

¹Moreover Job continued his parable, and said,²Oh that I were as in months past, as in the days when God preserved me;³When his candle shined upon my head, and when by his light I walked through darkness;⁴As I was in the days of my youth, when the secret of God was upon my tabernacle;⁵When the Almighty was yet with me, when my children were about me;⁶When I washed my steps with butter, and the rock poured me out rivers of oil;⁷When I went out to the gate through the city, when I prepared my seat in the street!⁸The young men saw me, and hid themselves: and the aged arose, and stood up.⁹The princes refrained talking, and laid their hand on their mouth.¹⁰The nobles held their peace, and their tongue cleaved to the roof of their mouth.¹¹When the ear heard me, then it blessed me; and when the eye saw me, it gave witness to me:¹²Because I delivered the poor that cried, and the fatherless, and him that had none to help him.¹³The blessing of him that was ready to perish came upon me: and I caused the widow's heart to sing for joy.¹⁴I put on righteousness, and it clothed me: my judgment was as a robe and a diadem.¹⁵I was eyes to the blind, and feet was I to the lame.¹⁶I was a father to the poor: and the cause which I knew not I searched out.¹⁷And I brake the jaws of the wicked, and plucked the spoil out of his teeth.¹⁸Then I said, I shall die in my nest, and I shall multiply my days as the sand.¹⁹My root was spread out by the waters, and the dew lay all night upon my branch.²⁰My glory was fresh in me, and my

¹وَعَادَ أَيُّوبُ يَنْطِقُ بِمَثَلِهِ فَقَالَ،²بَا لَيْتَنِي كَمَا فِي الشُّهُورِ السَّالِفَةِ وَكَالْأَيَّامِ الَّتِي حَفِظَنِي اللَّهُ فِيهَا،³حِينَ أَضَاءَ سِرَاجُهُ عَلَى رَأْسِي وَبُورِهِ سَلَكَتِ الظُّلْمَةُ. كَمَا كُنْتُ فِي أَيَّامِ حَرِيفِي وَرَضَا اللَّهُ عَلَى حَيْمَنِي،⁵وَالْقَدِيرُ بَعْدَ مَعِي وَحَوْلِي غِلْمَانِي،⁶إِذْ عَسَلْتُ خُطَوَاتِي بِاللَّبَنِ، وَالصَّخْرُ سَكَبَ لِي جَذَاوِلَ زَبْتٍ. ⁷حِينَ كُنْتُ أَخْرُجُ إِلَى الْبَابِ فِي الْقَرْيَةِ وَأَهَيْتُ فِي السَّاحَةِ مَجْلِسِي. ⁸رَأَى الْغُلَامَانُ فَاحْتَبَأُوا، وَالْأَشْيَاحُ قَامُوا وَوَقَفُوا. ⁹الْعُظَمَاءُ أَمْسَكُوا عَنِ الْكَلَامِ وَوَضَعُوا أَيْدِيَهُمْ عَلَى أَفْوَاهِهِمْ. ¹⁰صَوْتُ الشَّرَفَاءِ اخْتَفَى وَلَصِقَتْ أَلْسِنَتُهُمْ بِأَخْنَاكِهِمْ. ¹¹لَأَنَّ الْأُذُنَ سَمِعَتْ فَطَوَّئَنِي، وَالْعَيْنُ رَأَتْ فَشَهِدَتْ لِي. ¹²لَأَنِّي أَنْقَذْتُ الْمُسْكِينِ الْمُسْتَعْيِثِ وَالْيَتِيمَ وَلَا مُعِينَ لَهُ. ¹³بَرَكَتُهُ الْهَالِكُ خَلَّتْ عَلَيَّ، وَجَعَلْتُ قَلْبَ الْأَرْمَلَةِ يُسَرُّ. ¹⁴لَيْسَتْ الْبِرُّ فَكَسَانِي. كَجَبَّةٍ وَعِمَامَةٍ كَانَ عَذْلِي. ¹⁵كُنْتُ غَيْبُونَاً لِلْعُمَى وَأَرْجُلًا لِلْعُرْجِ. ¹⁶أَبَا أَنَا لِلْفُقَرَاءِ، وَدَعَوَى لَمْ أَعْرِفْهَا فَحَصَّتْ عَنْهَا. ¹⁷هَسَمْتُ أَضْرَاسَ الطَّالِمِ وَمِنْ بَيْنِ أَسْنَانِهِ حَطَقْتُ الْقَرِيسَةَ. ¹⁸فَقُلْتُ، إِنِّي فِي وَكْرِي أَسْلَمْتُ الرُّوحَ، وَمِثْلَ السَّمْنَدِلِ أَكْثَرُ أَبَاماً. ¹⁹أَصْلِي كَانَ مُبْسِطاً إِلَى الْمِيَاهِ، وَالطَّلُّ بَاتَ عَلَى أَعْصَانِي. ²⁰كَرَامَتِي تَقِيَتْ حَدِيثَةً عِنْدِي، وَقَوْسِي تَجَدَّدَتْ فِي بَدِي. ²¹لِي سَمِعُوا وَانْتَبَهُوا، وَتَصَنُّوا عِنْدَ مَشُورَتِي. ²²بَعْدَ كَلَامِي لَمْ يَنْتَوُوا وَقَوْلِي قَطَرَ عَلَيْهِمْ. ²³وَانْتَبَهُونِي مِثْلَ الْمَطَرِ، وَفَعَرُوا أَفْوَاهَهُمْ كَمَا لِلْمَطَرِ الْمُتَأَخِّرِ. ²⁴إِنْ صَحَكْتُ عَلَيْهِمْ لَمْ يُبْذَفُوا وَبُورُ وَجْهِ لَمْ يُعْبَسُوا. ²⁵كُنْتُ أَخْتَارُ طَرِيقَهُمْ وَأَجْلِسُ رَأْسًا وَأَسْكُنُ كَمَلِكٍ فِي جَيْشٍ كَمَنْ يُعَزِّي النَّائِجِينَ.

bow was renewed in my hand.²¹ Unto me men gave ear, and waited, and kept silence at my counsel.²² After my words they spake not again; and my speech dropped upon them.²³ And they waited for me as for the rain; and they opened their mouth wide as for the latter rain.²⁴ If I laughed on them, they believed it not; and the light of my countenance they cast not down.²⁵ I chose out their way, and sat chief, and dwelt as a king in the army, as one that comforteth the mourners.