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- (12) Therefore this is what I will do to you, O Israel: *and* because I will do this to you, prepare to meet your God, O Israel.
- (13) Because, indeed, He Who formed the mountains, and created the wind, and declared to man His thoughts, Who made the morning darkness, and treads upon the high places of the earth, The LORD {Jehovah}, The God of hosts {armies}, is His Name.

Chapter 5

- (1) Listen to this word which I take up against you, *even* a loud cry, O house of Israel.
- (2) The virgin of Israel has fallen; she will rise no more: she is forsaken upon her land; *there is* no one to raise her up.
- (3) Because this is what the Lord GOD {Jehovah} says; The city that went out *by* a thousand will leave one hundred, and that which went forth *by* one hundred will leave ten, to the house of Israel.
- (4) Because this is what the LORD {Jehovah} says to the house of Israel, Seek Me, and you shall live:
- (5) But do not seek Bethel, nor enter into Gilgal, and do not pass to Beersheba: because Gilgal will surely go into captivity, and Bethel will come to nothing.

- (6) Seek the LORD {Jehovah}, and you will live; lest He break out like fire in the house of Joseph, and devour *it*, and *there be* no one to quench *it* in Bethel.
- (7) You who turn judgment to wormwood, and leave off righteousness in the earth,
- (8) Seek Him Who makes the seven stars {constellation Pleiades}^a and Orion, and turns the shadow of death into the morning, and makes the day dark with night: Who calls for the waters of the sea, and pours them out upon the face of the earth: The LORD {Jehovah} is His Name:
- (9) Who strengthens the spoiled against the strong, so that the spoiled will come against the fortress.
- (10) They hate him who rebukes in the gate, and they despise him who speaks uprightly.
- (11) Since therefore as your treading *is* upon the poor, and you take from him burdens of wheat: you have built houses of carved stone, but you will not live in them; you have planted pleasant vineyards, but you will not drink wine from them.
- (12) Because I know your many sins and your mighty sins: they afflict the just, they take a bribe, and they turn aside the poor in the gate *from their right*.

5:8a - seven stars -the constellation Pleiades - see Job 9:9

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- (13) Therefore the prudent will keep silence in that time; because it *is* an evil time.
- (14) Seek good, and not evil, that you may live: and so the LORD {Jehovah}, the God of hosts {armies; multitudes}, will be with you, as you have spoken.
- (15) Hate the evil, and love the good, and establish judgment in the gates: it may be that the LORD {Jehovah} God of hosts {armies; multitudes} will be gracious to the remnant of Joseph.
- (16) Therefore the LORD {Jehovah}, the God of hosts {armies; multitudes}, the Lord, says this; Wailing will be in all streets; and they will say in all the highways, Alas! alas! and they will call the gardener to mourning, and those who are skillful of loud cries to bitter tears.
- (17) And in all vineyards *will be* crying: because I will pass through you, says the LORD {Jehovah}.
- (18) Woe to you who desire the day of the LORD {Jehovah}! to what end *is* it for you? the day of the LORD {Jehovah} *is* darkness, and not light.
- (19) As if a man fled from a lion, and a bear met him; or went into the house, and leaned his hand on the wall, and a snake bit him.
- (20) *Shall* not the day of the LORD {Jehovah} *be* darkness, and not light? even very dark, and no brightness in it?
- (21) I hate, I despise your feast days, and I will not smell in your solemn assemblies.

- (22) Though you offer Me burnt offerings and your meat offerings, I will not accept *them:* neither will I regard the peace offerings of your fat beasts.
- (23) Take away from Me the noise of your songs; because I will not hear the melody of your musical instruments.
- (24) But let judgment run down as waters, and righteousness as a mighty stream.
- (25) Have you offered to Me sacrifices and offerings in the wilderness forty years, O house of Israel?
- (26) But you have borne the tabernacle of your Moloch and Chiun your images, the star of your god, which you made to yourselves.
- (27) Therefore I will cause you to go into captivity beyond Damascus, says the LORD {Jehovah}, Whose Name *is* The God of hosts {armies; multitudes}.

Chapter 6

- (1) Woe to those who *are* at ease in Zion, and trust in the mountain of Samaria, *who are* named chief of the nations, to whom the house of Israel came!
- (2) Pass to Calneh, and see; and from there go to Hamath the great: then go down to Gath of the Philistines: are *they* better than these kingdoms? or their border greater than your border?
- (3) You who put far away the evil day, and cause the seat of violence to come near;