JPS [Online]

Job's Honor Turned to Contempt

- ¹But now they that are younger than I have me in derision, Whose fathers I disdained to set with the dogs of my flock.
- ²Yea, the strength of their hands, whereto should it profit me? Men in whom ripe age is perished.
- ³They are gaunt with want and famine; They gnaw the dry ground, in the gloom of wasteness and desolation.
- ⁴They pluck salt-wort with wormwood; And the roots of the broom are their food.
- ⁵They are driven forth from the midst of men; They cry after them as after a thief.
- ⁶In the clefts of the valleys must they dwell, In holes of the earth and of the rocks.
- ⁷Among the bushes they bray; Under the nettles they are gathered together.

- ⁸They are children of churls, yea, children of ignoble men; They were scourged out of the land.
- ⁹And now I am become their song, Yea, I am a byword unto them.
- **10**They abhor me, they flee far from me, And spare not to spit in my face.
- 11 For He hath loosed my cord, and afflicted me, And they have cast off the bridle before me.
- ¹²Upon my right hand rise the brood; They entangle my feet, And they cast up against me their ways of destruction.
- 13They break up my path, They further my calamity, Even men that have no helper.
- ¹⁴As through a wide breach they come; In the midst of the ruin they roll themselves upon me.

Job's Prosperity Becomes Calamity

- 15Terrors are turned upon me, They chase mine honour as the wind; And my welfare is passed away as a cloud.
- 16 And now my soul is poured out within me; Days of affliction have taken hold upon me.
- 17 In the night my bones are pierced, and fall from me, And my sinews take no rest.
- ¹⁸By the great force [of my disease] is my garment disfigured; It bindeth me about as the collar of my coat.
- ¹⁹He hath cast me into the mire, And I am become like dust and ashes.
- ²⁰I cry unto Thee, and Thou dost not answer me; I stand up, and Thou lookest at me.
- 21Thou art turned to be cruel to me; With the might of Thy hand Thou hatest me.
- ²²Thou liftest me up to the wind, Thou causest me to ride upon it; And Thou dissolvest my substance.
- ²³For I know that Thou wilt bring me to death, And to the house appointed for all living.
- ²⁴Surely none shall put forth his hand to a ruinous heap, Neither because of these things shall help come in one's calamity,
- ²⁵If I have not wept for him that was in trouble, And if my soul grieved not for the needy.
- ²⁶Yet, when I looked for good, there came evil; And when I waited for light, there came darkness.
- ²⁷Mine inwards boil, and rest not; Days of affliction are come upon me.
- ²⁸I go mourning without the sun; I stand up in the assembly, and cry for help.
- ²⁹I am become a brother to jackals, And a companion to ostriches.

- ³⁰My skin is black, and falleth from me, And my bones are burned with heat.
- 31Therefore is my harp turned to mourning, And my pipe into the voice of them that weep.