

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 overflowed 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

¹فَاجَابَ أَلِيَّافُرُ التَّيْمَانِيُّ، هَلْ يَنْقُعُ الْإِنْسَانُ اللَّهُ. بَلْ يَنْقُعُ نَفْسَهُ الْفَطْنُ. هَلْ مِنْ مَسَرَّةٍ لِلْقَدِيرِ إِذَا تَبَرَّزَتْ، أَوْ مِنْ قَائِدَةٍ إِذَا قَوَّمَتْ طُرُقَكَ. هَلْ عَلَى تَقْوَاكَ يُوْسِعُكَ أَوْ يَدْخُلُ مَعَكَ فِي الْمُحاَكَمَةِ؟ أَلِيَّافُرُ شَرُكَ عَظِيمًا وَآتَامُكَ لَا يَهَايَةَ لَهَا. لَذِكَرُ أَرْهَيْتَ أَحَادِيكَ بِلَا سَبِّ، وَسَلَيْتَ تَيَابَ الْغَرَأَةِ، مَاءً لَمْ شَنِقَ الْعَطْشَانَ، وَعَنِ الْجَوْعَانِ مَنَعَ حُبْرًا. أَمَا صَاحِبُ الْفُوْقَةِ فَلَهُ الْأَرْضُ، وَالْمُفَرَّقُ الْوَجْهِ سَاكِنُ فِيهَا. الْأَرَامِلَ أَرْسَلْتَ خَالِيَاتِ، وَذَرَاعُ الْيَتَامَى أَنْسَحَقَتْ. لَأَجْلِ ذَلِكَ حَوَالِيَكَ فِي حَاجَّ، وَبِرِيعُكَ رُعْبَ بَعْنَةً أَوْ طُلْمَةً فَلَا تَرَى، وَفَيْضُ الْمَيَاهِ يُعَطِّيلُكَ. هُودَا اللَّهُ فِي عُلُوِّ السَّمَاوَاتِ، وَأَنْطَرَ رَأْسَ الْكَوَاكِبِ مَا أَعْلَاهُ. قَفَّلَتْ، كَيْفَ يَعْلَمُ اللَّهُ. هَلْ مِنْ وَرَاءِ الصَّيَابِ يَعْصِي؟ ¹⁴السَّحَابُ سِنْرَ لَهُ فَلَا يُرَى، وَعَلَى دَائِرَةِ السَّمَاوَاتِ يَمْقَسِّي. هَلْ تَحْفَطُ طَرِيقَ الْقَدْمِ الَّذِي دَاسَهُ رِحَالُ الْأَيَّمِ، الَّذِينَ قُبِضَ عَلَيْهِمْ قَبْلَ الْوَقْتِ. الْعَمْرُ انْصَبَ عَلَى أَسَاسِهِمْ، الْقَانِيْلَيْنَ لَهُ، ابْعَدَ عَنَّا. وَمَادَا يَفْعَلُ الْقَدِيرُ لَهُمْ. وَهُوَ قَدْ مَلَأَ بَيْوَهُمْ حَيْرًا. لَيَتَبَعَّدُ عَنِّي مَسْوَرَةُ الْأَسْرَارِ، الْأَبْرَارُ يَنْتَرُونَ وَيَغْرُبُونَ، وَالْبَرِيءُ يَسْهُرُ بِهِمْ قَاتِلِينَ، الْمُمْدُ مُفَاؤِمُونَ، وَبَعْيَهُمْ قَدْ أَكْلَنَاهَا النَّارُ. تَعَرَّفُ بِهِ وَاسْلَمَ، بِذَلِكَ يَأْتِيكَ حَيْرُ. ²²أَقْبَلَ السَّرِيعَةُ مِنْ قَمَهِ، وَصَغَ كَلَامَهُ فِي قَلْبِكَ. إِنْ رَجَعْتَ إِلَى الْقَدِيرِ يُسْتَئِنِي. إِنْ أَنْعَدْتَ طُلْمًا مِنْ حَيْمَتِكَ، ²⁴وَالْقَيْثَ الْبَيْرَ عَلَى التُّرَابِ وَدَهَبَ أَوْفِرَ بَيْنَ حَصَاصَ الْأَوْدَيَةِ، يُكُونُ الْقَدِيرُ تِبْرَكَ وَفَضَّةُ الْأَعْيَابِ لَكَ. لَذِكَرُ حَيَّيَذِ تَلَدَّدَ بِالْقَدِيرِ وَتَرْقَعَ إِلَى اللَّهِ وَجْهَكَ. تَضَلِّي لَهُ قَيْسَمَيْنَ لَكَ وَنُدُورُكَ تُوْفِيَهَا. وَتَجْزُمُ أَمْرًا قَيْبَيْتُ لَكَ، وَعَلَى طُرُقَكَ يُضَيِّنُهُ نُورُ. ²⁹إِذَا وَضَعُوا قُوْلُ، رَفْعُ. وَيُحَلِّصُ الْمُنْهَفِصَ الْعَيْنَيْنِ، يَنْجِي عَيْنَ الْبَرِيءِ وَيُنْجِي بِطَهَارَةِ يَدِيَكَ.

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.