

Job 14-16

New King James Version (NKJV)

Job 14

- ¹ “Man *who is* born of woman
Is of few days and full of trouble.
- ² He comes forth like a flower and fades away;
He flees like a shadow and does not continue.
- ³ And do You open Your eyes on such a one,
And bring me^[a] to judgment with Yourself?
- ⁴ Who can bring a clean *thing* out of an unclean?
No one!
- ⁵ Since his days *are* determined,
The number of his months *is* with You;
You have appointed his limits, so that he cannot pass.
- ⁶ Look away from him that he may rest,
Till like a hired man he finishes his day.
- ⁷ “For there is hope for a tree,
If it is cut down, that it will sprout again,
And that its tender shoots will not cease.
- ⁸ Though its root may grow old in the earth,
And its stump may die in the ground,
- ⁹ *Yet* at the scent of water it will bud
And bring forth branches like a plant.
- ¹⁰ But man dies and is laid away;
Indeed he breathes his last
And where *is* he?
- ¹¹ *As* water disappears from the sea,
And a river becomes parched and dries up,
- ¹² So man lies down and does not rise.
Till the heavens *are* no more,
They will not awake
Nor be roused from their sleep.

¹³ “Oh, that You would hide me in the grave,
That You would conceal me until Your wrath is past,
That You would appoint me a set time, and remember me!

¹⁴ If a man dies, shall he live *again*?
All the days of my hard service I will wait,
Till my change comes.

¹⁵ You shall call, and I will answer You;
You shall desire the work of Your hands.

¹⁶ For now You number my steps,
But do not watch over my sin.

¹⁷ My transgression *is* sealed up in a bag,
And You cover^[b] my iniquity.

¹⁸ “But *as* a mountain falls *and* crumbles away,
And *as* a rock is moved from its place;

¹⁹ *As* water wears away stones,
And as torrents wash away the soil of the earth;
So You destroy the hope of man.

²⁰ You prevail forever against him, and he passes on;
You change his countenance and send him away.

²¹ His sons come to honor, and he does not know *it*;
They are brought low, and he does not perceive *it*.

²² But his flesh will be in pain over it,
And his soul will mourn over it.”

Job 15

Eliphaz Accuses Job of Folly

¹ Then Eliphaz the Temanite answered and said:

² “ Should a wise man answer with empty knowledge,
And fill himself with the east wind?

³ Should he reason with unprofitable talk,
Or by speeches with which he can do no good?

- ⁴ Yes, you cast off fear,
And restrain prayer before God.
- ⁵ For your iniquity teaches your mouth,
And you choose the tongue of the crafty.
- ⁶ Your own mouth condemns you, and not I;
Yes, your own lips testify against you.
- ⁷ “*Are* you the first man *who* was born?
Or were you made before the hills?
- ⁸ Have you heard the counsel of God?
Do you limit wisdom to yourself?
- ⁹ What do you know that we do not know?
What do you understand that *is* not in us?
- ¹⁰ Both the gray-haired and the aged *are* among us,
Much older than your father.
- ¹¹ *Are* the consolations of God too small for you,
And the word *spoken* gently^[c] with you?
- ¹² Why does your heart carry you away,
And what do your eyes wink at,
- ¹³ That you turn your spirit against God,
And let *such* words go out of your mouth?
- ¹⁴ “What *is* man, that he could be pure?
And *he who is* born of a woman, that he could be righteous?
- ¹⁵ If *God* puts no trust in His saints,
And the heavens are not pure in His sight,
- ¹⁶ How much less man, *who is* abominable and filthy,
Who drinks iniquity like water!
- ¹⁷ “I will tell you, hear me;
What I have seen I will declare,
- ¹⁸ What wise men have told,
Not hiding *anything received* from their fathers,

- ¹⁹ To whom alone the land was given,
And no alien passed among them:
- ²⁰ The wicked man writhes with pain all *his* days,
And the number of years is hidden from the oppressor.
- ²¹ Dreadful sounds *are* in his ears;
In prosperity the destroyer comes upon him.
- ²² He does not believe that he will return from darkness,
For a sword is waiting for him.
- ²³ He wanders about for bread, *saying*, ‘Where *is it?*’
He knows that a day of darkness is ready at his hand.
- ²⁴ Trouble and anguish make him afraid;
They overpower him, like a king ready for battle.
- ²⁵ For he stretches out his hand against God,
And acts defiantly against the Almighty,
- ²⁶ Running stubbornly against Him
With his strong, embossed shield.
- ²⁷ “ Though he has covered his face with his fatness,
And made *his* waist heavy with fat,
- ²⁸ He dwells in desolate cities,
In houses which no one inhabits,
Which are destined to become ruins.
- ²⁹ He will not be rich,
Nor will his wealth continue,
Nor will his possessions overspread the earth.
- ³⁰ He will not depart from darkness;
The flame will dry out his branches,
And by the breath of His mouth he will go away.
- ³¹ Let him not trust in futile *things*, deceiving himself,
For futility will be his reward.
- ³² It will be accomplished before his time,
And his branch will not be green.

- ³³ He will shake off his unripe grape like a vine,
And cast off his blossom like an olive tree.
- ³⁴ For the company of hypocrites *will be* barren,
And fire will consume the tents of bribery.
- ³⁵ They conceive trouble and bring forth futility;
Their womb prepares deceit.”

Job 16

Job Reproaches His Pitiless Friends

- ¹ Then Job answered and said:
- ² “I have heard many such things;
Miserable comforters *are* you all!
- ³ Shall words of wind have an end?
Or what provokes you that you answer?
- ⁴ I also could speak as you *do*,
If your soul were in my soul’s place.
I could heap up words against you,
And shake my head at you;
- ⁵ *But* I would strengthen you with my mouth,
And the comfort of my lips would relieve *your grief*.
- ⁶ “ Though I speak, my grief is not relieved;
And *if* I remain silent, how am I eased?
- ⁷ But now He has worn me out;
You have made desolate all my company.
- ⁸ You have shriveled me up,
And it is a witness *against me*;
My leanness rises up against me
And bears witness to my face.
- ⁹ He tears *me* in His wrath, and hates me;
He gnashes at me with His teeth;
My adversary sharpens His gaze on me.

- 10 They gape at me with their mouth,
They strike me reproachfully on the cheek,
They gather together against me.
- 11 God has delivered me to the ungodly,
And turned me over to the hands of the wicked.
- 12 I was at ease, but He has shattered me;
He also has taken *me* by my neck, and shaken me to pieces;
He has set me up for His target,
- 13 His archers surround me.
He pierces my heart^[d] and does not pity;
He pours out my gall on the ground.
- 14 He breaks me with wound upon wound;
He runs at me like a warrior.^[e]
- 15 “I have sewn sackcloth over my skin,
And laid my head^[f] in the dust.
- 16 My face is flushed from weeping,
And on my eyelids *is* the shadow of death;
- 17 Although no violence *is* in my hands,
And my prayer *is* pure.
- 18 “O earth, do not cover my blood,
And let my cry have no *resting* place!
- 19 Surely even now my witness *is* in heaven,
And my evidence *is* on high.
- 20 My friends scorn me;
My eyes pour out *tears* to God.
- 21 Oh, that one might plead for a man with God,
As a man *pleads* for his neighbor!
- 22 For when a few years are finished,
I shall go the way of no return.

Acts 9:22-43

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²² But Saul increased all the more in strength, and confounded the Jews who dwelt in Damascus, proving that this *Jesus* is the Christ.

Saul Escapes Death

²³ Now after many days were past, the Jews plotted to kill him. ²⁴ But their plot became known to Saul. And they watched the gates day and night, to kill him. ²⁵ Then the disciples took him by night and let *him* down through the wall in a large basket.

Saul at Jerusalem

²⁶ And when Saul had come to Jerusalem, he tried to join the disciples; but they were all afraid of him, and did not believe that he was a disciple. ²⁷ But Barnabas took him and brought *him* to the apostles. And he declared to them how he had seen the Lord on the road, and that He had spoken to him, and how he had preached boldly at Damascus in the name of Jesus. ²⁸ So he was with them at Jerusalem, coming in and going out. ²⁹ And he spoke boldly in the name of the Lord Jesus and disputed against the Hellenists, but they attempted to kill him. ³⁰ When the brethren found out, they brought him down to Caesarea and sent him out to Tarsus.

The Church Prospers

³¹ Then the churches^[a] throughout all Judea, Galilee, and Samaria had peace and were edified. And walking in the fear of the Lord and in the comfort of the Holy Spirit, they were multiplied.

Aeneas Healed

³² Now it came to pass, as Peter went through all *parts of the country*, that he also came down to the saints who dwelt in Lydda. ³³ There he found a certain man named Aeneas, who had been bedridden eight years and was paralyzed. ³⁴ And Peter said to him, "Aeneas, Jesus the Christ heals you. Arise and make your bed." Then he arose immediately. ³⁵ So all who dwelt at Lydda and Sharon saw him and turned to the Lord.

Dorcas Restored to Life

³⁶ At Joppa there was a certain disciple named Tabitha, which is translated Dorcas. This woman was full of good works and charitable deeds which she did. ³⁷ But it happened in those days that she became sick and died. When they had washed her, they laid *her* in an upper room. ³⁸ And since Lydda was near Joppa, and the disciples had heard that Peter was there, they sent two men

to him, imploring *him* not to delay in coming to them.³⁹ Then Peter arose and went with them. When he had come, they brought *him* to the upper room. And all the widows stood by him weeping, showing the tunics and garments which Dorcas had made while she was with them.⁴⁰ But Peter put them all out, and knelt down and prayed. And turning to the body he said, “Tabitha, arise.” And she opened her eyes, and when she saw Peter she sat up.⁴¹ Then he gave her *his* hand and lifted her up; and when he had called the saints and widows, he presented her alive.⁴² And it became known throughout all Joppa, and many believed on the Lord.⁴³ So it was that he stayed many days in Joppa with Simon, a tanner.