

## Chapter 20

*Sophar auoucheth that some wicked men flourish for a time, but are afterwards iustly plagued. 19. Therupon condemneth Iob as an hypocrite.*

The sixth conflict.

**B**ut Sophar the Naamathite answering, sayd:  
<sup>2</sup> Therefore my diuerse cogitations succede one  
 an other, and my minde is rapt into fundrie  
 things. <sup>3</sup> The doctrine, wherewith thou reproveft me, I  
 wil heare, and the spirit of my vnderftanding shal answer  
 me. <sup>4</sup> This I know from the beginning, since man was  
 placed vpon the earth. <sup>5</sup> That the praise of the impious  
 is <sup>a</sup>short, and the ioy of the hypocrite as it were for a  
 moment. <sup>6</sup> If his pride rife vp euen to the heauen, and  
 his head touch the cloudes: <sup>7</sup> as a dunghil in the end he  
 shal be destroyed, and they that had fene him, shal say:  
 Where is he? <sup>8</sup> As a dreame that fleeth away he shal  
 not be found, he shal passe as a vision by night. <sup>9</sup> The  
 eie that had fene him, shal not see him, neither shal his  
 place behold him anie more. <sup>10</sup> His children shal come  
 to naught with pouertie, and his handes shal render him  
 his forow. <sup>11</sup> His bones shal be filled with the vices of  
 his youth, and they shal sleepe with him in the duft.  
<sup>12</sup> For when euil shal be sweete in his mouth, he wil hide  
 it vnder his tongue. <sup>13</sup> He wil spare it, and not leaue it,  
 and wil hide it in his throte. <sup>14</sup> His bread in his belly  
 shal be turned into the gaule of aspes within him. <sup>15</sup> The  
 riches which he hath deuoured, he shal vomite out, and  
 God shal draw them forth out of his belly. <sup>16</sup> He shal  
 ficke the head of aspes, and the vipers tongue shal kil  
 him. (<sup>17</sup> Let him not see the streames of the riuer, the

<sup>a</sup> Al mans life is short and as a moment in comparifon of eternitie;  
 but it is not alwayes true that the wicked are shortly punished in  
 respect of this life, as this disputer applieth it to proue Iob to be  
 impious. Therefore Iob answereth in the *next chapter v. 13.* That  
 ordinarily the wicked, *lead their dayes* (to witt their whole life) *in*  
*vvealth and* (then) *in a moment goe downe to hel.* So the rest of  
 these mens assertions are for most part true in some sense but il  
 applied.

torrentes of honie, & of butter.) <sup>18</sup> He shal be punished for al thinges that he did, & yet not be cōfumed: according to the multitude of his inuentions fo also shal he fuffer. <sup>19</sup> Because breaking in he hath made the poore naked: he hath violently taken houe, & built it not. <sup>20</sup> Neither is his bellie filled: and when he shal haue the thinges he coueted, he can not poffesse them. <sup>21</sup> There remayned not of his meate, & therfore nothing shal continewe of his goodes. <sup>22</sup> When he shal be filled, he shal be ftraytened, he shal burne, and al forow shal fal vpon him. <sup>23</sup> Would God his belly were filled, that he may fend forth the wrath of his furie vpon him, and rayne his battel vpon him. <sup>24</sup> He shal flee wepons of yron, and shal fal vpon a bowe of braffe. <sup>25</sup> The fword plucked out, and coming forth of his scabbard, and gliftering in his bitterneffe: the horrible shal goe and come vpon him. <sup>26</sup> Al darkeneffe is hid in his secretes: fyre that is not kindled shal deuoure him, he shal be afflicted leaft in his tabernacle. <sup>27</sup> The heauens shal reuele his iniquitie, and the earth shal rife againft him. <sup>28</sup> The bloffome of his houe shal be opened, he shal be plucked downe in the day of Gods furie. <sup>29</sup> This the portion of an impious man from God, & the inheritance of his wordes from our Lord.