

24 But let him that glorieth, glory in this, that he understandeth and knoweth me: for I am the Lord, which ¹show mercy, judgment, and righteousness in the earth: for in these things I delight, saith the Lord.

25 Behold, the days come saith the Lord, that I will visit all them which are ¹circumcised with the uncircumcised:

26 Egypt and Judah, and Edom, and the children of Ammon, and Moab, and all the utmost corners of them that dwell in the wilderness: for all *these* nations are uncircumcised, and all the house of Israel are uncircumcised in the heart.

10 *The constellations of the stars are not to be feared. 5 The weakness of idols. 6 Of the power of God. 21 Their Pastors are become brute beasts.*

1 Hear ye the word of the Lord that he speaketh unto you, O house of Israel.

2 Thus saith the Lord, Learn not the way of the heathen, and be not afraid for the ¹signs of heaven, though the heathen be afraid of such.

3 For the ¹customs of the people are vain: for one cutteth a tree out of the forest (which is the work of the hands of the carpenter) with the axe,

4 And *another* decketh it ¹with silver, and with gold: they fasten it with nails and hammers that it fall not.

5 The *idols* stand up as the palm tree, but speak not: they are borne because they cannot go: fear them not, for they cannot do evil, neither can they do good.

6 There is none like unto thee, O Lord: ¹thou art great, and thy Name is great in power.

7 Who would not fear thee, O king of nations? for

to thee appertaineth *the dominion*: for among all the wise men of the Gentiles, and in all their kingdoms there is none like thee.

8 But altogether they dote, and are foolish: for the stock is a ¹doctrine of vanity.

9 Silver plates are brought from Tarshish, and gold ¹from Uphaz, for the work of the workman, and the hands of the founder: the blue silk, and the purple *is* their clothing: all these things are made by cunning men.

10 But the Lord *is* the God of truth: he is the living God, and an everlasting King: at his anger the earth shall tremble, and the nations cannot abide his wrath.

11 (Thus shall you say unto them, The gods ¹that have not made the heavens and the earth, shall perish from the earth, and from under these heavens.)

12 He hath made the earth by his power, and established the world by his wisdom, and hath stretched out the heaven by his discretion.

13 He giveth by *his* voice the multitude of waters in the heaven, and he causeth the clouds to ascend from the ends of the earth: he turneth lightnings to rain, and bringeth forth the wind out of his treasures.

14 Every man is a ¹beast by *his own* knowledge: every founder is confounded by the graven image: for his melting is but falsehood, and there is no breath therein.

15 They are vanity, *and* the work of errors: in the time of their visitation they shall perish.

16 The ¹portion of Jacob *is* not like them: for he is the maker of all things, and Israel *is* the rod of his inheritance: the Lord of hosts *is* his Name.

9:24 ¹ These three points are necessary to know aright: his mercy, wherein consisteth our salvation, his judgment, which he executeth continually against the wicked, and his justice, whereby he defendeth and maintaineth the faithful.

9:25 ¹ Meaning, both Jews and Gentiles, as in this next verse he showeth the cause, read Jer. 4:4.

10:2 ¹ God forbiddeh his people to give credit or fear the constellations and conjunctions of stars and planets which have no power of themselves, but are governed by him, and their secret motions and influences are not known to man and therefore there can be no certain judgment thereof, Deut. 18:9.

10:3 ¹ Meaning, not only in the observation of the stars, but their laws and ceremonies whereby they confirm their idolatry, which is forbidden, Deut. 12:30.

10:4 ¹ The Prophets use thus plainly and simply to set forth the vile absurdity of the idolaters, that men might learn to be ashamed of that whereunto their corrupt nature is most subject, read Isa. 44:12.

10:6 ¹ He teacheth the people to lift up their eyes to God, who hath all power and therefore ought only to be feared: and herein he showeth them not only the evil that they ought to eschew: but the good which they ought to follow, Rev. 15:4.

10:8 ¹ Because the people thought that to have images, was a

means to serve God, and to bring them to the knowledge of him, he showeth that nothing more displeaseth God, nor bringeth man into greater errors and ignorance of God: and therefore he calleth them the doctrine of vanity, the work of errors, verse 15, and Hab. 2:18 calleth them the teachers of lies: contrary to that wicked opinion, that they are the books of the lay people.

10:9 ¹ Whereas they found the best gold: showing, that they thought nothing too dear for their idols, some read Ophir, as 1 Kings 9:28.

10:11 ¹ This declareth that all that hath been in this chapter spoken of idols, was to arm the Jews when they should be in Chaldea among the idolaters, and now with one sentence he instructeth them both how to protect their own religion against the idolaters, and how to answer them to their shame which should exhort them to idolatry, and therefore he writeth this sentence in the Chaldean's tongue for a memorial, whereas all the rest of his writing is Hebrew.

10:14 ¹ The more that man thinketh to do anything well by his own wisdom, and not as God instructeth him, the more doth he prove himself to be a vile beast.

10:16 ¹ By these words Portion and Rod, he signifieth their inheritance, meaning, that God should be all sufficient for them: and that their felicity consisted in him alone, and therefore they ought to renounce all other helps and succors as of idols, etc. Deut. 32:9; Ps. 16:5.