

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.