

¹قَالَ أَيُّوبُ، ²اسْمَعُوا قَوْلِي سَمْعًا، وَلْيَكُنْ هَذَا
تَعْرِيتُكُمْ. ³اخْتَمِلُونِي وَأَنَا أَتَكَلَّمُ، وَبَعْدَ كَلَامِي
اسْتَهْرِثُوا. ⁴أَمَّا أَنَا فَهَلْ سَكَوَاتِي مِنْ إِنْسَانٍ. وَإِنْ كَانَتْ،
فَلِمَاذَا لَا تَصِيقُ رُوحِي. ⁵تَقَرِّسُوا فِيَّ وَتَعَجَّبُوا وَصَعُوا الْيَدَ
عَلَى الْقَم. ⁶عِنْدَمَا أَتَذَكَّرُ أَزْتَاغُ، وَأَحَدْتُ بَشْرِي
رَعْدَةً. ⁷لِمَاذَا تَحْيَا الْأَشْرَارُ وَيَسْتَبِيحُونَ، نَعَمْ وَيَسْتَبْجِرُونَ
قُوَّةً. ⁸تَسْلُطُهُمْ قَائِمٌ أَمَامَهُمْ مَعَهُمْ، وَدُرِّبَتْهُمْ فِي
أَعْيُنِهِمْ. ⁹يَبُوتُهُمْ آمَنَةٌ مِنَ الْخَوْفِ وَلَيْسَ عَلَيْهِمْ عَصَا
اللَّهِ. ¹⁰تُورُهُمْ يُلْقِعُ وَلَا يُخْطِئُ. بَقَرُهُمْ تُنْجِ وَلَا
تُسْقِطُ. ¹¹يَسْرُحُونَ مِثْلَ الْقَتَمِ رُصَعَهُمْ، وَأَطْقَالُهُمْ
تَرْقُصُ. ¹²يَحْمِلُونَ الدَّفَّ وَالْعُودَ وَيَطْرَبُونَ بِصَوْتِ
الْمِزْمَارِ. ¹³يَقْضُونَ أَيَّامَهُمْ بِالْخَيْرِ. فِي لَحْظَةٍ يَهْبِطُونَ
إِلَى الْهَابِيَةِ. ¹⁴فَيَقُولُونَ لِلَّهِ، ابْنُدْ عَنَّا. وَمَعْرِفَةُ طَرِيقِكَ لَا
تُسَرُّ. ¹⁵مَنْ هُوَ الْقَدِيرُ حَتَّى تَعْبُدَهُ وَمَاذَا تَنْفَعُ إِنْ
الْتَمَسْتَاهُ. ¹⁶هُوَذَا لَيْسَ فِي يَدِهِمْ خَيْرُهُمْ. لَتَبْعُدَ عَنِّي
مَسُورَةُ الْأَشْرَارِ. ¹⁷كَمْ يَنْطَفِئُ سِرَاجُ الْأَشْرَارِ، وَيَأْتِي
عَلَيْهِمْ بَوَازُهُمْ، أَوْ يَفْسِمُ لَهُمْ أَوْجَاعًا فِي عَصِيهِ، ¹⁸أَوْ
يَكُونُونَ كَالْبَيْنِ قُدَّامَ الرِّيحِ وَكَالْعَصَاقَةِ الَّتِي تَسْرِفُهَا
الرَّوْبَعَةُ. ¹⁹اللَّهُ يَخْزِنُ إِنَّمَهُ لِنَبِيهِ. لِيُجَارِهِ تَفْسُهُ
فَيَعْلَمُ. ²⁰لَتَنْظُرَ عَيْنَاهُ هَلَاكَهُ وَمِنْ حُמَةِ الْقَدِيرِ
يَسْرُبُ. ²¹فَمَا هِيَ مَسَرَّتُهُ فِي بَيْتِهِ بَعْدَهُ، وَقَدْ تَعَيَّنَ عَدُوُّ
شُهورِهِ. ²²اللَّهُ يُعْلَمُ مَعْرِقَةً، وَهُوَ يَقْضِي عَلَى
الْعَالِينَ. ²³هَذَا يَمُوتُ فِي عَيْنِ كَمَالِهِ. كُلُّهُ مُطْمَئِنٌّ
وَسَاكِنٌ. ²⁴أَحْوَاضُهُ مَلَأَتْهُ لَبَنًا، وَمُخَّ عِظَامِهِ طَرِيٌّ. ²⁵وَذَلِكَ
يَمُوتُ بِنَفْسٍ مَرَّةٍ وَلَمْ يَذُقْ خَيْرًا. ²⁶كِلَاهُمَا يَصْطَلِحَانِ
مَعًا فِي الثَّرَابِ وَالذُّودُ يَغْسَاهُمَا. ²⁷هُوَذَا قَدْ عَلِمْتُ
أَفْكَارَكُمْ وَالنَّبَاتِ الَّتِي بِهَا تَطْلُمُونَنِي. ²⁸لَا تَكُمُ تَقُولُونَ،
أَيْنَ يَبْتُ الْعَابِي وَأَيْنَ حَيْمَةُ مَسَاكِينِ الْأَشْرَارِ. ²⁹أَقَلَّمُ
تَسْأَلُوا غَايِرِي السَّبِيلِ وَلَمْ تَقْطُنُوا لِدَلَالِهِمْ. ³⁰إِنَّهُ لَيَوْمُ
الْبُورِ يُمْسِكُ الشَّرِيرُ. لَيَوْمِ السَّحْطِ يُقَادُونَ. ³¹مَنْ يُغْلِي
طَرِيقَهُ لَوَجْهِهِ، وَمَنْ يُجَارِيهِ عَلَى مَا عَمِلَ. ³²هُوَ إِلَى
الْفُجُورِ يُقَادُ، وَعَلَى الْمَدَقِّ يُسْهَرُ. ³³خُلُو لَهُ طِينُ الْوَادِي.
يَرْخَفُ كُلُّ إِنْسَانٍ وَرَاءَهُ، وَقُدَّامَهُ مَا لَا عَدَدَ لَهُ. ³⁴فَكَيْفَ
تُعْرَوْنِي بِاطِلًا وَأَجُوبُكُمْ بِقِيَّتِ حَيَاتِهِ..

¹But Job answered and said, ²Hear diligently my speech, and let this be your consolations. ³Suffer me that I may speak; and after that I have spoken, mock on. ⁴As for me, is my complaint to man? and if it were so, why should not my spirit be troubled? ⁵Mark me, and be astonished, and lay your hand upon your mouth. ⁶Even when I remember I am afraid, and trembling taketh hold on my flesh. ⁷Wherefore do the wicked live, become old, yea, are mighty in power? ⁸Their seed is established in their sight with them, and their offspring before their eyes. ⁹Their houses are safe from fear, neither is the rod of God upon them. ¹⁰Their bull gendereth, and faileth not; their cow calveth, and casteth not her calf. ¹¹They send forth their little ones like a flock, and their children dance. ¹²They take the timbrel and harp, and rejoice at the sound of the organ. ¹³They spend their days in wealth, and in a moment go down to the grave. ¹⁴Therefore they say unto God, Depart from us; for we desire not the knowledge of thy ways. ¹⁵What is the Almighty, that we should serve him? and what profit should we have, if we pray unto him? ¹⁶Lo, their good is not in their hand: the counsel of the wicked is far from me. ¹⁷How oft is the candle of the wicked put out! and how oft cometh their destruction upon them! God distributeth sorrows in his anger. ¹⁸They are as stubble before the wind, and as chaff that the storm carrieth away. ¹⁹God layeth up his iniquity for his children: he rewardeth him, and he shall know it. ²⁰His eyes shall see

his destruction, and he shall drink of the wrath of the Almighty.²¹ For what pleasure hath he in his house after him, when the number of his months is cut off in the midst?²² Shall any teach God knowledge? seeing he judgeth those that are high.²³ One dieth in his full strength, being wholly at ease and quiet.²⁴ His breasts are full of milk, and his bones are moistened with marrow.²⁵ And another dieth in the bitterness of his soul, and never eateth with pleasure.²⁶ They shall lie down alike in the dust, and the worms shall cover them.²⁷ Behold, I know your thoughts, and the devices which ye wrongfully imagine against me.²⁸ For ye say, Where is the house of the prince? and where are the dwelling places of the wicked?²⁹ Have ye not asked them that go by the way? and do ye not know their tokens,³⁰ That the wicked is reserved to the day of destruction? they shall be brought forth to the day of wrath.³¹ Who shall declare his way to his face? and who shall repay him what he hath done?³² Yet shall he be brought to the grave, and shall remain in the tomb.³³ The clods of the valley shall be sweet unto him, and every man shall draw after him, as there are innumerable before him.³⁴ How then comfort ye me in vain, seeing in your answers there remaineth falsehood?