

JOB CHAPTER 23

¹ Then Job answered and said, ² "Yes, I know that pleading is out of my reach; and His hand has been made heavy upon my groaning. ³ Oh, that I knew where I might find Him, and come to an end *of the matter!* ⁴ And I would plead my own cause, and He would fill my mouth with arguments. ⁵ And I would know the remedies which He would speak to me, and I would perceive what He would tell me. ⁶ Though He should come on me in His great strength, then He would not threaten me; ⁷ for truth and reproof are from Him, and He would bring forth my judgment to an end. ⁸ For if I shall go first, and exist no longer, still what do I know *concerning* the latter end? ⁹ When He worked on the left hand, then I did not observe it: His right hand shall encompass me but I shall not see it. ¹⁰ For He already knows my way, and He has tried me as gold. ¹¹ And I will go forth according to His commandments, for I have kept His ways; and I shall not turn aside from His commandments, ¹² neither shall I transgress; but I have hid His words in my bosom. ¹³ And if He too has thus judged, who is he that has contradicted, for He has both willed a thing and done it.

¹⁴ (This verse omitted in the LXX)

¹⁵ Therefore am I troubled at Him; and when I was reprov'd, I thought of Him. Therefore let me take good heed before Him: I will consider, and be terrified of Him. ¹⁶ But the Lord has softened my heart, and the Almighty has troubled me. ¹⁷ For I knew not that darkness would come upon me, and thick darkness has covered me before my face.