

<sup>1</sup> Surely there is a vein for the silver, and a place for gold where they fine it. <sup>2</sup> Iron is taken out of the earth, and brass is molten out of the stone. <sup>3</sup> He setteth an end to darkness, and searcheth out all perfection: the stones of darkness, and the shadow of death. <sup>4</sup> The flood breaketh out from the inhabitant; even the waters forgotten of the foot: they are dried up, they are gone away from men. <sup>5</sup> As for the earth, out of it cometh bread: and under it is turned up as it were fire. <sup>6</sup> The stones of it are the place of sapphires: and it hath dust of gold. <sup>7</sup> There is a path which no fowl knoweth, and which the vulture's eye hath not seen: <sup>8</sup> The lion's whelps have not trodden it, nor the fierce lion passed by it. <sup>9</sup> He putteth forth his hand upon the rock; he overturneth the mountains by the roots. <sup>10</sup> He cutteth out rivers among the rocks; and his eye seeth every precious thing. <sup>11</sup> He bindeth the floods from overflowing; and the thing that is hid bringeth he forth to light. <sup>12</sup> But where shall wisdom be found? and where is the place of understanding? <sup>13</sup> Man knoweth not the price thereof; neither is it found in the land of the living. <sup>14</sup> The depth saith, It is not in me: and the sea saith, It is not with me. <sup>15</sup> It

cannot be gotten for gold, neither shall silver be weighed for the price thereof. <sup>16</sup> It cannot be valued with the gold of Ophir, with the precious onyx, or the sapphire. <sup>17</sup> The gold and the crystal cannot equal it: and the exchange of it shall not be for jewels of fine gold. <sup>18</sup> No mention shall be made of coral, or of pearls: for the price of wisdom is above rubies. <sup>19</sup> The topaz of Ethiopia shall not equal it, neither shall it be valued with pure gold. <sup>20</sup> Whence then cometh wisdom? and where is the place of understanding? <sup>21</sup> Seeing it is hid from the eyes of all living, and kept close from the fowls of the air. <sup>22</sup> Destruction and death say, We have heard the fame thereof with our ears. <sup>23</sup> God understandeth the way thereof, and he knoweth the place thereof. <sup>24</sup> For he looketh to the ends of the earth, and seeth under the whole heaven; <sup>25</sup> To make the weight for the winds; and he weigheth the waters by measure. <sup>26</sup> When he made a decree for the rain, and a way for the lightning of the thunder: <sup>27</sup> Then did he see it, and declare it; he prepared it, yea, and searched it out. <sup>28</sup> And unto man he said, Behold, the fear of the Lord, that is wisdom; and to depart from evil is understanding.