhere, They shall be thrown out in silence."

⁴ Hear this, you who swallow up the needy, And make the poor of the land fail,

⁵ Saying: "When will the New Moon be past, That we may sell grain? And the Sabbath, That we may trade wheat? Making the ephah small and the shekel large, Falsifying the scales by deceit,

⁶ That we may buy the poor for silver, And the needy for a pair of sandals—Even sell the bad wheat?"

⁷ The LORD has sworn by the pride of Jacob: "Surely I will never forget any of their works.

⁸ Shall the land not tremble for this, And everyone mourn who dwells in it? All of it shall swell like the River, Heave and subside Like the River of Egypt.

⁹ "And it shall come to pass in that day," says the Lord GOD, "That I will make the sun go down at noon, And I will darken the earth in broad daylight;

¹⁰ I will turn your feasts into mourning, And all your songs into lamentation; I will bring sackcloth on every waist, And

baldness on every head; I will make it like mourning for an only son, And its end like a bitter day.

¹¹ "Behold, the days are coming," says the Lord GOD, "That I will send a famine on the land, Not a famine of bread, Nor a thirst for water, But of hearing the words of the LORD.

¹² They shall wander from sea to sea, And from north to east; They shall run to and fro, seeking the word of the LORD, But shall not find it.

¹³ "In that day the fair virgins And strong young men Shall faint from thirst.

¹⁴ Those who swear by the sin of Samaria, Who say, 'As your god lives, O Dan!' And, 'As the way of Beersheba lives!' They shall fall and never rise again."

9 ¹ I saw the Lord standing by the altar, and He said: "Strike the doorposts, that the thresholds may shake, And

break them on the heads of them all. I will slay the last of them with the sword. He who flees from them shall not get away, And he who escapes from them shall not be delivered.

² "Though they dig into hell, From there my hand shall take them; Though they climb up to heaven, From there I will bring them down;

³ And though they hide themselves on top of Carmel, From there I will search and take them; Though they hide from My sight at the bottom of the sea, From there I will command the serpent, and it shall bite them;

⁴ Though they go into captivity before their enemies, From there I will command the sword, And it shall slay them. I will set My eyes on them for harm and not for good."

⁵ The Lord GOD of hosts, He who touches the earth and it melts, And all

who dwell there mourn; All of it shall swell like the River, And subside like the River of Egypt.

⁶ He who builds His layers in the sky, And has founded His strata in the earth; Who calls for the waters of the sea, And pours them out on the face of the earth—The LORD is His name.

⁷ "Are you not like the people of Ethiopia to Me, O children of Israel?" says the LORD. "Did I not bring up Israel from the land of Egypt, The Philistines from Caphtor, And the Syrians from Kir?"

⁸ "Behold, the eyes of the Lord GOD are on the sinful kingdom, And I will destroy it from the face of the earth; Yet I will not utterly destroy the house of Jacob," Says the LORD.

⁹ "For surely I will command, And will sift the house of Israel among all nations, As grain is sifted in a sieve; Yet not the smallest grain shall fall to the ground.

¹⁰ All the sinners of My people shall die by the sword, Who say, 'The calamity shall not overtake nor confront us.'

¹¹ "On that day I will raise up The tabernacle of David, which has fallen down, And repair its damages; I will raise up its ruins, And rebuild it as in the days of old;

¹² That they may possess the remnant of Edom, And all the Gentiles who are called by My name," Says the LORD who does this thing.

¹³ "Behold, the days are coming," says the LORD, "When the plowman shall overtake the reaper, And the treader of grapes him who sows seed; The mountains shall drip with sweet wine, And all the hills shall flow with it.

¹⁴ I will bring back the captives of My people Israel; They shall build the waste cities and inhabit them; They shall plant vineyards and drink wine from them;

They shall also make gardens and eat fruit from them.

¹⁵ I will plant them in their land, And no longer shall they be pulled up From the land I have given them," Says the LORD your God.

Obadiah

1 ¹ The vision of Obadiah. Thus says the Lord GOD concerning Edom (We have heard a report from the LORD, And a messenger has been sent among the nations, saying, "Arise, and let us rise up against her for battle"):

² "Behold, I will make you small among the nations; You shall be greatly despised.

³ The pride of your heart has deceived you, You who dwell in the clefts of the rock, Whose habitation is high; You who say in your heart, 'Who will bring me down to the ground?'

⁴ Though you ascend as high as the eagle, And though you set your nest among the stars, From there I will bring you down," says the LORD.

⁵ "If thieves had come to you, If robbers by night—Oh, how you will be cut off! —Would they not have stolen till they had enough? If grape-gatherers had come to you, Would they not have left some gleanings?

⁶ "Oh, how Esau shall be searched out! How his hidden treasures shall be sought after!

⁷ All the men in your confederacy Shall force you to the border; The men at peace with you Shall deceive you and prevail against you. Those who eat your bread shall lay a trap for you. No one is aware of it.

⁸ "Will I not in that day," says the LORD, "Even destroy the wise men from Edom, And understanding from the mountains of Esau?"

⁹ Then your mighty men, O Teman, shall be dismayed, To the end that everyone

from the mountains of Esau May be cut off by slaughter.

¹⁰ "For violence against your brother Jacob, Shame shall cover you, And you shall be cut off forever.

¹¹ In the day that you stood on the other side—In the day that strangers carried captive his forces, When foreigners entered his gates And cast lots for Jerusalem—Even you were as one of them.

¹² But you should not have gazed on the day of your brother In the day of his captivity; Nor should you have rejoiced over the children of Judah In the day of their destruction; Nor should you have spoken proudly In the day of distress.

¹³ You should not have entered the gate of My people In the day of their calamity. Indeed, you should not have gazed on their affliction In the day of

their calamity, Nor laid hands on their substance In the day of their calamity.

¹⁴ You should not have stood at the crossroads To cut off those among them who escaped; Nor should you have delivered up those among them who remained In the day of distress.

¹⁵ "For the day of the LORD upon all the nations is near; As you have done, it shall be done to you; Your reprisal shall return upon your own head.

¹⁶ For as you drank on my holy mountain, So shall all the nations drink continually; Yes, they shall drink, and swallow, And they shall be as though they had never been.

¹⁷ "But on Mount Zion there shall be deliverance, And there shall be holiness; The house of Jacob shall possess their possessions.

¹⁸ The house of Jacob shall be a fire, And the house of Joseph a flame; But

the house of Esau shall be stubble; They shall kindle them and devour them, And no survivor shall remain of the house of Esau," For the LORD has spoken.

¹⁹ The South shall possess the mountains of Esau, And the Lowland shall possess Philistia. They shall possess the fields of Ephraim And the fields of Samaria. Benjamin shall possess Gilead.

²⁰ And the captives of this host of the children of Israel Shall possess the land of the Canaanites As far as Zarephath. The captives of Jerusalem who are in Sepharad Shall possess the cities of the South.

²¹ Then saviors shall come to Mount Zion To judge the mountains of Esau, And the kingdom shall be the LORD'S.

Jonah

1 ¹ Now the word of the LORD came to Jonah the son of Amittai, saying,

² "Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and cry out against it; for their wickedness has come up before Me."

³ But Jonah arose to flee to Tarshish from the presence of the LORD. He went down to Joppa, and found a ship going to Tarshish; so he paid the fare, and went down into it, to go with them to Tarshish from the presence of the LORD.

⁴ But the LORD sent out a great wind on the sea, and there was a mighty tempest on the sea, so that the ship was about to be broken up.

⁵ Then the mariners were afraid; and every man cried out to his god, and threw the cargo that was in the ship into

the sea, to lighten the load. But Jonah had gone down into the lowest parts of the ship, had lain down, and was fast asleep.

⁶ So the captain came to him, and said to him, "What do you mean, sleeper? Arise, call on your God; perhaps your God will consider us, so that we may not perish."

⁷ And they said to one another, "Come, let us cast lots, that we may know for whose cause this trouble has come upon us." So they cast lots, and the lot fell on Jonah.

⁸ Then they said to him, "Please tell us! For whose cause is this trouble upon us? What is your occupation? And where do you come from? What is your country? And of what people are you?"

⁹ So he said to them, "I am a Hebrew; and I fear the LORD, the God of heaven, who made the sea and the dry land."

¹⁰ Then the men were exceedingly afraid, and said to him, "Why have you done this?" For the men knew that he fled from the presence of the LORD, because he had told them.

¹¹ Then they said to him, "What shall we do to you that the sea may be calm for us?" —for the sea was growing more tempestuous.

¹² And he said to them, "Pick me up and throw me into the sea; then the sea will become calm for you. For I know that this great tempest is because of me."

¹³ Nevertheless the men rowed hard to return to land, but they could not, for the sea continued to grow more tempestuous against them.

¹⁴ Therefore they cried out to the LORD and said, "We pray, O LORD, please do not let us perish for this man's life, and do not charge us with innocent blood;

for You, O LORD, have done as it pleased You."

¹⁵ So they picked up Jonah and threw him into the sea, and the sea ceased from its raging.

¹⁶ Then the men feared the LORD exceedingly, and offered a sacrifice to the LORD and took vows.

¹⁷ Now the LORD had prepared a great fish to swallow Jonah. And Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights.

2 ¹ Then Jonah prayed to the LORD his God from the fish's belly.

² And he said: "I cried out to the LORD because of my affliction, And He answered me. "Out of the belly of Sheol I cried, And You heard my voice.

³ For You cast me into the deep, Into the heart of the seas, And the floods surrounded me; All Your billows and Your waves passed over me.

⁴ Then I said, 'I have been cast out of Your sight; Yet I will look again toward Your holy temple.'

⁵ The waters surrounded me, even to my soul; The deep closed around me; Weeds were wrapped around my head.

⁶ I went down to the moorings of the mountains; The earth with its bars closed behind me forever; Yet You have brought up my life from the pit, O LORD, my God.

⁷ "When my soul fainted within me, I remembered the LORD; And my prayer went up to You, Into Your holy temple.

⁸ "Those who regard worthless idols Forsake their own Mercy.

⁹ But I will sacrifice to You With the voice of thanksgiving; I will pay what I have vowed. Salvation is of the LORD."

¹⁰ So the LORD spoke to the fish, and it vomited Jonah onto dry land.

3¹ Now the word of the LORD came to Jonah the second time, saying,

² "Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and preach to it the message that I tell you."

³ So Jonah arose and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the LORD. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly great city, a three-day journey in extent.

⁴ And Jonah began to enter the city on the first day's walk. Then he cried out and said, "Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!"

⁵ So the people of Nineveh believed God, proclaimed a fast, and put on sackcloth, from the greatest to the least of them.

⁶ Then word came to the king of Nineveh; and he arose from his throne and laid aside his robe, covered himself with sackcloth and sat in ashes.

⁷ And he caused it to be proclaimed and published throughout Nineveh by the decree of the king and his nobles, saying, Let neither man nor beast, herd nor flock, taste anything; do not let them eat, or drink water.

⁸ But let man and beast be covered with sackcloth, and cry mightily to God; yes, let every one turn from his evil way and from the violence that is in his hands.

⁹ Who can tell if God will turn and relent, and turn away from His fierce anger, so that we may not perish?

¹⁰ Then God saw their works, that they turned from their evil way; and God relented from the disaster that He had said He would bring upon them, and He did not do it.

4 ¹ But it displeased Jonah exceedingly, and he became angry.

² So he prayed to the LORD, and said, "Ah, LORD, was not this what I said when

I was still in my country? Therefore I fled previously to Tarshish; for I know that You are a gracious and merciful God, slow to anger and abundant in lovingkindness, One who relents from doing harm.

³ "Therefore now, O LORD, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live!"

⁴ Then the LORD said, "Is it right for you to be angry?"

⁵ So Jonah went out of the city and sat on the east side of the city. There he made himself a shelter and sat under it in the shade, till he might see what would become of the city.

⁶ And the LORD God prepared a plant and made it come up over Jonah, that it might be shade for his head to deliver him from his misery. So Jonah was very grateful for the plant.

⁷ But as morning dawned the next day God prepared a worm, and it so damaged the plant that it withered.

⁸ And it happened, when the sun arose, that God prepared a vehement east wind; and the sun beat on Jonah's head, so that he grew faint. Then he wished death for himself, and said, "It is better for me to die than to live."

⁹ Then God said to Jonah, "Is it right for you to be angry about the plant?" And he said, "It is right for me to be angry, even to death!"

¹⁰ But the LORD said, "You have had pity on the plant for which you have not labored, nor made it grow, which came up in a night and perished in a night.

¹¹ "And should I not pity Nineveh, that great city, in which are more than one hundred and twenty thousand persons who cannot discern between their

right hand and their left—and much livestock?"

Micah

1 ¹ The word of the LORD that came to Micah of Moresheth in the days of Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, kings of Judah, which he saw concerning Samaria and Jerusalem.

² Hear, all you peoples! Listen, O earth, and all that is in it! Let the Lord GOD be a witness against you, The Lord from His holy temple.

³ For behold, the LORD is coming out of His place; He will come down And tread on the high places of the earth.

⁴ The mountains will melt under Him, And the valleys will split Like wax before the fire, Like waters poured down a steep place.

⁵ All this is for the transgression of Jacob And for the sins of the house

of Israel. What is the transgression of Jacob? Is it not Samaria? And what are the high places of Judah? Are they not Jerusalem?

⁶ "Therefore I will make Samaria a heap of ruins in the field, Places for planting a vineyard; I will pour down her stones into the valley, And I will uncover her foundations.

⁷ All her carved images shall be beaten to pieces, And all her pay as a harlot shall be burned with the fire; All her idols I will lay desolate, For she gathered it from the pay of a harlot, And they shall return to the pay of a harlot."

⁸ Therefore I will wail and howl, I will go stripped and naked; I will make a wailing like the jackals And a mourning like the ostriches,

⁹ For her wounds are incurable. For it has come to Judah; It has come to the gate of My people—To Jerusalem.

¹⁰ Tell it not in Gath, Weep not at all; In Beth Aphrah Roll yourself in the dust.

¹¹ Pass by in naked shame, you inhabitant of Shaphir; The inhabitant of Zaanan does not go out. Beth Ezel mourns; Its place to stand is taken away from you.

¹² For the inhabitant of Maroth pined for good, But disaster came down from the LORD To the gate of Jerusalem.

¹³ O inhabitant of Lachish, Harness the chariot to the swift steeds (She was the beginning of sin to the daughter of Zion), For the transgressions of Israel were found in you.

¹⁴ Therefore you shall give presents to Moresheth Gath; The houses of Achzib shall be a lie to the kings of Israel.

¹⁵ I will yet bring an heir to you, O inhabitant of Mareshah; The glory of Israel shall come to Adullam.

¹⁶ Make yourself bald and cut off your hair, Because of your precious children; Enlarge your baldness like an eagle, For they shall go from you into captivity.

2 ¹ Woe to those who devise iniquity, And work out evil on their beds! At morning light they practice it, Because it is in the power of their hand.

² They covet fields and take them by violence, Also houses, and seize them. So they oppress a man and his house, A man and his inheritance.

³ Therefore thus says the LORD: "Behold, against this family I am devising disaster, From which you cannot remove your necks; Nor shall you walk haughtily, For this is an evil time.

⁴ In that day one shall take up a proverb against you, And lament with a bitter lamentation, saying: 'We are utterly destroyed! He has changed the heritage of my people; How He has removed it

from me! To a turncoat He has divided our fields.'"

⁵ Therefore you will have no one to determine boundaries by lot In the assembly of the LORD.

⁶ "Do not prattle," you say to those who prophesy. So they shall not prophesy to you; They shall not return insult for insult.

⁷ You who are named the house of Jacob: "Is the Spirit of the LORD restricted? Are these His doings? Do not My words do good To him who walks uprightly?"

⁸ "Lately My people have risen up as an enemy—You pull off the robe with the garment From those who trust you, as they pass by, Like men returned from war.

⁹ The women of My people you cast out From their pleasant houses; From their

children You have taken away My glory forever.

¹⁰ "Arise and depart, For this is not your rest; Because it is defiled, it shall destroy, Yes, with utter destruction.

¹¹ If a man should walk in a false spirit And speak a lie, saying, 'I will prophesy to you of wine and drink,' Even he would be the prattler of this people.

¹² "I will surely assemble all of you, O Jacob, I will surely gather the remnant of Israel; I will put them together like sheep of the fold, Like a flock in the midst of their pasture; They shall make a loud noise because of so many people.

¹³ The one who breaks open will come up before them; They will break out, Pass through the gate, And go out by it; Their king will pass before them, With the LORD at their head."

3 ¹ And I said: "Hear now, O heads of Jacob, And you rulers of the house of Israel: Is it not for you to know justice?"

² You who hate good and love evil; Who strip the skin from My people, And the flesh from their bones;

³ Who also eat the flesh of My people, Flay their skin from them, Break their bones, And chop them in pieces Like meat for the pot, Like flesh in the caldron."

⁴ Then they will cry to the LORD, But He will not hear them; He will even hide His face from them at that time, Because they have been evil in their deeds.

⁵ Thus says the LORD concerning the prophets Who make my people stray; Who chant "Peace" While they chew with their teeth, But who prepare war against him Who puts nothing into their mouths:

⁶ "Therefore you shall have night without vision, And you shall have darkness without divination; The sun shall go down on the prophets, And the day shall be dark for them.

⁷ So the seers shall be ashamed, And the diviners abashed; Indeed they shall all cover their lips; For there is no answer from God."

⁸ But truly I am full of power by the Spirit of the LORD, And of justice and might, To declare to Jacob his transgression And to Israel his sin.

⁹ Now hear this, You heads of the house of Jacob And rulers of the house of Israel, Who abhor justice And pervert all equity,

¹⁰ Who build up Zion with bloodshed And Jerusalem with iniquity:

¹¹ Her heads judge for a bribe, Her priests teach for pay, And her prophets divine for money. Yet they lean on the

LORD, and say, "Is not the LORD among us? No harm can come upon us."

¹² Therefore because of you Zion shall be plowed like a field, Jerusalem shall become heaps of ruins, And the mountain of the temple Like the bare hills of the forest.

4 ¹ Now it shall come to pass in the latter days That the mountain of the LORD'S house Shall be established on the top of the mountains, And shall be exalted above the hills; And peoples shall flow to it.

² Many nations shall come and say, "Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, To the house of the God of Jacob; He will teach us His ways, And we shall walk in His paths." For out of Zion the law shall go forth, And the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

³ He shall judge between many peoples, And rebuke strong nations afar off; They

shall beat their swords into plowshares,
And their spears into pruning hooks;
Nation shall not lift up sword against
nation, Neither shall they learn war any
more.

⁴ But everyone shall sit under his vine
and under his fig tree, And no one shall
make them afraid; For the mouth of the
LORD of hosts has spoken.

⁵ For all people walk each in the name
of his god, But we will walk in the name
of the LORD our God Forever and ever.

⁶ "In that day," says the LORD, "I will
assemble the lame, I will gather the
outcast And those whom I have afflicted;

⁷ I will make the lame a remnant, And
the outcast a strong nation; So the LORD
will reign over them in Mount Zion From
now on, even forever.

⁸ And you, O tower of the flock, The
stronghold of the daughter of Zion,
To you shall it come, Even the former

dominion shall come, The kingdom of the daughter of Jerusalem."

⁹ Now why do you cry aloud? Is there no king in your midst? Has your counselor perished? For pangs have seized you like a woman in labor.

¹⁰ Be in pain, and labor to bring forth, O daughter of Zion, Like a woman in birth pangs. For now you shall go forth from the city, You shall dwell in the field, And to Babylon you shall go. There you shall be delivered; There the LORD will redeem you From the hand of your enemies.

¹¹ Now also many nations have gathered against you, Who say, "Let her be defiled, And let our eye look upon Zion."

¹² But they do not know the thoughts of the LORD, Nor do they understand His counsel; For He will gather them like sheaves to the threshing floor.

¹³ "Arise and thresh, O daughter of Zion; For I will make your horn iron, And I will make your hooves bronze; You shall beat in pieces many peoples; I will consecrate their gain to the LORD, And their substance to the Lord of the whole earth."

5 ¹ Now gather yourself in troops, O daughter of troops; He has laid siege against us; They will strike the judge of Israel with a rod on the cheek.

² "But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, Though you are little among the thousands of Judah, Yet out of you shall come forth to Me The One to be Ruler in Israel, Whose goings forth are from of old, From everlasting."

³ Therefore He shall give them up, Until the time that she who is in labor has given birth; Then the remnant of His brethren Shall return to the children of Israel.

⁴ And He shall stand and feed His flock
In the strength of the LORD, In the
majesty of the name of the LORD His
God; And they shall abide, For now He
shall be great To the ends of the earth;

⁵ And this One shall be peace. When
the Assyrian comes into our land, And
when he treads in our palaces, Then we
will raise against him Seven shepherds
and eight princely men.

⁶ They shall waste with the sword the
land of Assyria, And the land of Nimrod
at its entrances; Thus He shall deliver us
from the Assyrian, When he comes into
our land And when he treads within our
borders.

⁷ Then the remnant of Jacob Shall be
in the midst of many peoples, Like dew
from the LORD, Like showers on the
grass, That tarry for no man Nor wait for
the sons of men.

⁸ And the remnant of Jacob Shall be among the Gentiles, In the midst of many peoples, Like a lion among the beasts of the forest, Like a young lion among flocks of sheep, Who, if he passes through, Both treads down and tears in pieces, And none can deliver.

⁹ Your hand shall be lifted against your adversaries, And all your enemies shall be cut off.

¹⁰ "And it shall be in that day," says the LORD, "That I will cut off your horses from your midst And destroy your chariots.

¹¹ I will cut off the cities of your land And throw down all your strongholds.

¹² I will cut off sorceries from your hand, And you shall have no soothsayers.

¹³ Your carved images I will also cut off, And your sacred pillars from your midst; You shall no more worship the work of your hands;

¹⁴ I will pluck your wooden images from your midst; Thus I will destroy your cities.

¹⁵ And I will execute vengeance in anger and fury On the nations that have not heard."

6 ¹ Hear now what the LORD says: "Arise, plead your case before the mountains, And let the hills hear your voice.

² Hear, O you mountains, the LORD'S complaint, And you strong foundations of the earth; For the LORD has a complaint against His people, And He will contend with Israel.

³ "O My people, what have I done to you? And how have I wearied you? Testify against Me.

⁴ For I brought you up from the land of Egypt, I redeemed you from the house of bondage; And I sent before you Moses, Aaron, and Miriam.

⁵ O My people, remember now What Balak king of Moab counseled, And what Balaam the son of Beor answered him, From Acacia Grove to Gilgal, That you may know the righteousness of the LORD."

⁶ With what shall I come before the LORD, And bow myself before the High God? Shall I come before Him with burnt offerings, With calves a year old?

⁷ Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams, Ten thousand rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, The fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?

⁸ He has shown you, O man, what is good; And what does the LORD require of you But to do justly, To love mercy, And to walk humbly with your God?

⁹ The LORD'S voice cries to the city— Wisdom shall see Your name: "Hear the Rod! Who has appointed it?"

¹⁰ Are there yet the treasures of wickedness In the house of the wicked, And the short measure that is an abomination?

¹¹ Shall I count pure those with the wicked scales, And with the bag of deceitful weights?

¹² For her rich men are full of violence, Her inhabitants have spoken lies, And their tongue is deceitful in their mouth.

¹³ "Therefore I will also make you sick by striking you, By making you desolate because of your sins.

¹⁴ You shall eat, but not be satisfied; Hunger shall be in your midst. You may carry some away, but shall not save them; And what you do rescue I will give over to the sword.

¹⁵ "You shall sow, but not reap; You shall tread the olives, but not anoint yourselves with oil; And make sweet wine, but not drink wine.

¹⁶ For the statutes of Omri are kept;
All the works of Ahab's house are done;
And you walk in their counsels, That I
may make you a desolation, And your
inhabitants a hissing. Therefore you shall
bear the reproach of My people."

7 ¹ Woe is me! For I am like those who
gather summer fruits, Like those
who glean vintage grapes; There is no
cluster to eat Of the first-ripe fruit which
my soul desires.

² The faithful man has perished from
the earth, And there is no one upright
among men. They all lie in wait for
blood; Every man hunts his brother with
a net.

³ That they may successfully do evil
with both hands—The prince asks for
gifts, The judge seeks a bribe, And the
great man utters his evil desire; So they
scheme together.

⁴ The best of them is like a brier; The most upright is sharper than a thorn hedge; The day of your watchman and your punishment comes; Now shall be their perplexity.

⁵ Do not trust in a friend; Do not put your confidence in a companion; Guard the doors of your mouth From her who lies in your bosom.

⁶ For son dishonors father, Daughter rises against her mother, Daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law; A man's enemies are the men of his own household.

⁷ Therefore I will look to the LORD; I will wait for the God of my salvation; My God will hear me.

⁸ Do not rejoice over me, my enemy; When I fall, I will arise; When I sit in darkness, The LORD will be a light to me.

⁹ I will bear the indignation of the LORD, Because I have sinned against Him, Until

He pleads my case And executes justice for me. He will bring me forth to the light; I will see His righteousness.

¹⁰ Then she who is my enemy will see, And shame will cover her who said to me, "Where is the LORD your God?" My eyes will see her; Now she will be trampled down Like mud in the streets.

¹¹ In the day when your walls are to be built, In that day the decree shall go far and wide.

¹² In that day they shall come to you From Assyria and the fortified cities, From the fortress to the River, From sea to sea, And mountain to mountain.

¹³ Yet the land shall be desolate Because of those who dwell in it, And for the fruit of their deeds.

¹⁴ Shepherd Your people with Your staff, The flock of Your heritage, Who dwell solitarily in a woodland, In the midst of

Carmel; Let them feed in Bashan and Gilead, As in days of old.

¹⁵ "As in the days when you came out of the land of Egypt, I will show them wonders."

¹⁶ The nations shall see and be ashamed of all their might; They shall put their hand over their mouth; Their ears shall be deaf.

¹⁷ They shall lick the dust like a serpent; They shall crawl from their holes like snakes of the earth. They shall be afraid of the LORD our God, And shall fear because of You.

¹⁸ Who is a God like You, Pardoning iniquity And passing over the transgression of the remnant of His heritage? He does not retain His anger forever, Because He delights in mercy.

¹⁹ He will again have compassion on us, And will subdue our iniquities. You will

cast all our sins Into the depths of the sea.

²⁰ You will give truth to Jacob And mercy to Abraham, Which You have sworn to our fathers From days of old.

Nahum

1 ¹ The burden against Nineveh. The book of the vision of Nahum the Elkoshite.

² God is jealous, and the LORD avenges; The LORD avenges and is furious. The LORD will take vengeance on His adversaries, And He reserves wrath for His enemies;

³ The LORD is slow to anger and great in power, And will not at all acquit the wicked. The LORD has His way In the whirlwind and in the storm, And the clouds are the dust of His feet.

⁴ He rebukes the sea and makes it dry, And dries up all the rivers. Bashan and Carmel wither, And the flower of Lebanon wilts.

⁵ The mountains quake before Him, The hills melt, And the earth heaves at His presence, Yes, the world and all who dwell in it.

⁶ Who can stand before His indignation? And who can endure the fierceness of His anger? His fury is poured out like fire, And the rocks are thrown down by Him.

⁷ The LORD is good, A stronghold in the day of trouble; And He knows those who trust in Him.

⁸ But with an overflowing flood He will make an utter end of its place, And darkness will pursue His enemies.

⁹ What do you conspire against the LORD? He will make an utter end of it. Affliction will not rise up a second time.

¹⁰ For while tangled like thorns, And while drunken like drunkards, They shall be devoured like stubble fully dried.

¹¹ From you comes forth one Who plots evil against the LORD, A wicked counselor.

¹² Thus says the LORD: "Though they are safe, and likewise many, Yet in this manner they will be cut down When he passes through. Though I have afflicted you, I will afflict you no more;

¹³ For now I will break off his yoke from you, And burst your bonds apart."

¹⁴ The LORD has given a command concerning you: "Your name shall be perpetuated no longer. Out of the house of your gods I will cut off the carved image and the molded image. I will dig your grave, For you are vile."

¹⁵ Behold, on the mountains The feet of him who brings good tidings, Who proclaims peace! O Judah, keep your appointed feasts, Perform your vows. For the wicked one shall no more pass through you; He is utterly cut off.

2¹ He who scatters has come up
before your face. Man the fort!
Watch the road! Strengthen your flanks!
Fortify your power mightily.

² For the LORD will restore the
excellence of Jacob Like the excellence
of Israel, For the emptiers have emptied
them out And ruined their vine branches.

³ The shields of his mighty men are
made red, The valiant men are in scarlet.
The chariots come with flaming torches
In the day of his preparation, And the
spears are brandished.

⁴ The chariots rage in the streets, They
jostle one another in the broad roads;
They seem like torches, They run like
lightning.

⁵ He remembers his nobles; They
stumble in their walk; They make
haste to her walls, And the defense is
prepared.

⁶ The gates of the rivers are opened,
And the palace is dissolved.

⁷ It is decreed: She shall be led away
captive, She shall be brought up; And
her maidservants shall lead her as with
the voice of doves, Beating their breasts.

⁸ Though Nineveh of old was like a pool
of water, Now they flee away. "Halt!
Halt!" they cry; But no one turns back.

⁹ Take spoil of silver! Take spoil of gold!
There is no end of treasure, Or wealth of
every desirable prize.

¹⁰ She is empty, desolate, and waste!
The heart melts, and the knees shake;
Much pain is in every side, And all their
faces are drained of color.

¹¹ Where is the dwelling of the lions,
And the feeding place of the young
lions, Where the lion walked, the lioness
and lion's cub, And no one made them
afraid?

¹² The lion tore in pieces enough for his cubs,
Killed for his lionesses, Filled his caves with prey,
And his dens with flesh.

¹³ "Behold, I am against you," says the LORD of hosts,
"I will burn your chariots in smoke, and the sword shall devour your young lions;
I will cut off your prey from the earth, and the voice of your messengers shall be heard no more."

3 ¹ Woe to the bloody city! It is all full of lies and robbery.
Its victim never departs.

² The noise of a whip And the noise of rattling wheels,
Of galloping horses, Of clattering chariots!

³ Horsemen charge with bright sword and glittering spear.
There is a multitude of slain, A great number of bodies,
Countless corpses—They stumble over the corpses—

⁴ Because of the multitude of harlotries of the seductive harlot,
The mistress

of sorceries, Who sells nations through her harlotries, And families through her sorceries.

⁵ "Behold, I am against you," says the LORD of hosts; "I will lift your skirts over your face, I will show the nations your nakedness, And the kingdoms your shame.

⁶ I will cast abominable filth upon you, Make you vile, And make you a spectacle.

⁷ It shall come to pass that all who look upon you Will flee from you, and say, 'Nineveh is laid waste! Who will bemoan her?' Where shall I seek comforters for you?"

⁸ Are you better than No Amon That was situated by the River, That had the waters around her, Whose rampart was the sea, Whose wall was the sea?

⁹ Ethiopia and Egypt were her strength,
And it was boundless; Put and Lubim
were your helpers.

¹⁰ Yet she was carried away, She went
into captivity; Her young children also
were dashed to pieces At the head
of every street; They cast lots for her
honorable men, And all her great men
were bound in chains.

¹¹ You also will be drunk; You will be
hidden; You also will seek refuge from
the enemy.

¹² All your strongholds are fig trees with
ripened figs: If they are shaken, They fall
into the mouth of the eater.

¹³ Surely, your people in your midst are
women! The gates of your land are wide
open for your enemies; Fire shall devour
the bars of your gates.

¹⁴ Draw your water for the siege! Fortify
your strongholds! Go into the clay and

tread the mortar! Make strong the brick kiln!

¹⁵ There the fire will devour you, The sword will cut you off; It will eat you up like a locust. Make yourself many—like the locust! Make yourself many—like the swarming locusts!

¹⁶ You have multiplied your merchants more than the stars of heaven. The locust plunders and flies away.

¹⁷ Your commanders are like swarming locusts, And your generals like great grasshoppers, Which camp in the hedges on a cold day; When the sun rises they flee away, And the place where they are is not known.

¹⁸ Your shepherds slumber, O king of Assyria; Your nobles rest in the dust. Your people are scattered on the mountains, And no one gathers them.

¹⁹ Your injury has no healing, Your wound is severe. All who hear news of

you Will clap their hands over you, For
upon whom has not your wickedness
passed continually?

Habakkuk

1 ¹ The burden which the prophet Habakkuk saw.

² O LORD, how long shall I cry, And You will not hear? Even cry out to You, "Violence!" And You will not save.

³ Why do You show me iniquity, And cause me to see trouble? For plundering and violence are before me; There is strife, and contention arises.

⁴ Therefore the law is powerless, And justice never goes forth. For the wicked surround the righteous; Therefore perverse judgment proceeds.

⁵ "Look among the nations and watch—Be utterly astounded! For I will work a work in your days Which you would not believe, though it were told you.

⁶ For indeed I am raising up the
Chaldeans, A bitter and hasty nation
Which marches through the breadth of
the earth, To possess dwelling places
that are not theirs.

⁷ They are terrible and dreadful; Their
judgment and their dignity proceed from
themselves.

⁸ Their horses also are swifter than
leopards, And more fierce than evening
wolves. Their chargers charge ahead;
Their cavalry comes from afar; They fly
as the eagle that hastens to eat.

⁹ "They all come for violence; Their
faces are set like the east wind. They
gather captives like sand.

¹⁰ They scoff at kings, And princes are
scorned by them. They deride every
stronghold, For they heap up earthen
mounds and seize it.

¹¹ Then his mind changes, and he transgresses; He commits offense, Ascribing this power to his god."

¹² Are You not from everlasting, O LORD my God, my Holy One? We shall not die. O LORD, You have appointed them for judgment; O Rock, You have marked them for correction.

¹³ You are of purer eyes than to behold evil, And cannot look on wickedness. Why do You look on those who deal treacherously, And hold Your tongue when the wicked devours A person more righteous than he?

¹⁴ Why do You make men like fish of the sea, Like creeping things that have no ruler over them?

¹⁵ They take up all of them with a hook, They catch them in their net, And gather them in their dragnet. Therefore they rejoice and are glad.

¹⁶ Therefore they sacrifice to their net, And burn incense to their dragnet; Because by them their share is sumptuous And their food plentiful.

¹⁷ Shall they therefore empty their net, And continue to slay nations without pity?

2 ¹ I will stand my watch And set myself on the rampart, And watch to see what He will say to me, And what I will answer when I am corrected.

² Then the LORD answered me and said: "Write the vision And make it plain on tablets, That he may run who reads it.

³ For the vision is yet for an appointed time; But at the end it will speak, and it will not lie. Though it tarries, wait for it; Because it will surely come, It will not tarry.

⁴ "Behold the proud, His soul is not upright in him; But the just shall live by his faith.

⁵ "Indeed, because he transgresses by wine, He is a proud man, And he does not stay at home. Because he enlarges his desire as hell, And he is like death, and cannot be satisfied, He gathers to himself all nations And heaps up for himself all peoples.

⁶ "Will not all these take up a proverb against him, And a taunting riddle against him, and say, 'Woe to him who increases What is not his—how long? And to him who loads himself with many pledges'?

⁷ Will not your creditors rise up suddenly? Will they not awaken who oppress you? And you will become their booty.

⁸ Because you have plundered many nations, All the remnant of the people shall plunder you, Because of men's blood And the violence of the land and the city, And of all who dwell in it.

⁹ "Woe to him who covets evil gain for his house, That he may set his nest on high, That he may be delivered from the power of disaster!

¹⁰ You give shameful counsel to your house, Cutting off many peoples, And sin against your soul.

¹¹ For the stone will cry out from the wall, And the beam from the timbers will answer it.

¹² "Woe to him who builds a town with bloodshed, Who establishes a city by iniquity!

¹³ Behold, is it not of the LORD of hosts That the peoples labor to feed the fire, And nations weary themselves in vain?

¹⁴ For the earth will be filled With the knowledge of the glory of the LORD, As the waters cover the sea.

¹⁵ "Woe to him who gives drink to his neighbor, Pressing him to your bottle,

Even to make him drunk, That you may look on his nakedness!

¹⁶ You are filled with shame instead of glory. You also—drink! And be exposed as uncircumcised! The cup of the LORD'S right hand will be turned against you, And utter shame will be on your glory.

¹⁷ For the violence done to Lebanon will cover you, And the plunder of beasts which made them afraid, Because of men's blood And the violence of the land and the city, And of all who dwell in it.

¹⁸ "What profit is the image, that its maker should carve it, The molded image, a teacher of lies, That the maker of its mold should trust in it, To make mute idols?

¹⁹ Woe to him who says to wood, 'Awake!' To silent stone, 'Arise! It shall teach!' Behold, it is overlaid with gold and silver, Yet in it there is no breath at all.

²⁰ But the LORD is in His holy temple.
Let all the earth keep silence before
Him."

3 ¹ A prayer of Habakkuk the prophet,
on Shigionoth.

² O LORD, I have heard your speech and
was afraid; O LORD, revive Your work
in the midst of the years! In the midst
of the years make it known; In wrath
remember mercy.

³ God came from Teman, The Holy
One from Mount Paran. Selah His glory
covered the heavens, And the earth was
full of His praise.

⁴ His brightness was like the light; He
had rays flashing from His hand, And
there His power was hidden.

⁵ Before Him went pestilence, And fever
followed at His feet.

⁶ He stood and measured the earth; He
looked and startled the nations. And the
everlasting mountains were scattered,

The perpetual hills bowed. His ways are everlasting.

⁷ I saw the tents of Cushan in affliction;
The curtains of the land of Midian
trembled.

⁸ O LORD, were You displeased with the
rivers, Was Your anger against the rivers,
Was Your wrath against the sea, That
You rode on Your horses, Your chariots
of salvation?

⁹ Your bow was made quite ready;
Oaths were sworn over Your arrows.
Selah You divided the earth with rivers.

¹⁰ The mountains saw You and
trembled; The overflowing of the water
passed by. The deep uttered its voice,
And lifted its hands on high.

¹¹ The sun and moon stood still in
their habitation; At the light of Your
arrows they went, At the shining of Your
glittering spear.

¹² You marched through the land in indignation; You trampled the nations in anger.

¹³ You went forth for the salvation of Your people, For salvation with Your Anointed. You struck the head from the house of the wicked, By laying bare from foundation to neck. Selah

¹⁴ You thrust through with his own arrows The head of his villages. They came out like a whirlwind to scatter me; Their rejoicing was like feasting on the poor in secret.

¹⁵ You walked through the sea with Your horses, Through the heap of great waters.

¹⁶ When I heard, my body trembled; My lips quivered at the voice; Rottenness entered my bones; And I trembled in myself, That I might rest in the day of trouble. When he comes up to the

people, He will invade them with his troops.

¹⁷ Though the fig tree may not blossom,
Nor fruit be on the vines; Though the
labor of the olive may fail, And the fields
yield no food; Though the flock may be
cut off from the fold, And there be no
herd in the stalls—

¹⁸ Yet I will rejoice in the LORD, I will joy
in the God of my salvation.

¹⁹ The LORD God is my strength; He will
make my feet like deer's feet, And He
will make me walk on my high hills. To
the Chief Musician. With my stringed
instruments.

Zephaniah

1 ¹ 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.

² "I will utterly consume everything From the face of the land," Says the LORD;

³ "I will consume man and beast; I will consume the birds of the heavens, The fish of the sea, And the stumbling blocks along with the wicked. I will cut off man from the face of the land," Says the LORD.

⁴ "I will stretch out My hand against Judah, And against all the inhabitants of Jerusalem. I will cut off every trace of Baal from this place, The names of

the idolatrous priests with the pagan priests—

⁵ Those who worship the host of heaven on the housetops; Those who worship and swear oaths by the LORD, But who also swear by Milcom;

⁶ Those who have turned back from following the LORD, And have not sought the LORD, nor inquired of Him."

⁷ Be silent in the presence of the Lord GOD; For the day of the LORD is at hand, For the LORD has prepared a sacrifice; He has invited His guests.

⁸ "And it shall be, In the day of the LORD'S sacrifice, That I will punish the princes and the king's children, And all such as are clothed with foreign apparel.

⁹ In the same day I will punish All those who leap over the threshold, Who fill their masters' houses with violence and deceit.

¹⁰ "And there shall be on that day," says the LORD, "The sound of a mournful cry from the Fish Gate, A wailing from the Second Quarter, And a loud crashing from the hills.

¹¹ Wail, you inhabitants of Maktesh! For all the merchant people are cut down; All those who handle money are cut off.

¹² "And it shall come to pass at that time That I will search Jerusalem with lamps, And punish the men Who are settled in complacency, Who say in their heart, 'The LORD will not do good, Nor will He do evil.'

¹³ Therefore their goods shall become booty, And their houses a desolation; They shall build houses, but not inhabit them; They shall plant vineyards, but not drink their wine."

¹⁴ The great day of the LORD is near; It is near and hastens quickly. The noise of

the day of the LORD is bitter; There the mighty men shall cry out.

¹⁵ That day is a day of wrath, A day of trouble and distress, A day of devastation and desolation, A day of darkness and gloominess, A day of clouds and thick darkness,

¹⁶ A day of trumpet and alarm Against the fortified cities And against the high towers.

¹⁷ "I will bring distress upon men, And they shall walk like blind men, Because they have sinned against the LORD; Their blood shall be poured out like dust, And their flesh like refuse."

¹⁸ Neither their silver nor their gold Shall be able to deliver them In the day of the LORD'S wrath; But the whole land shall be devoured By the fire of His jealousy, For He will make speedy riddance Of all those who dwell in the land.

2 ¹ Gather yourselves together, yes,
gather together, O undesirable
nation,

² Before the decree is issued, Or the
day passes like chaff, Before the LORD'S
fierce anger comes upon you, Before the
day of the LORD'S anger comes upon
you!

³ Seek the LORD, all you meek of the
earth, Who have upheld His justice. Seek
righteousness, seek humility. It may be
that you will be hidden In the day of the
LORD'S anger.

⁴ For Gaza shall be forsaken, And
Ashkelon desolate; They shall drive out
Ashdod at noonday, And Ekron shall be
uprooted.

⁵ Woe to the inhabitants of the
seacoast, The nation of the Cherethites!
The word of the LORD is against you,
O Canaan, land of the Philistines: "I

will destroy you; So there shall be no inhabitant."

⁶ The seacoast shall be pastures, With shelters for shepherds and folds for flocks.

⁷ The coast shall be for the remnant of the house of Judah; They shall feed their flocks there; In the houses of Ashkelon they shall lie down at evening. For the LORD their God will intervene for them, And return their captives.

⁸ "I have heard the reproach of Moab, And the insults of the people of Ammon, With which they have reproached My people, And made arrogant threats against their borders.

⁹ Therefore, as I live," Says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, "Surely Moab shall be like Sodom, And the people of Ammon like Gomorrah—Overrun with weeds and saltpits, And a perpetual desolation. The residue of My people

shall plunder them, And the remnant of My people shall possess them."

¹⁰ This they shall have for their pride, Because they have reproached and made arrogant threats Against the people of the LORD of hosts.

¹¹ The LORD will be awesome to them, For He will reduce to nothing all the gods of the earth; People shall worship Him, Each one from his place, Indeed all the shores of the nations.

¹² "You Ethiopians also, You shall be slain by My sword."

¹³ And He will stretch out His hand against the north, Destroy Assyria, And make Nineveh a desolation, As dry as the wilderness.

¹⁴ The herds shall lie down in her midst, Every beast of the nation. Both the pelican and the bittern Shall lodge on the capitals of her pillars; Their voice shall sing in the windows; Desolation

shall be at the threshold; For He will lay bare the cedar work.

¹⁵ This is the rejoicing city That dwelt securely, That said in her heart, "I am it, and there is none besides me." How has she become a desolation, A place for beasts to lie down! Everyone who passes by her Shall hiss and shake his fist.

3 ¹ Woe to her who is rebellious and polluted, To the oppressing city!

² She has not obeyed His voice, She has not received correction; She has not trusted in the LORD, She has not drawn near to her God.

³ Her princes in her midst are roaring lions; Her judges are evening wolves That leave not a bone till morning.

⁴ Her prophets are insolent, treacherous people; Her priests have polluted the sanctuary, They have done violence to the law.

⁵ The LORD is righteous in her midst,
He will do no unrighteousness. Every
morning He brings His justice to light;
He never fails, But the unjust knows no
shame.

⁶ "I have cut off nations, Their fortresses
are devastated; I have made their streets
desolate, With none passing by. Their
cities are destroyed; There is no one, no
inhabitant.

⁷ I said, 'Surely you will fear Me, You
will receive instruction' —So that her
dwelling would not be cut off, Despite
everything for which I punished her. But
they rose early and corrupted all their
deeds.

⁸ "Therefore wait for Me," says the
LORD, "Until the day I rise up for
plunder; My determination is to gather
the nations To My assembly of kingdoms,
To pour on them My indignation, All

my fierce anger; All the earth shall be devoured With the fire of My jealousy.

⁹ "For then I will restore to the peoples a pure language, That they all may call on the name of the LORD, To serve Him with one accord.

¹⁰ From beyond the rivers of Ethiopia My worshipers, The daughter of My dispersed ones, Shall bring My offering.

¹¹ In that day you shall not be shamed for any of your deeds In which you transgress against Me; For then I will take away from your midst Those who rejoice in your pride, And you shall no longer be haughty In My holy mountain.

¹² I will leave in your midst A meek and humble people, And they shall trust in the name of the LORD.

¹³ The remnant of Israel shall do no unrighteousness And speak no lies, Nor shall a deceitful tongue be found in their mouth; For they shall feed their flocks

and lie down, And no one shall make them afraid."

¹⁴ Sing, O daughter of Zion! Shout, O Israel! Be glad and rejoice with all your heart, O daughter of Jerusalem!

¹⁵ The LORD has taken away your judgments, He has cast out your enemy. The King of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst; You shall see disaster no more.

¹⁶ In that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: "Do not fear; Zion, let not your hands be weak.

¹⁷ The LORD your God in your midst, The Mighty One, will save; He will rejoice over you with gladness, He will quiet you with His love, He will rejoice over you with singing."

¹⁸ "I will gather those who sorrow over the appointed assembly, Who are among you, To whom its reproach is a burden.

¹⁹ Behold, at that time I will deal with all who afflict you; I will save the lame,

And gather those who were driven out;
I will appoint them for praise and fame
In every land where they were put to
shame.

²⁰ At that time I will bring you back,
Even at the time I gather you; For I will
give you fame and praise Among all the
peoples of the earth, When I return your
captives before your eyes," Says the
LORD.

Haggai

1 ¹ In the second year of King Darius, in the sixth month, on the first day of the month, the word of the LORD came by Haggai the prophet to Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and to Joshua the son of Jehozadak, the high priest, saying,

² "Thus speaks the LORD of hosts, saying: 'This people says, "The time has not come, the time that the LORD'S house should be built.'"

³ Then the word of the LORD came by Haggai the prophet, saying,

⁴ "Is it time for you yourselves to dwell in your paneled houses, and this temple to lie in ruins?"

⁵ Now therefore, thus says the LORD of hosts: "Consider your ways!

⁶ "You have sown much, and bring in little; You eat, but do not have enough; You drink, but you are not filled with drink; You clothe yourselves, but no one is warm; And he who earns wages, Earns wages to put into a bag with holes."

⁷ Thus says the LORD of hosts: "Consider your ways!

⁸ "Go up to the mountains and bring wood and build the temple, that I may take pleasure in it and be glorified," says the LORD.

⁹ "You looked for much, but indeed it came to little; and when you brought it home, I blew it away. Why?" says the LORD of hosts. "Because of My house that is in ruins, while every one of you runs to his own house.

¹⁰ "Therefore the heavens above you withhold the dew, and the earth withholds its fruit.

¹¹ "For I called for a drought on the land and the mountains, on the grain and the new wine and the oil, on whatever the ground brings forth, on men and livestock, and on all the labor of your hands."

¹² Then Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, and Joshua the son of Jehozadak, the high priest, with all the remnant of the people, obeyed the voice of the LORD their God, and the words of Haggai the prophet, as the LORD their God had sent him; and the people feared the presence of the LORD.

¹³ Then Haggai, the LORD'S messenger, spoke the LORD'S message to the people, saying, "I am with you, says the LORD."

¹⁴ So the LORD stirred up the spirit of Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and the spirit of Joshua the son of Jehozadak, the high

priest, and the spirit of all the remnant of the people; and they came and worked on the house of the LORD of hosts, their God,

¹⁵ on the twenty–fourth day of the sixth month, in the second year of King Darius.

2 ¹ In the seventh month, on the twenty–first of the month, the word of the LORD came by Haggai the prophet, saying:

² "Speak now to Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and to Joshua the son of Jehozadak, the high priest, and to the remnant of the people, saying:

³ 'Who is left among you who saw this temple in its former glory? And how do you see it now? In comparison with it, is this not in your eyes as nothing?

⁴ 'Yet now be strong, Zerubbabel,' says the LORD; 'and be strong, Joshua, son

of Jehozadak, the high priest; and be strong, all you people of the land,' says the LORD, 'and work; for I am with you,' says the LORD of hosts.

⁵ 'According to the word that I covenanted with you when you came out of Egypt, so My Spirit remains among you; do not fear!'

⁶ "For thus says the LORD of hosts: 'Once more (it is a little while) I will shake heaven and earth, the sea and dry land;

⁷ 'and I will shake all nations, and they shall come to the Desire of All Nations, and I will fill this temple with glory,' says the LORD of hosts.

⁸ 'The silver is Mine, and the gold is Mine,' says the LORD of hosts.

⁹ 'The glory of this latter temple shall be greater than the former,' says the LORD of hosts. 'And in this place I will give peace,' says the LORD of hosts."

¹⁰ 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,

¹¹ "Thus says the LORD of hosts: 'Now, ask the priests concerning the law, saying,

¹² "If one carries holy meat in the fold of his garment, and with the edge he touches bread or stew, wine or oil, or any food, will it become holy?'" Then the priests answered and said, "No."

¹³ And Haggai said, "If one who is unclean because of a dead body touches any of these, will it be unclean?" So the priests answered and said, "It shall be unclean."

¹⁴ Then Haggai answered and said, "'So is this people, and so is this nation before Me,' says the LORD, 'and so is every work of their hands; and what they offer there is unclean.

¹⁵ ‘And now, carefully consider from this day forward: from before stone was laid upon stone in the temple of the LORD—

¹⁶ ‘since those days, when one came to a heap of twenty ephahs, there were but ten; when one came to the wine vat to draw out fifty baths from the press, there were but twenty.

¹⁷ ‘I struck you with blight and mildew and hail in all the labors of your hands; yet you did not turn to Me,’ says the LORD.

¹⁸ ‘Consider now from this day forward, from the twenty–fourth day of the ninth month, from the day that the foundation of the LORD’S temple was laid—consider it:

¹⁹ ‘Is the seed still in the barn? As yet the vine, the fig tree, the pomegranate, and the olive tree have not yielded fruit. But from this day I will bless you.’”

²⁰ And again the word of the LORD came to Haggai on the twenty-fourth day of the month, saying,

²¹ "Speak to Zerubbabel, governor of Judah, saying: 'I will shake heaven and earth.

²² I will overthrow the throne of kingdoms; I will destroy the strength of the Gentile kingdoms. I will overthrow the chariots And those who ride in them; The horses and their riders shall come down, Every one by the sword of his brother.

²³ 'In that day,' says the LORD of hosts, 'I will take you, Zerubbabel My servant, the son of Shealtiel,' says the LORD, 'and will make you like a signet ring; for I have chosen you,' says the LORD of hosts."

Zechariah

1 ¹ In the eighth month of the second year of Darius, the word of the LORD came to Zechariah the son of Berechiah, the son of Iddo the prophet, saying,

² "The LORD has been very angry with your fathers.

³ "Therefore say to them, 'Thus says the LORD of hosts: "Return to Me," says the LORD of hosts, "and I will return to you," says the LORD of hosts.

⁴ "Do not be like your fathers, to whom the former prophets preached, saying, 'Thus says the LORD of hosts: "Turn now from your evil ways and your evil deeds.'" But they did not hear nor heed Me," says the LORD.

⁵ "Your fathers, where are they? And the prophets, do they live forever?

⁶ Yet surely My words and My statutes, Which I commanded My servants the prophets, Did they not overtake your fathers? "So they returned and said: 'Just as the LORD of hosts determined to do to us, According to our ways and according to our deeds, So He has dealt with us.'""

⁷ On the twenty-fourth day of the eleventh month, which is 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:

⁸ I saw by night, and behold, a man riding on a red horse, and it stood among the myrtle trees in the hollow; and behind him were horses: red, sorrel, and white.

⁹ Then I said, "My lord, what are these?" So the angel who talked with me said to me, "I will show you what they are."

¹⁰ And the man who stood among the myrtle trees answered and said, "These are the ones whom the LORD has sent to walk to and fro throughout the earth."

¹¹ So they answered the Angel of the LORD, who stood among the myrtle trees, and said, "We have walked to and fro throughout the earth, and behold, all the earth is resting quietly."

¹² Then the Angel of the LORD answered and said, "O LORD of hosts, how long will You not have mercy on Jerusalem and on the cities of Judah, against which You were angry these seventy years?"

¹³ And the LORD answered the angel who talked to me, with good and comforting words.

¹⁴ So the angel who spoke with me said to me, "Proclaim, saying, 'Thus says the LORD of hosts: "I am zealous for Jerusalem And for Zion with great zeal.

¹⁵ I am exceedingly angry with the nations at ease; For I was a little angry, And they helped—but with evil intent."

¹⁶ 'Therefore thus says the LORD: "I am returning to Jerusalem with mercy; My house shall be built in it," says the LORD of hosts, "And a surveyor's line shall be stretched out over Jerusalem."

¹⁷ "Again proclaim, saying, 'Thus says the LORD of hosts: "My cities shall again spread out through prosperity; The LORD will again comfort Zion, And will again choose Jerusalem."'"

¹⁸ Then I raised my eyes and looked, and there were four horns.

¹⁹ And I said to the angel who talked with me, "What are these?" So he answered me, "These are the horns that have scattered Judah, Israel, and Jerusalem."

²⁰ Then the LORD showed me four craftsmen.

²¹ And I said, "What are these coming to do?" So he said, "These are the horns that scattered Judah, so that no one could lift up his head; but the craftsmen are coming to terrify them, to cast out the horns of the nations that lifted up their horn against the land of Judah to scatter it."

2 ¹ Then I raised my eyes and looked, and behold, a man with a measuring line in his hand.

² So I said, "Where are you going?" And he said to me, "To measure Jerusalem, to see what is its width and what is its length."

³ And there was the angel who talked with me, going out; and another angel was coming out to meet him,

⁴ who said to him, "Run, speak to this young man, saying: 'Jerusalem shall be inhabited as towns without walls,

because of the multitude of men and livestock in it.

⁵ 'For I,' says the LORD, 'will be a wall of fire all around her, and I will be the glory in her midst.'

⁶ "Up, up! Flee from the land of the north," says the LORD; "for I have spread you abroad like the four winds of heaven," says the LORD.

⁷ "Up, Zion! Escape, you who dwell with the daughter of Babylon."

⁸ For thus says the LORD of hosts: "He sent Me after glory, to the nations which plunder you; for he who touches you touches the apple of His eye.

⁹ "For surely I will shake My hand against them, and they shall become spoil for their servants. Then you will know that the LORD of hosts has sent Me.

¹⁰ "Sing and rejoice, O daughter of Zion! For behold, I am coming and I will dwell in your midst," says the LORD.

¹¹ "Many nations shall be joined to the LORD in that day, and they shall become My people. And I will dwell in your midst. Then you will know that the LORD of hosts has sent Me to you.

¹² "And the LORD will take possession of Judah as His inheritance in the Holy Land, and will again choose Jerusalem.

¹³ "Be silent, all flesh, before the LORD, for He is aroused from His holy habitation!"

3 ¹ Then he showed me Joshua the high priest standing before the Angel of the LORD, and Satan standing at his right hand to oppose him.

² And the LORD said to Satan, "The LORD rebuke you, Satan! The LORD who has chosen Jerusalem rebuke you! Is this not a brand plucked from the fire?"

³ Now Joshua was clothed with filthy garments, and was standing before the Angel.

⁴ Then He answered and spoke to those who stood before Him, saying, "Take away the filthy garments from him." And to him He said, "See, I have removed your iniquity from you, and I will clothe you with rich robes."

⁵ And I said, "Let them put a clean turban on his head." So they put a clean turban on his head, and they put the clothes on him. And the Angel of the LORD stood by.

⁶ Then the Angel of the LORD admonished Joshua, saying,

⁷ "Thus says the LORD of hosts: 'If you will walk in My ways, And if you will keep My command, Then you shall also judge My house, And likewise have charge of My courts; I will give you places to walk Among these who stand here.'

⁸ 'Hear, O Joshua, the high priest, You and your companions who sit before you, For they are a wondrous sign; For behold, I am bringing forth My Servant the BRANCH.

⁹ For behold, the stone That I have laid before Joshua: Upon the stone are seven eyes. Behold, I will engrave its inscription,' Says the LORD of hosts, 'And I will remove the iniquity of that land in one day.

¹⁰ In that day,' says the LORD of hosts, 'Everyone will invite his neighbor Under his vine and under his fig tree.'"

4 ¹ Now the angel who talked with me came back and wakened me, as a man who is wakened out of his sleep.

² And he said to me, "What do you see?" So I said, "I am looking, and there is a lampstand of solid gold with a bowl on top of it, and on the stand seven

lamps with seven pipes to the seven lamps.

³ "Two olive trees are by it, one at the right of the bowl and the other at its left."

⁴ So I answered and spoke to the angel who talked with me, saying, "What are these, my lord?"

⁵ Then the angel who talked with me answered and said to me, "Do you not know what these are?" And I said, "No, my lord."

⁶ So he answered and said to me: "This is the word of the LORD to Zerubbabel: 'Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit,' Says the LORD of hosts.

⁷ 'Who are you, O great mountain? Before Zerubbabel you shall become a plain! And he shall bring forth the capstone With shouts of "Grace, grace to it!"'"

⁸ Moreover the word of the LORD came to me, saying:

⁹ "The hands of Zerubbabel Have laid the foundation of this temple; His hands shall also finish it. Then you will know That the LORD of hosts has sent Me to you.

¹⁰ For who has despised the day of small things? For these seven rejoice to see The plumb line in the hand of Zerubbabel. They are the eyes of the LORD, Which scan to and fro throughout the whole earth."

¹¹ Then I answered and said to him, "What are these two olive trees—at the right of the lampstand and at its left?"

¹² And I further answered and said to him, "What are these two olive branches that drip into the receptacles of the two gold pipes from which the golden oil drains?"

¹³ Then he answered me and said, "Do you not know what these are?" And I said, "No, my lord."

¹⁴ So he said, "These are the two anointed ones, who stand beside the Lord of the whole earth."

5 ¹ Then I turned and raised my eyes, and saw there a flying scroll.

² And he said to me, "What do you see?" So I answered, "I see a flying scroll. Its length is twenty cubits and its width ten cubits."

³ Then he said to me, "This is the curse that goes out over the face of the whole earth: 'Every thief shall be expelled,' according to this side of the scroll; and, 'Every perjurer shall be expelled,' according to that side of it."

⁴ "I will send out the curse," says the LORD of hosts; "It shall enter the house of the thief And the house of the one who swears falsely by My name. It shall

remain in the midst of his house And consume it, with its timber and stones."

⁵ Then the angel who talked with me came out and said to me, "Lift your eyes now, and see what this is that goes forth."

⁶ So I asked, "What is it?" And he said, "It is a basket that is going forth." He also said, "This is their resemblance throughout the earth:

⁷ "Here is a lead disc lifted up, and this is a woman sitting inside the basket";

⁸ then he said, "This is Wickedness!" And he thrust her down into the basket, and threw the lead cover over its mouth.

⁹ Then I raised my eyes and looked, and there were two women, coming with the wind in their wings; for they had wings like the wings of a stork, and they lifted up the basket between earth and heaven.

¹⁰ So I said to the angel who talked with me, "Where are they carrying the basket?"

¹¹ And he said to me, "To build a house for it in the land of Shinar; when it is ready, the basket will be set there on its base."

6 ¹ Then I turned and raised my eyes and looked, and behold, four chariots were coming from between two mountains, and the mountains were mountains of bronze.

² With the first chariot were red horses, with the second chariot black horses,

³ with the third chariot white horses, and with the fourth chariot dappled horses—strong steeds.

⁴ Then I answered and said to the angel who talked with me, "What are these, my lord?"

⁵ And the angel answered and said to me, "These are four spirits of heaven,

who go out from their station before the Lord of all the earth.

⁶ "The one with the black horses is going to the north country, the white are going after them, and the dappled are going toward the south country."

⁷ Then the strong steeds went out, eager to go, that they might walk to and fro throughout the earth. And He said, "Go, walk to and fro throughout the earth." So they walked to and fro throughout the earth.

⁸ And He called to me, and spoke to me, saying, "See, those who go toward the north country have given rest to My Spirit in the north country."

⁹ Then the word of the LORD came to me, saying:

¹⁰ "Receive the gift from the captives—from Heldai, Tobijah, and Jedaiah, who have come from Babylon—and go the

same day and enter the house of Josiah the son of Zephaniah.

¹¹ "Take the silver and gold, make an elaborate crown, and set it on the head of Joshua the son of Jehozadak, the high priest.

¹² "Then speak to him, saying, 'Thus says the LORD of hosts, saying: "Behold, the Man whose name is the BRANCH! From His place He shall branch out, And He shall build the temple of the LORD;

¹³ Yes, He shall build the temple of the LORD. He shall bear the glory, And shall sit and rule on His throne; So He shall be a priest on His throne, And the counsel of peace shall be between them both."

¹⁴ "Now the elaborate crown shall be for a memorial in the temple of the LORD for Helem, Tobijah, Jedaiah, and Hen the son of Zephaniah.

¹⁵ "Even those from afar shall come and build the temple of the LORD. Then you

shall know that the LORD of hosts has sent Me to you. And this shall come to pass if you diligently obey the voice of the LORD your God."

7 ¹ Now in the fourth year of King Darius it came to pass that the word of the LORD came to Zechariah, on the fourth day of the ninth month, Chislev, ² when the people sent Sherezer, with Regem–Melech and his men, to the house of God, to pray before the LORD, ³ and to ask the priests who were in the house of the LORD of hosts, and the prophets, saying, "Should I weep in the fifth month and fast as I have done for so many years?"

⁴ Then the word of the LORD of hosts came to me, saying,

⁵ "Say to all the people of the land, and to the priests: 'When you fasted and mourned in the fifth and seventh

months during those seventy years, did you really fast for Me—for Me?

⁶ 'When you eat and when you drink, do you not eat and drink for yourselves?

⁷ 'Should you not have obeyed the words which the LORD proclaimed through the former prophets when Jerusalem and the cities around it were inhabited and prosperous, and the South and the Lowland were inhabited?'"

⁸ Then the word of the LORD came to Zechariah, saying,

⁹ "Thus says the LORD of hosts: 'Execute true justice, Show mercy and compassion Everyone to his brother.

¹⁰ Do not oppress the widow or the fatherless, The alien or the poor. Let none of you plan evil in his heart Against his brother.'

¹¹ "But they refused to heed, shrugged their shoulders, and stopped their ears so that they could not hear.

¹² "Yes, they made their hearts like flint, refusing to hear the law and the words which the LORD of hosts had sent by His Spirit through the former prophets. Thus great wrath came from the LORD of hosts.

¹³ "Therefore it happened, that just as He proclaimed and they would not hear, so they called out and I would not listen," says the LORD of hosts.

¹⁴ "But I scattered them with a whirlwind among all the nations which they had not known. Thus the land became desolate after them, so that no one passed through or returned; for they made the pleasant land desolate."

8 ¹ Again the word of the LORD of hosts came, saying,

² "Thus says the LORD of hosts: 'I am zealous for Zion with great zeal; With great fervor I am zealous for her.'

³ "Thus says the LORD: 'I will return to Zion, And dwell in the midst of Jerusalem. Jerusalem shall be called the City of Truth, The Mountain of the LORD of hosts, The Holy Mountain.'

⁴ "Thus says the LORD of hosts: 'Old men and old women shall again sit In the streets of Jerusalem, Each one with his staff in his hand Because of great age.

⁵ The streets of the city Shall be full of boys and girls Playing in its streets.'

⁶ "Thus says the LORD of hosts: 'If it is marvelous in the eyes of the remnant of this people in these days, Will it also be marvelous in My eyes?' Says the LORD of hosts.

⁷ "Thus says the LORD of hosts: 'Behold, I will save My people from the land of the east And from the land of the west;

⁸ I will bring them back, And they shall dwell in the midst of Jerusalem. They

shall be My people And I will be their God, In truth and righteousness.'

⁹ "Thus says the LORD of hosts: 'Let your hands be strong, You who have been hearing in these days These words by the mouth of the prophets, Who spoke in the day the foundation was laid For the house of the LORD of hosts, That the temple might be built.

¹⁰ For before these days There were no wages for man nor any hire for beast; There was no peace from the enemy for whoever went out or came in; For I set all men, everyone, against his neighbor.

¹¹ 'But now I will not treat the remnant of this people as in the former days,' says the LORD of hosts.

¹² 'For the seed shall be prosperous, The vine shall give its fruit, The ground shall give her increase, And the heavens shall give their dew—I will cause the

remnant of this people To possess all these.

¹³ And it shall come to pass That just as you were a curse among the nations, O house of Judah and house of Israel, So I will save you, and you shall be a blessing. Do not fear, Let your hands be strong.'

¹⁴ "For thus says the LORD of hosts: 'Just as I determined to punish you When your fathers provoked Me to wrath,' Says the LORD of hosts, 'And I would not relent,

¹⁵ So again in these days I am determined to do good To Jerusalem and to the house of Judah. Do not fear.

¹⁶ These are the things you shall do: Speak each man the truth to his neighbor; Give judgment in your gates for truth, justice, and peace;

¹⁷ Let none of you think evil in your heart against your neighbor; And do not

love a false oath. For all these are things that I hate,' Says the LORD."

¹⁸ Then the word of the LORD of hosts came to me, saying,

¹⁹ "Thus says the LORD of hosts: 'The fast of the fourth month, The fast of the fifth, The fast of the seventh, And the fast of the tenth, Shall be joy and gladness and cheerful feasts For the house of Judah. Therefore love truth and peace.'

²⁰ "Thus says the LORD of hosts: 'Peoples shall yet come, Inhabitants of many cities;

²¹ The inhabitants of one city shall go to another, saying, "Let us continue to go and pray before the LORD, And seek the LORD of hosts. I myself will go also."

²² Yes, many peoples and strong nations Shall come to seek the LORD of hosts in Jerusalem, And to pray before the LORD.'

²³ "Thus says the LORD of hosts: 'In those days ten men from every language of the nations shall grasp the sleeve of a Jewish man, saying, "Let us go with you, for we have heard that God is with you.'"

9 ¹ The burden of the word of the LORD Against the land of Hadrach, And Damascus its resting place (For the eyes of men And all the tribes of Israel Are on the LORD);

² Also against Hamath, which borders on it, And against Tyre and Sidon, though they are very wise.

³ For Tyre built herself a tower, Heaped up silver like the dust, And gold like the mire of the streets.

⁴ Behold, the Lord will cast her out; He will destroy her power in the sea, And she will be devoured by fire.

⁵ Ashkelon shall see it and fear; Gaza also shall be very sorrowful; And Ekron,

for He dried up her expectation. The king shall perish from Gaza, And Ashkelon shall not be inhabited.

⁶ "A mixed race shall settle in Ashdod, And I will cut off the pride of the Philistines.

⁷ I will take away the blood from his mouth, And the abominations from between his teeth. But he who remains, even he shall be for our God, And shall be like a leader in Judah, And Ekron like a Jebusite.

⁸ I will camp around My house Because of the army, Because of him who passes by and him who returns. No more shall an oppressor pass through them, For now I have seen with My eyes.

⁹ "Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your King is coming to you; He is just and having salvation, Lowly and riding on a donkey, A colt, the foal of a donkey.

¹⁰ I will cut off the chariot from Ephraim
And the horse from Jerusalem; The
battle bow shall be cut off. He shall speak
peace to the nations; His dominion shall
be 'from sea to sea, And from the River
to the ends of the earth.'

¹¹ "As for you also, Because of the
blood of your covenant, I will set your
prisoners free from the waterless pit.

¹² Return to the stronghold, You
prisoners of hope. Even today I declare
That I will restore double to you.

¹³ For I have bent Judah, My bow, Fitted
the bow with Ephraim, And raised up
your sons, O Zion, Against your sons, O
Greece, And made you like the sword of
a mighty man."

¹⁴ Then the LORD will be seen over
them, And His arrow will go forth like
lightning. The Lord GOD will blow the
trumpet, And go with whirlwinds from
the south.

¹⁵ The LORD of hosts will defend them; They shall devour and subdue with slingstones. They shall drink and roar as if with wine; They shall be filled with blood like basins, Like the corners of the altar.

¹⁶ The LORD their God will save them in that day, As the flock of His people. For they shall be like the jewels of a crown, Lifted like a banner over His land—

¹⁷ For how great is its goodness And how great its beauty! Grain shall make the young men thrive, And new wine the young women.

10 ¹ Ask the LORD for rain In the time of the latter rain. The LORD will make flashing clouds; He will give them showers of rain, Grass in the field for everyone.

² For the idols speak delusion; The diviners envision lies, And tell false dreams; They comfort in vain. Therefore

the people wend their way like sheep;
They are in trouble because there is no
shepherd.

³ "My anger is kindled against the
shepherds, And I will punish the
goatherds. For the LORD of hosts will
visit His flock, The house of Judah, And
will make them as His royal horse in the
battle.

⁴ From him comes the cornerstone,
From him the tent peg, From him
the battle bow, From him every ruler
together.

⁵ They shall be like mighty men, Who
tread down their enemies In the mire of
the streets in the battle. They shall fight
because the LORD is with them, And the
riders on horses shall be put to shame.

⁶ "I will strengthen the house of Judah,
And I will save the house of Joseph. I will
bring them back, Because I have mercy
on them. They shall be as though I had

not cast them aside; For I am the LORD their God, And I will hear them.

⁷ Those of Ephraim shall be like a mighty man, And their heart shall rejoice as if with wine. Yes, their children shall see it and be glad; Their heart shall rejoice in the LORD.

⁸ I will whistle for them and gather them, For I will redeem them; And they shall increase as they once increased.

⁹ "I will sow them among the peoples, And they shall remember Me in far countries; They shall live, together with their children, And they shall return.

¹⁰ I will also bring them back from the land of Egypt, And gather them from Assyria. I will bring them into the land of Gilead and Lebanon, Until no more room is found for them.

¹¹ He shall pass through the sea with affliction, And strike the waves of the sea: All the depths of the River shall dry

up. Then the pride of Assyria shall be brought down, And the scepter of Egypt shall depart.

¹² "So I will strengthen them in the LORD, And they shall walk up and down in His name," Says the LORD.

11 ¹ Open your doors, O Lebanon, That fire may devour your cedars.

² Wail, O cypress, for the cedar has fallen, Because the mighty trees are ruined. Wail, O oaks of Bashan, For the thick forest has come down.

³ There is the sound of wailing shepherds! For their glory is in ruins. There is the sound of roaring lions! For the pride of the Jordan is in ruins.

⁴ Thus says the LORD my God, "Feed the flock for slaughter,

⁵ "whose owners slaughter them and feel no guilt; those who sell them say, 'Blessed be the LORD, for I am rich'; and their shepherds do not pity them.

⁶ "For I will no longer pity the inhabitants of the land," says the LORD. "But indeed I will give everyone into his neighbor's hand and into the hand of his king. They shall attack the land, and I will not deliver them from their hand."

⁷ So I fed the flock for slaughter, in particular the poor of the flock. I took for myself two staves: the one I called Beauty, and the other I called Bonds; and I fed the flock.

⁸ I dismissed the three shepherds in one month. My soul loathed them, and their soul also abhorred me.

⁹ Then I said, "I will not feed you. Let what is dying die, and what is perishing perish. Let those that are left eat each other's flesh."

¹⁰ And I took my staff, Beauty, and cut it in two, that I might break the covenant which I had made with all the peoples.

¹¹ So it was broken on that day. Thus the poor of the flock, who were watching me, knew that it was the word of the LORD.

¹² Then I said to them, "If it is agreeable to you, give me my wages; and if not, refrain." So they weighed out for my wages thirty pieces of silver.

¹³ And the LORD said to me, "Throw it to the potter" —that princely price they set on me. So I took the thirty pieces of silver and threw them into the house of the LORD for the potter.

¹⁴ Then I cut in two my other staff, Bonds, that I might break the brotherhood between Judah and Israel.

¹⁵ And the LORD said to me, "Next, take for yourself the implements of a foolish shepherd.

¹⁶ "For indeed I will raise up a shepherd in the land who will not care for those who are cut off, nor seek the young,

nor heal those that are broken, nor feed those that still stand. But he will eat the flesh of the fat and tear their hooves in pieces.

¹⁷ "Woe to the worthless shepherd, Who leaves the flock! A sword shall be against his arm And against his right eye; His arm shall completely wither, And his right eye shall be totally blinded."

12 ¹ The burden of the word of the LORD against Israel. Thus says the LORD, who stretches out the heavens, lays the foundation of the earth, and forms the spirit of man within him:

² "Behold, I will make Jerusalem a cup of drunkenness to all the surrounding peoples, when they lay siege against Judah and Jerusalem.

³ "And it shall happen in that day that I will make Jerusalem a very heavy stone for all peoples; all who would heave it away will surely be cut in pieces, though

all nations of the earth are gathered against it.

⁴ "In that day," says the LORD, "I will strike every horse with confusion, and its rider with madness; I will open My eyes on the house of Judah, and will strike every horse of the peoples with blindness.

⁵ "And the governors of Judah shall say in their heart, 'The inhabitants of Jerusalem are my strength in the LORD of hosts, their God.'

⁶ "In that day I will make the governors of Judah like a firepan in the woodpile, and like a fiery torch in the sheaves; they shall devour all the surrounding peoples on the right hand and on the left, but Jerusalem shall be inhabited again in her own place—Jerusalem.

⁷ "The LORD will save the tents of Judah first, so that the glory of the house of David and the glory of the inhabitants of

Jerusalem shall not become greater than that of Judah.

⁸ "In that day the LORD will defend the inhabitants of Jerusalem; the one who is feeble among them in that day shall be like David, and the house of David shall be like God, like the Angel of the LORD before them.

⁹ "It shall be in that day that I will seek to destroy all the nations that come against Jerusalem.

¹⁰ "And I will pour on the house of David and on the inhabitants of Jerusalem the Spirit of grace and supplication; then they will look on Me whom they pierced. Yes, they will mourn for Him as one mourns for his only son, and grieve for Him as one grieves for a firstborn.

¹¹ "In that day there shall be a great mourning in Jerusalem, like the mourning at Hadad Rimmon in the plain of Megiddo.

¹² "And the land shall mourn, every family by itself: the family of the house of David by itself, and their wives by themselves; the family of the house of Nathan by itself, and their wives by themselves;

¹³ "the family of the house of Levi by itself, and their wives by themselves; the family of Shimei by itself, and their wives by themselves;

¹⁴ "all the families that remain, every family by itself, and their wives by themselves.

13 ¹ "In that day a fountain shall be opened for the house of David and for the inhabitants of Jerusalem, for sin and for uncleanness.

² "It shall be in that day," says the LORD of hosts, "that I will cut off the names of the idols from the land, and they shall no longer be remembered. I will also cause

the prophets and the unclean spirit to depart from the land.

³ "It shall come to pass that if anyone still prophesies, then his father and mother who begot him will say to him, 'You shall not live, because you have spoken lies in the name of the LORD.' And his father and mother who begot him shall thrust him through when he prophesies.

⁴ "And it shall be in that day that every prophet will be ashamed of his vision when he prophesies; they will not wear a robe of coarse hair to deceive.

⁵ "But he will say, 'I am no prophet, I am a farmer; for a man taught me to keep cattle from my youth.'

⁶ "And one will say to him, 'What are these wounds between your arms?' Then he will answer, 'Those with which I was wounded in the house of my friends.'

⁷ "Awake, O sword, against My Shepherd, Against the Man who is My Companion," Says the LORD of hosts. "Strike the Shepherd, And the sheep will be scattered; Then I will turn My hand against the little ones.

⁸ And it shall come to pass in all the land," Says the LORD, "That two-thirds in it shall be cut off and die, But one-third shall be left in it:

⁹ I will bring the one-third through the fire, Will refine them as silver is refined, And test them as gold is tested. They will call on My name, And I will answer them. I will say, 'This is My people'; And each one will say, 'The LORD is my God.'"

14 ¹ Behold, the day of the LORD is coming, And your spoil will be divided in your midst.

² For I will gather all the nations to battle against Jerusalem; The city shall be taken, The houses rifled, And the

women ravished. Half of the city shall go into captivity, But the remnant of the people shall not be cut off from the city.

³ Then the LORD will go forth And fight against those nations, As He fights in the day of battle.

⁴ And in that day His feet will stand on the Mount of Olives, Which faces Jerusalem on the east. And the Mount of Olives shall be split in two, From east to west, Making a very large valley; Half of the mountain shall move toward the north And half of it toward the south.

⁵ Then you shall flee through My mountain valley, For the mountain valley shall reach to Azal. Yes, you shall flee As you fled from the earthquake In the days of Uzziah king of Judah. Thus the LORD my God will come, And all the saints with You.

⁶ It shall come to pass in that day That there will be no light; The lights will diminish.

⁷ It shall be one day Which is known to the LORD—Neither day nor night. But at evening time it shall happen That it will be light.

⁸ And in that day it shall be That living waters shall flow from Jerusalem, Half of them toward the eastern sea And half of them toward the western sea; In both summer and winter it shall occur.

⁹ And the LORD shall be King over all the earth. In that day it shall be—"The LORD is one," And His name one.

¹⁰ All the land shall be turned into a plain from Geba to Rimmon south of Jerusalem. Jerusalem shall be raised up and inhabited in her place from Benjamin's Gate to the place of the First Gate and the Corner Gate, and from

the Tower of Hananeel to the king's winepresses.

¹¹ The people shall dwell in it; And no longer shall there be utter destruction, But Jerusalem shall be safely inhabited.

¹² And this shall be the plague with which the LORD will strike all the people who fought against Jerusalem: Their flesh shall dissolve while they stand on their feet, Their eyes shall dissolve in their sockets, And their tongues shall dissolve in their mouths.

¹³ It shall come to pass in that day That a great panic from the LORD will be among them. Everyone will seize the hand of his neighbor, And raise his hand against his neighbor's hand;

¹⁴ Judah also will fight at Jerusalem. And the wealth of all the surrounding nations Shall be gathered together: Gold, silver, and apparel in great abundance.

¹⁵ Such also shall be the plague On the horse and the mule, On the camel and the donkey, And on all the cattle that will be in those camps. So shall this plague be.

¹⁶ And it shall come to pass that everyone who is left of all the nations which came against Jerusalem shall go up from year to year to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, and to keep the Feast of Tabernacles.

¹⁷ And it shall be that whichever of the families of the earth do not come up to Jerusalem to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, on them there will be no rain.

¹⁸ If the family of Egypt will not come up and enter in, they shall have no rain; they shall receive the plague with which the LORD strikes the nations who do not come up to keep the Feast of Tabernacles.

¹⁹ This shall be the punishment of Egypt and the punishment of all the nations that do not come up to keep the Feast of Tabernacles.

²⁰ In that day "HOLINESS TO THE LORD" shall be engraved on the bells of the horses. The pots in the LORD'S house shall be like the bowls before the altar.

²¹ Yes, every pot in Jerusalem and Judah shall be holiness to the LORD of hosts. Everyone who sacrifices shall come and take them and cook in them. In that day there shall no longer be a Canaanite in the house of the LORD of hosts.

Malachi

1 ¹ The burden of the word of the LORD to Israel by Malachi.

² "I have loved you," says the LORD. "Yet you say, 'In what way have You loved us?' Was not Esau Jacob's brother?" Says the LORD. "Yet Jacob I have loved;

³ But Esau I have hated, And laid waste his mountains and his heritage For the jackals of the wilderness."

⁴ Even though Edom has said, "We have been impoverished, But we will return and build the desolate places," Thus says the LORD of hosts: "They may build, but I will throw down; They shall be called the Territory of Wickedness, And the people against whom the LORD will have indignation forever.

⁵ Your eyes shall see, And you shall say, 'The LORD is magnified beyond the border of Israel.'

⁶ "A son honors his father, And a servant his master. If then I am the Father, Where is My honor? And if I am a Master, Where is My reverence? Says the LORD of hosts To you priests who despise My name. Yet you say, 'In what way have we despised Your name?'

⁷ "You offer defiled food on My altar. But say, 'In what way have we defiled You?' By saying, 'The table of the LORD is contemptible.'

⁸ And when you offer the blind as a sacrifice, Is it not evil? And when you offer the lame and sick, Is it not evil? Offer it then to your governor! Would he be pleased with you? Would he accept you favorably?" Says the LORD of hosts.

⁹ "But now entreat God's favor, That He may be gracious to us. While this is being

done by your hands, Will He accept you favorably?" Says the LORD of hosts.

¹⁰ "Who is there even among you who would shut the doors, So that you would not kindle fire on My altar in vain? I have no pleasure in you," Says the LORD of hosts, "Nor will I accept an offering from your hands.

¹¹ For from the rising of the sun, even to its going down, My name shall be great among the Gentiles; In every place incense shall be offered to My name, And a pure offering; For My name shall be great among the nations," Says the LORD of hosts.

¹² "But you profane it, In that you say, 'The table of the LORD is defiled; And its fruit, its food, is contemptible.'

¹³ You also say, 'Oh, what a weariness! And you sneer at it," Says the LORD of hosts. "And you bring the stolen, the lame, and the sick; Thus you bring an

offering! Should I accept this from your hand?" Says the LORD.

¹⁴ "But cursed be the deceiver Who has in his flock a male, And takes a vow, But sacrifices to the Lord what is blemished—For I am a great King," Says the LORD of hosts, "And My name is to be feared among the nations.

2 ¹ "And now, O priests, this commandment is for you.

² If you will not hear, And if you will not take it to heart, To give glory to My name," Says the LORD of hosts, "I will send a curse upon you, And I will curse your blessings. Yes, I have cursed them already, Because you do not take it to heart.

³ "Behold, I will rebuke your descendants And spread refuse on your faces, The refuse of your solemn feasts; And one will take you away with it.

⁴ Then you shall know that I have sent this commandment to you, That My covenant with Levi may continue," Says the LORD of hosts.

⁵ "My covenant was with him, one of life and peace, And I gave them to him that he might fear Me; So he feared Me And was reverent before My name.

⁶ The law of truth was in his mouth, And injustice was not found on his lips. He walked with Me in peace and equity, And turned many away from iniquity.

⁷ "For the lips of a priest should keep knowledge, And people should seek the law from his mouth; For he is the messenger of the LORD of hosts.

⁸ But you have departed from the way; You have caused many to stumble at the law. You have corrupted the covenant of Levi," Says the LORD of hosts.

⁹ "Therefore I also have made you contemptible and base Before all the

people, Because you have not kept My ways But have shown partiality in the law."

¹⁰ Have we not all one Father? Has not one God created us? Why do we deal treacherously with one another By profaning the covenant of the fathers?

¹¹ Judah has dealt treacherously, And an abomination has been committed in Israel and in Jerusalem, For Judah has profaned The LORD'S holy institution which He loves: He has married the daughter of a foreign god.

¹² May the LORD cut off from the tents of Jacob The man who does this, being awake and aware, Yet who brings an offering to the LORD of hosts!

¹³ And this is the second thing you do: You cover the altar of the LORD with tears, With weeping and crying; So He does not regard the offering anymore,

Nor receive it with goodwill from your hands.

¹⁴ Yet you say, "For what reason?"
Because the LORD has been witness
Between you and the wife of your
youth, With whom you have dealt
treacherously; Yet she is your companion
And your wife by covenant.

¹⁵ But did He not make them one,
Having a remnant of the Spirit? And why
one? He seeks godly offspring. Therefore
take heed to your spirit, And let none
deal treacherously with the wife of his
youth.

¹⁶ "For the LORD God of Israel says
That He hates divorce, For it covers
one's garment with violence," Says the
LORD of hosts. "Therefore take heed
to your spirit, That you do not deal
treacherously."

¹⁷ You have wearied the LORD with
your words; Yet you say, "In what way

have we wearied Him?" In that you say, "Everyone who does evil Is good in the sight of the LORD, And He delights in them," Or, "Where is the God of justice?"

3¹ "Behold, I send My messenger, And he will prepare the way before Me. And the Lord, whom you seek, Will suddenly come to His temple, Even the Messenger of the covenant, In whom you delight. Behold, He is coming," Says the LORD of hosts.

² "But who can endure the day of His coming? And who can stand when He appears? For He is like a refiner's fire And like launderer's soap.

³ He will sit as a refiner and a purifier of silver; He will purify the sons of Levi, And purge them as gold and silver, That they may offer to the LORD An offering in righteousness.

⁴ "Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem Will be pleasant to the LORD, As in the days of old, As in former years.

⁵ And I will come near you for judgment; I will be a swift witness Against sorcerers, Against adulterers, Against perjurers, Against those who exploit wage earners and widows and orphans, And against those who turn away an alien—Because they do not fear Me," Says the LORD of hosts.

⁶ "For I am the LORD, I do not change; Therefore you are not consumed, O sons of Jacob.

⁷ Yet from the days of your fathers You have gone away from My ordinances And have not kept them. Return to Me, and I will return to you," Says the LORD of hosts. "But you said, 'In what way shall we return?'

⁸ "Will a man rob God? Yet you have robbed Me! But you say, 'In what way

have we robbed You?' In tithes and offerings.

⁹ You are cursed with a curse, For you have robbed Me, Even this whole nation.

¹⁰ Bring all the tithes into the storehouse, That there may be food in My house, And try Me now in this," Says the LORD of hosts, "If I will not open for you the windows of heaven And pour out for you such blessing That there will not be room enough to receive it.

¹¹ "And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, So that he will not destroy the fruit of your ground, Nor shall the vine fail to bear fruit for you in the field," Says the LORD of hosts;

¹² "And all nations will call you blessed, For you will be a delightful land," Says the LORD of hosts.

¹³ "Your words have been harsh against Me," Says the LORD, "Yet you say, 'What have we spoken against You?'

¹⁴ You have said, 'It is useless to serve God; What profit is it that we have kept His ordinance, And that we have walked as mourners Before the LORD of hosts?

¹⁵ So now we call the proud blessed, For those who do wickedness are raised up; They even tempt God and go free.'"

¹⁶ Then those who feared the LORD spoke to one another, And the LORD listened and heard them; So a book of remembrance was written before Him For those who fear the LORD And who meditate on His name.

¹⁷ "They shall be Mine," says the LORD of hosts, "On the day that I make them My jewels. And I will spare them As a man spares his own son who serves him."

¹⁸ Then you shall again discern Between the righteous and the wicked, Between one who serves God And one who does not serve Him.

4 ¹ "For behold, the day is coming,
Burning like an oven, And all the
proud, yes, all who do wickedly will be
stubble. And the day which is coming
shall burn them up," Says the LORD of
hosts, "That will leave them neither root
nor branch.

² But to you who fear My name The Sun
of Righteousness shall arise With healing
in His wings; And you shall go out And
grow fat like stall-fed calves.

³ You shall trample the wicked, For they
shall be ashes under the soles of your
feet On the day that I do this," Says the
LORD of hosts.

⁴ "Remember the Law of Moses, My
servant, Which I commanded him in
Horeb for all Israel, With the statutes
and judgments.

⁵ Behold, I will send you Elijah the
prophet Before the coming of the great
and dreadful day of the LORD.

⁶ And he will turn The hearts of the fathers to the children, And the hearts of the children to their fathers, Lest I come and strike the earth with a curse."

New King James Version

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