

<sup>1</sup>وَعَادَ أَيُّوبُ يَنْطِقُ بِمَثَلِهِ فَقَالَ، <sup>2</sup>يَا لَيْتَنِي كَمَا فِي الشُّهُورِ السَّالِفَةِ وَكَالْأَيَّامِ الَّتِي حَفِطَنِي اللَّهُ فِيهَا، <sup>3</sup>حِينَ أَضَاءَ سِرَاجُهُ عَلَى رَأْسِي وَبُورِهِ سَلَكَتُ الظُّلْمَةَ. <sup>4</sup>كَمَا كُنْتُ فِي أَيَّامٍ حَرِيفِي وَرِضَا اللَّهِ عَلَى خِيَمَتِي، <sup>5</sup>وَالْقَدِيرُ بَعْدَ مَعِي وَحَوْلِي غُلَمَائِي، <sup>6</sup>إِذْ عَسَلْتُ خُطَوَاتِي بِاللَّيْلِ، وَالصَّخْرُ سَكَبَ لِي جَدَاوِلَ رَبِّتٍ. <sup>7</sup>حِينَ كُنْتُ أَخْرُجُ إِلَى الْبَابِ فِي الْقَرْيَةِ وَأَهْبِي فِي السَّاحَةِ مَجْلِسِي. <sup>8</sup>رَأَيْتُ الْعُلَمَاءَ فَاخْتَبَأُوا، وَالْأَشْيَاحَ قَامُوا وَوَقَفُوا. <sup>9</sup>الْعُطَمَاءُ أَمْسَكُوا عَنِ الْكَلَامِ وَوَضَعُوا أَيْدِيَهُمْ عَلَى أَفْوَاهِهِمْ. <sup>10</sup>صَوْتُ الشُّرَفَاءِ اخْتَفَى وَلَصِقَتْ أَلْسِنَتُهُمْ بِأَخْطَاكِهِمْ. <sup>11</sup>لَأَنَّ الْأُذُنَ سَمِعَتْ قَطْوَتِي، وَالْعَيْنُ رَأَتْ فَشْهَدَتْ لِي. <sup>12</sup>لَأَنِّي أَتَقَدَّتُ الْمِسْكِينَ الْمُسْتَغِيثِ وَالْيَتِيمَ وَلَا مُعِينَ لَهُ. <sup>13</sup>بَرَكَتُهُ الْهَالِكُ خَلَتْ عَنِّي، وَجَعَلْتُ قَلْبَ الْأَرْمَلَةِ يَسْتَرْ. <sup>14</sup>لَيْسَتْ أَلِيَّ فَكَسَانِي. كَجَنَّةٍ وَعِصَامَةٍ كَانَ عَذْلِي. <sup>15</sup>كُنْتُ غُبُونًا لِلْعُمَمِيِّ وَأَرْجُلًا لِلْعُجُرْجِ. <sup>16</sup>أَبُ أَنَا لِلْفُقَرَاءِ، وَدَعَوَى لَمْ أَعْرِفْهَا فَخَصْتُ عَنْهَا. <sup>17</sup>هَشَمْتُ أَصْرَاسَ الطَّالِمِ وَمِنْ بَيْنِ أَسْنَانِيهِ حَطَفْتُ الْقَرِيسَةَ. <sup>18</sup>فَقُلْتُ، إِنِّي فِي وَكْرِي أَسْلَمَ الرُّوحُ، وَمِثْلَ السَّمْنَدِلِ أَكْثَرُ أَيَّامًا. <sup>19</sup>أَضْلِي كَانَ مُنْبَسِطًا إِلَى الْمِيَاهِ، وَالطَّلُّ بَاتَ عَلَى أَغْصَانِي. <sup>20</sup>كَرَامَتِي بَقِيَتْ حَذِيئَةً عِنْدِي، وَقَوْسِي تَجَدَّدَتْ فِي يَدِي. <sup>21</sup>لِي سَمِعُوا وَانْتَضَرُّوا، وَبَصُّوا عِنْدَ مَسُورَتِي. <sup>22</sup>بَعْدَ كَلَامِي لَمْ يُتَنُوا وَقَوْلِي قَطَرَ عَلَيْهِمْ. <sup>23</sup>وَانْتَضَرُّونِي مِثْلَ الْمَطَرِ، وَفَعَرُوا أَفْوَاهَهُمْ كَمَا لِلْمَطَرِ الْمُتَأَخَّرِ. <sup>24</sup>إِنْ صَجَكْتُ عَلَيْهِمْ لَمْ يُصَدِّقُوا وَبُورَ وَجْهِ لَمْ يُعَبِّسُوا. <sup>25</sup>كُنْتُ أَخْتَارُ طَرِيقَهُمْ وَأَجْلِسُ رَأْسًا وَأَسْكُنُ كَمَلِكٍ فِي جَيْشٍ كَمَنْ يُعَرِّي النَّاجِحِينَ.

<sup>1</sup>Moreover Job continued his parable, and said, <sup>2</sup>Oh that I were as in months past, as in the days when God preserved me; <sup>3</sup>When his candle shined upon my head, and when by his light I walked through darkness; <sup>4</sup>As I was in the days of my youth, when the secret of God was upon my tabernacle; <sup>5</sup>When the Almighty was yet with me, when my children were about me; <sup>6</sup>When I washed my steps with butter, and the rock poured me out rivers of oil; <sup>7</sup>When I went out to the gate through the city, when I prepared my seat in the street! <sup>8</sup>The young men saw me, and hid themselves: and the aged arose, and stood up. <sup>9</sup>The princes refrained talking, and laid their hand on their mouth. <sup>10</sup>The nobles held their peace, and their tongue cleaved to the roof of their mouth. <sup>11</sup>When the ear heard me, then it blessed me; and when the eye saw me, it gave witness to me: <sup>12</sup>Because I delivered the poor that cried, and the fatherless, and him that had none to help him. <sup>13</sup>The blessing of him that was ready to perish came upon me: and I caused the widow's heart to sing for joy. <sup>14</sup>I put on righteousness, and it clothed me: my judgment was as a robe and a diadem. <sup>15</sup>I was eyes to the blind, and feet was I to the lame. <sup>16</sup>I was a father to the poor: and the cause which I knew not I searched out. <sup>17</sup>And I brake the jaws of the wicked, and plucked the spoil out of his teeth. <sup>18</sup>Then I said, I shall die in my nest, and I shall multiply my days as the sand. <sup>19</sup>My root was spread out by the waters, and the dew lay all night upon my branch. <sup>20</sup>My glory was fresh in me, and my

bow was renewed in my hand.<sup>21</sup> Unto me men gave ear, and waited, and kept silence at my counsel.<sup>22</sup> After my words they spake not again; and my speech dropped upon them.<sup>23</sup> And they waited for me as for the rain; and they opened their mouth wide as for the latter rain.<sup>24</sup> If I laughed on them, they believed it not; and the light of my countenance they cast not down.<sup>25</sup> I chose out their way, and sat chief, and dwelt as a king in the army, as one that comforteth the mourners.