

¹Man that is born of a woman is of few days, and full of trouble.²He cometh forth like a flower, and is cut down: he fleeth also as a shadow, and continueth not.³And dost thou open thine eyes upon such an one, and bringest me into judgment with thee?⁴Who can bring a clean thing out of an unclean? not one.⁵Seeing his days are determined, the number of his months are with thee, thou hast appointed his bounds that he cannot pass;⁶Turn from him, that he may rest, till he shall accomplish, as an hireling, his day.⁷For there is hope of a tree, if it be cut down, that it will sprout again, and that the tender branch thereof will not cease.⁸Though the root thereof wax old in the earth, and the stock thereof die in the ground;⁹Yet through the scent of water it will bud, and bring forth boughs like a plant.¹⁰But man dieth, and wasteth away: yea, man giveth up the ghost, and where is he?¹¹As the waters fail from the sea, and the flood decayeth and drieth up:¹²So man lieth down, and riseth not: till the heavens be no more, they shall not awake, nor be raised out of their sleep.¹³O that thou wouldest hide me in the grave, that thou wouldest keep me secret, until thy wrath be past, that thou wouldest appoint me a set time, and remember me!¹⁴If a man die, shall he live again? all the days of my appointed time will I wait, till my change come.¹⁵Thou shalt call, and I will answer thee: thou wilt have a desire to the work of thine hands.¹⁶For now thou numberest my steps: dost thou not watch over my sin?¹⁷My transgression is sealed up in a bag, and thou sewest up mine

¹الْإِنْسَانُ مَوْلُودٌ الْمَرْأَةِ قَلِيلُ الْيָامِ وَسَعْعَانُ تَعَبًا.²يَخْرُجُ كَالزَّهْرِ ثُمَّ يَذْوِي، وَيَبْرُخُ كَالطَّلِّ وَلَا يَقِفُ.³فَعَلَى مِثْلِ هَذَا خَدَقْتُ عَيْنَيْكَ، وَإِبَائِي أَحْصَرْتُ إِلَى الْمُحَاكَمَةِ مَعَكَ.⁴مَنْ يُخْرِجُ الطَّاهِرَ مِنَ النَّجِسِ. لَا أَخَذُ.⁵إِنْ كَانَتْ أَبَائُهُ مَحْدُودَةً وَعَدَدُ أَشْهُرِهِ عِنْدَكَ وَقَدْ عَيَّتَ أَجَلَهُ فَلَا يَتَجَاوَزُهُ،⁶فَأَقْصِرْ عَنْهُ لَيْسَتَرِيحَ، إِلَى أَنْ يُسَرَّ كَالْأَجِيرِ بِأَنْتِهَاءِ يَوْمِهِ.⁷لَآنَ لِلشَّجَرَةِ رَجَاءٌ. إِنْ قُطِعَتْ تُخْلِفُ أَيْضًا وَلَا تُعْدَمُ أَغْصَانُهَا. وَلَوْ قَدِمَ فِي الْأَرْضِ أَصْلُهَا وَمَاتَ فِي التُّرَابِ جَذْعُهَا.⁸فَمِنْ رَائِحَةِ الْمَاءِ تُفْرِحُ وَتُثْبِتُ فُرُوعًا كَالْعَرَسِ.⁹أَمَّا الرَّجُلُ فَيَمُوتُ وَيَبْلَى. الْإِنْسَانُ يُسْلِمُ الرُّوحَ، فَأَيْنَ هُوَ.¹⁰قَدْ تَنَقَّدَ الْحَيَاةَ مِنَ الْبَحْرِ، وَالتَّهَرُّ يُنْشَفُ وَيَجِفُ،¹¹وَالْإِنْسَانُ يَصْطَلِحُ وَلَا يَقُومُ. لَا يَسْتَقِطُونَ حَتَّى لَا تَبْقَى السَّمَاوَاتُ وَلَا يَسْتَهْوُونَ مِنْ تَوَهُمِهِمْ.¹²لَيْتَكَ تُوَارِينِي فِي الْهَابِيَةِ وَتُخْفِينِي إِلَى أَنْ يَنْصَرِفَ عَصَبُكَ، وَتُعَيِّنَ لِي أَجَلًا فَتَذْكُرْنِي.¹³إِنْ مَاتَ رَجُلٌ أَقْبَحِيًا. كُلُّ أَيَّامِ جِهَادِي أَصِيرُ إِلَى أَنْ يَأْتِيَ بَدَلِي.¹⁴تَدْعُو قَاتًا أَجِيْبُكَ. تَسْتَأْئِنِي إِلَى عَمَلٍ يَدِكَ.¹⁵أَمَّا الْآنَ فَنُحْصِي خُطُوَاتِي. أَلَا تُحَافِظُ عَلَيَّ حَظِيَّتِي.¹⁶مَعْصِيَتِي مَخْتُومٌ عَلَيْهَا فِي صُرَّةٍ، وَتُلْقَى عَلَيَّ قَوْقُؤُ إِئْمِي.¹⁷إِنَّ الْجَبَلَ السَّاقِطَ يَنْتَبِزُ، وَالصَّخْرَ يَزْجُرُ مِنْ مَكَانِهِ.¹⁸الْجَارَةُ تَبْلِيهَا الْمَيَاةُ، وَتَجْرُفُ سُيُولُهَا تُرَابَ الْأَرْضِ. وَكَذَلِكَ أَنْتَ تُبِيدُ رَجَاءَ الْإِنْسَانِ.¹⁹تَجَبَّرُ عَلَيْهِ أَبَدًا فَيَذْهَبُ. تُسَوِّهُ وَجْهَهُ وَتَطْرُدُهُ.²⁰يُكْرَمُ بَنُوهُ وَلَا يَعْلَمُ، أَوْ يَصْغُرُونَ وَلَا يَعْلَمُ بِهِمْ.²¹إِنَّمَا عَلَى ذَاتِهِ يَتَوَجَّعُ لَحْمُهُ وَعَلَى ذَاتِهَا تَنُوحُ نَفْسُهُ.

iniquity.¹⁸ And surely the mountain falling
cometh to nought, and the rock is removed
out of his place.¹⁹ The waters wear the
stones: thou wastest away the things
which grow out of the dust of the earth;
and thou destroyest the hope of
man.²⁰ Thou prevailest for ever against him,
and he passeth: thou changest his
countenance, and sendest him away.²¹ His
sons come to honour, and he knoweth it
not; and they are brought low, but he
perceiveth it not of them.²² But his flesh
upon him shall have pain, and his soul
within him shall mourn.