

JOB CHAPTER 12

¹ And Job answered and said, ² "So then you *alone* are men, and wisdom shall die with you? ³ *But* I also have a heart as well as you. ⁴ For a righteous and blameless man has become a subject for mockery. ⁵ For it had been ordained that he should fall under others at the appointed time, and that his houses should be spoiled by transgressors: however do not let anyone trust that, being evil, he shall be *held* guiltless, ⁶ even as many as provoke the Lord, as if there were indeed to be no inquisition made of them. ⁷ But ask now the beasts, if they may speak to you, and the birds of the air, if they may declare to you. ⁸ Tell the earth, if it may speak to you, and the fish of the sea shall explain to you. ⁹ Who then has not known in all these things, that the hand of the Lord has made them? ¹⁰ Seeing that the life of all living things is in His hand, and the breath of every man. ¹¹ For the ear tests words, and the palate tastes meats. ¹² In length of time is wisdom, and in long life knowledge. ¹³ With Him are wisdom and power, with Him counsel and understanding. ¹⁴ If He should cast down, who will build up? If He should shut up against man, who shall open? ¹⁵ If He should withhold the water, He will dry the earth: and if He should let it loose, He overthrows and destroys it. ¹⁶ With Him are strength and power: He has knowledge and understanding. ¹⁷ He leads counselors away captive, and maddens the judges of the earth. ¹⁸ He seats kings upon thrones, and binds their waist with a belt. ¹⁹ He sends away priests into captivity, and overthrows the mighty ones of the earth. ²⁰ He changes the lips of the trusty, and He knows the understanding of the elders. ²¹ He pours dishonor upon princes, and heals the lowly. ²² Revealing deep things out of darkness: and He has brought into light the shadow of death. ²³ Causing the nations to wander, and destroying them: overthrowing the nations, and leading them away. ²⁴ Perplexing the minds of the princes of the earth, and He causes them to wander in a way, they have not known, *saying*, ²⁵ Let them grope *in* darkness, and *let there be* no light, and let them wander as a drunken man.