

Chapter 22

Eliphaz contendeth that God is not pleased with a iust mans afflictions, 5. fallſly imputeth enormous crimes to holie Iob, 12. and groſſe errors. 21. Wiſheth him therefore to repent, that ſo he may proſper.

The ſeuenth
conflict.

But Eliphaz the Themanite anſwering, ſayd:
² Can man be compared with God, yea though
 he be of perfect knowlege. ³ What doth it
^a profite God if thou be iuſt? or what doeſt thou aduan-
 tage him if thy way be vnſpotted. ⁴ Shal he be aſ frayde
 to reprove thee, and come with thee into iudgement?
⁵ And not for thy very great malice, and thine infinite
 iniquities? ⁶ For thou haſt taken away the pledge of thy
 brethren without cauſe, and the naked thou haſt ſpoyled
 of clothes. ⁷ Water to the wearie thou haſt not geuen,
 and from the hungrie thou haſt withdrawn bread. ⁸ In
 the ſtrength of thine arme thou didſt poſſeſſe the earth,
 and being the mightieſt thou didſt obteyne it. ⁹ Widowes
 thou haſt ſent away emptie, and the armes of pupilles
 thou haſt broken in peeces. ¹⁰ Therefore art thou compaſſed
 with ſnares, and ſoden feare troubleth thee. ¹¹ And thoughteſt
 thou that thou ſhouldeſt not ſee darkenes, and that thou
 ſhouldeſt not be oppreſſed with the violence of ouerflow-
 ing waters? ¹² Doeſt thou not thinke that God is higher
 then heauen, & is exalted aboue the toppe of the ſtar-
 res? ¹³ And thou ſayeſt: For what knoweth God? and
 he iudgeth as it were by a miſt. ¹⁴ The cloudes are his
 couert, ^b neither doth he conſider our thinges, and he
 walketh about the poles of heauen. ¹⁵ Doeſt thou couet

^a In dede whẽ a iuſt man hath donne his dutie he is vnprofitable to God: but he is profitable to himſelf, which greatly pleaſeth God, who deſireth mans good, and it redoundeth to Gods glorie that he hath ſuch ſeruantes. *Mat. 5. v. 17.*

^b After imputation of falſe crimes, this diſputer chargeth holie Iob alſo with heathniſh error of the Ægyptians, that God hath no providence of men in this world. *Ariſtotle li. de mundo. textu. 84.* So ſome heretikes in their phrenſie accuſe Catholiques of condemned hereſies.

to keepe the path of worldes, which wicked men haue troden? ¹⁶ Who were taken away before their time, and a floud hath ouerthrowen their foundation. ¹⁷ Who sayd to God: Depart from vs: and as though the Omnipotent could do nothing, they eftemed him. ¹⁸ Whereas he had filled their houfes with good things, whose sentence be far from me. ¹⁹ The iuft shal fee, and shal reioyfe, and the innocent man shal fkorne them. ²⁰ Is not their exaltation cut downe, and hath not fire deuoured the remnantes of them? ²¹ Agree thou therfore to him, and haue peace: and by thefe thinges thou shalt haue the beft fruites. ²² Receiue the law of his mouth, and put his wordes in thy hart. ²³ If thou wilt returne to the Omnipotent, thou shalt be builded vp, and fhalt make iniquitie far from thy tabernacle. ²⁴ He shal geue for earth flint, and for flint torrentes of gold. ²⁵ And the Omnipotent shal be agaynft thine enemies, & filuer shal be heaped together vnto thee. ²⁶ Then shalt thou abound in delightes vpon the Omnipotent, and shalt lift vp thy face to God. ²⁷ Thou shalt aske him, and he wil heare thee, and thou shal pay thy vowes. ²⁸ Thou shalt decree a thing, and it shal come to thee, and light shal shine in thy waies. ²⁹ For who wil be humbled, shal be in glorie: and he that wil bow downe his eies, he shal be faued. ³⁰ The innocent shal be faued, but he shal be faued in the cleanneffe of his handes.