

¹وَقُلْتُ، اَسْمَعُوا يَا رُؤَسَاءَ يَهُوذاَ وَفُصَّاءَ بَيْتِ إِسْرَائِيلَ. أَلَيْسَ لَكُمْ أَنْ تَعْرِفُوا الْحَقَّ؟² الْمُغْصِيصِينَ الْخَيْرَ وَالْمُحِبِّينَ السَّرَّ، الَّذِينَ يَجْلُدُهُمْ جُلُودَهُمْ عَنْ عِظَامِهِمْ.³ وَالَّذِينَ يَأْكُلُونَ لَحْمَ شَعْبِي وَيَكْسُطُونَ جِلْدَهُمْ عَنْهُمْ، وَيَهْشُمُونَ عِظَامَهُمْ، وَيُسَقِّقُونَ كَمَا فِي الْقَدْرِ، وَكَاللَّحْمِ فِي وَسْطِ الْمِقْلَى.⁴ حِينَئِذٍ يَصْرُخُونَ إِلَى الرَّبِّ فَلَا يُجِيبُهُمْ، بَلْ يَسْتُرْ وَجْهَهُ عَنْهُمْ فِي ذَلِكَ الْوَقْتِ كَمَا أَسَاءُوا أَعْمَالَهُمْ.⁵ هَكَذَا قَالَ الرَّبُّ عَلَى الْأَنْبِيَاءِ الَّذِينَ يُصَلُّونَ بِشَعْبِي، الَّذِينَ يَنْهَشُونَ بِأَسْنَانِهِمْ، وَيَتَأَدُّونَ، سَلَامًا. وَالَّذِي لَا يَجْعَلُ فِي أَفْوَاهِهِمْ شَيْئًا يَقْتَحُونَ عَلَيْهِ خَبْرًا.⁶ يَذْكُرُونَ لَكُمْ لَيْلَهُ يَلَا رُؤْبًا. ظَلَامٌ لَكُمْ يَدُونَ عِرَاقَةً. وَتَغِيبُ الشَّمْسُ عَنِ الْأَنْبِيَاءِ، وَبُطْلِمُ عَلَيْهِمُ الْيَهَارُ.⁷ فَيَحْزَى الرَّائُونَ، وَيَحْجَلُ الْعَرَّافُونَ، وَيُعْطُونَ كُلُّهُمْ سَوَارِبَهُمْ، لِأَنَّهُ لَيْسَ جَوَابٌ مِنَ اللَّهِ.⁸ لَكِنِّي أَنَا مَلَأْتُ قُوَّةَ رُوحِ الرَّبِّ وَحَقًّا وَتَأْسًا، لِأَحْبَرُ يَهُوذاَ بِدُنْيِهِ وَإِسْرَائِيلَ بِخَطِيئَتِهِ.⁹ اَسْمَعُوا هَذَا يَا رُؤَسَاءَ بَيْتِ يَهُوذاَ وَفُصَّاءَ بَيْتِ إِسْرَائِيلَ الَّذِينَ يَكْرَهُونَ الْحَقَّ وَيُعْوِجُونَ كُلَّ مُسْتَقِيمٍ.¹⁰ الَّذِينَ يَبْنُونَ صِهْيُونَ بِالْذَّمَاءِ وَأَوْرُشَلِيمَ بِالظُّلْمِ.¹¹ رُؤَسَاؤُهَا يَقْضُونَ بِالرَّشْوَةِ وَكَهَنَتُهَا يُعَلِّمُونَ بِالْأَجْرَةِ، وَأَنْبِيَائُهَا يَعْرِفُونَ بِالْفِضَّةِ، وَهُمْ يَتَوَكَّلُونَ عَلَى الرَّبِّ قَائِلِينَ، أَلَيْسَ الرَّبُّ فِي وَسْطِنَا. لَا يَأْتِي عَلَيْنَا سَرٌّ.¹² لِذَلِكَ يَسْبِكُكُمْ تُفْلَحُ صِهْيُونُ كَحَقْلٍ، وَتَصِيرُ أَوْرُشَلِيمُ خَرْبًا، وَجَبَلُ الْبَيْتِ شَوَامِخَ وَغَيْرِ.

¹And I said, Hear, I pray you, O heads of Jacob, and ye princes of the house of Israel; Is it not for you to know judgment?² Who hate the good, and love the evil; who pluck off their skin from off them, and their flesh from off their bones;³ Who also eat the flesh of my people, and flay their skin from off them; and they break their bones, and chop them in pieces, as for the pot, and as flesh within the caldron.⁴ Then shall they cry unto the LORD, but he will not hear them: he will even hide his face from them at that time, as they have behaved themselves ill in their doings.⁵ Thus saith the LORD concerning the prophets that make my people err, that bite with their teeth, and cry, Peace; and he that putteth not into their mouths, they even prepare war against him.⁶ Therefore night shall be unto you, that ye shall not have a vision; and it shall be dark unto you, that ye shall not divine; and the sun shall go down over the prophets, and the day shall be dark over them.⁷ Then shall the seers be ashamed, and the diviners confounded: yea, they shall all cover their lips; for there is no answer of God.⁸ But truly I am full of power by the spirit of the LORD, and of judgment, and of might, to declare unto Jacob his transgression, and to Israel his sin.⁹ Hear this, I pray you, ye heads of the house of Jacob, and princes of the house of Israel, that abhor judgment, and pervert all equity.¹⁰ They build up Zion with blood, and Jerusalem with iniquity.¹¹ The heads thereof judge for reward, and the priests thereof teach for hire, and the prophets thereof divine for money: yet will they lean

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upon the LORD, and say, Is not the LORD among us? none evil can come upon us.¹² Therefore shall Zion for your sake be plowed as a field, and Jerusalem shall become heaps, and the mountain of the house as the high places of the forest.