

JOB CHAPTER 21

¹ But Job answered and said, ² "Listen, listen to my words, that I may not have this consolation from you. ³ Raise me, and I will speak; then you shall not laugh me to scorn. ⁴ What! Is my reproof from man? And why should I not be angry? ⁵ Look upon me and wonder, laying your hand upon your cheek. ⁶ For even when I remember, I am alarmed, and pains seize my flesh. ⁷ Why do the ungodly live, and grow old even in wealth? ⁸ Their seed is according to *their* desire, and their children are in *their* sight. ⁹ Their houses are prosperous, and safe from fear, neither is the rod of the Lord upon them. ¹⁰ Their cow does not cast her calf, and their *beast* with young is safe, and does not miscarry. ¹¹ And they remain as an unfailing flock, and their children play before *them*, taking up the psaltery and harp; ¹² and they rejoice at the voice of a song. ¹³ And they spend their days in wealth, and fall asleep in the rest of the grave. ¹⁴ Yet *such a man* says to the Lord, 'Depart from me; I desire not to know Your ways.' ¹⁵ What is the Mighty One, that we should serve Him? And what profit is there that we should approach Him? ¹⁶ For their good things were in *their* hands, but He does not regard the works of the ungodly.

¹⁷ "Nevertheless, the lamp of the ungodly also shall be put out, and destruction shall come upon them, and pangs of vengeance shall seize them. ¹⁸ And they shall be as chaff before the wind, or as dust which the storm has taken up. ¹⁹ Let his substance fail to *supply* his children: God shall recompense him, and he shall know it. ²⁰ Let his eyes see his own destruction, and let him not be saved by the Lord. ²¹ For his desire is in his house with him, and the number of his months has been suddenly cut off.

²² "Is it not the Lord who teaches understanding and knowledge? And does He not judge murders? ²³ One shall die in his perfect strength, and wholly at ease and prosperous; ²⁴ and his inwards are full of fat, and his marrow is diffused *throughout him*. ²⁵ And another dies in bitterness of soul, not eating any good thing. ²⁶ But they lie down in the dust together, and corruption covers them. ²⁷ So I know you, that you presumptuously attack me, ²⁸ so that you will say, 'Where is the house of the prince? And where is the covering of the tabernacles of the ungodly?' ²⁹ Ask those that go by the way, and do not disown their tokens. ³⁰ For the wicked hastens to the day of destruction: they shall be led away for the day of His vengeance. ³¹ Who will tell him his way to his face, since he has done it? Who shall recompense him? ³² And he has been led away to the tombs, and he has watched over the heaps. ³³ The stones of the valley have been sweet to him, and every man shall depart after him, and *there are* innumerable *ones* before him. ³⁴ How then do you comfort me in vain? Since I have no rest from your molestation."