

ḤAKMAH
חכמה אמת

1 Love righteousness, you that are rulers of the earth.
Think of אמת in goodness and seek Him in integrity of heart.

2 For He is found by those who do not try Him,
And reveals Himself to those who do not distrust Him.

3 For perverse thoughts separate from Elohim,
And His power, when it is tried, reproves the unwise.

4 For wisdom does not enter into a malicious being,
Nor dwell in the body that is subject to sin.

5 For the qodesh spirit of discipline flees deceit,
And turns away from thoughts that are without understanding,
And does not remain when unrighteousness comes in.

6 For wisdom is a loving spirit,
But a blasphemer shall not go unpunished for his words.
For Elohim is witness of his kidneys,
And a true watcher of his heart, and a hearer of his tongue.

7 For the Ruah of אמת fills the world,
And that which sustains all knows what is said.

8 Therefore he who speaks unrighteous words is not hidden,
Nor does vengeance pass him by when it punishes.

9 For a search shall be made into the counsels of the wicked,
And the words of his voice shall come to אמת to reveal his wicked deeds.

10 For a jealousy ear hears all words,
And the sound of grumbling is not hidden.

11 Therefore beware of grumbling, which is useless,
And keep your tongue from secrecy.
For no secret word is without evil,
And a lying mouth destroys the being.

12 Do not seek death in the straying of your life,

And do not pull destruction upon yourself with the works of your hands.

13 For Elohim did not make death,
Nor does He delight in the destruction of the living.

14 For He created all to have their life;
And the creations of the world were perfect,

And no poison of destruction in them,
Nor the reign of death upon the earth;

15 For righteousness is immortal.

16 But wicked men with their works and words called it to them,
For when they thought to have it their friend, they perished to naught,
And made a covenant with it,
Because they deserve to receive a share in it.

2 For the wicked, reasoning with themselves, but not rightly said,
"Our life is short and tedious,
And of the death of a man there is no healing;

Neither was there any man known to have returned from the grave.

2 "For we are all born by chance,
And after this we shall be as though we had never been;

For the breath of our nostrils is as smoke,
And a little spark in the moving of our heart;

3 Which being extinguished, our body shall be turned into ashes,
And our spirit shall vanish as the soft air.

4 "And our name shall be forgotten in time,

And no man shall remember our works,

And our life shall pass away as the traces of a cloud,

And shall be dispersed as a mist,
That is driven away with the rays of the sun,

And overcome by its heat.

5 "For our time is but a shadow that passes away;

And after our end there is no returning:
For it is sealed up so that no man comes again.

6 "Come therefore, let us enjoy the good that is found,

- And let us hasten to use the creation
as in youth.
- 7 "Let us fill ourselves with costly wine
and ointments,
And let no flower of the spring pass by
us.
- 8 "Let us crown ourselves with
rosebuds, before they wither.
- 9 "Let none of us go without his part of
our luxuries;
let us leave signs of our joy in every
place,
for this is our portion, and this is our
lot.
- 10 "Let us oppress the poor, righteous
man;
Let us not spare the widow,
Nor regard the old grey hairs of the
aged.
- 11 "Let our strength be the law of
righteousness,
For that which is feeble is found to be
worthless.
- 12 "Therefore let us lie in wait for the
righteous;
For he is not for our way, and he is
clearly opposed to our actions;
He reproaches us with our guilt of the
Law,
And to our shame, accuses of the sins
against our teaching.
- 13 "He professes to have the
knowledge of Elohim,
And calls himself the child of אלהים
- 14 "He has become a reproof to our
thoughts.
- 15 "He is a burden to us to even look
at,
For his life is not like other men,
His ways are a different way.
- 16 "We are regarded by him as false,
He abstains from our ways as from
filthiness,
He pronounces the end of the
righteous to be baruk,
And makes his boast that Elohim is his
Father!
- 17 "Let us see if his words are true,
And let us prove what shall befall him
in the end.
- 18 "For if the righteous man is the son
of Elohim,
He shall help him, and deliver him from
the hand of his enemies.
- 19 "Let us try him with mocking and
torture,
So that we may know his humility,
And prove his patience.
- 20 "Let us condemn him with a
shameful death;
For by his own words, he shall be
favoured."
- 21 Such as these they devised, and
were deceived;
For their own wickedness has blinded
them.
- 22 As for the secrets of Elohim, they
did not know them;
Neither did they expect the wages of
righteousness,
Nor discern a reward for blameless
lives.
- 23 For Elohim created man to be
immortal,
And made him to be an image of His
own immortality.
- 24 Nevertheless death came into the
world through envy of the devil,
And those who hold to his side find it.
- 3** But the beings of the righteous
are in the hand of Elohim,
And no torture shall touch them.
- 2 In the eyes of the unwise they
seemed to die,
And their departure is taken for misery,
3 And their going from us to be utter
destruction:
But they are at peace.
- 4 For though they are punished in the
eyes of men,
Yet their expectancy is full of
immortality.
- 5 And having been discipled a little,
they shall be rewarded greatly;
For Elohim proved them, and found
them worthy for Himself.
- 6 He has tried them as gold in the
furnace,
And received them as a burnt offering.
- 7 And in the time of their visitation they
shall shine,
And run to and fro like sparks among
the stubble.
- 8 They shall judge the nations, and
reign over the people,
And their Adon shall reign forever.
- 9 Those that put their trust in Him shall
understand the truth;

And those who are trustworthy in love shall abide with Him;
 For favour and kindness is upon His qodeshim,
 And he looks after His elect.
 10 But the wicked shall be punished according to their own schemes,
 Who have neglected the righteous, and forsaken אָרְצֵי.
 11 For whoever despises wisdom and instruction is miserable,
 And their expectancy is vain, their labours unfruitful,
 And their works unprofitable.
 12 Their wives are foolish, and their children wicked;
 13 Their offspring are cursed.
 Therefore baruḳ is the barren one who is undefiled,
 Who has not known the sinful bed;
 She shall bear fruit in the visitation of lives.
 14 And baruḳ is the eunuch, who has done no evil with his hands,
 Nor devised wickedness against Elohim;
 For unto him shall be given the special gift of belief,
 And an inheritance more desired by his being in the Hēyḳal of אָרְצֵי.
 15 For the fruit of good labours is esteemed,
 And the root of wisdom shall never fail.
 16 As for the children of adulterers, they shall not come to their perfection,
 And the seed of an unrighteous bed shall be uprooted.
 17 For though they live long, yet they shall be regarded as naught,
 And their end shall be without esteem.
 18 Or, if they die quickly, they have no expectancy,
 Nor comfort in the day of trial.
 19 For the end of the unrighteous generation is terrible.
4 It is better to have no children, and to have virtue,
 For the remembrance of it is forever;
 Because it is known with Elohim, and with men.
 2 When it is present, men take example from it;
 And when it is gone, they desire it.

It wears a crown, and overcomes forever,
 Having overcome, striving for undefiled rewards.
 3 But the multiplying brood of the wicked shall not thrive,
 Nor take deep root by illegitimate seed,
 Nor lay any lasting foundation.
 4 For though they flourish as branches for a time;
 Though standing - not last, they shall be shaken by the wind,
 And through the force of winds they shall be uprooted.
 5 The imperfect branches shall be broken off,
 Their fruit unprofitable - not ripe to eat,
 Also of no use.
 6 For children brought forth by lawless beds are witnesses of wickedness against their parents in their trial.
 7 But though the righteous be prevented by death,
 Yet he shall be at rest.
 8 For esteemed age is not that which stands in length of time,
 Nor measured by number of years.
 9 But wisdom is the grey hair unto men,
 And an unstained life is old age.
 10 He pleased Elohim, and was loved by Him;
 So that living among sinners he was translated.
 11 Indeed, was he taken away speedily,
 Lest wickedness should alter his understanding,
 Or deceit deceive his being.
 12 For the enticement of greed obscures that which is honest;
 And the wandering of desire undermines the simple minded.
 13 He, being made perfect in a short time, filled a long time;
 14 For his being pleased אָרְצֵי,
 Therefore He hastened to take him away from among the wicked.
 15 This the people saw, but did not understand,
 Neither did they lay up this in their minds:
 That His favour and kindness is with

His qodeshim,
 And that He shows respect to His
 chosen.
 16 Thus the righteous who are dead
 shall condemn the wicked who are
 living;
 And youth that is soon perfected;
 The many years and old age of the
 unrighteous.
 17 For they shall see the end of the
 wise,
 And shall not understand what Elohim
 in His counsel has decreed for Him,
 And to what end אִיִּי has put Him in
 safety.
 18 They shall see Him, and despise
 Him;
 But Elohim shall laugh them to scorn.
 And from then on they shall be an
 insignificant carcass,
 And a reproach among the dead
 forever.
 19 For He shall tear them, and throw
 them down headlong, that they shall
 be speechless;
 And He shall shake them from the
 foundation;
 And they shall be utterly laid waste,
 and be in sorrow;
 And their remembrance shall perish.
 20 And when they draw up the account
 of their sins, they shall come with
 fear;
 And their own wickednesses shall
 convict them to their face.
5 Then the righteous shall stand in
 great boldness before the face of
 those who have afflicted Him, and
 taken no account of His works.
 2 When they see it, they shall be
 troubled with awesome fear, and shall
 be amazed at the mystery of His
 salvation, so far beyond all that they
 looked for.
 3 And they, repenting and groaning for
 anguish of spirit, shall say within
 themselves, "This was He, whom we
 once mocked, and a proverb of
 reproach.
 4 "We fools accounted His הַי
 madness, and His end to be without
 esteem.
 5 "How is He numbered among the
 children of Elohim, and His lot is

among the qodeshim?
 6 "Therefore we have strayed from
 the Way of truth, and the light of
 righteousness has not shined upon us,
 and the brilliance of righteousness did
 not rise upon us.
 7 "We wearied ourselves in the way of
 wickedness and destruction; we have
 also gone through deserts where there
 was no path; but as for the Way of
 אִיִּי, we have not known it.
 8 "What has pride profited us, or what
 good has wealth with our boasting
 brought us?"
 9 All these have passed away like a
 shadow,
 And as a rumour that hastened away.
 10 And as a ship that passes over the
 waves of the water,
 Which when it has passed, the trace of
 it is unable to be found,
 Neither the pathway of the keel in the
 waves.
 11 Or as when a bird has flown through
 the air,
 There is no sign of its way to be found,
 But the air being lightly beaten with the
 stroke of its wings and parted with
 the rapid noise and motion of them
 is passed through;
 And after passing there is no sign of it
 to be found.
 12 Or as when an arrow is shot at a
 mark,
 It parts the air, which immediately
 comes together again,
 So one cannot know where it went
 through.
 13 Even so, we also, as soon as we
 were born,
 Began to draw to our end and had no
 sign of uprightness to show,
 But were consumed in our own
 wickedness.
 14 For the expectancy of the
 unrighteous is like dust that is blown
 away with the wind;
 Like a thin frost that is driven away
 with the storm;
 As the smoke which is dispersed here
 and there with a storm,
 And passes like the remembrance of a
 guest who stays but a day.
 15 But the righteous live forever;

Even so, their reward is with אַתָּא,
 And the Most High looks after them.
 16 Therefore they shall receive an
 esteemed reign, and a lovely crown
 from the hand of אַתָּא:
 For with His right hand He shall cover
 them,
 And with His arm He shall protect
 them.
 17 He shall take his ardour as complete
 armour,
 And make creation His weapon for the
 vengeance of His enemies.
 18 He shall put on righteousness as a
 breastplate,
 And true judgment in place of a
 helmet.
 19 He shall take qodeshah for an
 invincible shield.
 20 He shall sharpen His severe wrath
 as a sword,
 And the earth shall fight with Him
 against the foolish.
 21 Then the thunderbolts aimed true
 shall go out;
 And from the clouds, as from a well
 drawn bow,
 They shall fly to the mark.
 22 And hailstones filled with wrath shall
 be thrown as a stone out of bow,
 And the water of the sea shall rage
 against them,
 And the floods shall cruelly drown
 them.
 23 A mighty wind shall also stand up
 against them,
 And blow them away like a storm:
 So wickedness shall lay waste the
 whole earth,
 And evil works shall overthrow the
 thrones of the mighty.

6 Hear therefore, O you sovereigns,
 and understand;
 Learn, you who are judges to the ends
 of the earth.
 2 Listen, you who rule the people,
 And boast in the multitude of nations.
 3 For power is given to you from אַתָּא,
 And rulership from the Most High,
 Who shall try your works, and search
 out your purposes.
 4 For being overseers of His reign, you
 have not ruled rightly,
 Nor guarded the Law,

Nor walked after the counsel of
 Elohim;
 5 He shall come upon you terribly and
 speedily;
 For a sharp judgment shall be to those
 who are in high places.
 6 For kindness shall soon pardon the
 harshest,
 But great men shall be greatly tortured.
 7 For He who is Adon over all shall
 show no partiality,
 Neither shall he stand in awe of any
 man's greatness;
 For he has made the small and great,
 And is concerned for all alike.
 8 But a severe trial shall come upon
 the mighty.
 9 I speak unto you therefore, O
 sovereigns,
 That you may learn wisdom, and not
 fall away.
 10 For those who guard qodeshah
 righteously shall be judged qodesh;
 And those who have learned such
 matters shall find what to answer.
 11 Therefore lay your heart upon my
 words;
 Desire them, and you shall be
 instructed.
 12 Wisdom is esteemed, and never
 fades away:
 Also, she is easily seen by those who
 love her,
 And found by those who seek her.
 13 She prevents those who desire her,
 In making herself first known to them.
 14 Whoever seeks her early shall have
 no great hardship:
 For he shall find her sitting at his
 doors.
 15 Therefore to think upon her is
 perfection of wisdom;
 And whoever watches for her shall
 quickly be without worry.
 16 For she goes about seeking those
 who are worthy of her,
 Showing herself favourably to those in
 the Way,
 And meets them in every thought.
 17 For the very true beginning of her is
 the desire of discipline;
 And the concern of discipline is love;
 18 And love is the keeping of her Laws;
 and guarding her Laws is the

assurance of incorruption;
 19 And incorruption makes us near to
 Elohim:
 20 Therefore the desire of wisdom
 leads to a reign.
 21 If your delight then is in thrones and
 sceptres,
 O rulers of the people, esteem
 wisdom,
 That you may reign for forever.
 22 As for wisdom, what she is, and how
 she came to be,
 I shall tell you, and shall not hide
 mysteries from you;
 But shall seek her out from the
 beginning of her creation,
 And bring the knowledge of her into
 light,
 And shall not pass over the truth.
 23 Neither shall I go with consuming
 envy;
 For such a man shall have no
 fellowship with wisdom.
 24 But the multitude of the wise is the
 welfare of the world:
 And a wise sovereign is the upholding
 of the people.
 25 Receive therefore instruction
 through my words,
 And it shall do you good.
7 I myself am also a mortal man
 like all,
 And the offspring of he who was first
 made from the earth.
 2 And was fashioned in my mother's
 womb to be flesh in the time of ten
 months,
 Being compacted in blood, of the seed
 of man,
 And the pleasure that came with sleep.
 3 And when I was born, I drew in the
 common air,
 And fell upon the earth, which is of like
 nature,
 And the first voice which I uttered was
 crying, as all others do.
 4 I was nursed with compassion, and
 wrapped in garments.
 5 For there is no sovereign that had
 any other beginning of birth.
 6 For all men have one entrance into
 life,
 And the same going out.
 7 Therefore I prayed, and

understanding was given to me.
 I called upon Elohim, and the spirit of
 wisdom came to me.
 8 I preferred her before sceptres and
 thrones,
 And deemed wealth naught in
 comparison to her.
 9 Neither did I compared her to any
 precious stone,
 Because all gold in respect to her is as
 a little sand,
 And silver is counted as clay before
 her.
 10 I loved her above health and
 loveliness,
 And chose to have her instead of light;
 For the light that comes from her never
 goes out.
 11 All good came to me together with
 her,
 And much wealth in her hands.
 12 And I rejoiced in them all, because
 wisdom goes before them;
 And I did not know that she was the
 mother of them.
 13 I learned diligently, and speak of her
 freely.
 I do not hide her wealth,
 14 For she is a treasure unto men that
 never fails;
 Which those who use become the
 friends of Elohim,
 Being commended for the gifts that
 come from learning.
 15 Elohim has granted me to speak as
 I would,
 And to conceive what is right for that
 which has been given to me;
 Because it is He who leads unto
 wisdom, and directs the wise.
 16 For in His hand are both we and our
 words;
 All wisdom also, and knowledge of
 workmanship.
 17 For He has given me certain
 knowledge of that which exists,
 Namely, to know how the world was
 made,
 And the operation of the elements.
 18 The beginning, ending, and middle
 of the times;
 The alterations of the turning of the
 sun,
 And the change of seasons.

19 The circuits of years, and the positions of stars.
 20 The nature of living creatures, and the raging of wild beasts;
 The violence of winds, and the reasonings of men;
 The diversities of plants and the power of roots.
 21 And all that which is either secret or revealed, these I know.
 22 For wisdom, which is the worker of all matters, taught me;
 For in her is an understanding spirit: qodesh, unique, manifold, wise, lively, clear, undefiled, clean, strong, loving the good, alive, irresistible, ready to do good,
 23 kind to man, steadfast, sure, free from worry, all powerful, overseeing all, and penetrating all spirits most wise, understanding, and pure.
 24 For wisdom is more moving than any motion:
 She passes and penetrates all because of her purity.
 25 For she is the breath of the power of Elohim,
 And a pure force flowing from the esteem of the Almighty;
 Therefore no uncleanness shall come upon her.
 26 For she is the brightness of the everlasting Light,
 The unspotted reflection of the power of Elohim,
 And an image of His goodness.
 27 And although one, she does all matters:
 And remaining in herself, she renews all matters.
 And entering into qodesh beings of all generations,
 She makes them friends of Elohim, and nebi'im.
 28 For Elohim loves none but he who dwells with wisdom.
 29 For she is more lovely than the sun,
 And above all the order of stars:
 Compared with the light, she is found before it.
 30 For after this comes night,
 But evil shall not prevail against wisdom.

8 Wisdom reaches from one end to another mightily;
 And she rightly orders all matters.
 2 I loved her, and sought her out from my youth,
 I desired to make her my bride, and I was a lover of her comeliness.
 3 She increases her nobility for she accompanies Elohim;
 Indeed, the Adon of all loved her.
 4 For she knows the secrets of the knowledge of Elohim,
 And is a lover of His works.
 5 If wealth is a possession to be desired in this life;
 What is wealthier than wisdom, the doer of all?
 6 And if insight works;
 Who of all that is a more skilled worker than she?
 7 And if a man loves righteousness,
 her works are good;
 For she teaches self control and insight, righteousness and endurance;
 Of which there is naught more profitable than men may have in their life.
 8 If a man desires much experience,
 she knows the ways of old,
 And concludes rightly what is to come:
 She knows the wisdom of words, and expounds hidden riddles.
 She foresees signs and wonders, and the events of seasons and times.
 9 Therefore I purposed to take her to me to live with me,
 Knowing that she would be a counsellor of good,
 And a comfort in worries and grief.
 10 Because of her I have esteem among the multitude,
 And esteem with the elders, although I am young.
 11 I shall be found alert in judgment,
 And shall be admired in the sight of great men.
 12 When I hold my tongue, they shall await me,
 And when I speak, they shall give good ear to me;
 If I talk much, they shall lay their hands upon their mouth.
 13 And by the means of her I shall

- obtain immortality,
 And leave an everlasting
 remembrance behind me to those
 that come after me.
- 14 I shall put the people in order,
 And the nations shall be subject to me.
- 15 Horrible tyrants shall be afraid,
 when they hear of me;
 I shall be found good among the
 multitude,
 And courageous in battle.
- 16 After I have come into my house, I
 shall find rest with her:
 For her ways are not bitter;
 And to live with her has no sorrow, but
 gladness and joy.
- 17 Now when I thought on these
 matters within myself,
 And considered them in my heart,
 That to be allied with wisdom is
 immortality;
- 18 And it is great pleasure to have her
 friendship;
 And in the works of her hands are
 wealth without limit;
 And walking in her company, insight;
 And in talking with her, a good report;
 I went about seeking how to take her
 to me.
- 19 For I was a lively child, and had a
 good spirit.
- 20 Indeed, being good, I came into a
 body undefiled.
- 21 Nevertheless, when I perceived that
 I could not otherwise obtain her,
 except Elohim gave her me;
 And that was a point of wisdom also to
 know whose gift she was;
 I prayed to אלהים, and pleaded with
 Him,
 And with my whole heart I said,
- 9** "O Elohim of my fathers, and
 Adon of kindness, who has made
 all by Your Word,
- 2 and ordained man through Your
 wisdom,
 That he should reign over the
 creatures which You have made.
- 3 "And order the world according to
 straightness and righteousness,
 And execute right-ruling with an
 upright heart:
- 4 "Give me wisdom, that sits by Your
 throne;
- And do not reject me from among your
 children.
- 5 "For I, Your servant and son of Your
 female servant am a weak man, and
 short-lived,
 And too young for the understanding of
 Right-Ruling and Laws.
- 6 "For though a man be ever so perfect
 among the children of men,
 Yet if Your wisdom is not with him, he
 shall be regarded as naught.
- 7 "You have chosen me to be a
 sovereign of Your people,
 And a judge of Your sons and
 daughters.
- 8 "You have commanded me to build a
 Hēykal upon Your qodesh mountain,
 And an altar in the city in which You
 dwell,
 A resemblance of the qodesh Mishkan,
 which You have prepared from the
 beginning.
- 9 "And wisdom was with You; who
 knows Your works,
 And was present when You made the
 world,
 And knew what was acceptable in Your
 sight,
 And right by Your Commands.
- 10 "O send her out of Your qodesh
 shamayim,
 And from the throne of Your esteem,
 That being present she may labour
 with me,
 That I may know what is pleasing to
 You.
- 11 "For she knows and understands all
 matters,
 And she shall lead me sensibly in my
 doings,
 And preserve me in her power.
- 12 "So shall my works be acceptable,
 And then shall I judge Your people
 righteously,
 And be worthy to sit in my father's
 seat."
- 13 For what man is he who knows the
 counsel of Elohim?
 Or who knows the desire of אלהים?
- 14 "For the thoughts of mortal men are
 wretched,
 And our plans are of uncertainty.
- 15 For the corruptible body presses
 down the being,

And this earthly tent weighs down the
 mind that thinks upon many matters.
 16 And we could hardly guess rightly at
 that which is on earth,
 And with labour we find that which is
 before us;
 But that which is in the shamayim who
 has searched out?
 17 And Your counsel who has known,
 except You give wisdom,
 And send Your Ruah ha'Qodesh from
 above?
 18 For so the ways of those who lived
 on the earth were instructed,
 And men were taught that which is
 pleasing to You,
 And were saved through wisdom.
10 She preserved the first formed
 father of the world,
 Who was created alone, and brought
 him out from his fall,
 2 And gave him power to rule all
 creatures.
 3 But when the unrighteous went away
 from her in his wrath,
 He also perished in the fury with which
 he murdered his brother.
 4 For whose cause the earth being
 drowned with the flood,
 Wisdom again preserved it,
 And directed the course of the
 righteous within a piece of wood of
 little value.
 5 And the nations being confounded in
 their wicked conspiracy,
 She found out the righteous,
 And preserved him blameless before
 Elohim,
 And kept him strong despite his tender
 compassion toward his son.
 6 When the wicked perished, she
 delivered the righteous man,
 Who fled from the fire which fell down
 upon the five cities.
 7 Of whose wickedness the smoking
 wasteland is a witness even to this
 day,
 And plants bearing fruit that never
 come to ripeness;
 And a standing pillar of salt is a
 monument of an unbelieving being.
 8 For not regarding wisdom, they not
 only received this evil;
 That they did not know that which was

good;
 But also left behind them a
 remembrance to the world of their
 foolishness;
 So that the matters in which they
 sinned could not so much as be
 hidden.
 9 But wisdom delivered those who
 attended to her from pain.
 10 When the righteous fled from his
 brother's wrath she guided him in
 right paths,
 Showed him the reign of Elohim, and
 gave him knowledge of qodesh
 matters,
 Made him wealthy in his travels, and
 multiplied the fruit of his labours.
 11 In the covetousness of those who
 oppressed him she stood by him,
 and made him wealthy.
 12 She defended him from his
 enemies, and kept him safe from those
 that lay in wait,
 And in heavy conflict she gave him the
 deliverance;
 That he might know that good is
 stronger than all.
 13 When the righteous was sold, she
 did not forsake him,
 But delivered him from sin:
 She went down with him into the pit,
 14 And did not leave him in chains, till
 she brought him the sceptre of the
 reign,
 And power against those who
 oppressed him:
 As for those who had accused him,
 she showed them to be liars,
 And gave him everlasting esteem.
 15 She delivered the righteous people
 and blameless seed from the nation
 that oppressed them.
 16 She entered into the being of the
 servant of אֲרָאָה,
 And withstood awesome sovereigns
 with wonders and signs;
 17 Rendered to the righteous a reward
 for their labours,
 Guided them in a marvellous way, and
 was a cover unto them by day,
 And a light by stars in the night time;
 18 Brought them through the Sea of
 Reeds,
 And led them through deep waters.

- 19 But she drowned their enemies, and
threw them up from the depth of the
sea.
- 20 Therefore the righteous plundered
the wicked,
And praised Your qodesh Name, O
אֱלֹהֵינוּ,
And with one accord exalted Your
hand, that fought for them.
- 21 For wisdom opened the mouth of
the dumb,
And made learned the tongues of
those who could not speak.
- 11** She prospered their works in
the hand of the qodesh nabi.
- 2 They went through the wilderness
that was uninhabited,
And pitched tents in places where
there lay no way.
- 3 They stood against their enemies,
And were avenged of their
adversaries.
- 4 When they were thirsty, they called
upon You,
And water was given them out of the
flinty rock,
And their thirst was quenched out of
the solid rock.
- 5 For in what matters their enemies
were punished,
By the same they in their need were
benefited.
- 6 For instead of a constant running
river troubled with foul blood,
- 7 For a visible reproof of that
command, whereby the infants were
slain,
You gave to them abundance of water
by means of which they had no
expectancy;
- 8 Revealing by that thirst at that time
how you had punished their
adversaries.
- 9 For when they were tried although
chastised in kindness,
They knew how the wicked were
judged in wrath and tortured,
Thirsting in a different manner than the
righteous.
- 10 For these You admonish and try, as
a Father,
But the other, as a severe Sovereign,
You condemn and punish.
- 11 Whether they were absent or
present,
They were punished alike.
- 12 For a double grief came upon them,
And a groaning for the remembrance
of what was past.
- 13 For when they heard through their
own punishments the other had
benefited,
They sensed that it was from אֱלֹהֵינוּ.
- 14 For whom they treated with scorn,
When he was sent out long before the
throwing out of the infants,
In the end, when they saw what came
to be, they admired him.
- 15 But for the foolish schemes of their
wickedness,
Being deceived, they worshipped
serpents empty of reason, and vile
beasts,
You sent a multitude of beastly
creatures upon them for vengeance;
- 16 That they might know, that in all the
ways a man sins,
By the same he shall also be
punished.
- 17 For Your Almighty hand, that made
the world of formless matter,
Did not lack the means to send a
multitude of bears or fierce lions
among them,
- 18 Or newly created, unknown wild
beasts full of rage,
Breathing out either fiery breath, or a
filthy stench of billowing smoke,
Or shooting scorching sparks out of
their eyes;
- 19 From which not only the damage
might kill them at once,
But also the terrible sight utterly
destroy them.
- 20 And even without all these they
might have collapsed with one blast,
Being punished by vengeance, and
scattered abroad through the breath
of Your power;
But You have ordered all in measure
and number and weight.
- 21 For You show Your great power at
all times when you desire;
And who withstands the strength of
Your arm?
- 22 For the whole world is like a small
grain in the balance before You,
Even as a drop of the morning dew

that falls down upon the earth.
 23 But You show favour upon all;
 For You do all,
 And overlook the sins of men, that they
 should repent.
 24 For You love all that exist, and
 loathe none whom You have made;
 For You would never have made any
 matter, if You had hated it.
 25 And how could any matter have
 endured, if it had not been Your
 desire?
 Or been preserved, if not called by
 You?
 26 But You spare all: for they are Yours,
 O אֱלֹהִים,
 You lover of the living.
12 For Your incorruptible Ruah is
 in all.
 2 Therefore little by little You discipline
 those who offend,
 And warn them by keeping them in
 remembrance of that in which they
 have sinned,
 So that turning from their wickedness
 they believe on You, O אֱלֹהִים.
 3 By the hands of our fathers You
 determined to destroy both those old
 inhabitants of Your qodesh land,
 4 Whom You hated for doing most
 abominable works of witchcraft and
 wicked slaughterings;
 5 And also those cruel murderers of
 children,
 And devourers of the flesh of man, and
 the feasts of blood,
 6 With their priests from among their
 idolatrous group,
 And the parents, that killed helpless
 lives with their own hands;
 7 So that the land, which You
 esteemed above all other,
 Might receive a worthy assembly of
 children of Elohim.
 8 Nevertheless even those You spared,
 being but men,
 And sent hornets - forerunners of your
 host - to destroy them little by little.
 9 Not that You were unable to bring the
 wicked under the hand of the
 righteous in battle,
 Or to destroy them at once with cruel
 beasts, or with one stern word;
 10 But executing Your judgments upon

them little by little,
 You gave them place for repentance,
 not being ignorant that they were a
 wicked generation,
 And that their evil was inherited, and
 that their minds could never be
 changed.
 11 For it was a cursed seed from the
 beginning;
 Neither for fear of any man did You
 pardon them for those matters in
 which they sinned.
 12 For who shall say, "What have You
 done?"
 Or who shall withstand Your judgment?
 Or who shall accuse You for the
 nations that perish, whom You
 made?
 Or who shall come to stand against
 You, to be avenged for the
 unrighteous?
 13 For neither is there any Elohim but
 You that looks after all,
 To whom You might show that Your
 judgment is not unrighteous.
 14 Neither shall sovereign or ruler be
 able to turn his face against you for
 any whom You have punished.
 15 Even as You Yourself are righteous,
 You order all righteously;
 Determining it not agreeable within
 Your power to condemn he who
 does not deserve to be punished.
 16 For Your power is the beginning of
 righteousness,
 And because You are Adon of all, it
 causes You to show favour to all.
 17 For when men shall not believe that
 You are all powerful,
 You show Your strength,
 And among those who know it You
 make their boldness manifest.
 18 But You, mastering Your power,
 rightly rule with straightness,
 And command us with great favour;
 For You determine when You use Your
 power.
 19 But by such works You have taught
 Your people that the righteous man
 should be kind,
 And have prepared Your children with
 good expectancy that You allow
 repentance for sins.
 20 For if You punished the enemies of

Your children,
 And those condemned to death, with
 such deliberation, giving them time
 and place,
 Whereby they might be delivered from
 their evil;
 21 With what great discernment You
 rightly ruled Your own children,
 Unto whose fathers You have sworn,
 And made Covenants of good
 promises?
 22 Therefore, whereas You discipline
 us,
 You scourge our enemies one
 thousand times more,
 To the intent that, when we judge, we
 should carefully think of Your
 goodness,
 And when we ourselves are judged,
 we should look for kindness.
 23 Wherefore, whereas men have lived
 corruptly and unrighteously,
 You have punished them with their
 own abominations.
 24 For they went very far astray in the
 ways of straying,
 And upheld for mighty ones, the
 beasts which even among their
 enemies were despised,
 Being deceived, as children of no
 understanding.
 25 Therefore unto them, as children
 without the use of reason,
 You sent a judgment to mock them.
 26 But those who would not repent by
 that correction, in which He scolded
 them,
 Shall feel a deserved judgment from
 Elohim.
 27 See, for what matters they
 grumbled, when they were
 punished,
 That is, from those which they thought
 to be mighty ones;
 Being punished because of them,
 when they saw it,
 They acknowledged Him to be the true
 Elohim, whom before they refused to
 know:
 And therefore severe judgment came
 upon them.

13 Surely all men who are ignorant
 of Elohim, are worthless by
 nature,

And could not know Him from the
 good which is seen;
 Neither by considering the works did
 they acknowledge the Craftsman;
 2 But supposed either fire, or wind, or
 the swift air,
 Or the circle of the stars, or the raging
 water,
 Or the lights of the shamayim to be the
 mighty ones which govern the world.
 3 If they, being delighted with their
 loveliness, took them to be mighty
 ones;
 Let them know how much better their
 Adon is;
 For the first Author of loveliness has
 created them.
 4 But if they were astonished at their
 power and excellence,
 Let them understand by them, how
 much mightier He is that made
 them.
 5 For the greatness and loveliness of
 the creation is seen in proportion to
 the maker of them.
 6 But yet for this they are the less to be
 blamed:
 For perhaps they stray, seeking
 Elohim,
 And desire to find him.
 7 For being accompanied with His
 works they search him diligently, and
 believe their sight;
 Because that which is seen is lovely.
 8 However neither are they to be
 pardoned.
 9 For if they were able to know so
 much, that they could examine the
 world;
 How did they not sooner find out the
 Adon of such?
 10 But they are miserable, and their
 expectancy is in dead objects,
 Who call them mighty ones, which are
 the works of men's hands,
 Gold and silver fashioned with skill and
 likeness of beasts,
 Or a stone good for naught - the work
 of an aged hand.
 11 Now a carpenter that cuts timber,
 after he has hewed down a tree
 suited for the purpose,
 And taken off all the bark round about
 with skill,

And has fashioned it elegantly, and
 made a vessel from it fit for the
 service of man's life;
 12 And after using the remains of his
 work to prepare his food, has filled
 himself;
 13 And taking the very waste among
 that which served no use,
 Being a crooked piece of wood, and
 full of knots,
 Has carved it diligently, when he had
 none else to do,
 And formed it by the skill of his
 knowledge,
 And fashioned it into the image of a
 man;
 14 Or made it like some lowly beast,
 Laying it over with scarlet, and with
 paint colouring it red,
 And covering every blemish with it;
 15 And when he has made a suitable
 space for it,
 Positioned it on a wall, and fastened it
 with iron -
 16 For he prepared for it that it might
 not fall,
 Knowing that it was unable to help
 itself;
 For it is an image, and has need of
 help -
 17 Then he makes a prayer for his
 possessions, for his wife and
 children,
 And is not ashamed to speak to that
 which has no life.
 18 For health he calls upon that which
 is weak;
 For life he prays to that which is dead;
 For help he humbly pleads that which
 has the least means to help;
 And for a good journey he asks of that
 which cannot put a foot forward;
 19 And for gaining and getting, and for
 good success of his hands,
 Asks ability to do from that which is
 most unable to do any deed.
14 Again, one preparing himself to
 sail,
 And about to pass through the raging
 waves,
 Calls upon a piece of wood more
 rotten than the vessel that carries
 him.
 2 For truly this was planned by desire

for gain,
 And the workman built it by his skill.
 3 But Your providence, O Father,
 guides it;
 For You have made a path in the sea,
 and a safe way in the waves;
 4 Showing that You save from every
 danger:
 Even though a man went to sea
 without regard.
 5 Nevertheless You do not want that
 the works of Your wisdom should be
 idle,
 And therefore men committing their
 lives to a small piece of wood,
 And passing the rough sea in a weak
 vessel are saved.
 6 For also in ages past, when the
 proud giants perished,
 The expectancy of the world governed
 by Your hand escaped in a weak
 vessel,
 And left a seed of generation to all
 ages.
 7 For baruk is the wood by which
 righteousness comes.
 8 But an idol made with hands is
 cursed, as well as he who made it;
 He, because he made it;
 And it, because, being corruptible, it
 was called a mighty one.
 9 For the wicked and his wickedness
 alike are both hateful to Elohim.
 10 For that which is made shall be
 punished together with he who
 made it.
 11 Therefore there shall even be a
 reckoning upon the idols of the
 gentiles:
 For in the creation of Elohim they have
 become an abomination,
 And stumbling-blocks to the beings of
 men,
 And a snare to the feet of the unwise.
 12 For the devising of idols was the
 beginning of spiritual whoring,
 And the creation of them the corruption
 of life.
 13 For neither were they from the
 beginning,
 Nor shall they be forever.
 14 For by the conceit of men they
 entered into the world,
 And therefore shall they come quickly

- to an end.
- 15 For a father afflicted with untimely mourning,
When he has made an image of his child soon taken away,
Now esteemed him as a mighty one, which was then a dead one,
And delivered to those beneath him ceremonies and offerings.
- 16 Thus over time an evil custom grew strong being kept as a law,
And graven images were worshipped by the commands of sovereigns.
- 17 When men could not esteem in presence, because they dwelt far away,
They took the likeness of his image from afar,
And made an exact likeness of a sovereign whom they esteemed,
So that through their ardour they might flatter he who was absent, as if he were present.
- 18 The skill of the craftsman also helped to impel the ignorant to increased worship.
- 19 For he, perhaps willing to please one in authority,
Forced all his skill to make the likeness in the best fashion.
- 20 And so the multitude, attracted by the appeal of the work,
Accepted him now as a mighty one, Who a little before was only esteemed.
- 21 And this was an occasion to deceive the world:
For men, serving either calamity or authority,
Ascribed unto stones and stocks the Name not to be shared.
- 22 And this was not enough for them, that they strayed in the knowledge of Elohim;
but while they lived in the great struggle of ignorance,
those great calamities they called peace.
- 23 For while they slew their children in offerings,
Or performed secret ceremonies, or held wild festivals of strange rituals;
- 24 No longer did they keep lives nor marriages undefiled;
But each one slew another in betrayal,
- or grieved him through adultery.
- 25 So that there ruled in all men without exception:
Blood, murder, theft, and hypocrisy, Corruption, unbelief, confusion, falsehood,
- 26 Distress of good men, forgetfulness of good, defilement of beings,
Changing of kind, disorder in marriages, adultery, and shameless uncleanness.
- 27 For the worshipping of idols not to be named
Is the beginning, the cause, and the end of all evil.
- 28 For either they rave when they exult, or prophesy lies,
Or live unrighteously,
Or else readily contradict themselves.
- 29 For because their trust is in idols, which have no life;
Though they swear falsely, yet they expect no harm.
- 30 However for both causes they shall be rightly punished:
Both because they did not think well of Elohim,
Giving heed to idols, and also unrighteously swore in deceit,
Despising qodeshah.
- 31 For it is not the power of them by whom they swear:
But it is the righteous vengeance of sinners,
That always punishes the offense of the wicked.
- 15** But you, O Elohim, showing favour and truth,
Patient, and ruling all in kindness,
- 2 For if we sin, we are Yours, knowing Your power;
But we shall not sin, knowing that we are considered Yours.
- 3 For to know You, is perfect righteousness,
Also to know Your power is the root of immortality.
- 4 For neither did the evil intention of men deceive us,
Nor an image spotted with various colours,
The painter's fruitless labour;
- 5 The sight of which entices fools to lust after it,

And so they desire the form of a
 lifeless image that has no breath.
 6 Both those who make them, those
 who desire them, and those who
 worship them,
 Are lovers of evil, and are worthy to
 have such to trust upon.
 7 For the potter, kneading soft earth,
 fashions every vessel with much
 labour for our service;
 Indeed, of the same clay he makes
 both the vessels that serve for clean
 uses,
 And likewise also all those who serve
 the contrary.
 But to what is the use of either, the
 potter himself is the judge.
 8 And using his labours wickedly, he
 makes a vain mighty one of the
 same clay,
 Even he which a little before was
 made of earth himself,
 And within a little while after returns to
 the same,
 When his life which was loaned to
 him shall be demanded.
 9 But his concern is, not that he shall
 have much labour,
 Nor that his life is short;
 But strives to outdo goldsmiths and
 silversmiths,
 And endeavours to do like the workers
 in bronze,
 And counts it his esteem to make that
 which is counterfeit.
 10 His heart is ashes, his expectancy is
 cheaper than dirt,
 And his life of less value than clay.
 11 Because he did not know his Maker,
 And He who inspired into him an active
 being,
 And breathed in a living spirit.
 12 But they reckoned our life a game,
 And our time here a market-place for
 gain;
 For they say, "We must acquire every
 way." Though it be by evil means.
 13 For this man, of earthly matter
 knows he is stumbling above all
 else,
 Making frail vessels and graven
 images.
 14 And all the enemies of Your people,
 that hold them in subjection, are

most foolish,
 And are more miserable than an
 infant.
 15 For they reckoned all the idols of the
 gentiles to be mighty ones;
 Which neither have the use of eyes to
 see,
 Nor noses to draw breath,
 Nor ears to hear,
 Nor fingers of hands to touch;
 And as for their feet, they are slow to
 move.
 16 For man made them, and he who
 borrowed his own spirit fashioned
 them:
 But no man makes a mighty one that is
 like himself.
 17 For being mortal, he makes that
 which is dead with wicked hands;
 For he himself is better than that which
 he worships;
 Whereas he lived once, but they never.
 18 Also, they worshipped those beasts
 that are also most hateful;
 For being compared together, some
 are worse than others.
 19 Neither do they look good, so much
 as to be desired regarding beasts:
 But they went without the praise of
 Elohim and His beraḥah.
16 Therefore by these they were
 rightly punished,
 And tortured by a multitude of beasts.
 2 Instead of this punishment, dealing
 favourably with Your own people,
 You prepared for them delicacies for
 food,
 Even quails to arouse their appetite;
 3 So that they, desiring food,
 Due to the ugly sight of the beasts sent
 among them,
 Might loathe even that which they
 desired.
 But these, suffering hardship for a
 short time,
 Might be made partakers of delicacies.
 4 For it was necessary, that upon those
 oppressors suffering should come,
 which they could not avoid.
 But to these it should only be shown
 how their enemies were punished.
 5 For when the fearful fierceness of
 beasts came upon them,
 And they perished with the stings of

writhing serpents,
 Your wrath did not endure forever.
 6 But they were troubled for a little
 while that they might be warned,
 Receiving a sign of deliverance, to
 remind them of the Command of
 Your Law.
 7 For he who turned himself toward it
 was not saved by that which he saw,
 But by You, who are the Saviour of all.
 8 And in this You made Your enemies
 confess,
 That it is You who delivers from all
 evil.
 9 For the biting of locusts and flies
 killed them,
 Neither was there found any healing
 for their life:
 for they deserved to be punished by
 such.
 10 But Your sons were not overcome
 by the very fangs of venomous
 serpents,
 For Your kindness was continually
 upon them, and healed them.
 11 For they were pierced, that they
 should remember Your Words,
 And were quickly delivered,
 So not to fall into deep forgetfulness,
 That they remember Your goodness.
 12 For it was neither herb, nor poultice,
 that healed them,
 But Your Word, O אלהים, that heals all.
 13 For You have power of life and
 death.
 You lead to the gates of She'ol, and
 bring up again.
 14 Because of his evil a man kills,
 And the spirit, when it is gone, does
 not return;
 Neither the being that is taken up
 comes again.
 15 But it is impossible to escape Your
 hand.
 16 For the wicked, that denied to know
 You,
 Were beaten by the strength of Your
 arm;
 They were pursued with strange rains,
 hail and showers that they could not
 avoid,
 And they were consumed by fire.
 17 For the fire - which is most
 astounding - had more force in the

water, that quenches all;
 For the world fights for the righteous.
 18 For at one time the flame was
 restrained,
 That it might not consume the beasts
 that were sent against the wicked;
 But seeing this they might see that
 they were punished with the
 judgment of Elohim.
 19 And at another time it burns stronger
 than fire even in the midst of water,
 That it might destroy the increase of an
 unrighteous land.
 20 Instead You fed Your own people
 with food of messengers,
 And sent them bread from the
 shamayim prepared without their
 labour,
 Able to content every delight, and
 pleasant to every taste.
 21 For your sustenance revealed Your
 sweetness toward Your children,
 And serving to the appetite of the
 eater,
 Rendered itself to every man's liking.
 22 But snow and ice endured the fire,
 without melting,
 That they might know that fire burning
 in the hail, and flashing in the rain,
 Destroyed the increase of their
 enemies.
 23 But this again forgot even its own
 strength,
 That the righteous might be nourished.
 24 For the creation that serves You,
 the Maker,
 Increases its strength against the
 unrighteous for their punishment,
 And diminishes its strength for the
 benefit of those who put their trust in
 You.
 25 Therefore even then was it changed
 into all forms,
 And was obedient to Your favour, who
 sustains all,
 According to the desire of those who
 had need;
 26 That Your children, O אלהים, whom
 You love, might know,
 That it is not the growing of crops that
 nourishes man;
 But that it is Your Word, that preserves
 those who put their trust in You.
 27 For that which was not destroyed by

the fire,
 Being warmed with a few rays of sun,
 soon melted away,
 28 That it might be known that we must
 rise before the sun and give You
 thanks,
 And pray to you at the daybreak.
 29 For the expectancy of the unthankful
 shall melt away as the winter frost,
 And shall run away as useless water.
17 For Your judgments are great,
 and cannot be expressed;
 Therefore beings not instructed have
 strayed.
 2 For when unrighteous men thought to
 oppress the qodesh nation;
 They, being shut up in their houses,
 the prisoners of darkness,
 And shackled in the bonds of a long
 night,
 Lay exiled from the anticipation of
 eternity.
 3 For while they thought to lie hidden in
 their secret sins,
 They were scattered under a dark veil
 of forgetfulness,
 Being greatly astonished, and troubled
 with visions.
 4 For neither could the corner that held
 them keep them from fear:
 But noises falling down sounded about
 them,
 And mournful visions appeared to
 them with a heavy presence.
 5 No power of the fire could give them
 light:
 Nor could the bright flames of the stars
 endure to lighten that horrible night.
 6 Only a very dreadful fire kindled by
 itself appeared to them;
 For being greatly afraid, they thought
 that which they saw to be worse
 than the sight they did not see.
 7 As for the illusions of magic, they
 were brought to naught,
 And their boasting in wisdom was
 reprov'd with shame.
 8 For those who promised to drive
 away fear and troubles from a sick
 being,
 Were sick themselves of fear, worthy
 to be laughed at.
 9 For though no fearsome matter
 frightened them;

Yet being scared of beasts that passed
 by, and hissing of serpents,
 10 They perished from fear,
 Denying that they saw the air, which
 could in no way be avoided.
 11 For wickedness, condemned by her
 own witness,
 Is very fearful, and being pressured by
 conscience, always forsees
 difficulties.
 12 For fear is naught but a betrayal of
 the support which reason offers.
 13 And the expectation from within,
 being lesser,
 Counts the ignorance greater than the
 cause which brings the torment.
 14 But they sleeping the same sleep
 that night, which was indeed
 unbearable,
 And which came upon them out of the
 imminent depths of She'ol,
 15 Were on one hand tortured with
 fearsome visions,
 And on the other hand fainted, their
 heart failing them;
 for a sudden unexpected fear came
 upon them.
 16 So then whoever fell down there
 was thus kept, shut up in a prison
 without iron bars,
 17 For whether he were a farmer, or
 shepherd,
 Or a labourer in the field,
 He was overtaken, and endured that
 unavoidable necessity;
 For they were all bound with one chain
 of darkness.
 18 Whether it were a whistling wind,
 Or a melodious noise of birds among
 the spreading branches,
 Or a pleasant waterfall running
 forcefully,
 19 Or a terrible sound of stones thrown
 down,
 Or a stampeding of beasts that could
 not be seen,
 Or a roaring voice of most savage wild
 beasts,
 Or a rebounding echo from the hollow
 mountains;
 These made them to faint for fear.
 20 For the whole world shone with
 radiant light,
 And none were hindered in their

labour;
 21 Over them alone was spread a heavy night,
 An image of that darkness which would afterward receive them;
 But they were even more grievous unto themselves than the darkness.

18 Nevertheless, your qodeshim had a very great light,
 Whose voice they heard, but did not see their shape,
 They also counted them baruq, for they had not likewise suffered.

2 And because of this, they did not harm those by whom they had been wronged before, they thanked them,
 And pleaded for their forgiveness that they had been enemies.

3 Instead of this You gave them a burning pillar of fire,
 Both to be a guide for the unknown journey,
 And a harmless sun to comfort them in esteem.

4 For they deserved to be deprived of light and imprisoned in darkness,
 Who had kept Your sons imprisoned, By whom the incorruptable light of the Law was to be given unto the world.

5 And when they had determined to slay the infants of the qodeshim,
 One child being thrown forth, but saved,
 To reprove them, You took away the multitude of their children,
 And destroyed them altogether in a mighty flood.

6 Of that night our fathers were informed before,
 That knowing with certainty unto what promises they had trusted,
 They might afterwards be of good courage.

7 So both the salvation of the righteous,
 And destruction of their enemies was accepted by Your people.

8 For by which You punished our adversaries,
 By the same You esteemed us, whom You had called.

9 For the righteous children of good men made offerings secretly,
 And with one accord made a qodesh

law,
 That the qodeshim should likewise be partakers of the same good and evil,
 The fathers now singing out the songs of praise.

10 But on the other side was the sound of a despairing cry of the enemies,
 And a grievous noise was spread abroad for children that were bewailed.

11 The master and the servant were punished after one manner;
 And the sovereign suffered the same as the common person.

12 So altogether they had innumerable dead with one kind of death;
 Nor were the living sufficient to bury them;
 For in one moment the most noble of their offspring was destroyed.

13 For although they would not believe by reason of their magic;
 Upon the destruction of the firstborn, they acknowledged these people to be the sons of Elohim.

14 For while all was in quiet silence,
 And that night was in the midst of its swift course,

15 Your mighty Word leaped out of the shamayim from Your royal throne,
 As a fierce man of battle into the midst of a land of destruction,

16 And brought Your sincere Command as a sharp sword,
 And stood filling all with death;
 And it touched the shamayim, but stood upon the earth.

17 Then suddenly visions of horrible dreams troubled them greatly,
 And fears not sought for came upon them.

18 And one thrown here, and another there half dead,
 revealed the cause of his death.

19 For the dreams that troubled them forewarned this,
 Lest they should perish, and not know why they were afflicted.

20 Indeed, the taste of death touched the righteous also,
 And there was a destruction of the multitude in the wilderness;
 But the wrath did not endure long.

21 For then a blameless man hurried,

And stood forth to defend them;
 And bringing the shield of his own
 service,
 even prayer, and the atonement of
 incense,
 Opposed the wrath, and brought the
 calamity to an end,
 Declaring that he was Your servant.
 22 So he overcame the destroyer, not
 with strength of body,
 Nor with force of arms,
 But with a word subdued He who
 punished,
 Declaring the oaths and Covenants
 made with the fathers.
 23 For when the dead had fallen down
 in heaps one upon another,
 Standing between, he held back the
 wrath,
 And parted the way to the living.
 24 For in the long garment was the
 whole world,
 And in the four rows of the stones
 was engraved the esteem of the
 fathers,
 And Your excellence upon the turban
 of his head.
 25 To these the destroyer yielded, and
 feared;
 For it was enough that they only tasted
 the wrath.

19 As for the wicked, wrath came
 upon them without kindness to
 their end;
 For He knew before what they would
 do;
 2 How having allowed them to depart,
 and sent them away in haste,
 They would reconsider and pursue
 them.
 3 For while they were still mourning
 and lamenting at the graves of the
 dead,
 They added another foolish scheme,
 and pursued as fugitives,
 Those whom they had begged to
 leave.
 4 For the expectancy of which they
 were worthy, drew them toward this
 end,
 And made them forget that which had
 already come to be,
 That they might fill the punishment of
 their torment which was lacking;

5 And that Your people might travel an
 extraordinary way,
 But they would find a strange death.
 6 For the whole creation in its kind was
 renewed in fashion,
 Serving Your Commands that were
 given to them,
 That Your children might be guarded
 without harm;
 7 As a cloud overshadowing the camp.
 And where water stood before, dry
 land appeared,
 And out of the Sea of Reeds, an
 unobstructed way;
 And out of the raging river, a green
 field,
 8 Where all the people went through
 that were defended by Your hand,
 Seeing Your marvellous, awesome
 wonders.
 9 For they reared like horses, and
 leaped like lambs,
 Praising you, O ٱقرا, who had
 delivered them.
 10 For they still remembered what was
 done while they sojourned in the
 strange land,
 How the ground brought forth flies
 instead of cattle,
 And how the river threw up multitudes
 of frogs instead of fish.
 11 But afterwards they saw a new
 offspring of birds,
 When being led with their appetite,
 they asked for luxurious meats.
 12 For quails came up to them from the
 sea for their satisfaction.
 13 And punishments came upon the
 sinners,
 Not without former signs of the power
 of thunder;
 For they suffered rightly according to
 their own wickedness,
 Because they exercised a harder and
 hateful behaviour toward sojourners.
 14 For the Seđomites did not receive
 those who were unknown when they
 came,
 But these brought friends into slavery,
 that deserved good from them.
 15 And not only so, but supposed some
 respect would be had of those,
 Because they treated sojourners
 hatefully.

16 But they afflicted those grievously,
whom they had received with
feasting,

And had already shared in the same
laws with them.

17 Therefore they were stricken with
blindness,

As those at the doors of the righteous
man;

When being surrounded with great,
horrible darkness,

Every one sought to pass by his own
doors.

18 For the elements were changed in
themselves by a kind of harmony,

As notes change the name of the tune
on a harp

And yet are always sounds;

Which are understood by the sight of
that which has been done.

19 For those of the earth were turned
into watery,

And that which before swam in the
water, now moved on the earth.

20 The fire had power in the water,
forgetting its own ability;

And the water forgot its own quenching
nature.

21 On the contrary, the flames did not
destroy the flesh of the corruptible
living matters, though they walked in
them;

Neither melted the frosty food from the
shamayim that would naturally melt.

22 For in all matters O אַרְיָא, You
exalted Your people and esteemed
them,

Neither did You lightly regard them,
But assisted them at every time and
place.