



1 Is there not an appointed time^{H6635} to man^{H582} upon earth^{H776}? are not his days^{H3117} also like the days^{H3117} of an hireling^{H7916}?¹ 2 As a servant^{H5650} earnestly desireth^{H7602} the shadow^{H6738}, and as an hireling^{H7916} looketh^{H6960} for the reward of his work^{H6467}.² 3 So am I made to possess^{H5157} months^{H3391} of vanity^{H7723}, and wearisome^{H5999} nights^{H3915} are appointed^{H4487} to me. 4 When I lie down^{H7901}, I say^{H559}, When shall I arise^{H6965}, and the night^{H6153} be gone^{H4059}? and I am full^{H7646} of tossings to and fro^{H5076} unto the dawning of the day^{H5399}.³ 5 My flesh^{H1320} is clothed^{H3847} with worms^{H7415} and clods^{H1487} of dust^{H6083}; my skin^{H5785} is broken^{H7280}, and become loathsome^{H3988}. 6 My days^{H3117} are swifter^{H7043} than a weaver's shuttle^{H708}, and are spent^{H3615} without^{H657} hope^{H8615}.

7 O remember^{H2142} that my life^{H2416} is wind^{H7307}: mine eye^{H5869} shall no more^{H7725} see^{H7200} good^{H2896}.⁴⁵ 8 The eye^{H5869} of him that hath seen^{H7210} me shall see^{H7789} me no more: thine eyes^{H5869} are upon me, and I am not.⁶ 9 As the cloud^{H6051} is consumed^{H3615} and vanisheth away^{H3212}: so he that goeth down^{H3381} to the grave^{H7585} shall come up^{H5927} no more. 10 He shall return^{H7725} no more to his house^{H1004}, neither shall his place^{H4725} know^{H5234} him any more. 11 Therefore I will not refrain^{H2820} my mouth^{H6310}; I will speak^{H1696} in the anguish^{H6862} of my spirit^{H7307}; I will complain^{H7878} in the bitterness^{H4751} of my soul^{H5315}. 12 Am I a sea^{H3220}, or a whale^{H8577}, that thou settest^{H7760} a watch^{H4929} over me? 13 When I say^{H559}, My bed^{H6210} shall comfort^{H5162} me, my couch^{H4904} shall ease^{H5375} my complaint^{H7879}; 14 Then thou scarest^{H2865} me with dreams^{H2472}, and terrifiest^{H1204} me through visions^{H2384}. 15 So that my soul^{H5315} chooseth^{H977} strangling^{H4267}, and death^{H4194} rather than my life^{H6106}.⁷ 16 I loathe^{H3988} it; I would not live^{H2421} alway^{H5769}: let me alone^{H2308}; for my days^{H3117} are vanity^{H1892}.

17 What is man^{H582}, that thou shouldest magnify^{H1431} him? and that thou shouldest set^{H7896} thine heart^{H3820} upon him? 18 And that thou shouldest visit^{H6485} him every morning^{H1242}, and try^{H974} him every moment^{H7281}? 19 How long^{H4100} wilt thou not depart^{H8159} from me, nor let me alone^{H7503} till I swallow down^{H1104} my spittle^{H7536}? 20 I have sinned^{H2398}; what shall I do^{H6466} unto thee, O thou preserver^{H5341} of men^{H120}? why hast thou set^{H7760} me as a mark^{H4645} against thee, so that I am a burden^{H4853} to myself? 21 And why dost thou not pardon^{H5375} my transgression^{H6588}, and take away^{H5674} mine iniquity^{H5771}? for now shall I sleep^{H7901} in the dust^{H6083}; and thou shalt seek me in the morning^{H7836}, but I shall not be.

Fußnoten

1. an appointed...: or, a warfare
2. earnestly...: Heb. gapeth after
3. the night...: Heb. the evening be measured?
4. shall...: Heb. shall not return
5. see: to see, that is, to enjoy
6. I am...: that is, I can live no longer
7. life: Heb. bones