

¹كَلَامَ أَجُورَ ابْنِ مُتَقِيَّةَ مَسَّا. وَحَيُّ هَذَا الرَّجُلِ إِلَى
إِيثِيئِيلَ. إِلَى إِيثِيئِيلَ وَأُكَالٍ،² إِنِّي أَبْلُدُ مِنْ كُلِّ إِنْسَانٍ،
وَلَيْسَ لِي فَهْمٌ إِنْسَانٍ،³ وَلَمْ أَعْلَمْ الْحِكْمَةَ، وَلَمْ أَعْرِفْ
مَعْرِفَةَ الْفُدُوسِ.⁴ مَنْ صَعِدَ إِلَى السَّمَاوَاتِ وَتَرَلَ. مَنْ
جَمَعَ الرِّيحَ فِي حُفَّتَيْهِ. مَنْ صَرَّ الْمِيَاءَ فِي ثَوْبٍ. مَنْ
تَبَّتْ جَمِيعُ أَطْرَافِ الْأَرْضِ. مَا اسْمُهُ وَمَا اسْمُ أَبِيهِ إِنْ
عَرَفْتُ.⁵ كُلُّ كَلِمَةٍ مِنَ اللَّهِ تَقِيَّةٌ. تُرْسٌ هُوَ لِلْمُحْتَمِينَ
بِهِ. لَا تَرُدُّ عَلَى كَلِمَاتِهِ لِيَلَّا يُؤْتِيَكَ فَتُكَذَّبَ.⁷ إِنِّتَيْنِ سَأَلْتُ
مِنْكَ فَلَا تَمْنَعُهُمَا عَنِّي قَبْلَ أَنْ أَمُوتَ،⁸ أُبْعِدْ عَنِّي الْبَاطِلَ
وَالْكَذِبَ. لَا تُعْطِنِي فَقْرًا وَلَا غِنًى. أَطْعِمْنِي خُبْرَ
فَرِيضَتِي، لِيَلَّا أَسْبَغَ وَأَكْفُرَ وَأَقُولَ، مَنْ هُوَ الرَّبُّ. أَوْ لِيَلَّا
أَفْقِرَ وَأَسْرِقَ وَأَتَّخِذَ اسْمَهُ إِلَهِي بَاطِلًا.¹⁰ لَا تَشْكُ عَبْدًا
إِلَى سَيِّدِهِ لِيَلَّا بَلَعَكَ قَتَاةً.¹¹ جِيلٌ بَلَعْنَ أَبَاهُ وَلَا يُبَارِكُ
أُمَّهُ،¹² جِيلٌ طَاهِرٌ فِي عَيْنِي تَفْسِيهِ وَهُوَ لَمْ يَغْتَسِلْ مِنْ
قَدْرِهِ،¹³ جِيلٌ مَا أَرْقَعَ عَيْنَيْهِ، وَحَوَاجِبُهُ مُزْتَفِعَةٌ،¹⁴ جِيلٌ
أَسْتَأْذِنُهُ سُيُوفَ وَأَصْرَاسُهُ سَكَكِينَ، لِأَكُلِ الْمَسَاكِينَ عَنِ
الْأَرْضِ وَالْفُقَرَاءَ مِنْ بَنِي النَّاسِ.¹⁵ لِيَلْعُلُوقَةُ إِنْتَانِ، هَاتِ
هَاتِ. ثَلَاثَةٌ لَا تَشْبَعُ. أَرْبَعَةٌ لَا تَقُولُ، كَفَا،¹⁶ الْهَاطِبَةُ،
وَالرَّجِمُ الْعَقِيمُ، وَأَرْضٌ لَا تَسْبُغُ مَاءً، وَالنَّارُ لَا تَقُولُ،
كَفَا.¹⁷ الْغَيْنُ الْمُسْتَهْزَنَةُ بِأَيْبِهَا، وَالْمُخْتَفَرَةُ إِطَاعَةَ أُمَّهَا،
تُقَوِّرُهَا غِزْبَانُ الْوَادِي، وَتَأْكُلُهَا فِرَاحُ النَّسْرِ.¹⁸ ثَلَاثَةٌ عَجِيئَةٌ
فَوْقِي وَأَرْبَعَةٌ لَا أَعْرِفُهَا،¹⁹ طَرِيقُ تَسْرِ فِي السَّمَاوَاتِ،
وَطَرِيقُ حَيَّةٍ عَلَى صَخْرٍ، وَطَرِيقُ سَفِينَةٍ فِي قَلْبِ
الْبَحْرِ، وَطَرِيقُ رَجُلٍ بِقَتَاةٍ.²⁰ كَذَلِكَ طَرِيقُ الْمَرْأَةِ
الرَّائِيَةِ. أَكَلْتُ وَمَسَحْتُ قَمَحًا وَقَالْتُ، مَا عَمِلْتُ
إِنَّمَا..²¹ تَحْتَ ثَلَاثَةٍ تَضْطَرُّبُ الْأَرْضُ، وَأَرْبَعَةٌ لَا تَسْتَطِيعُ
اِحْتِمَالَهَا،²² تَحْتَ عَبْدٍ إِذَا مَلَكَ، وَأَحْمَقُ إِذَا سَبَعَ خُبْرًا.
تَحْتَ سَبْعَةٍ إِذَا تَرَوَّجَتْ، وَأَمَةٌ إِذَا وَرَثَتْ سَيِّدَتَهَا.²³ أَرْبَعَةٌ
هِيَ الْأَصْغَرُ فِي الْأَرْضِ وَلَكِنَّهَا حَكِيمَةٌ جَدًّا،²⁴ النَّمْلُ
طَائِفَةٌ غَيْرُ قَوِيَّةٍ وَلَكِنَّهُ يَعِدُّ طَعَامَهُ فِي الصَّيْفِ.²⁵ الْوَبَارُ
طَائِفَةٌ ضَعِيفَةٌ وَلَكِنَّهَا تَصْعُقُ بُيُوتَهَا فِي الصَّخْرِ.²⁶ الْجَرَادُ
لَيْسَ لَهُ مَلِكٌ وَلَكِنَّهُ يُخْرِجُ كُلَّهُ فِرْقًا فِرْقًا.²⁷ الْعَنْكَبُوتُ
تُمْسِكُ يَدَيْهَا وَهِيَ فِي فُضُوزِ الْمُلُوكِ.²⁸ ثَلَاثَةٌ هِيَ حَسَنَةٌ
الْحَاطِي، وَأَرْبَعَةٌ مَسِيئَةٌ مُسْتَحْسِنٌ،²⁹ الْأَسَدُ جَبَّارُ
الْوَحُوشِ وَلَا يَرْجِعُ مِنْ فُدَامِ أَحَدٍ،³⁰ صَامِرُ السَّيَّالَةِ،
وَالنَّيْسُ، وَالْمَلِكُ الَّذِي لَا يَفَاوُمُ.³¹ إِنْ حَمَقَتْ بِالرَّفْعِ وَإِنْ
تَأَمَّرَتْ، فَصَعَّ يَدَكَ عَلَى قِمِكَ.³² لَآنَ عَصْرِ اللَّبَنِ يُخْرَجُ
جُبْنًا، وَعَصْرِ الْأَنْفِ يُخْرَجُ دَمًا، وَعَصْرِ الْعَصَبِ يُخْرَجُ

¹The words of Agur the son of Jakeh, even the prophecy: the man spake unto Ithiel, even unto Ithiel and Ucal,² Surely I am more brutish than any man, and have not the understanding of a man.³ I neither learned wisdom, nor have the knowledge of the holy.⁴ Who hath ascended up into heaven, or descended? who hath gathered the wind in his fists? who hath bound the waters in a garment? who hath established all the ends of the earth? what is his name, and what is his son's name, if thou canst tell?⁵ Every word of God is pure: he is a shield unto them that put their trust in him.⁶ Add thou not unto his words, lest he reprove thee, and thou be found a liar.⁷ Two things have I required of thee; deny me them not before I die:⁸ Remove far from me vanity and lies: give me neither poverty nor riches; feed me with food convenient for me:⁹ Lest I be full, and deny thee, and say, Who is the LORD? or lest I be poor, and steal, and take the name of my God in vain.¹⁰ Accuse not a servant unto his master, lest he curse thee, and thou be found guilty.¹¹ There is a generation that curseth their father, and doth not bless their mother.¹² There is a generation that are pure in their own eyes, and yet is not washed from their filthiness.¹³ There is a generation, O how lofty are their eyes! and their eyelids are lifted up.¹⁴ There is a generation, whose teeth are as swords, and their jaw teeth as knives, to devour the poor from off the earth, and the needy from among men.¹⁵ The horseleach hath two daughters, crying, Give, give. There are three things that are never satisfied, yea, four things

خَصَامًا.

say not, It is enough: ¹⁶The grave; and the barren womb; the earth that is not filled with water; and the fire that saith not, It is enough. ¹⁷The eye that mocketh at his father, and despiseth to obey his mother, the ravens of the valley shall pick it out, and the young eagles shall eat it. ¹⁸There be three things which are too wonderful for me, yea, four which I know not: ¹⁹The way of an eagle in the air; the way of a serpent upon a rock; the way of a ship in the midst of the sea; and the way of a man with a maid. ²⁰Such is the way of an adulterous woman; she eateth, and wipeth her mouth, and saith, I have done no wickedness. ²¹For three things the earth is disquieted, and for four which it cannot bear: ²²For a servant when he reigneth; and a fool when he is filled with meat; ²³For an odious woman when she is married; and an handmaid that is heir to her mistress. ²⁴There be four things which are little upon the earth, but they are exceeding wise: ²⁵The ants are a people not strong, yet they prepare their meat in the summer; ²⁶The conies are but a feeble folk, yet make they their houses in the rocks; ²⁷The locusts have no king, yet go they forth all of them by bands; ²⁸The spider taketh hold with her hands, and is in kings' palaces. ²⁹There be three things which go well, yea, four are comely in going: ³⁰A lion which is strongest among beasts, and turneth not away for any; ³¹A greyhound; an he goat also; and a king, against whom there is no rising up. ³²If thou hast done foolishly in lifting up thyself, or if thou hast thought evil, lay

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thine hand upon thy mouth.³³ Surely the churning of milk bringeth forth butter, and the wringing of the nose bringeth forth blood: so the forcing of wrath bringeth forth strife.