

2 ESDRAS

- 2 And he said unto me, Up, Ezra, and hear the words that I am come to tell thee.
- 3 And I said, Speak on, Adoniy. Then said he unto me, The sea is set in a wide place, that it might be deep and great.
- 4 But put the case the entrance were narrow, and like a river;
- 5 Who then could go into the sea to look upon it, and to rule it? if he went not through the narrow, how could he come into the broad?
- 6 There is also another thing; A city is builded, and set upon a broad field, and is full of all good things:
- 7 The entrance thereof is narrow, and is set in a dangerous place to fall, like as if there were a fire on the right hand, and on the left a deep water:
- 8 And one only path between them both, even between the fire and the water, so small that there could but one man go there at once.
- 9 If this city now were given unto a man for an inheritance, if he never shall pass the danger set before it, how shall he receive this inheritance?
- 10 And I said, It is so, Adoniy. Then said he unto me, Even so also is Yisra'EL's portion.
- 11 Because for their sakes I made the world: and when Adam transgressed my statutes, then was decreed that now is done.
- 12 Then were the entrances of this world made narrow, full of sorrow and travail: they are but few and evil, full of perils, and very painful.
- 13 For the entrances of the elder world were wide and sure, and brought immortal fruit.
- 14 If then they that live labour not to enter these strait and vain things, they can never receive those that are laid up for them.
- 15 Now therefore why disquietest thou thyself, seeing thou art but a corruptible man? and why art thou moved, whereas thou art but mortal?
- 16 Why hast thou not considered in thy mind this thing that is to come, rather than that which is present?
- 17 Then answered I and said, O **YAHOWAH** that bearest rule, thou hast ordained in thy Torah, that the righteous should inherit these things, but that the ungodly should perish.
- 18 Nevertheless the righteous shall suffer strait things, and hope for wide: for they that have done wickedly have suffered the strait things, and yet shall not see the wide.
- 19 And he said unto me, There is no judge above ELOHIM, and none that hath understanding above the Highest.
- 20 For there be many that perish in this life, because they despise the Torah of ELOHIM that is set before them.
- 21 For ELOHIM hath given strait commandment to such as came, what they should do to live, even as they came, and what they should observe to avoid punishment.
- 22 Nevertheless they were not obedient unto him; but spake against him, and imagined vain things;
- 23 And deceived themselves by their wicked deeds; and said of the Most High, that he is not; and knew not his ways:
- 24 But his Torah have they despised, and denied his covenants; in his statutes have they not been faithful, and have not performed his works.
- 25 And therefore, Ezra, for the empty are empty things, and for the full are the full things.
- 26 Behold, the time shall come, that these tokens which I have told thee shall come to pass, and the bride shall appear, and she coming forth shall be seen, that now is withdrawn from the earth.
- 27 And whosoever is delivered from the foresaid evils shall see my wonders.
- 28 For Mine Anointed shall be revealed with those that be with him, and they that remain shall rejoice within four hundred years.
- 29 After these years shall The Anointed One, My Servant die, and all men that have life.
- 30 And the world shall be turned into the old silence seven days, like as in the former judgments: so that no man shall remain.
- 31 And after seven days the world, that yet awaketh not, shall be raised up, and that shall die that is corrupt
- 32 And the earth shall restore those that are asleep in her, and so shall the dust those that dwell in silence, and the secret places shall deliver those souls that were committed unto them.
- 33 And the Most High shall appear upon the seat of judgment, and misery shall pass away, and the long suffering shall have an end:
- 34 But judgment only shall remain, truth shall stand, and faith shall wax strong:
- 35 And the work shall follow, and the reward shall be shewed, and the good deeds shall be of force, and wicked deeds shall bear no rule.
- *36 The pit of torment shall appear, and opposite it shall be the place of rest; and the furnace of hell shall be disclosed, and opposite it the paradise of delight.
- *37 Then the Most High will say to the nations that have been raised from the dead, 'Look now, and understand whom you have denied, whom you have not served, whose commandments you have despised.
- *38 Look on this side and on that; here are delight and rest, and there are fire and torments.' Thus he will speak to them on the day of judgment
- *39 A day that has no sun or moon or stars,
- *40 Or cloud or thunder or lightning, or wind or water or air, or darkness or evening or morning,
- *41 Or summer or spring or heat or winter or frost or cold, or hail or rain or dew,
- *42 Or noon or night, or dawn or shining or brightness or light, but only the splendor of the glory of the Most High, by which all shall see what has been destined.

*70 RESTORED VERSES OF 2 ESDRAS