JPS [Online]

Elihu Describes God's Power

- ¹Elihu also proceeded, and said:
- ²Suffer me a little, and I will tell thee; For there are yet words on God's behalf.
- ³I will fetch my knowledge from afar, And will ascribe righteousness to my Maker.
- ⁴For truly my words are not false; One that is upright in mind is with thee.
- ⁵Behold, God is mighty, yet He despiseth not any; He is mighty in strength of understanding.
- ⁶He preserveth not the life of the wicked; But giveth to the poor their right.
- ⁷He withdraweth not His eyes from the righteous; But with kings upon the throne He setteth them for ever, and they are exalted.
- 8And if they be bound in fetters, And be holden in cords of affliction;
- ⁹Then He declareth unto them their work, And their transgressions, that they have behaved themselves proudly.
- ¹⁰He openeth also their ear to discipline, And commandeth that they return from iniquity.
- 11 If they hearken and serve Him, They shall spend their days in prosperity, And their years in pleasures.
- 12But if they hearken not, they shall perish by the sword, And they shall die without knowledge.
- 13But they that are godless in heart lay up anger; They cry not for help when He bindeth them.
- 14Their soul perisheth in youth, And their life as that of the depraved.
- ¹⁵He delivereth the afflicted by His affliction, And openeth their ear by tribulation.
- **16**Yea, He hath allured thee out of distress Into a broad place, where there is no straitness; And that which is set on thy table is full of fatness;

- ¹⁷And thou art full of the judgment of the wicked; Judgment and justice take hold on them.
- ¹⁸For beware of wrath, lest thou be led away by thy sufficiency; Neither let the greatness of the ransom turn thee aside.
- 19Will thy riches avail, that are without stint, Or all the forces of thy strength?
- ²⁰Desire not the night, When peoples are cut off in their place.
- 21 Take heed, regard not iniquity; For this hast thou chosen rather than affliction.
- ²²Behold, God doeth loftily in His power; Who is a teacher like Him?
- ²³Who hath enjoined Him His way? Or who hath said: 'Thou hast wrought unrighteousness'?
- ²⁴Remember that thou magnify His work, Whereof men have sung.
- ²⁵All men have looked thereon; Man beholdeth it afar off.
- ²⁶Behold, God is great, beyond our knowledge; The number of His years is unsearchable.
- ²⁷For He draweth away the drops of water, Which distil rain from His vapour;
- ²⁸Which the skies pour down And drop upon the multitudes of men.
- ²⁹Yea, can any understand the spreadings of the clouds, The crashings of His pavilion?
- ³⁰Behold, He spreadeth His light upon it; And He covereth the depths of the sea.
- ³¹For by these He judgeth the peoples; He giveth food in abundance.
- ³²He covereth His hands with the lightning, And giveth it a charge that it strike the mark.
- ³³The noise thereof telleth concerning it, The cattle also concerning the storm that cometh up.