

¹The burden which Habakkuk the prophet did see.²O LORD, how long shall I cry, and thou wilt not hear! even cry out unto thee of violence, and thou wilt not save!³Why dost thou shew me iniquity, and cause me to behold grievance? for spoiling and violence are before me: and there are that raise up strife and contention.⁴Therefore the law is slacked, and judgment doth never go forth: for the wicked doth compass about the righteous; therefore wrong judgment proceedeth.⁵Behold ye among the heathen, and regard, and wonder marvellously: for I will work a work in your days, which ye will not believe, though it be told you.⁶For, lo, I raise up the Chaldeans, that bitter and hasty nation, which shall march through the breadth of the land, to possess the dwellingplaces that are not theirs.⁷They are terrible and dreadful: their judgment and their dignity shall proceed of themselves.⁸Their horses also are swifter than the leopards, and are more fierce than the evening wolves: and their horsemen shall spread themselves, and their horsemen shall come from far; they shall fly as the eagle that hasteth to eat.⁹They shall come all for violence: their faces shall sup up as the east wind, and they shall gather the captivity as the sand.¹⁰And they shall scoff at the kings, and the princes shall be a scorn unto them: they shall deride every strong hold; for they shall heap dust, and take it.¹¹Then shall his mind change, and he shall pass over, and offend, imputing this his power unto his god.¹²Art thou not from everlasting, O LORD my God, mine Holy

¹الْوَحْيُ الَّذِي رَأَاهُ حَبَقُّوּكُ النَّبِيُّ،²حَتَّى مَتَى يَا رَبُّ أَذْعُو وَأَنْتَ لَا تَسْمَعُ. أَصْرُحُ إِلَيْكَ مِنَ الظُّلْمِ وَأَنْتَ لَا تُخَلِّصُ.³لِمَ تُرِينِي إِثْمًا، وَتُبْصِرُ جَوْرًا، وَقُدَّامِي اغْتِنَابٌ وَظُلْمٌ وَتَحْدُثُ خِصَامٌ وَتَرْفَعُ الْمُخَاصِمَةُ نَفْسَهَا. لِذَلِكَ جَمَدَتِ السَّرِيعَةُ وَلَا يَخْرُجُ الْحُكْمُ بَنَةً، لِأَنَّ السَّرِيرَ يُحِيطُ بِالصَّدِيقِ، فَلِذَلِكَ يَخْرُجُ الْحُكْمُ مُعَوَّجًا.⁵انْظُرُوا بَيْنَ الْأُمَمِ وَأَبْصِرُوا وَتَحَبَّرُوا حَبْرَةً. لِأَنِّي عَامِلٌ عَمَلًا فِي أَيَّامِكُمْ لَا تُصَدِّقُونَ بِهِ إِنْ أُخْبِرَ بِهِ. فَهَنَذَا مُقِيمُ الْكِلْدَانِيِّينَ الْأُمَّةَ الْمُرَّةَ الْقَاحِمَةَ السَّالِكَةَ فِي رَحَابِ الْأَرْضِ لِمَمْلِكَةِ مَسَاكِينَ لَيْسَتْ لَهَا.⁷هِيَ هَائِلَةٌ وَمَخُوفَةٌ. مِنْ قَبْلِ نَفْسِهَا يَخْرُجُ حُكْمُهَا وَخِلَافُهَا.⁸وَحَيْلُهَا أَسْرَعُ مِنَ الثُّمُورِ وَأَخَذُ مِنْ ذَنَابِ الْمَسَاءِ، وَفُزْسَانُهَا يَنْتَشِرُونَ وَيَأْتُونَ مِنْ بَعِيدٍ، وَيَطِيرُونَ كَالنَّسْرِ الْمُسْرِعِ إِلَى الْأَكْلِ.⁹يَأْتُونَ كُلُّهُمْ لِلظُّلْمِ. مَنَظَرُ وُجُوهِهِمْ إِلَى قُدَّامٍ، وَيَجْمَعُونَ سَبِيًّا كَالرَّمْلِ.¹⁰وَهِيَ تَسْحَرُ مِنَ الْمُلُوكِ، وَالرُّؤُسَاءُ ضَحْكُهُ لَهَا. وَتَضْحَكُ عَلَى كُلِّ حِصْنٍ وَتُكْوِمُ الثَّرَابَ وَتَأْخُذُهُ.¹¹ثُمَّ تَتَعَدَّى رُوحُهَا فَتَعْبُرُ وَتَأْتِي. هَذِهِ قُوَّتُهَا إِلَهُهَا.¹²أَلَسْتُ أَنْتَ مُنْذُ الْأَزَلِ يَا رَبُّ إِلَهِي قُدُّوسِي. لَا تَمُوتُ. يَا رَبُّ لِلْحُكْمِ جَعَلْتُهَا، وَيَا صَحْرُ لِلتَّائِيْبِ أَسَسْتُهَا.¹³عَيْنَاكَ أَطْهَرُ مِنْ أَنْ تَنْظُرَا السَّرَّ، وَلَا تَسْتَطِيعَ النَّظَرُ إِلَى الْجَوْرِ، فَلِمَ تَنْظُرُ إِلَى التَّاهِيَيْنِ، وَتَضْمُنُ حِينَ يَبْلُغُ السَّرِيرُ مَنْ هُوَ أَبْرُ مِنْهُ.¹⁴وَتَجْعَلُ النَّاسَ كَسَمَكِ الْبَحْرِ، كَذَبَابَاتٍ لَا سُلْطَانَ لَهَا.¹⁵تُطْلِعُ الْكُلَّ بِشِصَّهَا وَتَصْطَادُهُمْ بِشَبَكَيْهَا وَتَجْمَعُهُمْ فِي مِصِيدَتِهَا، فَلِذَلِكَ تَفْرُغُ وَتَبْهَجُ.¹⁶لِذَلِكَ تَدْبَحُ لِشَبَكَيْهَا وَتُبْخَرُ لِمِصِيدَتِهَا، لِأَنَّهُ بِهِمَا سَمِنَ تَصِيْبُهَا، وَطَعَامُهَا مُبَسَّمٌ.¹⁷أَفَلَا جِلْ هَذَا تَفْرَغُ شَبَكَيْهَا وَلَا تَعْفُو عَنْ قَتْلِ الْأُمَمِ دَائِمًا.

One? we shall not die. O LORD, thou hast ordained them for judgment; and, O mighty God, thou hast established them for correction.¹³ Thou art of purer eyes than to behold evil, and canst not look on iniquity: wherefore lookest thou upon them that deal treacherously, and holdest thy tongue when the wicked devoureth the man that is more righteous than he?¹⁴ And makest men as the fishes of the sea, as the creeping things, that have no ruler over them?¹⁵ They take up all of them with the angle, they catch them in their net, and gather them in their drag: therefore they rejoice and are glad.¹⁶ Therefore they sacrifice unto their net, and burn incense unto their drag; because by them their portion is fat, and their meat plenteous.¹⁷ Shall they therefore empty their net, and not spare continually to slay the nations?