

¹Then Job answered and said, ²Even to day is my complaint bitter: my stroke is heavier than my groaning. ³Oh that I knew where I might find him! that I might come even to his seat! ⁴I would order my cause before him, and fill my mouth with arguments. ⁵I would know the words which he would answer me, and understand what he would say unto me. ⁶Will he plead against me with his great power? No; but he would put strength in me. ⁷There the righteous might dispute with him; so should I be delivered for ever from my judge. ⁸Behold, I go forward, but he is not there ; and backward, but I cannot perceive him: ⁹On the left hand, where he doth work, but I cannot behold him : he hideth himself on the right hand, that I cannot see him : ¹⁰But

he knoweth the way that I take: when he hath tried me, I shall come forth as gold. ¹¹My foot hath held his steps, his way have I kept, and not declined. ¹²Neither have I gone back from the commandment of his lips; I have esteemed the words of his mouth more than my necessary food . ¹³But he is in one mind , and who can turn him? and what his soul desireth, even that he doeth. ¹⁴For he performeth the thing that is appointed for me: and many such things are with him. ¹⁵Therefore am I troubled at his presence: when I consider, I am afraid of him. ¹⁶For God maketh my heart soft, and the Almighty troubleth me: ¹⁷Because I was not cut off before the darkness, neither hath he covered the darkness from my face.