

¹لَمَّا تَكَلَّمَ أَفْرَايِمُ بِرَعْدَةٍ تَرَفَّعَ فِي إِسْرَائِيلَ. وَلَمَّا أَثِمَ
يَبْعَل مَاتَ.² وَالْآنَ يَزْدَادُونَ خَطِيئَةً، وَيَصْنَعُونَ لَأَنفُسِهِمْ
تَمَاثِيلَ مَسْبُوكَةٍ مِنْ فِصْطِهِمْ، أَصْنَامًا يَحْدَاقَتِهِمْ، كُلُّهَا
عَمَلُ الصَّنَاعِ. عَنْهَا هُمْ يَقُولُونَ، دَاخِو النَّاسَ يَقْبَلُونَ
الْعُجُولَ.³ لِيَذَلِكَ يَكُونُونَ كَسَخَابِ الصُّبْحِ وَكَاللَّيْلِ
الْمَاضِي بِأَكْرَأَ. كَعَصَافَةٍ تُخَطَفُ مِنَ الْبَيْدَرِ، وَكَذَخَانٍ مِنَ
الْكُوَّةِ.⁴ وَأَنَا الرَّبُّ إِلَهُكَ مِنْ أَرْضِ مِصْرَ، وَإِلَهًا سِوَايَ
لَسْتُ تَعْرِفُ، وَلَا مُخْلَصَ غَيْرِي.⁵ أَنَا عَرَفْتُكَ فِي الْبَرِّيَّةِ
فِي أَرْضِ الْعَطَشِ.⁶ لَمَّا رَعَوْا شَبِعُوا. شَبِعُوا وَارْتَفَعَتْ
قُلُوبُهُمْ، لِيَذَلِكَ تَسْوَنِي.⁷ فَأَكُونُ لَهُمْ كَأَسَدٍ. أَرْضُ عَلَى
الطَّرِيقِ كَثِيرٌ.⁸ أَصْدِمُهُمْ كَذَبَةٍ مُنْكَدِلٍ، وَأَسْقُ شَعَافَ
قَلْبِهِمْ، وَأَكْلُهُمْ هُنَاكَ كَلَبْوَةٍ. يَمْرُقُهُمْ وَخَشِ
الْبَرِّيَّةِ.⁹ هَلَاكَ يَا إِسْرَائِيلُ أَتَكَ عَلَيَّ، عَلَى عَوْنِكَ.¹⁰ قَائِنٌ
هُوَ مَلِكُكَ حَتَّى يُخَلِّصَكَ فِي جَمِيعِ مَذَبِكَ. وَفُضَّاكَ حَيْثُ
قُلْتَ، أَعْطِنِي مَلِكًا وَرُؤَسَاءَ.¹¹ أَنَا أَعْطَيْتُكَ مَلِكًا يَعْصِي
وَأَخَذْتُهُ بِسَخَطِي.¹² إِنَّمَا أَفْرَايِمُ مَضْرُورٌ. خَطِيئَتُهُ
مَكْنُورَةٌ.¹³ مَحَاضُ الْوَالِدَةِ يَأْتِي عَلَيْهِ. هُوَ ابْنٌ غَيْرُ حَكِيمٍ
إِذْ لَمْ يَقِفْ فِي الْوَقْتِ فِي مَوْلِدِ الْبَنِينَ.¹⁴ مِنْ يَدِ الْهَآوِيَةِ
أُفْدِيهِمْ. مِنَ الْمَوْتِ أَخْلَصُهُمْ. أَيْنَ أَوْبَاؤُكَ يَا مَوْتُ. أَيْنَ
سُوءُكَ يَا هَآوِيَةُ. نَخْتَفِي النَّدَامَةَ عَنْ عَيْنِي.¹⁵ وَإِنْ كَانَ
مُتِمِّرًا بَيْنَ إِجْوَةٍ يَأْتِي رِيحُ سَرَقَتِهِ. رِيحُ الرَّبِّ طَالِعَةٌ مِنْ
الْفَقْرِ فَتَجِفُّ عَيْنُهُ وَيَبْسُ يَبْغُوهُ. هِيَ تَنْهَبُ كُلَّ
مَتَاعٍ سَهِيٍّ.¹⁶ تَجَارَى السَّامِرَةُ لِأَنَّهَا قَدْ تَمَرَّدَتْ عَلَى
إِلَهَائِهَا. بِالسَّيْفِ يَسْقُطُونَ. تُحَطَّمُ أَطْفَالُهُمْ، وَالْحَوَامِلُ
تُسْقَى.

¹When Ephraim spake trembling, he exalted himself in Israel; but when he offended in Baal, he died.² And now they sin more and more, and have made them molten images of their silver, and idols according to their own understanding, all of it the work of the craftsmen: they say of them, Let the men that sacrifice kiss the calves.³ Therefore they shall be as the morning cloud, and as the early dew that passeth away, as the chaff that is driven with the whirlwind out of the floor, and as the smoke out of the chimney.⁴ Yet I am the LORD thy God from the land of Egypt, and thou shalt know no god but me: for there is no saviour beside me.⁵ I did know thee in the wilderness, in the land of great drought.⁶ According to their pasture, so were they filled; they were filled, and their heart was exalted; therefore have they forgotten me.⁷ Therefore I will be unto them as a lion: as a leopard by the way will I observe them: ⁸I will meet them as a bear that is bereaved of her whelps, and will rend the caul of their heart, and there will I devour them like a lion: the wild beast shall tear them.⁹ O Israel, thou hast destroyed thyself; but in me is thine help.¹⁰ I will be thy king: where is any other that may save thee in all thy cities? and thy judges of whom thou saidst, Give me a king and princes?¹¹ I gave thee a king in mine anger, and took him away in my wrath.¹² The iniquity of Ephraim is bound up; his sin is hid.¹³ The sorrows of a travailing woman shall come upon him: he is an unwise son; for he should not stay long in the place of the breaking forth of children.¹⁴ I will ransom them from the

power of the grave; I will redeem them from death: O death, I will be thy plagues; O grave, I will be thy destruction: repentance shall be hid from mine eyes.¹⁵ Though he be fruitful among his brethren, an east wind shall come, the wind of the LORD shall come up from the wilderness, and his spring shall become dry, and his fountain shall be dried up: he shall spoil the treasure of all pleasant vessels.¹⁶ Samaria shall become desolate; for she hath rebelled against her God: they shall fall by the sword: their infants shall be dashed in pieces, and their women with child shall be ripped up.