

# MICAH

## CHAPTER 1

1 The word of the Lord, which was made to Micah (the) Morasthite, in the days of Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, kings of Judah; which *word* he saw on Samaria and Jerusalem (which *vision* he saw concerning Samaria and Jerusalem).

2 Hear ye, all peoples, and the earth perceive, and the plenty thereof, and be the Lord God to you into a witness, the Lord from his holy temple. (Hear ye, all the peoples, *or all the nations*, and the earth, and its plenty, understand, that the Lord God shall be a witness against you, yea, the Lord in his holy Temple.)

3 For lo! the Lord shall go out of his place, and shall come down, and shall tread on high things of earth. (For lo! the Lord shall go out of his place, and shall come down, and shall tread upon the high places of the earth.)

4 And mountains shall be wasted under him, and valleys shall be cut, as wax from the face of fire, and as waters that run down into a pit. (And the mountains shall be destroyed under him, and the valleys shall be cut open, like wax in the fire, and like the water that runneth down into a pit.)

5 In the great trespass of Jacob *is* all this thing, and in the sins of the house of Israel. Which *is* the great trespass of Jacob? whether not Samaria? and which *be* the high things of Judah? whether not Jerusalem? (All of this *is* because of the great trespass of Jacob, and the sins of the house of Israel. What *is* the great trespass of Jacob? *is* it not Samaria? and what *is* the high place, *or the hill shrine*, of Judah? *is* it not Jerusalem?)

6 And I shall put Samaria as an heap of stones in the field, when a vineyard is planted; and I shall draw away the stones thereof into a valley, and I shall show the foundations thereof. (And I shall make Samaria into a heap of stones in a field, where a vineyard can be planted; and I shall put all its stones into a valley, and I shall lay bare its foundations.)

7 And all graven images thereof shall be beaten together, and all hires thereof shall be burnt in fire; and I shall put all the idols thereof into perdition; for of the

hires of an whore those be gathered, and to hire of an whore those shall turn again. (And all its carved idols shall be altogether broken, and all its images, *or all its figures*, shall be burned in the fire; and so I shall put all its idols into perdition; for they be bought with the wages of a whore, and they shall return to the wages of a whore.)

8 On this thing I shall wail and yell, I shall go spoiled and naked; I shall make wailing as of dragons, and mourning as of ostriches. (On this thing I shall wail and yell, I shall go robbed *of my clothes* and naked; I shall wail like the jackals, and mourn like the owls.)

9 For wound thereof is despaired; for it came till to Judah, it touched the gate of my people, till to Jerusalem. (For its wound is incurable; for it came unto Judah, and it touched the gate of my people, yea, *it came* unto Jerusalem.)

10 In Gath do not ye tell (it), by tears weep ye not; in the house of dust with dust (al)together sprinkle you. (Do not ye tell it out in Gath, weep ye not with tears; in Beth-aphrah sprinkle yourselves all over with dust.)

11 And ye (of) a fair dwelling, pass to you, *which is* confounded with evil fame; it is not gone out, which dwelleth in the going out; a nigh house shall take of you wailing, which stood to itself. (And ye of Shaphir, go ye away, shamed with evil fame, *or with ill repute*; they who live in Zaanan be afraid to go out; they of Beth-ezel shall wail, and there shall be no refuge there.)

12 For it is made sick [in]to good, which dwelleth in bitternesses. For evil came down from the Lord into the gate of Jerusalem, (They who live in Maroth wait anxiously for something good; for evil came down from the Lord unto the very gate of Jerusalem.)

13 the noise of [a] four-horsed cart, of dread to the *people* dwelling at Lachish (Bind the horses to the chariots, ye *people* living in Lachish). It is the beginning of (the) sin of the daughter of Zion, for the great trespasses of Israel be found in thee.

14 Therefore he shall give warriors on the heritage of Gath, on the houses of leasing into deceit to (the) kings of Israel. (And so he shall send warriors against Moreshethgath; the town of Achzib shall give no help to

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the kings of Israel.)

15 Yet I shall bring an heir to thee, that dwellest in Mareshah; the glory of Israel shall come till to (the cave in) Adullam. (And yet I shall bring an heir to thee, who livest in Mareshah; the glory, *or the leaders*, of Israel shall go and hide in the cave at Adullam.)

16 Be thou made bald, and be thou clipped on the sons of thy delights; alarge thy baldness as an eagle, for they be led (away) captive from thee. (Be thou made bald, yea, shave thyself, for the children that thou lovest; make thy baldness like that of a vulture, for they be led away captive from thee.)

## CHAPTER 2

1 Woe *to you*, that think unprofitable thing, and work evil in your beds; in the morrowtide light they do it, for the hand of them is against God. (Woe *to you*, who think up unprofitable things, and work out evil plots in your beds; then in the morning light they do it, for they have the power in their hands.)

2 They coveted fields, and took violently; and ravished houses, and falsely challenged a man and his house, a man and his heritage. (They coveted fields, and violently took them; and they robbed houses, and oppressed a man and his house, yea, every man and his inheritance.)

3 Therefore the Lord saith these things, Lo! I think on this family evil, from which ye shall not take away your necks; and ye shall not walk proud, for the worst time is. (And so the Lord saith these things, Lo! I think evil against this family, from which ye shall not be able to take away your necks, *or be able to escape*; and ye shall not walk proudly, for this shall be the worst time for you.)

4 In that day a parable shall be taken on you, and a song shall be sung with sweetness of men, saying, By robbing we be destroyed; a part of my people is changed; how shall he go away from me, when he turneth again that shall part your countries? (On that day a parable shall be made about you, and a song shall be sung with sadness by people, saying, We be destroyed by robbing; a part, *or a portion*, of my people hath been taken away; he hath divided up our countryside unto those who took us captive.)

5 For this thing, none shall be to thee sending a little cord of lot, in company of the Lord. (And because of this, no one shall be casting for thee a little cord by lot, in the congregation of the Lord.)

6 A! thou Israel, speak ye not speaking; it shall not

drop (a word) on these men, confusion shall not catch, (O! thou Israel, thou saith to me, Speak ye not! ye shall not drop a word upon us, for shame shall not catch us!)

7 saith the house of Jacob. Whether the Spirit of the Lord is abridged, either such be the thoughts of him? Whether my words be not good, with him that goeth rightly? (O house of Jacob, is the Spirit of the Lord abridged, *that is, is his patience at an end*, or do such things be his thoughts? Be my words not good, to him who goeth uprightly?)

8 And on the contrary, my people rose together into an adversary; ye took away the mantle above the coat, and ye turned into battle them that went simply. (But on the contrary, my people altogether rose up like an adversary; ye took away the cloak over the coat, from those who returned from battle, and thought themselves safe.)

9 Ye casted the women of my people out of the house of their delights; from the little children of them ye took away my praising without end. (Ye threw the women of my people out of their happy homes; and took away my blessings, *or my glory*, from their little children forever.)

10 Rise ye, and go, for here ye have no rest; for the uncleanness thereof it shall be corrupted with the worst rot.

11 I would that I were not a man having spirit, and rather that I spake a leasing. I shall drop (a word) to thee into wine, and into drunkenness; and this people shall be, on whom it is dropped. (I wish that I did not have *God's* spirit, but rather that I spoke lies. And then I would drop a word to thee about wine, and about drunkenness; and this people shall be, on whom it is dropped.)

12 With gathering I shall gather Jacob; I shall lead together thee all into one, the remnants of Israel. I shall put him together, as a flock in the fold; as sheep in the middle of folds they shall make noise, (by reason) of multitude of men. (With gathering I shall gather Jacob; I shall lead thee, the remnants of Israel, all together into one. I shall put them like a flock in the fold; and like sheep in the middle of the fold they shall make noise, because of the multitude of the people.)

13 For he shall go up showing (the) way before them; they shall depart, and pass the gate, and shall go out thereby; and the king of them shall pass before them, and the Lord in the head of them (and their king shall go before them, and the Lord *shall be* at their head).

## CHAPTER 3

1 And I said, Ye princes of Jacob, and dukes of the

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house of Israel, hear. Whether it is not yours for to know doom, (And I said, Ye leaders of Jacob, and rulers of the house of Israel, listen. Is it not for you to know what is right, *or to do what is just*.)

2 which hate good, and love evil? Which violently take away the skins of them from above them, and the flesh of them from above the bones of them. (ye who hate good, and love evil? Who violently take away their very skin, and their flesh from off their bones.)

3 Which ate the flesh of my people, and (un)covered, [*or flayed (off)*], the skin of them from above; and brake together the bones of them, and cutted (them up) together as in a cauldron, and as flesh in the middle of a pot. (Who eat the flesh of my people, and uncover, *or flay off*, their skin; and altogether break their bones, and altogether cut them up, as if to put them into a cauldron, yea, like meat in the middle of a pot.)

4 Then they shall cry to the Lord, and he shall not hear them; and he shall hide his face from them in that time, as they did wickedly in their findings. (Then they shall cry to the Lord, but he shall not hear them; and he shall hide his face from them at that time, for they did wickedly in their deeds.)

5 The Lord saith these things on the prophets that deceive my people, that bite with their teeth, and preach peace; and if any man giveth not in the mouth of them anything, they hallow battle on him. (The Lord saith these things about the prophets who deceive my people, who bite with their teeth, and preach peace; and if anyone will not put something into their mouths, *or into their pockets*, they proclaim battle against them.)

6 Therefore night shall be to you for vision, *or prophecy*, and darknesses to you for divination; and the sun shall go down on the prophets, and the day shall be made dark on them.

7 And they shall be confounded that see visions, and diviners shall be confounded, and all shall cover their cheeks, for it is not the answer of God. (And they who see visions shall be shamed, and diviners shall be shamed, and all of them shall cover their faces, for it is not the answer of God.)

8 Nevertheless I am filled with (the) strength of the Spirit of the Lord, and with doom and power (and with judgement and with power), (so) that I show to Jacob his great trespass, and to Israel his sin.

9 Hear these things, ye princes of the house of Jacob, and doomsmen of the house of Israel, which loathe doom, and pervert all right things; (Hear these things, ye

leaders of the house of Jacob, and rulers of the house of Israel, who hate justice, and pervert, *or warp*, every good, *or right*, thing;)

10 which build Zion in bloods, and Jerusalem in wickedness. (who build up Zion with bloodshed, and Jerusalem with wickedness.)

11 The princes thereof deemed for gifts, and [the] priests thereof taught for hire, and the prophets thereof divined for money; and on the Lord they rested, and said, Whether the Lord is not in the middle of us? evils shall not come (up)on us. (Its leaders judged, *or governed*, for bribes, and its priests taught for pay, and its prophets divined for money; and yet they rested, *or relied*, upon the Lord, and said, Is not the Lord here in the midst of us? yea, evil shall not come upon us.)

12 For this thing because of you, Zion as a field shall be eared; and Jerusalem shall be as an heap of stones, and the hill of the temple *shall be* into high things of woods. (For this thing, because of you, Zion shall be plowed *under* like a field, and Jerusalem shall become a heap of stones, and the Temple mount *shall become* the high place of a forest.)

## CHAPTER 4

1 And in the last days, the hill of the house of the Lord shall be made ready in the top of [the] hills, and shall be high over small hills. And peoples shall flow to him, (And in the last days, the hill of the House of the Lord shall be made to be above the tops of all the other hills, and shall be high over all the small hills. And the peoples, *or the nations*, shall flow to it,)

2 and many peoples shall hasten, and shall say, Come ye, ascend we to the hill of the Lord, and to the house of God of Jacob; and he shall teach us of his ways, and we shall go in his paths. For the law shall go out from Zion, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem; (yea, many people shall hasten there, and shall say, Come ye, go we up to the hill of the Lord, and to the House of the God of Jacob/Come ye, let us go up the hill of the Lord, to the House of the God of Jacob; and he shall teach us his ways, and we shall go on his paths. For the Law shall go out from Zion, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem;)

3 and he shall deem betwixt many peoples, and shall chastise strong folks till into far. And they shall beat together their swords into shares<sup>1</sup>, and their spears into

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<sup>1</sup> In other writings, John Wycliffe renders this word in this verse as 'plowhschares' ('plowshares'/'ploughshares').

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pickaxes; folk shall not take sword against folk, and they shall no more learn to fight. (and he shall judge between many peoples, and shall chastise, *or shall discipline*, strong nations afar off. And they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pickaxes; yea, nation shall not take up sword against nation, and they shall no more prepare for battle.)

4 And a man shall sit under his vineyard, and under his fig tree; and there shall not be that shall make afeared (and there shall be no one and nothing that shall make him afraid), for the mouth of the Lord of hosts spake.

5 For all peoples shall go, each man in the name of his Lord God; but we shall walk in the name of our Lord God into the world, and over. (For all peoples go forth, each person in the name of their god; but we shall walk in the name of the Lord our God, forever and ever.)

6 In that day, saith the Lord, I shall gather the halting, and I shall gather her that I casted away, and whom I tormented I shall strengthen. (On that day, saith the Lord, I shall gather together the halt, *or the lame*, and those whom I have cast away, and I shall strengthen those whom I tormented.)

7 And I shall put the halting into remnants, and her that travailed in[to] a strong folk. And the Lord shall reign (up)on them in the hill of Zion, from this time now and till into without end. (And I shall make the halt into a remnant, and those who laboured, *or who struggled*, into a strong nation. And the Lord shall reign over them on Mount Zion, from this time now until forever.)

8 And thou, dark tower of the flock of the daughter of Zion, unto thee he shall come, and the first power shall come, the realm of the daughter of Jerusalem. (And O dark tower of the flock of the daughter of Zion, it shall come unto thee, yea, the former power shall come unto the kingdom of the daughter of Jerusalem.)

9 Now why art thou drawn together with mourning? whether a king is not to thee, either thy counsellor perished? for sorrow hath taken thee as a woman travailing of child. (Now why art thou altogether drawn with mourning? is there not a king for thee, or hath thy counsellor perished? hath sorrow taken thee like a woman with child in labour, *or giving birth*?)

10 Thou daughter of Zion, make sorrow, and haste, as a woman travailing of child; for now thou shalt go out of the city, and shalt dwell in the country, and shalt come unto Babylon; there thou shalt be delivered, there the Lord shall again-buy thee, from the hand of thine enemies. (O daughter of Zion, make sorrow, and make

haste, like a woman with child in labour; for now thou shalt go out of the city, and shalt live in the open country, and shalt come to Babylon; there thou shalt be saved, there the Lord shall rescue thee, from the hands of thy enemies.)

11 And now many folks be gathered on thee, which say, Be it stoned, and our eye behold into Zion. (And now many nations be gathered against thee, who say, Let it be stoned, *and brought down unto ruins*, and then we shall look upon Zion.)

12 Forsooth they knew not the thoughts of the Lord, and understood not the counsel of him, for he gathered them as the hay of the field. (But they did not know the Lord's thoughts, and did not understand his counsel, *or his advice*, for he gathered them like the hay of the field.)

13 Rise thou, and thresh, daughter of Zion, for I shall put thine horn of iron, and I shall put thy nails brazen; and thou shalt lose, *either waste*, many peoples, and shalt slay to the Lord (for an offering) the ravens of them, and the strength of them to the Lord of all earth. (Rise thou, and thresh, O daughter of Zion, for I shall make thy horns out of iron, and thy hooves out of bronze; and thou shalt destroy, *or shalt waste*, many peoples, *or many nations*, and shalt offer their stolen goods, *or their spoils*, to the Lord, yea, their wealth to the Lord of all the earth.)

## CHAPTER 5

1 Now thou, daughter of a thief, shalt be destroyed; they putted on us besieging, in a rod they shall smite the cheek of the judge of Israel. (Now, daughter of a thief, thou shalt be destroyed; they have put besieging against us, and they shall strike the cheek of the judge, *or of the ruler*, of Israel with a rod.)

2 And thou, Bethlehem Ephratah, art little in the thousands of Judah; he that is the lordly governor in Israel shall go out of thee to me (but he who shall be the ruler, or the governor, in Israel shall go out of thee to me); and the going out of him *is* from [the] beginning, from (the) days of everlastingness.

3 For this thing he shall give them (up), till to the time in which the (woman) travailing of child shall bear child, and the remnants of his brethren shall be turned again to the sons of Israel. (For this thing he shall give them all up, until the time in which the woman with child in labour shall give birth to her child, and then the remnants of his kinsmen shall return to the Israelites.)

4 And he shall stand, and shall feed in the strength of the Lord, in the height of the name of his Lord God; and

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they shall be converted, for now he shall be magnified till to the ends of all earth. (And he shall stand, and shall rule them in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God; and they shall continue *in safety and security*, for now he shall be magnified unto the ends of the earth.)

5 And this shall be peace, when (the) Assyrian shall come into our land, and when he shall tread in our houses; and we shall raise on him seven shepherds, and eight primates men, *either the first in dignity*. (And he shall be a man of peace. But when the Assyrians shall come into our land, and when they shall tread down our houses, then we shall raise up against them seven or eight shepherds, or primates, *that is, those who be the first in dignity*.)

6 And they shall waste the land of Assur by sword, and the land of Nimrod by (the) spears of him; and he shall deliver us from Assur, when he shall come into our land, and when he shall tread in our coasts. (And they shall destroy the land of Assyria with the sword, and the land of Nimrod with their spears; and they shall save us from the Assyrians, when they shall come into our land, and when they shall tread upon all our coasts.)

7 And remnants of Jacob shall be in the midst of many peoples, as dew of the Lord, and as drops on herb, which abideth not man, and shall not abide the sons of men. (And the remnants of Jacob shall be in the midst of many peoples, like dew from the Lord, and like drops on the grass, which do not wait for people, and do not follow their commands.)

8 And remnants of Jacob shall be in heathen men, in the middle of many peoples, as a lion among beasts of the woods, and as a whelp of a lion roaring in flocks of sheep; and when he passeth, and defouleth, and taketh, there is not that shall deliver. (And the remnants of Jacob shall be among the heathen, in the midst of many peoples, like a lion among the beasts of the woods, and like a lion's cub roaring among the flocks of sheep; and when he passeth by, and taketh, and defileth them, there is no one who shall save them.)

9 And thine hand shall be raised (up) on thine enemies, and all thine enemies shall perish.

10 And it shall be, in that day, saith the Lord, I shall take away thine horses from the middle of thee, and I shall destroy thy four-horsed carts. (And it shall be, on that day, saith the Lord, I shall take away thy horses from thy midst, and I shall destroy thy chariots.)

11 And I shall lose the cities of thy land, and I shall

destroy all thy strongholds, *either wardings*; (And I shall destroy the cities of thy land, and I shall destroy all thy fortresses;)

12 and I shall do away witchcrafts from thine hand, and divinations, *either tellings by devil's craft*, shall not be in thee. (and I shall do away witchcraft from thee, and no more shall there be divinations, *or fortunetelling by the devil's craft*, among thee.)

13 And I shall make for to perish thy graven images, and I shall break together from the middle of thee thine images, and thou shalt no more worship the works of thine hands. (And I shall make thy carved idols to perish, and I shall altogether break thy images, *or thy figures*, in thy midst, and thou shalt no more worship the works of thy hands.)

14 And I shall draw out of the midst of thee thy woods (dedicated to idols), and I shall all-break thy cities. (And I shall pull down thy sacred poles in thy midst, and I shall altogether break, *or completely destroy*, thy cities.)

15 And I shall make in wrath and indignation vengeance in all folks, which heard not. (And in anger and indignation, I shall take vengeance upon all the nations, who did not obey me.)

## CHAPTER 6

1 Hear ye which things the Lord speaketh. Rise thou, strive thou by doom against mountains, and little hills hear thy voice. (Listen ye to what the Lord saith. Rise thou, state thy case to the mountains, and let the little hills hear thy voice.)

2 Mountains and the strong foundations of earth, hear the doom of the Lord; for the doom of the Lord shall be with his people, and he shall be deemed with Israel. (O mountains and the strong foundations of the earth, listen to the Lord's case; for the Lord hath a case against his people, and he shall judge Israel.)

3 My people, what have I done to thee, either (in) what was I grievous to thee? Answer thou to me. (My people, what have I done to thee, or how have I grieved thee? Answer thou me.)

4 For I led thee out of the land of Egypt, and of the house of servage I delivered thee; and I sent before thy face Moses, and Aaron, and Mary. (For I led thee out of the land of Egypt, and I brought thee out of the house of servitude, *or of slavery*; and I sent thee Moses, and Aaron, and Miriam.)

5 My people, bethink, I pray, what Balak, king of Moab, thought, and what Balaam, son of Beor, of

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Shittim, answered to him till to Gilgal, that thou shouldest know the rightwiseness of the Lord. (My people, remember, I pray thee, what Balak, the king of Moab, thought, *or planned*, to do against you, and what Balaam, the son of Beor, answered to him; remember the journey from Shittim to Gilgal, so that thou shalt know the Lord's righteousness.)

6 What worthy thing shall I offer to the Lord? shall I bow the knee to the high God? Whether shall I offer to him brunt sacrifices, and calves of one year? (What worthy thing shall I offer to the Lord? shall I bow my knee to the Most High God? Shall I offer him burnt sacrifices, and one year old calves?)

7 Whether God may be satisfied in thousands of wethers, either in many thousands of fat goat bucks? Whether I shall give my first begotten for my great trespass, the fruit of my womb for sin of my soul? (Can God *truly* be satisfied even with thousands of rams, or with many thousands of fat goat bucks? Shall I give my first begotten son for my great trespass, yea, the fruit of my womb for the sin of my soul?)

8 I shall show to thee, thou man, what is good, and what the Lord asketh of thee; forsooth for to do doom, and for to love mercy, and be busy for to walk with thy God. (I shall tell thee, ye people, what is good, and what the Lord asketh of thee; and that is, to act rightly, *or with justice*, and to love mercy/and to love mercifully, and to be busy, *or committed*, to walk with thy God.)

9 The voice of the Lord crieth to the city, and health shall be to all men dreading thy name. Ye lineages, hear; and who shall approve it? (The voice of the Lord crieth to the city, and success, *or victory*, shall be for all those who fear his name/for all those who revere his name. Listen, ye tribes, to him who hath gathered thee together/Listen, ye tribes, all ye who gather together in the city.)

10 Yet fire *is* in the house of unpious men, the treasures of wickedness, and a less measure, (which make me) full of wrath. (Yet in the house of the unrighteous, *or of the wicked*, there *is* fire, yea, the treasures of wickedness, and a false measure, which make me very angry.)

11 Whether I shall justify the wicked balance, and the guileful weights of a little sack, (Can I justify a wicked, *or a false*, balance, and a bag of deceitful weights,)

12 in which rich men thereof be filled with wickedness? And men dwelling therein spake leasing, and the tongue of them was guileful in the mouth of them. (in which the rich there be filled with wickedness?

And those living there spoke lies, and their tongues were deceitful in their mouths.)

13 And I therefore began for to smite thee, in(to) perdition on thy sins. (And so I began to strike thee down unto perdition, for thy sins.)

14 Thou shalt eat, and shalt not be [ful]filled, and thy meeking *is* in the middle of thee (and thy humbling *is* in thy midst); and thou shalt take (hold), and shalt not save; and (that) which thou shalt save, I shall give into (the) sword.

15 Thou shalt sow, and shalt not reap; thou shalt tread the olive, and shalt not be anointed with oil; and (make) must, and shalt not drink (the) wine.

16 And thou keptest the behests of Omri, and all the work of the house of Ahab, and hast walked in the lusts of them, that I should give thee into perdition, and men dwelling in it into hissing, *either scorning*, and ye shall bear the shame of my people. (And thou hast followed the ways of Omri, and all the work of the house of Ahab, and hast walked in their lusts, so that now I shall give thee unto perdition, and the people living there unto hissing, *or mocking*, and ye shall bear the shame of my people.)

## CHAPTER 7

1 Woe to me, for I am made as he that gathereth in harvest (the) raisins of (the) grapes; there is no cluster for to eat; my soul desired (the) figs ripe before (the) others.

2 The holy (man) perished from [the] earth, and (a) rightful (man) is not in men; all ambush, *either set treason*, in blood; a man hunteth his brother to death. (The holy people have perished from the earth, and there is no one upright among the people; all ambush, *or set treason*, for blood; everyone hunteth his brother, *or his kinsman*, unto the death.)

3 The evil of their hands they say good; the prince asketh, and the doomsman is in yielding; and a great man spake the desire of his soul, and they troubled together it. (They say that the evil of their hands is good; the leader, *or the ruler*, and the judge, ask for gifts, *or bribes*; the great man spoke of the *evil* desire of his heart, *and he got it*; yea, they all make trouble together.)

4 He that is the best in them, is as a paliurus, *that is, a teasel*, *either a sharp bush*; and he that is rightful *is* as a thorn of hedge. The day of thy beholding, thy visiting cometh, now shall be destroying of them. (He who is the best in them, is like a paliurus, *that is, a teasel*, *or a sharp bush*; and he who is upright *is* like a thorn on a hedge. The day of thy beholding, and of thy punishment,

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cometh, yea, now shall be their destruction.)

5 Do not ye believe to a friend, and do not ye trust in a duke; from her that sleepeth in thy bosom, keep thou the closings of thy mouth. (Do not ye believe a friend, and do not ye trust in a leader; and keep thou the private, *or the secret*, words of thy mouth, from her who sleepeth in thy bosom.)

6 For the son doeth wrong to the father, and the daughter shall rise (up) against her mother, and the wife of the son against the mother of her husband; the enemies of a man *be* the (ones) at home, *either the household members*, of him (a man's enemies *be* those who *be* at home with him, *or the members of his own household*).

7 Forsooth I shall behold to the Lord, I shall abide God my saviour; the Lord my God shall hear me. (But I shall look to the Lord, I shall wait for God my Saviour; and the Lord my God shall hear me.)

8 Thou, mine enemy, be not glad on me (do not be happy over me), for I fell down, (for) I shall rise (up again); (and) when I sit in darknesses, the Lord is my light.

9 I shall bear wrath of the Lord, for I have sinned to him, till he deem my cause, and make my doom; he shall lead out me into light, I shall see [the] rightwiseness of him. (I shall bear the anger of the Lord, for I have sinned against him, until he judge my case, and declare my sentence; and then he shall lead me out into the light, and I shall see his righteousness.)

10 And mine enemy shall behold me, and she shall be covered with confusion, which saith to me, Where is thy Lord God? Mine eyes shall see her, now she shall be into defouling, as clay, *either fen*, of streets. (And then my enemies shall see me, and shall be covered with shame, they who say to me, Where is the Lord thy God? My eyes shall see them, and they shall be defiled, like the clay, *or the mud*, in the streets.)

11 Day *shall come*, that thy walls be builded; in that day law shall be made afar. (The day *shall come*, when thy walls shall be rebuilt; on that day, thy borders shall be enlarged.)

12 In that day, and Assur shall come till to thee, and till to strong cities, and from strong cities till to [the] flood; and to sea from sea, and to hill from hill. (On that day, they shall come to thee from Assyria, and from the fortified cities, yea, from the fortified cities unto the Euphrates River; and from every sea, and from every hill, *or from every mountain*.)

13 And [the] earth shall be into desolation for her

dwellers, and for fruit of the thoughts of them. (And the earth shall be made into desolation, *or into a wasteland*, because of what her inhabitants did; yea, this shall be the fruit of their deeds.)

14 Feed thou thy people in thy rod, the flock of thine heritage, that dwell alone in [the] wild wood; in the middle of Carmel they shall be fed of Bashan and of Gilead, (as) by eld days, (Feed thou thy people with thy rod, yea, the flock of thy inheritance, who live alone in the wild wood, and in the midst of the fertile land; they shall be fed in Bashan and in Gilead, like in the old days.)

15 by days of thy going out of the land of Egypt. I shall show to him wonderful things; (Make thou for us miracles, *or wonders*, like in the days of our going out of the land of Egypt; I shall show thee miracles, *or wonders*, like in the days of thy going out of the land of Egypt;)

16 heathen men shall see, and they shall be confounded on all their strength; they shall put hands on their mouth, the ears of them shall be deaf; (the heathen shall see, and they shall be confounded in spite of all their strength; they shall put their hands upon their mouths, and their ears shall be deaf;)

17 they shall lick dust as a serpent; as creeping things of [the] earth they shall be disturbed, *or troubled*, (out) of their houses; they shall not desire our Lord God, and they shall dread thee. (they shall lick the dust like serpents, *or snakes*, yea, like creeping things upon the earth; they shall be distressed, and shall come out of their strongholds; and they shall come to thee, O Lord our God, and they shall fear thee.)

18 God, who *is* like thee, that doest away wickedness, and bearest over the sin of the remnants of thine heritage? He shall no more send in his strong vengeance, for he is willing mercy; (God, who *is* like thee, who doest away wickedness, and passest over the sins of the remnants of thy inheritance? He shall no more send in his strong vengeance, for he delighteth in mercy;)

19 he shall turn again, and have mercy on us. He shall put down our wickednesses, and shall cast far into deepness of the sea all our sins. (he shall return, and have mercy upon us. He shall put down our wickednesses, and shall throw down all our sins into the depths of the sea.)

20 Thou shalt give truth to Jacob, mercy to Abraham, which thou sworeest to our fathers from eld days. (Thou shalt give truth to Jacob, and mercy, *or love*, to Abraham, as thou sworeest to our forefathers in the old days.) ☆