

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 Michaïas 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. Joel 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 אֲשֶׁר לֹא תִמְטִיר עָלֶיהָ** "and the field on which it did not rain" (NRSV). The Greek renders this, **καὶ μερίς, ἐφ' ἧν οὐ βρέξω ἐπ' αὐτήν**, "and a part which I will not rain on." The translator captures the meaning of the Hebrew idiom **עַל־יָד אֲשֶׁר** . . . 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 תַעֲבְרוּ**, "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 (חָרַשְׁתֶּם) wickedness, you have reaped injustice” (NRSV). The word חָרַשׁ 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 (παρεσιωπήσατε) 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 (שֹׁבֵט) from Ashkelon” (NRSV). The word שֹׁבֵט 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” (נִדְמָה). The word נִדְמָה 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 *matares 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 לְעֵד 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 מֵיָם עַד יָם 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" (ἐγνώσους), apparently reading יִדְעֵם. In Am 4.5 the MT reads, "thank offering" (תִּוְדָה). The Greek translates, "law" (νόμον), a reflection of the Hebrew word תִּוְרָה. In Soph 3.9 the MT reads, "pure" (בְּרוּרָה). The Greek renders, "in its generation" (εἰς γενεὰν αὐτῆς), a reflection of בְּדוֹרָה.

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" (וְאִמְיָי בִּרְבוֹ). The Greek translates, "And shall find his heart" (καὶ εὕρησει τὴν καρδίαν αὐτοῦ). The Greek appears to be a reading of וְאִמְיָי rather than וְאִמְיָי.

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 בִּגְלָה "sickle" rather than בִּגְלָה "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 בְּסוֹפָה rather than בְּסוֹפָה 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 וְרָאָה, 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 Sion as nothing."

Again, in Zach 13.2 the MT reads, "and also I will remove from the land the prophets (נביאים) 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 בִּרְסָאָה (τὸ φρέαρ τοῦ ὅρκου "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.

TO THE READER OF THE TWELVE PROPHETS

781

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 HABBAKOUK 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 ll-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: τῇ / 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."

³And 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. ⁵And 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. ⁷But 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. ⁹And 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." ¹¹And 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.

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

HOSEE 2-4

783

bered no more. ¹⁸And 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. ¹⁹And 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. ²⁰And I will betroth you to myself in faithfulness, and you shall know the Lord.

²¹ And it shall be on that day, says the Lord,
I will give heed to heaven,
and it shall give heed to the earth,
²² and the earth shall hear the grain and the wine and the oil,
and they will give heed to Iezrael,
²³ 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." ²So I hired her to myself for fifteen pieces of silver and a gomora^a of barley and a nebel^b of wine. ³And 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." ⁴For 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 ^cclear ones^c. ⁵And 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.
² Imprecation and lying and murder
and stealing and adultery are poured out
upon the land,
and they mix blood with blood.
³ 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,
⁴ that no one either go to law or accuse.
But my people will be like a priest being contradicted.
⁵ And you shall be weak by day,
and the prophet also shall be weak with you.

I have made your mother like night.
⁶ 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.
⁷ According to their multitude,
thus they sinned against me.
I will turn their glory into dishonor.
⁸ They will feed on the sins of my people,
and they will receive their souls with their injustices.
⁹ 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.
¹⁰ And they shall eat and not be satisfied;
they have played the whore and shall not prosper,
for they forsook the Lord
to cherish ¹¹whoredom.

And the heart of my people
has received wine and intoxicating drink.
¹² 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.
¹³ 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.
¹⁴ 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.
¹⁵ 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.
¹⁶ For like a frenzied heifer,
Israel went into a frenzy.

^aHeb 1 homer = 220 liters ^bHeb = *skin* ^cPossibly *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^a
insolence.

19 You are a gust of wind in its^a 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,
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.

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 (5.15) In their distress they will approach me
early, saying,
(6.1) "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,

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

^aI.e. dishonor

HOSEE 7-8

785

7¹ 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^a,
 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^b;
 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^c,
 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
 purification⁶ 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 ^dBecause Ephraim multiplied altars,
 beloved altars became sins to him^d.
 12 I shall engrave for him a multitude, even his
 precepts;

^aHeb = sabbath bread ^bOr sense ^cOr soil ^dPerhaps 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,

HOSEE 10-11

787

- 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^a 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 ^bfrom their schemes^b
- 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;

^aGk = *bômos* ^bOr 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 ^aa word^a 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 ^bI was made similar by the hand of
the prophets^b.
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 ~~have perished~~ c."
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 ^{12a}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,

^aLacking in Gk ^bPerhaps *I have been portrayed symbolically by the prophets* ^ci.e. are no longer available

HOSEE 13—AMOS 1

789

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** (13.16) 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.
2(14.1) Return, O Israel, to the Lord your God, for you have been weakened by your injustices.
3(2) 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."
4(3) Assur 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."

- 5(4) I will heal their settlements; I will love them openly, for my anger has turned from them.
6(5) I will be like dew to Israel; he shall blossom like a lily and strike his roots like Lebanon.
7(6) His branches shall go forth, and he shall be like a fruitful olive tree, and his fragrance like that of Lebanon.
8(7) 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.
9(8) 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.

- 10(9) 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 Ierousalem 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. ²And 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.

- 3 And the Lord said:
For three impious acts of Damascus, and for four, ^aI will not turn away from him, because they were sawing pregnant women of those in Galaad asunder with iron saws.
4 And I will send forth a fire on the house of Hazael, and it shall devour the foundations of the son of Hader.
5 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.

- 6 This is what the Lord says:
For three impious acts of Gaza, and for four, ^aI will not turn away from them, because of their capturing a captivity of Salomon, to shut them up in Idumea.
7 And I will send forth a fire against the walls of Gaza, and it shall devour its foundations.
8 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.

- 9 This is what the Lord says:
For three impious acts of Tyre,

^aPerhaps *I will not let . . . go unpunished*

and for four, ^aI will not turn away from^a
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, ^aI will not turn away from^a
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 ^bunto victory^b.
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, ^aI will not turn away from^a
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, ^aI will not turn away from^a
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, ^aI will not turn away from^a
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, ^aI will not turn away from^a
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,

^aPerhaps *I will not let . . . go unpunished* ^bPerhaps *forever*

AMOS 2-4

791

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,

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

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

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

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

6 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?

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

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

9 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."

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

11 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.

12 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.

13 Hear, and testify to the house of Iakob,
says the Lord God the Almighty:

14 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.

15 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."

2 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.

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

4 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.

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

6 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.

7 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,

^aPossibly *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—
- 9 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,

AMOS 5-7

793

- 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^a
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^b 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—¹⁰and the members of their
household shall take them and forcibly bring their
bones out of the house, and he^c will say to those in
charge of the house, "Might there still be one with
you?" And he^c 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. ²And 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.
⁵And I said,

^aPerhaps offering for deliverance ^bLacking in Gk ^cPossibly 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. ⁸And 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^a 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. ¹¹For this is what Amos says,
'Ieroboam shall die by the sword,
and Israel shall be led captive from his
land.' "

¹²And Amasias said to Amos, "You that see, go, be-
take you to the land of Ioudas, and live there, and
you shall prophesy there, ¹³but 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, ¹⁵and the
Lord took me from the sheep, and the Lord said to
me, 'Go, prophesy against my people, Israel.'

¹⁶ "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.'

¹⁷ 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." ²And
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^b like the mourning for
a loved one
and those with him^b 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.

^aGk = *bōmos* ^bAntecedent uncertain

AMOS 9—MICHAIA 1

795

- 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 ^anothing crushed^a 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 Daud 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^b all the nations upon whom my
name has been called
might seek out me^c,
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.

MICHAIA 1

1 And a word of the Lord came to Michaias, the
Morasthi, in the days of Kings Ioatham and
Achaz and Hezekias of Ioudas, regarding the
things that he saw concerning Samaria and con-
cerning 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^d 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?

^aPerhaps *no crushed grain* ^bOr *even* ^cLacking in Gk ^dOr *among*

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 Ioudas
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^a 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.

^aPerhaps Geth

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.

2 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,
when Iakob is being gathered, he will be
gathered together with all.
Receiving I will receive those remaining
of Israel;

MICHAIA 2-4

797

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—
2 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^a 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^a,
and nothing has been given into their
mouth;
they have raised up war against him^a.
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 Sion with blood
and Ierousalem 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^b us?
No harm shall come upon us."
12 Therefore, on your account
Sion shall be plowed as a field,
and Ierousalem 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 Sion shall go forth a law,
and a word of the Lord from
Ierousalem.
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,

^aI.e. the people ^bOr 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^a 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,

^aLacking in Gk

MICHAIA 5-7

799

- 14 and I will cut off your sacred 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^a 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;

^aI.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
- 11 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;
- 17 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,
- 10 because the plains have suffered misery.
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 Sion;
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 Sion,
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. ³¹The sun
shall be turned to darkness, and the moon to
blood, before the great and notable day of the Lord
comes. ³²And 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-
rousaalem, ²I 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 ³and have cast lots for my people, and
they gave the boys to whores and would sell the
girls for wine and would drink.

4 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, ⁵because
you took my silver and my gold and you carried
my choice and beautiful things into your shrines.
⁶And you sold the sons of Ioudas and the sons of
Ierousaalem to the sons of the Greeks to banish
them from their borders. ⁷Behold, I am rousing
them up from the place, there where you sold
them, and will turn your retribution back upon
your own heads. ⁸And 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.

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

IOEL 3—OF ABDIAS

803

- 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 Josaphat,
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^a 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

^aOr *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 Sion there shall be salvation,
and it^a 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 Ierousalem as far as
Sephatha;
they shall also possess the cities of the
Nageb.
- 21 The men who are rescued from Mount Sion
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, ²"Arise, and go to Nineue, the great city, and make a proclamation in it, because the cry of its wickedness has come up to me."
³And Ionas arose to flee to Tharsis from the presence 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.

4 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. ⁵And 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. ⁶And 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."

7 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. ⁸And 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 people?" ⁹And 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." ¹⁰And 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, because he had told them.

11 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. ¹²And 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." ¹³And the men exerted themselves to return to land, and they could not, because the sea kept coming and stirring up against them more. ¹⁴And they cried out to the Lord and said, "No way, O Lord, do not let us perish on account of this person's life. And do not put upon us just blood, for you, O Lord, have done as you have wished." ¹⁵And they took Ionas and cast him into the sea, and the sea ceased from its tumult. ¹⁶And the men feared the Lord in great fear, and they sacrificed a sacrifice to the Lord and vowed vows.

2 ^(1.17)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. ²⁽¹⁾And Ionas prayed to the Lord, his God, from the belly of the sea monster ³⁽²⁾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.

⁴⁽³⁾ 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.

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

^aI.e. Mount Sion

IONAS 2—NAOUM 1

805

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

⁶ 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. ⁷And proclamation was made, and it was
spoken in Nineue by the king and his nobles, say-
ing, "Let people and animals and cattle and sheep
not taste anything or feed or drink water." ⁸And 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,
⁹"Who knows if God will repent and turn from the
anger of his wrath and we will not perish?"

¹⁰ 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. ²And 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 fore-
sight to flee to Tharsis, for I knew that you are mer-
ciful and compassionate, long-suffering and very
merciful and one who repents at calamities. ³And
now, O Sovereign, Lord, take my life from me, be-

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

⁶ 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.
⁷And early the next morning, God ordered a
worm, and it smote the gourd, and it withered.
⁸And 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 dis-
heartened and renounced his life and said, "It is
better for me to die than to live."

⁹ And God said to Ionas, "Are you exceedingly
grieved over the gourd?" And he said, "I am ex-
ceedingly grieved, unto death." ¹⁰And the Lord
said, "You had consideration for the gourd, which
you suffered no trouble for, and you did not nur-
ture it, which came into being towards nightfall
and perished towards nightfall. ¹¹But ^ashall 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?"^a

NAOUM

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

- ² A jealous and avenging god is the Lord,
the Lord avenging with wrath,
the Lord taking vengeance on his adversaries
and removing his enemies.
- ³ 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 ^bseismic
upheaval^b,
and clouds are dust for his feet,
⁴ threatening^c 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.
- ⁵ 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.
- ⁶ 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.

^aOr I shall . . . ^bPossibly earthquake and hurricane ^cI.e. the Lord

- 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 ^(1.15)It is finished; it has been removed.
²⁽¹⁾Delivered from trouble, he rose up,
breathing in your face.
Watch the road;
grasp your loins;
be very manly in strength!
- ³⁽²⁾ 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.
- ⁴⁽³⁾ They destroyed their ^aweapons of
dominance^a from men,
^amighty men^a sporting with fire.
The reins of their chariots,
in the day of his preparation,
and the horsemen will be thrown into
confusion ⁵⁽⁴⁾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.
- ⁶⁽⁵⁾ 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.
- ⁷⁽⁶⁾ The river gates have been opened,
and the royal palace has collapsed,
⁸⁽⁷⁾ and the substructure has been uncovered,
and this^b kept coming up,
and its slave women were being led away,
moaning in their hearts like doves.
- ⁹⁽⁸⁾ 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.
- ¹⁰⁽⁹⁾ 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.
- ¹¹⁽¹⁰⁾ 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!
- ¹²⁽¹¹⁾ 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?
- ¹³⁽¹²⁾ 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
- 3 and of mounting horsemen
and glittering sword and of flashing arms
and a multitude of wounded
and of heavy falling.
And there was no end to her nations,

^aI.e. mighty men = weapons of dominance ^bI.e. substructure

NAOUM 3—HABBAKOUH 1

807

- 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;
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?

HABBAKOUH

- 1 The issue that the prophet Habbakouh^b 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,

^aOr *streams* ^bHambakoum = 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^a will rise up at the end and not in
 vain.
 If it^a should tarry, wait for it^a,
 for when it^a comes it^a will come and not
 delay.
 4 If it^a draws back,
 my soul is not pleased in it^a.
 But the just shall live by my faith^b.

 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^c 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^d."

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.

^aI.e. appointed time ^bOr faithfulness ^cPossibly as an ornament ^dPerhaps private parts

HABBAKOUH 2-3

809

- 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^a 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^b.
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^a 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;

^aHabbakoum = Zi ^bi.e. frenzy

- you will remember mercy when my soul
is troubled in wrath.
3 God will come from ^athe south-west,
and the Holy One from Mount Pharan.
^b*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

^aOr Lips ^bPerhaps a modulation/change of key through an interlude on strings

SOPHONIAS 1-2

811

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^a
and a loud crash from the hills.

11 Lament, you who inhabit the destroyed
part^b,
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
Jerusalem 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^c
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,

^aI.e. gate ^bLacking in Gk ^cAntecedent unclear

and the remnant of my nation shall
possess them.
10 She^a 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
obedience 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 ^bpuffs of wind^b,
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 ^cno injustice unto victory^c.

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 Sion!
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 Sion;
do not let your hands grow weak.

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

^aPerhaps *Damascus* ^bPerhaps *moved by spirits* ^cPerhaps *never injustice*

SOPHONIAS 3—HAGGAIOS 2

813

- 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, ²This is what the Lord Almighty says, saying, These people say, The time has not come to build the Lord's house. ³And a word of the Lord came by the hand of the prophet Haggaios, saying, ⁴Is it time for you to live in your paneled houses, but this house is in ruins? ⁵And now, this is what the Lord Almighty says, Focus now your hearts on your ways. ⁶You 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.

⁷ This is what the Lord Almighty says, Set your hearts on your ways. ⁸Go up to the mountain, and cut trees, and build the house, and I will take pleasure in it and be honored, said the Lord. ⁹You 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, ¹⁰therefore the sky shall withhold the dew, and the earth shall withdraw its produce. ¹¹And 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.

¹² 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. ¹³And Haggaios, the messenger of the Lord, said to the people, I am with you, says the Lord. ¹⁴And 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 Lord Almighty, their God, ¹ (1.15) 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, ²Speak 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, ³Who 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?^a ⁴And 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, ⁵and my spirit is present among you; have courage. ⁶For this is what the Lord Almighty says, Once again I will shake the sky and the earth and the sea and the dry land, ⁷and 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. ⁸The silver is mine, and the gold is mine, says the Lord Almighty. ⁹For 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.

¹⁰ 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: ¹¹This is what the Lord Almighty says: Ask the priests for a ruling, saying: ¹²If 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." ¹³And Haggaios said, "If one who is defiled by a soul^b should touch any of these, will it become defiled?" And the priests answered and said, "It will become defiled." ¹⁴And 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 ^cearly gains^c; they will suffer because of their toils. And you used to hate those who reprove in the gates. ¹⁵And now, do place it in your hearts from this day and beyond, before laying one stone upon another in the Lord's shrine, ¹⁶who you were; when you threw twenty sata^d of barley into the grain bin and it became ten sata^d of barley, and you entered the wine vat to draw fifty

^aOr you. ^bI.e. departed soul tantamount to corpse ^cI.e. earlier income ^dHeb 1 seah = ca. 7 liters

measures^a and they became twenty. ¹⁷I 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. ¹⁸Subject 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, ¹⁹whether 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 ^bwill be recognized^b; from this day on I will bless you.

²⁰ And a word of the Lord came a second time to the prophet Haggaios on the twenty-fourth of the month, saying: ²¹Say 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, ²²and 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. ²³On 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: ²The Lord was angry with great anger with your fathers. ³And you will say to them, This is what the Lord Almighty says: Return to me, and I will return to you, says the Lord. ⁴And 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. ⁵Your fathers, where are they? And the prophets, will they live forever? ⁶But 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."

⁷ 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, ⁸In 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. ⁹And I said, "What are these things, lord?" And the angel who talked with me said to me, "I will show you what these are." ¹⁰And the man who stood among the mountains answered and said to me, "These are those whom the Lord has sent to patrol the earth." ¹¹And 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." ¹²And 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?" ¹³And the Lord Almighty replied to the angel who talked with me with good words and comforting tidings. ¹⁴And 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. ¹⁵And 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. ¹⁶Therefore, 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. ¹⁷And 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.

¹⁸ And I lifted up my eyes and saw and behold four horns. ¹⁹And 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." ²⁰And the Lord showed me four craftsmen. ²¹And 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. ²And 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." ³And behold, the angel who talked with me stood still, and another angel came forward to meet him ⁴and 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. ⁵And I will be to it, says the Lord, a wall of fire round about, and I will become glory in its midst."

⁶ 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. ⁷Return safe to Sion, you who inhabit daughter Babylon. ⁸For 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. ⁹For 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. ¹⁰Rejoice, and be glad, O daughter Sion. For

^aGk 1 metretes = ca. 22 liters ^bLacking in Gk

ZACHARIAS 2-6

815

behold, I am coming and will tent in your midst, says the Lord. ¹¹And 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. ¹²And the Lord will inherit Ioudas, his portion in the holy land, and will again choose Ierousalem.

¹³ 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. ²And the Lord said to the slanderer, "The Lord rebuke you, O slanderer! And the Lord who has chosen Ierousalem rebuke you! Behold, is not this like a brand plucked from the fire?" ³And Iesous was dressed with filthy clothes, and he stood before the angel. ⁴And 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, ⁵and 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.

⁶ And the angel of the Lord bore witness to Iesous, saying: ⁷"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. ⁸Now 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^a. ⁹For 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. ¹⁰On 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. ²And 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. ³And on it are two olive trees, one on the right of the torch and one on the left." ⁴And I inquired and said to the angel who talked with me, saying, "What are these, lord?" ⁵And the angel who talked with me answered and said to me, "Do you not know what these are?" And I said, "No, lord." ⁶And 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. ⁷Who are you, You great mountain, to prosper before Zorobabel? And you will bring forth the stone of inheritance, equality of grace, grace for it^b."

⁸ And a word of the Lord came to me, saying, ⁹"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. ¹⁰For who has despised the small days? And they shall rejoice and see the ^ctin stone^c in the hand of Zorobabel.

"These seven are the eyes of the Lord that watch the whole earth." ¹¹And I answered and said to him, "What are these two olive trees on the right of the lampstand and on the left?" ¹²And 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?" ¹³And he said to me, "Do you not know what these are?" And I said, "No, lord." And he said, "These two ^dsons of fattiness^d stand before the Lord of the whole earth."

5 And I turned and lifted my eyes and saw and behold, a flying sickle. ²And he said to me, "What do you see?" And I said, "I see a flying sickle twenty cubits long and ten cubits wide." ³And 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^e and everyone who swears falsely will be punished until death from this^e. ⁴And 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."

⁵ 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." ⁶And 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." ⁷And behold, a talent of lead being lifted up, and behold, one woman sat in the midst of the measure. ⁸And he said, "This is lawlessness." And he cast her in the midst of the measure and cast the stone of lead into her mouth. ⁹And 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. ¹⁰And I said to the angel who talked with me, "Where are these taking the measure?" ¹¹And 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. ²On the first chariot were red horses, and on the second chariot black horses, ³and on the third chariot white horses, and on the fourth chariot various shades of dapple-gray horses. ⁴And I answered and said to the angel who talked with me, "What are these, lord?" ⁵And the

^aOr Dawn ^bPossibly inheritance ^cPerhaps plummet ^dPossibly men anointed with oil ^ePossibly 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." ⁶The 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. ⁷And 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. ⁸And 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."

⁹ And a word of the Lord came to me saying: ¹⁰Take 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. ¹¹And you shall take silver and gold and make crowns and set them on the head of the great priest Iesous son of Iosedek, ¹²and you shall say to him: This is what the Lord Almighty says: Behold, a man, Shoot^a is his name, and he shall sprout from below him and shall build the house of the Lord. ¹³And 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. ¹⁴And 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^b in the house of the Lord.

¹⁵ 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. ²And Sarasar and Arbeseer the king and his men sent to Baithel to appease the Lord, ³saying 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?" ⁴And a word of the Lord came to me, saying: ⁵Say 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? ⁶And if you eat and if you drink, is it not you that eat and you that drink? ⁷Are 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?

⁸ And a word of the Lord came to Zacharias, saying: ⁹This is what the Lord Almighty says, saying: Render just judgment, and perform mercy and compassion, each one to his brother. ¹⁰And 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. ¹¹And they refused to take notice and turned a senseless back and made their ears heavy so as not to listen. ¹²And 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. ¹³And 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. ¹⁴And 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: ²This 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. ³This 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. ⁴This 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. ⁵And the streets of the city shall be full of boys and girls playing in its streets. ⁶This 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? ⁷This 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, ⁸and 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.

⁹ 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. ¹⁰For 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. ¹¹And now I do not deal with the remnant of this people as in the former days, says the Lord Almighty. ¹²Rather, 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. ¹³And 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.

¹⁴ For this is what the Lord Almighty says: Just

^aOr *Dawn* ^bOr *psalm*

ZACHARIAS 8-10

817

as I purposed to harm you, when your fathers provoked me to wrath, says the Lord Almighty, and I did not repent, ¹⁵so I stand prepared and have purposed in these days to do good to Ierousalem and to the house of Ioudas. Take courage. ¹⁶These are the matters that you shall do: Speak the truth each to his neighbor; render in your gates judgment that makes for peace, ¹⁷and 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.

¹⁸ And a word of the Lord Almighty came to me, saying: ¹⁹This 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.

²⁰ This is what the Lord Almighty says: Many peoples shall yet come, and inhabitants of many cities. ²¹ 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." ²² 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. ²³ 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
² and Hemath in its borders,
Tyre and Sidon, for they were very clever.

³ And Tyre built itself fortresses
and heaped up silver like dust
and gold like the dirt of the streets.

⁴ Therefore the Lord will possess it
and strike its power into the sea,
and it shall be consumed by fire.

⁵ 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,
⁶ and aliens shall settle in Azotus,
and I will destroy the pride of the
allophytes.

⁷ 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.

⁸ 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.

⁹ 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.

¹⁰ 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.

¹¹ You also, by the blood of the covenant,
have sent forth your prisoners from the
pit that has no water.

¹² 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.

¹³ 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.

¹⁴ 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.
¹⁵ 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.

¹⁶ And on that day the Lord will save them,
his people like sheep,
for sacred stones roll on his land.

¹⁷ 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.

² 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^a he took perspective,
and from it^a he drew up in battle order,
and from it^a was a bow with fury;
from it^a 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.

^ai.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, ⁵which 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 shep-
herds were suffering nothing for them. ⁶Therefore,
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 neigh-
bor 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. ⁸And 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. ⁹And I said, "I will
not tend you. Whatever dies, let it die, and whatev-
er fails, let it fail, and as for the things that are left—
let them devour each one the flesh of his neigh-
bor!" ¹⁰And I will take my beautiful rod and cast it
away in order to scatter my covenant that I made
with all the peoples. ¹¹And it shall be scattered on
that day, and the Chananites will know the sheep
that are kept, for it is the Lord's word. ¹²And 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. ¹³And 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. ¹⁴And I cast
away the second rod, Line, to disband the tie be-
tween Ioudas and between Israel.

15 And the Lord said to me: Take to yourself
once more shepherd implements of an inexperi-
enced shepherd. ¹⁶For behold, I am raising up over
the land a shepherd. He will not care for the aban-
doned 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!

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: ²Behold, I set Ierousalem as shaking doorways for all the peoples round about, and in Judea there will be a siege against Ierousalem. ³And 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. ⁴On 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. ⁵And 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."

⁶ 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.

⁷ 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. ⁸And 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. ⁹And it shall be on that day, I will seek to destroy all the nations that come against Ierousalem.

¹⁰ 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. ¹¹On that day the mourning in Ierousalem will be great like the mourning for a pomegranate orchard cut down in the plain. ¹²And 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, ¹³the tribe of the house of Leui by itself and their wives by themselves, the tribe of Symeon by itself and their wives by themselves, ¹⁴all 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.

² 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. ³And 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. ⁴And 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. ⁵And one will say, "I am no prophet, for I am a person who tills the soil, because such^a a person brought me up from my youth." ⁶And I will say to him, "What are these blows between your hands^b?" And he will say, "Those with which I was beaten in my beloved house."

⁷ "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.

⁸ And it shall be in the whole land^c, says the Lord,
two parts shall be utterly destroyed and perish,
but the third shall be left in it.

⁹ 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. ²And 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. ³And 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. ⁴And 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. ⁵And 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.

⁶ On that day there shall be no light nor cold weather nor frost. ⁷It 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.

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

^aLacking in Gk ^bOr arms ^cOr 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 Ierousalem. 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. ¹¹They shall inhabit it, and there shall be no more anathema, and Ierousalem shall dwell confidently.

12 And this shall be the calamity with which the Lord will cut off all the peoples who waged war against Ierousalem: 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. ¹³And 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. ¹⁴Even Ioudas will fight at Ierousalem and shall collect the strength of all the peoples round about—gold and silver and apparel in great abundance. ¹⁵And 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 Ierousalem shall also go up year after year to do obeisance to the King, the Lord Almighty, and to keep the feast of tent pitching. ¹⁷And it shall be that all who do not go up from all the tribes of the earth to Ierousalem to do obeisance to the King, the Lord Almighty, these then shall be added to those. ¹⁸And 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. ¹⁹This 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, ²¹and every cauldron in Ierousalem 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, ³but I

hated Esau, and I made his mountains an annihilation and his heritage gifts of the wilderness. ⁴For 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. ⁵And 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?" ⁷By 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." ⁸For 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. ⁹And 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. ¹⁰For 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. ¹¹For 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. ¹²But you profane it when you say that the Lord's table is defiled, and its food set forth is despised. ¹³And 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. ¹⁴And 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. ²If 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. ³Behold, I separate the shoulder at you and will spread paunch^a on your faces, paunch^a 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. ⁵My cov-

^aTechnically also the fourth stomach of ruminants

MALACHIAS 2-4

821

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. ⁶A 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. ⁷Because 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. ⁸But 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. ⁹And I rendered you despised and disregarded among all the nations, because you did not keep my ways but were ^aaccepting persons^a in law.

¹⁰ 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? ¹¹Ioudas 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. ¹²The 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.

¹³ 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? ¹⁴And 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. ¹⁵And 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. ¹⁶But 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.

¹⁷ 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. ²And 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, ³and 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. ⁴And an offering

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

⁵ 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.

⁶ For I am the Lord your God, and I have not changed. ⁷And 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?"

⁸ 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. ⁹And disregarding you disregard, and you are tripping me up—the nation has been made an end of. ¹⁰And 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. ¹¹And 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. ¹²And all the nations will call you happy, for you will be a wanted land, says the Lord Almighty.

¹³ You have made your words against me heavy, says the Lord. And you said, "How did we speak against you?" ¹⁴You 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?" ¹⁵And now we call foreigners happy, and they are rebuilding while they do lawless things, and they withstood God and escaped."

¹⁶ 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. ¹⁷And 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. ¹⁸And 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. ²And for you who fear my name a sun of justice shall rise, and heal-

^aI.e. showing partiality

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

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

Lord comes, ⁵(6)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.

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

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