

¹الْوَحْيُ الَّذِي رَأَى حَبَقُوكَ النَّبِيُّ، ²حَتَّى مَتَى يَا رَبُّ أَدْعُو
وَأَنْتَ لَا تَسْمَعُ. أَصْرُحُ إِلَيْكَ مِنَ الظُّلَمِ وَأَنْتَ لَا
تُخَلِّصُ. ³لِمَ تُرِينِي إِنْمَاءً، وَتُبْصِرُ جُورًا، وَقُدَّامِي اغْتِصَابُ
وِظْلَمٌ وَتَخْذُتُ خِصَامًا وَتَرْفَعُ الْمُخَاصِمَةَ نَفْسَهَا. ⁴لِذَلِكَ
خَمَدَتِ السَّرِيعَةُ وَلَا يَخْرُجُ الْحُكْمُ بَنَةً، لِأَنَّ السَّرِيرَ يُحِيطُ
بِالصَّدِيقِ، فَلِذَلِكَ يَخْرُجُ الْحُكْمُ مُعْوجًّا. ⁵أَنْظُرُوا بَيْنَ الْأُمَمِ
وَأَبْصُرُوا وَتَحَيَّرُوا خَيْرَةً. لَأَنِّي عَامِلٌ عَمَلًا فِي أَيَّامِكُمْ لَا
تُصَدِّقُونَ بِهِ إِنْ أَخْبِرَ بِهِ. ⁶فَهَتَّنَدَا مُقِيمِ الْكِلْدَانِيِّينَ الْأَمَّةَ
الْمُرَّةَ الْفَاجِمَةَ السَّالِكَةَ فِي رَحَابِ الْأَرْضِ لِنَمْلِكَ
مَسَاكِينَ لَيْسَتْ لَهَا. ⁷هِيَ هَائِلَةٌ وَمَخُوفَةٌ. مِنْ قِتْلِ نَفْسِهَا
يَخْرُجُ حُكْمُهَا وَجَلَالُهَا. ⁸وَحَلَّهَا أَسْرَعُ مِنَ الثُّمُورِ وَاحْدُ
مِنْ ذَنَابِ الْمَسَاءِ، وَفُزْسَانُهَا يَنْتَشِرُونَ وَيَأْتُونَ مِنْ بَعِيدٍ،
وَيَطِيرُونَ كَالنَّسْرِ الْمُسْرِعِ إِلَى الْأَكْلِ. ⁹يَأْتُونَ كُلُّهُمْ
لِلظُّلَمِ. مَنْظَرُ وُجُوهِهِمْ إِلَى قُدَّامٍ، وَيَجْمَعُونَ سَبِيًّا
كَالرَّمْلِ. ¹⁰وَهِيَ تَسْحَرُ مِنَ الْمُلُوكِ، وَالرُّؤَسَاءُ ضِحْكُهُ
لَهَا. وَتَضْحَكُ عَلَى كُلِّ حِصْنٍ وَتُكْوِمُ التُّرَابَ وَتَأْخُذُهُ. ¹¹ثُمَّ
تَعْدِي رُوحَهَا فَتَعْبُرُ وَتَأْتِي. هَذِهِ قُوَّتُهَا إِلَهٌهَا. ¹²أَلَسْتُ أَنْتَ
مُنْذُ الْأَزَلِ يَا رَبُّ إِلَهِي قُدُّوسِي. لَا تَمُوتُ. يَا رَبُّ لِلْحُكْمِ
جَعَلْتَهَا، وَبَا صَحْرُ اللَّتَاذِيبِ أَسَسْتَهَا. ¹³عَيْنَاكَ أَطَهَّرَ مِنْ أَنْ
تَنْظُرَ الشَّرَّ، وَلَا تَسْتَطِيعَ النَّظَرُ إِلَى الْجُورِ، فَلِمَ تَنْظُرُ
إِلَى الْثَّاهِيَيْنِ، وَتَضْمُنُ حِينَ يَبْلُغُ السَّرِيرُ مَنْ هُوَ أَبَرُّ
مِنْهُ. ¹⁴وَتَجْعَلُ النَّاسَ كَسَمَكِ الْبَحْرِ، كَذَبَابَاتٍ لَا سُلْطَانَ
لَهَا. ¹⁵تُطْلَعُ الْكُلَّ بِشِصَّهَا وَتَضْطَاذُهُمْ بِسَبْكِيهَا وَتَجْمَعُهُمْ
فِي مَضِيدَتِهَا، فَلِذَلِكَ تَفْرَحُ وَتَبْتَهِجُ. ¹⁶لِذَلِكَ تَذْبَحُ لِسَبْكِيهَا
وَتُبْحَرُ لِمَضِيدَتِهَا، لِأَنَّهُ بِهِمَا سَمِنَ تَصِيبُهَا، وَطَعَامُهَا
مُبَسَّمٌ. ¹⁷أَفَلَا جِلْ هَذَا تَفْرَعُ سَبْكِيهَا وَلَا تَعْفُو عَنْ قَتْلِ
الْأَمَمِ دَائِمًا.

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

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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?