

# THE TWELVE PROPHETS

## TO THE READER

### EDITION OF THE GREEK TEXT

The NETS translation of the Book of the Twelve Prophets is based on the edition of Joseph Ziegler (*Septuaginta: Vetus Testamentum Graecum Auctoritate Academiae Scientiarum Gottingensis editum XIII: Duodecim prophetae* [2nd. ed.; Göttingen: Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht, 1967]).

For initial aspiration of Greek words (primarily names), I have relied on the edition of H. B. Swete, *The Old Testament in Greek according to the Septuagint* (vol 3; Cambridge: University Press, 1894).

### TRANSLATION PROFILE OF THE GREEK

#### *General Character*

The Greek rendition of the Hebrew Minor Prophets is typical translation Greek. For this reason, the English translation is often less than idiomatic English. Difficulties in the translation, both in content and style, are caused by difficulties in the Greek.

As for the faithfulness of the translation to the original, if we use the Masoretic Text (= MT) as a standard, the Greek is sometimes distant from the base text and sometimes close to it. Hosee, for example, is quite different from the MT in many verses. The first three chapters of Michaias are also quite different. Naoum usually corresponds to the MT in sense, but not word for word or clause for clause. Habbakoum deviates considerably from the traditional Hebrew.

Amos, on the other hand, is quite close to the traditional Hebrew, in spite of the translator's apparent lack of some vocabulary. Ioel is also close to the traditional Hebrew. Ionas is perhaps closest to the traditional Hebrew among the Twelve. Abdias, Sophonias, Haggaios, Zacharias and Malachias are all reasonably close to the MT.

There are reasons why some passages within these twelve Greek books vary from the MT: (1) The Hebrew text used by the translator sometimes appears to have been corrupt and difficult to render. For this reason, the translator sometimes rendered his text according to its general meaning, not according to the exact wording of the Hebrew. (2) The Hebrew parent text read by the translator sometimes actually differed from the MT, or the translator, for some reason, misconstrued the Hebrew in such a way as to view it differently from the MT. Although both these reasons, on occasion, are valid, one should probably not look to a different parent text as the cause for most differences. Emanuel Tov put the situation into correct perspective when he wrote, "Although there are thousands of differences between [MT] and the translations, only a fraction of them was created by a divergence between [MT] and the *Vorlage* of the translation. Most of the differences were created by other factors that are not related to the Hebrew *Vorlage*." (*Textual Criticism of the Hebrew Bible* [Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 1992] 123).

In order to present a clearer picture of how the Greek Minor Prophets differ from the MT, I give below a partial outline, characterizing the Greek text as it is compared to the MT.

#### *Literalness in Rendering*

Sometimes the Greek is a very literal representation of the Hebrew, to the point of being un-Greek. An example is Am 4.7. The MT reads וְהָלַקְהָ אֱשֶׁר לֹא תִמְטִיר עָלֶיהָ "and the field on which it did not rain" (NRSV). The Greek renders this, καὶ μέρος, ἐφ' ἧν οὐ βρέξω ἐπ' αὐτήν, "and a part which I will not rain on." The translator captures the meaning of the Hebrew idiom אֱשֶׁר . . . עָלֶיהָ but bungles his translation by rendering this idiom twice, making the Greek correspond quantitatively to the Hebrew at the end of the clause.

Another example is Am 5.5. The MT reads, וְבֹאֵר שֶׁבַע לֹא תַעְבְּרוּ, "Do not cross over to Beer-sheba." The Greek translates, καὶ ἐπὶ τὸ φρέαρ τοῦ ὄρκου μὴ διαβαίνετε, "And stop crossing over to the well of the oath." As we will see, the literal rendition of Beer-sheba in this passage is possibly due to a general ignorance of place names on the part of the translator. (The correct rendering of this same place name in 8.14 is perhaps caused by a corrector or correctors who worked, haphazardly at best, on the Greek text after its initial rendition. For more on this, see below.) In some instances, the translator of the Minor

Prophets seems to have had a limited knowledge of both Palestinian geography and the Hebrew language in general.

#### *Translational Freedom*

One should not assume that literalness is the most characteristic style of the translator. Normally, the translator shows a creative freedom that allows him considerable elasticity in his work. Sometimes he is very free but at other times very literal probably for the same reason—ignorance of what the Hebrew means. Thus the Hebrew of Mich 1.14 reads, “Therefore you shall give parting gifts to Moresheth-gath; the houses of Achzib shall be a deception to the kings of Israel” (NRSV). The translator renders this, “Therefore you shall give worthless houses—ones being dispatched—as far as the inheritance of Geth. It became meaningless to the kings of Israel.” Such striking differences between the Greek and the Hebrew may suggest a variant Hebrew parent text behind the Greek. In my judgment, however, this is not necessarily the case. The Greek translator may have employed his creative freedom in this instance to render a difficult passage.

In his quest for a clear text, the translator shows few qualms in making textual adjustments. He often uses what could be called tricks of the trade to make the text understandable, changing plurals to singulars and singulars to plurals, passives to actives and, though less frequently, actives to passives. He feels free to alter the wording in other ways. In Am 1.3 the Hebrew reads, “because they have threshed Gilead with threshing sledges of iron” (NRSV). The Greek renders, “because they were sawing pregnant women of those in Galaad asunder with iron saws.” The general statement “threshed Gilead” is made into a more specific crime, perhaps more understandable to the translator and his readers, though the end result was basically the same. There is no way to predict when such variations will occur. The text is altered whenever the translator sees the need.

#### *Interpretational Difference*

Some variations between the Hebrew and the Greek are caused by the Hebrew having more than one meaning. In Hos 10.13 the MT reads, “You have plowed (הִרְשִׁיתֶם) wickedness, you have reaped injustice” (NRSV). The word הִרְשִׁיתֶם can mean either “to plow” or “to be silent.” The Greek translator, apparently wishing to employ the sense of “silence,” rendered, “Why did you pass over impiety in silence (παρεσι-ωπήσατε) and reap its injustice?”

In Am 1.8 the MT reads, “I will cut off the inhabitants from Ashdod, and the one who holds the scepter (שֵׁבֶט) from Ashkelon” (NRSV). The word שֵׁבֶט can mean either “scepter/rod” or “tribe.” The Greek translator, wishing to employ the latter meaning, renders, “I will utterly destroy inhabitants from Azotus, and a tribe (φυλή) shall be removed from Ascalon.”

In Soph 1.11 the MT reads, “For all the people of Canaan have perished (נָדְמוּ).” The word נָדְמוּ can mean either “to perish” or “to be like.” Wishing to use the latter meaning, the Greek translator renders the passage, “because all the people were made like [ὡμοιωθή] Chanaan.”

#### *Differences in Hebrew Vocalization*

It is well known that manuscripts of the Hebrew Bible sometimes vary from each other because of differences in vocalization. This is true for manuscripts within the MT tradition as well as for manuscripts among the Dead Sea Scrolls, which differ from the MT sometimes by use of consonantal vowels or *mater lectionis*. The principle is also to be seen in the second column of Origen’s Hexapla in which the Hebrew text of Scripture is recorded in Greek transliteration. It is not surprising, then, to see that a number of differences between the Greek Minor Prophets and the MT are due to variant vocalizations. Here are some examples:

In Mich 7.18 the MT reads, “He does not retain his anger forever” (NRSV). The Greek renders, “And he did not retain his anger for a witness.” The difference is apparently caused by the translator vocalizing לְ עֵד as ‘for a witness’ instead of ‘forever.’ In Hab 3.5 the MT reads, “Before him went pestilence” (NRSV). The Greek translates, “A report shall proceed before him.” The variation appears to go back to the translator vocalizing דְּבַר as “report/word” rather than as “pestilence.” In Hag 1.11 the MT reads, “And I have called for a drought on the land” (NRSV). The Greek translates, “And I will bring a sword on the land.” The variation appears to go back to the translator vocalizing חֶרֶב “sword” rather than as “drought.” In Zach 9.10 the MT reads, “his dominion shall be from sea to sea” (NRSV). The Greek translates, “he shall reign over the waters as far as the sea.” The variation suggests a vocalization of יַם עַד יַם as “waters as far as the sea” rather than as “from sea to sea.”

### *Differences in Hebrew Consonantal Text*

There are some variations between the Greek and the MT that go back to the translator reading different consonants from those that appear in the MT. He either read a Hebrew text variant to the MT or he misread the Hebrew. It is not always easy to determine which of these actually occurred.

Several variations occur involving the interchange of *daleth* (ד) and *resh* (ר), look-alike letters that notoriously were confused by ancient scribes. In Hos 9.2, for example, the MT reads, “shall feed them” (יִרְעֵם). The Greek translates, “know them” (ἐγνώσούτους), apparently reading יִרְעֵם. In Am 4.5 the MT reads, “thank offering” (תְּוֹדָה). The Greek translates, “law” (νόμον), a reflection of the Hebrew word תְּוֹדָה. In Soph 3.9 the MT reads, “pure” (בְּרוּרָה). The Greek renders, “in its generation” (εἰς γενεάν αὐτῆς), a reflection of בְּוֹרָה.

Sometimes a metathesis of Hebrew letters is involved. An example is Zach 12.10. There the MT reads, “they have pierced” (דָּקְרוּ). The Greek translates, “they have danced” (κατωχρήσαντο). The Greek appears to go back to דָּקְרוּ. Another example is Am 2.16. The MT reads, “And the stout of heart” (וְאִמְנוֹתֵי לֵב). The Greek translates, “And shall find his heart” (καὶ εὕρησει τὴν καρδίαν αὐτοῦ). The Greek appears to be a reading of וְאִמְנוֹתֵי rather than וְאִמְנוֹתֵי.

Other variations between the Greek and the traditional Hebrew are traceable to a different consonantal text. In Zach 5.1 the Hebrew reads, “Again I looked up and saw a flying scroll” (NRSV). The Greek reads, “And I turned and lifted my eyes and saw and behold, a flying sickle.” The Greek reflects the word בִּגְלֵל “sickle” rather than בִּגְלֵל “scroll.” In Na 1.3 the MT reads, “His way is in whirlwind.” The Greek reads, “His way is in consummation.” The Greek translator possibly read בְּסוּפָה rather than בְּסוּפָה as found in the MT. In Mich 5.4(3) the MT reads, “and he shall feed” (וְרָעָה). The Greek renders this, “and he shall see and tend.” The translator appears to have rendered וְרָעָה וְרָעָה, a doublet based on look-alike Hebrew words, one with *aleph*, the other with *ayin*.

In none of these instances is there any assurance that the Septuagint translator actually had before him a different parent text from the MT. In haste and carelessness, he may have misread the Hebrew, construing it into the type of text now reflected by the Greek.

### *Longer or Shorter Text*

Sometimes the Greek differs from the MT by reading a longer or shorter text. In Hos 13.4 the MT reads, “I am the Lord your God from the land of Egypt.” The Greek includes these words plus others in the middle: “I am the Lord your God *who makes heaven firm and creates earth, whose hands created all the host of the sky. And I did not display them for you to follow after them. And I brought you up from the land of Egypt.*” Conceivably, the MT represents an ancient scribal omission caused by a scribe whose eyes jumped from “I am the Lord your God,” to “from the land of Egypt,” leaving out the intervening words.

The converse is true in Hag 2.4b–5. The MT reads, “for I am with you, says the LORD of hosts, *according to the promise that I made you when you came out of Egypt.* My spirit abides among you; do not fear” (NRSV). This time the Greek has a shorter text. It reads, “for I am with you, says the Lord Almighty, and my spirit is present among you; have courage.” Conceivably, the short reading of the Greek was caused by the translator’s eyes jumping from the words, “for I am with you, says the Lord of host,” to the parallel phrase, “my spirit is present among you,” leaving out the intervening words.

### *Unfamiliarity with Names*

The Greek translator of the Minor Prophets was lacking in his knowledge of place names. In Hos 5.8; 9.9; 10.9, instead of “Gibeah” he renders “hill(s).” In Hos 5.8 “Ramah” becomes “high places.” In Am 2.2 “Kerioth” becomes “its cities.” In Zach 12.11 “as the mourning for Hadad-rimmon in the plain of Megiddo,” becomes “like the mourning for a pomegranate orchard cut down in the plain.” Occasionally, the translator inserts place names where the Hebrew lacks them. In Soph 3.3 the MT reads, “its judges are evening wolves”; the Greek translates, “its judges are like wolves of Arabia.” The translator was also ignorant of personal names. In Zach 6.10 the MT reads, “from Heldai, Tobijah, and Jedaiah.” The Greek renders this, “from the rulers and from its useful people and from those who are familiar with it.”

### *The Translator’s Perspective*

Occasionally it appears that the Greek differs from the MT because of a changed historical or theological perspective on the part of the translator. In Am 6.1 the MT reads, “Alas for those who are at ease in Zion” (NRSV). When the Minor Prophets were rendered into Greek, the religious and political climate in Jerusalem had changed from that of the eighth century, so the warning becomes, “Alas for those who count Zion as nothing.”

Again, in Zach 13.2 the MT reads, "and also I will remove from the land the prophets (נְבִיִּים) and the unclean spirit." The Septuagint translator, apparently finding the removal of the prophets from the land an unsavory idea, renders the passage, "also I will remove from the land the pseudo-prophets (ψευδοπροφήτας) and the unclean spirit."

In Hag 2.9 the MT reads, "The latter splendor of this house shall be greater than the former, says the LORD of hosts; and in this place I will give prosperity, says the LORD of hosts" (NRSV). The Septuagint renders these words, then adds, "even peace of mind for a possession to everyone who creates, to raise up this shrine." The addition is perhaps due to the heightened perspective of the translator regarding what sort of prosperity the prophet has in mind and to whom it is to be given.

#### *Unity of the Greek Translation*

Based upon style variation, some have questioned the unity of the translation of this part of the Greek Bible. In the Schweich Lectures of 1920, H. St. John Thackeray (*The Septuagint and Jewish Worship* [London: British Academy, 1921]) asserted the unity of the Greek of the Minor Prophets, suggesting that it was done by one translator who was probably to be identified with the translator of Ezekiel (Iezekiel) chapters 28–39 (Thackeray's Ez β section). Three years later, Johannes Herrmann and Friedrich Baumgärtel (*Beiträge zur Entstehungsgeschichte der Septuaginta* [Berlin: W. Kohlhammer, 1923]) took exception to Thackeray's assertion, arguing that the Greek Minor Prophets had been done by two translators, the first rendering Hosea, Amos, Micah, Joel, Obadiah and Jonah, the second rendering Habakkuk, Zephaniah, Haggai, Zechariah and Malachi. Nahum, positioned between the two sections, appeared to belong to both sections and could not be assigned exclusively to either.

In 1934, Joseph Ziegler (*Die Einheit der Septuaginta zum Zwölfprophetenbuch* [Braunsberg, 1934]) challenged the conclusions of Herrmann and Baumgärtel. Ziegler emphasized the similarities between the two sections in the Greek Minor Prophets and argued that the variations in style do not necessarily imply different translators. He explained the variations on the basis of a versatile translator who felt no urgency to use the same correspondent consistently for a given Hebrew word or phrase.

Two years later, Sherman Johnson ("The Septuagint Translators of Amos" [Unpublished Doctoral Dissertation, University of Chicago, 1936]), in an elaborate investigation of the linguistic style of the Greek Amos, concluded that the translation divided itself into three groups, i.e., chapters 1–4, 5–6, and 7–9. For him the differences between these groups were sufficient to demand a hypothesis of a different translator for chapters 5–6 which separated themselves radically from the rest of the work.

In 1970, I suggested that the Greek Amos was rendered by two translators, one who did sections A (1.1–8.11) and C (9.11–15) and another who did section B (8.12–9.10) ("Some Notes on the Septuagint of Amos," *VT* 20 [1970] 108–112). Among other things, I argued that the variation in the renditions of the place name בְּרֶסֶבַע (τὸ φρέαρ τοῦ ὄρκου "the well of the oath" in Am 5.5; Βηρσαβέε "Bersabee" in Am 8.14) bore the stamp of different translators.

T. Muraoka ("Is the Septuagint Amos VIII 12–IX 10 a Separate Unit?" *VT* 20 [1970] 496–500) explained the differences in style in Amos on the basis of context and the versatility of the translator, a position similar to Ziegler's, whose study Muraoka considered to be of prime importance for the issue.

In 1976, Emanuel Tov argued that the Greek Minor Prophets was so similar to Jeremiah a' (chapters 1–28) and Ezekiel that the same translator (or perhaps a group of translators) was responsible for all three (*The Septuagint Translation of Jeremiah and Baruch* [Harvard Semitic Monographs; Missoula: Scholars Press, 1976] 149). Tov hinted again at this conclusion in 1981 in his text critical work on the Septuagint (*The Text-Critical Use of the Septuagint in Biblical Research* [Jerusalem: Simor, 1981] 48).

In 1988, C. Robert Harrison, Jr., reviewed the issue and concluded that those who argue for one translator for the Minor Prophets, or for one group of translators, use flawed logic in their methodologies. He concluded, "In light of these facts, the uncritical assumption of translational unity within the collection which comprises the twelve minor prophets must be rejected. . . . Some evidence is contradictory; perhaps a quite complicated redactional history may emerge for the Septuagint translations of the Minor Prophets" ("The Unity of the Minor Prophets in the Septuagint: A Reexamination of the Question," *BIOSCS* 21 [1988] 55–72 [quotation from p. 71]).

The issue is difficult since there are some anomalies in style within the Greek Minor Prophets that appear to go beyond the versatility of one translator. A case in point is the divine epithet ". . . of hosts." In Hosea and Amos (Hos 12.5; Am 3.13; 4.13; 5.27; 9.5) the phrase is always rendered, "the Almighty" (ὁ παντοκράτωρ), employing the article, while generally elsewhere it is rendered, "Almighty" (παντοκράτωρ). Exceptions are Na 3.5 and Soph 2.10 where "the Almighty" (ὁ παντοκράτωρ / τὸν παντοκράτορα) occurs. In each of these instances, however, variant readings also occur.

In my revised judgment, although the differences in style within the Greek Minor Prophets are sometimes striking, they do not necessarily suggest that more than one translator was at work. An exception is Habbakoum 3, in which the text found in a small number of manuscripts appears to be a different translation (in some respects) from the majority text; see further below. Leaving aside this one exception, I doubt that a complicated redactional history is necessary to understand the nature of the Greek Minor Prophets. The stylistic differences can be explained by the assumption that a corrector went through the original document, perhaps soon after it was finished, and made some revision. In his haste, the corrector did a haphazard job, leaving the text as it now exists with some stylistic inconsistencies.

#### VARIANT TRANSLATIONS OF HABBAKOUIM 3

The Greek translation of the Hebrew Bible occasionally exists in more than one rendition or recension. Examples are the A and B texts of the Book of Judges and the B/A and S texts of Tobit. Similarly Habbakoum 3 exists in two versions, one represented by the majority text, the other by a small group of manuscripts: codd. V II-86-407 (according to Ziegler's notation). This minority version is otherwise known as the Barberini text of Habbakoum 3. A number of scholars consider the Barberini text to predate the version of the Old Greek found in the majority manuscripts. A few scholars believe that it dates after the Old Greek. Since Ziegler's edition includes both texts, NETS has followed suit.

#### THE NETS TRANSLATION OF THE TWELVE

In the English translation I have attempted to be faithful to the Greek without deviating radically from the NRSV. My success in this endeavor will have to be judged by my readers. When the Greek and the Hebrew diverge, I have always chosen to remain faithful to the Greek. The end result is a mixture of styles, sometimes NRSV-like, but often different from the NRSV.

In order to bring out word echoes from the Greek to the English and to set the appropriate mood for the prophets, I have established a number of default translations for Greek words and Greek roots, especially for those that have a strong moral or ethical tone. Thus δίκαιος and cognates are rendered by "just/justice" (not "righteous/righteousness"); ἀδικία is rendered by "injustice," ἀσέβεια by "impiety," ἀνομία by "lawlessness."

I have given special attention to gender, rendering gender-inclusive words gender-inclusive, and gender-specific words gender-specific. Thus ἄνθρωπος is rendered "person/someone"; τέκνον is rendered "child." On the other hand, ἀνὴρ is translated "man/male"; υἱός "son." In a few instances, words that are usually taken as masculine are designated in Greek as feminine. In Hos 2.8; 13.1; Soph 1.4 "Baal" is preceded by the feminine article, thus: τῆ / τῆς Βααλ. I have rendered this by, "the goddess Baal." In Mich 7.8, 10 "my adversary" has a feminine ending and is preceded by a feminine article, thus ἡ ἐχθρά μου. In both instances I have rendered the phrase by "my lady adversary."

A few special words and phrases need some explanation. The word ἀλλόφυλος has consistently been rendered by "allophyles" in NETS. Though used to gloss "Philistines," it does not actually mean "Philistines" and has therefore been given a generic sense. The Greek construction of the participle plus the finite verb of the same root, standing for the Hebrew infinitive absolute plus the finite verb of the same root, is rendered here emphatically, not intensively. Thus for Mich 2.12 συναγόμενος συναχθήσεται Ιακωβ . . . ἐκδεχόμενος ἐκδέξομαι τοὺς καταλοίπους τοῦ Ισραηλ is translated, "When Iakob is being gathered, he will be gathered . . . Receiving I will receive those remaining of Israel." The important name, Judah, in Am 2.4 *passim* (יהודה - Ιουδα) appears always to be inflected and is thus rendered "Ioudas" throughout.

#### BIBLIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

In addition to the standard grammars and lexica, I have benefited much from the lexicon of the Greek Minor Prophets prepared by T. Muraoka, *A Greek-English Lexicon of the Septuagint. Twelve Prophets* (Louvain: Peeters, 1993). I have consulted on occasion the earlier English translations of Thomson and Brenton with benefit. My students in Greek and Hebrew throughout the years have indirectly contributed much to my understanding of the Greek Minor Prophets.

GEORGE E. HOWARD

## HOSEE

**1** A word of the Lord that came to Hosee the son of Beeri in the days of Kings Ozias and Ioatham and Achaz and Hezekias of Ioudas and in the days of King Ieroboam son of Ioas of Israel.

**2** The beginning of the word of the Lord in Hosee. And the Lord said to Hosee, "Go, take for yourself a wife of whoredom and children of whoredom, for the land in committing whoredom will commit whoredom from behind the Lord."

**3** And he went and took Gomer daughter of Debelaim, and she conceived and bore him a son.

**4** And the Lord said to him, "Call his name Iezrael, for in yet a little while I will also avenge the blood of Iezrael on the house of Ieou, and I will turn away the kingdom of the house of Israel. **5** And it shall be on that day, I will break the bow of Israel in the valley of Iezrael."

**6** And she conceived again and bore a daughter. And he said to him, "Call her name Not Pitied, for I will not any longer have pity on the house of Israel, but setting myself in opposition, I will oppose them. **7** But I will have pity on the sons of Ioudas, and I will save them by the Lord, their God, and I will not save them by bow or by sword or by war or by chariots or by horses or by horsemen."

**8** And she weaned Not Pitied and conceived again and bore a son. **9** And he said, "Call his name Not My People, for you are not my people and I am not your 'I am.'"

**10** And the number of the sons of Israel was like the sand of the sea, which shall not be measured nor numbered, and it shall be, in the place where it was said to them, "You are not my people," they too shall be called, "sons of a living god." **11** And the sons of Ioudas and the sons of Israel shall be gathered together, and they shall set up for themselves one realm, and they shall go up from the land, for great shall be the day of Iezrael.

**2** Say to your brother, My People, and to your sister, Pitied.

**2** Contend against your mother, contend —for she is not my wife, and I am not her husband— and I will put away her whoring from before me

and her adultery from between her breasts,

**3** that I might strip her naked and restore her as the day of her birth, and I will make her like a wilderness and render her as a parched land and kill her with thirst.

**4** And upon her children also I will have no pity, because they are children of whoredom.

**5** For their mother played the whore; she who bore them acted shamefully. For she said, "I will go after my lovers, who give me my bread and my water and my clothes and my linen cloth

and my oil and all the things proper for me."

**6** Therefore, behold, I am hedging up her way with thorns

and will build up her ways, and she will not find her path.

**7** And she shall pursue her lovers and not overtake them, and she shall seek them and shall not find them.

And she shall say, "I will go and return to my former husband, for it was well with me then rather than now."

**8** And she did not know that I had given her the grain and the wine and the oil and had multiplied silver to her.

But she made the silver and the gold for the goddess Baal.

**9** Therefore I will return and carry off my grain in its time and my wine in its season, and I will take away my garments and my linen cloth,

that she may not cover her shame.

**10** And now I will uncover her impurity before her lovers, and no one shall rescue her out of my hand.

**11** And I will turn away all her mirth, her feasts and her new moons and her sabbaths and all her public assemblies.

**12** And I will annihilate her vine and her fig trees of which she said,

"These are my pay, which my lovers have given to me."

And I will make them a witness, and the beasts of the field and the birds of the sky

and the things that creep upon the earth shall devour them.

**13** And I will avenge the days of the Baalim on her,

when she used to sacrifice to them and put on her earrings and her necklaces and go after her lovers but forgot me, says the Lord.

**14** Therefore, behold, I will deceive her and bring her down into the wilderness and speak to her heart.

**15** And from there I will give her her estates and the valley of Achor, to open up her understanding.

And there she will be brought low as in the days of her infancy and as in the days of her coming up out of the land of Egypt.

**16** And it shall be on that day, says the Lord, she will call me "My husband" and no longer call me "Baalim." **17** And I will remove the names of the Baalim from her mouth, and their names will be remem-

bered no more. <sup>18</sup>And I will make for them a covenant on that day with the animals of the field and with the birds of the sky and with the creeping things of the ground, and I will break bow and sword and war from the land, and I will make you dwell in hope. <sup>19</sup>And I will betroth you to myself forever, and I will betroth you to myself in justice and in judgment and in mercy and in compassion. <sup>20</sup>And I will betroth you to myself in faithfulness, and you shall know the Lord.

<sup>21</sup> And it shall be on that day, says the Lord,  
I will give heed to heaven,  
and it shall give heed to the earth,  
<sup>22</sup> and the earth shall hear the grain and the wine and the oil,  
and they will give heed to Iezrael,  
<sup>23</sup> and I will sow her for myself in the land.  
And I will have pity on Not Pitied,  
and I will say to Not My People, "You are my people,"  
and he shall say, "You are the Lord my God."

**3** And the Lord said to me, "Go again, and love a woman who loves evil things and is an adulteress, just as God loves the sons of Israel, but they turn their attention to foreign gods, and they like cakes with raisins." <sup>2</sup>So I hired her to myself for fifteen pieces of silver and a gomora<sup>a</sup> of barley and a nebel<sup>b</sup> of wine. <sup>3</sup>And I said to her, "For many days you will sit with me, and you will not play the whore, nor will you be with a man, and I will be with you." <sup>4</sup>For the sons of Israel shall sit many days without king and without ruler and without sacrifice and without altar and without priestly office and without <sup>c</sup>clear ones<sup>c</sup>. <sup>5</sup>And after these things, the sons of Israel shall return and seek the Lord their God and Daudid their king, and they shall stand in awe at the Lord and his good things in the last days.

**4** Hear a word of the Lord, O sons of Israel,  
for the Lord has a dispute with the inhabitants of the land.  
For there is no truthfulness or mercy  
or knowledge of God in the land.  
<sup>2</sup> Imprecation and lying and murder  
and stealing and adultery are poured out  
upon the land,  
and they mix blood with blood.  
<sup>3</sup> Therefore the land shall mourn  
with all those who inhabit it,  
with the animals of the field and with the reptiles of the earth  
and with the birds of the air;  
even the fish of the sea shall fail,  
<sup>4</sup> that no one either go to law or accuse.  
But my people will be like a priest being contradicted.  
<sup>5</sup> And you shall be weak by day,  
and the prophet also shall be weak with you.

I have made your mother like night.  
<sup>6</sup> My people have become like one who lacks knowledge;  
because you have rejected knowledge,  
I also will reject you from being a priest to me.  
And you forgot the law of your God;  
I also will forget your children.  
<sup>7</sup> According to their multitude,  
thus they sinned against me.  
I will turn their glory into dishonor.  
<sup>8</sup> They will feed on the sins of my people,  
and they will receive their souls with their injustices.  
<sup>9</sup> And it shall be as the people, so also the priest,  
and I will avenge on him his ways  
and repay him for his designs.  
<sup>10</sup> And they shall eat and not be satisfied;  
they have played the whore and shall not prosper,  
for they forsook the Lord  
to cherish <sup>11</sup>whoredom.

And the heart of my people  
has received wine and intoxicating drink.  
<sup>12</sup> They would consult counselors,  
and with his rods they would report to him.  
They were led astray by a spirit of whoredom,  
and they played the whore from their God.  
<sup>13</sup> They were offering sacrifice on the tops of the mountains  
and were sacrificing upon the hills,  
under an oak and a white poplar and a thickly shading tree,  
because shelter is a good thing.

Therefore your daughters will play the whore,  
and your daughters-in-law will commit adultery.  
<sup>14</sup> And I will not take an interest in your daughters when they play the whore  
nor in your daughters-in-law when they commit adultery,  
for the men themselves were associating with whores  
and were sacrificing with initiates,  
and the people, not understanding,  
embraced a whore.  
<sup>15</sup> But you, O Israel,  
stop being ignorant,  
and you, O Ioudas, stop going to Galgala,  
and stop going up to the house of On,  
and stop swearing by the living Lord.  
<sup>16</sup> For like a frenzied heifer,  
Israel went into a frenzy.

<sup>a</sup>Heb 1 homer = 220 liters <sup>b</sup>Heb = *skin* <sup>c</sup>Possibly *explaining devices*

Now the Lord will feed them  
like a lamb in a broad place.

17 Ephraim, an associate of idols,  
placed stumbling blocks against himself.

18 He chose Chananites; fornicating they  
committed fornication.  
They loved dishonor because of its<sup>a</sup>  
insolence.

19 You are a gust of wind in its<sup>a</sup> wings,  
and they will be ashamed because of  
their altars.

**5** Hear this, O priests!  
And give heed, O house of Israel!  
And give ear, O house of the king!  
For the judgment pertains to you,  
because you have become a snare to the  
lookout  
and like a net stretched over Itabyrion,  
which the game hunters firmly set.  
But I am one that disciplines you.

3 I knew Ephraim,  
and Israel is not far from me;  
for now Ephraim has gone after whores;  
Israel has been defiled.

4 Their deliberations did not grant them  
to turn to their God,  
because a spirit of whoredom is within  
them,  
and they did not know the Lord.

5 And Israel's pride will be brought low  
against him,  
and Israel and Ephraim will become weak  
in their injustices.  
And Ioudas also will become weak with  
them.

6 With sheep and calves they shall go  
to seek the Lord,  
and they will not find him,  
because he has turned away from them,  
7 because they abandoned the Lord,  
because foreign children were born to  
them.  
Now the rust will devour them and their  
allotments.

8 Trumpet with the trumpet on the hills;  
make a blast on the high places;  
announce in the house of On:  
Benjamin became amazed.

9 Ephraim has become an annihilation  
in the days of reproof;  
among the tribes of Israel,  
I have demonstrated things that are  
sure.

10 The rulers of Ioudas have become  
like those who remove landmarks;  
on them I will pour out  
my onslaught like water.

<sup>a</sup>i.e. dishonor

11 Ephraim has overpowered his opponent; he  
has trampled judgment,  
because he began to go after the vain  
things.

12 And I am like confusion to Ephraim  
and like a goad to the house of Ioudas.

13 And Ephraim saw his sickness,  
and Ioudas his pain.  
And Ephraim went to the Assyrians  
and sent ambassadors to King Iarim.  
And he was not able to cure you,  
and pain will not desist from you.

14 For I am like a panther to Ephraim  
and like a lion to the house of Ioudas.  
And I will plunder and go and take,  
and no one will rescue.

15 I will go and return to my place  
until they are annihilated, and they will  
seek my face.

**6** <sup>(5.15)</sup> In their distress they will approach me  
early, saying,  
<sup>(6.1)</sup> "Let us go and return to the Lord our God,  
because it is he who has torn, and he will  
heal us;  
he will strike down, and he will bind us  
up.

2 After two days he will make us healthy;  
on the third day we will rise up  
and live before him

3 and have knowledge. We will press on to  
know the Lord;  
we will find him ready as dawn,  
and he will come to us like the early and the  
latter rain to the earth."

4 What shall I do with you, O Ephraim?  
What shall I do with you, O Ioudas?  
Your mercy is like a morning cloud  
and like morning dew when it goes  
away.

5 Therefore I cut off your prophets;  
I killed them by the words of my mouth,  
and my judgment will go forth as light.

6 For I want mercy and not sacrifice,  
and knowledge of God rather than whole  
burnt offerings.

7 But they are like a person transgressing a  
covenant;  
there he despised me.

8 Galaad is a city working vain things,  
stirring up water.

9 And your strength is that of a man, a brigand;  
priests have hidden the way;  
they have murdered Sikima,  
because they did lawlessness.

10 In the house of Israel I saw a horrible  
thing:  
Ephraim's whoredom there; Israel has  
been defiled,

<sup>(11)</sup> and Ioudas. <sup>11</sup>Begin to reap for yourself  
when I return the captivity of my people,

- 7<sup>1</sup> when I heal Israel.  
 And the injustice of Ephraim will be revealed,  
 and the wickedness of Samaria,  
 because they have performed lies.  
 And a thief will come in to him,  
 a bandit plundering in his way,  
 2 that they might sing together like those who  
 sing together with their heart.  
 I have remembered all their wickedness.  
 Now their deliberations have surrounded  
 them;  
 they came before my face.  
 3 They made kings glad by their wickedness,  
 and rulers by their lies.  
 4 They are all adulterers,  
 like an oven being heated by a flame  
 for the baking of rest<sup>a</sup>,  
 from the kneading of dough until it is  
 leavened.  
 5 As for the days of our kings  
 —the rulers began to be enraged with wine;  
 he stretched out his hand with pestilent  
 persons.  
 6 For their hearts were fired up like an oven as  
 they broke into pieces;  
 all night long Ephraim was filled with  
 sleep;  
 morning came; he was fired up like a  
 flame of fire.  
 7 All were heated like an oven,  
 and they devoured their judges.  
 All their kings have fallen;  
 none among them was calling upon me.  
 8 Ephraim was mixing himself with the peoples.  
 Ephraim has become a loaf not turned.  
 9 Foreigners have devoured his strength,  
 but he did not know it,  
 and gray hairs have sprouted on him,  
 but he did not know it.  
 10 And Israel's pride will be humbled against  
 him;  
 yet they have not returned to the Lord  
 their God  
 and have not sought him in all this.  
 11 And Ephraim was like a dove,  
 silly without heart<sup>b</sup>;  
 he would call upon Egypt, and they went  
 to the Assyrians.  
 12 As they go, I will cast my net over them;  
 I will bring them down like the birds of  
 the air;  
 I will discipline them by the report of  
 their affliction.  
 13 Woe to them, for they have run away from  
 me!  
 Wretched are they, because they have  
 acted impiously against me.  
 But I redeemed them,  
 and they spoke lies against me.
- 14 And their hearts did not call out to me;  
 rather, they kept wailing upon their beds;  
 they were gashing themselves for grain and  
 wine.  
 15 They were trained through me, and I  
 strengthened their arms,  
 and they devised evil things against me.  
 16 They have turned aside to nothing;  
 they became like a tightly stretched bow;  
 their rulers shall fall by the sword  
 because of their undisciplined tongue.  
 This will be their contempt in the land of  
 Egypt.
- 8 Into their bosom like earth<sup>c</sup>,  
 like an eagle over the house of the Lord,  
 because they transgressed my covenant  
 and acted impiously against my law.  
 2 They will clamor for me,  
 "O God we have known you."  
 3 Because Israel has spurned good things,  
 they have pursued an enemy.  
 4 They made a king for themselves, and not  
 through me;  
 they ruled and did not inform me.  
 They made their silver and gold into idols  
 for themselves,  
 that they might be destroyed utterly.  
 5 Get rid of your bull calf, O Samaria;  
 my anger was provoked against them.  
 How long will they be incapable of  
 purification<sup>6</sup> in Israel?  
 And an artisan made it,  
 and it is not a god.  
 For your bull calf, O Samaria,  
 was a deceiver.  
 7 Because they sowed things blasted by the  
 wind,  
 their destruction shall also await them—  
 a sheaf unable to produce meal,  
 and even if it should do so,  
 foreigners will devour it.  
 8 Israel was swallowed up;  
 now they have come to be among the  
 nations  
 as a useless vessel,  
 9 because they went up to the Assyrians.  
 Ephraim sprouted anew by himself; they  
 loved gifts.  
 10 Therefore they will be delivered up among  
 the nations.  
 Now I will take them in,  
 and they will abate, for a little while,  
 from anointing king and rulers.
- 11 <sup>d</sup>Because Ephraim multiplied altars,  
 beloved altars became sins to him<sup>d</sup>.  
 12 I shall engrave for him a multitude, even his  
 precepts;

<sup>a</sup>Heb = sabbath bread <sup>b</sup>Or sense <sup>c</sup>Or soil <sup>d</sup>Perhaps *Because Ephraim multiplied altars to expiate sins, they became to him beloved altars*

the beloved altars were reckoned as  
foreign.

13 Therefore, if they offer a sacrifice  
and eat flesh,  
the Lord will not accept these things.  
Now he will remember their injustices  
and punish their sins;  
they have returned to Egypt  
and will eat unclean things among the  
Assyrians.

14 And Israel has forgotten his Maker  
and built sacred precincts,  
and Ioudas has multiplied walled cities,  
and I will send a fire into his cities,  
and it shall devour their foundations.

9 Stop rejoicing, O Israel!  
And stop exulting as the peoples do,  
for you have played the whore from your  
God.  
You have loved gifts on every threshing  
floor of grain.

2 Threshing floor and wine vat did not know  
them,  
and the wine deceived them.

3 They did not settle in the land of the Lord;  
Ephraim settled in Egypt,  
and among the Assyrians they shall eat  
unclean things.

4 They made no libation of wine to the  
Lord,  
and they did not please him.  
Their sacrifices are to them like bread of  
grief;  
all who eat them shall be defiled,  
for their loaves for their souls  
shall not enter the house of the Lord.

5 What will you do on the day of a public  
festival  
and on the day of the feast of the Lord?  
6 Therefore, behold, they go from the  
wretchedness of Egypt,  
and Memphis will receive them,  
and Machmas will bury them.  
Destruction will inherit their silver;  
thorns shall be in their encampments.

7 The days of punishment have come;  
the days of your recompense have come,  
and Israel will be afflicted  
as the deranged prophet,  
as the spirit-crazed person.  
Your madness has increased  
by the multitude of your injustices.

8 Ephraim is a watcher with God, a prophet,  
a twisted snare upon all his ways.  
They firmly pitched madness in the  
house of God.

9 They were corrupted  
according to the days of the hill;  
he will remember their injustice;  
he will punish their sins.

10 Like grapes in a wilderness  
I found Israel.  
And like an early watchman in a fig tree  
I saw their fathers.  
They came to Beel-phegor  
and were shamefully estranged,  
and the detestable became like the  
beloved.

11 Ephraim flew away like a bird.  
Their glories are from childbirth and  
birth pang and conception.

12 For even if they bring up their children,  
they will be bereaved of people.  
For also woe is to them,  
my flesh from them.

13 Ephraim, as I saw, presented their children  
for prey  
—even Ephraim—to lead out his children  
for piercing.

14 Give them, O Lord  
—what will you give them?  
Give them a childless womb  
and dry breasts.

15 All their evils are at Galgal,  
because there I came to hate them.  
Because of the wickedness of their deeds,  
I will drive them out of my house.  
I will not add to love them;  
all their rulers are disobedient.

16 Ephraim has suffered;  
he has dried up at his roots;  
he shall no longer bear fruit.  
For even if they give birth,  
I will kill the objects of desire of their  
womb.

17 Because they have not listened to him,  
God will reject them,  
and they shall become wanderers among  
the nations.

10 Israel is a well-growing vine; fruit thrives  
on it.  
According to the multitude of its fruits,  
he increased altars;  
according to the good things of his land,  
they built steles.

2 It divided their hearts.  
Now they will be annihilated;  
he will break down their altars;  
their steles will suffer distress.

3 For now they will say,  
“We have no king,  
for we did not fear the Lord,  
but the king—what will he do for us?”

4 Uttering words,  
false excuses, he will make a covenant;  
judgment will spring up like grass  
upon a dry clot of a field.

5 The inhabitants of Samaria  
will dwell near the bull calf of the house  
of On,

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- because his people mourned for him.  
 And as they provoked him, they will  
 rejoice over his glory,  
 for it had been deported from him.
- 6 And they carried him wrapped to the  
 Assyrians  
 as friendly gifts to King Iarim.  
 Ephraim will accept with a gift,  
 and Israel will be shamed by his counsel.
- 7 Samaria threw out her king  
 like firewood upon the face of the water.
- 8 And altars<sup>a</sup> of On, the sins of Israel,  
 shall be destroyed.  
 Thorns and thistles shall grow up  
 on their altars.  
 And they shall say to the mountains, Cover  
 us,  
 and to the hills, Fall on us.
- 9 From which time the hills were, Israel has  
 sinned;  
 there they stood.  
 A war will not overtake them in the hill,  
 against the children of injustice.
- 10 I have come to discipline them,  
 and peoples shall be gathered against  
 them,  
 as they are disciplined for their double  
 injustice.
- 11 Ephraim is a heifer taught to love  
 contention.  
 So I shall come against the fairest part of  
 her neck;  
 I shall mount Ephraim;  
 I shall pass over Ioudas in silence  
 —Iakob will prevail over him.
- 12 Sow for yourselves unto justice;  
 reap unto the fruit of life;  
 enlighten yourselves with the light of  
 knowledge.  
 Seek the Lord  
 until the produce of justice comes to you.
- 13 Why did you pass over impiety in silence  
 and reap its injustice,  
 ate a false fruit?  
 Because you hoped in your chariots,  
 in the multitude of your force!
- 14 And ruin shall rise up against your people,  
 and all your walled places shall  
 disappear,  
 as the ruler Salaman from the house of  
 Ierobaal, in the days of battle,  
 dashed a mother to the ground with her  
 children.
- 15 Thus will I do to you, O house of Israel,  
 because of your evil deeds.
- 11** At dawn they were cast out;  
 Israel's king was cast out.
- (1) For Israel was an infant, and I loved him,  
 and out of Egypt I recalled his children.
- 2 As I recalled them,  
 so they went from me;  
 they kept sacrificing to the Baalim  
 and offering incense to carved idols.
- 3 And it was I who bound the feet of  
 Ephraim,  
 took him upon my arm;  
 and they did not know that I had healed  
 them.
- 4 Amidst the ruin of people,  
 I stretched them out with the bands of  
 my love.  
 And I will be to them like a person slapping  
 his cheeks.  
 And I will watch him attentively;  
 I will prevail with him.
- 5 Ephraim settled in Egypt,  
 and Assour himself was his king,  
 because they did not want to return.
- 6 And the sword was weak in his cities  
 and ceased to work in his hands.  
 And they shall eat<sup>b</sup> from their schemes<sup>b</sup>
- 7 And his people are hanging from his  
 dwelling place,  
 and God will be angered at his precious  
 things  
 and will not lift him up.
- 8 How am I to deal with you, O Ephraim?  
 Shall I shield you, O Israel?  
 How am I to deal with you?  
 Shall I make you like Adama and like  
 Seboim?  
 My heart was changed together;  
 my sense of regret was disturbed.
- 9 I will not do according to the anger of my  
 wrath;  
 I will not abandon Ephraim to be wiped  
 out;  
 for I am divine and not human, holy in  
 your midst,  
 and I will not enter into a city.
- 10 I will go after the Lord;  
 he will roar like a lion.  
 Because he will growl,  
 even the children of waters shall be  
 amazed.
- 11 And they shall be amazed like a bird from  
 Egypt  
 and like a dove from the land of the  
 Assyrians,  
 and I will restore them to their homes,  
 says the Lord.
- 12 Ephraim has surrounded me with a lie,  
 and the house of Israel and Ioudas with  
 impiety;

<sup>a</sup>Gk = *bômos*    <sup>b</sup>Or from the fruit of their schemes

now God has come to know them,  
and the holy people shall be called  
God's.

- 12** Ephraim is an evil wind;  
he pursued hot wind all day long.  
He multiplied empty and vain things,  
and he made a covenant with the  
Assyrians  
and would trade oil to Egypt.
- 2 And the Lord has a judgment against  
Ioudas,  
to punish Iakob according to his ways,  
and he will repay him according to his  
deeds.
- 3 In the womb he kicked his brother with the  
heel  
and in his struggles prevailed against  
God.
- 4 And he prevailed with an angel and  
predominated.  
They wept and implored me;  
they found me in the house of On,  
and there <sup>a</sup>a word<sup>a</sup> was spoken to him.
- 5 But the Lord God the Almighty  
shall be his memorial.
- 6 And as for you, you shall return by your  
God.  
Guard mercy and judgment,  
and hope continually for your God.
- 7 In his hand Chanaan is a yoke of injustice;  
he has loved to oppress.
- 8 And Ephraim said, "But I am rich;  
I have found relief for myself."  
None of the fruits of his toil  
will be available to him,  
because of the injustice with which he  
sinned.
- 9 But I the Lord, your God,  
brought you up from the land of Egypt;  
I will make you live in tents again,  
as the day of the feast.
- 10 And I will speak to the prophets,  
and it was I who multiplied visions,  
and <sup>b</sup>I was made similar by the hand of  
the prophets<sup>b</sup>.
- 11 If Galaad is nothing, then the rulers offering  
sacrifices in Galgal were false,  
and their altars like stone heaps  
on a parched patch of a field.
- 12 And Iakob withdrew to the plain of Syria,  
and Israel was subject because of a wife,  
and because of a wife he kept watch.
- 13 And through a prophet the Lord brought  
Israel up from Egypt,  
and through a prophet he was guarded.
- 14 Ephraim became angry and provoked,  
and his blood shall be poured out upon  
him,

and the Lord shall pay him back for his  
reproach.

- 13** According to report, Ephraim himself  
received statutes in Israel,  
and he established them for the goddess  
Baal and died.
- 2 And they added to sin  
and made a cast image for themselves  
from their silver according to the likeness of  
idols,  
works of artisans produced for them.  
"Sacrifice people," they say,  
"for calves <sup>c</sup>have perished<sup>c</sup>."
- 3 Therefore they shall be like a morning mist  
and like an early dew that goes away,  
like dust that swirls from the threshing  
floor  
and like a hazy swarm of grasshoppers.
- 4 But I am the Lord your God who makes  
heaven firm and creates earth,  
whose hands created all the host of the  
sky.  
And I did not display them for you to  
follow after them.  
And I brought you up from the land of  
Egypt,  
and you shall know no God but me,  
and apart from me there is no one that  
saves.
- 5 It was I who tended you in the wilderness,  
in an uninhabitable land,  
6 according to their feedings.  
And they were satisfied to satiety, and  
their hearts were exalted;  
therefore, they forgot me.
- 7 And I will become like a panther to them  
and like a leopard according to the way  
of the Assyrians.
- 8 I will meet them like a famished bear  
and rend the closing of their heart.  
And whelps of the thicket will devour them  
there;  
wild animals of the field will tear them to  
pieces.
- 9 In your destruction, O Israel,  
who will help you?  
10 Where is this king of yours?  
And let him save you in all your cities.  
Let him judge you who said,  
"Give me a king and a ruler."
- 11 And I gave you a king in my anger  
and sustained in my wrath <sup>12a</sup>a gathering  
of injustice.
- (12) As for Ephraim,  
his sin is hidden.
- 13 Pains as of one in childbirth will come to  
him.  
This son is without sense,

<sup>a</sup>Lacking in Gk <sup>b</sup>Perhaps *I have been portrayed symbolically by the prophets* <sup>c</sup>i.e. are no longer available

- for he will not withstand in the crushing of children.
- 14 I shall rescue them from the hand of Hades and shall redeem them from Death.  
O Death, where is your sentence?  
O Hades, where is your goad?  
Comfort is hidden from my eyes.
- 15 For this one will make a division among brothers;  
the Lord will bring a hot wind from the wilderness against him, and it will dry up his aquifers; it will drain his fountains.  
It will cause his land to wither, and all his desirable vessels.
- 14** <sup>(13.16)</sup> Samaria will be annihilated, because she rose up against her God; they shall fall by the sword, and their nurslings shall be dashed to the ground, and their pregnant ones ripped open.
- <sup>2(14.1)</sup> Return, O Israel, to the Lord your God, for you have been weakened by your injustices.
- <sup>3(2)</sup> Take words with you, and return to the Lord your God; speak to him, that you not receive injustice but that you receive good things, and, "We will return the fruit of our lips.
- <sup>4(3)</sup> Assour shall not save us; we will not mount on horses; let us no longer say, 'Our gods,' to the works of our hands. 'He who is within you will pity the orphan.' "
- <sup>5(4)</sup> I will heal their settlements; I will love them openly, for my anger has turned from them.
- <sup>6(5)</sup> I will be like dew to Israel; he shall blossom like a lily and strike his roots like Lebanon.
- <sup>7(6)</sup> His branches shall go forth, and he shall be like a fruitful olive tree, and his fragrance like that of Lebanon.
- <sup>8(7)</sup> They shall return and sit beneath his shelter; they shall live and be intoxicated on grain, and his memory will blossom like the vine, like the wine of Lebanon.
- <sup>9(8)</sup> As for Ephraim—what is there any longer between him and idols?  
It is I who humbled him, and it is I who will strengthen him.  
I am like a leafy juniper tree; your fruit has been found from me.
- <sup>10(9)</sup> Who is wise and will understand these things,  
or prudent and will comprehend them?  
For the ways of the Lord are upright, and the just will walk in them, but the impious will be weak in them.

## AMOS

**1** Words of Amos that came in Nakkarim out of Thekoue, which he saw concerning Ierou-salem in the days of King Ozias of Ioudas and in the days of King Ieroboam son of Ioas of Israel, two years before the earthquake. <sup>2</sup>And he said:

The Lord uttered sounds from Sion and gave his voice from Ierousalem, and the pastures of the shepherds mourned, and the top of Carmel dried up.

<sup>3</sup> And the Lord said:  
For three impious acts of Damascus, and for four, <sup>a</sup>I will not turn away from<sup>a</sup> him,

because they were sawing pregnant women of those in Galaad asunder with iron saws.

<sup>4</sup> And I will send forth a fire on the house of Hazael, and it shall devour the foundations of the son of Hader.

<sup>5</sup> And I will break the gate bars of Damascus and utterly destroy inhabitants from the plain of On, and I will cut to pieces a tribe from the men of Charran, and the important people of Syria will be taken captive,

says the Lord.

<sup>6</sup> This is what the Lord says:  
For three impious acts of Gaza, and for four, <sup>a</sup>I will not turn away from<sup>a</sup> them,

because of their capturing a captivity of Salomon, to shut them up in Idumea.

<sup>7</sup> And I will send forth a fire against the walls of Gaza,

and it shall devour its foundations.

<sup>8</sup> And I will utterly destroy inhabitants from Azotus, and a tribe shall be removed from Ascalon,

and I will bring my hand against Akkaron, and those remaining of the allophytes shall perish,

says the Lord.

<sup>9</sup> This is what the Lord says:  
For three impious acts of Tyre,

<sup>a</sup>Perhaps *I will not let . . . go unpunished*

- and for four, <sup>a</sup>I will not turn away from<sup>a</sup>  
it,  
because they shut up a captivity of Salomon  
in Idumea  
and did not remember a covenant of  
brothers.
- 10 And I will send forth a fire against the walls  
of Tyre,  
and it shall devour its foundations.
- 11 This is what the Lord says:  
For three impious acts of Idumea,  
and for four, <sup>a</sup>I will not turn away from<sup>a</sup>  
them,  
because they pursued his brother with a  
sword  
and he spoiled a womb upon the ground  
and seized his shivering fright for a  
testimony  
and kept his onslaught <sup>b</sup>unto victory<sup>b</sup>.
- 12 And I will send forth a fire on Thaiman,  
and it shall devour the foundations of its  
walls.
- 13 This is what the Lord says:  
For three impious acts of the sons of  
Ammon,  
and for four, <sup>a</sup>I will not turn away from<sup>a</sup>  
him,  
because they were ripping up the pregnant  
women of the Galaadites  
in order to enlarge their borders.
- 14 And I will kindle a fire against the walls of  
Rabba,  
and it shall devour its foundations,  
with a cry on the day of battle,  
and it will be shaken on the day of its  
destruction.
- 15 And its kings shall go into captivity,  
their priests and their rulers together,  
says the Lord.
- 2** This is what the Lord says:  
For three impious acts of Moab,  
and for four, <sup>a</sup>I will not turn away from<sup>a</sup>  
him,  
because they burned to lime  
the bones of the king of Idumea.
- 2 And I will send forth a fire against Moab,  
and it shall devour the foundations of its  
cities,  
and Moab shall die in debility,  
with shouting and with the sound of a  
trumpet.
- 3 And I will utterly destroy a judge from it  
and kill all its rulers with him,  
says the Lord
- 4 This is what the Lord says:  
For three impious acts of the sons of Ioudas,  
and for four, <sup>a</sup>I will not turn away from<sup>a</sup>  
him,
- because they rejected the law of the Lord  
and did not keep his ordinances,  
and their vain things which they made,  
which their fathers followed after, led  
them astray.
- 5 And I will send forth a fire against Ioudas,  
and it shall devour the foundations of  
Ierousalem.
- 6 This is what the Lord says:  
For three impious acts of Israel,  
and for four, <sup>a</sup>I will not turn away from<sup>a</sup>  
him,  
because they sold the just for silver  
and the needy for the sake of  
sandals—
- 7 things that tread on the dust of the earth,  
and they were buffeting the heads of  
the poor,  
and they turned aside the way of the  
humble,  
and a son and his father were going to the  
same female servant  
in order to profane the name of their  
God.
- 8 And binding their garments with cords,  
they were making curtains beside the  
altar,  
and in the house of their God they were  
drinking  
wine obtained through extortion.
- 9 But I removed the Amorrite from before  
them,  
whose height was as the height of a  
cedar,  
and who was as strong as an oak,  
and I removed his fruit above  
and his roots beneath.
- 10 Also I brought you up out of the land of  
Egypt  
and led you around for forty years in the  
wilderness,  
to inherit the land of the Amorrites.
- 11 And I took some of your sons to be  
prophets  
and some of your youths for  
consecration.  
Is this not so, O sons of Israel?  
says the Lord.
- 12 But you were making the consecrated ones  
drink wine  
and were commanding the prophets,  
saying, "You shall not prophesy."
- 13 Therefore, behold, I roll under you  
like a wagon full of straw is rolled.
- 14 And flight shall perish from the runner,  
and the strong shall not retain his  
strength,  
and the fighter shall not save his soul,

<sup>a</sup>Perhaps I will not let . . . go unpunished <sup>b</sup>Perhaps forever

15 and the archer shall not stand,  
and he who is swift on his feet shall not  
escape,  
nor shall the horseman save his soul  
16 and shall find his heart in acts of  
dominance;  
the naked shall pursue on that day,  
says the Lord.

**3** Hear this word that the Lord has spoken  
against you, O house of Israel, and against the  
whole tribe that I brought up out of the land of  
Egypt, saying,

<sup>2</sup> Only you have I known  
of all the tribes of the earth;  
therefore I will avenge upon you  
all your sins.

<sup>3</sup> Will two in any way walk together  
unless they be acquainted with each  
other?

<sup>4</sup> Will a lion roar from its thicket,  
when it has no prey?  
Will a whelp utter its voice from his den at  
all,

<sup>5</sup> Will a bird fall upon the ground  
without a fowler?  
Will a snare on the ground spring  
without catching something?

<sup>6</sup> Will a trumpet sound in a city,  
and the people not be terrified?  
Will there be evil in a city,  
which the Lord did not do?

<sup>7</sup> For the Lord God will not do a thing  
unless he reveals instruction to his slaves  
the prophets.

<sup>8</sup> A lion will roar,  
and who will not fear?  
The Lord God has spoken,  
and who will not prophesy?

<sup>9</sup> Proclaim to the districts among the  
Assyrians,  
and to the districts of Egypt, and say,  
"Assemble on the mountain of Samaria,  
and see many marvels in its midst  
and oppression within it."

<sup>10</sup> And it<sup>a</sup> was unaware of what would be  
before it, says the Lord,  
those who store up injustice and  
wretchedness in their districts.

<sup>11</sup> Therefore this is what the Lord God says:  
Tyre and your land round about shall be  
made desolate,  
and he shall bring down your might out  
of you,  
and your districts shall be plundered.

<sup>12</sup> This is what the Lord says: As when the  
shepherd pulls from the mouth of the lion two  
legs or a lobe of an ear, so shall the sons of Israel

be pulled out, those who live in Samaria before a  
tribe and in Damascus as priests.

<sup>13</sup> Hear, and testify to the house of Iakob,  
says the Lord God the Almighty:

<sup>14</sup> For in the day when I take vengeance on the  
impious acts of Israel against him,  
I will also take vengeance against the  
altars of Baithel,  
and the horns of the altar shall be  
demolished  
and fall to the ground.

<sup>15</sup> I will demolish the house encircled by  
columns onto the summer  
house,  
and the houses of ivory shall perish,  
and many other houses shall be added,  
says the Lord.

**4** Hear this word, you heifers of Basanitis,  
who are in the mountain of Samaria,  
who oppress the poor and trample the  
needy,  
who say to their lords, "Give to us that  
we might drink."

<sup>2</sup> The Lord swears by his holy ones:  
For behold, days are coming upon you,  
and they shall take you with weapons,  
and fiery pests shall cast those with you  
into cauldrons heated from  
underneath.

<sup>3</sup> And you shall be carried out naked before  
each other,  
and you shall be flung out into Mount  
Remman,  
says the Lord.

<sup>4</sup> You came to Baithel and committed  
lawlessness,  
and in Galgala you multiplied to commit  
impiety,  
and you brought your sacrifices in the  
morning,  
your tithes on the third day.

<sup>5</sup> They read the law outside and called for  
confessions.  
Announce that the sons of Israel have  
loved these things,  
says the Lord God.

<sup>6</sup> And I will give you an aching of the teeth in  
all your cities,  
and lack of bread in all your places,  
and you did not return to me,  
says the Lord.

<sup>7</sup> I also withheld the rain from you  
three months before the harvest,  
and I will rain on one city,  
and on one city I will not rain;  
one part will be rained upon,  
and a part which I will not rain on will  
wither,

<sup>a</sup>Possibly *Samaria*

- 8 and two or three cities will come together to  
one city  
to drink water and will not be satisfied;  
even so you did not return to me,  
says the Lord.
- 9 I struck you with fever and jaundice;  
you multiplied your gardens;  
the caterpillar devoured your vineyards  
and fig yards and olive yards;  
even so you did not return to me,  
says the Lord.
- 10 I sent you death in the way of Egypt,  
and I killed your young men with the  
sword,  
along with the captivity of your horses,  
and I brought up your camps with fire in  
your wrath;  
even so you did not return to me,  
says the Lord.
- 11 I overthrew you  
as God overthrew Sodoma and  
Gomorrah,  
and you were like a firebrand snatched  
from the fire;  
even so you did not return to me,  
says the Lord.
- 12 Therefore, thus I will do to you, O Israel,  
but because I will do thus to you,  
prepare to call upon your God, O Israel.
- 13 For behold, I am the one who makes the  
thunder strong and creates a wind  
and announces his anointed to humans,  
makes dawn and mist  
and treads on the heights of the earth—  
the Lord God the Almighty is his name!
- 5** Hear this word of the Lord that I take up over  
you in lamentation, O house of Israel:
- 2 She has fallen, no more to rise,  
the maiden Israel;  
she slipped upon her land;  
there is no one to raise her up.
- 3 For this is what the Lord says:  
The city out of which a thousand were going  
forth,  
there shall be left a hundred,  
and out of which a hundred were going  
forth,  
there shall be left ten to the house of  
Israel.
- 4 For this is what the Lord says to the house  
of Israel:  
Seek me, and you shall live,  
and stop seeking Baithel,  
and stop entering Galgala,  
and stop crossing over to the well of the  
oath,
- because Galgala, taken captive, will be taken  
captive,  
and Baithel shall be as not existing.
- 6 Seek the Lord, and live,  
lest the house of Ioseph should flame up  
like fire,  
and it will devour him, and there will be  
no one to quench for the house of  
Israel.
- 7 The Lord is the one who makes judgment  
on high  
and has established justice on earth,  
who makes all things  
and transforms and turns the shadow of  
death into the morning  
and darkens day into night,  
who calls to the water of the sea  
and pours it out upon the face of the  
earth—  
the Lord God the Almighty is his name—  
who dispenses destruction against strength  
and brings misery to the fortress.
- 10 They have hated the one who reproves in  
the gates  
and have despised holy speech.
- 11 Therefore, because you were buffeting the  
poor  
and have taken from them choice gifts,  
you have built houses of hewn stone,  
but you shall not live in them;  
you have planted desirable vineyards,  
but you shall not drink the wine from  
them.
- 12 For I have known your many impious acts  
—your sins are mighty—  
trampling the just, taking rewards  
and turning aside the needy in the gates.
- 13 Therefore the prudent will keep silent in  
that time,  
for it is an evil time.
- 14 Seek the good thing and not the evil thing,  
that you may live,  
and so the Lord God the Almighty will be  
with you,  
just as you have said,
- 15 “We have hated evil things and loved the  
good things.”  
Restore judgment in the gates,  
that the Lord God the Almighty  
might have mercy on the remnant of  
Ioseph.
- 16 Therefore this is what the Lord God the  
Almighty says:  
In all the streets there shall be wailing,  
and in all the roads it shall be said, Alas!  
Alas!  
The farmer shall be called to mourning  
and lamentation and to those knowing a  
dirge;
- 17 in all the roads there shall be wailing,

- for I will pass through the midst of you,  
said the Lord.
- 18 Woe, you who desire the day of the Lord!  
Why is this the day of the Lord to you?  
And it is darkness, not light,  
19 as if someone should flee from a lion,  
and a bear attacks him,  
or he should leap into his house, place his  
hands on the wall,  
and a snake should bite him.  
20 Is not the day of the Lord darkness and not  
light,  
and gloom with no brightness in it?
- 21 I have hated, I have despised your feasts,  
and I will not smell at your festivals.  
22 For if you should bring to me your whole  
burnt offerings and sacrifices,  
I will not accept them,  
and your conspicuous acts for deliverance  
I will not look upon.  
23 Take away from me the noise of your  
songs;  
I will not listen to a strumming of your  
instruments.  
24 And judgment will roll down like water,  
and justice like an unfordable wadi.
- 25 Surely you did not bring me victims and  
sacrifices forty years, O house of  
Israel?  
26 You even took up the tent of Moloch and  
the star of your god Raiphan,  
models of them which you made for  
yourselves.  
27 And I will deport you beyond Damascus,  
says the Lord—God the Almighty is his name.
- 6** Alas for those who count Sion as nothing  
and for those who trust in the mountain  
of Samaria.  
They have harvested the rule of the  
nations  
and entered for themselves.  
2 Cross over, O house of Israel, all of you, and  
see,  
and from there pass on to Hemath  
Rabba,  
and go down to Geth of allophyles,  
the most excellent ones of all these  
kingdoms.  
See<sup>b</sup> if their borders are greater than your  
borders.  
3 Those who pray for an evil day,  
who draw near and hold fast to false  
sabbaths,  
4 who sleep on beds of ivory  
and live lewdly on their couches  
and eat kids from the flocks  
and suckling calves from the midst of the  
herds,
- 5 who applaud at the sound of the  
instruments—  
since they considered them as permanent  
and not as fleeting—  
6 who drink thoroughly filtered wine  
and anoint themselves with the finest oils,  
they were not even suffering anything  
over the ruin of Ioseph.  
7 Therefore they shall now be captives of the  
powerful from the beginning,  
and the neighing of horses shall be  
removed from Ephraim.
- 8 Because the Lord has sworn by himself:  
For I abhor all the pride of Iakob  
and have hated his lands.  
And I will remove a city with all who  
inhabit it.
- 9 And it shall be, if ten men are left in one  
house, they shall also die—and the remaining  
ones shall be left—<sup>10</sup>and the members of their  
household shall take them and forcibly bring their  
bones out of the house, and he<sup>c</sup> will say to those in  
charge of the house, "Might there still be one with  
you?" And he<sup>c</sup> will say, "No more." And he will say,  
"Silence, so as not to name the name of the Lord!"
- 11 For behold, the Lord commands,  
and he shall strike the great house with  
bruises  
and the little house with lacerations.  
12 Will horses pursue on rocks?  
Will they be silent among mares?  
Because you have turned judgment into  
wrath  
and the fruit of justice into bitterness,  
13 you who are glad at no word,  
who say, "Did we not have horns in our  
strength?"
- 14 For behold, I am raising up against you a  
nation,  
O house of Israel,  
and they shall oppress you, that you may  
not enter Hemath  
and as far as the wadi of the west.
- 7** Thus the Lord showed me and behold, an  
early offspring of grasshoppers coming, and  
behold, one locust larva, Gog the king. <sup>2</sup>And it will  
be, if they finish to devour the grass of the land—  
and I said,  
"O Lord, O Lord, be gracious.  
Who will raise up Iakob,  
because he is very small?  
3 Repent, O Lord, at this."  
"Even this shall not be," says the Lord.
- 4 Thus the Lord showed me, and behold, the  
Lord called for a sentence by fire. And it devoured  
the voluminous deep and devoured the portion.  
<sup>5</sup>And I said,

<sup>a</sup>Perhaps *offering for deliverance*    <sup>b</sup>Lacking in Gk    <sup>c</sup>Possibly *one*

"O Lord, O Lord, do cease!  
Who will raise up Iakob,  
because he is very small?  
6 Repent, O Lord, at this."  
"Even this shall not come about," says  
the Lord.

7 Thus the Lord showed me, and behold, one  
that stood on an adamantine wall, and adamant  
was in his hand. <sup>8</sup>And the Lord said to me, "Amos,  
what do you see?" And I said, "Adamant." And the  
Lord said to me,  
"Behold, I am inserting adamant  
in the midst of my people, Israel.  
I will no longer add to pass them by,  
9 and altars<sup>a</sup> of laughter shall be annihilated,  
and the mystic rites of Israel shall be laid  
waste,  
and I will rise against the house of  
Ieroboam with a sword."

10 And Amasias, the priest of Baithel, sent to  
King Ieroboam of Israel, saying, "Amos is conduct-  
ing seditious meetings against you in the midst of  
the house of Israel. The land shall not be able to  
bear all his words. <sup>11</sup>For this is what Amos says,  
'Ieroboam shall die by the sword,  
and Israel shall be led captive from his  
land.'"

<sup>12</sup>And Amasias said to Amos, "You that see, go, be-  
take you to the land of Ioudas, and live there, and  
you shall prophesy there, <sup>13</sup>but do no longer add  
to prophesy at Baithel, for it is the king's holy  
precinct and it is the house of the kingdom."

14 And Amos answered and said to Amasias, "I  
was no prophet nor a prophet's son, but I was a  
goatherd and a scratcher of sycamore figs, <sup>15</sup>and the  
Lord took me from the sheep, and the Lord said to  
me, 'Go, prophesy against my people, Israel.'  
<sup>16</sup>"And now, hear a word of the Lord.  
You say, 'Do not prophesy against Israel,  
and you shall not incite a mob against  
the house of Iakob.'  
<sup>17</sup>Therefore this is what the Lord says,  
'Your wife shall become a whore in the  
city,  
and your sons and your daughters shall  
fall by the sword,  
and your land shall be measured by  
line,  
and you yourself shall die in an unclean  
land,  
and Israel shall be led captive from its  
land.'"

**8** Thus the Lord showed me, and behold, a  
fowler's basket. And he said, "What do you  
see, Amos?" And I said, "A fowler's basket." <sup>2</sup>And  
the Lord said to me,  
"The end has come upon my people Israel;  
I will no longer add to pass them by,  
3 and the compartments of the shrine shall  
wail in that day," says the Lord;

"the fallen one shall be numerous in every  
place.  
I will inflict silence."

4 Do hear this, you who rub out the needy in  
the morning  
and oppress the poor from the land,  
5 who say, "When will the month pass  
and we will do business,  
and the sabbaths,  
and we will open storehouses,  
to make a measure small, to enlarge  
weights  
and to make the balance unfair,  
6 to acquire the poor with silver  
and the humble for sandals,  
and we will trade in every kind of  
produce?"

7 The Lord swears by the pride of Iakob:  
If all your deeds shall be forgotten  
successfully!  
8 And due to this shall not the land be  
troubled  
and everyone mourn who lives in it  
and consummation rise up like a river  
and sink like the river of Egypt?

9 And it will come to pass on that day, says  
the Lord,  
and the sun will go down at noon,  
and the light will become dark upon the  
earth in the daytime.

10 And I will turn your feasts into mourning  
and all your songs into lamentation.  
And I will bring sackcloth on every loin  
and baldness on every head.  
And I will make him<sup>b</sup> like the mourning for  
a loved one  
and those with him<sup>b</sup> like a day of  
suffering.

11 Behold, days are coming, says the Lord,  
and I will send a famine on the land,  
not a famine of bread or a thirst for water,  
but a famine of hearing a word of the  
Lord.

12 And the waters will be shaken as far as the  
sea,  
and from north to east they shall run to  
and fro,  
seeking the word of the Lord,  
and they shall not find it.

13 In that day, the beautiful maidens and the  
young men  
shall faint for thirst,  
14 those who swear by the atonement of  
Samaria,  
and say, "Your god lives, O Dan,"  
and, "Your god lives, O Bersabee"—  
and they shall fall and never rise again.

<sup>a</sup>Gk = *bōmos* <sup>b</sup>Antecedent uncertain

## AMOS 9—MICHAIAS 1

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- 9 I saw the Lord standing on the altar, and he said:  
Strike the propitiatory, and the gateways shall be shaken,  
and cut through the heads of all,  
and those who are left I will kill with the sword;  
not one of them fleeing shall escape,  
and not one of them attempting to return safe will come through safely.
- 2 If they be buried in Hades,  
from there my hand shall draw them up;  
even if they ascend to heaven,  
from there I will bring them down.
- 3 If they hide on the top of Carmel,  
from there I will search out and take them;  
even if they sink from my eyes to the depths of the sea,  
there I will command the dragon, and it shall bite them.
- 4 Even if they go into captivity in front of their enemies,  
there I will command the sword, and it shall kill them,  
and I will fix my eyes on them  
for harm and not for good.
- 5 And the Lord God the Almighty,  
who touches the earth and shakes it,  
and all who inhabit it will mourn,  
and its consummation will rise up like a river  
and sink like the river of Egypt;  
who builds his ascent to heaven  
and founds his promise upon the earth,  
who calls for the water of the sea  
and pours it out upon the face of the earth—  
the Lord God the Almighty is his name.
- 7 Are you not like sons of Ethiopians to me,  
O sons of Israel? says the Lord.  
Did I not bring Israel up from the land of Egypt  
and the allophytes from Cappadocia and the Syrians from a hole?
- 8 Behold, the eyes of the Lord God are upon the kingdom of sinners,  
and I will remove it from the face of the earth—  
except that I will not utterly remove the house of Iakob,  
says the Lord.
- 9 For behold, I am commanding,  
and I will winnow the house of Israel  
among all the nations  
as one winnows with a winnowing-fan,  
and <sup>a</sup>nothing crushed<sup>a</sup> shall fall to the ground.
- 10 All the sinners of my people shall die by the sword,  
who say, "Evil shall not draw near or be against us."
- 11 On that day I will raise up  
the tent of Daudid that is fallen  
and rebuild its ruins  
and raise up its destruction,  
and rebuild it as the days of old
- 12 in order that those remaining of humans  
and<sup>b</sup> all the nations upon whom my name has been called  
might seek out me<sup>c</sup>,  
says the Lord who does these things.
- 13 Behold days are coming, says the Lord,  
and the grain harvest shall overtake the vintage,  
and the grape shall ripen at seedtime,  
and the mountains shall drip sweetness,  
and all the hills shall be thickly grown.
- 14 And I will return the captivity of my people Israel,  
and they shall build the annihilated cities  
and inhabit them,  
and they shall plant vineyards and drink their wine,  
and they shall plant gardens and eat their fruit.
- 15 And I will plant them upon their land,  
and they shall never again be plucked from their land that I have given them,  
says the Lord God the Almighty.

## MICHAIAS

1 And a word of the Lord came to Michaiias, the Morasthi, in the days of Kings Ioatham and Achaz and Hezekias of Ioudas, regarding the things that he saw concerning Samaria and concerning Ierousalem.

- 2 Hear words, you people,  
and let the earth pay attention, and all those in it,  
and the Lord shall be a witness against<sup>d</sup> you,  
the Lord from his holy house.
- 3 For behold, the Lord is coming out of his place  
and will come down and tread upon the high places of the earth.
- 4 And the mountains will quake under him,  
and the valleys will melt like wax from before the fire  
and like water being carried in a descent.
- 5 All this is for the impiety of Iakob  
and for the sin of the house of Israel.  
What is the impiety of Iakob?  
Is it not Samaria?  
And what is the sin of the house of Ioudas?  
Surely it is Ierousalem?

<sup>a</sup>Perhaps *no crushed grain*   <sup>b</sup>Or *even*   <sup>c</sup>Lacking in Gk   <sup>d</sup>Or *among*

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## MICHAIAS 1-2

- 6 And I will make Samaria an orchard-guard's  
shed in the field  
and a planting of a vineyard.  
And I will pull down her stones into a chasm,  
and her foundations I will uncover.
- 7 And all her carved images they shall cut to  
pieces,  
and all her wages they shall burn with  
fire,  
and all her idols I will make an  
annihilation.  
For from the wages of whoredom she  
gathered them,  
and from the wages of whoredom she  
brought them together.
- 8 For this she shall lament and wail;  
she shall go unshod and naked;  
she shall make lamentation like that of  
dragons  
and mourning like that of the daughters  
of Sirens.
- 9 Because her blow has taken hold,  
for it has come as far as loudas  
and has reached as far as the gate of my  
people,  
as far as Ierousalem.
- 10 Do not consider yourselves great, you in  
Geth;  
do not rebuild out of a house a  
laughingstock, you in Akim;  
besprinkle your laughingstock with soil.
- 11 Though she inhabits her cities well,  
inhabiting Sennaan did not come out to  
mourn  
a house next to her;  
she shall receive a painful blow from you.
- 12 Who made a beginning of good things  
for her who dwells in pain?  
Because bad things have come down from  
the Lord  
to the gates of Ierousalem:  
noise of chariots and of horsemen.  
She who dwells in Lachis,  
she is the originator of sin  
for daughter Sion,  
because in you were found  
the impious acts of Israel.
- 14 Therefore you shall give worthless houses—  
ones being dispatched—  
as far as the inheritance of Geth.  
It<sup>a</sup> became meaningless  
to the kings of Israel.
- 15 Until I lead the heirs to you,  
O inheritance inhabiting [Lachis],  
the glory of daughter Israel  
will come as far as Odollam.
- 16 Shave, and cut your hair  
for your pampered children;  
broaden your widowhood like an eagle,  
because they were taken captive from you.
- 2 They came devising troubles  
and working out evil deeds on their beds.  
And as soon as it was day, they would  
execute them,  
for they did not lift their hands to God.  
And they would covet fields  
and plunder orphans  
and oppress households,  
and they would plunder a man and his  
house, a man and his inheritance.
- 3 Therefore this is what the Lord says:  
Behold, I am devising evil against this tribe  
from which you shall not remove your  
necks  
nor walk upright suddenly,  
because it is an evil time.
- 4 On that day a parable shall be taken up  
against you,  
and a dirge will be wailed with a tune,  
saying, "We suffered misery in misery;  
a portion of my people was measured by  
a line,  
and there was none to prevent him from  
turning away.  
Our fields were parceled out."
- 5 Therefore you will have no one to cast the  
line by lot  
in the assembly of the Lord.
- 6 "Stop weeping with tears,  
nor let them shed tears over these  
matters,  
for he will not repel reproaches."
- 7 One says, "The house of Iakob provoked the  
spirit of the Lord."  
If these are his practices,  
are not his words good with him,  
and have they not proceeded upright?
- 8 And previously, my people resisted in  
hostility;  
contrary to his peace they stripped off his  
skin  
to remove hope in the crushing of war.
- 9 Therefore, leaders of my people shall be cast  
out  
of their homes of luxury.  
On account of their evil practices, they have  
been expelled.  
Draw near to the everlasting mountains.
- 10 Arise, and go,  
because this rest is not for you,  
due to uncleanness.  
You were corrupted with corruption;  
you were pursued without anyone pursuing.
- 11 A spirit established a lie; it dripped on  
you as wine and intoxicating drink.  
And it shall be that from the drop of this  
people,  
12 when Iakob is being gathered, he will be  
gathered together with all.  
Receiving I will receive those remaining  
of Israel;

<sup>a</sup>Perhaps Geth

## MICHAIA'S 2-4

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- I will establish their return at the same time.  
Like sheep in affliction, like a flock in the  
midst of their stall, they shall leap  
away from people.
- 13 They have cut through the breach before  
them,  
and they passed through the gate  
and went out through it.  
And their king went out before them,  
but the Lord shall lead them.
- 3** And he will say:  
Do hear this, you progenitors of the house  
of Iakob  
and you that are left of the house of  
Israel!  
Should you not know judgment—  
you who hate the good things and seek  
the evil things,  
who snatch their skin from them,  
and their flesh from their bones?
- 3 As they devoured the flesh of my people  
and flayed their skin off them  
and crushed their bones  
and cut them in pieces like meat in a  
cauldron,  
like flesh in a cauldron.
- 4 Thus they will cry to the Lord,  
and he will not listen to them,  
and he will turn his face from them at that  
time,  
because they did evil against them<sup>a</sup> in  
their practices.
- 5 This is what the Lord says  
against the prophets who lead my people  
astray,  
who bite with their teeth  
and announce peace to him<sup>a</sup>,  
and nothing has been given into their  
mouth;  
they have raised up war against him<sup>a</sup>.
- 6 Therefore, it shall be night to you without  
vision  
and darkness to you without divination.  
The sun shall go down upon the prophets,  
and the day shall be dark over them;  
7 those who see dreams shall be disgraced,  
and the diviners shall be mocked;  
they shall all speak against them,  
for no one will listen to them.
- 8 Otherwise I will replenish strength in the  
spirit of the Lord,  
and of judgment and of dominance  
to declare to Iakob his impious acts  
and to Israel his sins.
- 9 Do hear this, you leaders of the house of  
Iakob  
and you that are left of the house of  
Israel,  
who abhor judgment  
and pervert the upright things,  
10 who build Zion with blood  
and Ierusalem with injustice!  
11 Her leaders were judging for gifts,  
and her priests were giving answer for a  
wage,  
and her prophets were divining for  
money,  
and they were relying on the Lord,  
saying, "Is the Lord not with<sup>b</sup> us?  
No harm shall come upon us."
- 12 Therefore, on your account  
Zion shall be plowed as a field,  
and Ierusalem shall become like a garden-  
watcher's hut,  
and the mountain of the house shall  
become a grove of a thicket.
- 4** And it shall be in the last days,  
the mountain of the Lord shall be  
manifest,  
prepared on the tops of the mountains,  
and it shall be elevated beyond the hills.  
And peoples shall hasten to it,  
2 and many nations shall come and say:  
"Come, let us go up to the mountain of the  
Lord  
and to the house of the God of Iakob,  
and they will show us his way,  
and we will walk in his paths."  
Because out of Zion shall go forth a law,  
and a word of the Lord from  
Ierusalem.
- 3 And he shall judge between many peoples  
and shall reprove strong nations far  
away,  
and they shall cut their swords into plows  
and their spears into sickles,  
and nation shall no longer lift up sword  
against nation,  
and they shall learn war no more,  
4 and each one shall rest under his vine, and  
each under his fig tree,  
and no one shall make them afraid,  
for the mouth of the Lord Almighty has  
spoken this.
- 5 Because all the peoples will walk,  
each in its own way,  
but we will walk in the name of the Lord,  
our God,  
forever and anon.
- 6 In that day, says the Lord,  
I will assemble her who is shattered,  
and I will welcome her who is rejected  
and those whom I drove away.
- 7 And I will make her who is shattered a  
remnant,  
and her who is driven away a strong  
nation,

<sup>a</sup>I.e. the people <sup>b</sup>Or among

- and the Lord will reign over them in Mount  
Sion  
from now and forever.
- 8 And you, O dusty tower of the flock,  
daughter Sion,  
to you it shall come,  
and the former dominion, a kingdom out  
of Babylon,  
shall enter daughter Ierousalem.
- 9 And now why did you know harm?  
You did not have a king, did you?  
Or did your counsel perish,  
because pangs subdued you like one in  
labor?
- 10 Suffer pain, and be courageous, and draw  
near, O daughter Sion,  
like one in labor,  
for now you shall go forth from the city  
and tent in the plain,  
and you shall come as far as Babylon.  
From there he will rescue you,  
and from there the Lord your God will  
redeem you  
from the hand of your enemies.
- 11 And now many nations  
have assembled against you,  
those who say, "We shall rejoice,  
and our eyes shall behold Sion."
- 12 They too did not know  
the thought of the Lord,  
and they did not understand his plan,  
that he has gathered them as sheaves of a  
threshing floor.
- 13 Arise, and thresh them,  
O daughter Sion,  
because I will make your horns iron  
and your hoofs I will make bronze,  
and you shall dissolve many peoples  
and shall devote their multitude to the  
Lord  
and their strength to the Lord of the  
whole earth.
- 5** Now a daughter will be blocked with a  
blockage;  
he set up a siege against us;  
with a rod they shall strike the tribes of  
Israel  
upon the cheek.
- 2 And you, O Bethleem, house of Ephratha,  
are very few in number to be among the  
thousands of Ioudas;  
one from you shall come forth for me  
to become a ruler in Israel,  
and his goings forth are from of old,  
from days of yore.
- 3 Therefore he shall give them up until the  
time
- when she who is in labor shall bring  
forth,  
and the rest of their brothers shall return  
to the sons of Israel.
- 4 And he shall stand and see and tend his  
flock in the strength of the Lord.  
And they shall exist in the glory of the  
name of the Lord their God,  
for now he shall be great  
to the ends of the earth,  
and this shall be peace.
- 5 When Assour comes against our land  
and when he treads upon our country,  
seven shepherds shall also be raised up  
against him,  
and eight stings of people.
- 6 And they shall tend Assour with a sword  
and the land of Nebrod with her ditch;  
and he shall rescue us<sup>a</sup> from Assour,  
when he comes against our land  
and when he treads upon our borders.
- 7 And the remnant of Iakob among the  
nations,  
in the midst of many peoples,  
shall be like dew falling from the Lord  
and like lambs in the grass  
that none among sons of man may  
assemble or resist.
- 8 And the remnant of Iakob among the  
nations,  
in the midst of many peoples,  
shall be like a lion among animals in the  
forest  
and like a whelp among flocks of  
sheep,  
as when it passes through and, having made  
a selection,  
snatches away, and there is none to  
deliver.
- 9 Your hand shall be exalted over those who  
oppress you,  
and all your enemies shall be utterly  
destroyed.
- 10 It shall come to pass in that day, says the  
Lord,  
I will utterly destroy your horses from  
among you  
and will demolish your chariots,  
and I will utterly destroy the cities of your  
land  
and remove all your strongholds,  
and I will remove your sorceries from your  
hands,  
and there will be no speakers of  
apothegms among you,  
and I will destroy your carved images  
and your steles from among you,  
and you shall do obeisance no more  
to the works of your hands,

<sup>a</sup>Lacking in Gk

## MICHAIAIS 5-7

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- 14 and I will cut off your groves from among  
you  
and annihilate your cities.
- 15 And in anger and wrath I will execute  
vengeance  
on the nations, due to the fact they did  
not listen.
- 6** Do hear a word of the Lord. The Lord said:  
Rise, plead your case before the  
mountains,  
and let the hills hear your voice.
- 2 Hear, you peoples, the judgment of the  
Lord,  
and you chasms, foundations of the  
earth,  
because the Lord has a case against his  
people,  
and he will dispute with Israel.
- 3 "O my people, what have I done to you?  
Or how did I sadden or how did I annoy  
you? Answer me!
- 4 For I brought you up from the land of Egypt  
and redeemed you from a house of  
slavery,  
and I sent before you Moyses  
and Aaron and Mariam.
- 5 O my people, do remember what King Balak  
of Moab planned against you  
and what Balaam son of Beor answered  
him  
from the reeds as far as Galgal,  
that the justice of the Lord might be  
known."
- 6 "With what should I lay hold of the Lord;  
shall I lay claim to my God Most High?  
Shall I lay hold of him with whole burnt  
offerings,  
with calves a year old?
- 7 Will the Lord receive favorably among  
thousands of rams  
or among ten thousands of swollen  
streams?  
Should I give my firstborns for impious acts,  
the fruit of my belly for the sin of my  
soul?"
- 8 Has it been told to you, O man, what is  
good  
or what the Lord seeks from you,  
but to do judgment and to love mercy  
and to be ready to walk with the Lord,  
your God?
- 9 The voice of the Lord will be invoked for the  
city,  
and he shall save those who fear his  
name.  
Hear, O tribe, and who shall adorn a city?  
10 Will a fire and a lawless person's house  
[treasuring up] lawless treasure  
and a measure of pride—injustice?  
11 Shall the lawless be justified by a pair of  
scales,  
or deceitful weights by a bag?  
12 From these they filled their wealth with  
impiety.  
And her inhabitants were speaking lies,  
and their tongue was exalted in their  
mouth.
- 13 And I will begin to strike you down;  
I will annihilate you because of your sins.
- 14 You shall eat, and you shall not be  
satisfied.  
And it shall grow dark within you,  
and you shall swim away and shall not  
escape.  
And as many as shall escape shall be  
delivered over to the sword.
- 15 You shall sow, and you shall not reap;  
you shall press the olive and shall not  
anoint yourself with oil,  
and even wine you shall not drink,  
and the precepts of my people shall be  
annihilated,
- 16 and all the works of the house of  
Achaab.  
And you walked in their counsels,  
that I might give you over to annihilation  
and her inhabitants to hissing,  
and you shall receive reproaches of  
peoples.
- 7** Woe is me, because I have become like one  
gathering stubble at the harvest  
and like grape gleanings at the vintage,  
when there is no cluster  
to eat the firstlings.  
Woe is me, O soul,  
2 because the devout has perished from the  
land,  
and there is none among people who is  
upright;  
all give a judgment for<sup>a</sup> blood;  
they afflict, each his neighbor, with  
affliction.
- 3 They prepare their hands for evil;  
the ruler requests, and the judge has  
spoken peaceful words;  
it is what pleases his soul.  
And I will take away their good things  
4 like a moth eating and crawling on a rod  
in the day of your watching.  
[Woe, woe,] your vengeance has come;  
now their weeping shall come.
- 5 Put no trust in friends,  
and do not hope in leaders;  
guard yourself against your bedmate,  
so as to communicate anything to her;  
6 for a son dishonors a father,  
a daughter shall rise up against her  
mother,  
a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law;

<sup>a</sup>i.e. aiming at

the enemies of a man are the men in his house.

7 But as for me, I will look to the Lord;  
I will wait for God my savior;  
my God will hear me.

8 Stop rejoicing over me, O my lady adversary,  
because I have fallen and I shall rise,  
for though I shall sit in darkness,  
the Lord shall give me light.

9 I will endure the wrath of the Lord  
—because I sinned against him—  
until he justifies my sentence,  
and he will accomplish my judgment  
and will bring me out into the light;  
I will see his justice.

10 And my lady adversary will see  
and will be covered with shame,  
she who says to me, “Where is the Lord  
your God?”  
My eyes shall look upon her;  
now she shall become an object to be  
trampled  
like clay in the streets  
during a day of daubing of brick.

That day will be your erasure,  
and that day will rub out your precepts.

12 And your cities shall come to a leveling  
and a dividing [of the Assyrians],  
and your strong cities to a dividing from  
Tyre as far as a river—  
a day of water and confusion.

13 The earth will become an annihilation  
with its inhabitants, for the fruits of their  
doings.

14 Shepherd your people with your rod,  
the sheep of your possession,  
tenting alone in a forest  
in the midst of Carmel;  
they shall feed in Basanitis and Galaaditis  
as the days of old.

15 And as in the days of your exit from Egypt,  
you shall see marvelous things.

16 Nations shall see and be ashamed  
of all their might;  
they shall lay their hands on their mouth;  
their ears shall be deafened;  
they shall lick dust like a snake,  
as they trail dirt;  
they shall be confounded in their enclosure;  
they shall be amazed at the Lord, your God,  
and shall be afraid of you.

18 Who is god like you,  
removing injustices and passing over  
impieties  
for the remnant of his possession?  
And he did not retain his anger for a  
witness,  
because he is one that desires mercy.

19 He will turn and have compassion upon us;  
he will sink our injustices

and cast all our sins  
into the depths of the sea.

20 You will give truth to Iakob,  
mercy to Abraam,  
as you swore to our fathers  
in former days.

## IOEL

1 A word of the Lord that came to Ioel the son  
of Bathouel.

2 Hear this, O elders;  
give ear, all you that inhabit the land!  
Have such things happened in your days  
or in the days of your fathers?

3 Tell your children of them,  
and your children their children,  
and their children to another generation.

4 The leavings of the caterpillar  
the grasshopper has devoured,  
and the leavings of the grasshopper  
the locust larva has devoured,  
and the leavings of the locust larva  
the rust has devoured.

5 Sober up, drunkards, from their wine and  
weep;  
wail, all you who drink wine unto  
intoxication,  
because happiness has been removed  
from your mouth, and joy.

6 Because a nation has come up against my  
land,  
powerful and innumerable;  
its teeth are lion's teeth,  
and its molars those of a whelp.

7 It has set my vine for annihilation  
and my fig trees for breaking;  
searching it has searched it out and thrown  
it down;  
its branches have turned white.

8 Lament for me more than a bride dressed in  
sackcloth  
for the husband of her youth.

9 Sacrifice and libation are removed  
from the house of the Lord.  
Mourn, O priests,  
that minister to the altar,  
because the plains have suffered misery.

10 Let the land mourn,  
because the grain has suffered misery;  
the wine has dried up;  
the oil has been diminished.

11 The farmers have dried up.  
Wail, O farms,  
over the wheat and barley,  
for the harvest of the field is ruined.

12 The vine has dried up,  
and the fig trees have become few.  
Pomegranate and palm and apple

- even all the trees of the field have dried  
up,  
because the sons of men  
have put joy to shame.
- 13 Gird yourselves, and mourn, you priests;  
lament, you that minister to the altar.  
Enter, sleep in sackcloth,  
when you minister to God,  
because sacrifice and libation  
have failed from the house of your God.
- 14 Sanctify a fast;  
proclaim a service;  
gather all the elders  
who inhabit the land  
into the house of your God,  
and cry out earnestly to the Lord.
- 15 Alas! Alas! Alas for the day,  
because the day of the Lord is near,  
and it will come like misery from misery.
- 16 The food has been utterly destroyed  
before our eyes,  
happiness and joy  
from the house of our God.
- 17 Heifers have jumped up at their mangers;  
storehouses have been annihilated;  
wine presses have been razed to the  
ground,  
because the grain has dried up.
- 18 How shall we store anything in them?  
The herds of cattle have wept,  
because there has been no pasture for them;  
even the flocks of sheep have been  
annihilated.
- 19 To you, O Lord, I will shout,  
because fire has destroyed  
the seasonable things of the wilderness  
and a flame has kindled  
all the trees of the field.
- 20 Even the animals of the plain have looked  
up to you,  
because courses of water have dried up  
and fire has devoured  
the seasonable things of the wilderness.
- 2** Trumpet with a trumpet in Sion;  
make proclamation on my holy  
mountain!  
And let all the inhabitants of the land be  
confounded,  
for the day of the Lord has come, because  
it is near—  
a day of darkness and gloom,  
a day of cloud and mist!  
Like dawn, a numerous and mighty people  
shall pour onto the mountains;  
their like has not been from of old,  
and after him there shall not be added  
throughout the years for generations of  
generations.
- 3 In front of him there is a consuming fire,  
and a kindled flame behind him;  
the land before him is like an orchard of  
delight,  
but a plain of annihilation behind him,  
and no one shall escape him.
- 4 Their appearance is like the appearance of  
horses,  
and like horsemen so they shall pursue.
- 5 Like the noise of chariots  
they shall leap on the tops of the  
mountains,  
and like the noise of a flame of fire  
devouring stubble  
and like a numerous and mighty people  
being drawn up for battle.
- 6 Before him peoples will be crushed;  
every face will be like the soot of an  
earthen pot.
- 7 Like fighters they will run,  
and like men of battle they will scale the  
walls.  
And each will go by his own way  
and not turn from their paths.
- 8 And no one will stand aloof from his  
brother;  
weighed down by their own weapons,  
they shall go,  
and they shall fall by their arrows  
and not come to an end.
- 9 They shall seize the city  
and run upon the walls;  
they will scale the houses  
and enter through windows like thieves.
- 10 The earth shall be disturbed before them,  
and the sky shall be shaken.  
The sun and the moon shall grow dark,  
and the stars shall shed their brightness.
- 11 The Lord shall give forth his voice  
before his force,  
because exceedingly large is his  
encampment,  
because strong are the actions of his  
words.  
For great is the day of the Lord, great and  
exceedingly remarkable,  
and who shall be sufficient for it?
- 12 Even now, says the Lord, your God,  
return to me with all your heart,  
with fasting and with weeping and with  
mourning,  
and rend your hearts and not your  
clothing.
- 13 And return to the Lord, your God,  
for he is merciful and compassionate,  
patient and very beneficent  
and repenting concerning evils.
- 14 Who knows whether he will turn and repent  
and leave a blessing behind him,  
a sacrifice and a libation  
for the Lord, your God?

15 Trumpet with the trumpet in Zion;  
sanctify a fast;  
proclaim a service;

16 gather the people.  
Sanctify an assembly;  
welcome the aged;  
gather the infants sucking the breast.  
Let the bridegroom come from his bedroom,  
and the bride from her chamber.

17 Between the foundation and the altar,  
the priests who minister to the Lord shall  
weep and say,  
"Spare your people, O Lord,  
and do not subject your inheritance to  
the reproach  
of being ruled over by nations,  
lest they say among the nations:  
'Where is their God?' "

18 And the Lord became jealous for his land  
and spared his people.

19 And the Lord answered and said to his  
people:  
Behold I am sending you  
grain and wine and oil,  
and you will be satisfied with them,  
and I will no more give you over  
to reproach among the nations.

20 And I will chase from you the one from the  
north  
and banish him to a parched land,  
and I will annihilate his front in the first sea  
and his rear in the last sea,  
and his decay will go up, and his foul smell  
will go up,  
because he magnified his works.

21 Courage, O land,  
rejoice, and be happy,  
because the Lord has done great things!

22 Courage, you animals of the plain,  
because the plains of the wilderness have  
blossomed,  
because a tree has borne its fruit;  
a vine and fig tree have yielded their  
strength.

23 And you children of Zion,  
rejoice, and be happy in the Lord, your  
God,  
for he has given you food for justice,  
and he shall send you the early and later  
rain as before.

24 The threshing floors shall be full of grain,  
and the vats shall overflow with wine and  
oil.

25 And I will repay you for the years  
that the grasshopper devoured,  
and the locust larva and the rust and the  
caterpillar,  
my great force, which I sent against you.

26 And eating you shall eat and be satisfied  
and praise the name of the Lord your  
God  
in regard to the marvelous things he has  
done with you.  
And my people shall never again be put to  
shame.

27 You shall know that I am in the midst of  
Israel,  
and I am the Lord your God, and there is  
none other but me.  
And my people shall never again be put to  
shame.

28 And it shall be after these things,  
I will pour out of my spirit on all flesh,  
and your sons and your daughters shall  
prophesy,  
and your old men shall dream dreams,  
and your young men shall see visions.

29 Even on the male and female slaves,  
in those days, I will pour out of my spirit.

30 I will give portents in the sky and on earth:  
blood and fire and the vapor of smoke. <sup>31</sup>The sun  
shall be turned to darkness, and the moon to  
blood, before the great and notable day of the Lord  
comes. <sup>32</sup>And it shall be, everyone who calls on the  
name of the Lord shall be saved, because in Mount  
Sion and in Ierusalem there shall be one who es-  
capes, as the Lord has said, and people who have  
good news announced to them, whom the Lord  
has called.

**3** For, behold, in those days and at that time,  
when I return the captivity of Ioudas and Ie-  
rousaem, <sup>21</sup> will also gather all the nations and  
bring them down to the valley of Iosaphat and  
hold a disputation with them there, on account of  
my people and my heritage Israel, who were dis-  
persed among the nations. And they have divided  
my land <sup>3</sup>and have cast lots for my people, and  
they gave the boys to whores and would sell the  
girls for wine and would drink.

<sup>4</sup> And what are you to me, O Tyre and Sidon  
and all Galilee of allophyles? Are you rendering  
retribution on me? Or are you bearing a sharp  
grudge against me? And quickly I will return your  
retribution back upon your own heads, <sup>5</sup>because  
you took my silver and my gold and you carried  
my choice and beautiful things into your shrines.  
<sup>6</sup>And you sold the sons of Ioudas and the sons of  
Ierusalem to the sons of the Greeks to banish  
them from their borders. <sup>7</sup>Behold, I am rousing  
them up from the place, there where you sold  
them, and will turn your retribution back upon  
your own heads. <sup>8</sup>And I will sell your sons and  
your daughters into the hands of the sons of  
Ioudas, and they will sell them into captivity to a  
nation far away, for the Lord has spoken.

<sup>9</sup> Proclaim these things among the nations:  
Sanctify a war;  
stir up the fighters.

## IOEL 3—OF ABDIAS

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- Come near, and ascend,  
all you warrior men.
- 10 Beat your plows into swords  
and your sickles into barbed lances;  
let the weakling say, "I am strong."
- 11 Assemble, and come,  
all you nations round about;  
gather there.  
Let the meek become a fighter.
- 12 Let all the nations rouse themselves  
and come up to the valley of Iosaphat,  
for there I will sit to pass judgment  
on all the nations round about.
- 13 Send forth sickles,  
because the harvest has come.  
Go in, tread,  
for the winepress is full.  
The vats overflow,  
because their wickedness is full.
- 14 Noises have rung out  
in the valley of decision,  
because the day of the Lord is near  
in the valley of decision.
- 15 The sun and the moon shall grow dark,  
and the stars shall shed their brightness.
- 16 And the Lord shall cry out from Sion  
and give his voice from Ierousalem,  
and sky and earth shall be shaken.  
But the Lord will spare his people,  
and the Lord will strengthen the sons of  
Israel.
- 17 And you shall know that I am the Lord your  
God,  
who tents in Sion, in my holy mountain.  
And Ierousalem shall be holy,  
and aliens shall never again pass through it.
- 18 And it shall be in that day,  
the mountains shall drip sweetness,  
and the hills shall flow with milk,  
and all the water courses of Ioudas  
shall flow with water,  
and a fountain shall come forth from the  
house of the Lord  
and give drink to the wadi of rushes.
- 19 Egypt shall become an annihilation,  
and Idumea shall become a plain of  
annihilation  
for the injustice of<sup>a</sup> the sons of Ioudas,  
because they shed just blood in their  
land.
- 20 But Judea shall be inhabited forever,  
and Ierousalem to all generations.
- 21 I will avenge their blood, and I will not  
hold it guiltless,  
and the Lord shall tent in Sion.
- OF ABDIAS
- 1 The Vision of Abdias.
- This is what the Lord God says to Idumea:  
I heard a report from the Lord,  
and he sent enclosing to the nations:  
"Rise up, and let us rise up against it for  
battle!"
- 2 Behold, I have made you least among the  
nations;  
you are very much dishonored.
- 3 The arrogance of your heart has raised you  
up,  
though you tent in the holes of the rocks,  
exalting his habitation,  
saying in his heart, "Who will bring me  
down to the ground?"
- 4 If you soar like an eagle,  
even if you set your nest among the stars,  
from there I will bring you down,  
says the Lord.
- 5 If thieves came to you, or robbers by night,  
where would you be cast aside;  
would they not steal what is sufficient for  
themselves?  
And if grape gatherers came to you,  
would they not leave gleanings?
- 6 How Esau was searched,  
and his hidden things seized.
- 7 All the men of your covenant have sent you  
as far as the borders;  
they have risen up against you;  
your men of peace have prevailed against  
you;  
they have set an ambush beneath you.  
There is no understanding in it.
- 8 On that day, says the Lord,  
I will destroy the wise out of Idumea  
and understanding out of Mount Esau.
- 9 And your fighters from Thaiman shall be  
terrified  
so that a person will be removed from  
Mount Esau.
- 10 On account of the slaughter and impiety  
against your brother Iakob,  
shame shall also cover you,  
and you shall be removed forever.
- 11 Since the day you stood in opposition,  
on the day that aliens took captive his  
force  
and foreigners entered his gate  
and cast lots for Ierousalem,  
you too were like one of them.
- 12 And do not look upon a day of your  
brother,  
on the day of foreigners,  
and do not rejoice over the sons of Ioudas  
on the day of their ruin,  
and do not boast

<sup>a</sup>Or *done to*

- on the day of affliction.
- 13 Do not even enter the gates of the peoples  
on the day of their suffering  
nor look, even you, upon their gathering  
on the day of their ruin  
nor join in an attack on their force  
on the day of their destruction.
- 14 Do not even stand at their mountain passes,  
to destroy utterly their escapees  
nor hem in those among them who are  
attempting to flee  
on the day of affliction.
- 15 For the day of the Lord against all the  
nations is near.  
As you have done, so shall it be to you;  
your recompense shall be returned on  
your head.
- 16 For as you have drunk on my holy  
mountain,  
all the nations shall drink wine;  
they shall drink and descend  
and be as though they are not.
- 17 But on Mount Zion there shall be salvation,  
and it<sup>a</sup> shall be holy,  
and the house of Iakob shall take possession  
of those who took possession of  
them.
- 18 And the house of Iakob shall be a fire,  
the house of Ioseph a flame,  
the house of Esau stubble,  
and they shall be enflamed against them  
and consume them,  
and there shall be no fire bearer for the  
house of Esau,  
for the Lord has spoken.
- 19 And those in Nageb shall possess Mount  
Esau,  
and those in the Sephela the allophyles,  
and they shall possess Mount Ephraim  
and the plain of Samaria and Benjamin  
and Galaaditis.
- 20 And this is the beginning of the migration:  
the sons of Israel shall have the land of  
the Chananites as far as Sarepta  
and the migration of Ierusalem as far as  
Sephra<sup>h</sup>ta;  
they shall also possess the cities of the  
Nageb.
- 21 The men who are rescued from Mount Zion  
shall go up to punish Mount Esau,  
and the kingdom shall be the Lord's.

## IONAS

**1** And a word of the Lord came to Ionas the son  
of Amathi, saying, <sup>2</sup>"Arise, and go to Nineue,  
the great city, and make a proclamation in it, be-  
cause the cry of its wickedness has come up to me."  
<sup>3</sup>And Ionas arose to flee to Tharsis from the pres-  
ence of the Lord. And he went down to Joppe and  
found a ship going to Tharsis, and he paid his fare

and went on board to sail with them to Tharsis  
away from the presence of the Lord.

<sup>4</sup> And the Lord aroused a wind in the sea, and  
a great surge came upon the sea, and the ship was  
in danger of breaking up. <sup>5</sup>And the mariners were  
afraid and cried out, each to their god. And they  
heaved the wares that were in the ship into the sea,  
to be lightened from them. But Ionas went down  
into the hold of the ship and was sleeping and  
snoring. <sup>6</sup>And the captain came to him and said to  
him, "Why are you snoring? Get up, invoke your  
god in order that the god might deliver us and we  
not perish."

<sup>7</sup> And they said each to his neighbor, "Come,  
let us cast lots and learn on whose account this  
calamity is among us. And they cast lots, and the  
lot fell on Ionas. <sup>8</sup>And they said to him, "Tell us on  
what account this calamity is among us. What is  
your occupation? And where do you come from?  
And from what country are you and of what peo-  
ple?" <sup>9</sup>And he said to them, "I am a slave of the  
Lord, and I worship the Lord, God of the sky, who  
made the sea and the dry land." <sup>10</sup>And the men  
feared with a great fear and said to him, "What is  
this that you have done!" For the men knew that  
he was fleeing from the presence of the Lord, be-  
cause he had told them.

<sup>11</sup> And they said to him, "What should we do  
to you, and the sea will abate from us?" Because  
the sea kept coming and stirring up a surge even  
more. <sup>12</sup>And Ionas said to them, "Pick me up, and  
throw me into the sea, and the sea will abate from  
you, for I know it is because of me that this great  
surge is upon you." <sup>13</sup>And the men exerted them-  
selves to return to land, and they could not, be-  
cause the sea kept coming and stirring up against  
them more. <sup>14</sup>And they cried out to the Lord and  
said, "No way, O Lord, do not let us perish on ac-  
count of this person's life. And do not put upon us  
just blood, for you, O Lord, have done as you have  
wished." <sup>15</sup>And they took Ionas and cast him into  
the sea, and the sea ceased from its tumult. <sup>16</sup>And  
the men feared the Lord in great fear, and they sac-  
rificed a sacrifice to the Lord and vowed vows.

**2** <sup>(1.17)</sup>And the Lord ordered a great sea monster  
to swallow Ionas, and Ionas was in the belly of  
the sea monster three days and three nights.  
<sup>2(1)</sup>And Ionas prayed to the Lord, his God, from  
the belly of the sea monster <sup>3(2)</sup>and said,

"I cried out to the Lord my God in my  
affliction,  
and he heard me;  
out of the belly of Hades  
you heard my cry, my voice.

<sup>4(3)</sup> You cast me into the depths  
of the heart of the sea,  
and streams surrounded me;  
all your surges and your billows  
passed over me.

<sup>5(4)</sup> And I said, 'I have been driven away  
from your eyes;

<sup>a</sup>i.e. *Mount Zion*

- shall I add to look  
at your holy shrine?"
- 6(5) Water poured over me as far as my life;  
the deepest abyss surrounded me;  
my head sank into the crevices of the  
mountains.
- 7(6) I went down to the land,  
whose bars are everlasting barriers,  
and let the decay of my life ascend,  
O Lord my God.
- 8(7) As my life was failing me,  
I remembered the Lord;  
so may my prayer come to you  
into your holy shrine.
- 9(8) People who cherish vain and false things  
have forsaken their mercy.
- 10(9) But I with a voice of praise and  
acknowledgment  
will sacrifice to you;  
what I have vowed I will pay  
to the Lord for my deliverance."
- 11(10) And the sea monster was ordered, and it cast  
Ionas out upon dry land.

**3** And a word of the Lord came to Ionas a second time, saying, <sup>2</sup>"Get up, go to Nineue, the great city, and proclaim in it according to the previous proclamation that I spoke to you. <sup>3</sup>And Ionas got up and went to Nineue, as the Lord said. Now Nineue was a great city to God, of about three days' journey. <sup>4</sup>And Ionas began to go into the city about one day's journey. And he proclaimed and said, "Three days more and Nineue shall be overthrown!" <sup>5</sup>And the men of Nineue believed God and proclaimed a fast and put on sackcloth from the great among them unto the small among them.

<sup>6</sup> And the news reached the king of Nineue, and he rose from his throne, and removed his robe from himself and covered himself with sackcloth and sat on ashes. <sup>7</sup>And proclamation was made, and it was spoken in Nineue by the king and his nobles, saying, "Let people and animals and cattle and sheep not taste anything or feed or drink water." <sup>8</sup>And the people and animals put on sackcloth, and they cried fervently to God. And they turned, each from his evil way and from the injustice in his hands, saying, <sup>9</sup>"Who knows if God will repent and turn from the anger of his wrath and we will not perish?"

<sup>10</sup> And God saw their deeds, that they turned from their evil ways, and God repented at the calamity which he said he would do to them, and he did not do it.

**4** And Ionas was grieved with great grief and confused. <sup>2</sup>And he prayed to the Lord and said, "Ah Lord! Were these not my words while I was still in my country? That is why I had the foresight to flee to Tharsis, for I knew that you are merciful and compassionate, long-suffering and very merciful and one who repents at calamities. <sup>3</sup>And now, O Sovereign, Lord, take my life from me, be-

cause it is better for me to die than to live." <sup>4</sup>And the Lord said to Ionas, "Are you exceedingly grieved?" <sup>5</sup>And Ionas went out of the city and sat down opposite the city and made a tent for himself there. And he sat under it in the shade until he should see what would become of the city.

<sup>6</sup> And the Lord God ordered a gourd, and it came up over Ionas's head to be a shade over his head to shade him from his miseries. And Ionas was happy with great happiness about the gourd. <sup>7</sup>And early the next morning, God ordered a worm, and it smote the gourd, and it withered. <sup>8</sup>And it came to pass, as soon as the sun rose, God ordered a scorching wind of heat, and the sun beat down on the head of Ionas, and he became disheartened and renounced his life and said, "It is better for me to die than to live."

<sup>9</sup> And God said to Ionas, "Are you exceedingly grieved over the gourd?" And he said, "I am exceedingly grieved, unto death." <sup>10</sup>And the Lord said, "You had consideration for the gourd, which you suffered no trouble for, and you did not nurture it, which came into being towards nightfall and perished towards nightfall. <sup>11</sup>But <sup>a</sup>shall I not spare Nineue, the great city, in which dwell more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who did not know their right hand from their left, and many animals?"<sup>a</sup>

## NAOUM

**1** An issue for Nineue. A book of vision of Naoum the Elkesite.

- <sup>2</sup> A jealous and avenging god is the Lord,  
the Lord avenging with wrath,  
the Lord taking vengeance on his adversaries  
and removing his enemies.
- <sup>3</sup> The Lord is slow to anger, and his strength is  
great,  
and holding guiltless, the Lord will not  
hold guiltless.

- His way is in consummation and <sup>b</sup>seismic  
upheaval<sup>b</sup>,  
and clouds are dust for his feet,  
<sup>4</sup> threatening<sup>c</sup> the sea and making it dry  
and making all the rivers desolate;  
Basanitis and Carmel were diminished,  
and the vegetation of Lebanon has died  
out.
- <sup>5</sup> The mountains quaked because of him,  
and the hills were shaken,  
and the earth was removed from his presence,  
the whole of it and all who live in it.
- <sup>6</sup> Who shall endure before his wrath?  
And who shall withstand the heat of his  
anger?  
His anger causes domains to melt,  
and by him the rocks were broken in  
pieces.

<sup>a</sup>Or I shall . . . <sup>b</sup>Possibly earthquake and hurricane <sup>c</sup>I.e. the Lord

## NAOUM 1-3

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7 The Lord is kind  
to those who await him in a day of trouble  
and familiar with those who reverence him.

8 And by the flooding of a passage,  
he will make an end to those who arise,  
and darkness will pursue his enemies.

9 Why do you calculate against the Lord?  
It is he that will make an end.  
He will not avenge twice added together  
with affliction!

10 Because he shall be left dry down to their  
foundation,  
and he shall be consumed like a twisted  
yew tree  
and like straw fully dried.

11 From you a calculation shall go forth  
against the Lord,  
counseling evil things, contrary things.

12 This is what the Lord says, who rules over  
many waters,

"And thus they shall be dispersed,  
and your fame shall no longer be heard.

13 And now I will break off his rod from you,  
and I will shatter your bonds."

14 And the Lord will command concerning you:  
"Part of your name will no longer be  
scattered.

I will utterly destroy the carved and molten  
images

from the house of your God.

I will make your grave, because they are  
fleeing."

15 Behold, on the mountains are the feet of one  
who brings good tidings  
and who announces peace.

Celebrate your feasts, O Ioudas;  
pay your vows,

for they shall not add any longer  
to pass on to becoming old.

2 <sup>(1.15)</sup>It is finished; it has been removed.

<sup>2(1)</sup>Delivered from trouble, he rose up,  
breathing in your face.

Watch the road;  
grasp your loins;  
be very manly in strength!

<sup>3(2)</sup> For the Lord has turned aside the pride of  
Iakob,

as he did the pride of Israel,  
for shaking they shook them off  
and their branches.

<sup>4(3)</sup> They destroyed their <sup>a</sup>weapons of  
dominance<sup>a</sup> from men,  
<sup>a</sup>mighty men<sup>a</sup> sporting with fire.

The reins of their chariots,  
in the day of his preparation,  
and the horsemen will be thrown into  
confusion <sup>5(4)</sup>in the roads.

And the chariots will be in confusion  
and jammed together in the streets.

Their appearance will be like torches of fire  
and like flashing lightnings.

<sup>6(5)</sup> And their nobles shall remember and flee by  
day,

and they shall become weak in their  
journey

and hasten to the walls  
and prepare their outposts.

<sup>7(6)</sup> The river gates have been opened,  
and the royal palace has collapsed,

<sup>8(7)</sup> and the substructure has been uncovered,  
and this<sup>b</sup> kept coming up,  
and its slave women were being led away,  
moaning in their hearts like doves.

<sup>9(8)</sup> And as for Nineue,  
her water is like a swimming pool of  
water,

and they, when they were fleeing, did not  
stop,

and there was no one who looked on.

<sup>10(9)</sup> They were plundering the silver;  
they were plundering the gold,  
and there was no end of her adornment.

They have been laden with all her  
desirable vessels.

<sup>11(10)</sup> Shaking and quaking and trembling  
and shattering of heart and loosening of  
knees

and pains in every loin,  
and the face of all like burnt  
earthenware!

<sup>12(11)</sup> Where is the abode of the lions  
and the feeding ground that exists for  
whelps,

where the lion went to enter there,  
a lion's whelp, and there was none to  
scare it away?

<sup>13(12)</sup> A lion has snatched enough for its whelps  
and has strangled for its lions,  
and it has filled its lair with game  
and its abode with prey.

14(13) Behold, I am against you, says the Lord  
Almighty, and I will burn your abundance in  
smoke, and a sword shall devour your lions, and I  
will utterly destroy your prey from the earth, and  
your works shall be heard of no more.

3 Ah city of bloodshed,  
utterly deceitful, full of injustice,  
prey shall not be groped for!

2 A noise of whips and a noise of the rumble  
of wheels,

of pursuing horse and bounding chariot  
and of mounting horsemen

3 and of glittering sword and of flashing arms  
and a multitude of wounded  
and of heavy falling.

And there was no end to her nations,

<sup>a</sup>i.e. mighty men = weapons of dominance <sup>b</sup>i.e. substructure

## NAOUM 3—HABBAKOU M 1

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and they shall become weak in their  
bodies,  
because of a multitude of whoredom.  
4 Beautiful and gratifying prostitute,  
manipulator of potions,  
she who barter nations through her  
whoredom  
and tribes through her potions.  
5 Behold, I am against you,  
says the Lord God the Almighty,  
and I will uncover your behind to your face,  
and I will show your shame to nations  
and your dishonor to kingdoms.  
6 And I will throw filth at you,  
even your own uncleanness,  
and I will set you as an example.  
7 And it shall be, everyone who sees you will  
go down from you and say,  
“Wretched Nineue, who will bemoan her?  
From where shall I seek comfort for her?”  
8 Tune a chord; prepare a portion,  
O Amon who dwells in rivers<sup>a</sup>;  
water is around her,  
whose dominion is the sea,  
and her walls are water,  
9 and her strength is Ethiopia and Egypt  
—and there is no end to flight!  
Even the Libyans have become her helpers.  
10 She too shall go into migration a captive,  
and they shall dash her infants to the ground  
at the heads of all her streets.  
And they shall cast lots for all her glorious  
things,  
and all her nobles shall be bound in  
handcuffs.  
11 You too will be drunken,  
and you will be despised;  
as well you will seek  
a position for yourself from your  
enemies.  
12 All your fortresses are fig trees with guards;  
if shaken, they will then fall  
into the mouth of the eater.  
13 Behold, your people  
are like women in your midst.  
The gates of your land,  
when opened, shall be opened to your  
foes;  
fire shall devour your bars.  
14 Draw yourself water for a siege;  
strengthen your forts;  
trample the clay,  
and let it be trodden in the chaff;  
make it stronger than brick.  
15 There a fire will devour you;  
a sword will utterly destroy you.  
It will devour you like the grasshopper,  
and you shall be weighed down like the  
locust larva.

16 You increased your merchandise  
beyond the stars of the sky.  
The locust larva rushed in and spread.  
17 Your commingled one  
hopped off like a locust,  
like a grasshopper having landed on a fence  
in the days of frost:  
the sun rose, and it jumped off  
and knew not its place. Woe to them!  
18 Your shepherds dozed;  
the Assyrian king  
put your mighty men to sleep.  
Your people have departed for the mountains,  
and there has been none to receive them.  
19 There is no healing for your ruin;  
your blow swelled up.  
All who hear the news about you  
will clap their hands over you.  
For against whom has  
your endless wickedness not come?

## HABBAKOU M

1 The issue that the prophet Habbakoum<sup>b</sup> saw.  
2 O Lord, how long shall I cry out,  
and you will not listen?  
Being wronged shall I cry to you,  
and you will not save?  
3 Why did you show me toils and hardships,  
to look at wretchedness and impiety?  
Justice has come before me,  
and the judge is receiving.  
4 Therefore, law has been dispersed,  
and judgment is not administered at all,  
because an impious person oppresses the  
just—  
on this account, judgment will come  
forth perverted.  
5 Look, you despisers, and watch!  
And marvel at marvelous things, and be  
annihilated!  
For I am working a work in your days  
that you would not believe if someone  
should tell it.  
6 For behold I am rousing [the Chaldeans,]  
the fighters, the bitter and swift nation  
that goes over the breadths of the earth  
to possess dwellings not his own.  
7 He is frightening and conspicuous;  
his judgment will be from himself,  
and his unjust gain will come from himself.  
8 And his horses will leap beyond leopards  
and will be swifter than the wolves of  
Arabia.  
His horsemen will ride forth  
and charge from far away;  
they will fly like an eagle eager to devour.  
9 Consummation will come to the impious,  
who stand with their faces in opposition,

<sup>a</sup>Or streams <sup>b</sup>Hambakoum = Zi

and he will gather a captivity like the sand.  
 10 And at kings he will scoff,  
 and tyrants will be his toys.  
 He will jest at every fortress  
 and heap up earth and take it.  
 11 Then he will have a change of spirit  
 and pass through and will appease.  
 This strength belongs to my God.  
 12 Are you not from the beginning,  
 O Lord, my holy God?  
 So we shall not die.  
 O Lord, you have appointed him for  
 judgment,  
 and he has formed me to examine his  
 chastening.  
 13 A pure eye is not for seeing evil things,  
 and you cannot look upon sufferings.  
 Why do you look on those who despise?  
 Will you keep silence while the impious  
 swallows up the just?  
 14 And you will make people like the fish of  
 the sea  
 and like crawling things that have no  
 leader!  
 15 He drew up consummation with a fish hook  
 and dragged him with a fishing net  
 and gathered him in his seines.  
 16 On this account he will be glad, and his  
 heart will rejoice.  
 On this account he will sacrifice to his seine  
 and burn incense to his fishing net,  
 because by them he made his portion fat  
 and his food choice.  
 17 Therefore he will cast his fishing net  
 and never spare killing the nations.

**2** I will stand at my watch post  
 and station myself on a rock.  
 And I will keep watch to see what he will  
 say to me  
 and what I should answer to my reproof.  
 2 And the Lord answered me and said,  
 Write a vision,  
 and clearly on a tablet,  
 so that the reader might pursue them.  
 3 For there is still a vision for an appointed  
 time,  
 and it<sup>a</sup> will rise up at the end and not in  
 vain.  
 If it<sup>a</sup> should tarry, wait for it<sup>a</sup>,  
 for when it<sup>a</sup> comes it<sup>a</sup> will come and not  
 delay.  
 4 If it<sup>a</sup> draws back,  
 my soul is not pleased in it<sup>a</sup>.  
 But the just shall live by my faith<sup>b</sup>.  
 5 But he who is drunk with wine and a despiser  
 —a boastful man—will complete  
 nothing,

who widened his soul like Hades,  
 and he, like death, not being satisfied,  
 will also gather to himself all nations  
 and will welcome to himself all peoples.

6 Shall not all these things take up a parable  
 against him and a riddle as a narrative of him? And  
 they will say,

“Woe to him who increases for himself  
 things not his own—  
 how long?—and who weighs down his  
 collar<sup>c</sup> strongly,”

7 because when they bite him they will  
 suddenly rise.

And those who plot against you will  
 become sober,  
 and you will be booty for them.

8 For you have despoiled many nations,  
 all the peoples that survive shall despoil  
 you—  
 on account of human bloodshed and  
 impieties of the earth,  
 of the city and of all who live in it.

9 “Ah he who gains an evil gain for his house,  
 to set his nest on high,  
 to be pulled out from the reach of evil  
 ones!”

10 You have devised shame for your house;  
 you have put an end to many peoples,  
 and your soul has sinned.

11 For a stone shall cry out from a wall,  
 and a beetle shall utter them from wood.

12 “Woe to him who builds a city by  
 bloodshed  
 and prepares a city with injustices!”

13 Are these not from the Lord Almighty?  
 And enough peoples have expired in fire,  
 and many nations have become faint-  
 hearted.

14 Because the earth will be filled  
 with knowing the glory of the Lord,  
 like water it will cover them.

15 “Ah he who by turbid upset gives his  
 neighbor to drink  
 and intoxicates him  
 in order to gaze on their caverns<sup>d</sup>.”

16 Drink, you too, an abundance of dishonor  
 from glory,  
 and shake, and quake!

A cup in the Lord’s right hand  
 has gone around to you,  
 and dishonor has been gathered to your  
 glory!

17 For the impiety of Lebanon will cover you,  
 and the misery of wild animals will  
 terrify you—

on account of human bloodshed and  
 impieties of the earth,  
 of the city and of all who live in it.

<sup>a</sup>I.e. *appointed time*    <sup>b</sup>Or *faithfulness*    <sup>c</sup>Possibly as an ornament    <sup>d</sup>Perhaps *private parts*

## HABBAKOUH 2-3

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18 What use is a carved image,  
because one carved it?  
He shaped it a molten image, a deceptive  
representation,  
because its shaper trusts in his shape,  
to make idols dumb!  
19 Woe to him who says to the wood, "Be  
sober! Wake up!"  
and to the stone, "Be exalted!"  
And it is a representation, that is, a beaten-  
out piece of gold and silver,  
and there is no breath in it.

20 But the Lord is in his holy shrine;  
let all the earth do reverence before him!

**3** A prayer of the prophet Habbakoum<sup>a</sup> with a  
song.

2 O Lord, I have heard of your renown and  
feared;  
I considered your works and was  
astonished.  
You will be known in the midst of two  
living creatures;  
you will be recognized when the years  
draw near;  
you will be displayed when the right time  
comes;  
you will remember mercy when my soul  
is troubled in wrath.

3 God will come out of Thaiman,  
and the Holy One from a shady, densely  
wooded mountain.

*Interlude on strings*

His virtue has covered heavens,  
and the earth is full of his praise.

4 And his brightness will be like light;  
horns are in his hands.  
And he has established a strong love of  
his strength.

5 A report shall proceed before him,  
and he shall go forth, his feet in sandals.

6 He stopped, and the earth shook;  
he looked, and nations dissolved;  
the mountains were broken to pieces in  
violence;  
everlasting hills of his eternal passage  
melted.

7 I saw the encampments of the Ethiopians  
instead of troubles;  
they shall be terrified, even the tents of  
the land of Madiam.

8 Surely, you were not angry with rivers, O Lord?  
Or was your wrath against rivers,  
or your onslaught against a sea?  
Because you will mount your horses,  
and your cavalry is deliverance.

9 Stretching, you will stretch your bow;  
seven scepters, says the Lord.

*Interlude on strings*

A land of rivers will be torn asunder.  
10 Peoples will see you and writhe  
as you scatter the waters of a course.  
The deep gave forth its voice,  
the height of its representation.  
11 The sun was raised up,  
and the moon stood still in its course.  
Your missiles will go into the light,  
into the brightness of the lightning of  
your weapons.  
12 With a threat you will diminish the earth,  
and with wrath you will bring down  
nations.  
13 You came forth for the salvation of your  
people,  
to save your anointed ones.  
You cast death on the heads of the lawless;  
you raised fetters up to the neck.

*Interlude on strings*

14 In a frenzy you cut through the heads of the  
mighty;  
they shall quake at this<sup>b</sup>.  
They shall open their bridles like a poor  
man eating in secret.

15 And you caused your horses to go up into  
the sea,  
as they were stirring up much water.

16 I watched, and my belly was terrified  
by the sound of the prayer of my lips.  
And trembling entered into my bones,  
and my posture was stirred beneath me.  
I will rest on a day of affliction  
to go up to a people of my sojourning.

17 For a fig tree shall bear no fruit,  
and no produce shall be on the vines;  
the work of the olive will deceive,  
and the plains will yield no food;  
sheep have run out of food,  
and cows are not at the mangers.

18 But I will exult in the Lord;  
I will rejoice in God my savior.

19 The Lord God is my power,  
and he shall establish my feet unto the  
end.

He causes me to mount the heights,  
to be victorious in his song.

Hab 3 according to Codd. V II-86-407

**3** A prayer of Habbakoum<sup>a</sup> with a song.

2 O Lord, I have heard of your renown and  
paid reverence;

O Lord, I considered your works and was  
astonished.

You will be known in the midst of two  
living creatures;  
you will be recognized when the years  
draw near;

you will be displayed when the right time  
comes;

<sup>a</sup>Habbakoum = Zi <sup>b</sup>i.e. frenzy

you will remember mercy when my soul  
is troubled in wrath.  
3 God will come from <sup>a</sup>the south-west,  
and the Holy One from Mount Pharan.  
<sup>b</sup>*Change of an interlude on strings*

The sky has covered the comeliness of his  
glory,  
and the world has been filled with his  
praise.  
4 The splendor of light shall be his;  
horns from his hand belong to him.  
There the power of his glory has been  
fixed.  
5 A fall shall go forward before him,  
and the greatest of winged creatures will  
follow at his feet.  
6 Having taken his stand, he measured out the  
earth;  
having observed, he portrayed the  
nations.  
They were broken to pieces,  
and the mountains shall be shattered;  
the woodland vales of long ago shall be  
brought low;  
the ways which are from yore shall be  
changed;  
on account of him the world shall be  
shaken.  
7 I have observed the tents of the  
Ethiopians;  
those who inhabit the leather coverings  
of Madiam shall be troubled.  
8 Do not be angry with rivers, O Lord.  
Or is your wrath against rivers,  
or your anger against a sea?  
You mounted on your chariots;  
your cavalry, before which you advanced,  
is deliverance.  
9 Your bow was awakened;  
you fattened the missiles of its quiver.

*Interlude on strings*

You will disperse rivers, and you will  
shake the earth.  
10 When you look them in the face, the  
mountains will be stirred,  
when your violent rain storm passed  
through it.  
The abyss gave forth a great voice.  
11 A light held back the brilliance of the sun,  
but the radiance of the moon stayed;  
according to the radiance of your missiles  
they shall go forth,  
according to the radiance of the lightning  
of your sword.  
12 You shall be awakened against the earth  
with wrath;  
you shall thresh nations with anger.  
13 You reappeared for the salvation of your  
people,  
to deliver your chosen;

you shot down the heads of arrogant people  
with arrows;  
they shall sink unto the depth of the sea.  
*Interlude on strings*

14 You punished the leaders of the sinners with  
your power,  
who trusted in their stubbornness  
for the sake of devouring the poor in  
secret.  
15 You caused your horses to go up on the  
seas;  
the violent waters of the deep were stirred  
up.  
16 I was arrayed for battle,  
and my innards were unsettled by the  
voice of your mouth.  
Trembling sank into my bones;  
I was troubled within myself.  
You will guard these things in a day of  
affliction,  
to march against a nation making war on  
your people.  
17 The fig tree shall not deliver its fruit,  
and there shall be no crop on the  
vines;  
the olive tree shall become extinct,  
and the earth shall not put forth  
vegetation;  
sheep shall fail from the fold,  
and cows shall not be at the mangers.  
18 But I will exult in the Lord;  
I will rejoice in God my savior.  
19 The Lord my God gave me strength,  
and he caused my feet to be secure.  
And upon the necks of my enemies he  
causes me to mount;  
having been swift, he rested.

### SOPHONIAS

**1** A word of the Lord that came to Sophonias  
the son of Chousi son of Godolias son of  
Amarias son of Hezekias in the days of King Iosias  
son of Amon of Ioudas.

2 With extinction, let it become extinct  
from the face of the earth, says the Lord.  
3 Let humanity become extinct, and cattle;  
let the birds of the air become extinct,  
and the fish of the sea.  
And I will remove humans  
from the face of the earth, says the Lord.  
4 And I will stretch out my hand against  
Ioudas  
and against all the inhabitants of  
Ierousalem,  
and I will remove from this place the names  
of the goddess Baal  
and the names of the priests  
5 and those who do obeisance on the roofs  
to the host of the sky

<sup>a</sup>Or Lips <sup>b</sup>Perhaps a modulation/change of key through an interlude on strings

## SOPHONIAS 1-2

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- and those who swear by the Lord  
and those who swear by their king  
6 and those who turn aside from the Lord  
and those who do not seek the Lord  
and those who do not cling to the Lord.
- 7 Show reverence before the Lord God!  
For the day of the Lord is near;  
because the Lord has prepared his sacrifice,  
he has consecrated his called ones.
- 8 And it shall be on the day of the Lord's  
sacrifice  
that I will punish the rulers and the king's  
house  
and all who dress themselves in foreign  
dress.
- 9 And on that day I will publicly punish  
all in the gateway,  
who fill the house of the Lord their God  
with impiety and fraud.
- 10 And it shall be on that day, says the Lord,  
there shall be a sound of clamor from the  
gate of men slaying  
and a moaning from the second<sup>a</sup>  
and a loud crash from the hills.
- 11 Lament, you who inhabit the destroyed  
part<sup>b</sup>,  
because all the people were made like  
Chanaan;  
all those buoyed by silver were utterly  
destroyed.
- 12 And it shall be on that day, I will search  
Ierusalem with a lamp,  
and I will punish the men  
who despise their ordinances,  
who say in their hearts,  
"The Lord will not do good,  
nor will he do harm."
- 13 And their power shall become plunder,  
and their houses annihilation.  
And they will build houses  
and shall not inhabit them,  
and they will plant vineyards  
and shall not drink their wine.
- 14 For the great day of the Lord is near,  
near and very swift;  
the sound of the day of the Lord is bitter  
and harsh;  
it has been made powerful.
- 15 That day will be a day of wrath,  
a day of affliction and anguish,  
a day of untimely fate and annihilation,  
a day of darkness and gloom,  
a day of clouds and fog,  
16 a day of trumpet and shouting  
against the fortified cities  
and against the lofty corners.
- 17 And I will afflict people,  
and they shall walk like the blind,
- because they sinned against the Lord,  
and he shall pour out their blood like dust  
and their flesh like cow dung.
- 18 Neither their silver nor their gold  
will be able to deliver them  
in the day of the Lord's wrath,  
and in the fire of his zeal  
the whole earth shall be consumed,  
for he will bring about a swift end  
upon all the inhabitants of the earth.
- 2** Gather together, and bind yourselves  
together,  
you uneducated nation,  
2 before you become  
like a transient flower,  
before there comes upon you  
the Lord's anger,  
before there comes upon you  
the day of the Lord's wrath.
- 3 Seek the Lord, all you humble of the earth;  
work judgment, and seek justice, and  
distinguish them,  
that you might be sheltered  
on the day of the Lord's wrath.
- 4 For Gaza shall be plundered,  
and Ascalon shall become an  
annihilation,  
and Azotus shall be cast out at noon,  
and Akkaron shall be uprooted.
- 5 Woe, you that inhabit the strip of the sea,  
resident aliens of the Cretans!  
A word of the Lord is against you,  
O Chanaan, land of allophyles,  
and I will wipe you out of a dwelling  
place.
- 6 And Crete shall be a pasture for flocks  
and a fold for sheep.
- 7 And the strip of the sea shall belong to  
the remnant of the house of Ioudas;  
they shall pasture upon them<sup>c</sup>  
in the houses of Ascalon;  
in late afternoon they shall lodge before  
the sons of Ioudas,  
because the Lord, their God, has looked  
upon them  
and returned their captivity.
- 8 I heard the taunts of Moab  
and the revilings of the sons of Ammon  
with which they taunted my people  
and made boasts against my borders.
- 9 Therefore, I live, says the Lord  
God of Israel,  
Moab shall become like Sodoma,  
and the sons of Ammon like Gomorra,  
and Damascus shall be abandoned like a  
mound of salt,  
and it shall be annihilated forever.  
And the remnant of my people shall  
plunder them,

<sup>a</sup>I.e. gate <sup>b</sup>Lacking in Gk <sup>c</sup>Antecedent unclear

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## SOPHONIAS 2-3

and the remnant of my nation shall  
possess them.  
10 She<sup>a</sup> shall be theirs in return for their pride,  
for they scoffed and boasted  
against the Lord the Almighty.  
11 The Lord will appear against them,  
and he will utterly destroy all the gods of  
the nations of the earth,  
and all the islands of the nations shall do  
obeisance to him,  
each in its place.

12 You also, O Ethiopians,  
are victims of my sword.

13 And he will stretch out his hand against the  
north  
and destroy the Assyrian,  
and he will make Nineue an annihilation,  
dry like a wilderness.

14 And flocks shall pasture in its midst,  
and all the wild animals of the earth.  
And chameleons and hedgehogs  
shall sleep in its compartments,  
and wild beasts shall cry in its burrows,  
ravens in its gates,  
for its rise is that of a cedar.

**3** (2.15) This is the city, the one that despises,  
that dwells in hope,  
that says in its heart:  
"I am, and there is no one else after me."  
How it has become an annihilation,  
a pasture for wild animals.  
Everyone who passes through it  
will hiss and wave his hands.

2(3.1) Ah, distinguished and ransomed,  
the city, the dove!

(2) It listened to no voice.  
It accepted no correction.  
It trusted not in the Lord  
and did not draw near to its God.

3 Its rulers within it  
are like roaring lions,  
its judges like wolves of Arabia;  
they left nothing until the morning.

4 Its prophets are puffs of wind<sup>b</sup>,  
scornful men;  
its priests profane the sacred things  
and desecrate law.

5 But the Lord within it is just  
and will do no injustice.  
Morning by morning, he will render his  
judgment  
and <sup>c</sup>no injustice unto victory<sup>c</sup>.

6 I pulled down the haughty with ruin;  
their corners were annihilated;  
I altogether laid waste their roads  
so that no one travels through;

their cities failed,  
because no one existed or lived there.  
7 I said, "But fear me,  
and accept correction,  
and you will not be destroyed before its  
eyes,  
in regard to all the things for which I  
punished it.  
Prepare yourself eagerly."  
All their gleaning is corrupt.

8 Therefore, wait for me, says the Lord,  
for the day of my arising as a witness.  
For my judgment is for gatherings of  
nations,  
to welcome kings,  
to pour out upon them  
all the wrath of my anger;  
for in the fire of my zeal  
all the earth shall be consumed.

9 Because then I will change the tongue  
for peoples in its generation,  
that all might call upon the name of the  
Lord  
to be subject to him under one yoke.  
10 From the ends of the rivers of Ethiopia  
they shall bring my offerings.

11 On that day you shall not be put to shame  
as a result of all your deeds by which you  
have acted impiously against me,  
because then I will remove from you  
the contempt of your pride,  
and you shall no longer add to boast  
against my holy mountain.

12 And I will leave in you  
a people meek and humble.  
And the remnant of Israel will beware of  
the name of the Lord.

13 And they will do no injustice  
nor speak vanity,  
nor shall a deceitful tongue  
be found in their mouth;  
for they will pasture and lie down,  
and no one shall make them afraid.

14 Rejoice, O daughter Zion!  
Proclaim, O daughter Ierousalem!  
Be glad, and be delighted with your whole  
heart,

O daughter Ierousalem!  
15 The Lord has taken away your injustices;  
he has redeemed you from the hand of  
your enemies.  
The king of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst;  
you shall see disaster no more.

16 At that time the Lord will say to Ierousalem:  
Courage, O Zion;  
do not let your hands grow weak.

17 The Lord your God is in you;  
a mighty one will save you;

<sup>a</sup>Perhaps *Damascus* <sup>b</sup>Perhaps *moved by spirits* <sup>c</sup>Perhaps *never injustice*

## SOPHONIAS 3—HAGGAIOS 2

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- he will bring gladness to you  
and renew you in his affection,  
and he will be glad over you with delight  
as on a day of a feast.
- 18 And I will gather those who are shattered.  
Alas, who took up a reproach against her?
- 19 Behold, I will act in you for your sake  
in that time, says the Lord,  
and I will save her who has been thrust out  
and her who has been rejected;  
I will welcome and make them objects of  
boasting  
and renowned in all the earth.
- 20 And they will be ashamed in that time,  
when I do well with you  
and in the time when I accept you;  
for I will make you renowned and objects of  
boasting  
among all the peoples of the earth,  
when I return your captivity  
before you, says the Lord.

## HAGGAIOS

**1** In the second year of King Darius, in the sixth month, on the first of the month, a word of the Lord came by the hand of the prophet Haggaios, saying, Speak to Zorobabel the son of Salathiel, from the tribe of Ioudas, and to Iesous the son of Iosedek, the great priest, saying, <sup>2</sup>This is what the Lord Almighty says, saying, These people say, The time has not come to build the Lord's house. <sup>3</sup>And a word of the Lord came by the hand of the prophet Haggaios, saying, <sup>4</sup>Is it time for you to live in your paneled houses, but this house is in ruins? <sup>5</sup>And now, this is what the Lord Almighty says, Focus now your hearts on your ways. <sup>6</sup>You have sown much and taken in little; you have eaten, and not to satiety; you have drunk, and not unto drunkenness; you have clothed yourselves and have not been warmed by them, and he who gathers wages gathered them for a purse with holes.

<sup>7</sup> This is what the Lord Almighty says, Set your hearts on your ways. <sup>8</sup>Go up to the mountain, and cut trees, and build the house, and I will take pleasure in it and be honored, said the Lord. <sup>9</sup>You have looked for much, and little has come, and it was brought home, and I blew it away. Therefore this is what the Lord Almighty says, Because my house is a wilderness but you run off each one to his own house, <sup>10</sup>therefore the sky shall withhold the dew, and the earth shall withdraw its produce. <sup>11</sup>And I will bring a sword on the land and on the mountains and on the grain and on the wine and on the oil, and what the soil produces, and on human beings and on animals and on all the labors of their hands.

<sup>12</sup> And Zorobabel the son of Salathiel, from the tribe of Ioudas, and Iesous the son of Iosedek, the great priest, and all the remnant of the people listened to the voice of the Lord their God and the

words of the prophet Haggaios, as the Lord had sent him to them, and the people feared before the Lord. <sup>13</sup>And Haggaios, the messenger of the Lord, said to the people, I am with you, says the Lord. <sup>14</sup>And the Lord stirred up the spirit of Zorobabel son of Salathiel, from the tribe of Ioudas, and the spirit of Iesous son of Iosedek, the great priest, and the spirit of the remnant of all the people, and they entered and were doing work in the house of the

**2** Lord Almighty, their God, <sup>1</sup>(<sup>1.15</sup>) on the twenty-fourth of the sixth month, in the second year of King Darius.

In the seventh month, on the twenty-first of the month, the Lord spoke by the hand of the prophet Haggaios, saying, <sup>2</sup>Speak now to Zorobabel the son of Salathiel, from the tribe of Ioudas, and to Iesous the son of Iosedek, the great priest, and to all the remnant of the people, saying, <sup>3</sup>Who is left among you that saw this house in its former glory? And how do you see it now? As though it does not exist before you?<sup>a</sup> <sup>4</sup>And now, be strong, O Zorobabel, says the Lord, and be strong, O Iesous the son of Iosedek, the great priest, and let all the people of the land be strong, says the Lord, and act, for I am with you, says the Lord Almighty, <sup>5</sup>and my spirit is present among you; have courage. <sup>6</sup>For this is what the Lord Almighty says, Once again I will shake the sky and the earth and the sea and the dry land, <sup>7</sup>and I will shake all the nations, and the choice things of all the nations shall come, and I will fill this house with splendor, says the Lord Almighty. <sup>8</sup>The silver is mine, and the gold is mine, says the Lord Almighty. <sup>9</sup>For the last splendor of this house shall be great beyond the first, says the Lord Almighty, and in this place I will give peace, says the Lord Almighty, even peace of mind for an acquisition to everyone who creates, to raise up this shrine.

<sup>10</sup> On the twenty-fourth of the ninth month of the second year of Darius, a word of the Lord came to the prophet Haggaios, saying: <sup>11</sup>This is what the Lord Almighty says: Ask the priests for a ruling, saying: <sup>12</sup>If a person should take consecrated meat in the skirt of his garment and the skirt of his garment should touch bread or stew or wine or oil or any kind of food—whether it will become holy? And the priests answered and said, “No.” <sup>13</sup>And Haggaios said, “If one who is defiled by a soul<sup>b</sup> should touch any of these, will it become defiled?” And the priests answered and said, “It will become defiled.” <sup>14</sup>And Haggaios answered and said, So is this people, and so is this nation before me, says the Lord, and so are all the works of their hands, and whoever comes near there will be defiled on account of their <sup>c</sup>early gains<sup>c</sup>; they will suffer because of their toils. And you used to hate those who reprove in the gates. <sup>15</sup>And now, do place it in your hearts from this day and beyond, before laying one stone upon another in the Lord's shrine, <sup>16</sup>who you were; when you threw twenty sata<sup>d</sup> of barley into the grain bin and it became ten sata<sup>d</sup> of barley, and you entered the wine vat to draw fifty

<sup>a</sup>Or you. <sup>b</sup>I.e. departed soul tantamount to corpse <sup>c</sup>I.e. earlier income <sup>d</sup>Heb 1 seah = ca. 7 liters

measures<sup>a</sup> and they became twenty. <sup>17</sup>I struck you with dearth and wind-damage, and all the works of your hands with hail, and you did not return to me, says the Lord. <sup>18</sup>Subject now your hearts from this day forward; from the twenty-fourth of the ninth month, even from the day when the Lord's shrine was founded, place it in your hearts, <sup>19</sup>whether still there will be anything recognized on the threshing floor and whether still the vine and the fig and the pomegranate and the trees of the olive that fail to bear fruit <sup>b</sup>will be recognized<sup>b</sup>; from this day on I will bless you.

<sup>20</sup> And a word of the Lord came a second time to the prophet Haggaios on the twenty-fourth of the month, saying: <sup>21</sup>Say to Zorobabel the son of Salathiel, from the tribe of Ioudas, saying, I am shaking the sky and the earth and the sea and the dry land, <sup>22</sup>and I will overthrow thrones of kings and destroy power of kings of the nations and overthrow chariots and riders, and the horses and their riders will descend each one with a sword against his brother. <sup>23</sup>On that day, says the Lord Almighty, I will take you, O Zorobabel the son of Salathiel, my slave, says the Lord, and I will make you like a signet, for I have chosen you, says the Lord Almighty.

### ZACHARIAS

**1** In the eighth month of the second year of Darius, a word of the Lord came to the prophet Zacharias the son of Barachias son of Addo, saying: <sup>2</sup>The Lord was angry with great anger with your fathers. <sup>3</sup>And you will say to them, This is what the Lord Almighty says: Return to me, and I will return to you, says the Lord. <sup>4</sup>And do not be like your fathers, against whom the former prophets brought a charge, saying, "This is what the Lord Almighty says, Turn away from your evil ways and from your evil practices." And they gave no heed to listen to me, says the Lord. <sup>5</sup>Your fathers, where are they? And the prophets, will they live forever? <sup>6</sup>But receive my words and my precepts, which I command my slaves the prophets through my spirit; did they not overtake your fathers? And they answered and said, "As the Lord Almighty arranged to do according to our ways and according to our practices, so he did to us."

<sup>7</sup> On the twenty-fourth of the eleventh month—this is the month Sabat—in the second year of Darius, a word of the Lord came to the prophet Zacharias the son of Barachias son of Addo, saying, <sup>8</sup>In the night I have seen, and behold, a man riding on a red horse! And this one stood among the shaded mountains, and behind him were red and gray and spotted and white horses. <sup>9</sup>And I said, "What are these things, lord?" And the angel who talked with me said to me, "I will show you what these are." <sup>10</sup>And the man who stood among the mountains answered and said to me, "These are those whom the Lord has sent to patrol the earth." <sup>11</sup>And they answered the angel of

the Lord who stood among the mountains and said, "We have patrolled all the earth, and lo, the whole earth is settled and at rest." <sup>12</sup>And the angel of the Lord answered and said, "O Lord Almighty, how long will you show no mercy toward Ierousalem and the cities of Ioudas, which you have neglected this seventieth year?" <sup>13</sup>And the Lord Almighty replied to the angel who talked with me with good words and comforting tidings. <sup>14</sup>And the angel who talked with me said to me, Cry out, saying: This is what the Lord Almighty says: I have been jealous with great jealousy for Ierousalem and for Sion. <sup>15</sup>And I am angry with great anger against the nations who joined together in an attack. Because I was angry in regard to a few things, but they joined together in attacking for evil. <sup>16</sup>Therefore, this is what the Lord says, I will return to Ierousalem with compassion, and my house shall be rebuilt in it, says the Lord Almighty, and a measure shall again be stretched out over Ierousalem. <sup>17</sup>And the angel who talked with me said to me, Cry out saying: This is what the Lord Almighty says: Cities shall again be flooded with good things, and the Lord will again show mercy to Sion and again choose Ierousalem.

<sup>18</sup> And I lifted up my eyes and saw and behold four horns. <sup>19</sup>And I said to the angel who talked with me, "What are these, lord?" And he said to me, "These are the horns that have scattered Ioudas and Israel." <sup>20</sup>And the Lord showed me four craftsmen. <sup>21</sup>And I said, "What are these coming to do?" And he said to me, "These are the horns that scattered Ioudas, and they broke Israel in pieces, and none of them raised a head. And these came to sharpen them, the four horns into their hands, even the nations who raised their horns against the land of the Lord to scatter it."

**2** And I raised my eyes and saw, and behold, a man and a measuring line in his hand. <sup>2</sup>And I said to him, "Where are you going?" And he said to me, "To measure Ierousalem, to see how great is its width and how great is its length." <sup>3</sup>And behold, the angel who talked with me stood still, and another angel came forward to meet him <sup>4</sup>and said to him, saying, "Run, and speak to that young man, saying, Ierousalem shall be abundantly settled, because of a multitude of people and animals in it. <sup>5</sup>And I will be to it, says the Lord, a wall of fire round about, and I will become glory in its midst."

<sup>6</sup> Oh, oh, flee from the land of the north, says the Lord, for I will gather you from the four winds of the sky, says the Lord. <sup>7</sup>Return safe to Sion, you who inhabit daughter Babylon. <sup>8</sup>For this is what the Lord Almighty says: Behind glory he has sent me to the nations who despoiled you. For he who touches you is as one who touches the pupil of his eye. <sup>9</sup>For behold, I am bringing my hand against them, and they shall be booty to their own slaves. And you will know that the Lord Almighty has sent me. <sup>10</sup>Rejoice, and be glad, O daughter Sion. For

<sup>a</sup>Gk 1 metretes = ca. 22 liters <sup>b</sup>Lacking in Gk

## ZACHARIAS 2-6

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behold, I am coming and will tent in your midst, says the Lord. <sup>11</sup>And many nations shall flee to the Lord for refuge on that day and shall become a people to him, and they will tent in your midst. And you shall recognize that the Lord Almighty has sent me to you. <sup>12</sup>And the Lord will inherit Ioudas, his portion in the holy land, and will again choose Ierusalem.

<sup>13</sup> Let all flesh be cautious before the Lord, for he has roused himself from his holy clouds.

**3** And he showed me the great priest Iesous standing before an angel of the Lord, and the slanderer stood at his right to oppose him. <sup>2</sup>And the Lord said to the slanderer, "The Lord rebuke you, O slanderer! And the Lord who has chosen Ierusalem rebuke you! Behold, is not this like a brand plucked from the fire?" <sup>3</sup>And Iesous was dressed with filthy clothes, and he stood before the angel. <sup>4</sup>And he answered and said to those standing before him, saying, "Remove the filthy clothes from him." And to him he said, "Behold, I have removed your lawlessness. And clothe him with a full-length robe, <sup>5</sup>and put a clean turban on his head." And they put a clean turban on his head and clothed him with garments, and the angel of the Lord stood by.

<sup>6</sup> And the angel of the Lord bore witness to Iesous, saying: <sup>7</sup>"This is what the Lord Almighty says: If you walk in my ways and keep my ordinances, then you shall judge my house. And if you carefully guard my court, then I will give you men who will dwell among these who stand by. <sup>8</sup>Now listen, Iesous, great priest, you and your colleagues who sit before you! For the men are diviners. For behold I bring forth my slave, Shoot<sup>a</sup>. <sup>9</sup>For the stone which I have set before Iesous, on the one stone are seven eyes. Behold, I am digging a hole, says the Lord Almighty, and I will search out all the injustice of that land in one day. <sup>10</sup>On that day, says the Lord Almighty, you shall invite, each his neighbor, under a vine and under a fig tree."

**4** And the angel who talked with me returned and wakened me as when a person is wakened from his sleep. <sup>2</sup>And he said to me, "What do you see?" And I said, "I have seen, and behold, a lampstand all of gold and the torch on it, and there are seven lamps on it and seven pouring vessels for the lamps on it. <sup>3</sup>And on it are two olive trees, one on the right of the torch and one on the left." <sup>4</sup>And I inquired and said to the angel who talked with me, saying, "What are these, lord?" <sup>5</sup>And the angel who talked with me answered and said to me, "Do you not know what these are?" And I said, "No, lord." <sup>6</sup>And he answered and said to me, saying, "This is the word of the Lord to Zorobabel, saying, Not by great power nor by strength, but by my spirit, says the Lord Almighty. <sup>7</sup>Who are you, You great mountain, to prosper before Zorobabel? And you will bring forth the stone of inheritance, equality of grace, grace for it<sup>b</sup>."

<sup>8</sup> And a word of the Lord came to me, saying, <sup>9</sup>"The hands of Zorobabel laid the foundation of this house; his hands shall also complete it. And you will know that the Lord Almighty has sent me to you. <sup>10</sup>For who has despised the small days? And they shall rejoice and see the <sup>c</sup>tin stone<sup>c</sup> in the hand of Zorobabel.

"These seven are the eyes of the Lord that watch the whole earth." <sup>11</sup>And I answered and said to him, "What are these two olive trees on the right of the lampstand and on the left?" <sup>12</sup>And I queried a second time and said to him, "What are the two branches of olive trees in the hands of the two gold nostrils that pour to and flow to the golden pouring vessels?" <sup>13</sup>And he said to me, "Do you not know what these are?" And I said, "No, lord." And he said, "These two <sup>d</sup>sons of fattiness<sup>d</sup> stand before the Lord of the whole earth."

**5** And I turned and lifted my eyes and saw and behold, a flying sickle. <sup>2</sup>And he said to me, "What do you see?" And I said, "I see a flying sickle twenty cubits long and ten cubits wide." <sup>3</sup>And he said to me, "This is the curse that goes out over the face of the whole earth, for every thief will be punished until death from this<sup>e</sup> and everyone who swears falsely will be punished until death from this<sup>e</sup>. <sup>4</sup>And I will bring it out, says the Lord Almighty, and it shall enter into the house of the thief and into the house of anyone who swears falsely by my name, and it shall lodge in the midst of his house and consume it, both its timbers and its stones."

<sup>5</sup> And the angel who talked with me came forward and said to me, "Look up with your eyes, and see what this is that is coming out." <sup>6</sup>And I said, "What is it?" And he said, "This is the measure that goes out." And he said, "This is their injustice in all the earth." <sup>7</sup>And behold, a talent of lead being lifted up, and behold, one woman sat in the midst of the measure. <sup>8</sup>And he said, "This is lawlessness." And he cast her in the midst of the measure and cast the stone of lead into her mouth. <sup>9</sup>And I lifted up my eyes and saw, and behold, two women coming forth. And wind was in their wings, and they had wings like the wings of a hoopoe, and they took up the measure between the earth and between the sky. <sup>10</sup>And I said to the angel who talked with me, "Where are these taking the measure?" <sup>11</sup>And he said to me, "To build a house for it in the land of Babylon and to make preparations, and they will set it down there on its prepared place."

**6** And I turned and lifted my eyes and saw, and behold, four chariots coming out from between two mountains, and the mountains were bronze mountains. <sup>2</sup>On the first chariot were red horses, and on the second chariot black horses, <sup>3</sup>and on the third chariot white horses, and on the fourth chariot various shades of dapple-gray horses. <sup>4</sup>And I answered and said to the angel who talked with me, "What are these, lord?" <sup>5</sup>And the

<sup>a</sup>Or Dawn <sup>b</sup>Possibly inheritance <sup>c</sup>Perhaps plummet <sup>d</sup>Possibly men anointed with oil <sup>e</sup>Possibly sickle

angel who talked with me answered and said, "These are the four winds of the sky; they go out to attend on the Lord of all the earth." <sup>6</sup>The one on which were the black horses, they were going toward the north country, and the white ones were going after them, and the variegated ones were going toward the south country. <sup>7</sup>And the dapple-gray were going out and were looking to go to patrol the earth. And he said, "Go, and patrol the earth." And they patrolled the earth. <sup>8</sup>And he shouted and spoke to me, saying, "Behold, those who go toward the north country have caused my rage to rest in the north country."

<sup>9</sup> And a word of the Lord came to me saying: <sup>10</sup>Take the things from the captivity—from the rulers and from its useful people and from those who are familiar with it—and you shall enter in that day into the house of Iosias son of Sophonias, who has come from Babylon. <sup>11</sup>And you shall take silver and gold and make crowns and set them on the head of the great priest Iesous son of Iosedek, <sup>12</sup>and you shall say to him: This is what the Lord Almighty says: Behold, a man, Shoot<sup>a</sup> is his name, and he shall sprout from below him and shall build the house of the Lord. <sup>13</sup>And it is he that shall receive virtue and shall sit and rule on his throne. And the priest shall be on his right, and peaceful counsel shall be between the two of them. <sup>14</sup>And the crown shall be for those who endure and for its useful people and for those who are familiar with it. And it will become a credit for the son of Sophonias and music<sup>b</sup> in the house of the Lord.

<sup>15</sup> And those who are far off from them shall come and build in the house of the Lord, and you shall know that the Lord Almighty has sent me to you. And it will be if, listening, you shall listen to the voice of the Lord your God.

**7** And in the fourth year of King Darius, a word of the Lord came to Zacharias on the fourth of the ninth month, which is Cheseleu. <sup>2</sup>And Sarasar and Arbeseer the king and his men sent to Baithel to appease the Lord, <sup>3</sup>saying to the priests in the house of the Lord Almighty and to the prophets, saying, "Has the sanctity entered here in the fifth month, as I did already many years?" <sup>4</sup>And a word of the Lord came to me, saying: <sup>5</sup>Say to all the people of the land and the priests, saying: If you fast or lament on the fifth or seventh days—even behold for seventy years—you have not fasted a fast for me, have you? <sup>6</sup>And if you eat and if you drink, is it not you that eat and you that drink? <sup>7</sup>Are not these the words that the Lord spoke by the hands of the former prophets, when Ierousalem was inhabited and in prosperity and her cities round about and the hill country and the low-lying land were inhabited?

<sup>8</sup> And a word of the Lord came to Zacharias, saying: <sup>9</sup>This is what the Lord Almighty says, saying: Render just judgment, and perform mercy and compassion, each one to his brother. <sup>10</sup>And do not

oppress the widow and the orphan and the guest and the needy, and let not each one of you bear a grudge in your hearts against his brother for an evil deed. <sup>11</sup>And they refused to take notice and turned a senseless back and made their ears heavy so as not to listen. <sup>12</sup>And they made their heart disobedient so as not to heed my law and the words that the Lord Almighty sent by his spirit by the hands of the former prophets, and great wrath came from the Lord Almighty. <sup>13</sup>And it will be, just as he said, and they did not listen; so they will cry out, and I will not listen, says the Lord Almighty. <sup>14</sup>And I will cast them into all the nations that they did not know, and the land behind them will be annihilated of anyone going through and of returning. And they have consigned the choice land to desolation.

**8** A word of the Lord Almighty came, saying: <sup>2</sup>This is what the Lord Almighty says: I have been jealous for Ierousalem and Sion with great jealousy, and I have been jealous for her with great wrath. <sup>3</sup>This is what the Lord says: And I will return to Sion, and I will tent in the midst of Ierousalem, and Ierousalem shall be called a city that is true, and the mountain of the Lord Almighty, a holy mountain. <sup>4</sup>This is what the Lord Almighty says: Old men and old women shall again sit in the streets of Ierousalem, each with his rod in his hand, because of the great number of days. <sup>5</sup>And the streets of the city shall be full of boys and girls playing in its streets. <sup>6</sup>This is what the Lord Almighty says: For if it will be impossible in the sight of the remnant of this people in those days, will it also be impossible in my sight, says the Lord Almighty? <sup>7</sup>This is what the Lord Almighty says: Behold I am saving my people from a land of the east and from a land of the west, <sup>8</sup>and I will bring them and make them tent in the midst of Ierousalem. And they shall become my people, and I will become a god to them, in truth and in justice.

<sup>9</sup> This is what the Lord Almighty says: Let your hands be strong, you who hear in these days these words from the mouth of the prophets, since the day the house of the Lord Almighty was founded and since the shrine was built. <sup>10</sup>For before those days the wages of people will not be for enjoyment, and there are no wages for cattle, and there will not be peace from distress for the one who went out and the one who came in, and I will send away all people, each against his neighbor. <sup>11</sup>And now I do not deal with the remnant of this people as in the former days, says the Lord Almighty. <sup>12</sup>Rather, I will demonstrate peace; the vine shall yield its fruit, and the ground shall give its produce, and the sky shall give its dew, and I will cause the remnant of my people to possess all these things. <sup>13</sup>And it will be, just as you have been as a curse among the nations, O house of Ioudas and house of Israel, so I will save you, and you shall be as a blessing. Take courage, and be strong with your hands.

<sup>14</sup> For this is what the Lord Almighty says: Just

<sup>a</sup>Or *Dawn*    <sup>b</sup>Or *psalm*

## ZACHARIAS 8-10

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as I purposed to harm you, when your fathers provoked me to wrath, says the Lord Almighty, and I did not repent, <sup>15</sup>so I stand prepared and have purposed in these days to do good to Ierousalem and to the house of Ioudas. Take courage. <sup>16</sup>These are the matters that you shall do: Speak the truth each to his neighbor; render in your gates judgment that makes for peace, <sup>17</sup>and do not devise evil in your hearts each against his neighbor, and do not love a false oath; for all these things I have hated, says the Lord Almighty.

<sup>18</sup> And a word of the Lord Almighty came to me, saying: <sup>19</sup>This is what the Lord Almighty says: The fourth fast and the fifth fast and the seventh fast and the tenth fast shall become a joy for the house of Ioudas, and gladness and good feasts, and you shall be glad, and love truth and peace.

<sup>20</sup> This is what the Lord Almighty says: Many peoples shall yet come, and inhabitants of many cities. <sup>21</sup>And inhabitants of five cities shall come together in one city, saying, "Let us go to entreat the face of the Lord and to seek the face of the Lord Almighty; I too will go." <sup>22</sup>And many peoples and many nations shall come to seek the face of the Lord Almighty in Ierousalem and to appease the face of the Lord. <sup>23</sup>This is what the Lord Almighty says: In those days if ten men from all the languages of the nations take hold, then let them take hold of the hem of a Judean man, saying, "We shall go with you, for we have heard that God is with you."

**9** An issue of the Lord's word.  
His sacrifice is in the land of Sedrach and Damascus.  
For the Lord oversees people,  
including all the tribes of Israel  
<sup>2</sup> and Hemath in its borders,  
Tyre and Sidon, for they were very clever.  
<sup>3</sup> And Tyre built itself fortresses  
and heaped up silver like dust  
and gold like the dirt of the streets.  
<sup>4</sup> Therefore the Lord will possess it  
and strike its power into the sea,  
and it shall be consumed by fire.  
<sup>5</sup> Ascalon shall see and be afraid,  
Gaza too, and shall feel great agony,  
Akkaron also, because it was put to  
shame by its transgression.  
And a king shall perish from Gaza,  
and Ascalon shall be uninhabited,  
<sup>6</sup> and aliens shall settle in Azotus,  
and I will destroy the pride of the  
allophytes.  
<sup>7</sup> And I will remove their blood from their  
mouth  
and their abominations from between  
their teeth.  
And this one too shall be left for our God,  
and they shall be like an officer of a  
thousand in Ioudas,  
and Akkaron shall be like the Iebousite.  
<sup>8</sup> And I will set up a structure for my house

so that no one shall pass through or  
return,  
and no longer will anyone come against  
them to drive them out,  
for now I have seen with my own eyes.

<sup>9</sup> Rejoice greatly, O daughter Sion!  
Proclaim, O daughter Ierousalem!  
Behold, your king comes to you,  
just and salvific is he,  
meek and riding on a beast of burden and a  
young foal.  
<sup>10</sup> And he will utterly destroy chariots from  
Ephraim  
and cavalry from Ierousalem,  
and the battle bow shall be destroyed,  
and there shall be abundance and peace  
from nations,  
and he shall reign over the waters as far as  
the sea,  
and the rivers at the exits of the earth.  
<sup>11</sup> You also, by the blood of the covenant,  
have sent forth your prisoners from the  
pit that has no water.  
<sup>12</sup> You shall sit in a stronghold, O prisoners of  
the gathering,  
and in place of one day of your alien  
residence I will restore to you  
double.  
<sup>13</sup> For I stretched you tight, O Ioudas, a bow  
for myself;  
I filled Ephraim  
and will raise up your children, O Sion,  
against the children of the Greeks,  
and I will stroke you like a warrior's  
sword.  
<sup>14</sup> And the Lord shall be over them  
and shall go forth like a lightning bolt,  
and the Lord Almighty will trumpet with the  
trumpet  
and come with his menacing tempest.  
<sup>15</sup> The Lord Almighty will protect them,  
and they shall consume them and bury  
them with sling stones,  
and they shall drink them empty like wine,  
and fill the altar like saucers.  
<sup>16</sup> And on that day the Lord will save them,  
his people like sheep,  
for sacred stones roll on his land.  
<sup>17</sup> Because if anything of his is good and if  
anything of his is fair,  
there will be grain for young men  
and sweet-smelling wine for maidens.  
**10** Ask rain from the Lord  
in the early and latter season.  
The Lord has produced representations  
and will give to them winter rain,  
to each vegetation in the field.  
<sup>2</sup> For the speakers uttered troubling things,  
and the diviners lying visions,  
and they were speaking false dreams

- and were consoling with vanities.  
Therefore they were removed like sheep  
and were mistreated, for there was no  
healing.
- 3 My anger was provoked against the  
shepherds,  
and I will have concern for the lambs,  
and the Lord God the Almighty will have  
concern for his flock, the house of  
Ioudas,  
and will make them like his comely horse  
in battle.
- 4 And from it<sup>a</sup> he took perspective,  
and from it<sup>a</sup> he drew up in battle order,  
and from it<sup>a</sup> was a bow with fury;  
from it<sup>a</sup> everyone who marches out will  
come together.
- 5 And they shall be like warriors  
trampling clay in the streets during battle,  
and they shall fight, for the Lord is with them,  
and riders on horses shall be put to shame.
- 6 And I will strengthen the house of Ioudas,  
and I will save the house of Ioseph.  
And I will settle them, because I have loved  
them,  
and they shall be as though I had not  
turned them away,  
for I am the Lord their God, and I will  
listen to them.
- 7 And they shall be like the warriors of  
Ephraim,  
and their heart shall rejoice as with wine.  
And their children shall see it and be glad;  
their heart shall rejoice in the Lord.
- 8 I will signal for them and receive them,  
for I shall redeem them,  
and they shall be as numerous as they  
were.
- 9 And I will sow them among peoples,  
and those far away shall remember me;  
they shall rear their children and return.
- 10 And I will bring them back from the land of  
Egypt  
and receive them from the Assyrians,  
and I will bring them to Galaaditis and to  
Lebanon,  
and not even one of them shall be left  
behind.
- 11 And they shall pass through a narrow sea,  
and they shall strike the waves in the sea,  
and all the depths of the rivers shall dry up.  
And all the pride of the Assyrians shall be  
taken away,  
and the scepter of Egypt shall be  
removed.
- 12 And I will make them strong in the Lord,  
their God,  
and they shall boast in his name,  
says the Lord.

<sup>a</sup>i.e. flock

- 11 Open your doors, O Lebanon,  
and let fire devour your cedars!  
2 Let the pine wail, for the cedar has fallen,  
because nobles have greatly suffered  
misery.  
Wail, oaks of Basanitis,  
because the thick forest has been torn  
down!
- 3 There is a sound of shepherds mourning,  
because their greatness has suffered  
misery!  
There is a sound of lions roaring,  
because the pride of the Jordan has  
suffered misery.

4 This is what the Lord Almighty says: Tend the sheep of slaughter, <sup>5</sup>which those who acquire were slaughtering and were not repenting, and those who sell them were saying, "Blessed be the Lord, and we have become rich," and their own shepherds were suffering nothing for them. <sup>6</sup>Therefore, I will no longer be sparing toward the inhabitants of the earth, says the Lord. And behold, I deliver people over, each one into the hands of his neighbor and into the hands of his king, and they shall devastate the earth, and I will not deliver from their hand.

7 And I will tend the sheep of slaughter in Chanaanitis. And I will take to myself two rods—the one I have called Beauty, and the other I have called Line—and I will tend the sheep. <sup>8</sup>And in one month I will dispose of the three shepherds, and my soul will be heavy against them, for also their souls were howling against me. <sup>9</sup>And I said, "I will not tend you. Whatever dies, let it die, and whatever fails, let it fail, and as for the things that are left—let them devour each one the flesh of his neighbor!" <sup>10</sup>And I will take my beautiful rod and cast it away in order to scatter my covenant that I made with all the peoples. <sup>11</sup>And it shall be scattered on that day, and the Chananites will know the sheep that are kept, for it is the Lord's word. <sup>12</sup>And I will say to them, "If it is good in your sight, give me my wages, or refuse." And they set my wages at thirty pieces of silver. <sup>13</sup>And the Lord said to me, "Place them in the smelter, and I will observe whether it is genuine, as I have been proven for them." And I took the thirty pieces of silver and threw them into the house of the Lord, into the smelter. <sup>14</sup>And I cast away the second rod, Line, to disband the tie between Ioudas and between Israel.

15 And the Lord said to me: Take to yourself once more shepherd implements of an inexperienced shepherd. <sup>16</sup>For behold, I am raising up over the land a shepherd. He will not care for the abandoned or seek the scattered or heal the crushed or lead the whole, and he will devour the flesh of the chosen and twist their vertebrae.

- 17 Oh, you who tend to idle things,  
who desert the sheep!  
May the dagger be upon his arm  
and against his right eye!

## ZACHARIAS 12-14

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His arm withering shall wither;  
his right eye blinded shall be blinded!

**12** An issue of the Lord's word regarding Israel. The Lord, as he stretches out heaven and founds the earth and forms the human spirit within, says: <sup>2</sup>Behold, I set Ierousalem as shaking doorways for all the peoples round about, and in Judea there will be a siege against Ierousalem. <sup>3</sup>And it shall be on that day, I will make Ierousalem a trampled stone for all the nations; everyone who tramples it when mocking shall mock. And all the nations of the earth shall be gathered against it. <sup>4</sup>On that day, says the Lord Almighty, I will strike every horse with alarm and its rider with derangement—but on the house of Ioudas I will open my eyes—and all the horses of the peoples I will strike with blindness. <sup>5</sup>And the officers of thousands in Ioudas shall say in their hearts, "We shall find for ourselves the inhabitants of Ierousalem in the Lord Almighty, their God."

<sup>6</sup> On that day I will make the officers of thousands of Ioudas like a firebrand in wood and like a torch of fire in stubble, and they shall devour all the peoples round about to the right and to the left, and Ierousalem shall again dwell by itself.

<sup>7</sup> And the Lord will save the tents of Ioudas as from the beginning, that the boast of the house of Daud and the elation of the inhabitants of Ierousalem might not be exalted over Ioudas. <sup>8</sup>And it shall be on that day, the Lord will be a shield for the inhabitants of Ierousalem, and the weak one among them in that day will be like Daud, and the house of Daud will be like a divine house, like an angel of the Lord before them. <sup>9</sup>And it shall be on that day, I will seek to destroy all the nations that come against Ierousalem.

<sup>10</sup> And I will pour out a spirit of grace and compassion on the house of Daud and on the inhabitants of Ierousalem, and they shall look to me because they have danced triumphantly, and they shall mourn for him with a mourning as for a loved one, and they shall be pained with pain as for a firstborn. <sup>11</sup>On that day the mourning in Ierousalem will be great like the mourning for a pomegranate orchard cut down in the plain. <sup>12</sup>And the land shall mourn, tribes by tribes, the tribe of the house of Daud by itself and their wives by themselves, the tribe of the house of Nathan by itself and their wives by themselves, <sup>13</sup>the tribe of the house of Leui by itself and their wives by themselves, the tribe of Symeon by itself and their wives by themselves, <sup>14</sup>all the tribes that are left, a tribe by itself and their wives by themselves.

**13** On that day every place will be opened for the house of Daud.

<sup>2</sup> And it shall be on that day, says the Lord, I will utterly destroy the names of the idols from the land, and there shall be no more remembrance of them; also I will remove from the land the pseudo-prophets and the unclean spirit. <sup>3</sup>And it shall be, if

a person should again prophesy, then his father and his mother who bore him will say to him, "You shall not live, for you have spoken lies in the name of the Lord," and his father and his mother who bore him shall bind his feet together when he prophesies. <sup>4</sup>And it shall be on that day, the prophets will be ashamed, each of his vision when he prophesies, and they will wear a hairy skin, because they lied. <sup>5</sup>And one will say, "I am no prophet, for I am a person who tills the soil, because such<sup>a</sup> a person brought me up from my youth." <sup>6</sup>And I will say to him, "What are these blows between your hands<sup>b</sup>?" And he will say, "Those with which I was beaten in my beloved house."

<sup>7</sup> "Awake, O sword, against my shepherds and against his fellow citizen," says the Lord Almighty.

Smite the shepherds, and remove the sheep, and I will bring my hand against the shepherds.

<sup>8</sup> And it shall be in the whole land<sup>c</sup>, says the Lord,  
two parts shall be utterly destroyed and perish,

but the third shall be left in it.

<sup>9</sup> And I will draw the third through the fire, and I shall test them by fire as silver is tested by fire,

and I shall prove them as gold is proven.

He will call on my name,  
and I will listen to him,

and I will say, "This is my people,"

and he will say, "The Lord is my God."

**14** Behold, days of the Lord are coming, and your spoils shall be divided in you. <sup>2</sup>And I will gather all the nations to Ierousalem for battle, and the city shall be taken, and the houses looted, and the women defiled, and half the city shall go in captivity, but the rest of my people shall not be utterly destroyed from the city. <sup>3</sup>And the Lord will go forth and draw up in battle order against those nations like a day of his marshaling in a day of battle. <sup>4</sup>And on that day his feet shall stand on the Mount of Olives, which is opposite Ierousalem on the east, and the mount of Olives shall be split, half of it to the east and half of it to the sea, an exceedingly great chasm, and half of the Mount shall incline northward and half of it southward. <sup>5</sup>And the valley of my mountains shall be blocked up, and the valley of the mountains shall be joined up to Iasol, and it shall be blocked up as it was blocked in the days of the earthquake in the days of King Ozias of Ioudas. And the Lord my God will come and all the holy ones with him.

<sup>6</sup> On that day there shall be no light nor cold weather nor frost. <sup>7</sup>It shall be for one day—and that day is known to the Lord—and not a day and not a night, and at evening time there shall be light.

<sup>8</sup> And on that day living water shall come forth from Ierousalem, half of it into the first sea and

<sup>a</sup>Lacking in Gk <sup>b</sup>Or arms <sup>c</sup>Or earth

half of it into the last sea; even in summer and spring it will be so.

9 And the Lord will become king over all the earth; on that day the Lord will be one and his name one.

10 One shall go around the whole land by way of the wilderness from Gabe unto Remmon south of Ierusalem. But Rama shall remain in place, from the Gate of Benjamin unto the place of the first gate, unto the gate of the corners and unto the tower Hananeel, unto the king's wine vats. <sup>11</sup>They shall inhabit it, and there shall be no more anathema, and Ierusalem shall dwell confidently.

12 And this shall be the calamity with which the Lord will cut off all the peoples who waged war against Ierusalem: their flesh shall melt away as they stand on their feet, and their eyes shall ooze from their sockets, and their tongue shall melt in their mouth. <sup>13</sup>And it shall be on that day, a great panic from the Lord shall be upon them, and each will seize the hand of his neighbor, and his hand will be joined to the hand of his neighbor. <sup>14</sup>Even Ioudas will fight at Ierusalem and shall collect the strength of all the peoples round about—gold and silver and apparel in great abundance. <sup>15</sup>And this shall be the overthrow of the horses and the mules and the camels and the donkeys and all the animals that are in those camps, according to this calamity.

16 And it will be that all who remain of all the nations that came against Ierusalem shall also go up year after year to do obeisance to the King, the Lord Almighty, and to keep the feast of tent pitching. <sup>17</sup>And it shall be that all who do not go up from all the tribes of the earth to Ierusalem to do obeisance to the King, the Lord Almighty, these then shall be added to those. <sup>18</sup>And if the tribe of Egypt should not go up or come, then on these shall be the calamity with which the Lord will strike all the nations, as many as will not go up to keep the feast of tent pitching. <sup>19</sup>This shall be the sin of Egypt and the sin of all the nations, as many as shall not go up to keep the feast of tent pitching.

20 On that day, there shall be upon the bridle of the horse, "Holy to the Lord Almighty." And the cauldrons in the house of the Lord shall be like the saucers in front of the altar, <sup>21</sup>and every cauldron in Ierusalem and in Ioudas shall be holy to the Lord Almighty, and all those who sacrifice will come and take of them and boil in them. And the Chananite shall no longer be in the house of the Lord Almighty on that day.

### MALACHIAS

**1** An issue of the Lord's word to Israel by the hand of his messenger. Do place it upon your hearts.

2 I loved you, says the Lord. And you said, "How did you love us?" Was not Esau Iakob's brother? says the Lord. And I loved Iakob, <sup>3</sup>but I

hated Esau, and I made his mountains an annihilation and his heritage gifts of the wilderness. <sup>4</sup>For Idumea will say, "It is destroyed. And let us return and rebuild the desolate places." This is what the Lord Almighty says: They will build, and I will tear down. And they will be called borders of lawlessness and a people against whom the Lord is drawn up in battle forever. <sup>5</sup>And your eyes shall see, and you shall say, "The Lord has been magnified beyond the borders of Israel."

6 A son honors the father, and a slave his master. If then I am a father, where is my honor? And if I am a master, where is my respect? says the Lord Almighty to you, O priests, who despise my name. And you said, "How did we despise your name?" <sup>7</sup>By bringing defiled loaves to my altar. And you said, "How did we defile them?" When you say, "The Lord's table is despised, and the food laid on it is despised." <sup>8</sup>For if you bring something blind as a sacrifice, is that not wrong? And if you offer something lame or sickly, is that not wrong? Do bring it to your governor, if he will accept you or receive your face, says the Lord Almighty. <sup>9</sup>And now, appease the face of your God, and entreat him. By your own hands these things have occurred. Will I receive the faces of any of you? says the Lord Almighty. <sup>10</sup>For even among you the doors shall be shut, and you shall not kindle my altar in vain. I have no will among you, says the Lord Almighty, and I will not accept an offering from your hands. <sup>11</sup>For from the rising of the sun to its setting my name is glorified among the nations, and in every place incense is brought to my name, and a pure offering, for my name is great among the nations, says the Lord Almighty. <sup>12</sup>But you profane it when you say that the Lord's table is defiled, and its food set forth is despised. <sup>13</sup>And you said, "These are toilsome," and you snorted at them, says the Lord Almighty. And you were carrying in what was taken by violence and what is lame and physically impaired. Even if you bring the offering, shall I accept them from your hands? says the Lord Almighty. <sup>14</sup>And cursed is he who was able, and there was in his flock a male, and his vow is upon him, and he sacrifices to the Lord what is corrupted, for I am a great king, says the Lord Almighty, and my name is notable among the nations.

**2** And now, O priests, this commandment is for you. <sup>2</sup>If you will not listen and if you will not place it in your heart to give glory to my name, says the Lord Almighty, then I will send the curse on you, and I will curse your blessing; indeed I will curse it. And I will scatter your blessing, and it shall not be among you, because you do not place it in your heart. <sup>3</sup>Behold, I separate the shoulder at you and will spread paunch<sup>a</sup> on your faces, paunch<sup>a</sup> for your feasts, and I will take you to the same place.

4 And you will know that I have sent this commandment to you, that my covenant might be with the Leuites, says the Lord Almighty. <sup>5</sup>My cov-

<sup>a</sup>Technically also the fourth stomach of ruminants

enant of life and peace was with him. And I gave it to him that he fear me with fear and that he avoid the presence of my name. <sup>6</sup>A law of truth was in his mouth, and no injustice was found on his lips. He walked uprightly with me in peace and turned many from injustice. <sup>7</sup>Because the lips of a priest shall guard knowledge, and they shall seek law from his mouth, for he is a messenger of the Lord Almighty. <sup>8</sup>But you have turned aside from the way, and you have caused many to fail by law; you have corrupted the covenant of Leui, says the Lord Almighty. <sup>9</sup>And I rendered you despised and disregarded among all the nations, because you did not keep my ways but were <sup>a</sup>accepting persons<sup>a</sup> in law.

<sup>10</sup> Did not one god create us? Is there not one father of us all? Why then did each of you forsake his brother, to profane the covenant of our fathers? <sup>11</sup>Ioudas was forsaken, and an abomination occurred in Israel and in Ierousalem, for Ioudas profaned the sacred things of the Lord with which he loved and busied himself with foreign gods. <sup>12</sup>The Lord will utterly destroy the person who does this until he has even been humiliated from the tents of Iakob and from among those who bring sacrifice to the Lord Almighty.

<sup>13</sup> And these things, which I hated, you kept doing: you would cover the altar of the Lord with tears and weeping and laborious groaning. Is it still appropriate to look at sacrifice or to receive as something acceptable from your hands? <sup>14</sup>And you said, "Why?" Because the Lord was a witness between you and between the wife of your youth, whom you abandoned, though she is your companion and the wife of your covenant. <sup>15</sup>And no one else did it and the remnant of his spirit. And you said, "What else does God seek but offspring?" And be vigilant in your spirit, and do not forsake the wife of your youth. <sup>16</sup>But if, since you hate her, you should send her away, says the Lord, the God of Israel, then impiety will cover over his garments, says the Lord Almighty. And be vigilant in your spirit, and do not abandon her.

<sup>17</sup> You who provoked God with your words and said, "How did we provoke him?" By saying, "Everyone who does evil does good before the Lord, and he delighted in them," and, "Where is the God of justice?"

**3** Behold, I am sending my messenger, and he will oversee the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to the shrine. And the messenger of the covenant whom you want—behold, he is coming, says the Lord Almighty. <sup>2</sup>And who will endure the day of his arrival, or who will withstand in his appearance?

For he is coming like the fire of a smelter and like the lye of cleaners, <sup>3</sup>and he will sit, smelting and purifying as it were silver and as it were gold, and he will purify the sons of Leui and pour them like gold and like silver, and they shall be bringing an offering to the Lord in justice. <sup>4</sup>And an offering

of Ioudas and Ierousalem will be pleasing to the Lord as the days of old, even as the former years.

<sup>5</sup> And I will draw near to you in judgment; I will be a swift witness against the sorceresses and against the adulteresses and against those who swear by my name falsely and against those who defraud the hired worker of his wages and those who oppress the widow and those who buffet orphans and those who turn aside justice from the guest and those who do not fear me, says the Lord Almighty.

<sup>6</sup> For I am the Lord your God, and I have not changed. <sup>7</sup>And you, O sons of Iakob, are not keeping a distance from the injustices of your fathers. You perverted my precepts and did not keep them. Return to me, and I will return to you, says the Lord Almighty. And you said, "How should we return?"

<sup>8</sup> Will a person trip up God? For you are tripping me up! And you will say, "How have we tripped you up?" Because the tithes and the first fruits are still with you. <sup>9</sup>And disregarding you disregard, and you are tripping me up—the nation has been made an end of. <sup>10</sup>And you brought all the produce into the storehouses, and it shall be pillage in my house. Do observe by this, says the Lord Almighty, if I will not open to you the flood-gates of the sky and pour out upon you my blessing until you are satisfied. <sup>11</sup>And I will distinguish among you for food, and I will not destroy among you the fruit of the land, and the vine in the field will not fail you, says the Lord Almighty. <sup>12</sup>And all the nations will call you happy, for you will be a wanted land, says the Lord Almighty.

<sup>13</sup> You have made your words against me heavy, says the Lord. And you said, "How did we speak against you?" <sup>14</sup>You said, "The one who is subject to God is vain. And what more is there that we kept his ordinances and that we went as suppliants into the presence of the Lord Almighty? <sup>15</sup>And now we call foreigners happy, and they are rebuilding while they do lawless things, and they withstood God and escaped."

<sup>16</sup> Those who fear the Lord spoke against these things, each to his neighbor. And the Lord took note and listened and wrote a book of remembrance before him for those who fear the Lord and reverence his name. <sup>17</sup>And they shall be mine, says the Lord Almighty, in the day when I make them my acquisition, and I will choose them as a person chooses his son who is subject to him. <sup>18</sup>And you shall turn and discern between the just and between the lawless and between the one who is subject to God and the one who is not subject.

**4** For behold, a day is coming, burning like an oven, and it will set them ablaze, and all the aliens and all those who do lawless things will be stubble, and the day that comes shall kindle them, says the Lord Almighty, and there shall be left of them neither root nor branch. <sup>2</sup>And for you who fear my name a sun of justice shall rise, and heal-

<sup>a</sup>i.e. showing partiality

ing is in its wings. And you shall go out and leap like calves let loose from tethers. <sup>3</sup>And you shall tread down the lawless, for they will be ashes under your feet, on the day when I act, says the Lord Almighty.

<sup>4(5)</sup> And behold I am sending to you Elias the Thesbite before the great and notable day of the

Lord comes, <sup>5(6)</sup>who will restore the heart of the father to the son and the heart of a person to his neighbor so that I will not come and utterly strike the land.

<sup>6(4)</sup> Remember the law of Moyses my slave, as I commanded him at Choreb with ordinances and statutes for all Israel.

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Published by Oxford University Press, Inc.  
198 Madison Avenue, New York, New York 10016  
www.oup.com

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Interior design and typesetting by Blue Heron Bookcraft, Battle Ground, WA.

Printed in the United States  
1 3 5 7 9 8 6 4 2