

before kol khatzir (all grass).

|13| So are the paths of all that forget El (G-d), and the tikvat chanef (hope of the hypocrite, the irreligious, the secretly wicked profane person) shall perish,

|14| Whose hope shall be cut off, and whose reliance shall be a bais akavish (spider's web).

|15| He shall lean upon his bais, but it shall not stand, he shall cling to it, but it shall not hold.

|16| He is like a green plant before the shemesh, and its branch shooteth forth in its gan (garden).

|17| Its shorashim (roots) are wrapped about the rock heap, and it looks on the bais avanim (place of stones).

|18| But when cast away from its makom, then its place shall deny it, saying, Loh re'iticha (I never saw thee).

|19| Behold, thus was the joy of its derech, and others spring forth from the apha (dust).

|20| Surely El (G-d) will not cast away a blameless man, neither will He help the resha'im (evil-doers);

|21| Till He fill thy mouth with sechok (laughter), and thy lips with teruah (shouts of joy).

|22| They that hate thee shall be clothed with bushah (shame), and the ohel resha'im shall be no more.

**9** Then Iyov answered and said,

|2| I know it is indeed thus, but how should yitzdak Enosh im El (Man be in the right, justified, before G-d)?

|3| If he will contend with Him, once of a thousand can Man not answer G-d back.

|4| G-d is chochom in lev, and mighty in ko'ach; who hath hardened himself to defy Him and remained unhurt?

|5| Which removeth the harim (mountains), and they know not; which overturneth them in His anger;

|6| Which shaketh erez out of its place, and the ammudim thereof tremble;

|7| Which commandeth the cheres (sun), and it riseth not; and sealeth up the kokhavim;

|8| Which spreadeth out Shomayim by Himself alone, and treadeth upon the waves of the yam;

|9| Which maketh the Bear, Orion, and the Pleiades, and the chambers of the constellations on the south side of the heavens;

|10| Which doeth gedolot past finding out; yea, and nifla'ot (wonders) without number.

|11| Hen (lo), He passeth by me, and I see Him not; He goeth on also, but I perceive Him not.

|12| Hinei, He taketh away, who can stop Him? Who will say unto Him, Mah ta'aseh (what are You doing)?

|13| If Eloah restraineth not His anger, the helpers of Rahab must bow themselves under Him.

|14| How much less shall I dispute with Him, and choose my dvarim with Him?

|15| Whom, though I were tzaddik (righteous, innocent, in the right), yet would I not answer, but I would make techinnah (supplication, plea for mercy) for my mishpat (right).

|16| If I had summoned, and He had responded to me, yet would I not believe that He had paid heed unto my kol (voice);

|17| For He breaketh me in a sa'arah (tempest, storm), and multiplieth my wounds without cause.

|18| He will not allow me to take my ruach (breath), but filleth me with bitterness.

|19| If I speak of ko'ach, hinei, He is mighty, and if of mishpat, who can give Him a court summons?

|20| If etzdak (I am justified, in the right), mine own mouth would condemn me; if I say, I am blameless, He would prove me perverse.

|21| Though I were blameless, yet would I not know my nefesh; I would despise my life.

|22| This is one thing; therefore I said it, He destroyeth the tam (blameless) and the rasha (wicked).

|23| If the shot (scourge) slay suddenly, He laugheth at the melting away [*in anguish*] of the nekiyim (innocent ones, the guiltless ones).

|24| Eretz is given into the yad of the resha; He blindfoldeth the faces of the shofetim (judges) thereof; if not, then, who doeth it?

|25| Now my yamim are swifter than a runner; they flee away, they see no tovah.

|26| They slip by like oniyot (boats) of reed; as the neshet that swoopeth down on the prey.

|27| If I say, I will forget my si'akh (complaint), I will leave off my heaviness, and comfort myself,

|28| I am afraid of all my sorrows; I have da'as that Thou wilt not hold me innocent.

|29| If I be wicked, why then labor I in hevel (vain)?

|30| If I wash myself with sheleg (snow), and make my hands clean with lye,

|31| Yet shalt Thou plunge me in the shachat (slime pit), and mine own clothes shall abhor me.

|32| For He is not an ish, as I am, that I should answer Him, and we should come together in mishpat (in the court).