

²³ Listen and hear my voice;

pay attention and hear what I say.

²⁴ When a farmer ploughs for planting, does he plough continually?

Does he keep on breaking up and working the soil?

²⁵ When he has levelled the surface,

does he not sow caraway and scatter cummin?

Does he not plant wheat in its place, ^[a]

barley in its plot, ^[b]

and spelt in its field?

²⁶ His God instructs him

and teaches him the right way.

²⁷ Caraway is not threshed with a sledge,

nor is the cartwheel rolled over cummin;

caraway is beaten out with a rod,

and cummin with a stick.

²⁸ Grain must be ground to make bread;

so one does not go on threshing it for ever.

The wheels of a threshing-cart may be rolled over it,

but one does not use horses to grind grain.

²⁹ All this also comes from the LORD Almighty,

whose plan is wonderful,

whose wisdom is magnificent.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God