

Daniel Jeremy Silver Collection Digitization Project

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Research notes, Job, notes, undated.

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He will most surely expose you if you take his part by falsely accusing me.

Will not God's majesty strike you with dread, and terror of him overwhelm you?

- Your pompous talk is dust and ashes, your defences will crumble like clay.
- Be silent, leave me to speak my mind, and let what may come upon me!

I will put my neck in the noose and take my life in my hands.

If he would slay me, I should not hesitate; I should still argue my cause to his face.

This at least assures my success, that no godless man may appear before him.

Listen then, listen to my words, and give a hearing to my exposition.

Be sure of this: once I have stated my case I know that I shall be acquitted.

Who is there that can argue so forcibly with me that he could reduce me straightway to silence and death?

20 Grant me these two conditions only, and then I will not hide myself out of thy sight:

take thy heavy hand clean away from me and let not the fear of thee strike me with dread.

Then summon me, and I will answer; or I will speak first, and do thou answer me.

How many iniquities and sins are laid to my charge? let me know my offences and my sin.

Why dost thou hide thy face and treat me as thy enemy?

Wilt thou chase a driven leaf, wilt thou pursue dry chaff,

26 prescribing punishment for me and making me heir to the iniquities of my youth,

putting my feet in the stocks a and setting a slave-mark on the arches of my feet?

14 Man born of woman is short-lived and full of disquiet.

He blossoms like a flower and then he withers; he slips away like a shadow and does not stay; he is like a wine-skin that perishes or a garment that moths have eaten.

Dost thou fix thine eyes on such a creature, and wilt thou bring him into court to confront thee? d

Prob. rdg.; Heb. adds keeping a close watch on all I do.

b Prob. rdg.; Heb. adds

verse 28, he is like . . . have eaten, now transposed to follow 14. 2.

c he is like . . .

have eaten: 13. 28 transposed here.

d So one Heb. MS.; others add (4) Who can

produce pure out of unclean? No one.

The days of his life are determined, and the number of his months is known to thee; thou hast laid down a limit, which he cannot pass. Look away from him therefore and leave him alone	5
counting the hours day by day like a hired labourer.	
If a tree is cut down, there is hope that it will sprout again and fresh shoots will not fail.	7
Though its roots grow old in the earth, and its stump is dying in the ground,	8
if it scents water it may break into bud and make new growth like a young plant.	9
But a man dies, and he disappears; a man comes to his end, and where is he?	10
As the waters of a lake dwindle, or as a river shrinks and runs dry,	11
so mortal man lies down, never to rise until the very sky splits open.	12
If a man dies, can he live again? b He shall never be roused from his sleep.	
If only thou wouldst hide me in Sheol	
and conceal me till thy anger turns aside,	13
if thou wouldst fix a limit for my time there, and then remember me!	
Then I would not lose hope, however long my service,	14
waiting for my relief to come.	
Thou wouldst summon me, and I would answer thee;	15
thou wouldst long to see the creature thou hast made.	-
But now thou dost count every step I take,	16
watching all my course.	
Every offence of mine is stored in thy bag;	17
thou dost keep my iniquity under seal.	
Yet as a falling mountain-side is swept away,	18
and a rock is dislodged from its place,	
as water wears away stones,	19
and a rain-storm scours the soil from the land,	
so thou hast wiped out the hope of frail man;	
thou dost overpower him finally, and he is gone;	20
his face is changed, and he is banished from thy sight.	
His flesh upon him becomes black,	22 d
and his life-blood dries up within him.	
His sons rise to honour, and he sees nothing of it; they sink into obscurity, and he knows it not.	21

a Or and is powerless. b Line transposed from beginning of verse 14. c See note on verse 12. d Verses 21 and 22 transposed. e His flesh . . . within him: or His own kin, maybe, regret him, and his slaves mourn his loss.

In God's hand are the souls of all that live,	10
the spirits of all human kind.	
Wisdom and might are his,	13
with him are firmness and understanding. If he pulls down, there is no rebuilding;	
if he imprisons, there is no release.	14
If he holds up the waters, there is drought;	15
if he lets them go, they turn the land upside down.	
Strength and success belong to him, deceived and deceiver are his to use.	16
He makes counsellors behave like idiots	17
and drives judges mad;	
he looses the bonds imposed by kings	18
and removes the girdle of office from their waists;	
he makes priests behave like idiots and overthrows men long in office;	19
those who are trusted he strikes dumb,	20
he takes away the judgement of old men;	
he heaps scorn on princes	21
and abates the arrogance of nobles.	230
He leads peoples astray and destroys them, he lays them low, and there they lie.	-3
He takes away their wisdom from the rulers of the nations	24
and leaves them wandering in a pathless wilderness;	
they grope in the darkness without light and are left to wander like a drunkard.	25
He uncovers mysteries deep in obscurity	22
and into thick darkness he brings light.	-
All this I have seen with my own eyes,	13
with my own ears I have heard it, and understood it.	10
What you know, I also know;	2
in nothing do I fall short of you.	
But for my part I would speak with the Almighty and am ready to argue with God,	3
while you like fools are smearing truth with your falsehoods,	4
stitching a patchwork of lies, one and all.	
Ah, if you would only be silent	5
and let silence be your wisdom! Now listen to my arguments	
and attend while I put my case.	6
Is it on God's behalf that you speak so wickedly,	7
or in his defence that you allege what is false?	
Must you take God's part, or put his case for him?	8
Will all be well when he examines you?	0
Will you quibble with him as you quibble with a man?	

O Verse 22 transposed to follow verse 25.

Second cycle of speeches

15 Then Eliphaz the Temanite answered:

Would a man of sense give vent to such foolish notions and answer with a bellyful of wind?

3 Would he bandy useless words and arguments so unprofitable?

Why! you even banish the fear of God from your mind, usurping the sole right to speak in his presence;

your iniquity dictates what you say, and deceit is the language of your choice.

- You are condemned out of your own mouth, not by me; your own lips give evidence against you.
- 7 Were you born first of mankind? were you brought forth before the hills?

8 Do you listen in God's secret council or usurp all wisdom for yourself alone?

- What do you know that we do not know? What insight have you that we do not share?
- We have age and white hairs in our company, men older than your father.
- Does not the consolation of God suffice you, a word whispered quietly in your ear?
- What makes you so bold at heart, and why do your eyes flash,

13 that you vent your anger on God and pour out such a torrent of words?

What is frail man that he should be innocent, or any child of woman that he should be justified?

If God puts no trust in his holy ones, and the heavens are not innocent in his sight,

- 16 how much less so is man, who is loathsome and rotten and laps up evil like water!
- I will tell you, if only you will listen, and I will describe what I have seen
- [what has been handed down by wise men and was not concealed from them by their fathers;

19 to them alone the land was given, and no foreigner settled among them]:

- the wicked are racked with anxiety all their days, the ruthless man for all the years in store for him.
- The noise of the hunter's scare rings in his ears, and in time of peace the raider falls on him;
- he cannot hope to escape from dark death; he is marked down for the sword;

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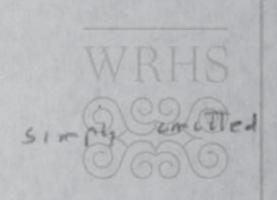
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which turn dark with ice or are hidden with piled-up snow;

or they vanish the moment they are in spate,

dwindle in the heat and are gone.

Then the caravans, winding hither and thither, go up into the wilderness and perish; a

the caravans of Tema look for their waters, travelling merchants of Sheba hope for them;

but they are disappointed, for all their confidence, they reach them only to be balked.

So treacherous have you now been to me: b you felt dismay and were afraid.

Did I ever say, Give me this or that; open your purses to save my life;

rescue me from my enemy; ransom me out of the hands of ruthless men'?

Tell me plainly, and I will listen in silence; show me where I have erred.

25 How harsh are the words of the upright man! What do the arguments of wise men prove?

Do you mean to argue about words or to sift the utterance of a man past hope?

Would you assail an orphand?
Would you hurl yourselves on a friend?

So now, I beg you, turn and look at me:
am I likely to lie to your faces?

Think again, let me have no more injustice; think again, for my integrity is in question.

Do I ever give voice to injustice?

Does my sense not warn me when my words are wild?

7 Has not man hard service on earth, and are not his days like those of a hired labourer,

like those of a slave longing for the shade or a servant kept waiting for his wages?

So months of futility are my portion, troubled nights are my lot.

When I lie down, I think,

'When will it be day that I may rise?'

When the evening grows long and I lie down,
I do nothing but toss till morning twilight.

My body is infested with worms, and scabs cover my skin.

6 My days are swifter than a shuttle f and come to an end as the thread runs out. 8

a Or and are lost.
b So... to me: prob. rdg.; Heb. obscure.
prob. rdg.; Heb. unintelligible.
d Or a blameless man.
Prob. rdg.; Heb. adds it is cracked and discharging.
f Or a fleeting odour.
g as... out: or without hope.

	Remember, my life is but a breath of wind;	7
	I shall never again see good days.	8
	Thou wilt behold me no more with a seeing eye; under thy very eyes I shall disappear.	0
	As clouds break up and disperse,	9
	so he that goes down to Sheol never comes back;	
	he never returns home again,	10
	and his place will know him no more. a	
	But I will not hold my peace;	11
	I will speak out in the distress of my mind	
	and complain in the bitterness of my soul.	
	Am I the monster of the deep, am I the sea-serpent,	12
	that thou settest a watch over me?	
	When I think that my bed will comfort me,	13
	that sleep will relieve my complaining, thou dost terrify me with dreams	14
	and affright me with visions.	14
	I would rather be choked outright;	15
	I would prefer death to all my sufferings.	
	I am in despair, I would not go on living;	16
	leave me alone, for my life is but a vapour.	
	What is man that thou makest much of him	17
	and turnest thy thoughts towards him,	
	only to punish him morning by morning	18
	or to test him every hour of the day?	
	Wilt thou not look away from me for an instant?	19
	Wilt thou not let me be while I swallow my spittle?	
	If I have sinned, how do I injure thee,	20
	thou watcher of the hearts of men?	
	Why hast thou made me thy butt,	
	and why have I become thy target? Why dost thou not pardon my offence	21
	and take away my guilt?	-
	But now I shall lie down in the grave;	
	seek me, and I shall not be.	
I	hen Bildad the Shuhite began:	8
	How long will you say such things,	2
	the long-winded ramblings of an old man?	
	Does God pervert judgement?	3
	Does the Almighty pervert justice?	
	Your sons sinned against him,	4
	so he left them to be victims of their own iniquity.	
	If only you will seek God betimes	5
	and olead for the favour of the Almighty,	

You will laugh at violence and starvation and have no need to fear wild beasts;	22
for you have a covenant with the stones to spare your fields, and the weeds have been constrained to leave you at peace.	23
You will know that all is well with your household, you will look round your home and find nothing amiss;	24
you will know, too, that your descendants will be many and your offspring like grass, thick upon the earth.	25
You will come in sturdy old age to the grave as sheaves come in due season to the threshing-floor.	26
We have inquired into all this, and so it is; this we have heard, and you may know it for the truth.	27
Then Job answered:	6
O that the grounds for my resentment might be weighed, and my misfortunes set with them on the scales!	2
For they would outweigh the sands of the sea: what wonder if my words are wild? a	3
The arrows of the Almighty find their mark in me, and their poison soaks into my spirit;	4
God's onslaughts wear me away. Does the wild ass bray when he has grass or the ox low when he has fodder?	5
Can a man eat tasteless food unseasoned with salt, or find any flavour in the juice of mallows?	6
Food that should nourish me sticks in my throat, and my bowels rumble with an echoing sound.	7
O that I might have my request, that God would grant what I hope for:	8
that he would be pleased to crush me, to snatch me away with his hand and cut me off!	9
For that would bring me relief, and in the face of unsparing anguish I would leap for joy. b	10
Have I the strength to wait? What end have I to expect, that I should be patient?	11
Is my strength the strength of stone, or is my flesh bronze?	12
Oh how shall I find help within myself? The power to aid myself is put out of my reach.	. 13
Devotion is due from his friends to one who despairs and loses faith in the Almighty;	14
but my brothers have been treacherous as a mountain stream,	15

a what . . . wild?: or therefore words fail me. denied the words of the Holy One.

b Prob. rdg.; Heb. adds I have not

6 if you are innocent and upright, then indeed will he watch over you and see your just intent fulfilled.

Then, though your beginnings were humble,

your end will be great.

Inquire now of older generations and consider the experience of their fathers;

for we ourselves are of yesterday and are transient;

our days on earth are a shadow.

Will not they speak to you and teach you and pour out the wisdom of their hearts?

Can rushes grow where there is no marsh?
Can reeds flourish without water?

While they are still in flower and not ready to cut, a they wither earlier than b any green plant.

Such is the fate of all who forget God; the godless man's life-thread breaks off;

his confidence is gossamer, and the ground of his trust a spider's web.

He leans against his house but it does not stand; he clutches at it but it does not hold firm.

His is the lush growth of a plant in the sun, pushing out shoots over the garden;

but its roots become entangled in a stony patch and run against a bed of rock.

Then someone uproots it from its place, which disowns it and says, 'I have never known you.'

That is how its life withers away, and other plants spring up from the earth.

Be sure, God will not spurn the blameless man, nor will he grasp the hand of the wrongdoer.

He will yet fill your mouth with laughter, and shouts of joy will be on your lips;

your enemies shall be wrapped in confusion, and the tents of the wicked shall vanish away.

9 Then Job answered:

Indeed this I know for the truth,
that no man can win his case against God.

If a man chooses to argue with him, God will not answer one question in a thousand. d

4 He is wise, he is powerful; what man has stubbornly resisted him and survived?

a and . . . cut: or they are surely cut.

b Or wither like . . . COr and.

d If a man . . . thousand: or If God is pleased to argue with him, man cannot answer one question in a thousand.

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- 5 Call if you will; is there any to answer you? To which of the holy ones will you turn?
- The fool is destroyed by his own angry passions, and the end of childish resentment is death.
- I have seen it for myself: a fool uprooted, his home in sudden ruin about him, a

his children past help, browbeaten in court with none to save them.

Their rich possessions are snatched from them;
what they have harvested others hungrily devour;
the stronger man seizes it from the panniers,
panting, thirsting for their wealth.

Mischief does not grow out of the soil

Mischief does not grow out of the soil nor trouble spring from the earth;

- man is born to trouble, as surely as birds fly c upwards.
- For my part, I would make my petition to God and lay my cause before him,
- who does great and unsearchable things, marvels without number.
- He gives rain to the earth and sends water on the fields;
- he raises the lowly to the heights, the mourners are uplifted by victory;
- he frustrates the plots of the crafty, and they win no success,
- he traps the cunning in their craftiness, and the schemers' plans are thrown into confusion.
- In the daylight they run into darkness, and grope at midday as though it were night.
- He saves the destitute from their greed, and the needy from the grip of the strong;
- so the poor hope again, and the unjust are sickened.
 - Happy the man whom God rebukes! therefore do not reject the discipline of the Almighty.
- For, though he wounds, he will bind up; the hands that smite will heal.
- You may meet disaster six times, and he will save you; seven times, and no harm shall touch you.
- In time of famine he will save you from death, in battle from the sword.
- You will be shielded from the lash of slander, d and when violence comes you need not fear.
 - a ruin about him: prob. rdg.; Heb. obscure. b Line transposed from 4. 21.
 - Or as sparks shoot. d from . . . slander: or when slander is rife.

First cycle of speeches

1	Then Eliphaz the Temanite began:	4
	If one ventures to speak with you, will you lose patience? For who could hold his tongue any longer? Think how once you encouraged those who faltered,	3
	how you braced feeble arms, how a word from you upheld the stumblers and put strength into weak knees.	4
	But now that adversity comes upon you, you lose patience; it touches you, and you are unmanned.	5
	Is your religion no comfort to you? Does your blameless life give you no hope?	6
	For consider, what innocent man has ever perished? Where have you seen the upright destroyed? This I have that the second of the	7
	This I know, that those who plough mischief and sow trouble reap as they have sown;	8
	they perish at the blast of God and are shrivelled by the breath of his nostrils.	9
	The roar of the lion, the whimpering of his cubs, fall silent; the teeth of the young lions are broken; the lion perishes for lack of prey	10
	and the whelps of the lioness are abandoned.	11
	A word stole into my ears, and they caught the whisper of it;	12
	in the anxious visions of the night, when a man sinks into deepest sleep,	13
	the trembling of my body frightened me.	14
	A wind brushed my face and made the hairs bristle on my flesh;	15
	and a figure stood there whose shape I could not discern, an apparition loomed before me, and I heard the sound of a low voice:	16
	'Can mortal man be more righteous than God, or the creature purer than his Maker?	17
	If God mistrusts his own servants and finds his messengers at fault,	18
	how much more those that dwell in houses whose walls are clay, whose foundations are dust, which can be crushed like a bird's nest	19
	or torn down between dawn and dark,	20
	how much more shall such men perish outright and unheeded, a die, without ever finding wisdom?'	21

a Prob. rdg.; transposing Their rich possessions are snatched from them to follow 5. 4.

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NEITHER HAS & ALST, but Truckle comme

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-	second cycle of specialis	,	
	My brothers hold aloof from me, my friends are utterly estranged from me;		13
	my kinsmen and intimates fall away, my retainers have forgotten me; my slave-girls treat me as a stranger, I have become an alien in their eyes.		14-15
	I summon my slave, but he does not answer, though I entreat him as a favour.		16
	My breath is noisome to my wife, and I stink in the nostrils of my own family.		17
	Mere children despise me and, when I rise, turn their backs on me;		18
	my intimate companions loathe me, and those whom I love have turned against me.		19
	My bones stick out through my skin, a		20
	and I gnaw my under-lip with my teeth.		
20.	Pity me, pity me, you that are my friends; for the hand of God has touched me.		21
	Why do you pursue me as God pursues me?		22
	O that my words might be inscribed,		23
	O that they might be engraved in an inscription, cut with an iron tool and filled with lead to be a witness b in hard rock!		24
	But in my heart I know that my vindicator lives and that he will rise last to speak in court;		25
	and I shall discern my witness standing at my side cand see my defending counsel, even God himself,		26
	whom I shall see with my own eyes, I myself and no other.		27
	My heart failed me when you said, 'What a train of disaster he has brought on himself! The root of the trouble lies in him.'		28
	Beware of the sword that points at you, the sword that sweeps away all iniquity; then you will know that there is a judge. d		29
7	Then Zophar the Naamathite answered:		20
	My distress of mind forces me to reply,		2
	and this is why e I hasten to speak:		
	I have heard arguments that are a reproach to me,		3
	a spirit beyond my understanding gives me the answer	rs.	
	Prob rda . Heb adds and my flesh b to witness: or fo	or ever.	mv

a Prob. rdg.; Heb. adds and my flesh. b to . . . witness: or for ever. witness . . . side: prob. rdg.; Heb. unintelligible. d Or judgement. e this is why: prob. rdg.; Heb. obscure

Surely you know that this has been so since time began, since man was first set on the earth:

the triumph of the wicked is short-lived, the glee of the godless lasts but a moment? the triumph of the wicked is short-lived, 5

Though he stands high as heaven, 6 and his head touches the clouds,

he will be swept utterly away like his own dung, and all that saw him will say, 'Where is he?'

He will fly away like a dream and be lost, 8 driven off like a vision of the night;

the eye which glimpsed him shall do so no more 9 and shall never again see him in his place.

The youth and strength which filled his bones IIa shall lie with him in the dust.

His sons will pay court to the poor, IO and their b hands will give back his wealth.

Though evil tastes sweet in his mouth, 12 and he savours it, rolling it round his tongue,

though he lingers over it and will not let it go, 13 and holds it back on his palate,

vet his food turns in his stomach, 14 changing to asps' venom within him.

He gulps down wealth, then vomits it up, 15 or God makes him discharge it.

He sucks the poison of asps, 16

and the tongue of the viper kills him.

Not for him to swill down rivers of cream 17 or torrents of honey and curds;

he must give back his gains without swallowing them, 18 and spew up his profit undigested;

for he has hounded and harassed the poor, he has seized houses which he did not build.

Because his appetite gave him no rest, 20 and he cannot escape his own desires,

nothing is left for him to eat, 21 and so his well-being does not last;

with every need satisfied his troubles begin, 22 and the full force of hardship strikes him.

God vents his anger upon him 23 and rains on him cruel blows.

19

He is wounded by weapons of iron 24 and pierced by a bronze-tipped arrow;

out at his back the point comes, 25 the gleaming tip from his gall-bladder.

Darkness unrelieved awaits him, 26 a fire that needs no fanning will consume him.

b Prob. rdg.; Heb. his.

c rivers of cream:

a Verses 10 and 11 transposed. prob. rdg.; Heb. obscure.

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- 42 Then Job answered the LORD:
 - I know that thou canst do all things and that no purpose is beyond thee.
 - But I have spoken of great things which I have not understood, things too wonderful for me to know. a
 - I knew of thee then only by report, but now I see thee with my own eyes.
 - Therefore I melt away; b
 I repent in dust and ashes.

NEW FURN

Epilogue

- When the LORD had finished speaking to Job, he said to Eliphaz the Temanite, 'I am angry with you and your two friends, because you have not spoken
- as you ought about me, as my servant Job has done. So now take seven bulls and seven rams, go to my servant Job and offer a whole-offering for yourselves, and he will intercede for you; I will surely show him favour by not being harsh with you because you have not spoken as you ought about me,
- as he has done.' Then Eliphaz the Temanite and Bildad the Shuhite and Zophar the Naamathite went and carried out the Lord's command, and the Lord showed favour to Job when he had interceded for his friends.

 So the Lord restored Job's fortunes and doubled all his possessions.
- Then all Job's brothers and sisters and his former acquaintance came and feasted with him in his home, and they consoled and comforted him for all the misfortunes which the LORD had brought on him; and each of them
- gave him a sheep and a gold ring. Furthermore, the LORD blessed the end of Job's life more than the beginning; and he had fourteen thousand head of small cattle and six thousand camels, a thousand yoke of oxen and
- 13 14 as many she-asses. He had seven d sons and three daughters; and he named his eldest daughter Jemimah, the second Keziah and the third Keren15 happuch. There were no women in all the world so beautiful as Job's
 - daughters; and their father gave them an inheritance with their brothers.
 - Thereafter Job lived another hundred and forty years, he saw his sons and his grandsons to four generations, and died at a very great age.

a Prob. rdg.; Heb. adds (4) O listen, and let me speak; I will ask questions, and you shall answer. b Or despise myself. C Or piece of money. d Or fourteen.

But the Almighty we cannot find; his power is beyond our ken, and his righteousness not slow to do justice.

Therefore mortal men pay him reverence, and all who are wise look to him.

God's answer and Job's submission

38 Then the LORD answered Job out of the tempest:

Who is this whose ignorant words cloud my design in darkness?

Brace yourself and stand up like a man; I will ask questions, and you shall answer.

Where were you when I laid the earth's foundations?
Tell me, if you know and understand.

Who settled its dimensions? Surely you should know.

Who stretched his measuring-line over it?
On what do its supporting pillars rest?
Who set its corner-stone in place,

7 when the morning stars sang together and all the sons of God shouted aloud?

8 Who watched over the birth of the sea, a when it burst in flood from the womb?—

when I wrapped it in a blanket of cloud and cradled it in fog,

when I established its bounds, fixing its doors and bars in place,

and said, 'Thus far shall you come and no farther, and here your surging waves shall halt.' b

In all your life have you ever called up the dawn or shown the morning its place?

Have you taught it to grasp the fringes of the earth and shake the Dog-star from its place;

to bring up the horizon in relief as clay under a seal, until all things stand out like the folds of a cloak,

when the light of the Dog-star is dimmed and the stars of the Navigator's Line go out one by one?

16 Have you descended to the springs of the sea or walked in the unfathomable deep?

Have the gates of death been revealed to you?

Have you ever seen the door-keepers of the place of darkness?

18 Have you comprehended the vast expanse of the world? Come, tell me all this, if you know.

Which is the way to the home of light and where does darkness dwell?

Who . . . sea: prob. rdg.; Heb. And he held back the sea with two doors. rdg.; Heb. here one shall set on your surging waves.

Shows noount

I will not pass over in silence his limbs,	12
his prowess and the grace of his proportions.	
Who has ever undone his outer garment	13
or penetrated his doublet of hide?	
Who has ever opened the portals of his face?	14
for there is terror in his arching teeth.	
His back a is row upon row of shields,	15
enclosed in a wall b of flints;	
one presses so close on the other	16
that air cannot pass between them,	
each so firmly clamped to its neighbour	17
that they hold and cannot spring apart.	
His sneezing sends out sprays of light,	18
and his eyes gleam like the shimmer of dawn.	
Firebrands shoot from his mouth,	19
and sparks come streaming out;	.4
his nostrils pour forth smoke	20
libe a coulded on a feeth	20
His breath sate huming coals ablaza	21
and flames flash from his mouth.	21
Strength is lodged in his neck,	
and untiring energy dances ahead of him.	22
Close knit is his underbelly,	
no pressure will make it yield.	23
His heart is firm as a rock,	
firm as the nether millstone.	24
When he raises himself, strong men c take fright,	25
bewildered at the lashings of his tail.	
Sword or spear, dagger or javelin,	26
if they touch him, they have no effect.	
Iron he counts as straw,	27
and bronze as rotting wood.	
No arrow can pierce him,	28
and for him sling-stones are turned into chaff;	
to him a club is a mere reed,	29
and he laughs at the swish of the sabre.	
Armoured beneath with jagged sherds,	30
he sprawls on the mud like a threshing-sledge.	
He makes the deep water boil like a cauldron,	31
he whips up the lake like ointment in a mixing-bowl.	
He leaves a shining trail behind him,	32
and the great river is like white hair in his wake.	
He has no equal on earth;	33
for he is made quite without fear.	
He looks down on all creatures, even the highest;	34
he is king over all proud beasts.	

a Prob. rdg.; Heb. pride. b Prob. rdg.; Heb. scal. or gods.

c strong men: or leaders

Under the vault of heaven he lets it roll, and his lightning reaches the ends of the earth;	3
there follows a sound of roaring	4
as he thunders with the voice of majesty. a	
God's voice is marvellous in its working; b	5
he does great deeds that pass our knowledge.	
For he says to the snow, 'Fall to earth',	6
and to the rainstorms, 'Be fierce.'	
And when his voice is heard,	
the floods of rain pour down unchecked.	
He shuts every man fast indoors, d	7
and all men whom he has made must stand idle; the beasts withdraw into their lairs	
	8
and take refuge in their dens. The hurricane bursts from its prison,	
and the rain-winds bring bitter cold;	9
at the breath of God the ice-sheet is formed,	10
and the wide waters are frozen hard as iron.	10
He gives the dense clouds their load of moisture,	11
and the clouds spread his mist abroad,	
as they travel round in their courses,	12
steered by his guiding hand	
to do his bidding	
all over the habitable world.	
NAME OF THE PROPERTY OF THE PARTY OF THE PAR	
Listen, Job, to this argument;	14
stand still, and consider God's wonderful works.	
Do you know how God assigns them their tasks,	15
how he sends light flashing from his clouds?	
Do you know why the clouds hang poised overhead,	16
a wonderful work of his consummate skill,	
sweating there in your stifling clothes,	17
when the earth lies sultry under the south wind?	-0
Can you beat out the vault of the skies, as he does, hard as a mirror of cast metal?	18
Teach us then what to say to him;	••
for all is dark, and we cannot marshal our thoughts.	19
Can any man dictate to God when he is f to speak?	20
or command him to make proclamation?	20
At one moment the light is not seen,	21
it is overcast with clouds and rain;	
then the wind passes by and clears them away,	
and a golden glow comes from the north.	22
and a Borneri Broth country from the first the state of t	

a See note on verse 6. b Prob. rdg.; Heb. thundering. And when ... unchecked: prob. rdg.; some words in these lines transposed from verse 4. d indoors: prob. rdg.; Heb. obscure. e Prob. rdg.; Heb. adds (13) whether he makes him attain the rod, or his earth, or constant love. f Prob. rdg.; Heb. I am. g Prob. rdg.; Heb. adds this refers to God, terrible in majesty.

And can you then take each to its appointed bound and escort it on its homeward path?	20
Doubtless you know all this; for you were born already, so long is the span of your life!	21
Have you visited the storehouse of the snow or seen the arsenal where hail is stored,	22
which I have kept ready for the day of calamity, for war and for the hour of battle?	23
By what paths is the heat spread abroad or the east wind carried far and wide over the earth?	24
Who has cut channels for the downpour and cleared a passage for the thunderstorm,	25
for rain to fall on land where no man lives and on the deserted wilderness,	26
clothing lands waste and derelict with green	27
and making grass grow on thirsty ground ^a ? Has the rain a father?	28
Who sired the drops of dew? Whose womb gave birth to the ice,	29
and who was the mother of the frost from heaven, which lays a stony cover over the waters	30
and freezes the expanse of ocean? Can you bind the cluster of the Pleiades	30
or loose Orion's belt?	31
Can you bring out the signs of the zodiac in their season or guide Aldebaran and its train?	32
Did you proclaim the rules that govern the heavens, or determine the laws of nature on earth?	33
Can you command the dense clouds to cover you with their weight of waters?	34
If you bid lightning speed on its way, will it say to you, 'I am ready'?	35
Who put wisdom in depths of darkness and veiled understanding in secrecy b?	36
Who is wise enough to marshal the rain-clouds and empty the cisterns of heaven,	37
when the dusty soil sets hard as iron,	38
and the clods of earth cling together? Do you hunt her prey for the lioness	39
and satisfy the hunger of young lions, as they crouch in the lair	40
or lie in wait in the covert? Who provides the ravem with its quarry	41
when its fledglings croak c for lack of food?	

thirsty ground: prob. rdg.; Heb. source. b secrecy: prcb. rdg.; Heb. word unknown.

Prob. rdg.; Heb. adds they cry to God.

Do you know when the mountain-goats are born or attend the wild doe when she is in labour?

Do you count the months that they carry their young

or know the time of their delivery,

when they crouch down to open their wombs and bring their offspring to the birth,

when the fawns grow and thrive in the open forest,

and go forth and do not return?

Who has let the wild ass of Syria range at will and given the wild ass of Arabia its freedom?—

whose home I have made in the wilderness and its lair in the saltings;

7 it disdains the noise of the city and is deaf to the driver's shouting;

8 it roams the hills as its pasture and searches for anything green.

Does the wild ox consent to serve you, does it spend the night in your stall?

- Can you harness its strength a with ropes, or will it harrow the furrows a after you?
- Can you depend on it, strong as it is, or leave your labour to it?
- Do you trust it to come back and bring home your grain to the threshing-floor?
- The wings of the ostrich are stunted; b her pinions and plumage are so scanty d
- that she abandons her eggs to the ground, letting them be kept warm by the sand.
- She forgets that a foot may crush them, or a wild beast trample on them;
- she treats her chicks heartlessly as if they were not hers, not caring if her labour is wasted
- (for God has denied her wisdom and left her without sense),
- while like a cock she struts over the uplands, scorning both horse and rider.
- Did you give the horse his strength?
 Did you clothe his neck with a mane?
- Do you make him quiver like a locust's wings, when his shrill neighing strikes terror?
- He shows his mettle as he paws and prances; he charges the armoured line with all his might.
- He scorns alarms and knows no dismay; he does not flinch before the sword.

a Prob. rdg.; Heb. transposes strength and furrows.

Heb. unintelligible. Prob. rdg.; Heb. prefixes if.
or stork.

b are stunted: prob. rdg.;
d Prob. rdg.; Heb. godly

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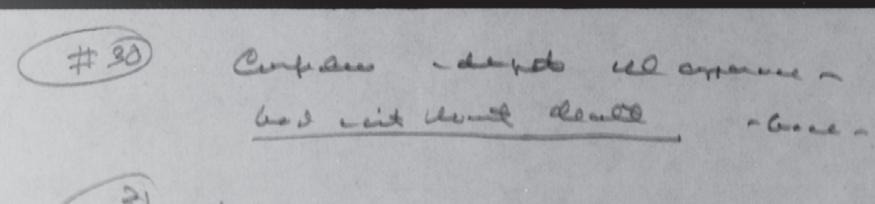
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God's answer and job's suomission	JOB 39, (41), 40
The quiver rattles at his side,	23
Trembling with eagerness, he devours the ground and cannot be held in when he hears the horn;	
at the blast of the horn he cries 'Aha!' and from afar he scents the battle.	25
Does your skill teach the hawk to use its pinions and spread its wings towards the south?	26
Do you instruct the vulture to fly high and build its nest aloft?	27
It dwells among the rocks and there it lodges; its station is a crevice in the rock;	28
from there it searches for food, keenly scanning the distance,	29
that its brood may be gorged with blood; and where the slain are, there the vulture is.	30
Can you pull out the whale b with a gaff or can you slip a noose round its tongue?	41 10
Can you pass a cord through its nose or put a hook through its jaw?	2
Will it plead with you for mercy or beg its life with soft words?	3
Will it enter into an agreement with you to become your slave for life?	4
Will you toy with it as with a bird or keep it on a string like a song-bird for your maid	dens?
Do trading-partners haggle over it or merchants share it out?	6
Then the LORD said to Job:	40
Is it for a man who disputes with the Almighty to be Should he that argues with God answer back?	oe stubborn? 2
And Job answered the LORD:	3
What reply can I give thee, I who carry no weight? I put my finger to my lips.	starts out to write the starting
I have spoken once and now will not answer again; twice have I spoken, and I will do so no more.	stren silens
Then the LORD answered Job out of the tempest:	net though
Brace yourself and stand up like a man; I will ask questions, and you shall answer.	PAUL 7
Dare you deny that I am just or put me in the wrong that you may be right?	8

Prob. rdg.; Heb. adds the thunder of the captains and the shouting.
 41. 1-6 (in Heb. 40. 25-30) transposed to this point.

b Or Leviathan.

Have you an arm like God's arm, can you thunder with a voice like his?

Deck yourself out, if you can, in pride and dignity, array yourself in pomp and splendour;

unleash the fury of your wrath,

look upon the proud man and humble him;

look upon every proud man and bring him low, throw down the wicked where they stand;

hide them in the dust together, and shroud them in an unknown grave.

- Then I in my turn will acknowledge that your own right hand can save you.
- Consider the chief of the beasts, the crocodile, a who devours cattle as if they were grass: b
- what strength is in his loins! what power in the muscles of his belly!
- 17 His tail is rigid as cedar, the sinews of his flanks are closely knit,
- his bones are tubes of bronze, and his limbs like bars of iron.

He is the chief of God's works, made to be a tyrant over his peers;

- for he takes the cattle of the hills for his prey and in his jaws he crunches all wild beasts.
- There under the thorny lotus he lies, hidden in the reeds and the marsh;
- the lotus conceals him in its shadow, the poplars of the stream surround him.
- 23 If the river is in spate, he is not scared, he sprawls at his ease though the stream is in flood.
- Can a man blind f his eyes and take him or pierce his nose with the teeth of a trap?
- 41 7 g Can you fill his skin with harpoons or his head with fish-hooks?
 - 8 If ever you lift your hand against him, think of the struggle that awaits you, and let be.
 - No, such a man is in desperate case, hurled headlong at the very sight of him.

How fierce he is when he is roused!
Who is there to stand up to him?

Who has ever attacked him h unscathed? Not a man i under the wide heaven.

chief . . . crocodile: prob. rdg.; Heb. beasts (behemoth) which I have made with you.

b cattle . . . grass: prob. rdg.; Heb. grass like cattle. "Or He bends his tail like . . .

d Prob. rdg.; Heb. his sword. "Prob. rdg.; Heb. they take. f Can a man blind:

prob. rdg.; Heb. obscure. g Verses 1-6 transposed to fellow 39. 30. h Prob. rdg.;

Heb. me. Prob. rdg.; Heb. He is mine.

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