

¹فَقَالَ أَيُّوبُ ²حَتَّى مَتَى تُعَذِّبُونَ نَفْسِي وَتَسْحَقُونَ بِي
بِالْكَلَامِ. ³هَذِهِ عَشْرَ مَرَّاتٍ أَخَرَبْتُمُونِي. لَمْ تَحْجَلُوا مِنْ
أَنْ تُعْتَفُونِي. ⁴وَهَنِي صَلَلْتُ حَقًّا. عَلَيَّ تَسْتَقَرُّ
صَلَاتِي. ⁵إِنْ كُنْتُمْ بِالْحَقِّ تَسْتَكْبِرُونَ عَلَيَّ، فَتَبَيَّنُوا عَلَيَّ
غَارِي. ⁶فَاعْلَمُوا إِذَا أَنَّ اللَّهَ قَدْ عَوَّجَنِي وَلَفَّ عَلَيَّ
أُحْبُولَتَهُ. ⁷هَا أَنِّي أَضْرُحُ طُلْمًا فَلَا أَسْتَجَابُ. أَذْعُو وَلَيْسَ
حُكْمٌ. ⁸قَدْ حَوَّطَ طَرِيقِي فَلَا أَعْبُرُ، وَعَلَى سُلْبِي جَعَلَ
طَلَامًا. ⁹أَزَالَ عَنِّي كَرَامَتِي وَتَرَعَ تَاجَ رَأْسِي. ¹⁰هَدَمَنِي مِنْ
كُلِّ جِهَةٍ قَدْ هَبْتُ، وَقَلَعَ مِنْهُ شَجَرَةَ رَجَائِي. ¹¹وَأَضْرَمَ
عَلَيَّ غَضَبَهُ وَحَسَبَنِي كَأَعْدَائِهِ. ¹²مَعًا جَاءَتْ غُرَائِي وَأَعْدَاؤِي
عَلَيَّ طَرِيقَهُمْ وَحَلُّوا حَوْلَ خِيَمَتِي. ¹³قَدْ أَبْعَدَ عَنِّي
إِخْوَتِي. وَمَعَارِفِي زَاغُوا عَنِّي. ¹⁴أَقَارِبِي قَدْ حَذَلُونِي
وَالَّذِينَ عَرَفُونِي نَسَوْنِي. ¹⁵تَرَلَاءَ بَيْنِي وَإِمَائِي يَحْسِبُونَنِي
أُجْنَبًا. صِرْتُ فِي أَغْنِيهِمْ غَرِيبًا. ¹⁶عِنْدِي دَعْوَةٌ فَلَمْ
يُجِبْ. بِقِيَمِي تَصَرَّعْتُ إِلَيْهِ. ¹⁷تَكْهَنِي مَكْرُوهُهُ عِنْدَ
أُمَرَائِي، وَمُتَيْتُهُ عِنْدَ أَتْنَاءِ أَحْسَانِي. ¹⁸الْأَوَّلَاءُ أَيْضًا قَدْ
رَذَلُونِي. إِذَا فُئْتُ يَتَكَلَّمُونَ عَلَيَّ. ¹⁹كَرِهَتِي كُلُّ رِجَالِي،
وَالَّذِينَ أَحْبَبْتُهُمْ انْقَلَبُوا عَلَيَّ. ²⁰عَظُمِي قَدْ لَصِقَ بِجِلْدِي
وَلَحْمِي، وَتَجَوَّثَ بِجِلْدِ أَسْنَانِي. ²¹تَرَاءَفُوا. تَرَاءَفُوا أَنْتُمْ
عَلَيَّ يَا أَصْحَابِي، لِأَنَّ بَدَنَ اللَّهِ قَدْ مَسَّنِي. ²²لِمَادَا
تُطَارِدُونَنِي كَمَا اللَّهُ، وَلَا تَسْبِعُونَ مِنْ لَحْمِي. ²³لَيْتَ
كَلِمَاتِي الْآنَ تُكْتَبُ. يَا لَيْتَهَا رُسِمَتْ فِي سِفْرِ ²⁴وُفِّرَتْ
إِلَى الْأَبَدِ فِي الصَّخْرِ يَقْلَمُ حَدِيدٌ وَبِرْصَاصٍ. ²⁵أَمَّا أَنَا فَقَدْ
عَلِمْتُ أَنَّ وَلِيِّي حَيٌّ وَالْآخِرَ عَلَيَّ الْأَرْضُ يَقُومُ ²⁶وَبَعْدَ أَنْ
يُقْنَى جِلْدِي هَذَا وَيُدُونَ جَسَدِي أَرَى اللَّهَ. ²⁷الَّذِي أَرَاهُ أَنَا
لِنَفْسِي وَعَيْنَايَ تَنْظُرَانِ وَلَيْسَ آخِرُ. إِلَى ذَلِكَ تَتَوَقَّعُ
كَلِمَاتِي فِي جَوْفِي. ²⁸فَأَنْتُمْ تَقُولُونَ، لِمَادَا تُطَارِدُهُ.
وَالْكَلَامُ الْأَصْلِيُّ يُوجَدُ عِنْدِي. ²⁹خَافُوا عَلَى أَنْفُسِكُمْ مِنَ
السَّيْفِ لِأَنَّ الْعَيْطَ مِنْ أَثَامِ السَّيْفِ. لِكَيْ تَعْلَمُوا مَا هُوَ
الْقَضَاءُ.

¹Then Job answered and said, ²How long will ye vex my soul, and break me in pieces with words? ³These ten times have ye reproached me: ye are not ashamed that ye make yourselves strange to me. ⁴And be it indeed that I have erred, mine error remaineth with myself. ⁵If indeed ye will magnify yourselves against me, and plead against me my reproach: ⁶Know now that God hath overthrown me, and hath compassed me with his net. ⁷Behold, I cry out of wrong, but I am not heard: I cry aloud, but there is no judgment. ⁸He hath fenced up my way that I cannot pass, and he hath set darkness in my paths. ⁹He hath stripped me of my glory, and taken the crown from my head. ¹⁰He hath destroyed me on every side, and I am gone: and mine hope hath he removed like a tree. ¹¹He hath also kindled his wrath against me, and he counteth me unto him as one of his enemies. ¹²His troops come together, and raise up their way against me, and encamp round about my tabernacle. ¹³He hath put my brethren far from me, and mine acquaintance are verily estranged from me. ¹⁴My kinsfolk have failed, and my familiar friends have forgotten me. ¹⁵They that dwell in mine house, and my maids, count me for a stranger: I am an alien in their sight. ¹⁶I called my servant, and he gave me no answer; I intreated him with my mouth. ¹⁷My breath is strange to my wife, though I intreated for the children's sake of mine own body. ¹⁸Yea, young children despised me; I arose, and they spake against me. ¹⁹All my inward friends abhorred me: and they whom I loved are

turned against me.²⁰ My bone cleaveth to my skin and to my flesh, and I am escaped with the skin of my teeth.²¹ Have pity upon me, have pity upon me, O ye my friends; for the hand of God hath touched me.²² Why do ye persecute me as God, and are not satisfied with my flesh?²³ Oh that my words were now written! oh that they were printed in a book!²⁴ That they were graven with an iron pen and lead in the rock for ever!²⁵ For I know that my redeemer liveth, and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth:²⁶ And though after my skin worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God:²⁷ Whom I shall see for myself, and mine eyes shall behold, and not another; though my reins be consumed within me.²⁸ But ye should say, Why persecute we him, seeing the root of the matter is found in me?²⁹ Be ye afraid of the sword: for wrath bringeth the punishments of the sword, that ye may know there is a judgment.