

1 Woe to those who make unjust laws,  
to those who issue oppressive decrees,

2 to deprive the poor of their rights  
and withhold justice from the oppressed of my people,  
making widows their prey  
and robbing the fatherless.

3 What will you do on the day of reckoning,  
when disaster comes from afar?  
To whom will you run for help?  
Where will you leave your riches?

4 Nothing will remain but to cringe among the captives  
or fall among the slain.