

Chinese Simplified

智慧丛书

箴言

简介

这部诗集的主题或教导用两大相对的主线体现出来，一个是智慧和愚钝，另一个则是善良和邪恶。在这部诗集中，这两条主线纵横交织，体现了善良使人聪慧，邪恶致人愚蠢的思想。

天主生活在义人中间，他赐人善念，因为祂是智慧的泉源。

宣扬智慧

8²² 雅威在他创业之初，就造了我；
很早很早以前，早在一切创造之前。
23 远古之初，在一开始，
大地出现之前，他就造了我。
24 我出生之时，汪洋尚不存在，
浩瀚的水源还没有涌出。
25 群山还未稳定，
丘陵也没定形之前，我已出生。
26 那时雅威还未造大地和田野，
世上的第一粒尘土也还未产生。
27 当他设计天空，
从汪洋中规划出陆地时，我已存在；
28 他在高空中施令布置云彩，
又命大海的水源涌现；
29 当他创建大地的根基时，
当他施令在海洋的四周设置界限，
防止海水越境时，
30 我已在他身旁调度忙碌，
这是我每天的乐趣，
在他面前，终日因此而欢愉。

English

SAPIENTIAL BOOKS

PROVERBS

Introduction

The doctrines or teachings of this anthology have two main axes, each with an extreme pole: one is the wise/foolish, the other is honorable/wicked. These two axes intertwine, because being wise has an ethical component, while wickedness is considered foolish.

God is present in this wise and ethical world: He possesses wisdom and grants good sense to human beings.

Proclamation of Wisdom

8²²Yahweh created me first,
at the beginning of his works.
23He formed me from of old,
from eternity, even before the earth.
24The abyss did not exist when I was born,
the springs of the sea had not gushed forth,
25the mountains were still not set in their place
nor the hills, when I was born
26before he made the earth or countryside,
or the first grains of the world's dust.
27I was there when he made the skies
and drew the earth's compass on the abyss,
28when he formed the clouds above
and when the springs of the ocean emerged;
29when he made the sea with its limits,
that it might not overflow.
When he laid the foundations of the earth,
30I was close beside him,
the designer of his works,
and I was his daily delight,
forever playing in his presence,

31 世界是我的欢乐场，
与世人同欢，使我喜悦非常。
32 那么，孩子，细心听我讲，
照我的规劝去做，你们就会有福乐。

约伯传

前言

《约伯传》是一部情节简单，但充满激情的戏剧。作者运用鲜明生动的手法演绎了这场充满激情的剧目，使这本书的特色鲜明的展示在读者面前。作者冲破了传统的赏罚观念，向人们展示了一个新的视野。

作者把这部戏的场景设计到一个极端，他使忠信无罪的主角受尽折磨和打击，好使他的哀号“发自肺腑”。

这部戏剧的剧情非常简单：约伯的朋友前来劝慰他，向他证明天主的公义，要求他悔改，因为他们相信天主赏善罚恶，约伯的遭遇一定是因为他得罪了天主。但是约伯对此丝毫不感兴趣，因为他的经验告诉他，天主同他朋友认为的天主大相径庭。为了证明他在天主前是无罪的，约伯以自己的生命要求天主作最后的评判，给与他和他朋友一个最终的判决。天主接受了约伯的挑战，并引导他了解天主的奥秘。

通过约伯与天主的对话，他感谢天主，因为天主再次赐给他诸事顺利。现在他的生命到达了一个新的深度，他可以自傲地向世人宣告，即使在最痛苦的时候，仍可以追寻天主。

《约伯传》是一部具有时代性的作品，具有很强的现实意义。如果我们不愿意接受生活中挑战，或在困苦中忘记寻求天主，我们就很难理解这本书的真义。

约伯的身世

1 1 从前在胡兹那地方，住着一个叫约伯的人，他生性正直，敬畏天主，远离邪恶，令人无可挑剔。2 他有七个儿子和三个女儿。3 他有七千只羊、三千头骆驼、五百对牛、五百头驴，还有成群的仆役，他是当时东方民族中最伟大的人。

31 playing throughout the world
and delighting to be with humans.
32 Now then, my sons, listen to me:
happy are those who follow my ways.

JOB

Introduction

The book of Job is drama with little action and a lot of passion. It brings forward the passion that a great, unresigned writer has portrayed in the main character of the book. Uneasy with the traditional doctrine about retribution, he opposed a concrete fact to a principle.

Our author brings his case to the extreme: he makes the innocent protagonist suffer so that his cry would come "from the depth."

The action is very simple: Job's friends defend God's justice as an impartial judge that rewards the good ones and punishes the bad ones. Job is not interested in this kind of justice by God because his own experience tells him otherwise. To prove his innocence to God, Job risks his own life. God, as the final judge, gives the final answer to Job and his friends. While being challenged, God answers and questions Job to lead him towards the mystery of God.

Through the dialogues, of a good conventional man, that gives thanks to God because everything goes well for him, comes a deep man, capable of assuming and representing the sorrowful humanity that searches God with audacity.

The book of Job is an especially modern book; it is provocative, not apt for conformists. It is difficult to read it without being challenged and it is difficult to understand it unless one takes sides.

Prologue on earth

1 ¹Job, a blameless and upright man who feared God and shunned evil, once lived in the land of Uz. ²He had seven sons and three daughters. ³Owner of seven thousand sheep, three thousand camels, five hundred yoke of oxen, five

4 他的儿子们常在家中轮流举办盛宴，邀请三个姐妹来同餐共饮。

天堂上的对话

6 有一天，天主的众子都聚在雅威面前，撒殢也在其中。7 雅威就问撒殢：

“你从哪里来？”

撒殢回答说：

“我漫游尘世，四处走走看看。”

8 雅威又问他：

“你有没有注意到我的仆人约伯？世上再也找不出另一个能像他那样没有过错、仁义正直的人了，他敬畏天主，远离恶事。”

9 可是撒殢反问道：

“难道约伯是无缘无故地敬畏天主的吗？10 你不是处处保护他的家人和财产吗？你赐福给他，使他富有，他的牲畜遍及那片土地。11 可是，如果你举手毁掉他的一切，我敢打赌他定会当面诅咒你。”

12 雅威对撒殢说：

“好吧！他的一切在你权下了，但你不能伸手伤害他本人。”

撒殢就离开雅威走了。

约伯的考验

13 有一天，正当约伯的儿女们都在大哥家欢聚时，14 有个报信人跑到约伯面前说：

“牛在耕地、母驴在一旁吃草的时候，15 舍巴人突然闯来，抢走了牲畜，杀死了仆人，只有我一个人逃回来向你报信。”

16 他的话还没有说完，另一个报信人跑来说：

“天主的火从天而降，把羊群和仆人都烧死了，只有我一个人逃回来向你报信。”

17 这人还没把话说完，另一个送信人跑来说：

hundred donkeys and a large number of servants, he was considered the greatest man among the people of the East.

⁴His sons used to take turns holding banquets in their homes and they would invite their three sisters to dine and drink with them.

Prologue in heaven

⁶One day the heavenly beings came to present themselves before Yahweh, and Satan came with them. ⁷Yahweh asked Satan:

—Where have you been?

Satan answered:

—Going up and down the earth, roaming about.

⁸Yahweh asked again:

—Have you noticed my servant Job? No one on earth is as blameless and upright as he, a man who fears God and avoids evil.

⁹But Satan returned the question:

—Does Job fear God for nothing? ¹⁰Have you not built a protective wall around him and his family and all his possessions? You have blessed and prospered him, with his livestock all over the land. ¹¹But stretch out your hand and strike where his riches are, and I bet he will curse you to your face.

¹²Yahweh said to Satan:

—Very well, all that he has is in your power. But do not lay a finger upon the man himself.

So Satan left the presence of Yahweh.

Job's trials

¹³One day, while his sons and daughters were feasting in the house of their eldest brother, ¹⁴a messenger came to Job and said:

—Your oxen were plowing, and your donkeys were grazing nearby ¹⁵when the Sabaeans came and carried them off. They killed the herdsmen. I alone escaped to tell you.

¹⁶While he was still speaking, another messenger came:

—God's fire fell from the sky and burned all your sheep and the shepherds as well. I alone have escaped to tell you.

¹⁷He had hardly finished speaking when another messenger arrived:

“三队加色丁人袭击了你的骆驼群，抢走了骆驼，杀死了仆人，只有我一个人逃回来向你报信。”

18 他正说着，又一个送信人跑来说：

“你的儿女们正在大哥家欢宴时，¹⁹从沙漠中吹来一阵飓风，刮倒了房屋的四角，你的孩子们全都被压死了，只有我一个人逃出来向你报信。”

20 约伯在悲痛中撕裂自己的外套，剃去头发，伏地叩拜说：

21 “我赤身从母腹中来，
我也要赤条条地回去。
雅威给的，
雅威收回去了，
愿雅威的名受赞美。”

22 约伯虽遭遇了这一连串的灾难，却没有犯罪诅咒天主。

2 ¹又有一天，天主的众子都聚在雅威面前，撒殛也在其中。²雅威就问撒殛说：

“你去了哪里？”

撒殛回答道：

“我在尘世漫游，这里走走，那里看看。”

3 雅威又问道：

“你有没有注意到我的仆人约伯？世上没有第二个人能像他那样仁义正直、无可指责，他敬畏天主，远离恶事。你刺激我去加害他，使他无端遭受倾家荡产的痛苦，但他依然保持了完美的忠诚。”

4 撒殛回答说：

“那不过是以皮换皮罢了，世人为了自己的性命，可以舍弃一切身外之物。⁵假如你举手伤及他的身体，他必定会当面诅咒你。”

6 雅威就对撒殛说：

“好吧！就任你处置他吧，但你必须保全他的性命。”

7 于是，撒殛离开了雅威，他使约伯从头到脚都长满了毒疮。⁸约伯坐在灰堆里，用瓦片刮身。

9 他的妻子对他说：

“你还要保持你完美的忠诚吗？你倒不如诅咒天主，然后去死算了。”

10 约伯回答说：

“你说话好糊涂！我们既从天主那里承受恩惠，难道我们就不能从他那

—Three raiding teams of Chaldeans have killed your servants and carried off your camels. I alone have escaped to tell you.

¹⁸He was still speaking when another messenger came and said to Job:

—Your sons and daughters were eating and drinking in the house of their eldest brother ¹⁹when suddenly a great wind blew across the desert and struck the house. It collapsed on the young people and they all died. I alone have escaped to tell you.

²⁰In grief Job tore his clothes and shaved his head. Then he fell to the ground and worshiped, ²¹saying:

—Naked I came from my mother's womb,
naked shall I return.

Yahweh gave, Yahweh has taken away.

Blessed be his name!

²²In spite of this calamity, Job did not sin by blaspheming God.

2 ¹Once more the heavenly beings came to present themselves before Yahweh, and again Satan was with them. ²Yahweh asked Satan:

—Where have you been?

Satan answered:

—Going up and down the earth, roaming about.

³Yahweh asked again:

—Have you noticed my servant Job? No one on earth is as blameless and upright as he, a man who fears God and avoids evil. He still holds fast to his integrity even if you provoked me to ruin him without cause.

⁴Satan replied:

—Skin for skin! For his own life, anyone will give everything he owns. ⁵But lay your hand against his own flesh and bones and he will curse you to your face.

⁶Yahweh said to Satan:

—Very well, he is in your power. But spare his life.

⁷So Satan left the presence of Yahweh and afflicted Job with festering sores from the soles of his feet to the top of his head. ⁸Job took a potsherd to scrape himself and sat among the ashes.

⁹His wife said to him:

—Do you still hold on to your integrity? Curse God and die!

¹⁰Job replied:

—You talk foolishly. If we receive good things from God, why can't we accept

里承受灾难吗？”

约伯虽遭受了这些灾祸，却没有说一句错话。

约伯的朋友

11 约伯的三位朋友，特曼人厄里法次、叔亚人彼耳达得、纳阿玛人左法尔，听说约伯遭受了不幸，就各自从本地起程，结伴前去安慰他。12 他们从远处举目一望，简直认不出约伯了，就放声大哭，撕破外衣，把灰洒在头上。13 他们陪着约伯坐了七天七夜，不敢对他讲一句话，因为他们看见约伯实在太痛苦了。

3 1 后来，约伯开口诅咒自己的生日。2 他这样说：愿我出生的日子消逝，

3 愿说出“怀了男胎”
的那个夜晚灭亡。

25 我所畏惧的已经来临，
我所害怕的已降于我身，

26 安宁已离我远去，
我不得静息，

日夜受煎熬，满心烦恼。

4 1 特曼人厄里法次开始说：

6 难道敬畏天主不是你的依靠？

而你的完善岂不是你的希望？

7 试想：无辜者怎会消亡？

正义之君哪会落得如此下场？

8 依我之见：

那播种邪恶的人，必收获邪恶，

那散布毒害的人，也必收获毒害。

17 “凡人怎能在天主眼中为义？

人又怎能在造物者面前保持纯洁？”

5 8 如果我是你的话，我就去恳求天主，
向他陈述我的实情。

9 他的作为高深莫测，

他的奇迹数不胜数。

10 他降雨灌溉大地，

使清水滋润田野。

11 他举扬谦卑的人，

evil from him?

In spite of this calamity, Job did not utter a sinful word.

Job's friends

¹¹Three of Job's friends—Eliphaz the Temanite, Bildad the Shuhite, and Zophar the Naamathite—heard of the misfortune that came upon him. They set out from their own homes and journeyed together to offer their sympathy and consolation to Job. ¹²Failing to recognize him from the distance, they wept aloud, tore their garments and poured dust upon their heads. ¹³For seven days and seven nights, they sat on the ground beside him. They did not say a word to Job, for they saw how terribly he suffered.

3 ¹At length it was Job who spoke, cursing the day of his birth. ²This is what he said:

³—Cursed be the day I was born,
and the night which whispered:

A boy has been conceived.

²⁵For what I fear has come upon me,
what I dread has befallen me.

²⁶I find no rest, I find no ease;
only turmoil, nothing of peace!

4¹Eliphaz the Temanite spoke next:

⁶—Should you not rely on your piety,
and find assurance in your integrity?

⁷Have you seen a guiltless man perish,
or an upright man done away with?

⁸As I see it, those who plow evil
or those who sow trouble reap the same.

¹⁷Can a mortal be just in the eyes of God?
Can a man be pure before his Maker?

5 ⁸If I were you, I would appeal to God
and lay before him my case,

⁹for wonders are past all reckoning,
his miracles beyond all counting.

¹⁰He pours rain down on the earth
and sends water upon the fields.

¹¹He sets the lowly on high,

使悲伤的人品尝喜悦。
17 天主指正过的人是有福的，
你不该拒绝全能者的教训。
18 他使人们受创伤，
但他又治愈病痛。
19 你六次遭难，他次次救援，
那么到了第七次，什么也不能伤害到你。
20 大饥荒中，他必救你不死；
战争中，他会使你剑下得生。
21 舌剑唇枪无法伤害你，
你也必能逃离大难的袭击。
27 这是我们观察发现的真理，
你若细听，自会深深获益。
人算什么，你竟置他在心头

7 1 人生在世岂不像在服苦役？
他的岁月如同仆人的时日。
2 犹如奴隶渴求夜晚的阴凉，
犹如佣人期盼工资。
3 我也只好历经痛苦的岁月，
忍受凄苦的长夜。
4 我躺卧时问：“几时天亮？”
我起床时想：“黑夜几时来临？”
我辗转反侧，直到天亮。
5 我的身体以蛆虫和泥皮为衣，
我的皮肤龟裂流脓。
6 我的时光飞逝，快如织梭，
临到生命尽头，毫无希望。
7 你知道，我的生命如风，
我再也看不见幸福。

10 1 我已厌倦了我的生活，
我要倾吐我的抱怨，
哭诉内心的痛楚。
2 我要对天主说，不要定我的罪，
求你告诉我，你为什么要和我作对？

29 1 约伯接着发言：
2 我多么希望回到
逝去的岁月中，回到天主看守我的日子里。

turns grief into joy.
17 Blessed is the one whom God corrects;
reject not, therefore, the lessons of the Almighty,
18 He cures the wounds he has inflicted;
he strikes but he also heals.
19 From six troubles he will rescue you;
at the seventh no harm will touch you.
20 In famine he saves you from death;
in war, from the threat of the sword.
21 You will be protected from the lash of the tongue,
and have no dread of marauding bands.
27 This we have examined and found true.
This we have heard, and you should know.

7 1 Job replied:
—Man's life on earth is a thankless job,
his days are those of a mercenary.
2 Like a slave he longs for the shade of evening,
like a hireling waiting for his wages.
3 Thus I am allotted months of boredom
and nights of grief and misery.
4 In bed I say, "When shall the day break?"
On rising, I think, "When shall evening come?"
and I toss restless till dawn.
5 My body is full of worms and scabs;
my skin festers with its boils and cracks.
6 My days pass swifter than a weaver's shuttle,
heading without hope to their end.
7 My life is like wind, you well know it,
O God; never will I see happiness again.

10 1 Since I loathe my life,
I shall pour forth my complaint;
I shall speak of my soul's torment.
2 I shall say to God: Do not condemn me,
but tell me what is your quarrel with me?

29 1 Job continued his discourse:
2—Oh, that I were in months gone by,
in the days when God watched over me,

3 那时他的光照耀在我的头上，
借着这光我走过黑暗。
4 那时，我正是壮年，
天主的友爱祝福了我的家。
5 全能者仍与我同在，
我的孩子们陪伴在我周围。

32 1 三个友人都不再回答，因为他们认为约伯应是无罪的。2 但布次兰族人巴辣革耳的儿子厄里乌，对约伯在天主面前自以为义感到很气愤。3 他对约伯的三个朋友也很生气，因为他们没能驳倒约伯，而让天主遭到评议。

38 雅威回答约伯 1 雅威从旋风中对约伯说：

2 是谁竟说这样无知的话，
使我的神圣计划模糊不清？
3 你要像勇士那样束好你的腰，
我要问你的问题，你必须回答。
4 我奠定大地时，你在哪里？
既然你懂得那么多，尽管回答吧。
5 你知道是谁规定了大地的度量？
是谁在地上拉起了准绳？
6 大地建立在何物之上？
是谁为它安放了基石？
7 当时晨星一同歌唱，
天主的众子同声欢呼。
8 海水汹涌如出母胎之时，
是谁用门将海关闭？
9 是我用云为海做衣衫，
把它包裹在浓雾的襁褓中。
10 是我为海水定了界限，
又设置了门栏。
11 我对大海说：“你不可越过这里，
你的狂涛到这里为止。”
12 你一生中可曾命令过晨曦，
或者指定曙光的方位？
13 让光握紧大地四极，
抖出邪恶之人。
14 这光使大地改观，
如在陶土上盖印，
又像是着上锦衣；

³when his light shone upon my head
and I walked with it through darkness.
⁴Oh, that I were in my prime,
when God's friendship blessed my home,
⁵when the Almighty was still with me
and my children were around me!

32 ¹The three men made no further reply to Job, because in their opinion, he was guiltless. ²But Elihu, son of Barachel the Buzite, of the family of Ram, became angry with Job for justifying himself before God. ³He was also angry with the three friends for their failure to refute Job, because they had allowed God to be condemned.

38 ¹Then Yahweh answered Job out of the storm:
²—Who is this that obscures divine plans
with ignorant words?
³Gird up your loins like a man;
I will question you and you must answer.
⁴Where were you when I founded the earth?
Answer, and show me your knowledge.
⁵Do you know who determined its size,
who stretched out its measuring line?
⁶On what were its bases set?
Who laid its cornerstone,
⁷while the morning stars sang together
and the heavenly beings shouted for joy?
⁸Who shut the sea behind closed doors
when it burst forth from the womb,
⁹when I made the clouds its garment
and thick darkness its swaddling clothes;
¹⁰when I set its limits
with doors and bars in place,
¹¹when I said, “You will not go beyond these bounds;
here is where your proud waves must halt?”
¹²Have you ever commanded the morning,
or shown the dawn its place,
¹³that it might grasp the earth by its edges
and shake the wicked out of it,
¹⁴when it takes a clay color
and changes its tint like a garment;

15 撤去恶人的光明，
折断他们强蛮的手臂。
16 你可曾到过大海的源头？
你可曾在深渊中行走？
17 你可曾见过死亡的大门？
你可曾看见阴间的门户？
18 你知道大地的广阔吗？
你如果知道，就告诉我。
19 哪里是通向光明的路？
黑暗的居处是在什么地方？
20 你能引导它们回自己的地域吗？
你能领它们走上回居所的道路吗？
21 你该知道，因为你那时已诞生，
而你的年岁已很大。
22 你进过雪库，
见过雹仓吗？
23 那是我为灾荒和战争的日子所准备的。

24 云由哪条路散开？
东风是从哪里吹遍大地？

25 是谁为暴雨开辟通道？
又是谁为闪电指明路线？
26 好使雨降在无人之地，
落在人烟绝迹的荒野，
27 使干旱荒芜的土地也得滋润，
使荒漠长出绿草？
28 雨有父亲吗？
是谁生了露水？
29 冰出自谁的胎？
天上的霜是谁生的？
30 谁使水凝结如石头一般坚硬？
谁让深渊的表面凝结成冰？
31 你能把昴宿系住吗？
或是解开参星的绳带？
32 你能指引启明星按时升出，
引领北斗和它的星群吗？
33 你晓得天体运动的定律吗？
你能在地上立定它们的法规吗？
34 你能使你的声音上达云霄，
让雨水沛然降下吗？
35 你能一下命令，闪电就发出，
向你报告“我们在这里”吗？

15 when the wicked are denied their own light,
and their proud arm is shattered?
16 Have you journeyed to where the sea begins
or walked in its deepest recesses?
17 Have the gates of death been shown to you?
Have you seen the gates of Shadow?
18 Have you an idea of the breadth of the earth?
Tell me, if you know all this.
19 Where is the way to the home of light,
and where does darkness dwell?
20 Can you take them to their own regions,
and set them on their homeward paths?
21 You know, for you were born before them,
and great is the number of your years!
22 Have you entered the storehouse of the snow
or seen the storehouse of the hail,
23 which I reserve for times of woe, for days of war and battle?
24 What is the way to the place
where lightning is dispersed,
or the place whence the east wind
begins spreading over the earth?
25 Who has cut a channel for the torrents of rain,
and a path for the thunderstorm,
26 to bring rain to no-man's-land
and to the unpeopled wilderness,
27 to enrich the wasted and desolate ground,
to make the desert bloom with green?
28 Does the rain have a father?
Who fathers the drops of dew?
29 From whose womb comes the ice,
and who gives birth to the frost from the skies,
30 when the waters lie as hard as stone,
when the surface of the deep is frozen?
31 Can you bind the chains of the Pleiades,
or loosen the bonds of Orion?
32 Can you guide the morning star in its season,
or lead the Bear with its train?
33 Do you know the laws of the heavens,
and can you establish their rule on earth?
34 Can you raise your voice to the clouds
and order their waters to pour down?
35 Will lightnings flash at your command
and report to you, "Here we are?"

36 是谁将聪明赐予鹳鸟，
将智慧赋予雄鸡？
37 谁有智力清数云朵，
掀翻天上的水罐，
38 使得土壤凝结成块，
地上的泥土紧紧粘连？
39 母狮伏在洞中，
在丛林中埋伏的时候，
40 你能为母狮猎取食物，
使幼狮吃饱吗？
41 当雏鸦饿得到处乱飞，
向天主哀鸣时，
谁为它们准备食物呢？

40 ¹ 雅威又对约伯说：

2 好辩之人怎能与全能者抗辩？
指责天主的人，现在来回答吧！

3 约伯说：

4 我这样一个卑微的人，怎能回答？
我只能用手堵住嘴巴。

5 我已经说过一次，不再回答了，
我再说一次，我什么也不说了。

42 ¹ 这是约伯对雅威的回答：

2 我知道你事事都能，
你的计划没有不能实现的。
3 我谈论了自己不能理解的事，
那一切对我来说是太奇妙了，
我无法明白。

4-5 以前我只听说过关于你的奇事，
现在我亲眼见了你。

6 为此我要收回我以前说过的话，
坐在灰尘中悔过。

12 雅威后来赐福约伯，远胜过他早先的岁月。他拥有一万四千只羊、
六千头骆驼，一千对牛和一千头母驴。13 他又生了七个儿子和三个女
儿。14 他给长女起名叫耶米玛，次女叫刻漆雅，三女叫刻楞哈普客。15
约伯的女儿是那地方最漂亮的女孩子。她们的父亲让她们和兄弟们一样
继承家产。

16 约伯又活了一百四十年，看见了自己的第四代孙。17 他享尽天年，
高寿而终。

³⁶Who has given the ibis foresight
or endowed the cock with foreknowledge?
³⁷Who has the wisdom to count the clouds?
Who tilts the water jars of heaven
³⁸so that the dust cakes into a mass
and clods of earth stick together?
³⁹Can you hunt the woods to appease
the hunger of the lioness and her whelps,
⁴⁰as they crouch in their dens
or lie in wait in the thicket?
⁴¹Who provides prey for the raven
when its young cry out to God
and roam about desperate for food?

40 ¹Yahweh said to Job:

2—Must a faultfinder contend with the Almighty?

Let him who would correct God answer.

³Job said:

4—How can I reply, unworthy as I am!

All I can do is put my hand over my mouth.

⁵I have spoken once, now I will not answer;
Oh, yes, twice, but I will do no further.

42 ¹This was the answer Job gave to Yahweh:

2—I know that you are all powerful;
no plan of yours can be thwarted.

^{3b}I spoke of things I did not understand,
too wonderful for me to know.

⁵My ears had heard of you,
but now my eyes have seen you.

⁶Therefore I retract all I have said,
and in dust and ashes I repent.

¹²Yahweh blessed Job's latter days much more than his earlier ones. He came
to own fourteen thousand sheep, six thousand camels, a thousand yoke of oxen,
and a thousand she-donkeys. ¹³He was also blessed with seven sons and three
daughters. ¹⁴The first daughter he named Dove, the second Cinnamon, and the
third Bottle of Perfume. ¹⁵Nowhere in the land was there found any woman who
could compare in beauty with Job's daughters. Their father granted them an
inheritance along with their brothers.

¹⁶Job lived a hundred and forty years; he saw his children and their children to
the fourth generation. ¹⁷He died old and full of years.

德训篇

前言

《德训篇》希腊文的翻译在前言中给出了这本书的作者和成书年代等基本情况。

《德训篇》原名《息辣的智慧》，在初期教会被广泛的诵读，做为生活的指南，因此命名“德训篇”。

尽管这本书在初期教会被广泛地应用，但是犹太人和早期教会的一些团体并不承认这部书为正经。

然而，中世纪时，一些犹太作者曾经参考这本书。

正如书中所说，作者通过学习、教导并解释传统意义的智慧、善意及学识。这使得他养成了观察、体验并反省的习惯，而这正是知识的来源。然而，作者也没有忘记传统的教导，那就是智慧的另一重要来源是：祈祷。

43 1 高天的骄傲是它清亮的碧空，是它光耀的外表。

2 太阳露脸，一边行进，一边宣告：

“至高者，我是你神奇的化工！”

3 正午它暴晒大地，
有谁能抵抗它的炎热？

4 人们向炉中吹气使它燃火，
但太阳的热力比炉火强三倍，
焚烧山岳，
喷吐火焰，
强光刺目。

5 造物主多么伟大！
在他的命令下，
它快速行进。

6 他又创造了月亮，
适时运行，
以表明时节。

7 节令的标志是从月亮而来，
它缺而复圆。

8 月份因它而命名，
它周转时的渐盈，
多么美妙，

它是高天军旅的标志，
在穹苍中照耀。

9 群星的光辉是天空的美丽，

SIRACH

Introduction

The prologue written by the Greek translator gives information about the author and epoch.

The 'Wisdom of Ben Sirach' was a book that was read so often in the early Church that it got the name and designation of "Ecclesiasticus".

The Jews in general, and a portion of the early Church, did not consider this book as canonical, even though it was read in the church.

Some Jewish authors make reference to it in the Middle Ages.

As the book itself tells us, the author spent his time in studying, teaching and explaining what traditionally was understood as wisdom or good sense or prudence or knowledge. It fosters observation, experience and reflection as a source of knowledge; still the author underlines the value of tradition, the need of prayer.

43 ¹The pride of the heights above is the clear firmament.

How glorious is the spectacle of the heavens!

²When the sun rises and appears, it proclaims:

—I am your marvelous work, Most High!

³At noon, it dries up the land;
who can bear its burning heat?

⁴You may stoke a furnace to produce heat,
but three times greater
is the heat of the sun burning the mountains,
and sending out fiery vapors,
blinding the eyes with its rays.

⁵How great is the Lord who made it
and whose word directs its rapid course!

⁶He also made the moon,
exact in marking the months
and the passage of time.

⁷With its full light gradually decreasing,
the moon determines and rules over the feast days.

⁸The month also takes its name from the moon.
How marvelously does it increase in its phases,
providing a signal for the heavenly hosts,
brightly shining in the expanse of the sky!

⁹The bright radiance of the stars

它们是上主高天里闪光的装饰。

10 在圣者的号令下，
它们依序运行，
执勤不懈。

11 请观看彩虹，
并赞颂它们的创造者。
它光彩灿烂，
份外美丽！

12 它在空中划出荣耀之环，

是至高者的双手将它弯曲伸展。

13 天主一声令下，雪花迅速降来，
闪电在它的决定之下，急速闪耀。

14 因此，上天的仓库一开，
云雾便如群鸟般飞出。

15 他以他的大能，
使云朵凝结，使冰雹破碎。

16a 他一出现，山岳便摇动，

17a 他的雷声震撼大地。

16b 他只要愿意，南风便吹起。

17b 而北风怒号，飓风袭来。

18 他四散雪花，如鸟雀飞下，
片片降下，犹如蝗虫飞落。

它的洁白美丽，使眼睛讶异；
它飞落而下，

使人心神惊叹。

19 他倾倒冰霜如撒盐，
当霜雪凝结时，好像针尖。

20 寒冷的北风吹起，

水面便结冰，
它在每个湖上形成，
使水面穿上盔甲。

21 他如火般烧尽山岳，
焚毁旷野，
使嫩草枯萎。

22 然而一阵轻雾即治愈了万物，
当露珠出现时，暑气也消散了。

23 他以他的谋略，使深渊沉没，
又将岛屿面置其中。

24 航海的人诉说海中的危险，
我们讶异于他们所说的。

25 因为海中有神奇美妙的化工，
有各种生物呈现，有大海怪出没。

26 他的信差靠着祂而找到方向，

accounts for the beauty of the sky.
What a brilliant ornament they are
for the heights of the Lord!

10 At the command of the All Holy
they stand as appointed
and never fail to keep watch.

11 Look at the rainbow and praise
the One who made it.

How magnificent it is in splendor!

12 It forms a circle of glory in the sky,
a bow that is bent by the hands of its Maker.

13 At his order the snow falls
and lightning strikes according to his decrees.

14 The storerooms of heaven are opened
and clouds fly away like birds.

15 It is his power that thickens the clouds,
making them freeze and break into hailstones.

16a He has only to look and the mountains are shaken;

17a the voice of his thunder terrifies the earth.

16b At his will the south wind blows,

17b as do cyclones and hurricanes from the north.

18 The snow flutters down like birds

and alights on the ground like locusts.

The eye marvels at the beauty of its whiteness
and the mind is amazed to see it fall.

19 He sprinkles frost on the earth like salt;
it freezes and becomes like thorny spikes.

20 The cold north wind blows
and turns the water into ice.

Ice forms on all stagnant water
giving it a freezing coat of armor.

21 He wears down the mountains
and scorches the desert,
withering the green grass as if by fire.

22 A mist is a timely remedy,
and dew after the heat restores it all to life.

23 According to his plan he stilled
the great deep and planted islands in it.

24 Those who cross the seas tell of its dangers,
and we listen in astonishment to what they relate:

25 It is all about strange and marvelous adventures
with marine animals and monsters of all kinds.

26 Thanks be to God, all turns out well

万物因他的话而结合在一起。
27 我们虽然说了很多，
但仍不能道尽。总而言之：他是全能的。
28 我们可做什么来光荣他？
因为他比他的化工还伟大。

and everything is held together by his word.
27 We shall not give further examples;
one last word: He is everything.
28 Where shall we find the strength to glorify him?
For he is the Mighty One, greater than all his works.