

¹أَبْرَأَنْتَ يَا رَبُّ مِنْ أَنْ أُحَاصِمَكَ. لَكِنْ أَكَلَمْتُكَ مِنْ جَهَةِ
أَحْكَامِكَ. لِمَاذَا تَنْجَحُ طَرِيقُ الْأَسْرَارِ. اِطْمَأَنَّ كُلُّ
الْعَادِرِينَ عَذْرًا.² عَرَسْتَهُمْ فَاصْلَوْا. تَمَوْا وَأَتَمُّوْا تَمَرًا.
أَنْتَ قَرِيبٌ فِي فَمِهِمْ وَبَعِيدٌ مِنْ كَلَامِهِمْ.³ وَأَنْتَ يَا رَبُّ
عَرَفْتَنِي. رَأَيْتَنِي وَأَخْتَبَرْتَ قَلْبِي مِنْ جِهَتِكَ. اِفْرُزْهُمْ
كَغَنَمٍ لِلذَّبْحِ وَخَصَّصْهُمْ لِيَوْمِ الْقَتْلِ.⁴ حَتَّى مَتَى تَنُوحُ
الْأَرْضُ وَيَبْسُ غُشْبُ كُلِّ الْحَقْلِ. مِنْ سَرِّ السَّاكِنِينَ
فِيهَا قَنِيتَ الْبَهَائِمَ وَالطُّيُورَ، لِأَنَّهُمْ قَالُوا، لَا يَرَى
آخِرَتَنَا.⁵ إِنْ جَرَيْتَ مَعَ الْمُسَاةِ فَأَتَعُوكَ فَكَيْفَ تُبَارِي
الْحَيْلَ. وَإِنْ كُنْتَ مُسْطِحًا فِي أَرْضِ السَّلَامِ فَكَيْفَ تَعْمَلُ
فِي كِبَرَاءِ الْأُزْدَنْ.⁶ لِأَنَّ إِخْوَتَكَ أَنْفُسَهُمْ وَبَيْتَ أَبِيكَ قَدْ
عَادَوْكَ هُمْ أَيْضًا. هُمْ أَيْضًا تَادُوا وَرَأَاكَ بِصَوْتِ عَالٍ. لَا
تَأْمِنُهُمْ إِذَا كَلَّمُوكَ بِالْحَبْرِ.⁷ قَدْ تَرَكْتُ بَيْتِي. رَفَضْتُ
مِيرَاثِي. دَفَعْتُ حَبِيبَةَ نَفْسِي لِيَدِ أَعْدَائِهَا.⁸ صَارَ لِي
مِيرَاثِي كَأَسَدٍ فِي الْوَعْرِ. تَطَلَّ عَلَيَّ بِصَوْتِهِ. مِنْ أَجْلِ
ذَلِكَ أَبْغَضْتُهُ.⁹ جَارَحَهُ صَبْغُ مِيرَاثِي لِي. الْجَوَارِحُ حَوَالِيهِ
عَلَيْهِ. هَلُمَّ اجْمَعُوا كُلَّ حَيَوَانِ الْحَقْلِ. إِشُوا بِهَا
لِلْأَكْلِ.¹⁰ رَعَاهُ كَثِيرُونَ أَفْسَدُوا كَرَمِي، دَاسُوا تَصْيِيبي.
جَعَلُوا تَصْيِيبي الْمُسْتَهْيَ بَرِّيَّةً خَرِبَةً.¹¹ جَعَلُوهُ خَرَابًا يَنُوحُ
عَلَيَّ وَهُوَ حَرْبٌ. حَرَبْتُ كُلَّ الْأَرْضِ لِأَنَّهُ لَا أَحَدَ يَصْغُ فِي
قَلْبِهِ.¹² عَلَى جَمِيعِ الرُّوَايِ فِي الْبَرِّيَّةِ أَتَى النَّاهِبُونَ، لِأَنَّ
سَيْفًا لِلرَّبِّ يَأْكُلُ مِنَ أَفْصَى الْأَرْضِ إِلَى أَفْصَى الْأَرْضِ.
لَيْسَ سَلَامٌ لِأَحَدٍ مِنَ الْبَشَرِ.¹³ زَرَعُوا حِنْطَةً وَحَصَدُوا
سَوْكًَا. أَغْتَبُوا وَلَمْ يَنْتَفِعُوا، بَلْ حَزُّوا مِنْ غَلَابَتِكُمْ مِنْ حُمُومٍ
عَصَبِ الرَّبِّ.¹⁴ هَكَذَا قَالَ الرَّبُّ عَلَى جَمِيعِ جِيرَانِي
الْأَسْرَارِ الَّذِينَ يَلْمِسُونَ الْمِيرَاتِ الَّذِي أَوْرَثْتُهُ لِسَعْيِي
إِسْرَائِيلَ، هَتَّادًا أَقْتُلُهُمْ عَنْ أَرْضِهِمْ وَأَقْتُلُ بَيْتَ يَهُوذَا
مِنْ وَسْطِهِمْ.¹⁵ وَيَكُونُ بَعْدَ أَقْيَلَاعِي إِبَاهُمْ أَنِّي أَرْجِعُ
فَارْحَمُهُمْ، وَأُرْدُهُمْ كُلَّ وَاحِدٍ إِلَى مِيرَاثِيهِ وَكُلَّ وَاحِدٍ إِلَى
أَرْضِهِ.¹⁶ وَيَكُونُ إِذَا تَعَلَّمُوا عِلْمًا طُرُقَ سَعْيِي أَنِّي أَخْلِفُ
يَاسْمِي، حَيٌّ هُوَ الرَّبُّ كَمَا عَلَّمُوا سَعْيِي أَنْ يَخْلِفُوا
بِعَمَلٍ، أَنَّهُمْ يُبْتَوُونَ فِي وَسْطِ سَعْيِي. وَإِنْ لَمْ يَسْمَعُوا
فَأَنِّي أَقْتُلُ تِلْكَ الْأُمَّةَ أَقْيَلَاعًا وَأَيِّدُهَا يَقُولُ الرَّبُّ.

¹Righteous art thou, O LORD, when I plead with thee: yet let me talk with thee of thy judgments: Wherefore doth the way of the wicked prosper? wherefore are all they happy that deal very treacherously?² Thou hast planted them, yea, they have taken root: they grow, yea, they bring forth fruit: thou art near in their mouth, and far from their reins.³ But thou, O LORD, knowest me: thou hast seen me, and tried mine heart toward thee: pull them out like sheep for the slaughter, and prepare them for the day of slaughter.⁴ How long shall the land mourn, and the herbs of every field wither, for the wickedness of them that dwell therein? the beasts are consumed, and the birds; because they said, He shall not see our last end.⁵ If thou hast run with the footmen, and they have wearied thee, then how canst thou contend with horses? and if in the land of peace, wherein thou trustedst, they wearied thee, then how wilt thou do in the swelling of Jordan?⁶ For even thy brethren, and the house of thy father, even they have dealt treacherously with thee; yea, they have called a multitude after thee: believe them not, though they speak fair words unto thee.⁷ I have forsaken mine house, I have left mine heritage; I have given the dearly beloved of my soul into the hand of her enemies.⁸ Mine heritage is unto me as a lion in the forest; it crieth out against me: therefore have I hated it.⁹ Mine heritage is unto me as a speckled bird, the birds round about are against her; come ye, assemble all the beasts of the field, come to devour.¹⁰ Many pastors have destroyed my vineyard, they have trodden

my portion under foot, they have made my pleasant portion a desolate wilderness.¹¹ They have made it desolate, and being desolate it mourneth unto me; the whole land is made desolate, because no man layeth it to heart.¹² The spoilers are come upon all high places through the wilderness: for the sword of the LORD shall devour from the one end of the land even to the other end of the land: no flesh shall have peace.¹³ They have sown wheat, but shall reap thorns: they have put themselves to pain, but shall not profit: and they shall be ashamed of your revenues because of the fierce anger of the LORD.¹⁴ Thus saith the LORD against all mine evil neighbours, that touch the inheritance which I have caused my people Israel to inherit; Behold, I will pluck them out of their land, and pluck out the house of Judah from among them.¹⁵ And it shall come to pass, after that I have plucked them out I will return, and have compassion on them, and will bring them again, every man to his heritage, and every man to his land.¹⁶ And it shall come to pass, if they will diligently learn the ways of my people, to swear by my name, The LORD liveth; as they taught my people to swear by Baal; then shall they be built in the midst of my people.¹⁷ But if they will not obey, I will utterly pluck up and destroy that nation, saith the LORD.