

¹إِسْرَائِيلُ جَفْتُهُ مُمْتَدَّةٌ. يُخْرِجُ ثَمَرًا لِنَفْسِهِ. عَلَى حَسَبِ كَثْرَةِ ثَمَرِهِ قَدْ كَثُرَ الْمَذَابِخُ. عَلَى حَسَبِ جُودَةِ أَرْضِهِ أَجَادَ الْأَصْنَابَ.² قَدْ قَسَمُوا قُلُوبَهُمْ. الْآنَ يُعَاقِبُونَ. هُوَ يُحْطِمُ مَذَابِحَهُمْ، يُخَرِّبُ أَنْصَابَهُمْ.³ إِنَّهُمْ الْآنَ يَقُولُونَ، لَا مَلِكَ لَنَا لِأَنَّا لَا نَخَافُ الرَّبَّ، قَالَمَلِكٌ مَاذَا يَصْنَعُ بِنَا.⁴ يَتَكَلَّمُونَ كَلَامًا بِأَفْسَامٍ بَاطِلَةٍ. يَقْطَعُونَ عَهْدًا قَيْبُتُ الْقَصَا عَلَيْهِمْ كَالْعَلَقِمِ فِي أَلْأَمِ الْحَقْلِ.⁵ عَلَى عُجُولِ بَيْتِ أَوْنَ يَخَافُ سَكَاةَ السَّامِرَةِ. إِنْ سَعَبَهُ يَتَوَخَّ عَلَيْهِ، وَكَهَنَتُهُ عَلَيْهِ يَزِيدُونَ عَلَى مَجْدِهِ، لِأَنَّهُ اتَّقَى عَنْهُ.⁶ وَهُوَ أَيْضًا يُجْلِبُ إِلَى أَشُورَ، هَدِيَّةَ لِمَلِكٍ عَدُوٍّ. يَأْخُذُ أَفْرَايِمَ، جُزْأً، وَيَحْجُلُ إِسْرَائِيلَ عَلَى رَأْيِهِ.⁷ السَّامِرَةُ مَلِكُهَا يَبِيدُ كَعَنَاءَ عَلَى وَجْهِ الْمَاءِ،⁸ وَتُخَرِّبُ سَوَامِخُ أَوْنَ، حَطِيئَةُ إِسْرَائِيلَ. يَطْلُعُ الشَّوْكُ وَالْحَسَكُ عَلَى مَذَابِحِهِمْ، وَيَقُولُونَ لِلْجِبَالِ، عَطِينَا وَلِلثَّلَالِ، اسْقُطِي عَلَيْنَا.⁹ مِنْ أَبَامِ جِبَعَةِ أَخْطَأَتِ بَا إِسْرَائِيلَ. هُنَاكَ وَقَفُوا، لَمْ يُدْرِكْهُمْ فِي جِبَعَةِ الْحَرْبِ عَلَى بَنِي الْإِثْمِ.¹⁰ حِينَمَا أَرِيدُ أَوْدِبَهُمْ، وَيَجْتَمِعُ عَلَيْهِمْ شُعُوبٌ فِي ارْتِبَاطِهِمْ بِأَيْمَانِهِمْ.¹¹ وَأَفْرَايِمُ عَجَلَهُ مُتَمَرِّتُهُ تُجِبُّ الدَّرَاسَ، وَلَكِنِّي أَجْتَازُ عَلَى عُثْقِهَا الْحَسَنِ. أُرْكِبُ عَلَى أَفْرَايِمَ. يَفْلَحُ يَهُودَا يُمَهِّدُ يَعْقُوبَ.¹² اِزْرَعُوا لِأَنْفُسِكُمْ بِالْبَرِّ. اخْضُدُوا بِحَسَبِ الصَّلَاحِ. اخْزُنُوا لِأَنْفُسِكُمْ حَزَنًا، فَإِنَّهُ وَقْتُ لَطَلَبِ الرَّبِّ حَتَّى يَأْتِيَ وَيُعْلِمَكُمُ الْبَرَّ.¹³ قَدْ حَرَشْتُمُ التَّقَاقُ، حَصَدْتُمُ الْإِثْمَ، أَكَلْتُمُ ثَمَرَ الْكَذِبِ. لِأَنَّكَ وَفَّقْتَ بِطَرِيفِكَ، يَكْثُرُهُ أَبْطَالِكَ.¹⁴ يَقُومُ صَاحِبُ فِي شُعُوبِكَ، وَتُخَرِّبُ جَمِيعَ خُصُوبَتِكَ كَأَخْرَابِ سِلْمَانَ بَيْتِ أَرْئِيلَ فِي يَوْمِ الْحَرْبِ. الْأُمُّ مَعَ الْأَوْلَادِ حُطِمَتْ.¹⁵ هَكَذَا تَصْنَعُ بِكُمْ بَيْتُ إِبِلٍ مِنْ أَجْلِ رَدَاةٍ سَرَّكُمُ. فِي الصُّبْحِ يَهْلِكُ مَلِكُ إِسْرَائِيلَ هَلَاكًا.

¹Israel is an empty vine, he bringeth forth fruit unto himself: according to the multitude of his fruit he hath increased the altars; according to the goodness of his land they have made goodly images.² Their heart is divided; now shall they be found faulty: he shall break down their altars, he shall spoil their images.³ For now they shall say, We have no king, because we feared not the LORD; what then should a king do to us?⁴ They have spoken words, swearing falsely in making a covenant: thus judgment springeth up as hemlock in the furrows of the field.⁵ The inhabitants of Samaria shall fear because of the calves of Bethaven: for the people thereof shall mourn over it, and the priests thereof that rejoiced on it, for the glory thereof, because it is departed from it.⁶ It shall be also carried unto Assyria for a present to king Jareb: Ephraim shall receive shame, and Israel shall be ashamed of his own counsel.⁷ As for Samaria, her king is cut off as the foam upon the water.⁸ The high places also of Aven, the sin of Israel, shall be destroyed: the thorn and the thistle shall come up on their altars; and they shall say to the mountains, Cover us; and to the hills, Fall on us.⁹ O Israel, thou hast sinned from the days of Gibeah: there they stood: the battle in Gibeah against the children of iniquity did not overtake them.¹⁰ It is in my desire that I should chastise them; and the people shall be gathered against them, when they shall bind themselves in their two furrows.¹¹ And Ephraim is as an heifer that is taught, and loveth to tread out the corn; but I passed over upon her fair neck: I will make

Ephraim to ride; Judah shall plow, and Jacob shall break his clods.¹² Sow to yourselves in righteousness, reap in mercy; break up your fallow ground: for it is time to seek the LORD, till he come and rain righteousness upon you.¹³ Ye have plowed wickedness, ye have reaped iniquity; ye have eaten the fruit of lies: because thou didst trust in thy way, in the multitude of thy mighty men.¹⁴ Therefore shall a tumult arise among thy people, and all thy fortresses shall be spoiled, as Shalman spoiled Betharbel in the day of battle: the mother was dashed in pieces upon her children.¹⁵ So shall Bethel do unto you because of your great wickedness: in a morning shall the king of Israel utterly be cut off.