## JPS [Online]

## **Eliphaz: Job Does Not Fear God**

- Then answered Eliphaz the Temanite, and said:
- <sup>2</sup>Should a wise man make answer with windy knowledge, And fill his belly with the east wind?
- <sup>3</sup>Should he reason with unprofitable talk, Or with speeches wherewith he can do no good?
- 4Yea, thou doest away with fear, And impairest devotion before God.
- For thine iniquity teacheth thy mouth, And thou choosest the tongue of the crafty.
- <sup>6</sup>Thine own mouth condemneth thee, and not I; Yea, thine own lips testify against thee.
- <sup>7</sup>Art thou the first man that was born? Or wast thou brought forth before the hills?
- <sup>8</sup>Dost thou hearken in the council of God? And dost thou restrain wisdom to thyself?
- <sup>9</sup>What knowest thou, that we know not? What understandest thou, which is not in us?
- **10**With us are both the gray-headed and the very aged men, Much older than thy father.
- <sup>11</sup>Are the consolations of God too small for thee, And the word that dealeth gently with thee?
- 12Why doth thy heart carry thee away? And why do thine eyes wink?
- 13That thou turnest thy spirit against God, And lettest such words go out of thy mouth.

- 14What is man, that he should be clean? And he that is born of a woman, that he should be righteous?
- 15Behold, He putteth no trust in His holy ones; Yea, the heavens are not clean in His sight.
- **16**How much less one that is abominable and impure, Man who drinketh iniquity like water!
- 17I will tell thee, hear thou me; And that which I have seen I will declare—
- 18Which wise men have told From their fathers, and have not hid it;
- <sup>19</sup>Unto whom alone the land was given, And no stranger passed among them.
- <sup>20</sup>The wicked man travaileth with pain all his days, Even the number of years that are laid up for the oppressor.
- <sup>21</sup>A sound of terrors is in his ears: In prosperity the destroyer shall come upon him.
- <sup>22</sup>He believeth not that he shall return out of darkness, And he is waited for of the sword.
- <sup>23</sup>He wandereth abroad for bread: 'Where is it?' He knoweth that the day of darkness is ready at his hand.
- <sup>24</sup>Distress and anguish overwhelm him; They prevail against him, as a king ready to the battle.
- <sup>25</sup>Because he hath stretched out his hand against God, And behaveth himself proudly against the Almighty;
- <sup>26</sup>He runneth upon him with a stiff neck, With the thick bosses of his bucklers.
- <sup>27</sup>Because he hath covered his face with his fatness, And made collops of fat on his loins;
- <sup>28</sup>And he hath dwelt in desolate cities, In houses which no man would inhabit, Which were ready to become heaps.
- <sup>29</sup>He shall not be rich, neither shall his substance continue, Neither shall their produce bend to the earth.
- <sup>30</sup>He shall not depart out of darkness; The flame shall dry up his branches, And by the breath of His mouth shall he go away.
- 31Let him not trust in vanity, deceiving himself; For vanity shall be his recompense.
- 32It shall be accomplished before his time, And his branch shall not be leafy.
- <sup>33</sup>He shall shake off his unripe grape as the vine, And shall cast off his flower as the olive.
- <sup>34</sup>For the company of the godless shall be desolate, And fire shall consume the tents of bribery.
- 35They conceive mischief, and bring forth iniquity, And their belly prepareth deceit.