

JOB CHAPTER 20

¹ Then Zophar the Minaean answered and said, ² "I did not suppose that you would answer this way: neither do you understand more than I. ³ I will hear my shameful reproach, and the spirit of my understanding answers me. ⁴ Have you *not* known these things of old, from the time that man was set upon the earth? ⁵ But the rejoicing of the ungodly *is* death, and the joy of transgressors *is* destruction: ⁶ although his gifts should go up to heaven, and his sacrifice reach the clouds. ⁷ For when he shall seem to be established, then he shall utterly perish, and those that knew him shall say, 'Where is he?' ⁸ Like a dream that has fled away, he shall not be found; and he has fled like a vision of the night. ⁹ The eye has looked upon him, but shall not *see him* again; and his place shall no longer perceive him. ¹⁰ Let *his* inferiors destroy his children, and let his hands kindle the fire of sorrow. ¹¹ His bones have been filled with the *vigor* of his youth, and it shall lie down with him in the dust. ¹² Though evil be sweet in his mouth, though he will hide it under his tongue; ¹³ though he will not spare it, and will not leave it, but will keep it in the midst of his throat: ¹⁴ yet he shall by no means be able to help himself; the gall of an asp is in his belly. ¹⁵ *His* wealth unjustly collected shall be vomited up; a messenger of *wrath* shall drag him out of his house. ¹⁶ And let him suck the poison of serpents, and let the serpent's tongue slay him. ¹⁷ Let him not see the milk of the pastures, nor the supplies of honey and butter. ¹⁸ He has labored unprofitably and in vain, for wealth of which he shall not taste: it is as a lean thing, unfit for food, which he cannot swallow. ¹⁹ For he has broken down the houses of many mighty men, and he has plundered a house, though he did not build it. ²⁰ There is no security to his possessions; he shall not be saved by his desire. ²¹ There is nothing remaining of his provisions, therefore his goods shall not flourish. ²² But when he shall seem to be satisfied, he shall be afflicted; and all distress shall come upon him. ²³ If by any means he would fill his belly, let *God* send upon him the fury of wrath; let Him bring a torrent of pains upon him. ²⁴ And he shall by no means escape from the power of the sword; let the bronze bow wound him. ²⁵ And let the arrow pierce through his body; and let the stars be against his dwelling-place: let terrors come upon him. ²⁶ And let all darkness wait for him: an unfanned fire shall consume him, and let a stranger plague his house. ²⁷ And let the heavens reveal his iniquities, and the earth rise up against him. ²⁸ Let destruction bring his house to an end; let a day of wrath come upon him. ²⁹ This is the portion of an ungodly man from the Lord, and the possession of his goods *appointed him* by the all-seeing *God*."