

Job 16

Chapter 16

¹ THEN Job answered and said,

² I have heard many such things: miserable comforters *are* ye all.

³ Shall vain words have an end? or what emboldeneth thee that thou answerest?

⁴ I also could speak as ye *do*: if your soul were in my soul's stead, I could heap up words against you, and shake mine head at you.

⁵ *But* I would strengthen you with my mouth, and the moving of my lips should asswage *your grief*.

⁶ Though I speak, my grief is not asswaged: and *though* I forbear, what am I eased?

⁷ But now he hath made me weary: thou hast made desolate all my company.

⁸ And thou hast filled me with wrinkles, *which* is a witness *against me*: and my leanness rising up in me beareth witness to my face.

⁹ He teareth *me* in his wrath, who hateth me: he gnasheth upon me with his teeth; mine enemy sharpeneth his eyes upon me.

¹⁰ They have gaped upon me with their mouth; they have smitten me upon the cheek reproachfully; they have gathered themselves together against me.

¹¹ God hath delivered me to the ungodly, and turned me over into the hands of the wicked.

¹² I was at ease, but he hath broken me asunder: he hath also taken *me* by my neck, and shaken me to pieces, and set me up for his mark.

¹³ His archers compass me round about, he cleaveth my reins asunder, and doth not spare; he poureth out my gall upon the ground.

¹⁴ He breaketh me with breach upon breach, he runneth upon me like a giant.

¹⁵ I have sewed sackcloth upon my skin, and defiled my horn in the dust.

¹⁶ My face is foul with weeping, and on my eyelids *is* the shadow of death;

¹⁷ Not for *any* injustice in mine hands: also my prayer *is* pure.

¹⁸ O earth, cover not thou my blood, and let my cry have no place.

¹⁹ Also now, behold, my witness *is* in heaven, and my record *is* on high.

²⁰ My friends scorn me: *but* mine eye poureth out *tears* unto God.

²¹ O that one might plead for a man with God, as a man *pleadeth* for his neighbour!

²² When a few years are come, then I shall go the way *whence* I shall not return.