JPS [Online]

Elihu Rebukes Job

- ¹Howbeit, Job, I pray thee, hear my speech, And hearken to all my words.
- ²Behold now, I have opened my mouth, My tongue hath spoken in my mouth.
- ³My words shall utter the uprightness of my heart; And that which my lips know they shall speak sincerely.
- ⁴The spirit of God hath made me, And the breath of the Almighty given me life.
- 5If thou canst, answer thou me, Set thy words in order before me, stand forth.
- ⁶Behold, I am toward God even as thou art; I also am formed out of the clay.
- ⁷Behold, my terror shall not make thee afraid, Neither shall my pressure be heavy upon thee.
- Surely thou hast spoken in my hearing, And I have heard the voice of thy words;
- ⁹I am clean, without transgression, I am innocent, neither is there iniquity in me;
- 10Behold, He findeth occasions against me, He counteth me for His enemy;
- 11He putteth my feet in the stocks, He marketh all my paths.'
- 12Behold, I answer thee: In this thou art not right, That God is too great for man;
- 13Why hast thou striven against Him? Seeing that He will not answer any of his words.
- 14For God speaketh in one way, Yea in two, though man perceiveth it not.
- ¹⁵In a dream, in a vision of the night, When deep sleep falleth upon men, In slumberings upon the bed;
- 16Then He openeth the ears of men, And by their chastisement sealeth the decree,
- 17That men may put away their purpose, And that He may hide pride from man;
- 18That He may keep back his soul from the pit, And his life from perishing by the sword.
- 19He is chastened also with pain upon his bed, And all his bones grow stiff;
- ²⁰So that his life maketh him to abhor bread, And his soul dainty food.
- ²¹His flesh is consumed away, that it cannot be seen; And his bones corrode to unsightliness.
- ²²Yea, his soul draweth near unto the pit, And his life to the destroyers.

- ²³If there be for him an angel, An intercessor, one among a thousand, To vouch for a man's uprightness;
- ²⁴Then He is gracious unto him, and saith: 'Deliver him from going down to the pit, I have found a ransom.'
- ²⁵His flesh is tenderer than a child's; He returneth to the days of his youth;
- ²⁶He prayeth unto God, and He is favourable unto him; So that he seeth His face with joy; And He restoreth unto man his righteousness.
- ²⁷He cometh before men, and saith: 'I have sinned, and perverted that which was right, And it profited me not.'
- ²⁸So He redeemeth his soul from going into the pit, And his life beholdeth the light.
- ²⁹Lo, all these things doth God work, Twice, yea thrice, with a man,
- ³⁰To bring back his soul from the pit, That he may be enlightened with the light of the living.
- 31 Mark well, O Job, hearken unto me; Hold thy peace, and I will speak.
- 32If thou hast any thing to say, answer me; Speak, for I desire to justify thee.
- 33 If not, hearken thou unto me; Hold thy peace, and I will teach thee wisdom.