

¹فَأَجَابَ أَلِيفَازُ التِّمَانِيُّ،² إِنْ امْتَحَنَ أَحَدُ كَلِمَةٍ مَعَكَ فَهَلْ تَسْتَأْذِنُ. وَلَكِنْ مَنْ يَسْتَطِيعُ الْإِمْتِنَاعَ عَنِ الْكَلَامِ.³ هَا أَنْتَ قَدْ أُرْسَدْتَ كَثِيرِينَ وَشَدَدْتَ أَبَادِي مُرْتَجِيَةٍ.⁴ قَدْ أَقَامَ كَلَامُكَ الْعَازِرَ وَتَبَّتْ الرُّكْبُ الْمُرْتَعِشَةُ.⁵ وَالْآنَ إِذْ جَاءَ عَلَيْكَ صَحْرَتٌ. إِذْ مَسَّكَ ارْتَعْتَ.⁶ أَلَيْسَتْ تَقْوَاكَ هِيَ مُعْتَمِدَكَ وَزَجَاؤُكَ كَمَالَ طُرُقِكَ.⁷ أَذْكَرُ مِنْ هَلَكٍ وَهُوَ بَرِيءٌ، وَأَيُّنَ أَيْدِ الْمُسْتَقِيمُونَ.⁸ كَمَا قَدْ رَأَيْتَ أَنَّ الْخَارِئِينَ إِنَّمَا وَالزَّرَارِعِينَ شَقَاوَةٌ يَخْضَعُونَ لَهَا. يَتَسَمَّيَنَّ اللَّهُ يَبِيدُونَ وَيَرِيحُ أُنْفِهِ يَقْتُونَ.¹⁰ رَمَجَرَهُ الْأَسَدُ وَصَوْتُ الزَّرِيرِ وَأُتِيَ بِالْأَشْيَالِ تَكْسَّرَتْ.¹¹ أَلَيْسَتْ هَالِكٌ لِعَدَمِ الْفَرِيسَةِ وَأَسْبَالُ اللَّبْوَةِ تَبَدَّدَتْ.¹² ثُمَّ إِلَيَّ تَسَلَّلَتْ كَلِمَةُ فَقِيلَتْ أَذْنِي مِنْهَا هَمْسًا.¹³ فِي الْهَوَاجِسِ مِنْ رُؤَى اللَّيْلِ عِنْدَ وَفُوعِ سُبَاتٍ عَلَى النَّاسِ¹⁴ أَصَابَنِي رُغْبٌ وَرَعْدَةٌ، فَزَجَعَتْ كُلُّ عِظَامِي.¹⁵ قَمَرْتُ رُوحٌ عَلَى وَجْهِي. أَفْسَعَرَّ سَعَرُ جَسَدِي.¹⁶ وَقَفْتُ وَلَكِنِّي لَمْ أَعْرِفْ مَنْظَرَهَا. شَبَّهْتُ قُدَّامَ عَيْنِي. سَمِعْتُ صَوْتًا مُنْخَفِضًا،¹⁷ الْإِنْسَانُ أَهْرٌ مِنَ اللَّهِ، أَمْ الرَّجُلُ أَطْهَرُ مِنْ خَالِفِهِ.¹⁸ هُوَذَا عَبِيدُهُ لَا يَأْتِمُنُهُمْ وَإِلَى مَلَائِكَتِهِ يَنْسِبُ حَمَاقَةً.¹⁹ فَكَمْ بِالْحَرِيِّ سُكَّانُ بُيُوتٍ مِنْ طِينِ الَّذِينَ أَسَاسُهُمْ فِي التَّرَابِ وَيُسْحَقُونَ مِثْلَ الْعُتَّةِ.²⁰ بَيْنَ الصَّبَاحِ وَالْمَسَاءِ يُحَطَّمُونَ. يَذُونَ مُنْتَبِهِ إِلَيْهِمْ إِلَى الْأَبَدِ يَبِيدُونَ.²¹ أَمَا انْتَرَعَتْ جِبَالُ حَيَاتِهِمْ. يَمُوتُونَ بِلَا حِكْمَةٍ.

¹Then Eliphaz the Temanite answered and said,²If we assay to commune with thee, wilt thou be grieved? but who can withhold himself from speaking?³Behold, thou hast instructed many, and thou hast strengthened the weak hands.⁴Thy words have upholden him that was falling, and thou hast strengthened the feeble knees.⁵But now it is come upon thee, and thou faintest; it toucheth thee, and thou art troubled.⁶Is not this thy fear, thy confidence, thy hope, and the uprightness of thy ways?⁷Remember, I pray thee, who ever perished, being innocent? or where were the righteous cut off?⁸Even as I have seen, they that plow iniquity, and sow wickedness, reap the same.⁹By the blast of God they perish, and by the breath of his nostrils are they consumed.¹⁰The roaring of the lion, and the voice of the fierce lion, and the teeth of the young lions, are broken.¹¹The old lion perisheth for lack of prey, and the stout lion's whelps are scattered abroad.¹²Now a thing was secretly brought to me, and mine ear received a little thereof.¹³In thoughts from the visions of the night, when deep sleep falleth on men,¹⁴Fear came upon me, and trembling, which made all my bones to shake.¹⁵Then a spirit passed before my face; the hair of my flesh stood up:¹⁶It stood still, but I could not discern the form thereof: an image was before mine eyes, there was silence, and I heard a voice, saying,¹⁷Shall mortal man be more just than God? shall a man be more pure than his maker?¹⁸Behold, he put no trust in his servants; and his angels he charged with

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folly:¹⁹ How much less in them that dwell in houses of clay, whose foundation is in the dust, which are crushed before the moth?²⁰ They are destroyed from morning to evening: they perish for ever without any regarding it .²¹ Doth not their excellency which is in them go away? they die, even without wisdom.