

¹أَتَعْرِفُ وَقْتُ وَلَادَةِ وُغُولِ الصُّخُورِ، أَوْ ثَلَاخِطِ مَخَاصِرِ
الْأَيَائِلِ.² أَتَحْسِبُ الشُّهُورَ الَّتِي تُكَمِّلُهَا، أَوْ تَعْلَمُ مِيعَادَ
وَلَادَتِهِنَّ. ³يَبْزُكُنَّ وَيَصْعَنَ أَوْلَادُهُنَّ. بَذَقْنَ أَوْجَاعَهُنَّ.⁴ يَبْلُغْنَ
أَوْلَادُهُنَّ. تَرْبُو فِي الْبَرِّيَّةِ. تَخْرُجُ وَلَا تَعُودُ إِلَيْهِنَّ.⁵ مَنْ
سَرَّحَ الْفَرَاءَ حُرًّا، وَمَنْ فَكَّ رُتْبًا جَمَارِ الْوَحْشِ.⁶ الَّذِي
جَعَلَ الْبَرِّيَّةَ بَيْتَهُ وَالسَّبَّاحَ مَسْكَنَهُ.⁷ يَصْحَكُ عَلَى جُمْهُورِ
الْقَرْيَةِ. لَا يَسْمَعُ رَجَرِ السَّائِقِ.⁸ دَائِرَةُ الْجِبَالِ مَرْعَاهُ،
وَعَلَى كُلِّ خُصْرَةٍ يُفْتَشُ.⁹ أَبْرِصِي الثَّوْرَ الْوَحْشِيَّ أَنْ
يَخْدَمَكَ، أَمْ يَبِيتُ عِنْدَ مَغْلَفِكَ.¹⁰ أَتُرِيطُ الثَّوْرَ الْوَحْشِيَّ
يَحْبِلُ إِلَى خَطِّ الْمَخْرَاطِ أَمْ يُمَهِّدُ الْأُودِيَةَ وَرَاءَكَ.¹¹ أَتَقِي
بِهِ لِأَنَّ قُوَّتَهُ عَظِيمَةٌ، أَوْ تَتْرُكُ لَهُ تَعَبَكَ.¹² أَتَأْتِمُنُهُ أَنَّهُ يَأْتِي
بِرِزْرَعِكَ وَيُجَمِّعُ إِلَى بَيْدَرِكَ.¹³ جَنَاحُ النِّعَامَةِ يُرْفَرُ. أَفَهُوَ
مَنْكِبُ رَوْوْفٍ، أَمْ رِيشٍ.¹⁴ لَأَنَّهُ تَتْرُكُ بَيْضَهَا وَتُخِمِيهِ فِي
الشُّرَابِ،¹⁵ وَتَنْسَى أَنَّ الرَّجُلَ تَضَعُطُهُ، أَوْ حَيَوَانَ الْبَرِّ
يَذُوسُهُ.¹⁶ تَفْسُو عَلَى أَوْلَادِهَا كَأَنَّهُمَا لَيْسَتْ لَهَا. بَاطِلُ
تَعْنِهَا يَلَا أَسْفًى.¹⁷ لِأَنَّ اللَّهَ قَدْ أَنْسَاهَا الْحِكْمَةَ وَلَمْ يَفْسِمِ
لَهَا فَهْمًا.¹⁸ عِنْدَمَا تُخَوِّدُ تَفْسِيهَا إِلَى الْعَلَاءِ تَصْحَكُ عَلَى
الْقَرَسِ وَعَلَى رَاكِبِهِ.¹⁹ هَلْ أَنْتِ تُعْطِي الْقَرَسَ قُوَّتَهُ
وَتَكْسُو عُقْفَهُ عُرْفًا.²⁰ أَتُؤَيِّتُهُ كَجَرَادَةٍ. تَفْخُ مِنْخَرِهِ
مُرْعَبً.²¹ يَبْحَثُ فِي الْوَادِي وَيَقْفِزُ بِنَاسٍ. يَخْرُجُ لِلِقَاءِ
الْأَسْلِحَةِ.²² يَصْحَكُ عَلَى الْخَوْفِ وَلَا يَزْتَاغُ وَلَا يَزْجِعُ عَنِ
السَّيْفِ.²³ عَلَيْهِ تَصِلُ السَّهَامُ وَسَيَّانُ الرُّمَحِ
وَالْحَرْبَةِ.²⁴ فِي وَثِيهِ وَعَصِيهِ يَلْتَهُمُ الْأَرْضَ وَلَا يُؤْمِنُ أَنَّهُ
صَوْتُ الْبُوقِ. عِنْدَ تَفْخِ الْبُوقِ يَقُولُ، هَهُ. وَمِنْ بَعِيدٍ
يَسْتَرْوِحُ الْفِتَالُ صِيَاخَ الْفُؤَادِ وَالْهَتَافِ.²⁶ أَمِنْ قَهْمِكَ
يَسْتَقِلُّ الْعُقَابُ وَيَنْشُرُ جَنَاحَيْهِ تَحَوُّ الْجَنُوبِ. أَوْ بِأَمْرِكَ
يُخْلِقُ النَّسْرُ وَيُعْلِي وَكْرَهُ.²⁸ يَسْكُنُ الصَّخْرَ وَيَبِيتُ عَلَى
سِنِّ الصَّخْرِ وَالْمُعْقِلِ.²⁹ مِنْ هُنَاكَ يَتَحَسَّسُ قُوَّتَهُ. تُبْصِرُهُ
عَيْنَاهُ مِنْ بَعِيدٍ.³⁰ فِرَاحُهُ تَخْسُو الدَّمَ وَحَيْنُهُمَا تَكُنِ الْقُلَى
فَهَذَا هُوَ.

¹Knowest thou the time when the wild goats of the rock bring forth? or canst thou mark when the hinds do calve? ²Canst thou number the months that they fulfil? or knowest thou the time when they bring forth? ³They bow themselves, they bring forth their young ones, they cast out their sorrows. ⁴Their young ones are in good liking, they grow up with corn; they go forth, and return not unto them. ⁵Who hath sent out the wild ass free? or who hath loosed the bands of the wild ass? ⁶Whose house I have made the wilderness, and the barren land his dwellings. ⁷He scorneth the multitude of the city, neither regardeth he the crying of the driver. ⁸The range of the mountains is his pasture, and he searcheth after every green thing. ⁹Will the unicorn be willing to serve thee, or abide by thy crib? ¹⁰Canst thou bind the unicorn with his band in the furrow? or will he harrow the valleys after thee? ¹¹Wilt thou trust him, because his strength is great? or wilt thou leave thy labour to him? ¹²Wilt thou believe him, that he will bring home thy seed, and gather it into thy barn? ¹³Gavest thou the goodly wings unto the peacocks? or wings and feathers unto the ostrich? ¹⁴Which leaveth her eggs in the earth, and warmeth them in dust, ¹⁵And forgetteth that the foot may crush them, or that the wild beast may break them. ¹⁶She is hardened against her young ones, as though they were not hers: her labour is in vain without fear; ¹⁷Because God hath deprived her of wisdom, neither hath he imparted to her understanding. ¹⁸What time she lifteth up herself on high, she scorneth

the horse and his rider.¹⁹ Hast thou given the horse strength? hast thou clothed his neck with thunder?²⁰ Canst thou make him afraid as a grasshopper? the glory of his nostrils is terrible.²¹ He paweth in the valley, and rejoiceth in his strength: he goeth on to meet the armed men.²² He mocketh at fear, and is not affrighted; neither turneth he back from the sword.²³ The quiver rattleth against him, the glittering spear and the shield.²⁴ He swalloweth the ground with fierceness and rage: neither believeth he that it is the sound of the trumpet.²⁵ He saith among the trumpets, Ha, ha; and he smelleth the battle afar off, the thunder of the captains, and the shouting.²⁶ Doth the hawk fly by thy wisdom, and stretch her wings toward the south?²⁷ Doth the eagle mount up at thy command, and make her nest on high?²⁸ She dwelleth and abideth on the rock, upon the crag of the rock, and the strong place.²⁹ From thence she seeketh the prey, and her eyes behold afar off.³⁰ Her young ones also suck up blood: and where the slain are, there is she.