

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

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