

¹Then Eliphaz the Temanite answered and said,²Can a man be profitable unto God, as he that is wise may be profitable unto himself?³Is it any pleasure to the Almighty, that thou art righteous? or is it gain to him , that thou makest thy ways perfect?⁴Will he reprove thee for fear of thee? will he enter with thee into judgment?⁵Is not thy wickedness great? and thine iniquities infinite?⁶For thou hast taken a pledge from thy brother for nought, and stripped the naked of their clothing.⁷Thou hast not given water to the weary to drink, and thou hast withholden bread from the hungry.⁸But as for the mighty man, he had the earth; and the honourable man dwelt in it.⁹Thou hast sent widows away empty, and the arms of the fatherless have been broken.¹⁰Therefore snares are round about thee, and sudden fear troubleth thee;¹¹Or darkness, that thou canst not see; and abundance of waters cover thee.¹²Is not God in the height of heaven? and behold the height of the stars, how high they are!¹³And thou sayest, How doth God know? can he judge through the dark cloud?¹⁴Thick clouds are a covering to him, that he seeth not; and he walketh in the circuit of heaven.¹⁵Hast thou marked the old way which wicked men have trodden?¹⁶Which were cut down out of time, whose foundation was overflown with a flood:¹⁷Which said unto God, Depart from us: and what can the Almighty do for them?¹⁸Yet he filled their houses with good things : but the counsel of the wicked is far from me.¹⁹The righteous see it , and are glad: and the innocent laugh them to

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scorn.²⁰ Whereas our substance is not cut down, but the remnant of them the fire consumeth.²¹ Acquaint now thyself with him, and be at peace: thereby good shall come unto thee.²² Receive, I pray thee, the law from his mouth, and lay up his words in thine heart.²³ If thou return to the Almighty, thou shalt be built up, thou shalt put away iniquity far from thy tabernacles.²⁴ Then shalt thou lay up gold as dust, and the gold of Ophir as the stones of the brooks.²⁵ Yea, the Almighty shall be thy defence, and thou shalt have plenty of silver.²⁶ For then shalt thou have thy delight in the Almighty, and shalt lift up thy face unto God.²⁷ Thou shalt make thy prayer unto him, and he shall hear thee, and thou shalt pay thy vows.²⁸ Thou shalt also decree a thing, and it shall be established unto thee: and the light shall shine upon thy ways.²⁹ When men are cast down, then thou shalt say, There is lifting up; and he shall save the humble person.³⁰ He shall deliver the island of the innocent: and it is delivered by the pureness of thine hands.

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